

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. ●

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*.



TACIO PHILIP SANSONOVSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 31, 2025
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
Sirach 3:17–18, 20, 28–29 / Hebrews 12:18–19, 22–24a / Luke 14:1, 7–14



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?

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

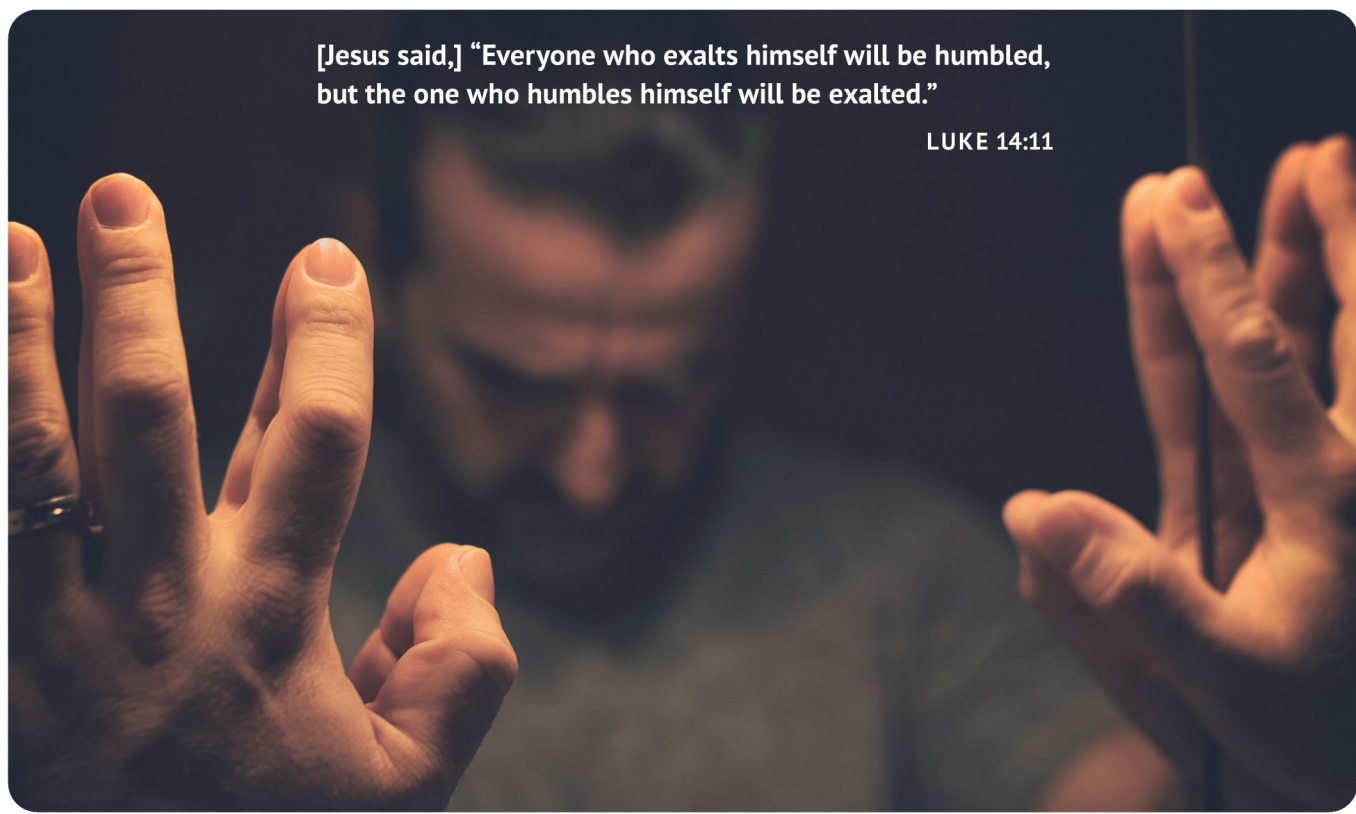
To follow [Jesus]...means “carrying one’s cross”: shouldering, like him, one’s own burdens and those of others, making one’s life a gift, not a possession, spending it in imitation of his own generous and merciful love for us. These are decisions that engage the totality of our lives.

