

Saint Paul the Apostle Parish

Fr. Leonard F. Villa, Pastor



**United States of America's
Birthday**



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 5, 2026



MASS Intentions

<u>Saturday</u>	<u>July 4, 2026</u>
5:00 Fr. Jim Smyth	Smyth family
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>July 5, 2026</u>
7:45 Michael McEnerney	Smyth family
9:15 Greg Calozzo (living)	Religious Ed
10:45 Lul Dokaj (living)	Drita
12:15 Terence Reynolds (Bday mem)	Josephine
1:30 For the People of the Parish	
<u>Monday</u>	<u>July 6, 2026</u>
9:00 Peter Pumaj (living)	Drita
12:00 For Holy Souls in Purgatory	
<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>July 7, 2026</u>
9:00 For Holy Souls	Jacob family
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>July 8, 2026</u>
9:00 Robert, Dorothy & John O'Neill	
12:00 For Holy Souls	
<u>Thursday</u>	<u>July 9, 2026</u>
9:00 Milagros Eus	
12:00 For Holy Souls in Purgatory	
<u>Friday</u>	<u>July 10, 2026</u>
9:00 Frank & Theresa Smith	Rosanne Snyder
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>July 11, 2026</u>
9:00 Milagros Eusebio	Teng family
12:00 For Holy Souls in Purgatory	
5:00 Nancy Romagnoli (living)	Religious Ed
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>July 12, 2026</u>
7:45 For the People of the Parish	
9:15 Albert & Ronald Pietropaolo	
10:45 Joann Mary Barthel & Mary Barthel	
12:15 Zarah Cabellero	Negma Sulaiman
1:30 St. Paul the Apostle Purgatorial Society	



Richard Lyons, Grace Lyons, Joseph Molack, Victor Fierro, Timothy O'Connor, Valentina Rakaj, Pete Coppa, Rosemary Libre, Kathleen Kerrigan, Carol Saxe, Maria Toppi, Camielle Moynihan, Eileen Coughlin, Carol O'Neill, Jane Curtin, Rose Rampa, Willi Dunz, Noemi Asuncion Bernardez, Patrizia DeGiovanni, Carol Santini, Victor Fierro, Aidan Curtin, and Ed Catis.



Please remember in prayer all those who died this week especially, Fr. Robert Moore, Msgr. Charles Quinn, Eileen LeQuay, Gerard O'Sullivan, Harry A. Winterroth, Peter Yucor, and those who mourn them.

LECTORS:

July 4 th	5:00 D. Douglas	
July 5 th	7:45 S. Abraham	9:15 J. Barton
	10:45 K. Snyder	12:15 V. Rahiman

We are thankful for your consistent stewardship.

STEWARDSHIP: Week of June 28, 2026

Figures not available at the time of printing!

Thank you for your continued support of our Parish and its many needs. Your financial generosity for the upkeep of our Parish buildings and programs is essential and greatly appreciated. To sign up for WeShare go to stpaulyonkers.org and click "Online Giving". Thank you for your generosity!



Against 'Impurity' and Porn...

Mainly through sins of
impurity, do the forces of
darkness subjugate souls

Pope Pius XII

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

By Dominic Pino (Edited)

Pornography is a spiritual disaster, and the euphemisms of Sunday sermons aren't getting at the problem. It's not a secret that we have a pornography problem. By "we," I mean American males, but also American Christian males. It's also a problem for females, but not as big a problem and I can't speak to it very well, so I'm focusing on the male side of things. If you need survey data to back up the claim that American males have a pornography problem, you haven't been paying attention. Virtually every boy has seen pornography at least once. Many develop a problem and have a hard time stopping...

The turning point was 2005. Before 2005, you had to go out of your way to access pornography. You could go to old-fashioned, sketchy movie theaters or buy racy magazines, but to get pornography on your computer, you had to download files. Downloading files entailed the risk of viruses. And saving the file on your computer made it easier for someone else to find it later. Many potential casual users were deterred by those risks. But he probably watches pornography. He has a problem with pornography.... We need to teach from the starting point of the specific problem.

