



Getty Images / iStock Images - Paul Hudson

September 27, 2026

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28 | Phil 2:1-11 | Mt 21:28-32

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Ask any long-time educator, and they'll tell you we often learn more from our mistakes than from doing it perfectly from the start. Today's Gospel also seems to send the same message: Jesus tells us that tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before the chief priests and elders. Perhaps this is because they – having lived a sinful life – know firsthand the emptiness of not following God's ways. Having gotten it wrong, they now earnestly seek what is right. The mystic Julian of Norwich writes, "First the fall, and then the recovery from the fall, and both are the mercy of God." Even in our wanderings, God is at work, drawing us to return to him. Ezekiel tells us that when we respond to that grace and turn from the wickedness we have committed, doing what is right and just, we will surely not die, but receive the gift of eternal life from the God who is Mercy itself.

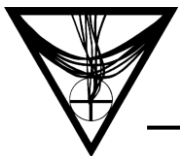
GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Speaking to the Christian community at Philippi, St. Paul reminds them to have "the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus." The previous lines offer a glimpse of what that attitude entails: encouragement, love, compassion, mercy, unity, humility, regarding others as more important than ourselves. These attitudes should shape our way of relating to those whom we are trying to evangelize. Rather than judging them or thinking of ourselves as more important, we are called to serve them with humility, offering them our encouragement to seek the Lord who loves them so much that he gave his life for them.

REFLECT

Today's Gospel includes the story of a son who initially says no to his father's request but then changes his mind and does it. The Gospel ends with a line about how the chief priests and elders did not change their minds even when they saw tax collectors and prostitutes responding to John's call to repentance. Indeed, the Greek word for conversion is *metanoia*, which has been defined as "a change of mind that leads to a change in action." Take some time today to do an examination of conscience, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of thinking that need conversion and change. What might the Holy Spirit want to change your mind about this day?



OUR MISSION

‘Inspired by the Holy Spirit we are a Eucharistic community called by God
To share the love of Jesus Christ and create a welcoming parish of renewal and mission.’

MONTH of *Our Lady of Sorrows*

Sunday Sept 27	Monday Sept 28	Tuesday Sept 29	Wednesday Sept 30	Thursday October 1	Friday October 2	Saturday October 3
Fellowship Sunday 10a Mass 12:30p Mass 1:30p-4pm Adoration 7p Mass	7p Millions of Monicas	8:30a Mass	8:30a Mass 7p Adoration	8:30a Mass 6p Children’s Choir Rehearsal	8:30a Mass 9a-12p Adoration 6p Challenge	11a-12p Confession 3p Liturgy Training 5p Mass <i>Celebration of Cultures</i>

LIVE-STREAM MASS EVERY SUNDAY AT 10 AM MASS [FACEBOOK.COM/HOLYSPIRITSASK](https://www.facebook.com/holyspiritsask)

Bishop’s Annual Appeal 2026 — Living the Father’s Will **WEEK ONE — CALLED TO RESPOND**

As Catholics, we are called not only to believe in the Gospel, but to live it. Across our diocese, there are ministries quietly and faithfully answering that call every day. Together, they form a network of hope, service, evangelization, and care that reaches every corner of our communities.

We invite you to learn more about these ministries and the impact they are making in the lives of children, youth, families, seniors, Indigenous communities, those facing illness, and all who seek a deeper relationship with Christ.

Together, these ministries remind us that the Church is alive, active, and present wherever God’s people are gathered.

Over the next six weeks the online bulletin and bulletin board will feature some of the ministries that are funded through the BAA.

Visit dscf.ca/baa or the BAA table in the Place of Welcome for more information and to donate!



Watch the BAA video again and get a sneak peak at all the ministry videos!
dscf.ca/baa-parish-resources

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

27•IX•2026



“Even just one of these children”

Millions of Monica’s
Monday, September 28
7PM

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, September 30

Liturgy of the Word
 Eucharistic Adoration
7PM

For the care of water. Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it. SEPTEMBER 2026

First Fruits

Connect with other families in our community through faith fellowship and fun. The small group initiative is aimed at supporting parents in the early stages of parenting. You meet once every other month starting October 20.

Register online holyspiritsaskatoon.ca or pick up a registration form in the place of welcome.



