

# PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MAILING ADDRESS: 7409 W. CLEARWATER AVE., KENNEWICK, WA 99336

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OFFICE: 509-735-8558

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## 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." - Lk 14:13-14

AUGUST 31, 2025

### Parish Staff:

Secretary	Debbie Forgette	735-8558
Bookkeeper	Bianca Medina	735-8558
Parish Community Center (PCC) Coordinator	Michele Umemoto	735-1743

### Faith Formation:

Pre-school to 5th Grade	Karen Gorham	735-8558
6th to 8th Grades/Edge	Danielle May & Kim Barany	528-9780 308-3328
9th to 12th Grades/Life Teen	Jennifer Moore	492-6209
	& Joe Bliss	216-402-3118
	email: <a href="mailto:lifeteenhs@gmail.com">lifeteenhs@gmail.com</a>	
Confirmation	Deacon Mike & Carol Gaulke	551-7626
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults	Joe & Sherry Schroeder	405-2242

### Ministers of Music:

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass	Julianne Barnaby	735-2163
9:30 a.m. Mass	Paula Bachelor	375-9019
5:00 p.m. Mass	Perry Kelly	735-8558
Children's Choir	Presently Unstaffed	735-8558

### Ministries of Worship:

Scheduler for Liturgical Ministers	Trish Feeney	551-0486
Eucharistic Adoration	Liz Friedrich	783-6223
Prayer Line	Adele Ogryzek	627-0201
Altar Server Training	Zack Rinderer	582-2543

### Parish Ministries:

Mary Martha Prayer Group	Camille Henneberry	735-4858
Welcoming Committee	Jan Beardemphl	948-3367
PCC Nursery	Wynona Vaz	222-8982
Ministry to Sick and Shut-Ins	Deacon Eric Shaber & Charlotte Shaber	208-521-7846
Bible Study	Judy Turner	438-7938
Women's Group	Linda Rego	221-1130
Weekend Mass Refreshments	Judy Urrutia	438-5039

### Councils and Committees:

Parish Council	Jim Carey	627-0321
Finance Council	Jared Liebert	947-9386
Stewardship	Lenice & Pat Nagle	582-6893
Evangelization	Rob Privette	438-1222
Voice of the Spirit	Dieter Bohrmann	987-3158
Parish Library	Ann Stevens	396-2723

### Charter Organizations:

Catholic Daughters	Linda Garner	627-2748
Knights of Columbus	Peter Dreisbach	205-2377
St. Vincent de Paul	Message Line	591-0632
Scout Troop #275	Teddy Herrera	778-0505

### Natural Family Planning:

Carol Gaulke 619-5464

### Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

### Weekdays:

Monday: Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday: Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday: 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

or by appointment.

### Please visit our Holy Spirit Facebook page to join livestream events:

<https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritParishCommunity>

### Office Hours: Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### The Sacrament of Baptism

Babies and young children are usually baptized during Mass on Saturday or Sunday, or on Saturday at 12:00 p.m. Call the parish office for a list of upcoming Baptism dates and to receive registration information for pre-Baptism classes. (735-8558)



**On Being Married at Holy Spirit ...** Engaged couples who wish to be married at Holy Spirit Parish are asked to contact the parish office at least nine months prior to their desired wedding date. The couple and the priest will then meet to begin the Marriage preparation program. (735-8558)



Holy Matrimony

### Deaths

#### What should I do when there is a death in my family?

Please call the parish office and speak with the office staff and the pastor before making arrangements with the funeral home, to ensure that the church is available at the desired date and time. (735-8558)

## Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 31, 2025

Calendar for the Week: (Note: PCC = Parish Community Center)

### Sunday, August 31:

#### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Rosary led by Knights of Columbus, following Mass, in the church near the tabernacle.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:00 p.m.



### Thursday, September 4:

#### Weekday

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

**Women's Group Rummage Sale, PCC hall, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), PCC room 7, 7:00 p.m.

Celebration Choir, church, 7:00 p.m.

### Friday, September 5:

#### Weekday

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

**Women's Group Rummage Sale, PCC hall, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., in the vestibule. Concludes with *Prayers for Priestly Vocations* and *Prayers for Peace* at 4:30 p.m. and the *Rite of Benediction* at 4:45 p.m.

