



October 25, 2026

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 22:20-26 | 1 Thes 1:5c-10 | Mt 22:34-40

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Sounds simple, right? Not so much. Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel can’t help but take us back to that age-old question: “And just who is my neighbor?” According to the Lord’s words in the reading from Exodus, our neighbors are the alien, the widow, and the orphan. Documents from the USCCB such as “Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity” and its writings on the Life and Dignity of the Human Person clearly reflect the position of the U.S. Bishops that it is essential for public policy to respect the dignity of all. While challenging at times, our faith doesn’t offer guidance only for interior, spiritual realities. Indeed, our Church proclaims that we must let the demands of the Gospel shape the whole of our society. We are – to use St. John Paul II’s phrase – to work to build a “culture of life,” a “civilization of love.” In the end, Catholic Social Teaching is nothing but the Church’s effort to live Christ’s call to love our neighbor as ourselves in the wider human community.

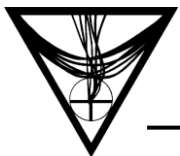
GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In response to the scholar of the law’s question about which commandment is the greatest, Jesus responds by saying that it is to “love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” Heart, soul, and mind are words that describe the innermost self. The Lord – it is clear – wants to be loved fully, by all that we have and are. He wants to be loved as the only Lord in our lives; there can be no other. St. Paul praises the Thessalonians for turning “to God from idols to serve the living and true God.” In other words, they underwent a change of heart, where they turned away from loving things that were not God to loving and serving the only true God. This change of heart has enabled them to become witnesses to others of Christ’s love. In our own lives, we must also undergo conversion if we wish to bear authentic witness to the Lord and to our faith. What are the idols we need to let go of to surrender our hearts, souls, and minds more fully to the Lord?

STUDY

As Catholics, we all have a responsibility to form our consciences and deepen our knowledge of the Church’s teaching surrounding critical issues facing our world today. Spend some time this week familiarizing yourself with the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching, which are “a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amid the challenges of modern society.” (USCCB)



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 *The Holy Rosary*

Sunday October 25	Monday October 26	Tuesday October 27	Wednesday October 28	Thursday October 29	Friday October 30	Saturday October 31
Fellowship Sunday 10a Mass 12:30p Mass 1:30p-4pm Adoration 7p Mass	7p Millions of Monicas 6:30p RCIC 6:30p RCIA	8:30a Mass 6:30p Make and Mend	8:30a Mass 7p Adoration	8:30a Mass 6p Youth Choir	8:30a Mass 9a-12p Adoration	11a-12p Confession 5p Mass

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

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2026 — Living the Father's Will
WEEK FIVE — OUTREACH, JUSTICE AND RENEWAL

Prison Ministry: Bringing Hope Behind the Walls

Prison Ministry shares the hope and mercy of Jesus Christ with those living behind prison walls. Through the Alpha program, participants are invited into a safe community where they can ask questions, reflect on their lives, and encounter God's unconditional love. Every participant who completed the program rated it 5 out of 5, with one man sharing, "You have helped change me for the better."

Justice and Peace

The Gospel calls us not only to pray but also to act. The Office of Justice and Peace helps Catholics live their faith through service, advocacy, reconciliation, and care for our neighbours. It challenges us to see Christ in every person and to work toward a society rooted in dignity, compassion, and justice. Through this ministry, the Church becomes a visible sign of hope and healing in our world.

The fundraising goal for Holy Spirit Parish has been set at \$178,000. Any thing raised beyond this goal is returned directly to our parish!

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



Who does BAA help? Watch the ministry videos to find out!
dscf.ca/baa-parish-resources

Millions of Monica's Monday, October 26 7PM

Magnifica Humanitas -- Magnificent Humanity

MAKE & MEND

OCT 27 6:30-8PM

Join us by the fireplace for an informal gathering and learn some skills or share your knowledge. Bring your mending, knitting, crochet or other handicraft.

"When human dignity is threatened by new forms of dehumanization, ours is the pressing duty to remain profoundly human." -MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS 15

Drop-in Bible Study

The Book of Revelation: a story about the past, present, and future

Wednesdays November 4, 18, 25
9:45AM | AFTER MORNING MASS

Memorial Mass November 6 7PM

We will commemorate all those that have died in the past twelve months. If you wish, you may bring a photograph, or the memorial card of your deceased loved one for display during the liturgy.

