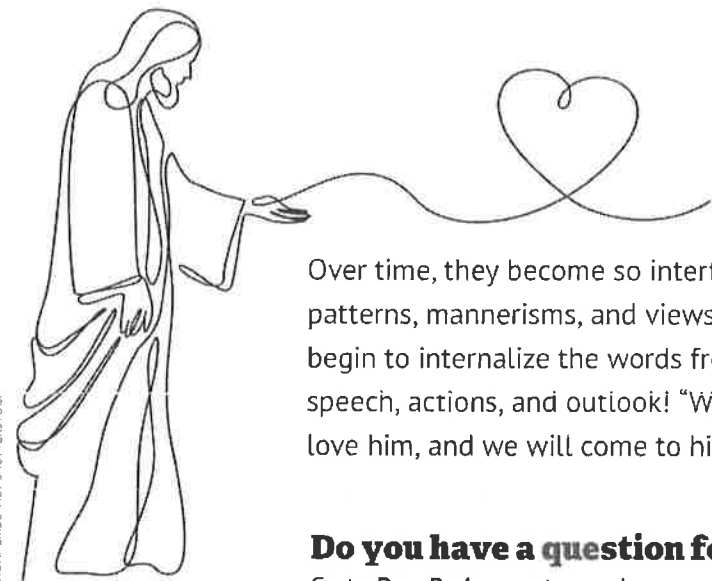


# Dear Padre,

## Why does my parish priest preach about love practically every Sunday?

“Through the course of the liturgical year, the homily sets forth the mysteries of faith and the standards of the Christian life on the basis of the sacred text” (*Lectionary*, 24). A translation of the English word “love” appears in the Bible more than 500 times; by comparison, “sin” appears approximately 400 times. Thus, insofar as the homily “should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from sacred Scripture” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 65), God’s word on “love” is far too prevalent to overlook.



Pope Francis called God’s word “a love letter, written to us by the One who knows us best.” In the Bible, this God who desires to bestow his love on us (See 1 John 3:1), is essentially telling us, “How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.” How we love God in return may be likened to two partners in a committed relationship.

Over time, they become so intertwined that they can even assume each other’s speech patterns, mannerisms, and views. Likewise, for those who love God, over the years we can begin to internalize the words from God’s “love letter” and reflect them in our Christian speech, actions, and outlook! “Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him” (John 14:23). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

### Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*In our day, there is a widespread thirst for justice, a desire for authentic fatherhood and motherhood, a profound longing for spirituality, especially among young people and the marginalized, who do not always find effective means of making their needs known. There is a growing demand for the Church’s social doctrine, to which we need to respond.*

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025



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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 28, 2025

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Amos 6:1a, 4–7 / 1 Timothy 6:11–16 / Luke 16:19–31



Woe to those who  
are complacent....  
[T]hey shall be  
the first to go  
into exile.

AMOS 6:1, 7

## Adrift

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge found himself confronted by the person he had become: someone forced to accept the reality painted by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. Scrooge hadn’t realized how he had slowly drifted into becoming an uncaring and greedy person, unable to show compassion because he never really saw someone else’s pain. The story of Ebenezer Scrooge is the story of the rich man in this Sunday’s gospel who was unmoved by poor Lazarus, sitting at the gate of the rich man’s sumptuous life. They are both stories of human beings drifting into emptiness.

St. Thomas Aquinas suggested that our motivations in life can ultimately be reduced to eight different categories. If we’re interested in understanding what sort of people we are becoming, we might ask

ourselves which of these questions best describes our motivation: Am I making my decisions and choices about life based on wealth? Or am I looking to be admired by others and be praised? Is it lasting glory that I seek? Or power so that I can be noted for “making a difference?” Is what I seek a life of ultimate pleasure and comfort? Is it health that I look for? Or perhaps something related to my inner life—some intangible good, like virtue or knowledge? Or is it to see God already in this life what I truly want? It is always a challenge to know our true selves because all too often we may be adrift, unaware of who we are becoming. ●

### Reflect

*Which of St. Thomas Aquinas’ questions describes me and my choices?*

Office hours are Wednesday & Thursday 7:30 am—5:30 pm.

If there is an Emergency you may call Corinne at 715-250-0567 or

Father David at 920-228-1814. Thank-you.

St Mary's Mass schedule in Black Creek: Saturdays @ 4 PM,

Sundays @ 8 AM, Tuesday—Friday @ 7:30 AM

Father David Greskowiak—Administrator

Sunday 09/21/25 = \$2,054.00 Attendance = 250

Amount needed per week - \$ 1,583.27

Mass Intentions

09/28/2025— Chris & Angrose Peeters by Mary Peeters

10/05/2025— Memory of Leroy & Lois Hartlaben by Karen VanLanen

Mass Servers –

09/28/2025— Landon & Natalie Fischer, Nina Drossart

10/05/2025— Ava & Jared Peters, Reid Bohm

Ministers of the Word –

09/28/2025— Jerry Nowak

10/05/2025— Randy Short

Hospitality

09/28/2025— Pam Wetts, Bernie Weier

10/05/2025— David Nowak, Bernie Weier, Barb Erb

RE NEWS: If anyone can volunteer to be a substitute RE Teacher, please contact Lori Mack at [macklj18@hotmail.com](mailto:macklj18@hotmail.com) or text 920-428-6240. Please make note of these important RE dates:

- Sun. Sep. 28th 10:00am - Teachers and Subs attend Mass for Blessing.

- Sun. Sept. 28th 8 a.m.—9 p.m. - 12th Grade Confirmation Retreat @ ABVM Pulaski.

