



# CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

*Pastor*

**Rev. Timothy M. Hayes**

*Deacon*

**Rev. Mr. John Barbour**



COME NOW, KING OF HEROES! DO NOT  
DELAY TOO LONG! WE HAVE NEED  
OF MERCIES! THAT YOU WILL FREE US!

**Parish Office  
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of Adults/R.C.I.A.**

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**Eucharistic Adoration**

Julie Kunsman  
[julie.kunsman@gmail.com](mailto:julie.kunsman@gmail.com)

## *Mass Schedule*

**Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.

**Holy Day Mass Schedule**

TBA in bulletin

**Weekday Mass Schedule**

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.

**Confessions**

Saturday 4:00-4:30 p.m.

**Bulletin Submission Deadline**

**Monday Noon**

[maggie@saintedwards.org](mailto:maggie@saintedwards.org)

**Prayer Chain**

Cindy Kendrick  
[cck1@att.net](mailto:cck1@att.net)

740-366-2871

**Maintenance**

Floyd Lahmon

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

**Sunday, October 1 – 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:15 a.m. Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners of St. Edward Parish

10:45 a.m. Living & Deceased of Wagner/Fox Families  
by Leo & Suzanne Fox**Monday, October 2 – The Holy Guardian Angels**

9:00 a.m. Theodore &amp; Cheryl Helgerman (RIP) by Stephanie Helgerman

**Tuesday, October 3**

9:00 a.m. Randy Dusenberry (RIP) by Deb Dusenberry

**Wednesday, October 4 – St. Francis of Assisi**

9:00 a.m. Parishioners with Living &amp; Deceased Pets by Mary Elliott

**Thursday, October 5 – St. Faustina, Virgin**

9:00 a.m. Betty Crock (RIP) by Steve &amp; Teresa Contini

**Friday, October 6 – St. Bruno, Priest**

9:00 a.m. Brad Petticrew (RIP) by Jon Petticrew

**Saturday, October 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary**

5:00 p.m. Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners of St. Edward Parish

**Sunday, October 8 – 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:15 a.m. Flautt &amp; Ott Families by Martin &amp; Carol Flautt

10:45 a.m. Tatla Dager (RIP) by Chuck &amp; Terri Cera

*From Fr. Tim: I invite you to pray as I bow toward the congregation:  
“Lord, give him the homily You want me to hear. Give me the ears to hear it, the heart to receive it, and the grace to put it into practice in my life.”*

**26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
OCTOBER 1, 2023 – YEAR A**

**PRELUDE**

Variations on BUNESSAN

**INTRODUCTORY RITES**

OPENING: We Gather Together (#202)

GLORIA: A New Mass for Congregations (text: inside front cover or p. 6)

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps. 25: Remember your mercies, O Lord. (p. 203)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (p. 204)

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

PREP. OF GIFTS: O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God (#654)

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS: Land of Rest Mass

LAMB OF GOD: Holy Cross Mass

COMMUNION: Amazing Grace (#449)

COMMUNION 2 (10:45 a.m. Choir): No Greater Love (Joncas)

**CONCLUDING RITE**

CLOSING: I Know That My Redeemer Lives (#578)

**POSTLUDE**

‘Marche’ from Op. 68, No. 1 (E. Grieg, 1843-1907)

**CANTORS**

5:00 p.m.: Kayce Long

8:15 a.m.: Michael Flanigan

10:45 a.m.: Griffin Helms



*St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits that prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls.*

## A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners:

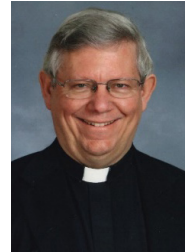
As we enter the month of October, I invite you to be sure that you and your family are bringing home with you all that we celebrate at Mass. The family is the Domestic Church, that is, the Church Alive in the Home. Let your home be a house of prayer. When you come to Mass, bring with you to the church building all that you have prayed for as a family.

A good way to learn to pray as a family is the Rosary. Does every member of the family know the Rosary prayers? The Apostles' Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory Be are the staples of Catholic prayer. There are lots of resources available to learn these prayers. Praying them out loud will make them comfortable on your lips and in your heart.

You can also learn the four sets of Mysteries by heart. Over the next four weeks, I will comment on each set: the traditional Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries, and the newer Luminous Mysteries added by Pope Saint John Paul II. Praying these day by day as a family takes up only about 15 minutes. God is worth our time. We give our attention to so many other things for hours at a time. How do you give God time daily as a family? The Rosary is a great gift to give to yourself and your children.