When teaching is framed around impurity, most men hear the list — adultery, fornication, prostitution, pornography — and think, "Hey, I'm only doing one of those; that's pretty good!" That's a reasonable thing to think when it's framed that way. We're all human; we all sin; if we avoid most sin, we're doing okay. And we can always think of someone whose behavior is worse than ours to assure ourselves we're doing okay. That line of thinking is dangerous, however, and it has contributed to pornography's proliferation. First, God does not call us to be okay. He calls us to be holy as He is holy, perfect as He is perfect. Second, of course you haven't done the first three. It's really easy to not have sex with another person, especially when pornography is an available substitute. ...

So, what should we do instead? First, call it what it is. Give sermons on pornography. Be specific. Be honest. **Second**, address it early. "Impurity" is a euphemism, but it's not the worst one. The worst is "adult entertainment." It's terrible because it signals to children, "This is what adults do," and what kid doesn't want to be like an adult? But it's also terrible because it's antiquated. Given that most people see pornography for the first time before age 15, sometimes as early as 10, if you don't talk to kids about it before they turn 18 because you think it's inappropriate, you've missed your chance by years. Every middle-school ministry needs to address pornography directly and in some depth. **Third**, we need to understand that pornography isn't something that appeals only to losers or creeps. The cool kids at school use pornography, and they talk about it at the cool kids' lunch table. It's becoming so commonplace that people aren't ashamed to talk about it with friends. Why would they be ashamed when they don't think it's wrong? Porn users aren't a type or a subculture. Everyone is susceptible.

Finally, separate pornography from other sexual sins. We aren't backpedaling on Scripture when we teach that anger is a different sin from murder, even though Jesus says in the Sermon on the Mount that being angry at a brother or sister is like murder. Jesus is teaching that those sins have the same source in our hearts, not that they have the same consequences. Imagine if every sermon associated anger with murder. Most people would be afraid to talk openly in church about the times when they felt angry, lest it make them seem like a murderer. A similar dynamic is at play with pornography. People don't feel comfortable talking about it in church because they feel like it's akin to admitting you're an adulterer....

Pornography is a spiritual disaster, much as an earthquake is a natural disaster, and the wreckage is all around us. After an earthquake, people learn from the calamity. They rebuild. They use earthquake-resistant architecture so that the next one won't do as much damage. They don't ignore that an earthquake just happened, or instead ponder tornadoes, hurricanes, and volcanic eruptions. Our problem isn't impurity. It's pornography. "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."

1 Desire change.

2 Change your habits: Clean the computer of all and any porn. Install blocking software like covenanteyes.com. Have someone else set the password so you can't change the settings. Use devices in the common areas of your home. Be careful of late at night, alone, bad day, tired.

3 Get Accountable This battle cannot be won alone, by yourself, simply on willpower. Our wills are weakened by original sin, and we are deceived and betrayed by pride, the worst of the deadly sins. Go to Confession frequently. Check out online recovery programs like X3watch.com

4 Pray: We cannot do this alone. Receive Communion frequently. Pray the Rosary. Pray to St. Joseph and your Guardian Angel. Check out the Angelic Warfare Confraternity angelicwarfare.org. Members commit to praying 15 Hail Mary's each day for chastity.

5 Make the Morning Offering of your day to God in union with the Mass and specifically pray for remaining porn-free just for the day. It's one day at a time. Renew the intention at Noon and then at 6PM. Examine your conscience at night and say an Act of Contrition.

Check out roadtopurity.com

WHAT WE ARE TO DO WHEN WOUNDED *When you realize that you have been wounded by sin, whether through weakness or malice, do not lose your courage or become panic-stricken. Turn to God with a great and humble confidence saying: "See, O Master, what I am able to do. When I rely on my own strength, I commit nothing but sins." Meditating on this, recognize the extent of your humiliation and express to our Lord your sorrow for the offense committed. With an unperturbed heart, indict your vicious passions, especially the one that has occasioned your fall, and confess:*

"O Lord, I would not have stopped at this had not Your goodness restrained me." Give thanks to God, and more than ever give to Him the complete love of your heart. What generosity on His part! You have offended Him and, despite this, He extends His hand to prevent another fall. With your heart full of confidence in His infinite mercy, say to Him: "O Master, show forth Thy Divinity and pardon me! Never permit me to be separated from Thee, deprived of Thy help; never permit me to offend Thee again!"

