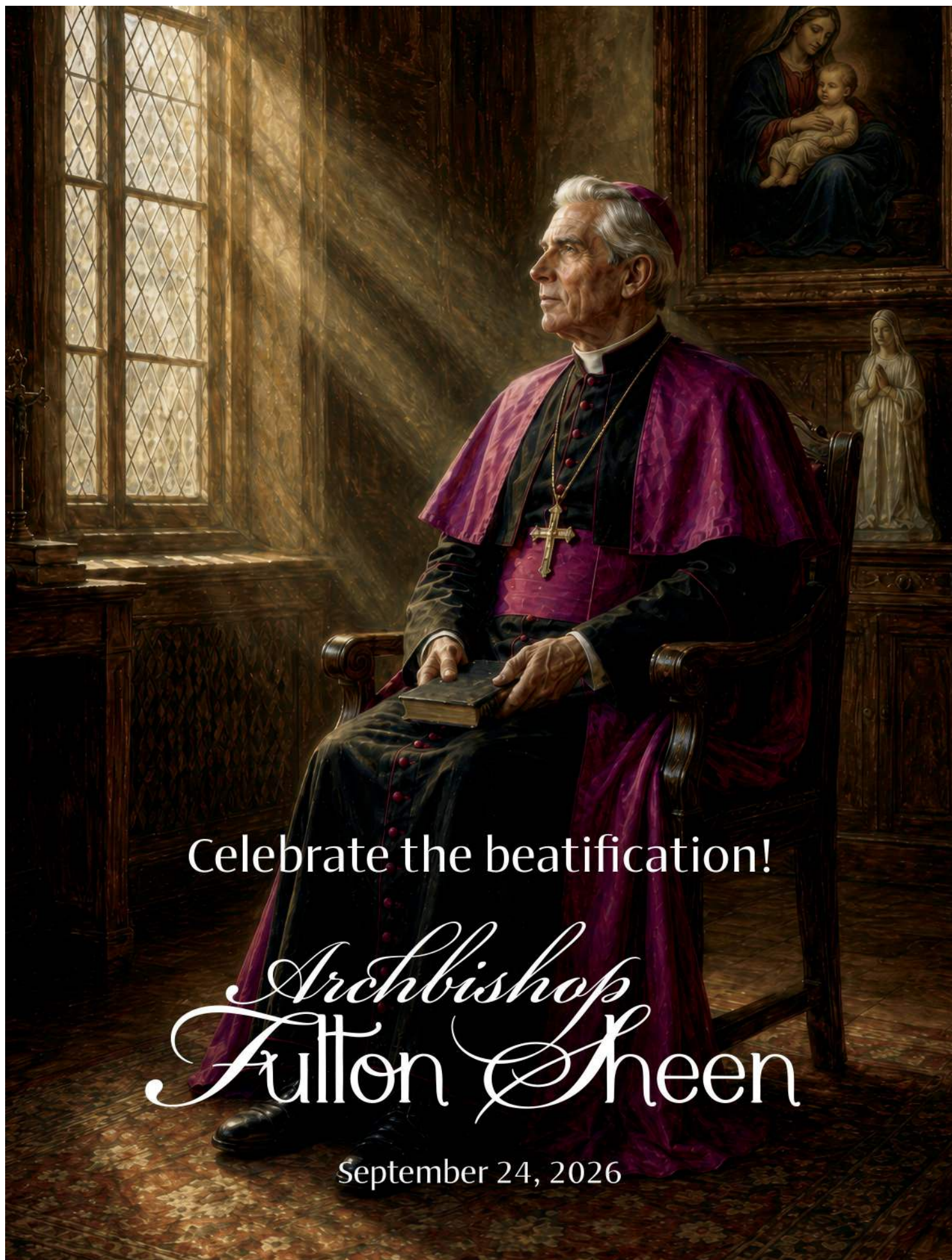




Celebrate the beatification!

Archbishop
Fulton Sheen

September 24, 2026



Saturday, Sept 19

4:00 p.m. (St. T)

4:00 p.m. (St. P)

Sunday, Sept 20

7:30 a.m. (St. M)

9:00 a.m. (St. T)

10:30 a.m. (St. P)

11:00 a.m. (St. T)

(St. Januarius)

Shaun Walder (Living)

Marge Campbell

(Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Rita Eisenmenger (E & F Hettinger)

Joanne Daly (T & A Crain)

Loretta Taylor

For The People

Monday, Sept 21

8:00 a.m. (St. P)

(St. Matthew)

Nolan Easton

Tuesday, Sept 22

7:30 a.m. (St. M)

Bruce Schweighart (D & C Baxley)