Choose an intention to pray for as a family. I encourage you to learn what the Pope and the Bishop are asking us to pray for. As your pastor, I ask you to pray that we learn as a parish to engage in conversation across the generations, sharing Faith and Wisdom. Mary is our heavenly Mother, and she wants to lead us to her Son. When we pray the Rosary, we stay close to her give her a chance to work on our hearts to make them like the Heart of Jesus.

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes, Pastor



## NOTES FROM THE LOFT

♪ Today's organ prelude is based on the Gaelic tune BUNESSAN. Thanks to a popular 1970's recording by Cat Stevens, the melody is most associated with the 1931 hymn text "Morning Has Broken." Initially, though, the tune was linked with a Scottish Christmas carol! (Sample verse: Child in the manger, infant of Mary, Outcast and stranger, Lord of all, Child who inherits all our transgressions, All our demerits on Him fall.") Next weekend, we will sing it with a different text, Fr. James Quinn's "This Day God Gives Me."

♪ **Choir is underway, but it isn't too late to join! Singers need to be adults or teens who can match pitch (to sing on key), but no prior choral experience or special musical skills are necessary. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact me, Paul Radkowski, at [music@saintedwards.org](mailto:music@saintedwards.org) or 740-587-3254.**



## Welcome Sunday, OCTOBER 1!

The Knights of Columbus and the Welcome Committee invite all parishioners and visitors to the Parish Hall after Sunday Masses to enjoy donuts, coffee and juice. Please take time to stop by to visit with fellow parishioners, welcome new members and make a new friend! Special Thanks to October's donor Downey's Carpet Care. If you would like to sponsor a Donut Sunday, please contact Joe Coffey at [coffeybreak@yahoo.com](mailto:coffeybreak@yahoo.com).

## *This Week at St. Edward*

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 – TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Mass – 8:15 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Mass – 10:45 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Welcome Sunday after Masses in the Parish Hall

PSR – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Parent 1st Reconciliation Meeting – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

OCIA (former RCIA) – noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge

Youth Group – Homeless Outreach

Lecture Series with Fr. Slattery – 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Swasey Chapel



### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 2**

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Ghiloni

Preschool

Adoration after Mass to 11:30 a.m.

Women's Study – A Biblical Walk with Mary – 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall



### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3**

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4**

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

Women's Study – A Biblical Walk with Mary – 9:30 a.m. in the Lounge

PSR – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Blessing of the Animals – 7:00 p.m. on the lawn in front of the church steps

NO Painting Class

Men's Rosary & Faith – 7:00 p.m.

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5**

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

Choir – 7:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Business Meeting – 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6**

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

Painting Class – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7**

Saturday Men's Fellowship – 7:00 a.m.

Confession – 4:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Mass – 5:00 p.m., Fr. Hayes

### **KNOX/LICKING VOCATIONS CLUB MEETING**

Tuesday, October 10 at St. Leonard in Heath.

Lunch at noon.

\$5.00 – Money goes for support and cards

for Priests, Religious and Seminarians

Speaker – Sister Josepha from The Children of Mary

Come see what we're all about!

Call Susie with questions at 740-404-9853.



### **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

Wednesday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m.

On the lawn in front of the church

Bring your pets for a special blessing from Fr. Tim.

## **SUPPORTING ST. EDWARD CHURCH**

*"Each one must do as he has purposed in his heart,  
not grudgingly or under compulsion,  
for God loves a cheerful giver."  
2 Corinthians 9:7*

### **OFFERTORY**

September 24

**\$ 10,477.00**

Please consider ONLINE GIVING. Sign up on the St. Edward website homepage at [www.saintedwards.org](http://www.saintedwards.org). If already giving online, please update any changes to your credit card on your online account. For help, contact the Parish Office.

### **~ 2024 MASS INTENTIONS NOW OPEN ~**

- Contact Maggie Barno to schedule Mass Intentions at [maggie@saintedwards.org](mailto:maggie@saintedwards.org).
- If you desire a specific date/s, please contact Maggie at least six months before the desired date. If the date you request for a Mass Intention is already taken, we will try to schedule your Mass on a date that will suit you. Your patience is greatly appreciated.
- To comply with Diocesan Finance Office policies, a \$10.00 stipend is requested when Mass Intentions are scheduled.



### **SANTA'S ATTIC**

It is that time of year! Santa's Attic is returning for its 14th year! The planning has begun, and now the clock is ticking!

