

Dear Padre,

Is it sacrilegious to throw away a sacramental?

“Sacramentals do not confer the grace of the Holy Spirit in the way that the sacraments do, but by the Church’s prayer, they prepare us to receive and dispose us to cooperate with it” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1670). Therefore, sacramentals confer grace through the Church’s power of prayer and, if blessed, should not be thrown away but burned and/or buried. If the object has not been blessed, it can be discarded; however, it could also be donated to a Catholic ministry (school, prison, hospital, etc.) that would benefit from its distribution. (If a religious object was included in an unsolicited appeal letter from a charitable organization, it is safe to assume that it was not blessed.)

If the object is worn or broken, it should be substantially altered so that it loses its form as a sacramental and then returned to the earthly elements. For example, a worn scapular should be burned and the ashes buried; a damaged statue should be further broken into smaller fragments and buried. A European tradition on the Vigil of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 23) is to burn old sacramentals in bonfires and bury the ashes. Burning and/or burial respects the sacred nature once held by these items and prevents their adaptation for trivial use. Reverence and discretion are proper for whatever method of disposal. ●

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*.



IC-0 PHILIP SAMSONOVSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

To follow [Jesus]...means “carrying one’s cross”: shouldering, like him, one’s own burdens and those of others, making one’s life a gift, not a possession, spending it in imitation of his own generous and merciful love for us. These are decisions that engage the totality of our lives.

HOMILY, ROME,
SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

GOOGLE GEMINI



Monday

September 1

Weekday

1 Thes 4:13–18

Lk 4:16–30

Tuesday

September 2

Weekday

1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11

Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday

September 3

St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Col 1:1–8

Lk 4:38–44

Thursday

September 4

Weekday

Col 1:9–14

Lk 5:1–11

Friday

September 5

Weekday

Col 1:15–20

Lk 5:33–39

Saturday

September 6

Weekday

Col 1:21–23

Lk 6:1–5

Sunday

September 7

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 9:13–18b

Phlm 9–10, 12–17

Lk 14:25–33

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 31, 2025

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sirach 3:17–18, 20, 28–29 / Hebrews 12:18–19, 22–24a / Luke 14:1, 7–14



Life Out of Focus

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

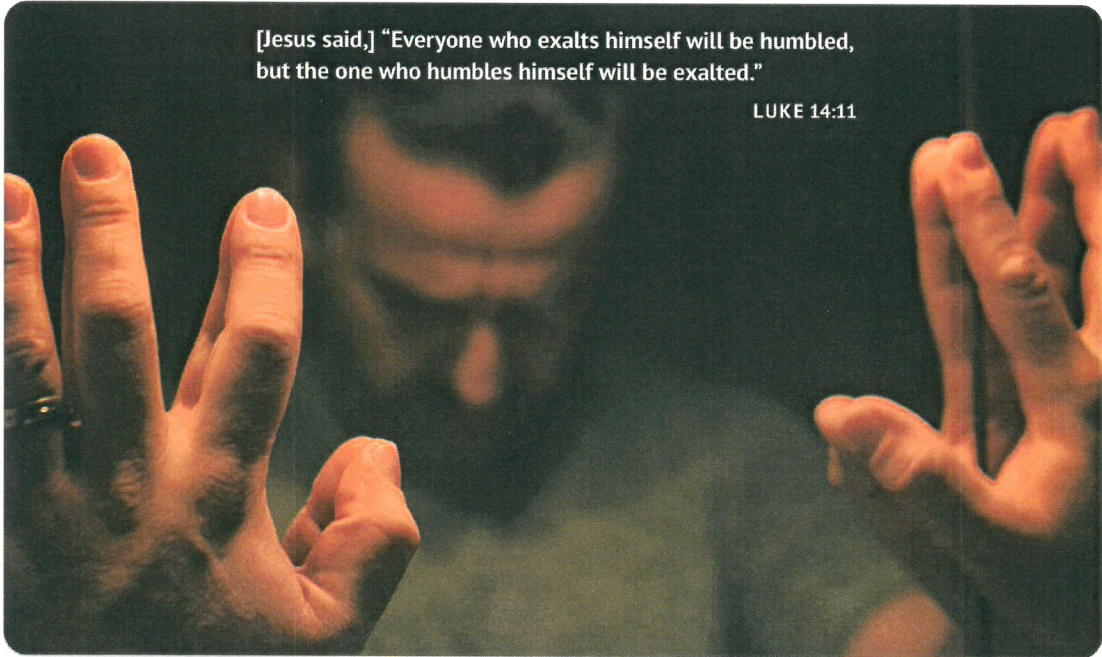
I found myself angry the other day, as we all do, I suppose, whenever we put our foot in our mouth, or forget about an important engagement, or scramble whatever it was we had hoped would be picture-perfect. What I had scrambled was a homily. For some reason, the image came out wrong, or the example did not fit, or it just did not come together the way I had hoped. And I was angry with myself to the point that it caught me off guard. It was an unexpected glimpse of what I didn’t want to admit: the fact that the way people might perceive me as a preacher had taken on more importance than preaching God’s word. Life had gotten out of focus. A perspective had been lost.