First Reconciliation and First Communion
(gr. 2-8)

Registration is now open



for more info & registration form
holyspiritsaskatoon.ca

Holy Spirit Refugee Committee
is hosting a

 Celebration of Cultures

October 3 after the 5 pm Mass. Please join us in the hall to share food, coffee, stories and music.
Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share!
(Food can be kept hot or cold during Mass)
Sign-up after any Mass!

SAVE THE DATE

Fr. Michael's
25th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, October 24

LET US PRAY

- **For the sick and all those who care for them, today we pray for:** Vera Wolkosky, Frederick Vizeacoumar, Vijaykumar Soupramaniam, Modaliar, Evangeline Manzon, Adel Gorges, Mary Cody, Camilla Wren, Alice Plewes, Delores Hinz, Martin Julien, Zelpha Rolph, Shi'An Lu, Xia Lin
- **For all those who have died, today we remember:** Dorothy Hofmann, Irma Brinkman, Ted Easton
- **And on the anniversary of death:** K. Siluvairayan, Selvarani Siripushpam, Siluvairayan, Perpetua Bernaldez, Jacey Hunter, Lady Kate Okwechime



St. Therese | Littlest Saints

Which flower in Jesus's garden is the best? The most beautiful? St. Therese gives us her "little" answer to these questions.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you!
Simply scan the QR code or visit formed.org/signup to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



MASS TIMES

Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 10 am, 12:30pm, 7 pm
Weekdays Tues. - Fri. 8:30 am

ADORATION

Wednesdays 7-8pm
Fridays, 9 am - 12 pm
Sundays, 1:30 - 4 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 11 am - 12 noon
or by appointment.

Called to Respond:
**LIVING THE
FATHER'S WILL**



WEEK ONE — CALLED TO RESPOND

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2026 — Living the Father's Will

For all of us called to live the Father's will: that we may hear God's invitation with open hearts and respond not only with our words, but through lives of prayer, generosity and service. Through the Bishop's Annual Appeal, may our shared gifts strengthen the ministries that bring Christ's love to people throughout our diocese; let us pray to the Lord.

As Catholics, we are called not only to believe in the Gospel, but to live it. Across our diocese, there are ministries quietly and faithfully answering that call every day. Together, they form a network of hope, service, evangelization, and care that reaches every corner of our communities.

We invite you to learn more about these ministries and the impact they are making in the lives of children, youth, families, seniors, Indigenous communities, those facing illness, and all who seek a deeper relationship with Christ.

Together, these ministries remind us that the Church is alive, active, and present wherever God's people are gathered.



2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

As we embark on this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal, I invite you to take the opportunity to reflect on our theme: **"Called to Respond: Living the Father's Will"** These words remind us of Jesus's reflection and call to us to live and act in the love of His Father and our Father:

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love."(John 15: 9-10)

Pope Leo has just provided us with his first encyclical titled, Magnifica Humanitas ("Our Magnificent Humanity"). The pope is responding to our world marked by restlessness, uncertainty, and increasing concerns about the state of our common humanity in the world, with a message about the profound greatness of our common human dignity. As Pope Leo states,

"There is also the more profound and important level of ontological dignity. This is the dignity that belongs to every human being simply by virtue of existing, of having been willed, created and loved by God. No sin, failure, humiliation or exclusion can diminish the profound value of a human life that God has willed and called into being."
(MH #52).

This dignity is blessed and manifest to one another and to the world as we love and act like God.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal is not simply a fundraiser. It is a personal and communal act of discipleship and a way by which we participate in the mission of Christ in our world of today. Through the Bishop's Annual Appeal, that mission becomes visible across our diocese. Your generosity helps support seminarians preparing for priesthood, ministries serving families and youth, outreach to the poor and vulnerable, Indigenous reconciliation initiatives, pastoral care in our parishes, Catholic education and faith formation, and the many works of evangelization that proclaim Christ's love in our communities.

I therefore invite every parishioner, every family, and every community in our diocese to prayerfully consider how you can support this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal. No gift is too small when it is offered with faith and love.

The aim of our appeal is not *"to have people giving more"* - but rather, *"to have more people giving!"* ...participating and sharing together the work of God's people in our local faith communities ...for our world of today. Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your faithful witness to Christ.