Have you thought about becoming involved in a ministry where you can meet new people? Where even a bit of your time can help in a big way? Do you love Christmas? Snowmen? Nutcrackers? Rummage Sales? Candles? Ribbons? Laughter? Ornaments? Fellowship? If you answered "yes" to any of these, Santa's Attic is a Ministry for you.

Santa's Attic is Saturday, November 4, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Setup begins October 28th.

Stay tuned to the bulletin. More information will be coming your way. Stop by and see us at Welcome Sunday after Masses on Sunday. We love to talk about Santa's Attic!

*The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.*

– Gandhi



### **ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER AT ST. FRANCIS**

St. Francis needs a full-time Assistant Business Manager to handle operational and facilities-based duties including financial and budgeting oversight, building and grounds, equipment maintenance and safety. Bachelor's degree in business or a related field preferred. Send your résumé and cover letter to [aschneider@stfrancisparish.net](mailto:aschneider@stfrancisparish.net) for consideration.



	Eucharistic Ministers:	Lector:	Altar Servers:
<b>September 30-October 1: Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>			
<b>Saturday, 5:00 p.m.</b>	Dave Conway Mandy Vadala	Ava Vadala	Francis Aransky Aaron Wolf
<b>Sunday, 8:15 a.m.</b>	Cindy Barbour Jane Dougan	Philip Stukus	Ella Clark Calvin Harms
<b>Sunday, 10:45 a.m.</b>	Annie Lach Maria McDermott	Sheila Heist	Avery Warling Anna Beth Zigan
<b>October 7-8: Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>			
<b>Saturday, 5:00 p.m.</b>	Lisa Cannon Jerod Long	Gerry Moses	Case Long Jude Long
<b>Sunday, 8:15 a.m.</b>	Sue Casale John Casale	Lisa Smith	Isaac Gardner Jonathan Gardner
<b>Sunday, 10:45 a.m.</b>	Stephanie Dodd Emily Dunbar	Dana Updegrove	Augustine Dodd Amanda Dunbar

Please check in sacristy for current list of weekend volunteers.



### SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

Your spiritually adopted baby is developing quite beautifully now. Her weight is approaching 2 pounds. She sits up straight now to accommodate her internal organs which have moved into their final place in her little body. Babies born prematurely at this time have a very good chance of surviving. The medical advances in caring for extremely small newborn infants are extraordinary indeed. Please keep praying for your baby. Abortion, although illegal in some places, is still available through all nine months of pregnancy. Her mom could still yield to pressure to abort.

## A LETTER FROM BISHOP FERNANDES

### DEFENDING HUMAN LIFE REMAINS A MORAL ISSUE AND NOT A POLITICAL ONE.

Bishop Earl Fernandes

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In May, all priests in every parish and Diocese in Ohio were asked to make known the position of the Ohio Catholic Conference regarding the upcoming November ballot initiative to remove any restrictions on abortion in the state of Ohio. The amendment attacks the fundamental understanding of the human person, made in God's image and likeness; undermines a fundamental anthropology; removes rights from parents; could potentially jeopardize the conscience rights of medical professionals; and represents an assault on human life and the human family. Once more, I urge all Catholics to register to vote and to vote No on the proposed amendment in November.

Upon hearing the priests preach on this issue, I received a number of letters stating that the Church should not be involved in politics and that the church should not speak on these types of political issues. The issue of abortion is a fundamental moral issue, touching upon issues vital not only to our lives as Catholics (and the lives of vulnerable, unborn children) but also to the common good. Moral issues are routinely addressed from our pulpits, and preaching about these moral issues serves to inform our consciences more fully so that we may participate in the political process to build a culture of life and to defend the weak and the vulnerable.

In his encyclical letter, *The Gospel of Life*, St. John Paul II wrote, "What is urgently called for is a general mobilization of consciences and a united ethical effort to activate a great campaign in support of life. All together, we must build a culture of life." (EV, 95)

The saintly Pontiff also reminded us that "The first and fundamental step towards this cultural transformation consists of informing consciences with regard to the incomparable and inviolable worth of every human life. It is of the greatest importance to re-establish the essential connection between life and freedom. These are inseparable goods: where one is violated, the other also ends up being violated." (EV, 96)

Some of the letters said that priests said that if one does not vote "No" in November, one commits a mortal sin, and that the Church should not be telling people how to vote. Is this the case? As a moral theologian, I can say that one commits a mortal sin, when there is grave matter involved; when one knows the Church's teaching or the truth of the matter; and one freely chooses the evil anyway. How you vote is a matter of your conscience and will involve your freedom; however, conscience is informed by Scripture, Tradition; the Magisterium of the Church; and reason. Each person bears moral responsibility for his or her vote.

