

Dear Padre,

I have a question about the prayer the priest says after the Our Father. Someone told me it's called an "embolism." Why don't we just end with "Amen" like when we say it at home?

You have correctly identified the "embolism" or "interpretation" that has been added to the Lord's Prayer during the sacred liturgy. It reads, "Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ." This addition, ancient in its use during the eucharistic liturgy, is a further explanation of the content and the intercessory nature of the prayer. It develops the last petition of the Lord's Prayer and asks for deliverance from the power of evil for the whole community of the faithful. It is an appropriate insertion, reflecting the purpose of the eucharistic gathering as spiritual but also as a celebration of the Lord's words and directions to us. In private prayer, the embolism would be out of place.

The sacred liturgy is filled with intercessory prayers, acclamations, and bits and pieces of ancient eucharistic prayers and blessings. Everything has been carefully chosen and placed within the celebration of the sacred liturgy to assist the faithful who gather to lift their minds and hearts to the Heavenly Father, through his Son Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18	July 19	July 20
St. Kateri	St. Bonaventure,	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Sixteenth Sunday
Tekakwitha,	Bishop and	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12	Ex 3:13-20	Ex 11:10-12:14	Ex 12:37-42	in Ordinary Time
Virgin	Doctor of the	Mt 11:25-27	Mt 11:28-30	Mt 12:1-8	Mt 12:14-21	Gn 18:1-10a
Ex 1:8-14, 22	Church					Col 1:24-28
Mt 10:34-11:1	Ex 2:1-15a					Lk 10:38-42
	Mt 11:20-24					



RICCARDO DE LUCA - UPDATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

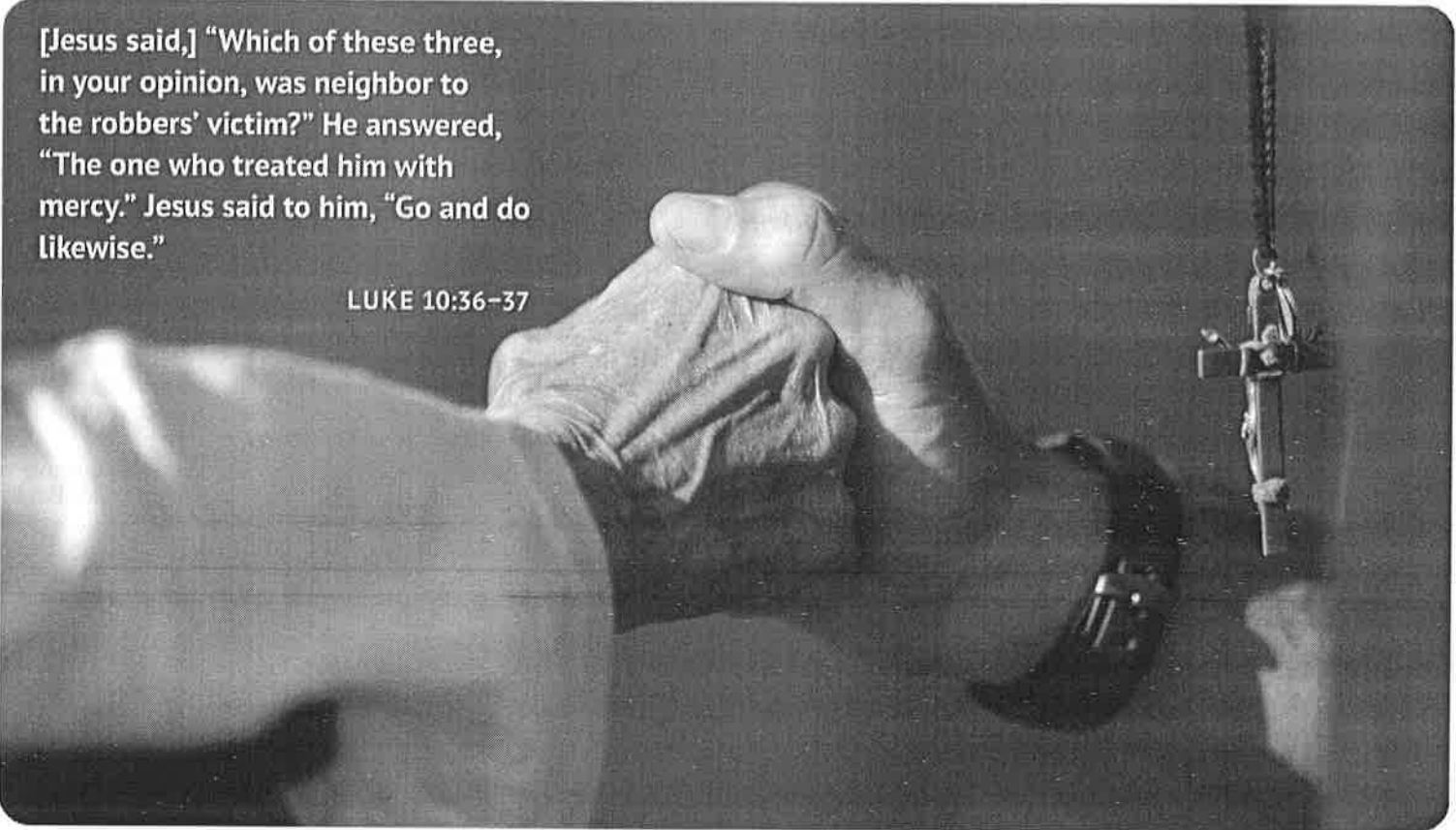
This is the prayer that I suggest to you today.  
"Lord, that I might see and have compassion just like you see me and have compassion on me"—  
that we might have compassion on those whom we encounter along the way, above all on those who suffer and are in need....

ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 10, 2022

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 13, 2025  
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)  
Deuteronomy 30:10-14 / Colossians 1:15-20 / Luke 10:25-37



[Jesus said,] "Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

LUKE 10:36-37

The Passion of Compassion

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We tend to hear the parable of the Good Samaritan and place ourselves in the role of the Samaritan, thereby expected to be compassionate, as was the Samaritan. Those who heard Jesus tell the parable, however, would never have identified with the Samaritan. To them, the Samaritans were religious heretics who worshipped not in Jerusalem but at their own temple. Thus, the people of Jesus' day would have seen themselves as the victim, the one on the side of the road. Who, then, would be the Samaritan, the surprising caregiver, the compassionate one? Because parables are about God and how God works, it would be God who is and has always been the one who heals and feeds and nurtures us back to life. The parable then surprises the hearer of Jesus' day—God as a compassionate Samaritan!

It is God's compassion that we bring to those seeking forgiveness as well as to those who, for whatever reason, have not yet reached the point of asking for forgiveness. It is God's compassion that we bring to the unborn, the immigrant, the homeless, the sick in need of healing, the jobless who have lost hope. It is God's compassion that a nation brings to anyone who has lost his or her way, as it has been noted that the greatness of a nation is in how that nation deals with and cares for the weakest among them. ●

Reflect

When have I needed a compassionate response?  
When could I have been more compassionate?