May Mary, Mother of the Church, who responded wholeheartedly to God's call, intercede for us. May she teach us to say with courage and humility: *"May it be done to me according to your word."*

I conclude with the words well known to us from St. Francis of Assisi, as we celebrate 2026 as the Year of St. Francis: *"Lord, make me a channel of Your peace; Where there is hatred let me bring You love; ...Where there is despair, hope; For it is in giving that we receive; and in dying that we are born to eternal life."* (Prayer of St. Francis)



BAA Video



Sincerely in Christ,

+ mshagemoen

Most Reverend Mark A. Hagemoen
Bishop of Saskatoon

PAYMENT METHOD

- ☐ **Cheques – Make cheques payable to the Catholic Foundation – direct gift in the memo**
- ☐ **Credit card** – Emailing or mailing credit card information is prohibited. To protect your financial information, please call 306-659-5851 or go online to make your donation- www.dscf.ca/ways or scan QR code below.
- ☐ **E-TRANSFER** directly from your bank account. Please include your name, mailing address, phone number and where to direct your gift in the comments section to receive a charitable tax receipt.
e-transferBAA@dscf.ca

- ☐ **Pre-Authorized Debit: Return this gift form and a void check or complete the information below.**

Transit/Branch #**Institution#****Account #**

Fill in the contact information if you have changes to your profile or are a new donor

Diocesan member ID:**Parish:****CONTACT 1****CONTACT 2**

Last Name:

Full Given Name:

Address:

City/Town:

Email:

Appeal Name**2026 BAA****Rural Catechists
Fund****New Build
Restoration Fund****One Time Gift:**

\$

\$

\$

Monthly Recurring Gift:

\$

\$

\$

Recurring Gift Start Date:

mm/dd/yyyy

Please indicate the appeal in your cheque memo. Mail it back to our office or drop it in your offertory basket at your parish

Charitable Registration Number-836037 127 RR 0001

Diocese of Saskatoon Catholic Foundation, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon, SK S7S 1H1

Do you want to learn more about stewardship, attend conferences and be one of our ambassadors?
Contact us to join our next event!

Andrea Alas
306-659-5851
aalas@dscf.ca

Raissa Bugyi
306-659-5837
rbugyi@dscf.ca

What gifts has God entrusted to you? How may your gifts serve others?

Please let us know in the space provided:



Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

123 Nelson Rd
Saskatoon SK S7S 1H1
www.rcdos.ca

Phone: 306-242-1500
Fax: 306-244-6010
Toll free: 877-661-5005



September 30, 2026

Memorial of St. Jerome: Priest; Doctor of the
Church; Scripture Scholar

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Wednesday, September 30, 2026

**Dear Clergy, Religious, Parishes, PLDs, Parish Administration and
Faithful of the Diocese of Saskatoon:**

As we mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, I wish to encourage all to take time for prayer, reflection, and solidarity with Indigenous Peoples.

At this time, we honour all Indigenous, Metis, and Inuit peoples, and especially those of Treaty 6 Territory. We particularly honour Residential School Survivors, and all Indigenous peoples who continue to deal with the legacy of struggle related to the experience of contact with non-Indigenous peoples and nations. This day is a call for greater awareness and action - that as we continue to work toward truth and reconciliation, we will acknowledge and strive to overcome the past mistakes in terms of contact and relationship between our cultures.

I again renew my pledge that our diocese will continue to walk a path of reconciliation and healing. This is part of our Gospel call to reconciliation and solidarity. We strive to walk in empathy and friendship as sisters and brothers, always working for justice, hope and healing. Let us all continue to take concrete steps on this journey.

St Jerome, whose memorial we also celebrate on September 30, once stated that the gift of the poor widow in the Gospel (see Mk 12:42-44) – was valued not because of its value or ‘weight’, but by the good will with which her offering was made. In this sense, may we not be overwhelmed by the difficulty and complexity of the challenge of reconciliation – especially as we look at the current state of our world with all of its examples of conflict, polarization and division. We pray that our One God, who is Father and Creator of all peoples, will make our hearts true and good, as we seek the healing beyond the hurt, and the *shalom* – the *right relationship* beyond any isolation or indifference.

I include below the “Prayer for Forgiveness, Reconciliation, and Right-Relationship” authored by the *Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council*.