### Monday, September 1:

#### Weekday



**LABOR DAY**

**PARISH OFFICE IS  
CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE  
OF LABOR DAY**

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

### Tuesday, September 2:

#### Weekday

Holy Spirit Mommy and Me, PCC nursery, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation, CHURCH, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.**

**Mass in the church at 5:30 p.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).**

Scout Troop 275, PCC hall and room 5, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Council 10653, PCC room 9, 6:30 p.m.

### Saturday, September 6:

#### Weekday

Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday Vigil Mass in the church at 4:00 p.m.

### Sunday, September 7:

#### Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

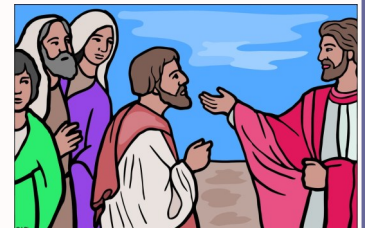
Mass in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Prayer Angels for Peace, PCC Hall, 11:00 a.m.

Confirmation Parent Meeting, PCC 6/8, 2:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:00 p.m.



### Wednesday, September 3:

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Mary Martha Prayer Group, PCC room 5, 1:30 p.m.

Amazing Grace Choir, church, 7:00 p.m.

## From the Pastor's Desk ...

### LATEST UPDATED INFORMATION ABOUT CONFIRMATION IN 2026:

This article is an update to a *From the Pastor's Desk* article that was published in the July 6, 2025 edition of the Parish Bulletin.

As you may know, the Diocese of Yakima is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026. Given this special year in the life of the Catholic Church in Central Washington, Bishop Tyson *was* planning on celebrating one diocese-wide Confirmation Mass on Pentecost Sunday (in May of 2026) at the SunDome in Yakima. **However, it has become apparent that the capacity of the SunDome is too small to accommodate all the youth of the diocese (and their Sponsors and family members) who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of 2026.** Therefore ...

As things stand right now, Bishop Tyson will be celebrating 3 regional Confirmation Masses in the diocese in 2026: 1) in Yakima at the SunDome, 2) at a site in Wenatchee, and 3) **at a site and date—yet to be determined—in the Tri-Cities.** Fr. Lalo Chavez from Christ the King Parish, the Dean of our region of the diocese, has been placed in charge with scoping-out possible venues for this regional Confirmation Mass (such as Numerica Pavilion, the HAPO Center, etc.) Be assured ... I will keep everyone posted as important information—such as the location and date of Confirmation in 2026—becomes known.

What is known is this: there will NOT be a Confirmation Mass for youth at the Parish of the Holy Spirit (or at Christ the King Parish, or at St. Joseph's Parish) in 2026.

As highlighted in the interior of this edition of the Parish Bulletin, parents having questions about our Confirmation Preparation Program for youth (that is, youth in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade this academic year) should be sure to attend a parent meeting, scheduled for 2:00 PM on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> in PCC rooms 6/8. Our Confirmation Coordinators, **Deacon Mike Gaulke** and **Carol Gaulke**, will be hosting the meeting. **Karen Gorham**, our Director of Religious Education, will also be there.

God's Blessings,

*E. Michael*

### Women's Group Rummage Sale Thursday and Friday, September 4-5 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the PCC hall

Come to help and sort items  
Tuesday and Wednesday, September 2-3,  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the PCC hall



Lunch will be provided for all  
volunteers Tuesday through Friday.

Bring rummage donations through the PCC  
parking lot door on Tuesday and Wednesday,  
September 2-3 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## HOPE

Next week our parish will take up the  
diocesan **Light of Hope Special  
Collection.** The Light of Hope Special  
Collection began during the COVID-19

pandemic as a collaborative effort between our parishes and Catholic Charities Serving Central Washington. Through this continuing collaboration, last year a total of \$107,000 was distributed to families across our region. Recognizing that pastors are closest to the needs of their communities, funding based on the sum of the collection will be made available directly to parishes – trusting your insight to identify families most in need of support. The fund continues to be vital in extending hope and dignity to those who need it most.

