

Dear Padre,

We knew a beloved priest whose death was self-inflicted. What is the Church's stance on suicide?

I offer my heartfelt sympathy to you and the faith community for this tragic loss. "We are stewards, not owners, of the life God has entrusted to us. It is not ours to dispose of" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2280). Those who take their own life to end personal suffering assume a decision-making that belongs to God alone. However, the Church also acknowledges that "grave psychological disturbances, anguish, or grave fear of hardship, suffering, or torture can diminish the responsibility of the one committing suicide" (*CCC* 2282).

At the same time, the Church relies on the compassion of God, who fully knows the intensity of suffering that triggers suicide. Therefore, the Church pastorally states: "We should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives" (*CCC* 2283).

How, then, does the Church specifically pray for those who've committed suicide? Generally they're not deprived of full burial rites in the Church, which consoles the living and commends all of the dead "to God's merciful love and pleads for the forgiveness of their sins" (*Order of Christian Funerals*, 6). Nor are they deprived of burial in a Catholic cemetery—a sacred place that helps bring peace to those confronted by the sudden death of a suicide.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



Calendar

Monday
SEPTEMBER 14
The Exaltation of
the Holy Cross
Nm 21:4b–9
Phil 2:6–11
Jn 3:13–17

Tuesday
SEPTEMBER 15
Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Cor 12:12–14, 27–31a
Jn 19:25–27 or
Lk 2:33–35

Wednesday
SEPTEMBER 16
Sts. Cornelius, Pope,
and Cyprian, Bishop,
Martyrs
1 Cor 12:31–13:13
Lk 7:31–35

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 17
Weekday
1 Cor 15:1–11
Lk 7:36–50

Friday
SEPTEMBER 18
Weekday
1 Cor 15:12–20
Lk 8:1–3

Saturday
SEPTEMBER 19
Weekday
1 Cor 15:35–37, 42–49
Lk 8:4–15

Sunday
SEPTEMBER 20
Twenty-fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Is 55:6–9
Phil 1:20c–24, 27a
Mt 20:1–16a



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

The increase in the rates of suicide in your cities, as well as bullying and various kinds of neediness, are creating new forms of alienation....I ask you to pay special attention to [the young] and their needs. Try to create spaces...of generous and selfless love...to everyone, and not only to those who have "made it."

—MEETING WITH BISHOPS, TOKYO, NOVEMBER 23, 2019

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Liguori
PUBLICATIONS
A Redemptorist Ministry

Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 13, 2020

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Sir 27:30–28:7
Rom 14:7–9
Mt 18:21–35

Limitless Forgiveness

What makes seven such an important number?

It's the symbolism. It signifies wholeness, completeness, and totality. So, seventy-seven (or seventy times seven in some Bible translations) suggests infinity. Peter was exaggerating when he suggested that he might forgive his brother seven times. He presumed that if he acted in this way, his behavior would demonstrate the immeasurable extent of his personal graciousness. Jesus' response implied that there should be no end to our forgiving another. To underscore the significance of this magnanimity, Jesus offered God (in the guise of the king who forgave a huge debt) as the exemplar of forgiving.

Forgiving another's offense against us could well be one of the most difficult things we are asked to do. To ask for forgiveness does not seem as difficult. After all, when we bump into a perfect stranger in an elevator, we say, "Forgive me." But to forgive someone who has

