

Dear Padre,

Is it appropriate to display the American flag in our church?

A diocesan bishop—who often delegates this matter to the discretion of the pastor—determines regulations on whether and how to display the American flag in a Catholic church. Displaying the flag, and a book of remembrance for those serving in the armed forces, seems to have originated in many US parishes during World War II. The practice has continued through subsequent wars and national tragedies.

While the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy advised that national symbols should not be *permanent* fixtures of a worship space, they may be appropriate at worship services on a civil holiday, etc. This same committee discouraged pastors from displaying the American flag within the sanctuary itself—a space reserved for the altar, ambo, presidential chair, and tabernacle—but instead to place the flag in the vestibule of the church together with a book of petitions for the living and deceased.

Fundamentally, a church building is where the liturgical assembly gathers as one body in Christ—the same Christ of the Eucharist who is beyond time and place, who came to unite our divisions. “The church building is a sign and reminder of the immanence and transcendence of God—who chose to dwell among us and whose presence cannot be contained or limited to any single place” (US Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Built of Living Stones*, 2000). ●



JOAQUIN OSSORIO CASTILLO / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday

July 6
Weekday
Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22
Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday

July 7
Weekday
Hos 8:4-7, 11-13
Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday

July 8
Weekday
Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12
Mt 10:1-7

Thursday

July 9
Weekday
Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9
Mt 10:7-15

Friday

July 10
Weekday
Hos 14:2-10
Mt 10:16-23

Saturday

July 11
St. Benedict, Abbot
Is 6:1-8
Mt 10:24-33

Sunday

July 12
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:10-11
Rom 8:18-23
Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

There is a burning question in our hearts, a need for truth that we cannot ignore, which leads us to ask ourselves: what is true happiness? What is the true meaning of life? What can free us from being trapped in meaninglessness, boredom, and mediocrity?... We need to lift our eyes... to the “things that are above” (Colossians 3:2).

HOMILY, TOR VERGATA, AUGUST 3, 2025

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BRICOLAGE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 5, 2026

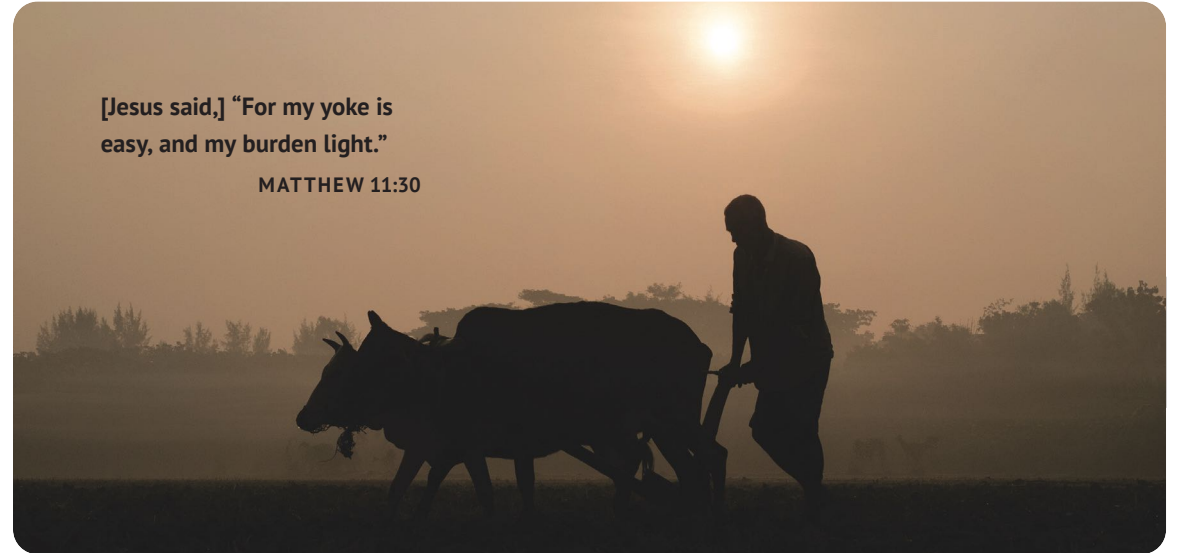
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Zechariah 9:9-10 / Romans 8:9, 11-13 / Matthew 11:25-30



[Jesus said,] “For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

MATTHEW 11:30



Take Up the Yoke

ANN M. GARRIDO

The invention of the yoke 6,000 years ago marked one of the great advances in human history. The yoke—a wooden beam fitted across the neck—harnessed the energy of two cattle pulling in the same direction, hastening the tilling of soil and transport of goods.

It is easy to see why, among many ancient peoples, the yoke became a symbol of subjugation. When the Roman army won a battle, they forced defeated soldiers to walk beneath a “yoke” of spears to indicate they were now in a state of servitude. The prophet Jeremiah once walked through Jerusalem wearing a yoke to warn the people they were about to be conquered by Babylon.