## THANK YOU!



Knights of Columbus Council 10653 presents its thanks to the many volunteers, Knights, families and friends, Knights from St. Joseph Parish, and our fellow parishioners who helped to make our ice cream booth at the Benton Franklin County Fair a success last week. In particular, thanks to those volunteers who stepped up and helped to fill some emergency-caused openings in our schedule. All your efforts in helping us to support our beneficiary charities are greatly appreciated!

**Life Teen teens!** A generous parishioner has donated tickets for the movie *Triumph of the Heart*, the story of Saint Maximilian Kolbe. The movie will be shown on Sunday, September 14th at 4:00 p.m. at the AMC theatre, 1380 North Louisiana Street in Kennewick.



We would love to have as many of you as possible attend this movie, but there are a limited number of tickets available. **Please reserve your ticket by texting Joe Bliss or Jennifer Moore** (numbers are on front of bulletin) as soon as possible.

After the movie we will come back to the PCC for our first **Life Night** of the year! Attending the movie is NOT a substitute for Sunday Mass, so please plan to attend Mass either Saturday night at 4:00 p.m. or Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. that weekend.



**STEWARDSHIP:** In the Gospel today, Jesus warns us not to give in to hopes of repayment, but to give openhandedly to the poor and needy. That sort of giving mirrors the bountiful giving of God, and Jesus assures us it is blessed indeed!

**July 27: \$14,093.50      Recorded givers: 116**

For online giving, visit:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/holy7409270>

Thank you for maintaining your financial support of our parish as you are able. If you'd prefer to mail an offering, please send it to **Parish of the Holy Spirit, 7409 W. Clearwater Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336**. If you are currently using offering envelopes and would like to switch to online giving (or bill-payer from your bank), please call the parish office so we can discontinue your envelope mailings with our printing service. Thank you.

### **(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC—Beneath the Surface**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Mini reflection:** I think, if we're being really honest, we all expect "payment" for being a good person. We want God to give us what we ask. We want people to treat us a certain way. But what if we expected absolutely nothing?

#### **What Did You Expect?**

Moms have a lot of jobs, and it's usually the case that none of them pay very well.

My work as a chef? Zero compensation, and my clientele are very rarely pleased with my efforts. My role as a teacher, a maid, a chauffeur, a therapist — same deal. Ironically, these jobs consume so much of my time that I am constricted in my work as a writer — the only sphere where I do actually garner any earnings.

It is so easy to grumble about all of this, and I do it all the time. Because, despite the fact that I know better, I expect repayment for my good deeds. Deep in my soul, I expect it.

That's a huge problem.

In my defense, I don't think this is a very uncommon thing. I think, if we're being really honest, we all expect "payment" for being a good person. We want God to give us what we ask. We want people to treat us a certain way. We want our day to go smoothly. We expect these things as a matter of course; we feel entitled to them, and we become grumpy when we are denied them. We say: "I worked so hard. I gave so much." What was it all even for?

But what if we expected absolutely nothing?

When you hold a banquet, Jesus said, invite those who cannot return the favor. Give not just without the expectation of repayment, but without the *possibility* of it.

Think about that for a minute. What does that even look like — no possibility of repayment?

I know what that looks like in my own life. It means giving more to the literal poor, yes, but it's also giving more — and more happily, more lovingly — when I cook and clean and drive and write and console. It's not lamenting that no one appreciates me — it's actually hoping no one does.

It's learning to love the lowest place at the table. Because in the lowest place, we are actually closest to God.

©LPi

### **WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS**

**All dates are tentative.**

Monday	September 1	Elizabeth Ziegler RIP
Tuesday	September 2, 5:30 p.m.	Carlos LaTorre RIP
Wednesday	September 3	Kayo Johnson RIP
Thursday	September 4	Shane Rego
Friday	September 5	Janie Reisenauer RIP
Saturday	September 6, 4:00 p.m.	Jay and David Jay Johnson RIP
Sunday	September 7, 5:00 p.m.	Bradley Gorham

The Sunday morning Mass is normally offered for the people of the parish.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kelly O'Brien.  
May she rest in peace with the risen Lord.

