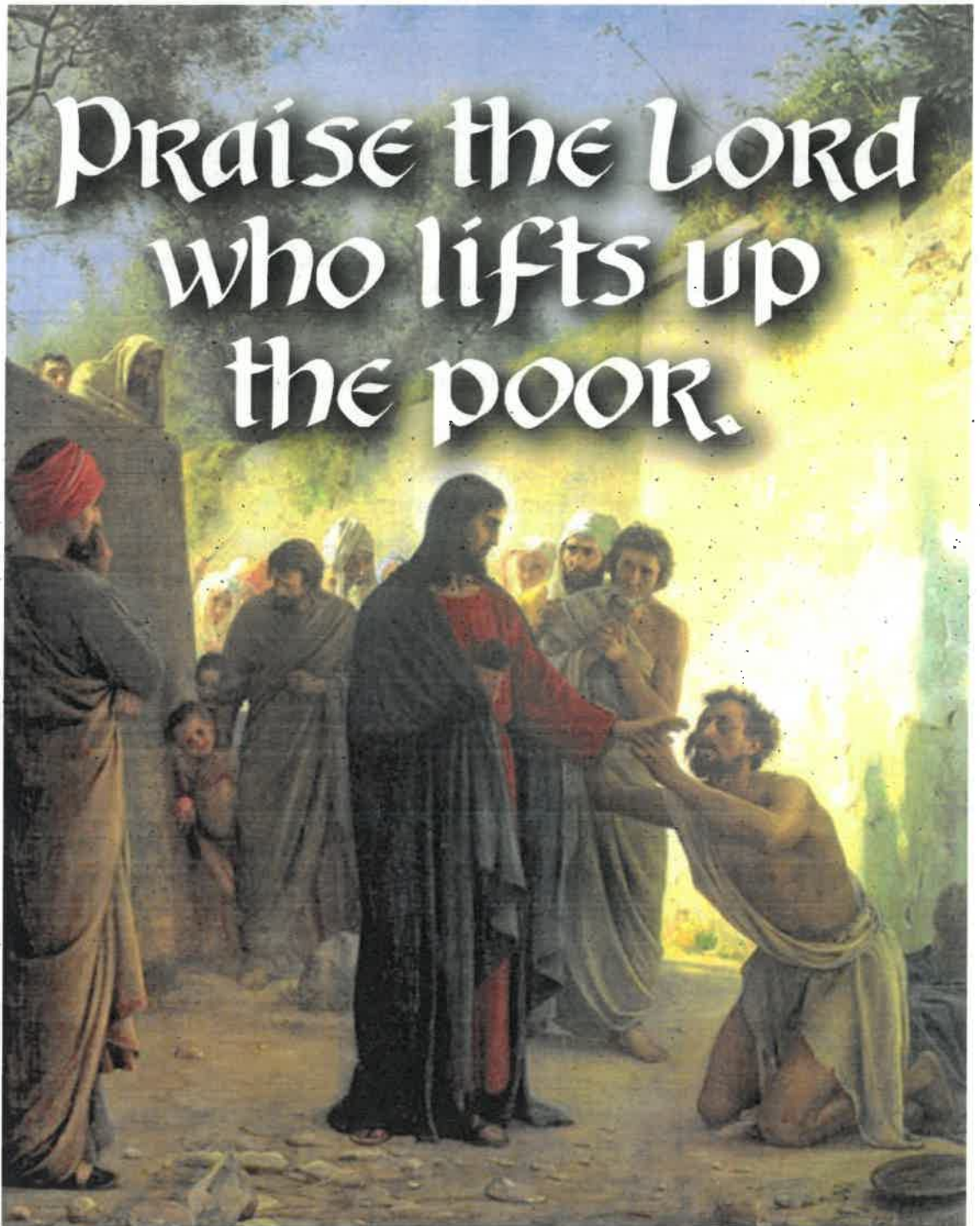


Praise the Lord
who lifts up
the poor.





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH
14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.
Manhattan, Illinois 60442
25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 21, 2025

Most Revered Bishop Dennis Spies
Administrator

Office Phone 815-478-3440

Facebook St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening only

Sept. 20	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer & Grace Niemiec req. by Joyce Gregory Poor Souls in Purgatory req. by Ed & Judy Phelan Parish Family of St. Patrick
Sept. 27	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Deceased Members of Ulman Family For A Safe Harvest req. by Ed & Judy Phelan
Oct. 4	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
Oct. 11	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Minister</u>
Sept. 20	Sherrie Ashley	S. Nugent
Sept. 27	Jim Kreske	L. Cakora
Oct. 4	Jerry Kinsella	C. Kinsella
Oct. 11	Jim Kreske	C. Smith

SERVERS & USHERS

Please volunteer at the Mass you are
attending

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR
9/14/2025

\$1,096.00

Our weekly budget goal is \$1,211.54
THANK YOU For your faith - filled support

REMINDER!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
OUR HARVEST SOCIAL
CARD PARTY
OCTOBER 29, 2025
11:30AM TO 3PM
MORE INFO TO FOLLOW**

Being Prepared

My study Bible says the parable in today's Gospel is about urgency and being prepared. The steward is about to be fired so he feels a pressing need to fix his situation. He is praised for this foresight but not for how he did it.