Yours in Christ,

+ 
✙ Most Reverend Mark A. Hagemoen

Prayer for Forgiveness, Reconciliation, Right-Relationship

Let us pray:

*O God, Creator and Father of all, with humility we your children acknowledge
the relationship of all living things.*

For this we thank you, we praise you and we worship you.

*We call on you, Great Mystery, the Word made Flesh
– our teacher, prophet and brother –
to open our hearts to all our brothers and sisters,
and with them to grow in the wisdom, honesty, courage and respectfulness
shown in The Sacred Teachings.*

*Give us the vision and honesty to recognize
that the we are all brothers and sisters of one human family,
created and sustained by the One Creator.*
*As we deal with many challenges, may we never give way to fear and anger, which
can be the source of division and threat amongst peoples.*

*We look to how God always gives to us,
as a remedy for sins of prejudice and intolerance.*
*We see in God the Creator of all things,
One who always provides and is generous
– even given the abuses we have heaped on one another and on the earth.*

*We see in the Son, Jesus Christ
- the innocent Victim who pours His life blood out from the Cross for all peoples. We
see how the Holy Spirit is God's gift, alive in our world today
– inspiring vision and hope that we can have
the same mind and heart of God!*

*O Creator, show us the way to healing, forgiveness and reconciliation,
and a renewed fellowship.*

+Amen



Diocesan Bulletin

Sept. 27, 2026 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Day of Migrants and Refugees

1

 In all things we are *rooted in Christ*,
in His desire to bring God's love to all peoples.

Upcoming Events

Apostolate of the Precious Blood meets Tuesdays in September from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Saint Anne Parish, 217 Lenore Drive, Saskatoon to pray the rosary, the Litany and Chaplet of The Precious Blood. All welcome.

A Season of Creation series continues 7 to 8:30 p.m. **Sept. 28**, and **Oct. 5** in the welcome area at St. Philip Neri Parish, 1902 Munroe Ave, Saskatoon. All are welcome to join in these evenings of reflection; there is no cost.

Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Little Flower in Wakaw: Participants and staff of St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission in Bruno will again travel to the National Shrine of the Little Flower, on **Thursday, Oct. 1**, the Feast Day of their Patron, St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join the event, beginning with Mass celebrated at 10:30 a.m., with celebrations and prayers happening until 3:30 p.m., at St. Theresa Parish, 314 Main Street, Wakaw, SK. Young Catholic men are also invited to join a **walking pilgrimage from Bruno to Wakaw**, beginning **Tuesday, Sept. 29**, with overnight camping **Sept. 29 and 30** enroute to Wakaw for the Little Flower Feast Day celebrations. This is an opportunity to experience Catholic brotherhood and a chance to retreat with the Lord for a few days. For more details about the men's pilgrimage, contact Assistant Formation Director Jerome Montpetit at jmontpetit@sttherese.ca or call St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission at (306) 369-2555.

Contemplative Mass with Fr. Kevin McGee will be held at 5 p.m. **Friday, Oct. 2** at St. Mary Parish, 211 Ave. O South, Saskatoon, with 20 minutes of silence after communion to recognize the intimate presence of Christ.

An Evening in the Horn of Africa: A fund-raising dinner in support of refugee sponsorship will be held **Saturday, Oct. 3** at Christ Church Anglican, 515 28th Street West, Saskatoon. Doors open at 5 p.m. with a silent auction, and a meal at 5:30 p.m., followed by music and storytelling. Admission is by donation, cash or card.

Life Chain, an hour of prayerful public pro-life witness in communities around the country, will be held from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. **Sunday, Oct 4**, including in Saskatoon (Idylwyld and 22nd Street), Humboldt (civic park), and Unity (Hwy 21 at 1st Ave.). For more info visit: www.lifechain.ca.