It happens to us all in the course of our lifetimes,

and more than once. Grades become more important than learning, or being right more important than the relationship, or the address of where we live more important than the people living together. It happens between parent and child when a parent places greater significance on the son’s or daughter’s profession than on that son’s or daughter’s happiness. Like in the parable of Jesus, where we sit at table takes on greater meaning than the people who gather or the meal that is shared. That is what pride does. It distorts what is real and shifts the focus of life to ourselves. The antidote? A prayerful awareness of who we are and who God is. ●

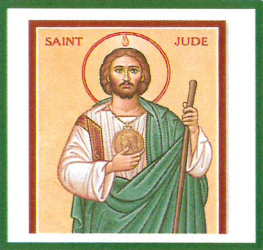
Reflect

What is more important to me than it should be?



[Jesus said,] “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

LUKE 14:11



ST. JUDE PARISH

Father Robert Creagan, Pastor, frcreagan@stakalamazoo.org
Deacon Jim Bauer, Administrator, cell: (269) 655-6510
P.O. Box 102, Gobles, Michigan 49055-0102
Office Phone (269) 628-2219
Webpage: www.st.judeparishgobles.com

For Pastoral Emergencies, Contact Deacon Jim on his cell phone.

PARISH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS (6/1 THRU 9/1/25): Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Office Email: st.judeparishgobles@gmail.com

Sacristan:	Tammy Bauer	(269) 655-6672
Administrative Asst.-Bookkeeper:	Lauren Gilbert	(269) 286-4898
Religious Ed Coordinator:	Jennifer Price	(269) 377-6734
Safe Environment Coordinator:	Jennifer Rossell	(269) 744-2582
Choir Director:	Laura Woods	(269) 628-4886

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

Sunday	Aug. 31, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Fr. Andrew
Thursday	Sep. 4, 2025	9:00/10:00 a.m.	Adoration and Mass	Fr. Pinto
Sunday	Sep. 7, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Fr. Morris
Thursday	Sep. 11, 2025	9:00/10:00 a.m.	Adoration and Mass	Fr. Pinto

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday	Aug. 31, 2025	Bruce & Carol McDonald	By: Sharon & Jake VanDam
Thursday	Sep. 4, 2025	Chuck & Ann Miles	By: Chuck McKenna
Sunday	Sep. 7, 2025	Andy Keller	By: Marie Keller
Thursday	Sep. 11, 2025	Edward & Eleanor Kazak	By: M/M John Kancauski

---TODAY: SUNDAY: 8-31-2025 NEXT SUNDAY: 9-07-2025

Reader	Carolyn Noack	Reader	Jennifer Price
EO Ministers	D. Herschleb & D. Wahmhoff	EO Mins	Ken & Margie Little
Servers	Bo, Alexa, Emma	Servers	Bella, Hayzl, Lydia

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday	Aug 24, 2025	Target	\$ 1,600	Offered	\$ 1,697.00	\$ 97.00
Year to Date		Target	\$ 14,400		\$ 15,158.00	\$ 758.00
Attendance		116	Year-To-Date Attendance			1026

God Calls Us to Humble Service

Today’s readings emphasize the importance of humility. The Book of Sirach says *to humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God*. This message is echoed in the parable about a wedding banquet that Jesus shares in today’s Gospel reading. Invited guests should not sit in the place of honor. Otherwise, when a more distinguished guest arrives, they will be asked to move down to a lower place, causing embarrassment. Instead, they should choose to sit in the lowest place. Then, when the host invites them to sit at a higher place, they will be esteemed.

