

September 29, 2013: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



“Abraham replied, My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.” — Lk 16:28
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, September 29 (Am 6:1a, 4-7/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31)

- 8:00 am- Mass of Thanksgiving - Gene & Trudy Janak's 53rd Anniversary
- 10:30 am- Hubert & Bunny Dornak, August & Karolina Dornak, Carl & Hilda Buss
- 5:00 pm- For our Parish Family (Spanish Mass)

Monday, September 30, St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church (Zec 8:1-8/Lk 9:46-50)

- 7:00 am- Living & deceased members of the Joe & Justina Kolos Family
- 10:00 am- Joe & Benita Pavlu (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, Oct. 1, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church (Zec 8:20-23/Lk 9:51-56)

- 7:00 am- John D. Henneke

Wednesday, October 2, The Holy Guardian Angels (Neh 2:1-8/Mt 18:1-5, 10)

- 7:00 am- James Grahmann
- 8:05 am- Alice Miller



Thursday, Oct. 3 (Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Lk 10:1-12)

- 7:00 am- Ernest Schulte
- 10:00 am- Ann Gerlich (Stevens)

Friday, October 4, St. Francis of Assisi (Bar 1:15-22/Lk 10:13-16)

- 7:00 am- David Etzler
- 8:05 am- Leroy Schindler

Saturday, October 5 (Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24)

- 5:30 pm- V. C. & Alois Labay

Sunday, October 6 (Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10) Respect Life Sunday

- 8:00 am- Living & deceased members of the Czech Heritage Society
- 10:30 am- Henry Jones

Bulletin Sponsor: KJZT Society #2.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: J.C. & Esther Kelley in memory of Ryan Kelley.

Vigil Light: In memory of the Rudolph & Rosa Bujnoch and Anton & Mathilda Tupa Families.

Flowers at the Altar of Sacrifice this weekend are in memory of Tyler Bludau by Stephen and Renee Bludau, Christa and Troy Spring.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood & religious life!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

-Covered Dish Supper after Spanish Mass, Family Center.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

-Rosary & Evening Praise, 5:30 p.m., Church.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., K.C. Hall of Fame Room.
-Knights of Columbus General Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

-CCD: K-12th Grade, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
-Divine Mercy Study/Prayers, 7:30 pm, Church Cry Rm
-SHCS Booster Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m., K.C. Hall.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

-First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins 6:00 p.m., Church. *Intention: For parents, grandparents & an increase of devotion to the Most Holy Rosary.*
-Holy Hour for priestly vocations, 7:00 p.m., Church.
-RCIA, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Family Center.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

-First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ends with Benediction at 6:00 p.m., Church.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

-Serra Club Mass, 8:30 am, St. Joseph Church, Yoakum.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

-Life Chain, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Hwy. 77 South, K.C. Hall.
-Confirmation Candidate & Sponsor Meeting 11th Gr., 4:30-7:30 p.m., Family Center.
-Covered Dish Supper after Spanish Mass, Family Center.

Among our sick: Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Matt Pohler, Wilbert Kalinec, Mary Bonorden, Josephine Muniz, Vivian Janak, Bobbie Lee Drozd, Donna Steffek, Frank Gutierrez, Glenn Rabel, Lisa Grissom, Rachel Davis, George Meyer, Richard Grahmann, Colin Grahmann, Marie Hermes, Emil Hermes, Georgia Schaefer, Pat Hanslik, Leroy Loth, Debby Kolos, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Yvonne Muska, Russell Janak, Candy Hines, Timothy Brosch, Marilyn Palmquist, Johnny Krenek, Doug Blumberg, Ronnie Rainosek, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,398.50; Retired & Needy Priests-\$1,354; Church Endowment Env.-\$40; School Endowment Env.-\$369; Loose-\$1,227; Children-\$40.

Promise of Marriage: Lee Ann Steffek and Weston Matthew Pavlicek on October 5.

Anniversaries:

Allen & Darlene Barcak	40 years	Sept. 29
Kenneth & Annie Mae Henneke	52 years	Sept. 30
Leo & Mildred Christ	58 years	Oct. 1
Gene & Trudy Janak	53 years	Oct. 1
Tommy & Evelyn Dornak	55 years	Oct. 4
Franklin & Wilma Stary	54 years	Oct. 4

Perpetual Adoration: An adorer is needed on Friday's at 8:00 a.m. Please call Charlene Bradbury 798-3224.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

We will be having the Life Chain on Sunday, Oct. 6 beginning at 1:00 p.m. We will meet at the K.C. Hall. Please come out and show your support for Right to Life.

