

Dear Padre,

What does it mean when it says we're in Cycle A or B or C? Or Years I and II?

When the bishops of the Church at the Second Vatican Council in 1963 called for a revision of our liturgy, they asked that “The treasures of the Bible...be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God’s word. In this way, a more representative portion of the holy Scriptures will be read to the people in the course of a prescribed number of years” (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 51).

At Sunday Masses, the Scriptures are divided up over three years (called Years A, B, and C). At these Masses, the gospel is the primary reading. The first reading, taken from the Old Testament, and the responsorial psalm touch upon the same theme as the gospel. In the Easter season, the first reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles. The second reading follows consecutive passages from the letters of Paul or the other apostles, independent of the other readings.

At weekday Masses, most of the Bible is read over a period of two years. Odd-numbered years are Year I, and even-numbered years are Year II.

All of this should help us open those treasures that the Church says are ours in the Scriptures. ●

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October 19	October 20	October 21	October 22	October 23	October 24	October 25
Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Eph 2:1–10	Eph 2:12–22	Eph 3:2–12	Eph 3:14–21	Eph 4:1–6	Eph 4:7–16	Ex 22:20–26
Lk 12:13–21	Lk 12:35–38	Lk 12:39–48	Lk 12:49–53	Lk 12:54–59	Lk 13:1–9	1 Thes 1:5c–10
						Mt 22:34–40

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



USBB ET ORBI BLESSING / CATHOPIC

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Today let us ask Mary, Mother of the Church, to be able to serve, with Jesus and like Jesus, those men and women thirsting for truth and justice. This is not the time for opposition between one church and another, between “us” and “them”—those who worship God seek to be men and women of peace, who worship him in Spirit and in truth.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 8, 2026

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 18, 2026
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Isaiah 45:1, 4–6 / 1 Thessalonians 1:1–5b / Matthew 22:15–21



Sidestepping Side-taking

ANN M. GARRIDO

Jesus had to know something was up when both the Pharisees and the Herodians approached him together. Pharisees and Herodians were never together. Herodians survived by cooperating with the Roman Empire. The Pharisees found such cooperation an affront to God’s law.

“Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?” they asked. It was a trap. If he answered “no,” the Herodians could report him to the Romans for fomenting rebellion. If he answered “yes,” the crowd watching would see Jesus as a sellout to an unpopular foreign power. But Jesus did not take the bait. He refused to give a “yes” or a “no,” instead allowing onlookers to see that his Pharisee and Herodian challengers were carrying the Roman coin in their pockets—hence participating in the Roman economy—whereas he did not even possess the coin they were asking about. He was living and working for a different ruler altogether. Their question was outside his realm of concern.

So often we, too, can find ourselves trapped in heated political conversations where questions are asked in such a way that they seem to allow only a yes-or-no answer. The askers want to reveal, “Are you with us or are you against us?” as if there are no other options. As followers of Jesus, we know that there are issues of ultimate concern for us—“battle hills worth dying on.” Jesus himself had one: Calvary. But Jesus himself did not feel as if he needed to take a stand on every hot political issue of his day. Sometimes he sidestepped those conversations. So can we.●



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Reflect

When confronted, do I prefer to “take the bait” or find common ground?



St. Paul Catholic Church
713 CRAWFORD STREET
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

29th SUN of O.T.
October 17 & 18, 2026

Parish Announcements

Lunch and Scripture

When: October 21 at 12:00 PM
Speaker: Barbara Hill
Topic: Origin of the Rosary
Location: Billy's Italian Restaurant
Pizza and salad lunch provided by St. Paul; donations greatly appreciated. Please RSVP by calling the church office or replying to the Lunch and Scripture post on our Facebook page.

Confession

There will be no Confession on Sunday, October 18, due to Fr. Rusty covering Mass for St. Mary's.

Catholic Moms Group

Vicksburg Catholic Moms Group will meet Sunday, October 25, at 3:00 PM in the St. Michael's Education Building. Moms of all ages and stages are welcome! For more information contact Kathleen Harris, Brittany McFall, or Anna Guizerix at vicksburgcatholicmomsgroup@gmail.com

Meals on Wheels

St. Paul is looking for new leadership for our monthly ministry. We would like to sincerely thank Rae Perry, Jan Jackson, and Christy Guizerix for their many years of dedicated service. If you are interested in helping lead this important ministry, please call or email the office.



