

From the Desk of the Pastor

September 28, 2025

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The story of Lazarus and Dives strikes a resonant chord in our lives. Lazarus, covered with sores, begged for food, 'and would gladly have eaten his fill off the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. 'That rich man is Dives, who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day.

The story progresses to tell us that the poor man died and was whisked away to Abraham's bosom (heaven).

The rich man died and went to hell. From his hole in the fiery torment, he looked up and spied Lazarus in celestial bliss, just "rocking" his soul in the bosom of Abraham". He asked Abraham for help. Unfortunately, no help is given.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church cites this story to distinguish mortal from venial sin. Mortal sin is a deliberate and willful decision to oppose God.

"Feigned ignorance and hardness of heart," the text reads, "do not diminish, but rather increase the voluntary character of a sin".

Many homilists see the sin that caused Dives to merit such eternal punishment is his reluctance to share his wealth with Lazarus.

Other homilists say that Dives while he lived, knew that Lazarus and others like him could have eaten well from his table scraps. But that he chose to ignore the prophetic witnessing against the abuse and neglect of the poor.

It is the sin of ignoring and despising Lazarus and his needs that catapulted the rich man to hell fire. The rich man knew the good, but he chose the bad.

I guess, this second rendition has the power to chill us to the bone. It gets to the heart of what it means to be a true disciple.

VIGÉSIMO SEXTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

La historia de Lázaro y el hombre rico golpea resonantemente en nuestras vidas. Lázaro, cubierto de llagas, ruega por comida, 'y con gusto se hubiera comido hasta saciarse de las migajas que caían de la mesa del rico.' El hombre rico es Dives, que vestía de prendas color púrpura y telas finas y comía espléndidamente cada día.

Avanza la historia para contarnos que el hombre pobre murió y fue llevado al seno de Abraham (el cielo).

El hombre rico murió y se fue al infierno. Desde su agujero en el tormento del fuego, miró hacia arriba y vió a Lázaro en la felicidad celestial, sólo "meciéndose" su alma en el seno de Abraham". Le pidió a Abraham ayuda. Desafortunadamente, la ayuda no se le dá.

El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica cita esta historia para distinguir el pecado mortal a venial. El pecado mortal es una decisión intencional y voluntariosa para oponerse a Dios. "Ignorancia fingida y dureza de corazón," el texto lee, "no disminuye, sino más bien aumenta el carácter voluntario de un pecado".

Muchos homilistas ven el pecado que le causó al hombre rico del evangelio merecer tal eterno el castigo es su rechazo, su renuencia a compartir su riqueza con Lázaro.

Otros homilistas dicen que el hombre rico mencionado en el evangelio, mientras vivió, sabía que Lázaro y otros como el pudieron haber comido bien de sus sobras. Pero que prefirió ignorar los testigos proféticos contra el abuso y abandono de los pobres.

Es el pecado de ignora y despreciar a Lázaro y sus necesidades, que lanzó al hombre rico al fuego del infierno. El hombre rico sabía el bien, pero eligió el mal.

Creo que ésta segunda versión tiene el poder para darnos escalofrió hasta los huesos. Llega al corazón lo que significa ser un verdadero discípulo.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA

September 20 – 21, 2025

Weekday Masses Offerings.....\$ 266.25
San Lorenzo Ruiz Novenas\$ 220.00
Weekend Mass Offerings.....\$2,251.26
Priests' Retirement Fund.....\$1,252.00

UPCOMING 2nd COLLECTIONS

September 28: Archdiocese for Military Services

October 5: Reserve Fund

October 12: Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

October 19: World Mission Sunday

A A A 2025

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

We urge you to help us meet our goal:

Parish Assessment:	\$31,021.00
YTD we paid:	\$17,855.04
Balance we owe:	\$13,165.96
Pledges Balance	\$ 600.00

Thank you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS BOOK FOR THE NEW YEAR 2026 IS NOW OPEN

You are invited to come to the Parish office with your request for Mass Intentions for the year 2026. Please bring a written list with all the names, mass dates and times that you would like to request along with the stipend. The process is on a "first come, first serve basis".

The Archdiocese of San Francisco has traditionally regulated Mass stipends for announced and unannounced mass intentions. The suggested donation for an announced mass is \$10.00; for an unannounced intention it is \$5.00.

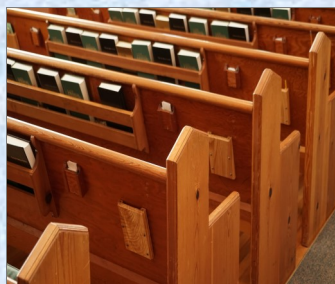
Mass intentions are published in the Parish bulletin [website] with the deadline for publishing on Monday afternoon. The Parish Office is open for business from Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

EL LIBRO DE LAS MISAS PARA EL AÑO NUEVO 2026 YA ESTÁ ABIERTO

Usted está invitado a venir a la oficina de la parroquia con sus intenciones de Misa para el año 2026. Por favor traiga una lista por escrito con todos los nombres, fechas y horas que desea solicitar junto con su donación. El proceso será más rápido si usted tiene esto listo antes de venir a la oficina.

La Arquidiócesis de San Francisco ha regulado tradicionalmente las donaciones para misas anunciadas y no anunciadas. La donación sugerida para una misa anunciada es de \$10.00; para una intención no anunciada la donación sugerida es \$5.00.

Las intenciones de misa se publican en el boletín parroquial con la fecha límite para imprimir el lunes por la tarde. La oficina parroquial está abierta de lunes a viernes de 8:30am a 5:00pm.



MASS COUNT

The Archdiocesan office of the Chancellor requests that every parish record the mass attendance at the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses during the month of October. For 2025, Mass Counts begin the weekend of October 04—05 and will continue every weekend to October 25—26.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27 TO OCTOBER 4

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
September 27, 2025	September 28, 2025	September 29, 2025	September 30, 2025	October 1, 2025
9:00am ☩ Patrick Murphy	8:00m Parish of St. John	9:00am Chedita Villacarlos 🕯️	9:00am Living members of the Y.M.I.	9:00am Silvie Arabia
4:30pm Parish of St. John	10:00am ☩ Fr. Michael Brillantes 🕯️ ☩ Fernando Avila ☩ Eufrene Tobes ☩ Mel Ventura Ivan Cayabyab 🕯️ Mrs. Zenaida Mosquera 🕯️	THURSDAY October 2, 2025	FRIDAY October 3, 2025	SATURDAY October 4, 2025
	12:00pm Bertha Barragan ☩ Luzmilia Escoto M.	9:00am The Deceased Members of the Y.M.I.	9:00am ☩ Arnold Townsend	9:00am Parish of St. John
				4:30pm Parish of St. John