LIVESTREAM

Holy Spirit Parish Facebook & [saskatoonmass.com](https://www.saskatoonmass.com)

THE POPE'S
PRAYER
INTENTION

For mental health ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses. OCTOBER 2026



"Ignite Your Passion, Empower His Mission"
CWL is open to all women of the parish 16 years or older.

Our next CWL meeting will be November 10, beginning with Mass at 6:30pm. All Ladies welcome. Thank you for your generous support of the CWL Clothing Drive!
November 7/8 we will be holding a food drive for Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish.

President: Melanie Fauchoux (306) 220-9520
holyspiritcwl@gmail.com

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, Zelpha Rolph, Marygold Uchendi, Stephen Faytaren, Wayne Hackl
- **For all those who have died, today we remember:** Rita Gillies
- **And on the anniversary of death:** Anicita Papricao

Pray the Rosary with us in October every Sunday at 9:30AM

CWL Food Drive
November 7 & 8

In support of our sister parish
Our Lady of Guadalupe

All Souls Day
Monday, November 2
Mass Times
8:30am, 12 noon, 7pm

Fundraiser for Campaign Life Coalition
Saskatchewan

Christmas Cakes and Religious Christmas Cards for sale Nov 7th and 8th after the Masses. We will be here only once.

1 lb. cakes \$20.00 2.5 lb. cakes \$30.00

Christmas Cards packages of
10 for \$15.00 or 3 packs for \$40.00

We will also have pro-life car magnets and license plate frames.
You can also order cakes or cards from John Cook at 306-477-1748 and arrange pick up.



ETERNAL REST™
THE ART OF DYING WELL



Eternal Rest | Trailer

We all have very real questions about death. What happens when we die? What does Scripture teach about death? How do we prepare for the life to come? Explore the mystery of death, dying, and everlasting life through Eternal Rest, a new offering of the Augustine Institute.

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!



An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

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 FIVE — OUTREACH, JUSTICE AND RENEWAL

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

Bishop's

For the ministries that reach beyond our church doors, including prison ministry, justice and peace and outreach to those who are vulnerable or searching for a new beginning: that they may reveal the dignity of every person and the transforming mercy of Christ. Through our support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal, may we put faith into action and live the Father's will by serving our sisters and brothers; let us pray to the Lord.

Prison Ministry: Bringing Hope Behind the Walls

Prison Ministry shares the hope and mercy of Jesus Christ with those living behind prison walls. Through the Alpha program, participants are invited into a safe community where they can ask questions, reflect on their lives, and encounter God's unconditional love.

This year, volunteers witnessed remarkable transformation. Men who arrived distracted, guarded, and angry gradually became open to honest conversation, forgiveness, and prayer. During the Holy Spirit Retreat, every participant chose to receive individual prayer, with many describing powerful encounters that renewed their faith and restored hope.

The group also experienced the power of prayer firsthand through answered prayers that strengthened their trust in God and reminded them they were not alone.

Every participant who completed the program rated it 5 out of 5, with one man sharing, "You have helped change me for the better."

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the faithful service of volunteers, Prison Ministry continues to plant seeds of hope, restore dignity, and remind every person that no one is beyond God's mercy.

Justice and Peace

The Gospel calls us not only to pray but also to act.

The Office of Justice and Peace helps Catholics live their faith through service, advocacy, reconciliation, and care for our neighbours. Through educational opportunities, social justice initiatives, Indigenous reconciliation efforts, and community partnerships, this ministry invites us to put faith into action.

It challenges us to see Christ in every person and to work toward a society rooted in dignity, compassion, and justice.

Through this ministry, the Church becomes a visible sign of hope and healing in our world.



Mass of Remembrance

November 6

7pm

We will commemorate all those that have died in the past twelve months.

If you wish, you may bring a photograph, or the memorial card of your deceased loved one for display during the liturgy.

“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.”



Diocesan Bulletin

Oct. 25, 2026 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

1

Upcoming Events

Apostolate of the Precious Blood will meet **Tuesday, Oct. 27** from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Saint Anne Catholic Church, 217 Lenore Drive, Saskatoon, to pray the rosary, litany and chaplet of the Precious Blood. All are welcome.