**To have your need added to our parish prayer phone chain, please call Adele Ogryzek at 627-0201. To have your need added to the list which is published in the bulletin once each month, please call the parish office.**

### **VIRTUS SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING**

All adult volunteers currently working with or planning to work in any capacity with minors or vulnerable adults at our parish must complete **VIRTUS Safe Environment Training** before starting their ministry. Also, if you completed the training more than 6 years ago, it is time to update your training in a new and revised session in order to remain in compliance with diocesan policies. Deacon Ken Ellis is offering a VIRTUS training session at **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10**, in PCC room 5. Create an online VIRTUS account and register at [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). Call Deacon Ken at 509-948-4355 or the parish office at 509-735-8558 for more information.

### **JOB OPPORTUNITY AT THE PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Our parish is in need of an **Edge Coordinator** to lead the middle school (grades 6-8) catechesis program on Sunday evenings. The coordinator will be responsible to plan, organize, and facilitate middle school religious education, youth activities, and events. The Edge Coordinator is a paid staff position accountable to the Pastor of the Parish of the Holy Spirit for the execution of assigned responsibilities. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

Working to ensure qualified Core Team members staff the Edge program by:

- Recruiting and assigning Edge team members (catechists and volunteers)
- Coordinating training for team members
- Maintaining compliance with diocesan safe environment requirements

Maintaining a fully functional Edge program to include:

- Establishing a calendar of weekly Edge sessions during the school year
- Working with Core Team members to plan Edge Nights
- Leading Edge Nights
- Order and maintain teaching resources
- Prepare a budget for the Edge program.

Maintaining student attendance records, and other documentation as required.

Performing logistical responsibilities:

- Unlocking and locking buildings (church and Parish Community Center)
- Overseeing the set-up of rooms and facilities to be used
- Submitting bulletin notices as required

To express your interest in this position or for additional details, call the parish office at 509-735-8558.





## Are you surprised to learn that Catholicism is on the rise among Gen Z men?



- Are YOU interested in becoming Catholic, or learning more about the Catholic faith? Or do you know someone you could invite to church?
- On **Thursday, September 4**, our parish will begin the **Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** process for adults who are considering joining the Catholic Church.
- We'll begin with a period called **Inquiry**. These Thursday evening classes will cover the basics of our Catholic beliefs, prayer, and community life in a welcoming and supportive environment.
- All are welcome! For more information or to register, contact Joe (509-405-2242) or Sherry Schroeder (509-521-3782.)



For parents of 8th or 9th grade students who would like to receive **Confirmation** this year please attend the Parent Meeting on **Sunday, September 7th** at 2:00 p.m. in PCC rooms 6/8.



*Amelia Rose Lumetta,  
daughter of Nicholas and Christina Lumetta,  
was baptized at Holy Spirit on August 23rd.*

*May God's blessings of peace and joy  
be with her and protect her all of her days.*

Pope Leo XIV will canonize Blesseds **Carlo Acutis** and **Pier Giorgio Frassati** on September 7, 2025. The two young Italian laymen will be the first saints canonized by our new pope.



Born in 1991 and raised in Milan, Blessed Acutis used his tech skills to evangelize and was noted for his joyful faith and compassion for others before dying of leukemia in 2006 at age 15.



Blessed Frassati, born in 1901 into a prominent family in Turin, Italy, was admired for his deep spirituality, love for the poor, and enthusiasm for life. A member of the Dominican Third Order, he served the sick through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He died at age 24 after contracting polio, possibly from one of the people he assisted.

### Save the Date

*An Evening of Hope* Benefiting Hope Medical  
**Thursday, October 16, 2025 at Bethel Church**  
600 Shockley Road in Richland

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Haywood Robinson

Former abortionist Dr. Haywood Robinson experienced a life-changing transformation after his salvation in 1986. Since then, he's been a powerful voice for the pro-life movement.

Consider being a table host and inviting others to hear powerful testimonials, enjoy hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and support the life-saving work happening at Hope Medical.

Call 509-396-7737 to reserve your table (\$400) or individual seating (\$50).



Our Fall Catholic Education series starts on Tuesday, September 9 with "Do You Know Your Deacons?" Join us from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in PCC rooms 6/8 as our Holy Spirit deacons share their discernment stories and the ways they serve here in our parish. Light refreshments will be provided. Everyone is invited and families are encouraged to attend.

