



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,

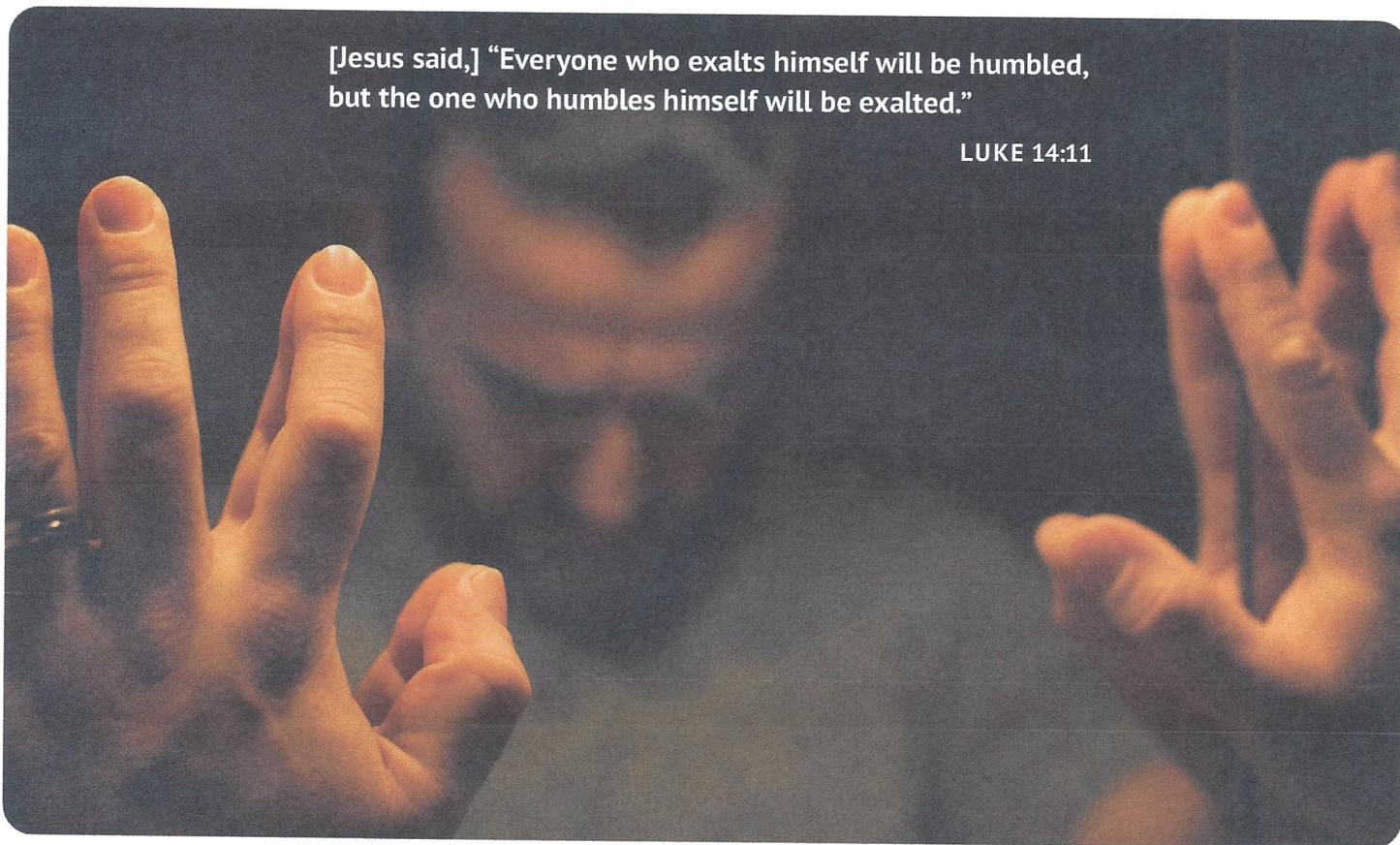
and more than once. Grades become more important than learning, or being right more important than the relationship, or the address of where we live more important than the people living together. It happens between parent and child when a parent places greater significance on the son's or daughter's 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. ●