I think a sense of urgency and preparedness are important for us as well. We do not know when our life on earth will end so it is wise for us to always be spiritually prepared. I believe there is a human tendency to recoil from the idea of our own death. We only know this life and while we may believe in eternity with our loving Father and have great hope in it, we don't know

exactly what it is. We may desire it, but not yet. Even so, we should still be prepared. There's a saying that goes something like, "Live every day as if it were your last," and there is merit in that sentiment.

We should feel urgency. We should feel a little pressured. We don't know when the end will come so we should feel a sense of wanting to be in right relationship with God and others so that when it does come, we are prepared. We don't want to end up like the steward who realized he hadn't used his time wisely and, as a result, was looking at a not so great future.

Happily, our loving Father will assist us if we ask him. He is a gentle teacher who will show us how to be ready and give us the grace we need to prepare. He wants us to be with Him for eternity even more than we want to be with Him.

By Merridith Frediani



**COLLECTION DRIVE TO BENEFIT THE CLIENTS
OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES.**

OCTOBER 18-19, 2025

We will be collecting donations of basic needs items for the clients of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet at the Parish the weekend of October 18-19. Any donation of new underwear, socks, and diapers are welcome. Catholic Charities has requested that we focus on the following items this year:

- Adult diapers in all sizes (Small to XXXL) (preferably the pull up kind)
- Diabetic or easy-on socks.
- Non-skid house slippers with backs (for fall prevention)
- Men's underwear (any size)
- Women's underwear (any size)

*Thank you for caring
for the poor and
vulnerable in our
community.*



Scripture Readings
For the Week of September 21, 2025

Sunday Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

Monday Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday Ezr 9:5-9; Tb 13:2, 3-4a; 4befghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Lk 9:7-9

Friday Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31



Please Remember our sick;

especially: Jim Kreske, Ann Marie & Tori Jasinski, Lisa Price, Marshall & Duncan Lorenzen, Barbara Schriver, Leslie Lund, Joe & Carol Price, Beth Oniel, Bernice & Dominick Marino, Tom Lane, Peggy Schiesow, Haley Donzella, Ken Smith, Laura 'Hanson, Steve Niemiec, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernard. Joe Hanson

**POPE'S INTENTION FOR
SEPTEMBER**

For relationship with all of creation - let us pray that inspired by St. Francis, we might experience our independence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.



"Come to me all you who labor and are burdened" Matthew 11:28

This theme reminds us of the invitation we receive from the Lord Jesus to follow Him and the promise that He doesn't want to add to our burdens; he wants to lighten them.



**Our St. Joseph Candle
Is Burning for
THE PARISH FAMILY
OF ST. PATRICK**

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Clever Crook

The parable in today's Gospel is another one with a surprise ending. The crooked steward is commended by his master for being prudent, or clever, trying to protect himself. Jesus did not condone dishonesty. He just wanted us to be just as clever in serving the Lord. Let's look at the first two readings and how they challenge us to do more.

The reading from Amos talks about those "who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor" (Amos 8:4). The challenge here is to ask yourself, "What do I do for the poor?" If all you can think of is to throw some change in the monthly collection for the poor, you're not being very clever. Most parishes have organizations to help the needy and are happy to get volunteers. Imagine what you would do to help someone you loved who was laid off or on disability leave. Do you love Jesus enough to help the poor in his name? Do you ever think of praying for the poor? Not just a quick response to one of the Prayers of the Faithful for the homeless, but actually taking time to pray for those who are unemployed or with jobs that don't pay enough to support a family.

Speaking of prayer, our second reading also challenges us to do more. Paul recommends prayers for "kings and for all in authority" (1 Timothy 2:2). It's easy to pray for friends and family; how much time do we give to prayers for government leaders and executives? Even the leaders with whom we disagree could use more guidance from the Holy Spirit. Paul reminds us that God wants everyone to be saved (1 Timothy 2:4), sinners as well as saints, terrorists and embezzlers, atheists and agnostics. I'll bet you don't spend much time praying for the "bad guys." Yet Jesus said, "Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you" (Matthew 5:44). I can't say I've ever heard anyone say that was their favorite Bible passage. But if Jesus expects more from those who love him, who are we to let him down?