


**SHJ** = Sacred Heart of Jesus, 152A Fraser Drive, Batawa  
**SFA** = St Francis of Assisi, 300 Riverside Parkway, Frankford  
**SJM** = St James the Minor, 236 Edward Street, Stirling

**Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time (4)**

<b>Date July</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Liturgy</b>	<b>Intention/Donor</b>
<b>SAT 22</b>	<b>SHJ</b>	<b>5pm</b>	 <p>What is the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares?  <small>800Questions.org</small></p>	<b>Needs &amp; Intentions of Our Parish Family</b>
<b>SUN 23</b>	<b>SJM</b>	<b>9am</b>		<b>Terry Cassidy [RIP]</b> <i>Mary Hunt</i>
	<b>SFA</b>	<b>11am</b>		<b>Charlene Jordison [RIP]</b> <i>Diana Mosco &amp; Family</i>
<b>TUE 25</b>	<b>SFA</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>St James</b>	<b>Jim Mosco [RIP]</b> <i>Mosco Family</i>
<b>WED 26</b>	<b>SJM</b>	<b>3:30pm</b>	<b>SS Anne &amp; Joachim</b>	
<b>THR 27</b>	<b>SFA</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</b> (1325)	<b>Most Neglected Souls in Purgatory</b> <i>Jules Hubert</i>
<b>FRI 28</b>	<b>SJM</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Ferial</b>	
<b>SAT 29</b>	<b>SHJ</b>	<b>5pm</b>	 <p>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like...”  <small>-Matthew 13:45</small></p>	<b>The Nolan Family [RIP]</b> <i>Marian &amp; Harry Scanlan</i>
<b>SUN 30</b>	<b>SJM</b>	<b>9am</b>		<b>Joe Forestell [RIP]</b> <i>Mary Forestell</i>
	<b>SFA</b>	<b>11am</b>		<b>Needs &amp; Intentions of Our Parish Family</b>

**Lay Ministers**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>St. James</b>
Sat, July 22 Sun, July 23	Lector – R. Lefort	Lector – B. Kerby Usher – M. Kerby
<b>Date</b>	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>St. James</b>
Sat, July 29 Sun, July 30	Lector – S. Reilly	Lector – D. Kerby Usher – J. Forestell

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**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**: The parables were always a favorite when I was growing up.

Today's, regarding the wheat and the weeds, was particularly comforting to me as a child. It was simple to understand, I thought: Those of us in God's Church were obviously the wheat and, of course, destined for salvation. We just needed to endure living among "the weeds" while we are in this world. As an adult, however, I realize that Jesus' message is much more challenging – much more damning - since I could be one of the weeds! And while I certainly don't like that thought, I also don't like considering that anyone else would be thrown into the "fiery furnace." After all, we are supposed to love one another and desire that everyone will become part of the Body of Christ and have eternal life. The reality of this world, however, is that temptation and sin abound. Jesus, however, stands ready to give us Himself as the Bread of Life in the Eucharist, and we have the gift of mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). These sacraments, as well as prayer, give us the "nutrients" needed to ensure that we can remain the wheat, and that we can help others be that too. While the sacraments can fortify our faith, what about our neighbors, friends or family who are not Catholic or who have left the Church? This is where evangelization comes in – inviting someone to join you at Mass – the source and summit of our Catholic Faith - or suggesting a faith-based book which they might enjoy reading. If you don't think such a simple act could make much difference in the life of another, take heart in the parables contained in the long form of today's Gospel. In those, Jesus reminds us that it doesn't take much to spread the Good News of the Kingdom of Heaven. The smallest of seeds can turn into the largest of plants and a small amount of yeast can leaven much flour. And if we have moments when we lack courage or feel in need of assistance, St. Paul reminds us that "the Spirit helps us in our weakness." Never underestimate the power of the Advocate: He can help us to pray, He can intercede for us and provide that which is needed in order for us to be good seed in the world. Let us pray this week for the strength to live out our baptismal promise to reject evil, to gain the courage needed to witness to God, and to work toward building His Kingdom on earth wherever and whenever we can.