St. Paul Cathedral and the Diocese of Yakima will welcome, honor, and especially pray for all teachers, students, and all who support them at the **First Tuesday Jubilee Year Masses on Tuesday, September 2, 2025**. There will be two evening Masses at the Cathedral—at 5:30 p.m. (English) and 7:00 p.m. (Spanish). The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available 30 minutes prior to each Mass. Reception following in the Assembly Place.

### JOB OPENING: Pastoral Assistant for Administration

St. Joseph Parish in Kennewick is seeking a full-time Pastoral Assistant for Administration. The successful candidate will report directly to the pastor and assist in tasks including administration, and the management of office personnel, finances, facilities, and technology. For information, contact Fr. Jose Herrera or Deacon William Mich at the parish office at (509) 586-3820 ext. 103. Applications and related information can be obtained at: <http://www.applitrack.com/yakimadiocese/onlineapp>.

The position is currently open: resumes and letters of intent will be accepted until the position is filled.

Our parish is in need of volunteers in our **Altar Linen Ministry**. Volunteers in this ministry wash, iron, and fold the purificators, hand towels, and corporals that are used during our daily and weekend Masses. The laundering and care of the altar linens is an essential ministry in our parish.

Working from home on a rotating schedule, the Altar Linen Ministry team collects the purificators, corporals, towels and other soiled altar linens weekly and takes them home to launder and iron them so that the altar on which the celebration of the Eucharist takes place is beautifully appointed. The current schedule has each minister collect and return the linens weekly for one month at a time. Current ministers will provide training and assistance. Call the parish office at 509-735-8558 to express your interest or for more information.

### Bible Study Coming Soon Matthew: The King and His Kingdom

*Matthew: The King and His Kingdom*, a twenty-four-part Bible study, explores how Jesus is challenging and empowering us to a new level of holiness and shows how we must be thoroughly immersed in the kingdom of heaven on earth, the Church, to live-out that holiness.

We will be completing the study in three 8-week sessions as follows:

- September 24 – November 12, 2025
- January 28 - March 18, 2026
- September 30 – November 18, 2026

Registration will take place in the vestibule after all weekend Masses September 6-7.

**This Bible Study will meet Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the PCC; however, anyone interested in facilitating an evening session of this study, please contact Judy Turner at 509-438-7938.**



## Life Out of Focus

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I found myself angry the other day**, as we all do, I suppose, whenever we put our foot in our mouth, or forget about an important engagement, or scramble whatever it was we had hoped would be picture-perfect. What I had scrambled was a homily. For some reason, the image came out wrong, or the example did not fit, or it just did not come together the way I had hoped. And I was angry with myself to the point that it caught me off guard. It was an unexpected glimpse of what I didn't want to admit: the fact that the way people might perceive me as a preacher had taken on more importance than preaching God's word. Life had gotten out of focus. A perspective had been lost.