HOMILY, ROME, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

GOOGLE GEMINI



Monday September 1 Weekday 1 Thes 4:13–18 Lk 4:16–30	Friday September 5 Weekday Col 1:15–20 Lk 5:33–39
Tuesday September 2 Weekday 1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11 Lk 4:31–37	Saturday September 6 Weekday Col 1:21–23 Lk 6:1–5
Wednesday September 3 St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Col 1:1–8 Lk 4:38–44	Sunday September 7 Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 9:13–18b Phlm 9–10, 12–17 Lk 14:25–33
Thursday September 4 Weekday Col 1:9–14 Lk 5:1–11	



[Jesus said,] “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

LUKE 14:11

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St. Paul Catholic Church

713 CRAWFORD STREET
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

22nd Sunday O. T.
August 30 & 31, 2025



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Parish Announcements

Baptism Announcement

Congratulations to Austin & Brooklyn Johnson on the Baptism of their son, Bowen on Saturday, August 30th.

Our Condolences

Our Prayers and Sympathy to the Ebersole family for the loss of Story's brother, Craig Stamm. May he, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Legacy Sunday

Our parish will join the diocese in participating in Legacy Sunday on September 13-14. For more information visit their website: Legacy Sunday-Diocese of Jackson, MS

Voices Needed

If you are interested in joining the choir, we would love to have you! Please join us in the choir loft at 9:45 AM any Sunday morning.

Bible Study

The sign up for our fall Bible study, *Fulfilled*, will begin Sept 6th & 7th and run through the 21st. This 7-week program will begin Oct 7th. The groups will meet in Glynn Hall as follows: Group 1: Tuesdays @12:30 PM, lead by Janis Koestler. Group 2: Thursdays @ 5:30 PM, lead by Parker Jones & Elias Arredondo. Group 3: Fridays @8:30 AM, lead by Mike & Jan Jackson.

RCIA "Come and See"

If you or someone you know are considering becoming Catholic or may be interested in learning more about the church, we invite you to join us for our "Come and See" meeting on September 17th at 6 PM in Glynn Hall. To learn more, please contact the parish office.

Offertory Summary

Weekly Budget\$7,700

Online Giving

Aug 18 - Aug 24 \$1,617

Weekend Offertory

Aug 2 & 3 \$7,203

Aug 9 & 10 \$5,599

Aug 16 & 17 \$3,838

Aug 23 & 24 \$4,568

Aug 30 & 31 \$_,____

Special Collections

August 9 & 10: Solidarity Fund for Church of Africa.....\$100

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

Weekend Mass Schedule†

Saturday

#Confession 3:15-3:45 PM
Mass 4:00 PM

Sunday

#Confession 9:45-10:15 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.



Public domain-Tintoretto, Christ in the House of Pharaoh

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

@stpaulvicksburg

@stpaulvicksburg
@frustyvinct

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers placed at the ambo are in memory of Emma Keulegan

Parish Calendar

SEPT 1, MON	Labor Day; No daily Mass. Office closed
SEPT 2, TUE	Offertory Counters: Pam Melsheimer & Marie Renaud
SEPT 4, THUR	Anointing Mass
SEPT 6, SAT	Meals on Wheels
SEPT 7, SUN	Sign up for fall Bible Study, <i>Fulfilled</i> . Children's Church begins

Knights of Columbus

<https://facebook.com/kc898>

www.ms-kofc.com/898

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



SEPT 2	Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by Council meeting
SEPT 3	Into the Breach Bible study 5:30 PM. All Catholic men welcome
SEPT 6	Meals on Wheels

Mass Intentions

AUG 29, FRI	Mike Hill
AUG 30, SAT	Special Intentions
SEPT 1, MON	No Daily Mass
SEPT 2, TUES	Judy Washington
SEPT 3, WED	Bettye Kelly

To request a Mass Intention for a Daily Mass or the Saturday Vigil Mass, please call, email, or visit the parish office. Each Mass with no intention is offered for all St. Paul's parishioners.

St. Paul Parish Staff

Pastor	Office Manager	Office Assistant
Fr. Rusty Vincent	Ashley Roesch	Janis Koestler
Bookkeeper	Maintenance	Organist
Beverly Connelly	Charles Hahn	Karen Harrison

Leadership & Ministries

Parish Council President	Finance Council Chair	
Kevin Mahoney	Bill Fulcher	
Bereavement	RCIA	Meals On Wheels
Story Ebersole	Connie and David Hosemann, and Bruce Ebersole	Jan Jackson, Christy Guizerix, and Rae Perry
Altar Flowers		
Cynthia Montalbano		
Baptism Prep	Homebound	Children's Church
Barbara Hill	Janis Koestler	Ashley Lawrence