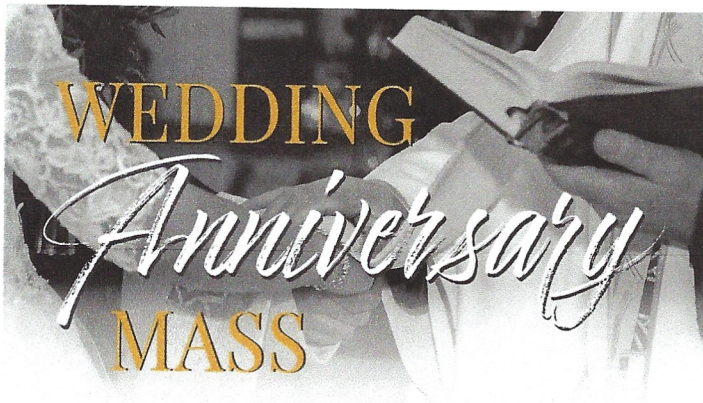
Reflect

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





Where: St. Mary Cathedral, Gaylord
When: Saturday, October 4, 2025 | 11 am

dioceseofgaylord.org/marriage



CELEBRATING MILESTONE
ANNIVERSARIES OF 10, 25, 50, 55, 60+ YEARS IN 2025

Ministry Schedule for September 6th and 7th

September 6th: Saturday at 4:00pm

Lector: Danielle Poindexter

Ushers: Jeff Crane and Jodie Crane

September 7th: Sunday at 9:00am

Lector: Allan Peterson

Ushers: Cathy Downey & Carol Weidlich



Knights of Columbus Golf Outing

The K of C will have their annual Golf Outing on Saturday, September 6th at Springbrook Country Club in Walloon Lake. Cost is \$75 per person and includes 18 holes w/cart, lunch, dinner and prizes. New this year: A New Truck for a Hole in One! Needed are more golfers and sponsors. Sponsor a hole for \$100.00. Last year, \$5,000 was raised for K of C charities. If you are interested, please contact Mike Long at 517-749-7250 or northof45th@gmail.com

Parish office will be closed for the Labor Day Weekend
Monday, September 1st

WEEKLY OFFERING

August 23rd and 24th

Envelopes.....	\$1,439.00
Loose.....	\$6,740.27
Cemetery Fund.....	\$1,200.00
Donations.....	\$5,000.00
Candles.....	\$60.00
OFFERING TOTAL.....	\$14,439.27

Thank
You

St. John Nepomucene Mass

Will be on Saturday, October 4th.
Time will be at 6:00pm.
After Mass is a reception in the parish hall. All are welcome.



Faith Formation

Classes for our students will begin on September 7th from 10:00am to 11:00am. We will begin upstairs in the parish hall with registration and refreshments.

All school grades are welcome and those in preschool. Adult Formation continues with the Tuesday study on the Creeds: 9:00am and 4:00pm. OCIA is open for new inquiries: Those in need of baptism and those who wish to enter into the Catholic faith through confirmation. Contact Mary or Annie for questions.



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Traveling Prayer Box

Pray for our diocese and parish by taking home this prayer box filled with devotional books and prayer cards. This statue of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel represents the patron saint of our diocese. Sign up sheets are in the gathering space.

We need each family to take this prayer box home as we continue our diocese pastoral planning! Uniting our prayers together for our parish and community!



CARE & SHARE FOOD PANTRY

September collection items for
St. Joseph is
Fresh Produce: Potatoes
Individual Packaged Snack Items
for Kid's lunches

ST. ANNE GUILD MEETING

Thursday, September 4th at 4:00pm

Upper level of the parish hall.
Discussion will be on the Soup and Salad Fundraiser on Thursday, October 2nd, end of the year fiscal report and the replacement of the outdoor Mary statue. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome!



1st Saturday Mass

September 6th at 9:00am

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Booklets with more information on these devotions are by the Sacred Heart of Jesus statue.