OCIA meets every Wednesday at 6 PM in Glynn Hall. We'd love your help in welcoming our participants by providing a light meal for their meetings. There is a Meal Train set up for anyone who would like to help.
<https://mealtrain.com/zgk3qd>

All Saints & All Souls Day

All Saints' Day will be celebrated the weekend of October 31 and November 1. All Souls' Day is Monday, November 2, and will be celebrated at both 7:00 AM and 5:30 PM. Please be sure to sign the book on the podium in the back of the church for all friends and family who have died throughout the year so we can offer Mass for all of their souls.

Parish Calendar

OCT 18, SUN	Children's Church led by Aston Hotard
OCT 19, MON	Offertory Counters: Elias Arredondo and Lorraine Smithhart
OCT 21, WED	Lunch and Scripture 12:00 PM OCIA will meet in Glynn Hall at 6:00 PM
NOV 2, MON	All Souls' Mass 7:00 AM and 5:30 PM
NOV 3, TUES	Anointing Mass 12:00 PM
NOV 7, SAT	Meals on Wheels

Offertory Summary

Weekly Budget \$7,700

Online Giving

October 5 - October 11.....\$2,132

Weekend Offertory

September 26 & 27.....\$9,969

October 3 & 4.....\$6,051

October 10 & 11.....\$4,384

October 17 & 18.....\$ __, __

October 24 & 25.....\$ __, __

Special Collections

October 18: World Missions Sunday
.....\$ __, __



Sign up for automatic online giving at www.osvhub.com/st-paulscatholic-church

Knights of Columbus

<https://facebook.com/kc898>

www.ms-kojc.com/898

Become a KNIGHT.
Scan this QR code to join the Knights today!



OCT 20 Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by a 4th Degree Meeting

OCT 21 K of C Bible study after 5:30 PM Mass @ St. Michael.

OCT 27 Rosary @ 6:30PM followed by a First Responder Dinner. All first responders are welcome to dine in or carry out a free meal.



St. Paul Catholic Church
713 CRAWFORD STREET
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

29th SUN of O.T.
October 17 & 18, 2026

Weekend Mass Schedule†

Saturday

‡Confession	2:30-3:30 PM
Mass	4:00 PM

Sunday

‡Confession	9:30-10:00 AM
Mass	10:30 AM

Daily Mass Schedule†

Monday	7:00 AM
Tuesday	12:00 PM
Wednesday	7:00 AM
Thursday	12:00 PM
Friday	7:00 AM

† All schedule updates can be found in the Parish Calendar section of the bulletin.

‡ For Confessions during the week, please call the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions

OCT 19, MON	Dan Fordice, Deceased
OCT 20, TUES	Candice Coffing Whitton, Healing
OCT 21, WED	Wanda Logue, Deceased
OCT 22, THUR	Dan Fordice, Deceased
OCT 23, FRI	Victor LaGarde, Deceased
OCT 24, SAT	Rosemary Cuicchi, Deceased

To request a Mass Intention for a Daily Mass or the Saturday Vigil Mass, please call, email, or visit the parish office. *Sunday Mass is offered for all St. Paul's parishioners.



Today's Readings

Visit bible.usccb.org or scan this QR code to find the readings



Check out our Social Media!

St. Paul Catholic Church of Vicksburg



Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers placed at the Ambo are in memory of the deceased members of St. Paul's Parish

PastoralCare

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or in urgent need of anointing, please call the church office Emergency Ext. 106

St. Paul Parish Staff

Pastor Fr. Rusty Vincent pastor@stpaulvicksburg.org	Office Manager Ashley Roesch stpaulvick@att.net	Office Assistant Janis Koestler stpaulvick@att.net
Bookkeeper Beverly Connelly stpaulvickbkkeeper@att.net	Maintenance Charles Hahn	Organist Karen Harrison

Leadership & Ministries

Parish Council President Travis Thornell	Finance Council Chair Bill Fulcher
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Bereavement Story Ebersole	OCIA Connie & David Hosemann Bruce Ebersole	Meals on Wheels Jan Jackson Christy Guizerix Rae Perry
Altar Flowers Cynthia Montalbano	Homebound Janis Koestler	

Baptism Prep Barbara Hill	Confirmation Jordan Amborn	Children's Church Ashley Lawrence
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