It happens to us all in the course of our lifetimes,

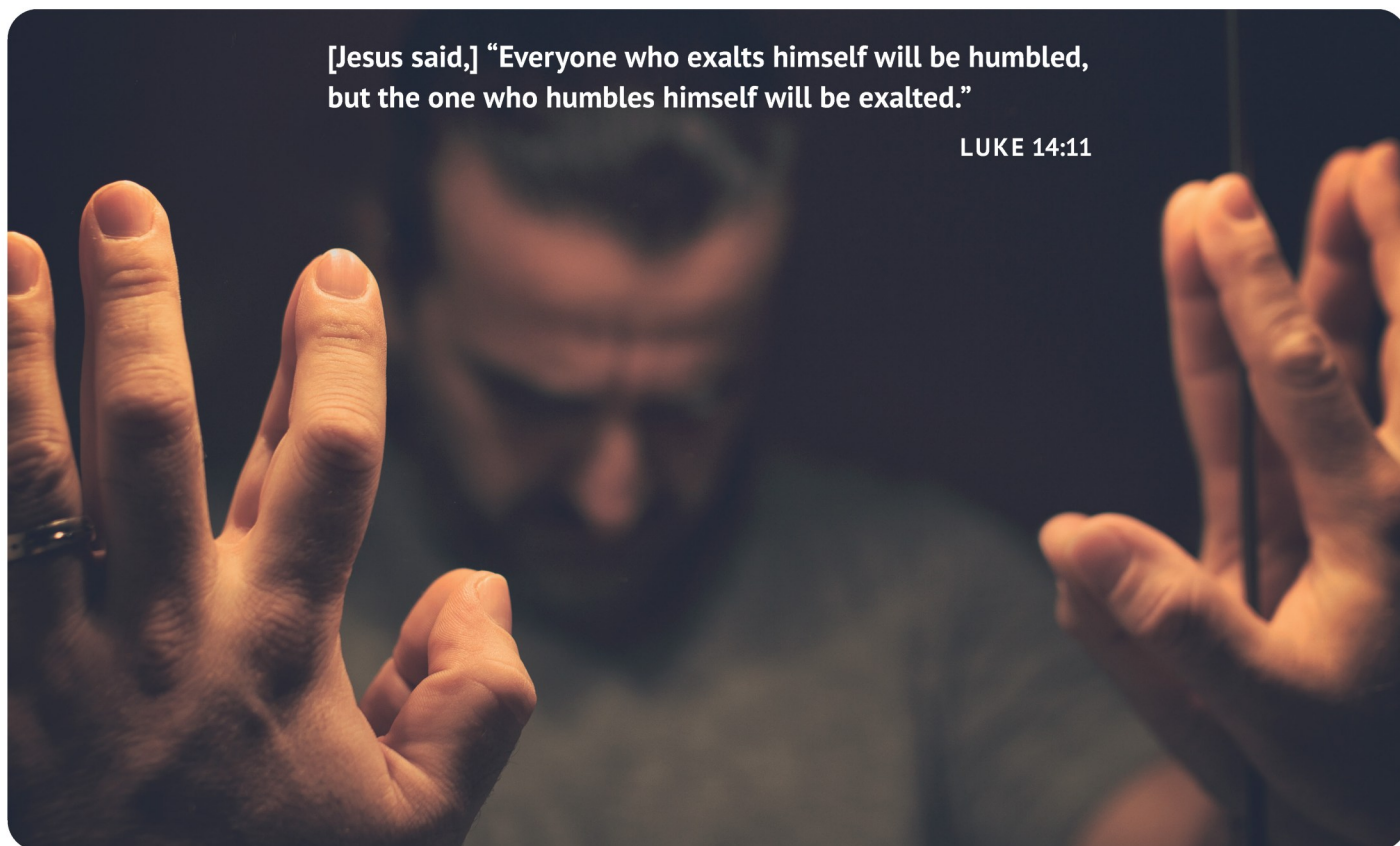
and more than once. Grades become more important than learning, or being right more important than the relationship, or the address of where we live more important than the people living together. It happens between parent and child when a parent places greater significance on the son's or daughter's profession than on that son's or daughter's happiness. Like in the parable of Jesus, where we sit at table takes on greater meaning than the people who gather or the meal that is shared. That is what pride does. It distorts what is real and shifts the focus of life to ourselves. The antidote? A prayerful awareness of who we are and who God is. ●

### Reflect

***What is more important to me than it should be?***

[Jesus said,] "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,  
but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

LUKE 14:11





Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

September 2025

Parish of the Holy Spirit

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Lawrence Justinian

Born into a noble Venetian family, St. Lawrence Justinian desired sanctity from an early age. He entered the Order of the Augustinian Canons Regular of St. George, where he became known for his zeal, penitential lifestyle, and deep charity—especially toward the poor. He eventually became the general of the order. Recognized for his holiness, he was appointed Bishop, and later Patriarch, of Venice by the pope. He served faithfully until his death at the age of seventy-five.

### Jesus turns sorrow into joy

Each September, the Church celebrates the Exaltation of the Holy Cross—not because we glorify suffering, but because the Cross reveals a Love that is total, faithful, and fearless. Christ embraced suffering, rejection, and death—and triumphed over them. His Cross is the ultimate sign that love is stronger than pain. When we bring our trials and sorrows to Jesus, He transforms them—through a kind of divine alchemy—into strength, healing, joy, and even glory. In Him, suffering is never the end of the story.