- Wed. Oct. 1st 6:30pm - RE Classes Grades 1-11

- Wed. Oct. 8th 6:30pm - RE Classes Grades 1- 11

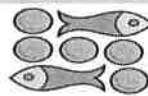
- Sun. Oct. 12th 10am - 10/11th grade Confirmation Meeting after Mass for Student/Sponsor/Parents

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry

Wednesday, October 15 4—6 PM

Saturday, October 18 9—11 AM

Thank you for all the donations so far this year!!



Gaza Relief Collection—This Sunday

At the request of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Bishop Ricken is asking all parishes to have a voluntary special collection to support the relief efforts in Gaza. **We will have this special 2<sup>nd</sup> collection this Sunday—28 September.** Please put your donation in an envelope with

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

We want to thank anyone and everyone who was involved in making our Parish Picnic another great success. A lot of hard work went into it and a lot of good things came out of it. Thank you again everyone. Let's also not forget to thank God for blessing us with good weather. A job well done to everyone. God bless us all.

Happy Birthday!

September 30 Karly Pennings, Bill Weier

October 01 Wendy Carpenter; 04 Melanie Herb;

06 Terry Anvelink; 09 Joe Hasser, Lucille Letter,

Ava Peters; 10 Carl Kent; 11 Sheila Letter; 13 Lisa

Tepolt; 14 Stacey Bohm, Nathan; 16 Cindy Diemel,

Trevor Reif; 18 Taylor Peeters, Carol Weyenberg;

19 Sam Krings; 20 Bob Nett; 22 Shirley Johnson;

23 Janet Evenson; 26 Andre Guyette; 28 Tammy

Lorenz; 29 Terri Peeters; 31 Stacie Griesbach



How to sign on and create your own account on FORMED:

- Go to Google, or whatever your search engine is, and type in FORMED, in either upper or lower case.
- Click on “Formed | On-Demand Catholic Movies, Audio Books...”
- It will then bring up the next screen that will give you two blue buttons to select Click on “FORMED FOR PARISHES”
- It will then bring you to the next screen with two blue buttons again. Click on “FIND YOUR PARISH SUBSCRIPTION”
- It will then take you to the next screen with a blue button that says “Continue to Sign up/Login” Click on it.
- Type in your email address, and click “NEXT” A 6-digit code will be sent to your email in-box. Go to your in-box, retrieve the code and copy or type it in the box. Click on “SUBMIT.”
- You will then be directed to a screen that says “Join your parish” followed by
- “Find your Parish or Organization”
- Type in: “St. Lawrence-St. Mary’s” If that doesn’t work type in zip code: “54106” You will then see in the box below: “St. Lawrence-St. Mary’s 301 E Burdick St. Black Creek WI”
- Click on that.
- Then click the “Submit” blue button.
- The website will now come up and you will be able to use it with its variety of pull-down menus.
- The website will also give you the option of creating a password for future logins

Reflection on the 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Here is an excerpt from an article titled: “*The 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C, Sunday September 28, 2025*” found on the “Young Catholics” website—[young-catholics.com](http://young-catholics.com):

The readings for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C present a striking message about the reversal of fortunes... The prophet Amos and Jesus, through his parable, remind us that earthly riches and comfort should never blind us to the needs of others...

Amos Challenges Us to Look Beyond Comfort

The reading from Amos in the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C delivers a strong warning. It speaks to those who live in comfort and ignore the suffering of others. Amos criticizes those who indulge in luxury while remaining blind to the needs of the poor. This message is not just for the people of his time but for us as well.

We often find ourselves comfortable in our routines and possessions. It’s easy to focus on what we have and forget about those who are struggling. Amos reminds us that this kind of complacency can lead us away from God’s path. Our blessings should never make us blind to the needs around us.

Amos calls us to reflect on how we live. Are we sharing what we have with others? Are we helping those who are suffering? The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C invites us to ask these questions and make changes in how we serve God and others.

Jesus Shows the Danger of Ignoring Others

In the Gospel for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C, Jesus tells the parable of Lazarus and the rich man. This story is a clear reminder of what can happen when we focus only on ourselves. The rich man enjoyed his wealth while ignoring the suffering of Lazarus, who was right outside his door. After death, the rich man faced judgment, and Lazarus found peace.

Jesus’s message is clear: wealth and comfort are not the problem, but selfishness is. When we fail to see the suffering of others, we turn away from God’s call. The rich man’s downfall wasn’t his wealth but his choice to do nothing for Lazarus.

This parable invites us to reflect on our own choices. Are we aware of the needs around us? Do we use what we have to help others? The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C reminds us to see those in need and to act with love and compassion. Movies and Instructional Videos Available on FORMED

Paul Encourages Us to Live with Virtue

In the second reading for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C, Paul gives Timothy practical advice. He urges him to seek virtues like faith, love, and gentleness. These virtues help us live a life focused on God and others, rather than ourselves. Paul’s words contrast with the selfishness shown by the rich man in the Gospel.

Living a virtuous life means putting God first and serving others. It means being patient, kind, and steadfast even when life is hard. These qualities help us stay close to God and prepare for what is to come. They also remind us that true wealth is found in our relationship with God and our care for others.

Paul’s advice challenges us to grow in our faith. The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C is a chance to reflect on how we can pursue these virtues. By doing so, we align our lives with God’s will and help bring his love to the world.

Holy Rosary before Holy Mass

Tuesday, 7 October is the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary. It is why October is known as the Month of the Holy Rosary. To honor this event Fr. David will be leading the Holy Rosary before the Holy Mass next Sunday—5 October at 9:30 A.M. on Sunday. Everyone is welcome to come and join in this beautiful prayer.

Movies and Instructional Videos Available on FORMED



Memorial—1 October



Memorial—4 October



Youth Faith Formation