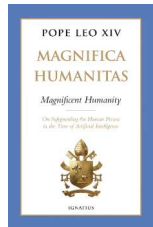




Campus Ministry
All are welcome. All belong.

Campus Ministry Notes

- Our summer read continues on Wed., July 22nd at 7:00 pm at 1517 9th Avenue S. *Magnifica Humanitas* is a great little encyclical to delve into together. We are on Chapter Two for this week's discussion (#46-89). If you need a copy of the encyclical please contact Roy at (217) 512-0949.



At the 11 am Mass on Sunday, August 16th we will welcome our incoming freshmen class along with their parents.

What a blessing each fall semester brings to UP as the freshmen class graces our campus for the first time. Please keep them in your prayer as they prepare to be here in a little less than a month.

- New fall Liturgical Ministry schedule will go out after we have a chance to train new folks. Until then we will need to fill three weeks: August 16, 23, 30. Look for an email from Roy.



UNIVERSITY OF
PROVIDENCE

CAMPUS MINISTRY

July 19, 2026
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saint of the Week

Robert Ellsberg writes a bit this week on St. Mary Magdalene in *Give Us This Day*. Wednesday, July 22nd is her feast day. Hopefully, the words here will nudge you to go deeper into the lives of our friends, the saints.

"I have seen the Lord." (John 20:18)

These words spoken to the disciples on that first Easter morning are the reason why Mary of Magdala has been given the title, "The Apostle to the Apostles."



Robert Ellsberg in his reflection on Mary Magdalene reminds us she was one of the "original Galilean disciples of Jesus and one of the many women who followed him in his itinerant ministry" (p. 227). She is identified in both Luke and Mark as the woman "of whom he had driven out seven demons" (Mark 16:9). For those of us who have seen the first season of *The Chosen*, there is a beautiful scene of Jesus driving out the demons from Mary and from that moment she follows him. Ellsberg goes on to say, "all four Gospels name her among the women who followed Jesus to Golgotha and witnessed his Passion and death. While (in the Synoptic Gospels) all the male disciples fled, it was these women who remained faithful to the end, and who went to his tomb on the third day, hoping to anoint his body" (p. 227).

It should be noted that the later tradition of her being a penitent prostitute has no scriptural basis.

What is found in John's Gospel is her beautiful encounter with the Lord at the tomb. Peter and John head back after seeing the empty tomb. Mary Magdalene waits. She weeps. Her grief is so great she does not recognize Jesus when he comes to her with the question, "Woman, why are you weeping?" It is only when he calls her by name that she recognizes him. Beautiful. It is in this moment that he gives her the task of revealing to the disciples, that he now calls brothers, their new relationship as adopted sons of the Father.

St. Mary Magdalene is a witness of how transformative a relationship with Jesus can be. St. Mary Magdalene, pray for us!

A View from My Window

Since it is summer, I thought I would share a memory of summer. It may not draw you to an insight of faith, but I hope it brings you a bit of jocularity.

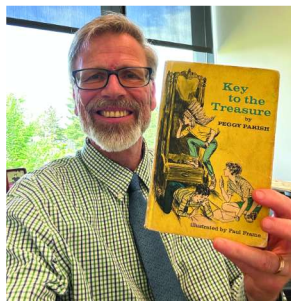
Some of us might remember an assignment given to children over the summer: have a book report ready to present the first week of school in the fall. It was a task given to 5th through 9th graders. We thought it was a cruel and unusual burden to place on a child determined to spend the entire summer outside. You might question if this is just my memory inflating one summer into every summer from 5th - 9th grade, but I have proof.

I saved a book from that time: *Key to the Treasure* by Peggy Parish. It was published in 1966 and my mom got it along with a number of other books from a traveling book salesman who must have seen us kids out in the yard playing and knew the truth that awaited us the first week of school: the book report. In reflection, I believe all the book salespeople were teachers trying to make a living during the summer. This is why they assigned a book report for the first week back at school and every teacher was in on it.

I needed a way to “beat the system.” In the summer before 5th grade I read *Key to the Treasure*. I stood up and gave my book report to the class during that first week of school. When the summer of my entrance into 6th grade rolled around, I realized the flaw in their collusion. The teachers did not pass along a list of books that the kids read. My book report of the summer read was *Key to the Treasure*.

I shamelessly reported on the same book for 7th, 8th and 9th grade. I attended a Catholic school with 15 classmates, by 7th grade they all knew what I was up to, and they waited for me to get caught. I never did because by 7th grade you did not need to show the book as part of your presentation. Needless to say, I love that book. I loved the fact that I received an “A” every year. However, truth be known I worked harder on rewriting and embellishing that book report than on any of the others I ever wrote. Maybe, the traveling salespeople/teachers also knew and smiled.

Peace, Roy



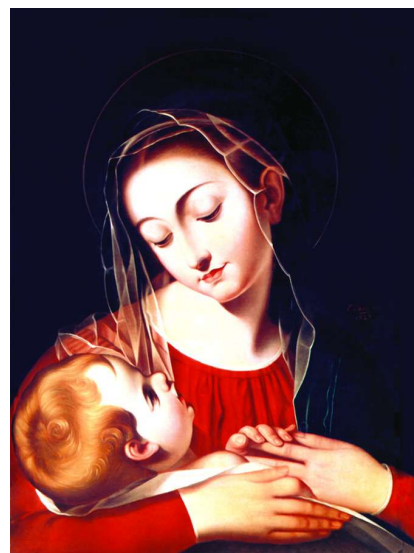
Our Lady of Providence

Pray for Us

Please pray for the following intention:

Our Lady of Providence, Mother of the Church, pray for our university. Keep us safe as we navigate a path forward and place our trust in the providential care of God.

Add any other intentions and then pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be. Then close with the Novena Prayer:



Remember, O most faithful Lady of Providence, that you have been given to us by your Son to be our mother.

We entrust to you our labors; bless them.

We commend to you our needs; supply them.

Show for us the same concern

you manifested at Cana, for we trust that whatever you ask of your Son will be done.

Pray for us on our pilgrimage that we may share the faith and hope that marked your life.

Full of confidence in your power before God, we place ourselves, our loved ones and all our petitions in your providential care.

Amen.

The Providence Pulse

The university has an online publication. If you would like to receive a copy of this monthly e-letter please email roy.lanham@uprovidence.edu