As Chief Shepherd of the Diocese of Columbus, I must state that we cannot remain indifferent to the plight of the unborn. One need only think of the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Rich Man and Lazarus; or the Last Judgment; nor can we, as Catholics, remain silent in the face of grave injustice.

Others objected that in the United States, there is a separation between church and state. Although the Constitution ensures separation of church and state, that is largely to prevent the government from intruding into religious affairs and to prevent religious groups from running the government. It does not mean that Catholics and other religious groups should keep their faith private, nor does it mean that they should not be involved in the political process to shape a better civilization and to promote the common good. In fact, because God has so blessed us, we have perhaps an even greater responsibility toward our brothers and sisters, born and unborn.

I encourage all the faithful not only to pray for an end to abortion, but to use your freedom, through the political process, to help build a culture of life, in which every person is valued, cared for, and respected. No matter how the election goes in November, we as Catholics have a duty to defend the rights of unborn children and to continue to accompany women and their children, putting our faith into action.

May the Virgin Mary, the Mother of the Redeemer, and St. Joseph, the Protector of the Holy Family, assist us in our vocation to be a People of Life!

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes  
Bishop of Columbus



# A Full Day's Wages

Today in the Gospel, Jesus tells a story of several men who were hired to work at a vineyard. The owner of the vineyard went out at different times to find men to work. At the end of the day, he gave each man a whole day's wages, even though some had only worked for a little while!



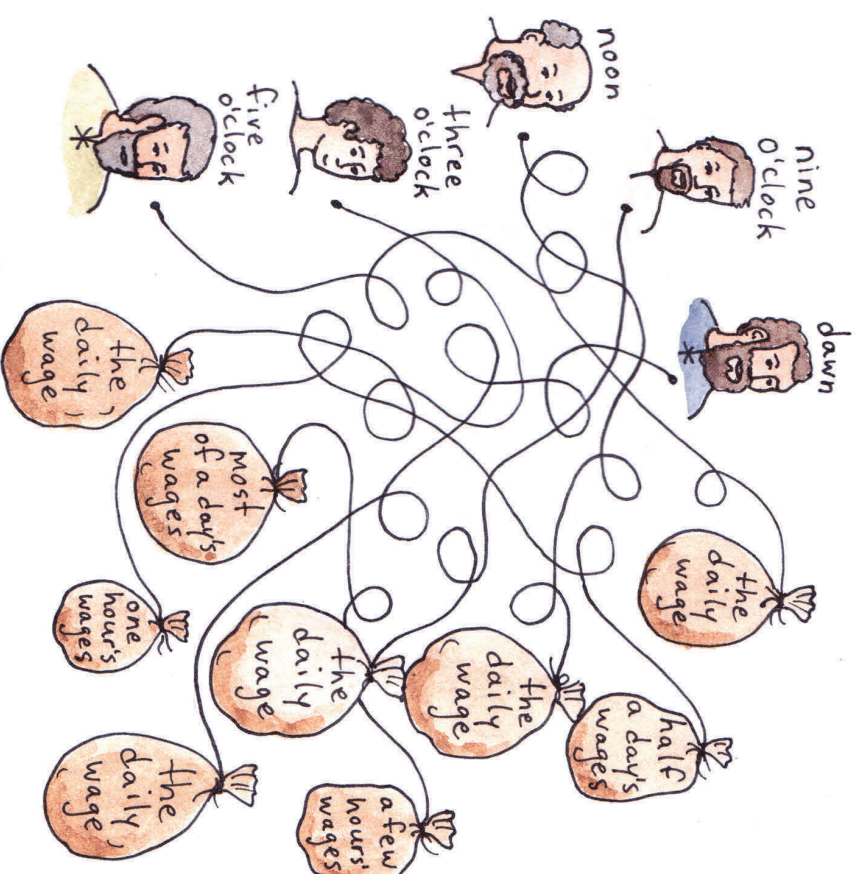
Jesus tells us that the Kingdom of Heaven is like this too: some people spend their whole lives working for God, and some people only turn to Him at the last minute. God opens Heaven to all the people who choose to love Him.

At first this doesn't seem fair. After all, some people give their whole lives to God and some give hardly any! But here is why it is fair: the only reason that any of us turns to God **I PAID YOU** is because He gave us that grace. **AS MUCH AS I SAID I WOULD.** Some people have to live their whole lives without God's grace until the very end, but some of us have been given grace all our lives.