"The Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence" is the topic of the 37th Annual Michael Keenan Memorial Lecture 7 p.m. **Thursday, Oct. 29** at the Shannon Library at St. Thomas More College, 1437 College Drive, Saskatoon, with guest lecturer Fr. Philip Larrey, Ph.D., a Catholic priest and professor of philosophy at Boston College. The lecture will also be live-streamed – please register to receive a link: <https://stmcollege.ca/events/index.php>.

United Conference for Grades 9-12 is a high-energy Catholic conference for youth to be held **Oct. 31 - Nov. 1** at the Cathedral of the Holy Family in Saskatoon, presented by FacetoFace Ministries, offering practical steps encouraging youth to desire more in their relationship with Jesus. Any adults attending must be registered as official chaperones. Chaperones may supervise up to eight youth participants. See: <https://facetofaceministries.ca/events>. Registration closes Oct. 27.

All Saints Day Celebration - Join St. Mary Parish, 211 Avenue O South, Saskatoon, on **Sunday, Nov. 1** at 12:30 p.m., for an All Saints Day luncheon of hearty meat stew, mashed potatoes, dinner rolls, and dessert. Adults, \$15; children 6 to 10 years, \$10; for tickets call (306) 244-2983. Proceeds will go to the St. Mary Parish Renovation Fund.

Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus – A gathering to pray, reflect and meditate upon the Holy Face of Jesus is held at 7:45 p.m. **Tuesday, Nov. 3** at St. Paul Co-Cathedral, 720 Spadina Cres. East, Saskatoon.

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle, which includes adoration, the rosary, benediction, hymns and various prayers, will be held at 7:30 p.m. **Thursday, Nov. 5**, at St. Michael Catholic Church, #18-33rd St. E., Saskatoon.

A Contemplative Mass led by Fr. Kevin McGee will be held at 5 p.m. **Friday, Nov. 6** at St. Mary Parish, 211 Avenue O. South, Saskatoon. The rhythm of the Contemplative Mass is a gentle steady flow, marked by 20 minutes of silence after communion to allow space for reflection and recognition of the intimate Presence of Christ.

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 - Justice and Peace

The diocesan Office of Justice and Peace works to answer Christ's Call to care for the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized while building relationships rooted in reconciliation, solidarity, and human dignity. Through your support, the Justice and Peace Office continues to address immediate needs, create opportunities for meaningful relationships, and advocate for long-term justice solutions across our communities.

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

An Introduction on Zoom to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 30

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon is beginning to explore and build the structures needed to support the presence of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP). Join this online presentation Oct. 30 to learn more about how the diocese came to this moment, what is next, and what we can learn from each other. To access the link, please e-mail diocesan Justice and Peace Coordinator Myron Rogal at mrogal@rcdos.ca or for more information, call (306) 659-5841.

Founded in 1833, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is an international lay organization, united in the mission to serve persons in need: ssvp.ca.

An in-person event about SSVP will also be held at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 23 at the Cathedral of the Holy Family in Saskatoon with SSVP leaders helping to envision what might be possible in our parish settings. For more information contact Myron Rogal at mrogal@rcdoc.ca or (306) 659-5841.

Message Board

2



Catechist Connection is a one-hour online gathering that brings catechists from across the diocese together for encouragement, learning, and sharing. Choose either noon to 1 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for online sessions offered **Tuesday, Nov. 3**. For info and the Zoom link, contact: Quin Kleiboer, diocesan Rural Catechesis Coordinator at (306) 659-5857 or e-mail qkleiboer@rcdos.ca. (*Rural Catechesis is supported by gifts to the Bishop's Annual Appeal.*)

The Catechetical Forum is a day to renew, encourage, and equip those who teach the faith in parishes across the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, offering focused teaching, round-table discussion, prayer and reflection, and the sharing of practical ideas and best practices. Upcoming 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. forums will be held for the Eatonia Deanery **Nov. 7** at St. Joseph Parish, Kindersley; for the Wadena Deanery **Nov. 14** at St. Joseph Parish, Kelvington; and for the Kerrobert Deanery **Nov. 21** at St. Mary Parish, Macklin. For information and/or links to register, please contact diocesan Rural Catechesis Coordinator Quin Kleiboer, at (306) 659-5857 or qkleiboer@rcdos.ca. (*Rural Catechesis is supported the Bishop's Annual Appeal.*)

"Advocacy, Accompaniment & Education: A Pro-Life Response to Euthanasia" is the topic of the Carlton Trail Pro-Life banquet talk at 6 p.m. **Monday, Nov. 9** at St. Augustine Parish Hall, Humboldt, SK. Speakers are Jackie Saretsky of the diocesan Hospital Chaplaincy Office and Dr. Mary (Deutscher) Heilman, PhD, bioethicist for the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan. Tickets are \$30/adult, \$15/student and preschoolers free; available at the Danish Oven bakery in Humboldt, at St. Augustine Parish, or from Melanie Ramsay at (306) 231-4163; deadline is Nov. 2.