In Judaism, however, the Torah was also sometimes referred to as a yoke. It was a law to be submitted to, but it also was a way of life that offered an alternative to the cruel “yokes” imposed by kings. The Book of Sirach encourages youth to “Take [Torah’s] yoke upon your neck; that your mind may receive her teaching.... See for yourselves! I have labored only a little but have found much” (Sirach 51:26-27).

It is unclear exactly what Jesus meant when he invited us to accept *his* yoke, but it is likely that he was echoing the invitation of Sirach. He wanted us to know that following God’s law makes it possible for us to work together, accomplishing much that we could not do on our own. And that God’s law is a gentle law—one that enables rather than oppresses. Are you willing to receive Christ’s gentle teaching and make it your own? ●

Reflect

Is there a teaching of Jesus you find challenging?

St. Patrick's Catholic Church Telluride, CO

Church & Office Address:

301 North Spruce St.
Telluride, CO 81435

Mailing Address:

PO Box 398
Telluride, CO 81435

Phone: 970-728-3387

e-mail: SPCTelluride@gmail.com

website: stpatrickstelluride.com

Facebook: facebook.com/StPatricksTelluride

Please visit our website & Facebook page for the most up-to-date information on Holy Mass times and other important announcements.

Pastoral Information:

Pastor: Rev. Mariusz Wirkowski

Bookkeeper: Cindy Wyszynski

DRE: Katrina Aumiller

Holy Mass & Confession Schedule:

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

Tuesday - 7:00 PM; Wednesday – Friday: 8:00 AM

Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil - 5:30 PM and 8:00 AM

Confessions: 30min. prior to each Holy Mass (or by appointment)

Holy Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Nucla.

Sunday: 12:00 Noon
Saturday 5:30 pm
Holy Days of Obligation - 6:00 PM

July 5th, 2026 - Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Holy Mass Intentions:

Saturday, July 4th

5:30 PM - Deacon Ed Pecis and family

Sunday, July 5th

9:00 AM - Missa Pro Populo

Tuesday, July 7th

7:00 PM - +Jesse Hildebrand

Wednesday, July 8th

8:00 AM - Gregory Aumiller

Thursday, July 9th

8:00 AM - Elijah Aumiller

Friday, July 10th

8:00 AM - Grace Aumiller

Saturday, July 11th

5:30 PM - Missa Pro Populo

Sunday, July 12th

9:00 AM - +Jesse Hildebrand

If you would like to have a Holy Mass intention for your loved ones, living or deceased, please contact the Parish Office by calling: 970-728-3387 or place your request in the collection basket near the entrance of the church.
- Suggested donation for each mass is \$10.

Healing Prayers - Rezos Por Tus Curaciones

Let us pray for those who have asked for our prayers...

Kevin Kiernan, Bob Kammer, Cody Couture, Dakota Couture, Eric Block, Judy Donnelly, Mike Napolitano, Mary E. Lynch, Liz Bradley, Care Bear, Carl Carson, Joshua Nault, Phil Couture, Jose Cuaron, Kim Lynch, Allison Myer, Marianne Edward, CarolAnn O'Dea, Juan Esparza, Martha Gagliano, Stanislaw Kowalczyk, Susan Martin Smith

Upcoming Events: *All Are Welcome!*

First Fridays of the month - Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus - Holy Mass and Adoration - 8:00 AM.

Tuesdays: 6:00 PM- Holy Adoration. 7:00 PM – Holy Mass

Second Tuesdays of month: 7:30 PM – Men's Group

Wednesdays: 7:30 AM

Women's Group Faith Fun Fellowship – Church

Thursdays: 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration & Holy Mass - Church

First Sunday of the month - Holy Adoration 30 minutes before each Holy Mass.

Each Sunday during Summer- Coffee and donuts after 9:00 AM Holy Mass.

Last Saturday of the month - Bilingual Holy Mass

“So also we, being many, are one body in Christ, and each one is a part, the one of the other.”
Romans 12:5

Parish Announcements:

We would like to welcome all Visitors who are with us celebrating the Holy Mass this weekend.

Please check our **Parish Website /Calendar** for updated schedule of events.

Please join us for praying the Holy Rosary on Sundays before 9:00 AM Holy Mass. It starts at 8:30 AM.

Coffee and donuts every Sunday during summer after 9:00 AM Holy Mass. We need more volunteers to help.

Thank you for your generous support in last week's Peter's Pence Collection! As a parish, we collected \$595.00. Our contributions join those from our brothers and sisters world wide to help Pope Leo XIV in his ministry to the Universal Church, including relief to people in need and support for the Holy See. If you missed the collection, it is not too late to give. Visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

A big Thank You to everyone who helped with our Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Stephen Berg last Thursday.

Last Week's Collection: \$ 1,662.00

Second Collection: \$595.00

Please visit: stpatrickstelluride.com/donate to offer your financial support.

Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

As we celebrate 250th Anniversary of United States of America, let us continue to pray for our beautiful Country:

Prayer for our Nation (*Together*)

God our Father, Giver of life. We entrust the United States of America to your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for Your Glory and dwell among Your people. Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing Your will. Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death". Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Viva Cristo Rey!