Jesus continues, telling his host that when he hosts a banquet, *he shouldn't invite friends, relatives, or wealthy neighbors who might later return the favor by inviting him in return. Instead, he should invite those who are unable to repay him, because then he will be rewarded at the resurrection of the righteous*.

God is abundantly generous to us in ways that we know we can never fully repay. He is instructing us to be as open and free in our own generosity to others. As we have received, so should we give (Cf. Mt 10:8). *The kingdom can be grown and nurtured only through our imitation of God’s love, manifested in Jesus Christ*. In our own humble recognition of our poverty (both spiritual and material—without God, so should we recognize that it is the humility of Christ who became man, that opened the way to our invitation to the heavenly banquet. *Thus, we serve Him when we humble ourselves like Him*.

There is a connection between humility and service. *With humility, we see ourselves clearly*. We do our duty and avoid what is beyond our strength. We think more about others than ourselves. When we're guests, we take the lowest seat. When we’re hosts, we invite the lowest.

Every Sunday, we are invited to a wedding feast where we renew our covenant with our Bridegroom. Christ invites us to approach Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. *We cannot hope to repay Christ for the gift he has given us. Instead, we are called to imitate his humility and loving service. We are called to pour ourselves out to our brothers and sisters in the same way he has poured himself out for us*.

FROM THE DRE

It's time to start thinking about CCD again.
We are in need of another Catechist this year.
If interested, please see Jennifer Price.

Registration will start at the beginning of September.
We will have a catechist meeting on 9/14. Our first class will be 9/21.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Sonny Laughlin, Julie Haley, Joan Rumery, Margie Burris, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, and those on our prayer chain.

THURSDAY MORNING MASS TIME WILL CHANGE TO 10:00 A.M. STARTING SEPTEMBER 4TH

Adoration will continue to start at 9:00 a.m.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE – Family life well lived confirms the words of Jesus in today's gospel, "Those who humble themselves will be exalted." Commitment, intimacy, loyalty and love are the rewards of humble service and care for one another.

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

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE PARISH, WELCOME! – We love to see new faces! In order to get to know you better, please see Deacon Jim or stop by the office to fill out a registration form.

BECOME A KNIGHT TODAY – Did you know that the international organization known as the Knights of Columbus is 139 years old? That we were founded by a parish priest, Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney? That Pope St. John Paul II called the Knights the strong right arm of the church? Did you know that Knights change lives and save lives through our "Faith in Action Programs"? For more information, follow Michigan Knights of Columbus on Facebook www.facebook.com/MichiganKofC for more information.

SAINT JUDE PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sun., August 31: Mass at 9:30 a.m. Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Thurs., Sept. 4: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Mass at 10 a.m.

Sun., Sept. 7: Mass at 9:30 a.m. Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Thurs., Sept. 11: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Mass 10 a.m.

Sun., Sept. 14: Mass at 9:30 a.m. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Sun., Sept. 14: Catechist meeting after Mass

Sun., Sept. 21, 2025: Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun., Sept. 21, 2025: Blessing of the CCD Teachers, First Day of Class, Coffee & Donuts.

Thurs., Sept. 24: Adoration at 9 a.m. & Mass 10 a.m.

Sun., Sept. 28, 2025: Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

FROM THE DIOCESE

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS OCTOBER 5, 2025 - The Diocesan Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries will take place Sunday, October 5, 2025, honoring couples celebrating 25th, 40th and 50th. Mass will be celebrated at St. Augustine Cathedral at 2 p.m. with a reception following in the Fr. Crowley Center on the Cathedral grounds. Contact Socorro Truchan, struchan@diokzoo.org for more information and to register.

HELP SAVE LIVES IN KALAMAZOO – 40 Days for Life Campaign runs from September 24th through November 2nd, 2025. Here's how to take part:

Vigil Location: on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood, 4201 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI

Vigil Hours: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

Local Contact: Joe Magalski 989-992-6085 or 40dayskalamazoo@gmail.com

Prayer Vigils at Planned Parenthood: Candlelight Vigil Sunday, Sep. 21, at 6:00.

Midpoint Rally, Wednesday,, Oct 22, at 1 p.m. with Dr. Haywood Robinson, 40 Days for Life Director of Medical Affairs & Education.

Bishop Lohse has committed to providing professional counseling or therapy to victims of clergy sex abuse in the Diocese. Victims can access 24-hour support through the crisis hotline established by Catholic Charities at 800-873-8336.