We are starting our capital campaign for the addition to and renovation of the school. We will be having a presentation on the project on **Monday, October 7** at 5:30 p.m. in the Family Center.

There is an important tax break for individuals age 70-1/2 and older that is scheduled to expire at the end of 2013. This is a great opportunity to contribute to this campaign and reduce your tax liability. The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 allows you to withdraw money from your IRA tax free for qualified charitable distributions! The money must be sent directly from the custodian to the charitable organization. Please consult your tax advisor prior to making the distribution to ensure it applies to you.

Pope Francis will consecrate the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on October 13.

Our Lady of Fatima appeared to three shepherd children in the village of Fatima in Portugal in 1917. She warned of violent trials in the 20th Century if the world did not make reparation for sins. She urged prayer and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

At the request of Pope Francis, Cardinal Jose Polycarp, the patriarch of Lisbon, consecrated the Pope's pontificate to Our Lady of Fatima on May 13, her feast day.

On Saturday, October 19, we will have the praying of the Rosary at 1:00 p.m. in the church parking lot. This will be for an end to abortion and in celebration of Pope Francis' consecrating the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

CCD News ~~

Oct. 2: Blessing of animals, 7:30 p.m. Parents may bring animals after class.

Oct. 20: 9th Grade Youth Involvement 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Oct. 23: Safe Environment lessons, Jr. High & High School.

Sacred Heart Catholic School News ~~

Sept. 30: Senior parent meeting, 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria.

Oct. 4: Early dismissal 1:00 p.m. faculty meeting.

Sacred Heart Youth ~~ We would like to thank all the youth for their participation in our last recent youth night and youth "leaders" meeting. Also we would like to thank all those who filled out their registration form for their young adult. Our upcoming youth night will be taking place on Oct 13th. Please note we will be shortening the length of the youth night. It will go from 5:00 to 7:30 pm on Sunday. More information to follow on next week's bulletin!

R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation)

Our R.C.I.A. classes will meet on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. beginning October 3. These classes are for those interested in learning more about the Catholic Church and possibly joining the Catholic Faith. If you are interested, please call the Rectory (798-5888) and leave your name and telephone number.

Pray for the repose of the soul of *Emily Eason*, sister of Henry Muenster. *May she rest in the peace of Christ.*

Blessing of animals, 3:00 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 3 in front of Sacred Heart School (In honor of St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day on October 4).

Area Picnics & Festivals:

Sept. 29: St. John the Baptist Church, Koerth, Sweet Home Community Center. Stew & Sausage Dinner.

Oct. 6: Sacred Heart Parish, Flatonia. Turkey & Dressing Dinner 11am-2pm, dine in or take out. Silent Auction.

Oct. 6: Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn. Fried Chicken & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, games, booths, music.

Oct. 6: St. John Church, Hungerford Hall. BBQ Beef, Chicken, Sausage Dinner 10:30am. Auction, booths.

Oct. 6: St. Roch Church, Mentz. BBQ Beef, Pork & Sausage Dinner 11am-2pm. Music, auction, booths.

Oct. 6: Holy Cross Church, KC Hall, Bay City. Turkey & Dressing Dinner 11am-1pm. Auction, booths, music.

Sacred Heart HSA 62nd annual Apple Strudel Bake, Saturday, October 26. Unbaked strudels -\$14, baked -\$16. Pickup 10am - 5pm on Oct. 26 at the SH Family Center in Hallettsville. To order, call Charlene Bradbury [361-798-3224](tel:361-798-3224), Annette Henke [361-798-5374](tel:361-798-5374) or email charlene_bradbury@hotmail.com. (*Advance orders are required to guarantee order fulfillment.*)

Pecans & sugar are needed! If you have any to donate, call Barbara Grahmann 798-4167 as soon as possible. They may be dropped off at SHS Office or the Rectory.