"God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor." Psalm 68

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 30th: Weekday

4:00pm Mass: †John, Tom & Rex Vallance

By Monica, Val, Roxanne & Ruth

Sunday, August 31st 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass: Pro Populo (For the People)

Tuesday, September 2nd: Weekday

8:00am Mass

Wednesday, September 3rd: St. Gregory the Great, Doctor

12:00pm Mass †Mary & Michael Debrincat by Debrincat family

12:30pm Holy Hour of Adoration

Thursday, September 4th: Weekday

8:00am Mass †Steve Mumich by Barb Mumich

6:00pm Holy Hour of Adoration

Friday, September 5th: St. Teresa of Calcutta/ 1st Friday

8:00am Mass †Richard O'Leary by Linda O'Leary

8:30am Holy Hour of Adoration

Saturday, September 6th: Weekday

9:00am Mass: 1st Saturday

4:00pm Mass: Pro Populo (For the People)

Sunday, September 7th: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Mass: †Michael & Mary Brennan by Ponchart family

St. Joseph & St. John of Praga

Parish Directory

207 Nicholls Street — P.O. Box 379

East Jordan, MI 49727

Office: (231) 536-2934

Email: parishoffice@stjosepheastjordan.org

Website: www.stjosepheastjordan.org

Pastor: Fr. Matthew Furguele (231)536-2934

Email: mfurguele@dioceseofgaylord.org

Deacon: Mark Redwine (734)788-3760

Music Director: Allison Derengowski (231) 881-3360

Parish Secretary: Mary Plude (231)536-2934

Email: mplude@stjosepheastjordan.org

Administrative Assistant: Annie Joy (231)536-2934

Email: ajoy@stjosepheastjordan.org

Catechetical Leader: Mary Plude (231)838-5383

Communication/Media: Annie Joy (231)350-8728

Maintenance: Russ Rybicki (440) 653-3568

Pastoral Council: Kim Helland-Carr (505) 290-2207

Finance Council: Irene Ferguson (619)890-9952

Cemetery Sexton: Al Joseph (231)838-9855

St. Anne Guild: Vicki Saenz (231)-222-2400

Sunshine Lady: Ann Werner (231)499-1182

**Confession 30 minutes before all Masses or
by appointment**

Special Collection to help innocent victims in Gaza

We will be having a second collection on the weekend of
Sept. 6 and 7 to provide humanitarian relief and pastoral
support for our brothers and sisters in Gaza and the
surrounding areas in the Middle East.

There is terrible suffering of Christians and other innocent victims of violence in Gaza and the surrounding areas who are struggling to survive, protect their children and live with dignity in dire conditions. The Holy Father continues to call for a cease fire and for aid to enter the territory, noting with great sorrow that "Gaza is starving." This special collection will benefit efforts of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), a non-profit papal agency, in providing vital emergency humanitarian relief and medical psychological care for the sick, malnourished and wounded. Please prayerfully consider helping our brothers and sisters in the Middle East.



**Please call the office if
you or someone you
know should be
included on this list**

Nancy Amunsen
Matt Barnadyn
Braylan Blackwell
Ray Borowiak
Connie Bricker-Shaler
Lee & Barbara Carlismo
Pat Castaneda
Pat Chapman
Bonnie Courter
Roger & Nancy Danforth
Kendra Davis
Doug Drenth
John Ennest
Myron Ennest
Joe Gaffney
Issac Gardner
Padrick & Eileen Gardner
Douglas Hagedon
Gail Hagedon
Marian Hanson
Samantha Harris
Joyce Hoult
Elaine Hurst
Carol Kerr
Janet (Mumich) Krussell
Bobby Kupovits
Anne LaCross
Ellie Maza

Betty McKinnon
Pat Messink
Barb Mumich
Lilly Nowka
Tony Nessel
Mary O'Connor
Jeremy Palmrose
Steve Paterka
Gretchen Peck
Keith Peters
Bart Petrich
Abigail Ponchart
Lori Ponchart
Daniel Powers
John Powers
Tom & Ruth Repichowski
Gary Roberts
Tom Robison
Susan Shay
Michael Sheridan
Josh Spears
Robbie Startzel
Phyllis (Jeanie) Sumner
Boden Vron dran
Virginia Wabamimkee
Grandvue Staff/ Residents
All Souls in Purgatory

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