

# Dear Padre,

**Why is RCIA now called OCIA? And why do people have to go through that process anyway? Can't they just talk to the priest if they want to be Catholic?**

The reason why Christian Initiation for Adults is now identified as the “Order” rather than the “Rite” is that the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) changed the name in November 2021. The name change more accurately reflects the English translations of the Latin texts and emphasizes the ongoing development of participants in the faith. Within the Order are different rites, such as the Rite of Entrance to the Catechumenate, the Rite of Sending, the Rite of Election, the Scrutinies, and the Rites of Initiation.

Although it is still possible to become a baptized Catholic or a confirmed Catholic after a simple conversation with a priest or a catechist, the preferred way is the communal encounter. The Christian community plays an important role in calling us to faith, enabling our practice of the faith, and helping us persevere in our baptismal call to faith. We are not alone; we are part of the people of God. We are the community that is called into life by the Spirit of God and that is nourished by the Eucharist we share and the sacraments we celebrate. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



NANCY WIECHEG / CNS



ANNA NASS / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

**In Gaza...children, families, and elderly are reduced to starvation. In Myanmar, new hostilities have cut short innocent young lives. Finally, war-torn Ukraine awaits negotiations for a just and lasting peace.... We implore [Our Lady's] intercession for the gift of peace, for support and comfort for those who suffer.**

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 18, 2025

### Monday

September 8  
*The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
Mi 5:1–4a or  
Rom 8:28–30  
Mt 1:1–16, 18–23 or  
1:18–23

### Tuesday

September 9  
*St. Peter Claver, Priest*  
Col 2:6–15  
Lk 6:12–19

### Wednesday

September 10  
*Weekday*  
Col 3:1–11  
Lk 6:20–26  
**Thursday**  
September 11  
*Weekday*  
Col 3:12–17  
Lk 6:27–38

### Friday

September 12  
*Weekday*  
1 Tm 1:1–2, 12–14  
Lk 6:39–42

### Saturday

September 13  
*St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*  
1 Tm 1:15–17  
Lk 6:43–49

### Sunday

September 14  
*The Exaltation of the Holy Cross*  
Nm 21:4b–9  
Phil 2:6–11  
Jn 3:13–17

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 7, 2025

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Wisdom 9:13–18b / Philemon 9–10, 12–17 / Luke 14:25–33



## When Life Becomes Lose-Lose

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**here is so often a cost to being a follower of Jesus, to doing the right thing. During our country's Civil War, southern plantation owners came face to face with the gospel's imperative to accept slaves as human beings who have the right to be free, though that would then bring about the collapse of the cotton economy. For them, it was live the gospel or save the economy. Sometimes, the gospel seems to put us in a lose-lose situation.

President Lyndon B. Johnson was confronted by the Vietnam War. By continuing a war he knew was unwinnable, it would cost human lives. If he ended the war, he would be labeled as the president who lost a war. For him, it was lose-lose. Do the right thing or save face. A person may be confronted by a job that demands unjust and immoral decisions when

the refusal to make such decisions would cost that person the job necessary to support his or her family. A student may be faced with the prospect of either cheating or receiving a poor grade. Living the gospel is fraught with costs.

Today, our nation faces the difficulties of immigration. On the one hand, there is the gospel's command to love the poor and so to accept immigrants seeking to escape violence and terror and drought, conditions that make it impossible to live. On the other hand, there is the need for our nation to deal with uncontrolled migration. The question of “What would Jesus do?” is never without consequences. ●

### Reflect

**How does following Jesus cost me in my life?**



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St. Paul Catholic Church

713 CRAWFORD STREET  
VICKSBURG, MS 39180

23rd Sunday O. T.  
September 6 & 7, 2025



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Parish Announcements

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

Adoration

Please join us in the church on Wednesday, September 10th at 5:30PM for Eucharistic Adoration and the Liturgy of the Hours.

Daily Mass Update

There will be no daily Mass on Thursday, September 11. Fr. Rusty will be attending a conference.

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 25 - Aug 31 ..... \$1,917

Weekend Offertory

Aug 30 & 31 ..... \$6,575

Sept 6 & 7 ..... \$\_\_\_\_

Sept 13 & 14 ..... \$\_\_\_\_

Sept 20 & 21 ..... \$\_\_\_\_

Sept 27 & 28 ..... \$\_\_\_\_

Special Collections

September 14: Extension Society  
\$\_\_\_\_

Sign up for automatic online giving at [www.osvhub.com/st-paulscatholic-church](http://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.

Mass Intentions

SEPT 4, THUR

Joyce Butler

SEPT 5, FRI

Special Intentions

SEPT 6, SAT

Eddie Velazquez

SEPT 8, MON

Special Intentions

SEPT 9, TUES

Judy Washington

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.



Today’s Readings

Visit [bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org) or scan this QR code to find the readings



Check out our Social Media!



St. Paul Catholic Church



@stpaulvicksburg



@stpaulvicksburg  
@frrustyvinscent

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers placed at the ambo are in memory of Adam Harrison’s Birthday

Parish Calendar

SEPT 6, SAT

Meals on Wheels

SEPT 7, SUN

Sign up for all Bible Study, *Fulfilled*. Children’s Church: led by Ashley Lawrence

SEPT 8, MON

Offertory Counters: Jan Jackson & Paul Banchetti

SEPT 10, WED

Adoration: 5:30PM

SEPT 11, THUR

No Daily Mass

Knights of Columbus

<https://facebook.com/kc898>

[www.ms-kofc.com/898](http://www.ms-kofc.com/898)

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



SEPT 9 Rosary @ 6:30 PM followed by recruitment & Retention Social.

SEPT 10 Into the Breach Bible study 5:30 PM. All Catholic men welcome

SEPT 11 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting @ 6PM.

St. Paul Parish Staff

Pastor

Fr. Rusty Vincent

Office Manager

Ashley Roesch

Office Assistant

Janis Koestler

Bookkeeper

Beverly Connelly

Maintenance

Charles Hahn

Organist

Karen Harrison

Leadership & Ministries

Parish Council President

Kevin Mahoney

Finance Council Chair

Bill Fulcher

Bereavement

Story Ebersole

RCIA

Connie and David Hosemann, and Bruce Ebersole

Meals On Wheels

Jan Jackson, Christy Guizerix, and Rae Perry

Altar Flowers

Cynthia Montalbano

Homebound

Janis Koestler

Children’s Church

Ashley Lawrence

Baptism Prep

Barbara Hill