Bishop's Annual Appeal

"Called to Respond: Living the Father's Will"

Find this year's video, information, and online giving at:

dscf.ca/baa

Featured Ministry: Refugee Sponsorship

The Bishop's Annual Appeal plays a vital role in sustaining the work of the diocesan Migration Office and its ministry to welcome newcomers who are fleeing war, violence and persecution. As a government-approved Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH), the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon continues to respond with compassion and urgency to the global refugee crisis. Contributions to the appeal are answering the Gospel call of compassion: "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." – *Matthew: 25:35*

Bishop's
ANNUAL APPEAL



Bishop's Annual Appeal - Diocese of Saskatoon Catholic Foundation, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon, SK, S7S 1H1
<https://dscf.ca/baa> / admin@dscf.ca / (306) 659-5851

World Day of Migrants and Refugees – Sept. 27

Is a day to pause to remember migrants and refugees around the world and to recognize the courage, sacrifice, hope, and faith that accompany every journey. **Find the Holy Father's message on the [Vatican website](https://www.vatican.va).**

Time Out for Moms is a Catholic faith enrichment and fellowship group in the diocese of Saskatoon, with mothers gathering to enjoy a light breakfast and listen to speakers at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon, from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Tuesday mornings, **starting Oct. 6**. Childcare is available with volunteer caregivers. The fall term theme is "The Little Domestic Church on the Prairie." For more info and registration, see: <https://tofmsaskatoonsk.wixsite.com/mysite>. Time Out For Moms is also seeking caregivers for the children while the mothers meet – to volunteer, please visit the website.

Diocesan Prayer - We pray for all of us called to live the Father's will: that we may hear God's invitation with open hearts and respond not only with our words, but through lives of prayer, generosity and service. Through the Bishop's Annual Appeal, may our shared gifts strengthen the ministries that bring Christ's love to people throughout our diocese.

Message Board

Newman Centre 100th Anniversary - St. Thomas More (STM) College grew out of a Newman Club formed by Catholic laity and students in 1926. Anniversary events at STM College, 1437 College Drive, Saskatoon, include: **Newman Anniversary Lecture** at 7 p.m. **Thurs. Oct. 1** "Illuminating Newman: Personal Reflections on an Enduring Presence" with Dr. Michael Higgins. There will be college tours from 1:30 to 4 p.m. **Friday, Oct. 2**, (meet in STM Cafeteria) and a 7 p.m. Newman Coffeehouse **Oct. 2** in the STM Cafeteria. **Newman-STM Anniversary Homecoming Celebration** celebrating the contributions of alumni, starts at 4 p.m. **Saturday, Oct. 3** in the STM auditorium, followed by a banquet. After Sunday Mass at 11 a.m. **Oct. 4** in the STM Chapel, there will be a brunch and book launch for "*The Basilians, 1822-2022: Adapting to a Changing Church and Changing World*," with copies available for \$20. Register for these events on the website at <https://stmcollege.ca/alumni/events.php> or for more information contact: Connie Andersen at (306) 966-8203 or candersen@stmcollege.ca.

Are you hurting because of an abortion? Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. The next retreat in SK will be held **Oct. 2-4**. To register, contact Elaine at r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net or 1-306-480-8911.

Our Lady of the Rosary Candlelight Procession and Mass will be held **Saturday, Oct. 3** at St. Paul Co-Cathedral, 720 22nd St. E., Saskatoon. Fr. Penna will celebrate Mass at 5:30 p.m., followed by an outdoor candlelight procession and fellowship in Bishop Mahoney Hall. All are invited. (Please bring your own candles.)

Open in Spirit to God (*Bukas Loob sa Diyos*) Saskatoon Prayer Group will host Singles Encounter from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. **Saturday, Oct. 3** and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Sunday, Oct. 4** at the Cathedral of the Holy Family in Saskatoon, open to Catholic singles, ages 19 and up. For registration, contact Clint Elimanco at (306) 880-5051 or clint.elimanco@gmail.com.

Blessing of Pets on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi: Community members are invited to bring their animals for a blessing on the Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi 1 p.m. **Sunday, Oct. 4** at St. Patrick Parish, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon. All pets are welcome; please ensure all are leashed or secure.



2

Diocesan Fall Congress

"Preparing the Way:

The Church's Mission for 2033"

Wednesday, Oct. 14 – 9 am to 4 pm

Cathedral of the Holy Family, Saskatoon

An event for clergy, staff, parish/ministry leaders, and the general public, featuring Brett Powell and Eric Myatt of Divine Renovation. All are welcome to come and learn more about preparing for Jubilee 2033 – marking 2000 years since the Resurrection!

To register for Fall Congress, please go to:

<https://form.jotform.com/262037155248254>.

Cost: \$30 (*includes lunch*). For more information contact Director of Ministry Services Marilyn Jackson, mjackson@rcdos.ca or (306) 659-5836.

(Supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.)

Job Opportunity: The Diocese of Saskatoon is seeking an Executive Assistant to the Bishop / Curia Coordinator. See: <https://rcdos.ca/employment> for the job description and requirements. To apply, please e-mail resumé to HR@rcdos.ca or for more information, call (306) 659-5835.

At the Threshold of Grace is a Catholic conference with keynote speakers, Peter and Debbie Herbeck of Renewal Ministries, drawing from the depth of our Catholic faith to discover the living water that heals stagnation, resurrects what is lifeless, and empowers abundant fruit for God's glory. The conference will be held **Oct. 16-17** at St. Martin de Porres Parish, 5720 Castle Road, **Regina**, with separate sessions for men and women. To register or for more information, see the website: <https://boatsonfire.net> or contact kevin@boatsonfire.net.

The Diocesan Bulletin is a publication of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon

Catholic Pastoral Centre, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon SK S7S 1H1

Phone: (306) 242-1500 or Toll free: 1-877-661-5005

E-mail: kyaworski@rcdos.ca

<https://rcdos.ca>

<https://news.rcdos.ca>

Communications is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

FREE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
**PREPLANNING
YOUR FINAL WISHES**

Wednesday, October 21 at 2PM and again at 7PM

Holy Spirit Parish

Refreshments Provided

*Learn how planning ahead will reduce
stress for your family, save you money,
and give you peace of mind.*



Lauren Perryman



Morgan Edwards



CANADA
Purple Shield



SASKATOON
FUNERAL HOME

100
years

REGISTER FOR EITHER SESSION

Call or Email Holy Spirit Parish

(306) 374-1425

info@holyspiritparish.ca

114 Kingsmere Place

Sunday, Sep 27, 2026

Love indeed

Saint Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) advised his followers: "Love consists in sharing what one has and what one is with those one loves." Who are the people you love? Family, friends, God? Do you share what you have and who you are (warts and all) with these people? Do you make yourself vulnerable and available to others? Observe a cross section of the apparent sinners and saints you run across each day. Who is showing their love for others in deeds rather than words? They are the true disciples of Christ. Emulate them.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11 or Philippians 2:1-5;
Matthew 21:28-32 (136). *"The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir,' but did not go."*

Monday, Sep 28, 2026

If I had a thousand lives ...

Saint Lawrence Ruiz, patron saint of the Philippines and the first canonized Filipino martyr, died in 1637 and was elevated to sainthood in 1987. A Dominican-educated altar boy who grew up to become a clerk, marry, and have children, he was falsely accused of murder and fled on a ship to Japan in the company of missionaries. Once there, he was arrested and tortured for being a Christian, but he refused to recant his faith and was executed, saying, "Had I a thousand lives, all these to Him shall I offer."

What sacrifices are you willing to make for your faith?

MEMORIAL OF LAWRENCE RUIZ AND
COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Job 1:6-22; Luke 9:46-50 (455). *"Whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."*

Tuesday, Sep 29, 2026

What angels do

According to Saint Augustine, the word *angel* is not a description of the creature, it's a description of the job these spirits do—that is, serve as messengers of God's purposes. They are reliable messengers, says Jesus, because they "always behold the face of my father in heaven." We can trust such messengers because they do not lose sight of God. Today we celebrate the feast of three archangels—Michael, who spoke regularly to the prophets; Gabriel, who announced the births of John the Baptist and Jesus; and Raphael, whose name means "God has healed." Let's learn from them to keep our eyes on God.

FEAST OF MICHAEL, GABRIEL, AND RAPHAEL,
ARCHANGELS

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; John 1:47-51 (647). *"You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."*

Wednesday, Sep 30, 2026

Spiritual family first

Jesus didn't exactly embrace the concept of the traditional family. Rather he preferred to call "family" those who followed him and spread his gospel—in other words, his disciples. For example, when a would-be disciple said he had to first perform the sacred duty of burying his deceased father, Jesus replied, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Harsh words, but it was his way of saying that those who did not completely respond to his call were dead—not physically

like the father, but spiritually. In honor of Saint Jerome, renowned translator of scripture whose feast we celebrate today, spend time with the good book and understand more about your spiritual heritage.

