

Dear Padre,

Do Christians need to follow the Ten Commandments, or are they the “Old Law”?

There is nothing arbitrary or old-fashioned about the commandments of God. The Ten Commandments, given to us by the Author of the World, are found in Exodus 20:2–17. They are: (1) I, the Lord, am your God. You shall not have other gods besides me. (2) You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain. (3) Remember to keep holy the Lord’s day. (4) Honor your father and your mother. (5) You shall not kill. (6) You shall not commit adultery. (7) You shall not steal. (8) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (9) You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife. (10) You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods.

The first three Commandments were meant to guide us in our relationship with God; the remaining seven Commandments pertain to our relationships with others. Jesus gives us a new motivation for keeping the Commandments—the motivation of love. He gives a double commandment: love of God and love of neighbor (Mark 12:28–34). Saint Paul tells us these new commands fulfill those of the Old Law (Romans 13:8–10); and John writes that keeping the Commandments simply out of fear of punishment is not enough: love must be the driving force (1 John 4:18). ●

The Redemptorists / 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.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 2	September 3	September 4	September 5	September 6	September 7	September 8
Weekday	St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Cor 2:1–5	1 Cor 2:10b–16	1 Cor 3:1–9	1 Cor 3:18–23	1 Cor 4:1–5	1 Cor 4:6b–15	Is 35:4–7a
Lk 4:16–30	Lk 4:31–37	Lk 4:38–44	Lk 5:1–11	Lk 5:33–39	Lk 6:1–5	Jas 2:1–5
						Mk 7:31–37



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

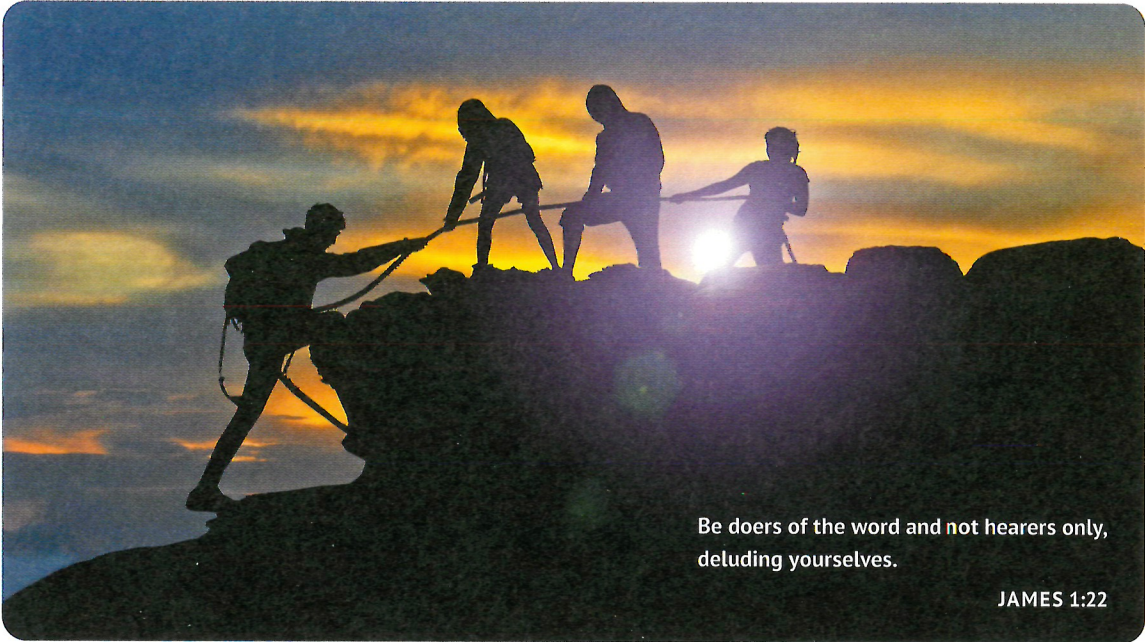
We spend time assigning blame; but spending time blaming others is wasting time. We become angry, bitter, and keep God away from our heart.... One cannot be truly religious while complaining: complaining poisons, it leads you to anger, to resentment and to sadness...which closes the door to God. Let us ask the Lord today to free us from blaming others....

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 29, 2021

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 1, 2024
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–8 / James 1:17–18, 21b–22, 27 / Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23



Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves.