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).*

## Holiness in everyday life

Pier Giorgio Frassati — to be canonized on September 7 — was known for blending intense spirituality with fun—he loved mountain climbing, practical jokes, and friendship. He taught that holiness can be simple, joyful, and practical, woven into daily life. In a 1923 address to young people, he summed up the Christian life: "Our religion is based on charity, which is nothing other than the most perfect Love." He proposed three ways to live that love: by example, through compassion, and by joyful invitation.

**By example:** Blessed Pier believed that our lives should reflect our faith without needing words. "We Catholics must strive to have our whole life guided by Christian moral law," he said. That includes building our schedules around the Eucharist, practicing reverence, treating others with dignity, and living generously. These everyday choices silently proclaim who we are—and whose we are.

**With compassion:** Blessed Pier encouraged personal, thoughtful acts of

love: visiting the lonely, offering a kind word, or putting others first. He reminded us that holiness begins with small, intentional acts of compassion.

**By joyful invitation:** Blessed Pier's faith was magnetic, marked by laughter,

*"Jesus is with me. I have nothing to fear."*

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

adventure, and prayer. He urged others to draw people to Christ with warmth and sincerity: "Persuade [those who are far from the Church] to follow the ways of God." A quiet chapel visit or simple prayer can be a powerful invitation to grace.

He urged Catholics to stay rooted in the Eucharist: "Approach the Eucharistic Table as often as possible... from which you will draw strength." His life reminds us that sainthood is not about perfection, but about choosing love—daily, faithfully, and joyfully.

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics believe in angels?

In the Nicene Creed, professed at every Sunday Mass and solemnity, we affirm belief in "all things visible and invisible"—a direct reference to spiritual beings, including angels. Throughout Scripture, angels appear as messengers, protectors, and servants of God's will. Jesus' words in Matthew 18:10,

referencing angels who "behold the face of [His] Father"—form the basis for the Church's belief in guardian angels. These faithful spirits, who remained loyal to God, continue to watch over and guide us. Belief in angels is not optional but a vital part of Catholic teaching and tradition.



# Hearing God's voice in the everyday

Discernment isn't limited to religious vocations—it's a way of seeking God's will in all areas of life. Whether you're considering a marriage, a job change, or a move to a new city, discernment helps you respond to God's loving plan with clarity and peace. Here are three tips to avoid common pitfalls:

**Learn to recognize His voice:** It's difficult to discern God's will if we don't know His character. A healthy relationship with God—nurtured through prayer and Scripture, especially the Gospels—helps us become familiar with His voice. The more time we spend with Him, the easier it becomes to distinguish His promptings from fear, pressure, or personal bias.

**Take a practical step:** Discernment requires action. You can't always think your way to clarity. Take the interview, visit the new city, introduce your intended to your family. These steps don't commit you for life—they give you real-world experience that sharpens your perspective and brings peace to your decision-making.

**Narrow your focus:** Too many options can paralyze progress. At some point, discernment involves commitment and trust. Begin by eliminating options that clearly don't fit. The path may shift as you go, but each step—taken prayerfully—leads you closer to the right destination. God's guidance is often gradual but unmistakable.

## from Scripture

In this Gospel passage, Jesus tells a parable aimed at those who are indifferent to the suffering around them. A rich man enjoys daily luxury while Lazarus, a poor and sick man, lies just outside his gate, starving and ignored. Though the rich man likely passed by Lazarus often—and even knew his name—he offered no help.

After death, their roles are reversed. Lazarus is carried to the side of Abraham, a place of comfort and honor. The rich man finds himself in torment and pleads for relief. He asks Abraham to send Lazarus with water,

## Luke 16:19-31, Doing the good we ought to do

and later to warn his brothers. Both requests are denied.

Jesus' parable does not condemn wealth but the failure to love. The rich man's sin was not what he did, but what he refused to do. He saw suffering and remained unmoved.

This passage challenges us to examine our own hearts. Do we see those in need and look away?

True Christian living means turning prayer into mercy, and faith into action. When we love as Christ commands, the reward is eternal joy.

## Why do Catholics display crucifixes instead of crosses?

Jesus is risen in glory, having conquered sin and death. Yet we, though united to Him in Baptism, remain on our earthly journey, still vulnerable to temptation and suffering. The Crucifix stands as a powerful reminder of the cost of sin and the price of our redemption.