Job 9:1-12, 14-16; Luke 9:57-62 (457). *"I will follow you wherever you go."*

Thursday, Oct 01, 2026

Find your match

When we hear the word *vocation*, especially in church, we tend to think of people interested in priesthood and religious life, of which we hear, rightly, there are too few. But vocation begins further back than that. It is, in the words of author John Neafsey, not only "what makes me happy" or "what I am good at." It is "what the world needs from us, what kind of contribution we might be able to make for the betterment and redemption of this troubled world we live in." The world—the church included—needs the best leaders it can get. Whatever you do, look for the match between your gifts and the needs of the community.

Job 19:21-27; Luke 10:1-12 (458). *"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest."*

Friday, Oct 02, 2026

Someone to watch over us

"See, I am sending an angel before you, to guard you on the way and bring you to the place I have prepared" (Exodus 33:20). Is there a more comforting thought than that each of us has an angel whose job it is to guard us on our way? This long-cherished truth has been largely dismissed in our literal, scientific society. Nevertheless, it is a scientific fact that whatever we turn our attention toward, we notice. The shirt you're wearing right now, for instance, or the bird outside your window. Today let's be aware of the subtle guidance, that gentle nudging toward the good—and follow it. Could that be our angel?

MEMORIAL OF THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS

Job 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Matthew 18:1-5, 10 (459/650). *"Do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."*

Saturday, Oct 03, 2026

Lessons in perspective

The long-suffering Job is a biblical character many of us can admire from a distance but few would take the opportunity to imitate up close. Sometimes, however, all of us get to taste some of what Job experienced. His story invites us to examine a central question: In whom or what do I place my trust? In a time of crisis, we're invited to dig down to a deeper truth underneath the shifting conditions—the unconditional love of God for all of us. In the opening of Vatican II Saint John XXIII asked that the faithful: "Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do." That's good advice to remember during trying times.

Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Luke 10:17-24 (460). *"I had heard of you by word of mouth, but now my eye has seen you."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
September 27, 2026

Being Emptied

Fr. Joseph Juknialis

In his book *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, Robert Fulghum lists those basic qualities that enable us to negotiate the rest of life somewhat successfully. It's what you might expect the curriculum of kindergarten to be about: being kind, saying you're sorry, getting along with others, and sharing. In short, what we learned in kindergarten is about putting others' needs ahead of our own comfort. It's a kind of emptying of our selfishness that seems to take place.

Unfortunately, the process isn't finished by the time we reach adulthood.

Sunday Readings

Ezekiel 18:25–28

Since they turned away from all the sins they committed, they shall live.

Philippians 2:1–11 or 2:1–5

Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves.

Matthew 21:28–32

[Jesus said,] "Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you."

We still tend to hoard, slam one another with insults, cheat in business, and neglect to apologize. In spite of that extended learning curve, we slowly do take on those attitudes noted by Fulghum. Marriage can smooth our rough edges. Children's needs call for self-sacrifice. Aging tends to mellow us. And somewhere along the line, we learn that talking things out works better than hitting.

Saint Paul encouraged the Philippians to take on the attitude of the Lord Jesus, who emptied himself for our sake. Still, I think much of that emptying takes place in us unconsciously. Some would say it is simply the process of life. Maybe—but, then again, it may be the gentle hand of God. Saint Teresa of Calcutta is said to have commented that even God can't fill what is already full. So then maybe that emptying is God's way of making room for God. †

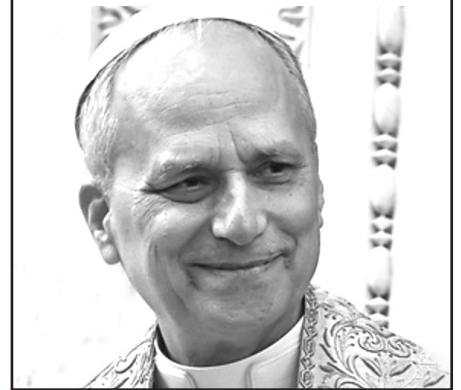


Take on the attitude of the Lord Jesus.

A Word from Pope Leo XIV

Jesus taught us that in discerning how to help our neighbor, we must imitate the example of the Good Samaritan, who selflessly gave of his time and resources to someone whom he had never previously met.... When we help those in need, especially those who cannot repay us, we become the Lord's instruments.