A Search Youth Retreat for Grades 10-12 will be held **Nov. 13-15** in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon at E.D. Feehan Catholic School; \$100 (*includes food and accommodation, funding assistance is available*). Pre-register by Nov. 9 deadline at <https://saskatoonsearch.ca> or for more info, contact Evangelization and Mission Leader John Hickey at jhickey@rcdos.ca. (*Youth Ministry is supported by gifts to the Bishop's Annual Appeal.*)

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

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E-mail: kyaworski@rcdos.ca

<https://rcdos.ca>

<https://news.rcdos.ca>

Communications is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

CWL Clothing Depot

The Catholic Women's League Clothing Depot is seeking donations of new items for their annual Christmas sale. The wish list includes new toys,

socks, underwear, gloves, sheets, comforters, pillows, towels, teal towels, dish cloths, jewelry, health and beauty items, toasters, cutlery, kettles, frying pans, pots and pans, individual-wrapped candy. These donations help those with limited funds who are struggling to make ends meet: it gives them the joyous opportunity to shop and choose Christmas gifts and toys at affordable prices on their own for family and friends. **Donation drop-off hours** are Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the back alley of 619-20th Street West, Saskatoon (please ring the bell).

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Red Wednesday Nov. 18 is an annual event initiated by Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) to raise awareness about the persecution suffered by Christians around the world. Suggested Red Wednesday activities include wearing red or lighting up buildings in red, or organizing a Mass, a vigil, or a rosary service to pray for persecuted Christians. See: www.acn-canada.org/red-wednesday/. An ecumenical Red Wednesday prayer service will be held in Saskatoon at **7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18** (location to be announced). (*Justice and Peace is supported by gifts to 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. E-mail resumé to HR@rcdos.ca.

Tourtières: These traditional meat pies are again available from Saints-Martyrs-Canadiens Francophone Catholic Parish in Saskatoon, \$20 each. Call or e-mail Muriel Hill to reserve your order: mhill@rcdos.ca or (306) 665-1829.

Diocesan Prayer - We pray as a diocesan family for the ministries that reach beyond church doors, including justice and peace, prison ministry, and outreach to those who are vulnerable. May these ministries always reveal the dignity of every person and the transforming mercy of Christ. We pray that through support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we will put faith into action and live the Father's will by serving our sisters and brothers in need.



Bringing Home the Word

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
October 25, 2026

The Other Side of Love

Fr. Joseph Juknialis

Dennis is one of the local street people who lives around the parish where I live. He is usually pleasant and courteous and wants to do things right, though he also struggles with his own set of demons. For the most part, Dennis seems to be finding his way through the mazes of life, as people do in their own fashion. In some ways, the parishioners have become a family for Dennis, or at least a part of the family scattered about the neighborhood. Frequently he will be gone for a time, and we will wonder what happened to Dennis, only to find

him drifting back among us.

These days Dennis is angry with us. For whatever reason, Dennis brought his assembled belongings and took up residence on our garage roof. The roof is flat and has a two-foot-high wall around the edge, a place that affords a bit of shelter from the wind. Soon, however, the parish came up with a list of reasons why it would be best if Dennis did not live on our garage roof—safety, security, and insurance among them. So Dennis was asked to move on, and that's why Dennis is angry with us.

The parish staff tries to be sensitive and caring about the street people. They try to let them make their own way when that is what they want to do. Yet at other times the staff needs to do what is best for everyone involved in the parish. It's not always easy to know how to love someone. ‡



It's not always easy to know how to love.

Sunday Readings

Exodus 22:20–26

You shall not oppress or afflict a resident alien, for you were once aliens residing in the land of Egypt.

1 Thessalonians 1:5c–10

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord.