Diocese of Victoria Fall Pastoral Institute Extended Program: *Sacraments of Healing and Vocation*,

Oct.15-Nov. 19, Ron Friedel, Instructor. Cost for six-week course is \$20 and will be offered 9:15-11:30 am & 7:00-9:15 pm at the Chancery, Holy Cross-East Bernard, & St. Ann-Point Comfort by distance learning. This course is an introduction to the Sacraments of Healing (Reconciliation & Anointing of the Sick) and the Sacraments of Vocation (Marriage & Holy Orders). The purpose of the sacraments of healing is to continue Jesus' work of healing and salvation. Holy Orders and Matrimony are directed towards the salvation of others and thus contribute to personal salvation. To register, call 573-0828 ext. 2223 or email Margaret at pisecretary@victoriadiocese.org.

LIFE CHAIN. We are His hands. We are His voice.

Join us in prayer on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Come and join thousands of Christians from across the country in a National Pro-life Silent Prayer Chain. We will meet on the grass in front of the K.C. Hall on Hwy 77 S. in Hallettsville. Join us in peacefully holding signs that proclaim our pro-life message "Abortion Kills, Jesus Forgives, Choose Life," etc. Prayers and meditations are on the back of the sign. This event will provide a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian Community – that abortion is wrong and that the Church is opposed to the killing of unborn children! Our community needs to know that the Church supports the sanctity of human life. Please plan to attend. You may bring a chair if you are unable to stand for the allotted time. This is a family event. All are welcome, even children in strollers. You may bring drinks and should wear comfortable modest clothing. For more information, please call Angela at 361-741-8730. *Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Jeremiah 1:5*

The Sin of Silence. When Nazi thugs moved through the cities of Germany smashing the windows of Jewish homes and shops, a few people spoke up but not very many. Men, women and children were murdered and became innocent victims, yet few wished to "get involved" in this "political issue." That was the beginning of the Holocaust and the perpetrators gained confidence to carry out their atrocities because most people looked the other way and did nothing. Tragically, it is happening again today in our beautiful America, so richly and abundantly blessed by a gracious God. Once again, the innocent are being slaughtered in a forty year Holocaust that has seen over 50 million children brutally put to death by legalized abortion. It is absolutely imperative that Christians stand up and be counted. We simply cannot remain silent in the face of evil and moral perversity!

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

German pastor, Pastor Martin Niemoller

By Pro-Life Articles Author, www.pro-lifearticles.org

Parish Financial Report – August, 2013

Church Income:

Sunday Collections	\$ 35,441.50
Other Donations	2,020.00
Family Center Rent	790.00
Religious Articles	739.60
Interest Income	<u>15,439.26</u>
Total Church Income	<u>\$ 54,430.36</u>

School Income:

Tuition & Extended Care	\$ 67,660.00
Registration Fees	32,100.00
Book Fees	91,000.00

Athletic & Bus Fees	23,750.00
Catholic Education Envelopes	3,324.00
Memorials & Donations	24,947.20
Interest Income	4,000.00
Miscellaneous	<u>1,204.00</u>
Total School Income	<u>\$ 247,985.20</u>

Church Expenses:

Salaries	\$ 8,067.22
Utilities	2,103.51
Church Expense	1,064.98
Rectory & Office Expense	978.51
Religious Articles	762.40
Family Center Expense	273.34
Medical Insurance & Pension	1,775.89
Repairs & Maintenance	652.59
Auto Insurance	<u>762.60</u>
Total Church Expense	<u>\$ 16,441.04</u>

School Expenses:

Salaries	\$ 80,522.61
Contracted Services	174.27
Assessment Fees	6,799.00
Office & Teaching Expenses	6,581.73
Public Relations	292.00
Textbooks	45,285.11
Library	154.00
Utilities	3,790.82
Plant Repairs & Maintenance	4,108.15
Bus & Van Expense	2,584.61
Payroll Taxes	5,919.02
Medical Insurance & Retirement	19,942.80
Convent Expense	610.61
Capital Expenditures	10,772.48
Technology	2,063.38
Marathon Expense	4,555.08
Extravaganza	2,400.00
Alumni Gifting Expense	<u>120.75</u>
Total School Expenses	<u>\$ 196,676.42</u>

Parish Income	\$ 302,415.56
Parish Expenses	- 213,117.46
Parish Balance	\$ 89,298.10

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs have a way of succinctly stating a concept that can become a kind of mantra for explaining the way things are. Sayings like, "Mighty oaks from little acorns grow," or "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree," or "It's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease," are all meant to encapsulate a larger concept in a brief sentence. For the most part, the person hearing the phrase immediately understands to what the speaker is referring. And so the saying, "He can't see the forest for the trees," is often understood as describing someone who cannot comprehend the larger implications of things because all he can see is the minute details on which he is focused.