# The Kids' Bulletin

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 24th, 2023



In the parable in today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the story of a man with a vineyard who went out to hire men at different times of the day.

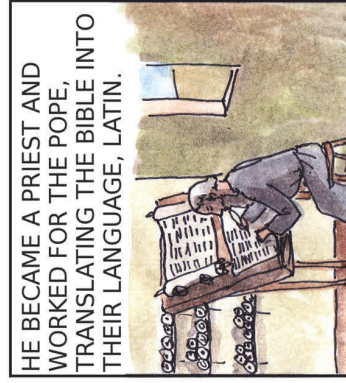
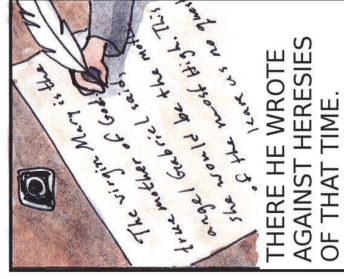
At the end of the day,  
how much did each man get paid?  
Follow the wiggly lines to see!



## Fill in the blanks:

Saint Paul tries to decide if it is better to live or die!

Use the words in the list to fill in the blanks, and then put the letters from the boxes into the spaces at the bottom.



SAINT JEROME DIED AS AN OLD MAN. HE IS CONSIDERED A DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH BECAUSE HE DID SO MUCH TO HELP PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD. WE CAN LEARN FROM ST. JEROME THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BIBLE. TRY TO READ A BIT OF THE BIBLE EVERY DAY.



Brothers and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, Christ will be  
magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.  
For to me life is Christ, and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ is gain.  
If I go on living in the flesh, that means  
\_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ labour for me. And I do  
not know which I shall \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. I am

caught \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ the two. I long to  
depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far  
better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more  
necessary for \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ benefit.

between  
death  
sisters  
your  
fruitful  
choose

**Like Saint Paul, we should be ready to either live or die for**

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.						

# Lectio Divina

## SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

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*The month of October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary.*

***"Most high, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, so that I may carry out Your holy and true command."*** +A PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

**Monday, October 2 ~ Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time  
Feast of the Guardian Angels**

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:1-5,10** The disciples approached Jesus and said, "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?" He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said, "Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me. "See that you 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."

**Meditation:** Jesus warned his disciples to "not despise the little ones." God dwells with the lowly and regards them with compassion. His angels watch over them as guardians. God has not left us alone in our struggle "to refuse evil and to choose good" (ref. Isaiah 7:15). The angels are God's "ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation" (ref. Hebrews 1:14).

**Prayer:** O God, who in your unfathomable providence are pleased to send your holy Angels to guard us, hear our supplication as we cry to you, that we may always be defended by their protection and rejoice eternally in their company. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Saint Basil the Great once said, "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life." Angels ministered to Jesus after his temptation in the wilderness and during his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. The angels will be present at Christ's return, which they will announce, to serve at his judgment (ref. Matt. 25:31). The angels tell us that this universe is not just materialistic. The fallen angels, led by Satan, seek our destruction. If they cannot induce us to disown our faith and allegiance to Christ, they attempt to divert us from doing the will of God by distracting us with good things that weigh us down and make us indifferent towards the things of God. God gives us the help of his angelic hosts and he gives us spiritual weapons, the shield of faith and the breastplate of righteousness (ref. Ephesians 6:1-11), to resist the devil and his lies. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we, too, join with angelic choirs in singing the praises of God. Do you pause several times a day to give thanks to the Lord for his daily guidance and protection?

**About this Feast:** Angels are servants and messengers from God. "Angel" in Greek means "messenger." In unseen ways the angels help us on our earthly pilgrimage by assisting us in work and study, helping us in temptation and protecting us from physical danger. The idea that each soul has assigned to it a personal guardian angel has been long accepted by the Church and is a truth of our faith. From the Gospel of today's liturgy we read: "See that you 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" (Matthew 18:10). The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that "the existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls 'angels' is a truth of faith (328)." From our birth until our death, man is surrounded by the protection and intercession of angels, particularly our guardian angel: "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life (336)." The Church thanks God for our helpers, the angels, particularly on this feast day and September 29 which is the feast of Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel, and Saint Raphael, archangels. Today's feast appeared in Spain during the sixteenth century. It was extended to the universal Church and made obligatory in 1670.