MESSAGE TO FADICA NETWORK,
ROME, FEBRUARY 27, 2026



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

- Since childhood, have I become better at putting others first?
- What do I still need to work on?



Say Yes and Then Do It!

The Redemptorists

Oscar Wilde, the famous playwright and poet, lived a life of pleasure, sin, and disregard for religion. Toward the end of his life, suffering from illness and facing death, Wilde recognized his need for God. He converted to Catholicism on his deathbed, receiving the sacraments before he passed away. He had ignored faith for most of his life, but in the end, he embraced God's mercy.

Ezekiel reminds us that neither past righteousness nor past sin determines our fate; what matters is our response to God today. Saint Paul emphasizes that faith is not about status, but about surrender to God's will. In today's gospel, Jesus has good news for tax collectors, prostitutes, and all who are outwardly unrighteous but repent in their quest for righteousness. These men and women, who were the most despised in Israel, heard John and believed him, repented, and demonstrated a change in heart by both their willingness to receive John's baptism and by their changed lives..

We have a lesson to learn from the second reading also. The Christian community at Philippi was very good, and Paul was proud of it. Yet, even in this community, there was the problem of envy among them. There were members wanting important responsibilities to make names for themselves and to be in commanding positions.

Very delicately, Paul tells them that there must be no competition among them, but everybody is to be self-effacing. Disciples of Jesus should follow the example of their Master.

The issue of who does the Father's will is not in what is said, but in what is done and the heart in doing it. Are you doing God's will? Are you loving in word and tongue or in deed and truth? †

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Faith is not about status, but surrender to God's will.

Wisdom from Catholic Update

From "Why Confession Still Matters" by Fr. Charles Vijay Kumar, CSsR

We all carry invisible burdens in our daily lives. Often, these burdens take the form of a quiet, lingering weight—the regret of harsh words spoken in anger, the guilt of fractured relationships we have been too proud to mend, or the shame of destructive habits we feel powerless to change. We try to ignore this inner weight, numb it with constant busyness, or rationalize it away, yet it stubbornly remains. Where do we put our burdens? For centuries, the Church has offered a profound and liberating, yet increasingly misunderstood, remedy for this exact aspect of the human condition: confession, the sacrament of penance or reconciliation, which is ultimately a sacrament of healing.

Catholic Update—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church tradition and teaching on contemporary topics. For more information, call 800-325-9521 or visit Liguori.org.



God of all people, give us the grace of humility, that we may place others before ourselves and always place you first. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 28–
October 3

Monday, Weekday: Jb 1:6–22 / Lk 9:46–50

Tuesday, Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael: Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 or Rv 12:7–12ab / Jn 1:47–51

Wednesday, St. Jerome: Jb 9:1–12, 14–16 / Lk 9:57–62

Thursday, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus:

Jb 19:21–27 / Lk 10:1–12

Friday, Holy Guardian Angels: Jb 38:1, 12–21; 40:3–5 / Mt 18:1–5, 10

Saturday, Weekday: Jb 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–17 / Lk 10:17–24



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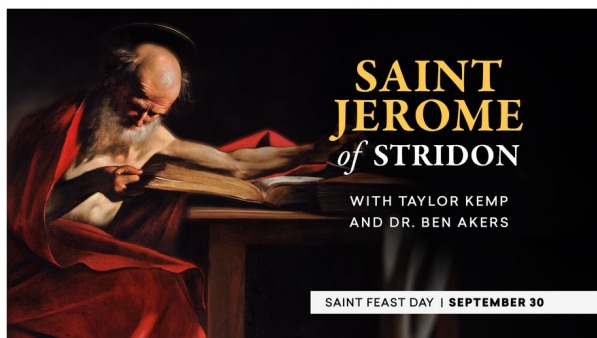
This Week on Formed

Week of September 27, 2026



St. Therese | Littlest Saints

Which flower in Jesus's garden is the best? The most beautiful? St. Therese gives us her "little" answer to these questions.



St. Jerome | Catholic Saints

An early Church Father from the 4th century, St. Jerome translated the Bible into Latin with the desire to make Scripture more accessible. St. Jerome is the patron of biblical scholars, translators, and archivists and famously said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."



Who Are the Archangels?

Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein discuss archangels and what role they have in our lives.

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