Wednesday, Sept 23

7:30 a.m. (St. T)

(St. Pius of Pietrelcina)

Mary Byrd (P & J Daly)

8:00 a.m. (St. P)

Jeanette Ping

Thursday, Sept 24

No Daily Mass at St. Mary's Church

No Daily Mass at St. Patrick's Church

Friday, Sept 25

8:30 a.m. (St. T)

Georges LeFaivre (J & K Place)

Saturday, Sept 26

4:00 p.m. (St. T)

(Sts. Cosmas & Damian)

4:00 p.m. (St. P)

Nancy King (J Shapland)

Sunday, Sept 27

7:30 a.m. (St. M)

(Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

9:00 a.m. (St. T)

Robert & Joyce Butler (Family)

10:30 a.m. (St. P)

Fr. Keith (Living)

11:00 a.m. (St. T)

Dean Schwenk, Sr.

For The People

R • O • S • A • R • Y

Parish Calendar

Saturday, September 19th

10:00 a.m.—Family Holy Hour & Tour of Cathedral/Peoria

3:00 p.m.—Confessions/St. Thomas Church

3:00 p.m.—Confessions/St. Patrick's Church

4:00 p.m.—Weekend Mass/St. Thomas Church

4:00 p.m.—Weekend Mass/St. Patrick's Church

5:00 p.m.—STS Scavenger Hunt/St. Thomas School

Sunday, September 20th

7:30 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Mary's Church

9:00 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Thomas Church

10:00 a.m.—CCD Classes/St. Thomas School Door 'B'

10:00 a.m.—Confirmation Parent Meeting/St. Thomas School

10:30 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Patrick's Church

11:00 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Thomas Church

Monday, September 21st

8:00 a.m.—Daily Mass/St. Patrick's Church

Tuesday, September 22nd

7:30 a.m.—Daily Mass/St. Mary's Church

Wednesday, September 23rd

7:30 a.m.—Daily Mass/St. Thomas Church

8:00 a.m.—Daily Mass/St. Patrick's Church

8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.—Quilters Group/St. Mary's Hall

Thursday, September 24th

Beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen in St. Louis

No Daily Mass/St. Mary's Church

No Daily Mass/St. Patrick's Church

Friday, September 25th

No Confessions/St. Thomas Church

Only One Daily Mass at 8:30 a.m. at St. Thomas Church

8:30 a.m.—Children's Mass/St. Thomas Church

9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.—Fulton Sheen's Hometown Festival Peoria 2026

Saturday, September 26th

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.—Fulton Sheen's Hometown Festival Peoria 2026

3:00 p.m.—Confessions/St. Thomas Church

3:00 p.m.—Confessions/St. Patrick's Church

4:00 p.m.—Weekend Mass/St. Thomas Church

4:00 p.m.—Weekend Mass/St. Patrick's Church

Sunday, September 27th

7:30 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Mary's Church

9:00 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Thomas Church

10:00 a.m.—CCD Classes/St. Thomas School Door 'B'

10:30 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Patrick's Church

11:00 a.m.—Sunday Mass/St. Thomas Church

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Prayer for Canonization of Fulton J. Sheen 1895—1979

Heavenly Father, source of all holiness, You raise up within the Church in every age men and women who serve with heroic love and dedication. You have blessed Your Church through the life and ministry of Your faithful servant, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. He has written and spoken well of Your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, and was a true instrument of the Holy Spirit in touching the hearts of countless people.

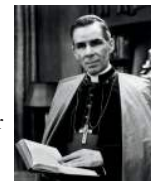
If it be according to Your Will, for the honor and glory of the Most Holy Trinity and for the salvation of souls, we ask You to move the Church to proclaim him a saint. We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur: Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky C.S.C. Bishop of Peoria

Beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen

It is getting exciting...September 24th is here and the Beatification will take in St. Louis this Thursday! See below for a couple of ways to get connected to Archbishop Fulton Sheen this week. Also, consider taking your family to Peoria next weekend to participate in the Hometown FestivalD!