Matthew 22:34–40

[Jesus said,] "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

A Word from Pope Leo XIV

Health cannot be a luxury for the few.... Universal health coverage is not merely a technical goal to be achieved; it is primarily a moral imperative for societies that wish to call themselves just. Healthcare must be accessible to the most vulnerable, then, not only because their dignity requires it but also to prevent injustice from becoming a cause of conflict.

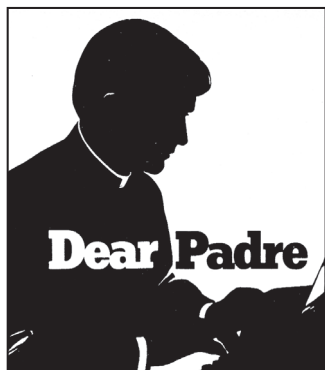
Address to conference participants,
Rome, March 19, 2026



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Do I ever wonder how best to show love?
- Can I be more sensitive to others?



Dear Padre,
I occasionally need to be reminded why I should remain Catholic. Can you help?

Whether our faith was inherited at birth or adopted later, it's healthy to periodically reexamine our beliefs and practices with the intent to grow closer to God. Saint Paul uses the metaphor of moving beyond milk to solid food to explain our maturing faith. (See Hebrews 5:12–14). Questions or doubts are not necessarily signs of crisis or disloyalty to God or the Church. Indeed, it's often when we challenge pat answers that God moves us to a deeper meaning and stronger relationship—that is, if we're steadfast on the path to holiness. People remain Catholic for numerous reasons, including:

- the Church's belief in God's goodness to us through the sacraments;
- a 2,000-year tradition of living the gospel in a universal, multicultural community of faith;
- a proven track record as an agent for personal and spiritual growth and social transformation.

When Church members' behavior is contrary to Christ's mission, and our confidence to remain is tested, it's good to recall that the Church is divinely fortified and humanly composed. People remain Catholic because the Church exists to bring us into full communion with God, through Christ, by working toward the fullness of the kingdom. "The Church 'is the visible plan of God's love for humanity,' because God desires 'that the whole human race may become one people of God, form one body of Christ, and be built into one temple of the Holy Spirit'" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 776). †

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**.

Wisdom from Catholic Update

From "Building a Christ-centered Family" by Mike and Alicia Hernon

The grace to be a parent flows from the sacrament of matrimony, and that sacrament needs to be renewed and refreshed continually. So if you want to build a life of faith in your home, love God first. Second, love your spouse. Third, love your children. Once we lay the foundation of love and relationships in our home, how can we teach and experience the faith with our children in a practical way? As Catholics, we are blessed to have many things we can do to create "Catholic muscle memory." Habits, routines, rituals, and traditions that we establish in childhood can keep children connected to the family and to the faith even as they enter adulthood.

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.



All-embracing God,
teach us to welcome the
stranger, to speak for
the voiceless, to share
generously, to love as
you love. We pray in
Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

October 26—31

Monday, Weekday: Eph 4:32—5:8 /
Lk 13:10–17

Tuesday, Weekday: Eph 5:21–33 /
Lk 13:18–21

Wednesday, Sts. Simon and Jude:
Eph 2:19–22 / Lk 6:12–16

Thursday, Weekday: Eph 6:10–20 / Lk
13:31–35

Friday, Weekday: Phil 1:1–11 / Lk 14:1–6

Saturday, Weekday: Phil 1:18b–26 /
Lk 14:1, 7–11



Catholic.
Pastoral.
Trusted.

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Sunday, Oct 25, 2026

The greatest of these is love

They asked Jesus which was the greatest commandment of all the commandments of God. In answer, he quoted them a line from one of the most well-known Jewish prayers, the Shema: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.” Jews say the Shema in the morning and evening, before reading the Torah on Sabbaths and festivals, and at the end of the holiest day of Yom Kippur. Jesus added another commandment: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” To do God’s will is to love God and one another with everything you have. It’s really as simple as that.

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Exodus 22:20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40 (148). *“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”*

Monday, Oct 26, 2026

Love works weekends

Jesus was a bit of a scofflaw and it made the leaders of the synagogue crazy. Like the ultimate bureaucrat who says, “Sorry, but this isn’t the right day” or, “Too bad, you filled out the wrong form—no help for you today,” rule keepers do not like rule breakers. But Jesus shows that God wants to relieve us of our burdens, not add to them. Jesus was forever pointing out that laws were made for humankind, and not humankind for the laws. Love is the rule that trumps all else. How might you extend love and service to another this week?