In the Gospel this weekend Jesus tells a parable about a rich man who was seemingly oblivious to both the forest and the trees. In the story the rich man seems unconcerned with anything but his own pleasure. He dresses in fine linen. He eats great meals. It seems like he has it all. The "forest" of communal interaction seems beyond his imagination. At the same time, from what we are told, the rich man also seems not to have taken any notice of the beggar at his door. He was not even aware of the "trees" of someone right at his gate.

In our lives as Christians, both the forest and the trees are important. We can't lose sight of either of them. As people in the world we must continue to be involved in working for a more just society through our advocacy and political activity. We have to promote the causes of life, human dignity, peace, and the common good. That's the big picture, the forest, that we see. At the same time through our works of charity and simple outreach we touch the lives the poor, the sick, the lonely, and the dying in our very midst. They are the trees right in front of us, and we cannot miss them either.

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Prayer for rain: *Heavenly Father, We believe that it is You Who created our world with all of its beauty and life. We believe that it is You Who put into place the systems of nature that sustain, nurture and renew this work of Your hands. We believe that it is You Who hears Your children when they call upon You. Hear then, this prayer which comes from a heart filled with confidence and trust. Grant to us and to all who seek it, the gift of a bountiful rain. Water our lands so that they may once again spring to life and reflect the beauty of Your creation. Fill our lakes and rivers with sufficient rain so that they may continue to provide life giving and refreshing water to all who depend upon it for their livelihood and well-being. Please do not let many more days pass without sending us this most needed blessing of rain. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.*

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Virginia Pustka & Family-\$25; Charles & Doloris Leopold-\$50; David & Mary Polasek-\$25; Sammy & Jean Condra-\$25; Kerri Kallus-\$10; Elrose Kalisek & Alvin Mikulenska-\$10; Sandy & Carol Dieringer -\$10; Richard & Dorothy Henneke-\$10; Alvin Paul & Barbara Grahmann-\$15; Gilbert & Debra Wick-\$15; Chris W. Janak-\$20; John & LaVerne Trojcek-\$20; Fred F. Grahmann-\$20; Greg & Vanessa Shimek-\$25; Jeff & Valerie Barton-\$50; Glen & Jackie Vornsand-\$20.

SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND –

In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Bob Kubena-\$20; Kubena Funeral Home-\$20.

SACRED HEART CHURCH CCD FUND – In

memory of Siegfried Golsch: Donald & Donna Shimek-\$25. **In memory of Bernice Sevcik:** Steven & Cheryl Leopold-\$15; Laurence & Carol Bludau-\$15.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Marcus & Marjorie Grahmann-\$20; Leonard & Georgia Marek-\$10; Ronnie & Wanda Orsak-\$10; Mr. & Mrs. Leon J. Steffek-\$10; Johnnie & Alene Steffek-\$10; Bradley & Kay Loehr-\$15; Wink & Ida Bludau-\$20; Gene & Trudy Janak-\$20; Eugene Dworsky-\$20; Daniel, James & Catherine Miksch Family-\$20; Terry & Cindy Saulnier Family-\$20; Macklin & Dolly Johnson Family-\$25; Charles & Anna Neumeyer-\$25; Robert & Rita Chase-\$25. **In memory of Marcella Klekar:** Dorothy Bujnoch-\$15; William & Charlene Bradbury-\$20; Evelyn & Phillip Bujnoch-\$15. **In memory of Bernice Sevcik:** R.L. & Elsie Orsak-\$10.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ALUMNI FUND –

In memory of Anita Koonce Jenkins: Frances Holley-\$30. **In memory of Helen Mizera:** Bob & Carol Franks-\$10. **In memory of Siegfried Golsch:** Mary Ann Pavliska-\$20; Virginia M. Kocian, Mark & Karen Abbruscato, James & Zoy Kocian-\$30.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND –

In memory of Marcella Klekar: Leroy & Alice Janak-\$20; Andrew & Jane Pesek-\$10; George & Bernadette Kramer-\$10; Rosemary Hermes-\$10; David & Mary Polasek-\$25. **In memory of Agatha Janak:** Dennis & Gerardette Haas-\$20; Leo & Dorothy Henke-\$10. **In memory of Siegfried Golsch:** Everett & Kay Renger-\$100; Roger & Beverly Janak-\$20; Charles & Dorothy Jansky-\$10; Glenn & Shara Steffek-\$10; Judy Renger & Gene Renger-\$75; Jerry & Mary Jo Janak-\$10; Douglas & Sharon Schaefer-\$25; Harriet Simpson-\$20; Peoples State Bank-\$10; Larry & Lana Ondrusek-\$15; Chris & Julie Kubena-\$50; Leroy & Alice Janak-\$20; Bill & Sweet Hrcncir-\$10; Dorothy Zaruba-\$10; William & Charlene Bradbury-\$10; Robert & Louise Pesek-\$10; Glenn & Anita Schulte-\$10; Frank & Bernadette Bludau-\$10; Rosemary Hermes-\$10; Ella Mae Bludau-\$15; Leon A. Hessler-\$20; Margaret & Sharon Bludau-\$20; Dennis & Gerardette Haas-\$20; Leon & Kay Steinocher-\$20; Vic & Katherine Kahanek-\$20; Dennis & Lisa Dworsky-\$30; August Janak-\$10. **In memory of Lillie Woytek & Bernice Freytag:** David & Mary Polasek-\$50. **In memory of Bernice Sevcik:** Gerardette & Dennis Haas-\$20; Glenn & Shara Steffek-\$10; Charles & Dorothy Jansky-\$15. **In honor of Sister M. Annunciata Schumbera's 75th Jubilee:** Arthur Etzler, Jr.-\$50. **In honor of Emil & Joyce Hermes' 50th Anniversary:** Julius & Lisa Tobola-\$20; Jeanette Cobb-\$15.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

October 2013

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Venerable Pierre Toussaint

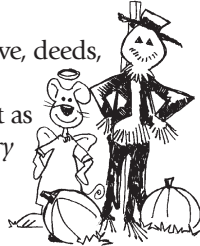
Pierre Toussaint was born a slave in Haiti. To escape civil unrest, he and his master came to the United States and Pierre was apprenticed to a hair dresser in New York City. Pierre became a popular stylist loyal to his owners. He cared for his master's wife after she was widowed and was freed shortly before her death. Pierre married, and he and his wife attended daily Mass and devoted themselves to caring for the sick and orphaned.

Father is waiting

In the prayer, "Our Father," we are reminded that our true Father lives in Heaven – our eventual home. We are only temporary travelers on Earth. By asking us to pray this particular prayer, Jesus helps us to keep our eyes on our home where our Father waits patiently for us.

From St. Therese of Liseux

"Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing." (*Story of a Soul*)



We can make a more peaceful world

Ordinarily we think of violence as physical – a blow, a gunshot, a bombing. It seems that we hear and read about acts of war every day. But wars escalate from everyday acts in homes, neighborhoods, and communities that can be as subtle as words or gestures that dampen the spirit of another person. As Christians, we can prevent violence by living our faith.



Embrace diversity – don't just tolerate it. Different as we are, we are all made in God's image and likeness. There is great diversity in the communion of saints.

Develop more empathy – see situations from another's perspective. It's the best way to understand the impact of our actions on those affected

by them.

Treat everyone with dignity – don't ignore others as a way of expressing anger or disapproval. Giving the "silent treatment" instead of working out problems denies much needed human contact and fails to solve conflict.

Choose entertainment carefully – a steady diet of violent entertainment and media helps us become comfortable with violence and

to see people as characters rather than humans. Instead, pray for victims of violence and for the souls of those who perpetrate it.

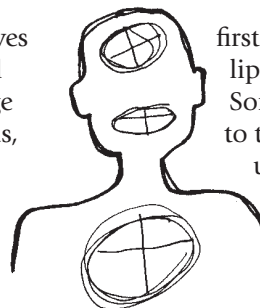
Detach – value people more than things. Share what you have. Don't take more than you need. Don't get so attached to achieving an outcome that you forget that love matters more.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do we cross our forehead, lips, and chest before hearing the Gospel at Mass?

One reason we cross ourselves before listening to the Gospel is to ask God to let its message dominate our thoughts, words, and feelings.