1. Once again, if you haven't already done so, take time before September 24th to watch this historical video at www.kickoff.celebratesheen.com called "Before He Is Called Blessed". What a powerful video this is explaining so much about Archbishop Fulton Sheen and his life and ways of life. As they say in Peoria: Full Sheen Ahead!
2. Hometown Festival Peoria 2026...The Beatification "Hometown Festival" Celebration will take place between the Cathedral and the Sheen Museum on Friday, September 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 26th from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Beatification "Hometown Festival" Celebration will provide an engaging festival atmosphere that highlights the life, legacy, and mission of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen while bringing together Catholic organizations, artisans, musicians, podcasters, and the local community. Beyond a standard market, the festival features an artisan marketplace celebrating authentic Catholic creative gifts inspired by God, in the spirit of Venerable Fulton Sheen, who used beauty and media to draw souls to Truth, this curated collection offers handcrafted mugs, artwork, stickers, and devotional keepsakes designed to help pilgrims celebrate his legacy both during the event and in their homes. www.celebratesheen.com/hometown-festival.
3. "From a Friend of Sheen"...Fr. Joseph Dondanville submitted an article to *Celebratesheen.com* Summer 2026 issue about his grandfather and Fulton Sheen being classmates at St. Viator's College in Bourbonnais, Illinois. A copy of the article and letter to his grandfather from the Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen is enclosed in this bulletin for your reading enjoyment.



ADA 2026

Our parish has joined Catholics throughout the Diocese in supporting the 2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal. Through the Appeal, we answer Christ's call: "Be My Witness." Your gift supports ministries that bring people to Christ, care for our retired priests, form future priests, strengthen families, educate our children, serve those in need, and proclaim the Gospel throughout our Diocese.

Parish Goals

St. Thomas Philo—\$45,229

St. Mary's Pesotum—\$23,474

St. Patrick's Tolono—\$29,400

Every gift, regardless of size, helps us reach that goal and continue the Church's mission.

Please complete a pledge card this week at home and return it to the Catholic Diocese of Peoria via the instructions on the pledge card. Cards have been mailed to each household and there are extras in the back of each church.

OR

Use this QR Code and make your prayerful donation today! Thank you for doing your part in participating in our 2026 annual appeal! Thank you for helping us answer Christ's call to "You Will Be My Witnesses."



September 12th & 13th

St. Thomas—\$7,900.00

St. Mary's—\$1,049.00

St. Patrick's—\$2,970.00

Parish Information

Pastor

Fr. Keith Walder
frkeith@stthomasphilo.org

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Fortunatus Bijura
frfortunatus@stthomasphilo.org

Parish Office Phones

217.621.4648 (St. Thomas/St. Mary's)
217.485.1129 (St. Patrick's)
217.369.8453 (Deacon Don)

Office Emails

kwebb@stthomasphilo.org (Philo/Pesotum)
officeofstp@gmail.com (Tolono)

Websites

www.church.stthomasphilo.org
www.stpatricktolono.com

Facebooks

St. Thomas/St. Mary's Catholic Church
Philo/Pesotum
St. Patrick Catholic Church—Tolono

Upcoming Events

Diocese 25th & 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

On November 7th at 4:00 p.m., Bishop Tylka will celebrate a Mass at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception for couples who are celebrating either their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2026. If you are celebrating one of these two special anniversaries in 2026, please contact the parish office at 217.621.4648 or kwebb@stthomasphilo.org. The office needs to know before October 1st in order for the couple to receive a personal invitation from Bishop Tylka to the Mass on November 7th.

Empty Bowl Supper & Bowl Making at STM The annual Empty Bowl Supper and Saber Showcase will be held at The High School of Saint Thomas More on **Friday, November 13th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** benefiting the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen.

There will be bowl making nights for those who would like to create their own ceramic bowl (no clay experience is required!) The bowl making will take place on **September 30th, October 7th, and October 28th.** Please contact Mrs. Pagel and RSVP for bowl making at dpagel@hs-stm.org so we are sure to have enough supplies and help.

Rachels Vineyard Retreat offers healing for those who struggle with the emotional and spiritual pain of a past abortion. This retreat is for those single or married; mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings—anyone who has been impacted by an abortion experience. If you are searching for peace and inner healing from a past abortion, this retreat is for you. Register for the **October 30-November 1** retreat by calling 309.264.1489 or emailing rvrpeoria@gmail.com All communications are strictly confidential. For more information please visit online at www.cdop.org/rachels-vineyard.

CCD Classes (K-8th) will take place again this Sunday, September 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. at St. Thomas School Door 'B'. If you have not had a chance to register yet, please do so by contacting Stacy Swisher or Deacon Don in the school on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. or by contacting them at stacy.swish04@gmail.com or ddokoby@aol.com. They will get you all set up for this school year. Registration Fees are \$60/student or \$150/family. Please make checks payable to St. Thomas Church.



Fun Fact! Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen was one of the first Catholic priests to become a major television personality in the United States. In the 1950's, his show *Life Is Worth Living* reached millions of viewers each week—and he famously won an Emmy Award in 1952, even beating out popular entertainers of the time.