More than a symbol of pain, the Crucifix reveals the depth of God's mercy and love: *"God so loved the world that He gave His only Son"* (John 3:16). It reminds us that Jesus is *"a compassionate high priest"* (Hebrews 4:15) who knows human suffering firsthand—rejection, sorrow, and even death (cf. Psalm 22:14; 69:20).

In every Catholic church, the Crucifix also points to the reality of the Eucharist. The sacrifice of the Mass is not separate from Calvary—it is the same sacrifice, made present to us (*Catechism*, 1545). Christ offers Himself to the Father, and we receive the fruits of that offering: grace, healing, and strength.

The Crucifix is not just a symbol—it is the visual proclamation of love that saves, heals, and invites us into deeper communion with Christ.

## Feasts & Celebrations

**September 12 – The Holy Name of Mary.** Mary has many titles. Begun in Spain in 1513, this feast celebrates her as the Blessed Virgin and is the counterpart to the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. Pope Innocent XI extended this feast to the entire Church after the King of Poland, with Mary's protection, defeated an advancing Muslim army in Vienna in 1683.

**September 14 – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (c. 326).** St. Helena (mother of Emperor Constantine) discovered what is believed to be the True Cross while on pilgrimage in Jerusalem. On that site, Constantine built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher.

**September 16 – Saints Cornelius and Cyprian (c. 253).** A renowned theologian and orator, he was ordained a priest and served as the bishop of Carthage. He helped Pope St. Cornelius defend the Church against the Novatian heretics. Pope Cornelius was exiled and died from harsh treatment in 253. Cyprian was arrested for refusing to worship idols. He was exiled and subsequently beheaded.

**September 19 – St. Januarius (c. 305).** Not much is known about this saint, except that he was the Bishop of Benevento, Italy, and that he was martyred with six companions under the Diocletian persecutions. For reasons unknown, a vial of his blood has miraculously liquified annually, several times a year, since at least 1389.

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To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

# Dear Padre,

## *Is it sacrilegious to throw away a sacramental?*

“Sacramentals do not confer the grace of the Holy Spirit in the way that the sacraments do, but by the Church’s prayer, they prepare us to receive and dispose us to cooperate with it” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1670). Therefore, sacramentals confer grace through the Church’s power of prayer and, if blessed, should not be thrown away but burned and/or buried. If the object has not been blessed, it can be discarded; however, it could also be donated to a Catholic ministry (school, prison, hospital, etc.) that would benefit from its distribution. (If a religious object was included in an unsolicited appeal letter from a charitable organization, it is safe to assume that it was not blessed.)

If the object is worn or broken, it should be substantially altered so that it loses its form as a sacramental and then returned to the earthly elements. For example, a worn scapular should be burned and the ashes buried; a damaged statue should be further broken into smaller fragments and buried. A European tradition on the Vigil of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 23) is to burn old sacramentals in bonfires and bury the ashes. Burning and/or burial respects the sacred nature once held by these items and prevents their adaptation for trivial use. Reverence and discretion are proper for whatever method of disposal. ●



TACIO PHILIP SANSONOVSKI / 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*.

### **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

*To follow [Jesus]...means  
“carrying one’s cross”:  
shouldering, like him, one’s  
own burdens and those of  
others, making one’s life  
a gift, not a possession,  
spending it in imitation  
of his own generous and  
merciful love for us. These  
are decisions that engage  
the totality of our lives.*

**HOMILY, ROME,  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2022**

GOOGLE GEMINI



### **Monday**

September 1

*Weekday*

1 Thes 4:13–18

Lk 4:16–30

### **Tuesday**

September 2

*Weekday*

1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11

Lk 4:31–37

### **Wednesday**

September 3

*St. Gregory the  
Great, Pope and  
Doctor of the Church*

Col 1:1–8

Lk 4:38–44

### **Thursday**

September 4

*Weekday*

Col 1:9–14

Lk 5:1–11

### **Friday**

September 5

*Weekday*

Col 1:15–20

Lk 5:33–39

### **Saturday**

September 6

*Weekday*

Col 1:21–23

Lk 6:1–5

### **Sunday**

September 7

*Twenty-third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

Wis 9:13–18b

Phlm 9–10, 12–17

Lk 14:25–33





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