JAMES 1:22

One for All and All for One

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

One day, I asked the eighth-graders I was teaching to imagine themselves on a fantasy journey. They had to pretend they were flying across the ocean in a small airplane when suddenly the plane has engine trouble. The pilot manages to land on a sandy island beach. Everyone survives, but a few passengers are injured.

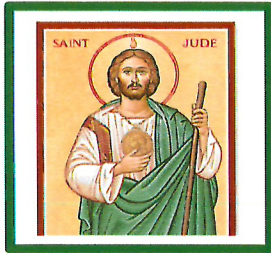
The captain divides the passengers into groups, each with a specific task. One group is responsible for finding food; another for water; another to explore and map the island; another to care for the injured. After explaining the scenario, I divided the eighth-graders into groups of four or five to complete the same “pretend” tasks—to create a set of rules by which to live until they were all rescued. The rules each group created were much the same: share everything, no hoarding, no fighting, obey the captain, no stealing,

those who do not work do not eat. In effect, these eighth-graders created their own “commandments,” enabling the community to survive in its own kind of desert, likely in the same way the Ten Commandments helped the Israelites.

The teachings of Jesus do not abrogate the original Ten Commandments. They continue to hold a great deal of wisdom for surviving as a community. Jesus taught us to focus on how our behavior shapes the sort of individuals we become and, ultimately, what sort of community we form. What flows from one’s heart, Jesus taught, reveals who we are both alone and in community. ●

Reflect

What would you include in a set of rules for yourself and your family?



ST. JUDE PARISH

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Weds. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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Choir Director:	Laura Woods	(269) 628-4886

WEEKLY MASS CALENDAR: Confession: Thursday Mornings after Mass **CELEBRANT:**

Sunday	Sept. 1, 2024	9:30 a.m.	Mass	Fr. Creagan
Thurs.	Sept. 5, 2024	9:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.	Adoration/Mass	Fr. Creagan
Sunday	Sept. 8, 2024	9:30 a.m.	Mass	Fr. Johansen
Thurs.	Sept. 11, 2024	9:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.	Adoration/Mass	Fr. Creagan

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday	Sept. 1 2024	Chuck & Ann Miles	By: Chuck McKenna
Thurs.	Sept. 5, 2024	Howard & Giannina Lounsbury	By: Mr. & Mrs. Jake VanDam
Sunday	Sept. 8, 2024	Andy Keller	By: Marie Keller
Thurs.	Sept. 12, 2024	Charles Schneider	By: Tom & Carolyn Noack

TODAY: **SUNDAY, 09-01-24** **NEXT SUNDAY:** **SUNDAY, 09-08-24**

Reader	Luke Sage	Reader	Marcus Secondi
EO Ministers	Tony & Jenny Karsen	EO Ministers	Dan & Lori Wahmhoff
Servers	Rocky, Alexa, Bo, Hazel	Servers	Bella, Sadie, Emma, Lydia

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday	Aug. 25 2024	Target	\$1,800.00	Offered	\$ 1,820.00	\$ 20.00
Year to Date		Target	\$16,100.00	Offered	\$16,237.00	\$137.00
Attendance		120	Year To Date Attendance			1135

Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you.

In today's Gospel, Jesus takes the Pharisees and Scribes to task for being hypocrites for "honoring God with their lips" while having "hearts that are far from Him." In direct opposition to the instructions given to the Israelites by Moses all those many years ago, before being allowed to enter the Promised Land, they have added to the statutes and decrees of the Lord. **They disregard God's commandments but cling to human tradition and teach human precepts as doctrines.** They have been imposing too many rules on people, which they do not necessarily follow, making observance of the law more burdensome.

That is a lot of harsh feedback on job performance, let alone the indictment of their suitability for religious leadership. **If Jesus were here today, what would He call us to task about with regard to God's commands? Would He say we have added too much, subtracted too much, and focused more on our traditions than on God's law?**

Although some of us might fall into the temptation the Pharisees did of focusing on a legalistic, too-strict observance of God's commands, **most of us may fall into the opposite temptation: We add too many excuses as to why it's okay for us not to follow the Lord's law faithfully, and so subtract from it.** That's not unusual. Granted, it's not a great way to go about our day, and sin is never a healthy choice for a life of holiness, but it's not something new to God.

He knows us, He loves us, and wants us to do better and *be* better. He wants us to be in communion with Him, here and for eternity. It is so important that we understand that Jesus never stops trying to make us better. Unfortunately, we are our own worst enemies by not allowing God to come in and transform us into the person He wants us to be. For example, when we try to lose weight by eating healthy and exercising, we usually do the opposite; we eat more, do not exercise, and wonder why we are not losing weight.