Share Your Harvest This Fall

Have you ever considered donating grain to St. Thomas Church, St. Mary's Church, St. Patrick's Church, or your parish's ADA? This is a great way to make your usual tithe to your parish, and/or give a charitable gift to St. Thomas School. All of the local grain companies in our area have the following non-profit institutions set up in their accounting systems to make this an easy process for you and your family:

St. Thomas Church, Philo
St. Patrick's Church, Tolono
Diocese of Peoria—ADA

St. Mary's Church, Pesotum
St. Thomas School, Philo

Please consider sharing your grain this fall to one of the above places that holds a special place in your heart. By donating grain you may be able to make a larger donation to the institution. Plus, as explained on one website, "there are significant tax benefits for a farmer to donate grain directly to the church rather than selling the grain himself and then donating the cash. The donation of grain reduces the income that is reported on Schedule F, which gives relief from self-employment tax and state income tax. Whereas, a donation of cash can only be considered a deduction if the individual itemizes deductions on the tax return, and there is no relief from self-employment tax or state income tax."



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www.stthomasphilo.org
217-684-2309

Jean Cothron, Principal
Call for further information or
to take a tour of our school!

Live, Love, and serve

St. Thomas School

Children's Daily Mass will take place on **Friday, September 25th at 8:30 a.m.** at St. Thomas Church. Our 2nd/3rd graders will be making special preparations for this special Mass. All are welcome to attend.

Wish List for St. Thomas School If you would like to look at our school's current Amazon wish list, you can find it at <https://a.co/jk7GRsH>. This is just another way to help STS with daily items needed to run the school. Thank you, always, for your continued support. It will be updated periodically as items are purchased and new needs arise.

Federal Scholarship Tax Credit Program Please find enclosed in this bulletin a letter from Bishop Louis Tylka regarding a new tax credit that would benefit our students. He would ask that you please send a message as soon as possible to the Governor and ask him to opt-in to the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit.

St. Thomas School Calendar Drawing

Winner

September 14th (\$50)—Melissa Murphy (Sold by the Murphy Family)



Next Drawing

September 21st (\$50)

News & Notes

Office of Priestly Vocations have two upcoming events taking place soon that you may be interested in participating. St. Therese has always been a faithful intercessor for the Diocese of Peoria's vocations program, and through her prayers to God, we have been blessed with many faithful, holy priests to the diocese. Join the Office of Priestly Vocations in asking her to send an abundance of priestly vocations after the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Mark your calendars now and join us:

- 1.) As we prepare to pray a novena to St. Therese of Lisieux starting on September 22nd for nine days; and
- 2.) Please join the Office of Priestly Vocations via livestream for a Holy Hour for Vocations on St. Therese of Lisieux's Feast Day on October 1st at 6:30 p.m.

The Novena Prayer and the livestreamed Holy Hour can be found online at www.cdop.org/vocations.

Rocket Locker St. Patrick's A & R Society will have a box in the east vestibule of St. Patrick's Church and in the vestibule of St. Thomas Church for donations to the "Rocket Locker" at Unity High School. Requested items are: soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, detergent pods, dryer sheets, individual snacks, and non-perishable food. Thank you for your support of those in need.

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Rita Rund Family

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Jeremiah & Anastasia Murphy
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George & Betty Walder
John & Mary Ann Mulcahey
David Walder
Anthony Brody
Harold Kastle
Hennessey & Vermillion Families
John T. & Helen Godsell
Jim & Millie Riddle

St. Thomas & St. Mary's First Saturday Memorial

Ethel Decker
Leo & Marie Clennon
Poor Souls
Jack & Martina Keeler Family
Julia Keeler Family
August & Rosa Sahr Family
M/M Donald Southwood Family
Bolger & Clennon Families
Fred & Katherine Miller
Hewing & Weiscope Families
Althoff Family
Mark & Eunice Hettinger

Charlene Behrends
Rund & Baxley Families
Morry & Jo Ann Lannon Family
Billman Family
John & Mary Rita Clennon
Katie Lueth
Bosch & Lawless Families
Jordan Reinhart
Don & Dan Happ
Bosch & Happ Families
Wiesbrook & Buesinger Families
Duane & Mary Welton

Jennifer Thomas
Ken & Ida Thomas
Robert T & Mark Mooney, Jr.
Floyd & Myrle Block
Sister Mary Cletus Mooney
John & Mary Schumacher
Ray & Laura Deters Family
Sylvester & Cecilia Westjohn Family
August & Mary Louise Carie Family
Lawrence Carie
Ralph & Rosa Green Family
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Matthew 6:34
"Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will take care of itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day."
Live each day like there is no tomorrow.
He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn
make you to shine like the sun
and hold you in the palm of His hand.

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