Ephesians 4:32-5:8; Luke 13:10-17 (479). *“Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.”*

Tuesday, Oct 27, 2026

Time to do an image search

The creative process can be maddening, as writer’s block attests. But evidently Jesus didn’t have this problem. Day after day he came up with rich images for the reign of God: seeds and weeds, dragnets and householders. The daily work of fishers, farmers, and women in the kitchen remind him of the Kingdom. Surely Jesus had the mother lode of examples right before his eyes, watching the woman who made his early home what it was. Pope John Paul II added a “kingdom of God”—or luminous mystery—to the Rosary to remind us that we don’t have to go far to see God’s reign in action. Look around your own household or place of work: Where do you see God’s reign being revealed?

Ephesians 5:21-33; Luke 13:18-21 (480). *“To what shall I compare the Kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of wheat flour.”*

Wednesday, Oct 28, 2026

Ten—no, make it twelve

OK, say you’re Jesus. (For most of us, this is a big stretch.) And say it’s your task to choose the friends who are going to be with you for the rest of your life, literally, right up to the last meal. You’re going to share a common purse, work and play and pray together. You’ll get to share a joke with this bunch, too, not to mention the struggles and the tears. How do you make such a

momentous decision? Jesus chose prayer as his method of discernment. When faced with serious choices, prayer is the key. As Padre Pio said, “Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God’s heart.”

FEAST OF SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-16 (666). *“He spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, he called his disciples to himself, and from them he chose Twelve.”*

Thursday, Oct 29, 2026

A mother’s love

Most of us are used to calling God our Father, as Jesus did. But others have written about the mothering nature of God as well. Julian of Norwich, a 15th-century English mystic, developed images of God functioning as both father and mother of creation. She also called Jesus our Mother, for he feeds us out of his body as a mother does her offspring. Isaiah may have been first to consider how God resembles the mother eagle who encourages her nestlings to independent flight. Jesus himself spoke of the urge to protect the unwitting people of Jerusalem as a hen gathers her chicks. Become aware of the motherly embrace of God in your life. Then offer that nurturing grace to others.

Ephesians 6:10-20; Luke 13:31-35 (482). *“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”*

Friday, Oct 30, 2026

All in good time

“How sour sweet music is / When time is broke and no proportion kept / So is it in the music of men’s lives.” In this passage from Richard II, William Shakespeare was commenting on the critical ingredient of time in our lives: the necessary pauses and silences that keep everything from happening at once. Sometimes the most critical ingredient in a venture—whether it’s a new career, a cake in the oven, or our own spiritual journey—is time. Today is a day to practice patience with ourselves for being wherever we are right now, and for not yet having arrived where we want to be.

Philippians 1:1-11; Luke 14:1-6 (483). *“I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus.”*

Saturday, Oct 31, 2026

Sitting in the humble seat

Humility is an often-misunderstood virtue. Some might think it’s the opposite of pride. But author Nilton Bonder wisely points out that humility is the “equilibrium point” between pride and a total lack of self-esteem, both of which involve self-absorption. Humility is simply learning to “get out of the way” and allow God to act in and through us. As an old proverb has it, humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less. Begin by doing something thoughtful for someone else today. Then humbly pray for an increase of humility.

Philippians 1:18b-26; Luke 14:1, 7-11 (484). *“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, ... go and take the lowest place.”*

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



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This Week on Formed

Week of October 25, 2026



What Catholics Believe About Halloween

Is Halloween really a pagan holiday—or is it deeply Christian? In this episode of What Catholics Believe, Dr. Ben Akers explains the Catholic roots of Halloween, its connection to All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, and how Catholics can celebrate it faithfully. Discover the history of trick-or-treating, the dangers of the occult, the meaning behind costumes, and even the Catholic perspective on vampires and zombies.



Eternal Rest

We all have very real questions about death. What happens when we die? What does Scripture teach about death? How do we prepare for the life to come? Explore the mystery of death, dying, and everlasting life through Eternal Rest, a new offering of the Augustine Institute.



Who is St. Jude? | Catholic Saints

Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. James Prothro discuss this lesser-known apostle St. Jude.

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