## **Tuesday, October 3 ~ Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 9:51-56** When the days for Jesus to be taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem, and he sent messengers ahead of him. On the way they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his reception there, but they would not welcome him because the destination of his journey was Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?" Jesus turned and rebuked them, and they journeyed to another village.

**Meditation:** Are you surprised to see two of Jesus' disciples praying for the destruction of a Samaritan village? The Jews and Samaritans had been divided for centuries. Jewish pilgrims who passed through Samaritan territory were often assaulted. Jesus did the unthinkable for a Jew. He not only decided to travel through Samaritan territory at personal risk, but he also asked for hospitality in one of their villages! Jesus' offer of friendship was rebuffed. Is there any wonder that the disciples were indignant and felt justified in wanting to see retribution done to this village? Wouldn't you respond the same way? Jesus, however, rebukes his disciples for their lack of toleration. Jesus had "set his face toward Jerusalem" to die on a cross that all might be reconciled with God and be united as one people in Christ.

**Prayer:** O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Tolerance is a much needed virtue today – not "tolerance" when we enable bad or sinful behaviors by turning a blind eye or a deaf ear or by saying "if it feels good, do it" thus being tolerant for the wrong thing or for the wrong motive. Right and wrong, defined by God, still exists. Instead being "tolerant" by exhibiting Christian love which seeks the highest good of both one's neighbor and one's enemy. Take for example Abraham Lincoln, who as president was criticized for his courtesy and tolerance towards his enemies during the American Civil War. President Lincoln's response? He said: "Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?" Which begs the question: How do you treat those who cross you and cause you trouble? Do you seek their good rather than their harm? Today be introspective and honestly assess yourself to see what biases and prejudices you might possess on even the smallest level to rid yourself of these so that these do not manifest themselves in ways of jealousy, envy, hatred, bigotry, racism, and other forms of sin.

## **Wednesday, October 4 ~ Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Saint Francis of Assisi, Religious**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 9:57-62** As Jesus and his disciples were proceeding on their journey, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus answered him, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head." And to another he said, "Follow me." But he replied, "Lord, let me go first and bury my father." But he answered him, "Let the dead bury their dead. But you, go and proclaim the Kingdom of God." And another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say farewell to my family at home." Jesus answered him, "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of God."

**Meditation:** Are you ready to follow the Lord wherever he may lead you? With the call the Lord gives the grace to respond and the strength to follow all the way to the end. Why does Jesus issue a challenge with the call? Jesus was utterly honest in telling people what it would cost to follow him. When a would-be disciple approached Jesus and said he was ready to follow, Jesus told him it would require sacrifice — the sacrifice of certain creaturely comforts. Jesus appealed to this man's heart and told him to detach himself from whatever might hold him back. Spiritual detachment is a necessary step for following the Lord. It frees us to give ourselves without reserve to the Lord and his service. While many of us may not need to give up the comfort of our own home and bed to follow Jesus, we, nonetheless, must be willing to part with anything that might stand in the way of doing God's will. Another would-be disciple said he would follow as soon as he had buried his father. What he meant by this expression was that he felt the need to return to his home to take care of his father through old age until he died. The third had no obligation to return home, but simply wanted to go back and say good-bye. Jesus surprised these would-be disciples with the stark truth that nothing should hinder us from following the Lord. Was Jesus being harsh and rude to his would-be followers? Not really. We are free to decide whether we will take the path which Jesus offers. But if we choose to go, then the Lord wants us to count the cost and choose for it freely.

**Prayer:** O God, by whose gift Saint Francis was conformed to Christ in poverty and humility, grant that, by walking in Francis' footsteps, we may follow your Son, and, through joyful charity, come to be united with

you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** You may be asking: "What does the story of a plowman have to do with the journey?" A plowman who looked back while plowing caused his furrow – the "trough" or groove in the earth that he was plowing – to be crooked. He had to look straight ahead in order to keep the plow from going off course. Likewise, if we look back on what we have freely left behind to follow the Lord, our path will likely diverge and we'll miss what God has for us. The gospel does not record the response from these three would-be disciples. We are only left with the question which Jesus intends for us as well. Are you ready to take the path Jesus offers? His grace is sufficient and his love is strong. There is nothing greater we can do with our lives than to place them at the service of the Lord and Master of the universe. We cannot outgive God in generosity. Jesus promises that those who are willing to part with what is most dear to them for his sake "will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life" (Matthew 19:29). Is there anything holding you back from pursuing the Lord and his will for you life?