So, when we struggle, the Lord is there to help us, especially through the sacraments. **Going to confession can be difficult, but in this sacrament, Christ not only frees us from the burden of our sins but also strengthens us to resist temptation. And in the Eucharist, the great sacrament we are gathered to celebrate, we receive the Lord himself. Let us not be shy about accepting that help and encouraging everyone we know to do so as well.**

FROM THE DRE:

It is time to register for CCD. If you have a new student, please see Jennifer Price for registration information. If you have a returning student, you will receive papers to review and sign.

Our first class will be 9/15 with an ice cream social/parent meeting.

We will have a catechist meeting on 9/8 after Mass.

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW, 9/2/24, IN HONOR OF LABOR DAY.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Lillian A. Wheeler, Julie Haley, Steve Klein, Pete & Barb Percival, Joan Rumery, Margie Burris, Lillian B. Wheeler, Frances Parsons, Sonny Laughlin, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, Brett Middleton, and all those on our Prayer Chain.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, AFTER MASS TO WELCOME BACK THE CCD STUDENTS. All our parishioners are welcome to stay and meet our CCD students and teachers.

THE PARISH PICNIC COMMITTEE WILL HAVE A POST-PICNIC MEETING on Sunday, September 8th, right after Mass.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE SOME INPUT TO OUR BUILDING COMMITTEE ON WHAT YOU BELIEVE WE NEED TO BUILD FOR OUR PARISH HALL AND CLASSROOMS? If so, we will have a gathering here at St. Jude on Mon., September 9th at 6 p.m. all are welcome.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER: Toothpaste, garlic powder, pepper, cold cereal and muffin mix. If someone is 60 years of age and over, and their monthly income is \$1580 a month for one person, they can apply to receive CSFP/Senior Commodities each month. If you have any questions, feel free to call 269-501-0224.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you would like to join our prayer chain, or if you have someone you would like them to pray for, please contact the office. Thanks.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE – In today's gospel Jesus warns "what comes from within can defile" a person. Families need to worry about "outside influences" as well as "inside influences." The values our children carry for a lifetime are learned at home. Habits of the heart are the most powerful influences on a child. That's the good news! That can also be bad news!

A NEW WAY TO REMEMBER A LOVED ONE—Here at St. Jude, you can sign up to remember a loved one by having the Sanctuary Candle lit for one week in their name (the name will be announced in the bulletin). Donations are \$10.00. If you are interested, please call the office at 269-628-2219.

THE KALAMAZOO DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN will be hosting a day of reflection this fall on *The Dignity of Life through Natural Death*. Upholding the dignity of life applies to every person in every circumstance throughout life, from conception to natural death. Please join us:

When: Thursday, October 3, 2024

Where: St. Mary of the Lake, 718 W. Buffalo Street, New Buffalo, MI

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Our day of reflection will include Holy Mass, a variety of speakers on important life issues, including end-of-life decisions, Catholic funerals, the dangers of assisted suicide, anointing of the sick, Hospice, grief counseling, personal testimonies, and more. The afternoon program will include 2024 election year guidelines for Catholics. Speakers from The Michigan Catholic Conference will join us for the day. The registration fee for this event is only a \$20 donation to help cover the day's costs, including lunch. To register, go to KDCCW.reg@gmail.com and pay at the door. If you have questions or need more info., please contact Becky.Borglin@gmail.com or call or text Becky at 269-325-1354. We hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you there. --KDCCW Board

FROM THE DIOCESE

CEMETERY COORDINATOR – PART TIME – The Diocese of Kalamazoo is seeking a part-time Cemetery Coordinator to oversee the operations of Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery and Catholic Riverside cemetery. Operations consist of communicating with and providing direction to third-party service providers for burials, foundations, and grounds; coordinating with monument providers for headstone placements; responding to inquiries; maintaining cemetery records; and ensuring overall flow of cemetery operations. This position reports to the Operations Manager.

Anyone aware of child sexual abuse should report the matter to the appropriate law enforcement agency and make a report to the Michigan Department of Attorney General at 844-324-3374.

Bishop Lohse has pledged to provide professional counseling or therapy to victims of clergy sex abuse in the Diocese. Victims can receive 24-hour care via the crisis hotline set with Catholic Charities at 800-873-8336.