



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

TAKE THESE OUT OF HERE.

JOHN 2:16

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Along both banks of the river,
fruit trees of every kind shall grow;
their leaves shall not fade, nor their fruit fail. (Ez 47:12)

Psalm:

The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High! (Ps 46)

Second Reading:

Do you not know that you are the temple of God,
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? (1 Cor 3:16)

Gospel:

Jesus answered and said to them,
"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." (Jn 2:19)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"You are the temple of God," Paul tells us.
But in today's Gospel we see how easily even
temple areas become corrupted. Jesus, purge
the greed and selfishness from our hearts.
Make them fit dwellings for your Holy Spirit.

Observances for the week of November 9, 2025

- Sunday:** The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica;
Monday: St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday: St. Martin of Tours, Bishop; Veterans Day
Wednesday: St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr
Thursday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin
Saturday: St. Albert the Great,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, *Explained!*

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino tradition of nine early-morning votive Masses offered in anticipation of Christmas. Celebrations follow Mass, where delicacies like baked rice cakes and breakfast rolls are enjoyed.

Prayer of Missionary Zeal

Dear Lord,
Give us eyes to see the depth of
grace You provide to Your Church.
May that goodness ignite in us fire
to share the truth of Your mercy
with every soul we encounter.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of November 9, 2025

Sunday:

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Monday:

Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10/
Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday:

Wis 2:23-3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/
Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday:

Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday:

Wis 7:22b-8:1/Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135,
175/Lk 17:20-25

Friday:

Wis 13:1-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/
Lk 17:26-37

Saturday:

Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37,
42-43/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday:

Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 (see 9)/
2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was 22, I entered St. Peter's Basilica for the first time. It floored me. I could hardly take it in, its grandeur, majestic arches, vibrant colors, and the light that danced through its high windows. Somehow, amidst such splendor, I felt an overwhelming sense of belonging, as if I had finally come home.

Jesus reorients how we Catholics see sacred buildings. In today's Gospel he says, **"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:13-22)**. His riddle implies, shockingly, that his own body is now the fundamental dwelling place of God and humanity. The temple in Jerusalem has been superseded.

In our churches today — whether they mirror the basilica's grandeur or embrace humble simplicity — we experience architectural symbols of Christ's risen body. It is no accident we call them "churches": they make visible in brick-and-mortar Christ's body which is made up of the living stones we call Christians. Each church building, like St. John Lateran in Rome, or St. Peter's, or any other, is meant to be a vibrant sign of Christ's resurrected body. We should cherish and protect our churches as places where heaven touches earth, where we, as a community, are raised to the fullness of life in Christ.

— *Father John Muir*



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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It matters why you do something, not just how you do it. Are we allowing our worship to transform us, or are we only concerned with transforming our worship?

Modern Money-Changers

The “liturgy wars” are something of a hot topic in contemporary Catholic circles.

Latin chant or guitar hymns? Communion on the tongue or in the hand? Chapel veils or bare heads? Surplice or alb? It’s giving me a headache just writing it all out.

I don’t mean to say that none of this matters. The worship of the Almighty God, especially in the context of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, is no trifling matter. It is good for people to be concerned about whether or not their worship is pleasing to God. I am happy that Catholics care enough about these things to have an opinion.

I’m not going to say where I fall on this spectrum of liturgical sensibility (the headache intensifies thinking of the emails I would get). And I won’t pretend it’s not something I feel passionate about, in my own way.

But too often I find myself sniffing dismissively at the “other camp,” the folks who are drawn to a different style or tradition. Too often I see them sniffing dismissively back to me. We are, both groups, obsessed with the form of a thing — so much so that we risk forgetting the function of it.

And when I stop to think about it, I wonder if Jesus shouldn’t crack the whip at us all, the modern money-changers of the temple, who have allowed worship to become a transaction (I offer *x* sacrifice, I am rewarded with *y* feeling of fulfillment and satisfaction).

I look at the Gospel today, and I can see the purpose of the money-changers. It could be argued that, in a way, they were facilitating the laws of Moses, making possible the temple sacrifices stipulated by God.

But it matters *why* you do something, not just *how* you do it.

What good is any act of worship, if at its conclusion we do not more closely resemble the One before whom we kneel?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Can Catholics be cremated?

Answer:

As the practice of cremation becomes more and more common, it’s important to know what the Church asks of families who have chosen this for a loved one who has died.

As the US Bishops observe on their website, “Ideally, if a family chooses cremation, the cremation would take place some time after the Funeral Mass, so that there can be an opportunity for the Vigil for the Deceased in the presence of the body.” However, if cremation takes place before the Funeral Mass, the cremated remains can be present at the Funeral Mass and the appendix to the Order of Christian Funerals provides adaptations for the texts and rituals that are part of the Funeral Mass and the Committal.

The primary concern is that the cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to any human remains. The Order of Christian Funerals instructs, “This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, and the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains on the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires” (no. 417).

It is becoming more and more common for parishes or diocese-sponsored cemeteries to include columbaria to house cremated remains in a way that respects Church teaching, allowing family and friends the opportunity to honor the remains of the one they have lost with dignity, reverence, and care.

To those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, *Zeal for your house will consume me.*
- Jn 2:16-17

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The prophet Ezekiel envisions a future of restoration and renewal for the exiled Israelites held captive in Babylon. What future do you hope for with your family?

Second Reading:

Paul tells us that as believers in Christ, the Spirit dwells in us, making us holy, the temple of God. Can you share a time when you felt the Holy Spirit active in your life?

Gospel:

The disciples understood the full meaning of Jesus' cleansing of the temple only after his resurrection from the dead. What has hindsight taught you about your life?



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“What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.” But he was speaking about the temple of his Body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this. - Jn 2:18b-19, 21-22b

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Prayer

Lord, I will fill your house with prayer, songs, and worship.

Mission for the Week

I will respect God's house with my voice, my clothing, and my actions.

Sharing the Gospel

Imagine that in your church on Sunday, there were people near the altar selling cows, pigs, and sheep. A man was selling doves on the right. Bankers were giving change on the left. Your pastor got very angry. He turned over their tables. He shouted, "Get these animals out of here. How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!" They cleaned up and left. Your pastor knelt down and prayed, "Father, forgive them."

Now color the picture!



Circle the group in each row that has **more**.
Then color in all the pictures.