**About Saint Francis of Assisi:** Francis Bernardone was born in 1181 at Assisi, Umbria, Italy. The son of a wealthy cloth merchant, he lived a lavish and irresponsible life. At the age of twenty, he went to war against Perugia, but was captured and imprisoned. During his imprisonment he experienced a vision from Christ and changed his life completely. He left all his possessions and embraced complete poverty, taking the Gospel as his rule of life. He wore ragged old clothes, begged for food and preached peace. He began to attract followers, and in 1209 with the papal blessing he founded the Friars Minor (Franciscans). Then in 1212 with St. Clare of Assisi he founded the foundation of the Order of "Poor Ladies," now known as the "Poor Clares." He also founded the "Third Order of Penance" (the Third Order) which included lay people. He was the first person (recorded) to receive the stigmata (the five wounds of Christ) in 1224. He died on October 4, 1226 at Portiuncula, Italy. He was canonized by Gregory IX less than two years later.

### **Thursday, October 5 ~ Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 10:1-12** Jesus appointed seventy-two other disciples whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. Go on your way; behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way. Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this household.' If a peaceful person lives there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. Stay in the same house and eat and drink what is offered to you, for the laborer deserves his payment. Do not move about from one house to another. Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, 'The Kingdom of God is at hand for you.' Whatever town you enter and they do not receive you, go out into the streets and say, 'The dust of your town that clings to our feet, even that we shake off against you.' Yet know this: the Kingdom of God is at hand. I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom on that day than for that town."

**Meditation:** In Jesus' time seventy was held to be the number of nations throughout the world. Jesus commissioned the seventy to a two-fold task: to speak in his name and to act with his power. Jesus gave them instructions for how they were to carry out their ministry. They must go and serve as people without guile, full of charity and peace, and simplicity. They must give their full attention to the proclamation of God's kingdom and not be diverted by other lesser things. They must travel light -- only take what was essential and leave behind whatever would distract them — in order to concentrate on the task of speaking the word of the God. They must do their work, not for what they can get out of it, but for what they can give freely to others, without expecting reward or payment. "Poverty of spirit" frees us from greed and preoccupation with possessions and makes ample room for God's provision. The Lord wants his disciples to be dependent on him and not on themselves.

**Prayer:** O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever

**Contemplation:** What kind of harvest do you think the Lord expects today? When Jesus commissioned seventy of his disciples to go on mission, he gave them a vision of a great harvest for the kingdom of God. Jesus frequently used the image of a harvest to convey the coming of God's reign on earth. The harvest is the fruition of labor and growth — beginning with the sowing of seeds, then growth, and finally fruit for the harvest. In like manner, the word of God is sown in the hearts of receptive men and women who hear his

word and who accept it with trust and obedience. The harvest Jesus had in mind was not only the people of Israel, but all the peoples (or nations) of the world. John the Evangelist tells us that "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

**About Saint Faustina Kowalska:** Our Lord taught Saint Faustina Kowalska a prayer for mercy that she was to pray unceasingly: ***The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy***. He told her that, if she prayed in this way, her prayers would have great power for the conversion of sinners, for peace for the dying, and even for controlling nature (*Diary*, 687, 811, 1731, 1791). We, too, can pray this chaplet, using ordinary rosary beads of five decades. We begin with the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Apostles Creed. Then on the large beads we pray: Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. On the small beads we pray: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. And at the end, we pray three times: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (*Diary*, 476). As we seek God's love and mercy, let us also mirror Christ's love for others in our own lives.

### **Friday, October 6 ~ Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Rose Marie Durocher, Virgin**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 10:13-16** Jesus said to them, "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would long ago have repented, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. And as for you, Capernaum, 'Will you be exalted to heaven? You will go down to the netherworld.' Whoever listens to you listens to me. Whoever rejects you rejects me. And whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

**Meditation:** The word woe is also translated as alas. It is as much as an expression of sorrowful pity as it is of anger. Why does Jesus lament and issue a stern warning? The people who heard the gospel here very likely responded with indifference. Jesus upbraids them for doing nothing! Repentance demands change — a change of heart and way of life. God's word is life-giving and it saves us from destruction — the destruction of soul as well as body. Jesus' anger is directed toward sin and everything which hinders us from doing the will of God and receiving his blessing. In love he calls us to walk in his way of truth and freedom, grace and mercy, justice and holiness. Do you receive his word with faith and submission or with doubt and indifference?