After you have done this, do not upset yourself by examining whether God has forgiven you or not. This is a complete loss of time, an outcropping of pride, a spiritual sickness, an illusion of the devil who seeks to harm you under cover of an apparently good act. Place yourself in the merciful arms of God, and plunge into your usual duties, as though nothing had happened. The number of times during the day that you fall cannot shake the basis of true confidence in Him. Return after your second, your third, your last defeat, with the same confidence.

Each lapse will teach you greater contempt for your own strength, greater hatred for sin, and, at the same time, will give you greater prudence. This will dismay your enemy because it is pleasing to God. The devil will be thrown into confusion, baffled by one he has so often overcome. As a result, he will bend every effort to induce you to change your tactics. He frequently succeeds when a strict watch is not kept over the tendencies of the heart.

The Spiritual Combat by Lorenzo Scupoli



*Our Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week
in loving memory of Joann Mary Barthel
and Mary Barthel
as requested by Nelson Hocker*


FORMED

Bible Study and More! Go to stpaulyonkers.formed.org and register which gives you access to quality Catholic on line programs, movies, audios, and books. Tomorrow is the Memorial of St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr. Watch: *Saint Maria Goretti: Fourteen Flowers of Pardon* or *The Story of the Patroness of Modern Youth* or FORMED Now! *Forgiveness*. Listen to: Truth to Inspire: *St. Maria Goretti*. Saturday is the Feast of St. Benedict, Abbott & Religious Founder. Watch: Daily Reflections: *Feast of St. Benedict* or *Saint Benedict of Nursia*.

Relay - A Catholic Path to Healing from Pornography. A fully anonymous app-based recovery program that combines clinically proven therapeutic techniques with Christian principles. Developed with input from leading Christian therapists, Relay helps individuals overcoming compulsive sexual behavior through daily structure, virtuous habits, and connection built to support long-term recovery. Manage your triggers, Practice real honesty, Uncover root issues, Track your progress, Join a global community, Get daily support. joinrelay.app/parish

The Church of St. John the Evangelist and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church of White Plains will hold its annual "Festa Italiana" on July 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th on the Church grounds of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. The "Festa Italiana" features live Italian and American music and entertainment, an outdoor dance floor, children's games and entertainment, great Italian foods & desserts, American fare, espresso bar, air-conditioned casino, and much more. Admission and entertainment are free.

Please join the "Procession of the Statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel" on Sunday, July 12th for a public procession of prayer to honor the Virgin Mary. Worshipers in the procession of their Patron Saint will assemble in front of OLMC Church at 12:30 pm. The procession will begin at 1:00 pm followed by the celebration of Holy Mass at 2:00 pm at OLMC.

Calling all caring hearts!  Join us for a **Baby Bottle Drive** to support Gianna's House Pregnancy Care Center in Brewster. Here's how you can get involved: - Pick up an adorable baby bottle after any Mass. - Fill it with love by donating spare coins, dollars or donations (checks made payable to Gianna's House). - Return your filled bottle to the church by July 12 after any Mass. Your small act of kindness can make an enormous difference in providing comfort and care to moms who need it most. Gianna's House is a Catholic pro-life pregnancy resource center helping women experiencing unexpected pregnancies to break down the obstacles they face so they can choose life for their babies. For any questions or further information, please contact: director@giannashouseinc.org or visit us at: giannashouseinc.org.

Stay connected with the Catholic community of New York - Visit theGoodNewsroom.org for information and updates. *The Good Newsroom* is the award-winning digital newsroom of the Archdiocese of New York, publishing videos and articles in English and Spanish daily.

St. Joseph's Seminary and College in Yonkers will be hosting a weekend contemplative symposium entitled, "Francis and Dominic: A Mysticism of the Word in the World" Be inspired by an outstanding lineup of speakers and presenters such as Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre, Most Reverend James Massa, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn, President/Rector of St. Joseph's Seminary and more! Friday, July 24-Sunday, July 26
Location: Seminary of Immaculate Conception - Long Island, NY. For more Information and registration: St Joseph's Seminary Event's Office - sjs.events@dunwoodie.edu (914) 367-8201



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