Before the priest or deacon proclaims the Gospel, we trace the sign of the cross



first on the forehead, then the lips, and finally over the heart. Some even say a prayer similar to this, "May the Lord purify my understanding, my speech, and my heart, so that I may receive the words of the Gospel."

5 tips for greater holiness

Achieving holiness requires a constant effort like climbing a mountain. To stop trying, even for a little while, is to lose ground. Daily effort will pay off with results.

1. **Become aware of Jesus' presence every day.** If you struggle to find him, ask for his help. Not only will awareness of him help you grow in love and kindness toward everyone, you will find it easier to control your faults.

2. **Don't be afraid of work or suffering.** Jesus experienced both in his time on Earth and used



them to pave our way to Heaven.

3. **Give God your full attention.** Speak to him, ask him for help, express sorrow for your mistakes, tell him you love him. Visit him regularly in Church.

4. **Nurture your faith.** Just as air and food keep our bodies alive, faith feeds our souls. It's the bond that unites us to God. Read Scripture every day. Learn about the saints. Listen to the Pope.

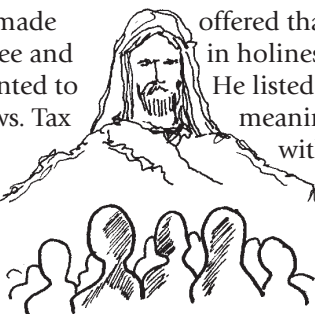
5. **Practice patience.** It's the first step toward holiness.

from Scripture

Luke 18:9-14, God wants only love

Imagine the impact Jesus made when he compared a Pharisee and a tax collector. Pharisees wanted to be emulated by everyday Jews. Tax collectors were usually Jews who collaborated with the hated Romans to collect unfair taxes from fellow Jews – and often cheated to gather a little extra for themselves. Yet in Jesus' example, the Pharisee didn't fare so well when both approached God in prayer.

The Pharisee marched up to a position of honor in the temple to pray, presumably to be seen and admired. He focused his prayer on himself and



offered thanks that he was superior in holiness to all around him.

He listed his many good (but meaningless) deeds, and looked with disgust upon the tax collector.

By contrast, the tax collector humbled himself before God and offered only a simple prayer casting himself on God's mercy. He was aware of God's graciousness in loving him despite his sinfulness. Jesus said that only the tax collector went home in a right relationship with God.

He said that our sincere love matters more than anything else.

Q & A Why does God make us suffer?

As Catholics, we know that God is infinitely perfect and incapable of doing evil. In fact, he created us out of love so that we could share in his own blessed life. It was his plan for us to live in harmony with him.



When our first parents sinned, they disrupted the harmony by which we were protected from suffering and death. The world we have now is not the original perfection of God's creation but a fallen one with sin and evil that God didn't put here. We suffer because of the disorder created by that Original Sin compounded by our own sin, not because God makes us suffer.

Sometimes God does allow us to suffer, though. The purpose of our lives on Earth is to determine where we shall be for eternity, either with God or separated from God. Sometimes God allows suffering in order to awaken us to the fact of our sin, our impending death and judgment, to help us repent and turn back to him.

Feasts & Celebrations

In October we celebrate the Rosary with the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th. The Rosary helps us meditate on the mysteries of our salvation – Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection.

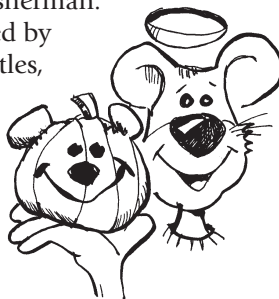
Oct. 15 - St. Teresa of Avila (1583). Teresa founded a strict religious order whose nuns wore rough brown habits and sandals instead of shoes. St. Teresa established more than 17 convents of Discalced Carmelites and helped reform the Carmelite friars.

Oct. 17 – St. Ignatius of Antioch (1st century). Succeeded St. Peter as the

second bishop of Antioch. St. Ignatius encouraged obedience to the world's bishops and reminded people that Jesus is present in the Church and in each other.

Oct. 28 – St. Simon and St. Jude (1st century). St. Simon was a Zealot – Jews who believed that the Messiah would free them from political oppression. St. Jude was a fisherman.

After being called by Jesus to be apostles, they ended up in Persia where they evangelized until they were martyred.



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