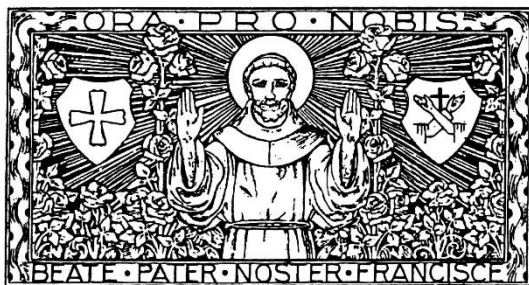
**Prayer ~ Saint Bruno:** O God, who called Saint Bruno to serve you in solitude, grant, through his intercession, that amid the changes of this world we may constantly look to you alone. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Prayer ~ Blessed Marie Rose Durocher:** Lord, who enkindled in the heart of Blessed Marie Rose Durocher the flame of ardent charity and a great desire to cooperate in the mission of the Church as a teacher, grant us that same active love, so that, in responding to the needs of the world today, we may lead our brothers and sisters to the blessedness of eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** If Jesus were to visit your neighborhood community and walk the streets of our town today, what would he say? Would he issue a warning like the one he gave to Chorazin and Bethsaida? And how would you respond? Wherever Jesus went he did mighty works to show the people how much God had done for them. Chorazin and Bethsaida had been blessed with the visitation of God. They heard the good news and experienced the wonderful works which Jesus did for them.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;  
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;  
information about saints, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

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The 2023-2204 OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation – formerly RCIA) Sundays from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge. All are invited! For questions, contact Dcn. John Barbour at 740-366-4124.



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## *Know Your Saints*



Saint Faustina Kowalska, the great apostle of Divine Mercy, was born August 25, 1905, in Poland. Her parents were humble peasants and fervent Christians. Baptized by the name of Helena, at the age of 7 she perceived the call to religious life, but, without the consent of the parents, could not pursue it. The third of ten children, Helena left school after 3 years and began working as a domestic in wealthy households, to help maintain her own family. Aged 20, driven by a vision of suffering Christ who says to her, “How long will I have to bear you? As long as you trick me?” she decides to enter religious life. So, in 1925, she entered the Convent of the Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy in Warsaw and took the name of Sister Maria Faustina. She spent 13 years of religious life working as a cook, gardener and porter. She went about her work with dedication and humility. Abundant were the graces that the Lord gave her, of which His stigmata were the most visible sign. There were numerous revelations and visions that, as suggested by her confessors, she recorded in her Diary, now translated into many languages. She died only 33 years old, October 5, 1938, in Krakow, consumed by tuberculosis.

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### THE YEAR OF EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

To assist in the formation and catechesis of our Eucharistic Culture, questions will be provided by Dcn. John. Full answers may be found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

1. Under what condition may Christ be received in Holy Communion?

Answer: ccc 1415: Communion may be received if communicant is in a state of grace.

2. What are 5 essential effects of receiving Holy Communion.

Answer: ccc1416: 1. Increase of union with Christ, 2. Forgiveness of venial sin, 3. Preservation from future mortal sin, 4. Strengthening of the Church, 5. Helping the unity of the Church.

## HOMELESS OUTREACH

Youth from 6-12th grade are invited to volunteer.

### Details:

- Meet at St. Ed's at 3:00 pm to cook
- Meet at Newark Town Square at 5:30PM to serve the homeless



**Date: October 1, 2023**

**Time: 3:00-6:30 PM**

**Where: St. Ed's /Newark Town Square**



### TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EZ 18:25-28; PS 25:4-5,6-9; PHIL 2:1-11 or 2:1-5; MT 21:28-32

As Christian stewards, we are called to a high and holy standard – living as Christ's disciples every day and with every person the Lord places in our path. But we can move towards this goal in "baby steps."

Jesus demonstrates this comforting truth through the parable He tells in today's Gospel from Matthew. It is the story of two sons whose father instructs them to go out and work in his vineyard that day. While the second son agrees to his father's request, he does not follow through – he fails to obey the father's will. The first son tells his father, "no." At least he is honest! And in the end, he reconsiders and obeys his father.

The first son's honest, less-than-perfect response, is consoling to us Christian stewards. Haven't we all felt this way at times when God's will for us seems to be just too hard?

We can be honest with God at these times. He knows our thoughts already, after all. But when we stay engaged in a real relationship with Him, even if it's just to say, "I don't think I can, Lord," He will supply us with just the grace we need to change our minds and do what He is asking us to do.

We can even take a step backward from time to time because our Father is merciful and kind. What matters is that we keep baby stepping along, assured of the grace we need to imitate the actions and attitudes of Christ more closely. This is the beauty of the stewardship way of life.

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