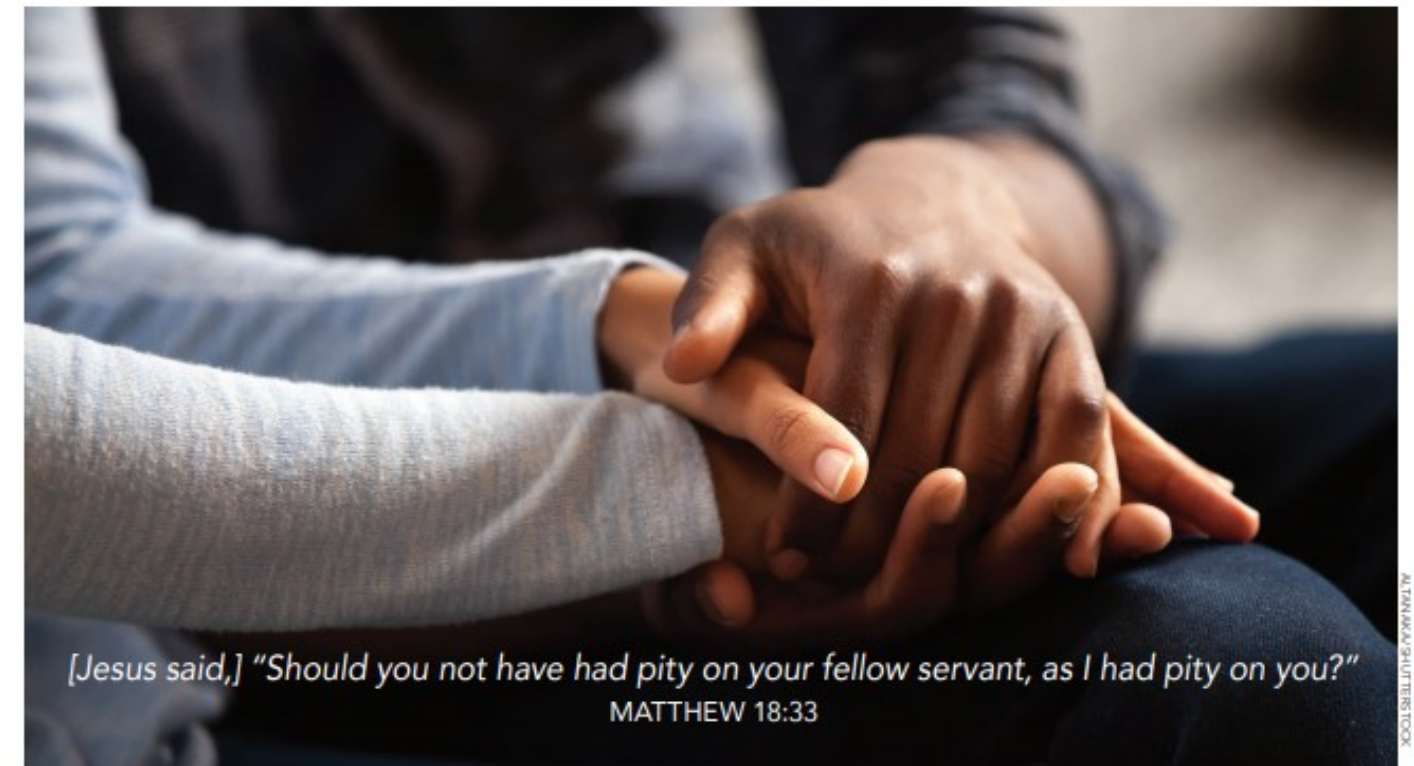
deliberately offended us, who has dishonored our sense of personal dignity, as slight as that offense might be, is neither as easy nor as casual a gesture. And yet, we must.

We all carry debts to others. Both the first reading and the Gospel passage remind us that the debts owed to us by others in no way compare with the debt we owe God, and yet God shows us compassion and forgives us. If we are grateful children of a compassionate God, we will want to be like God and we will forgive others.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

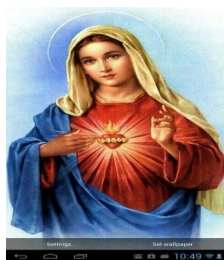
FOR Reflection

- ★ Say the Lord's Prayer slowly, reflecting on "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."
- ★ Do you carry resentment in your heart? Does clinging to it lessen its burden in any way?



[Jesus said,] "Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?"

MATTHEW 18:33



Our Lady of Peace Parish

Universal Prayer intention – Respect for the Planet’s Resources
We pray that the planet’s resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respect-ful manner.

We are still planning on starting up Religious Education. We will follow the same basic schedule as in past years!

Reiter Farm Auction Sale

1280 Hwy 18 NE - Hatton

Saturday September 19th at 10:30.

*Guns *Antiques *Household Items *Vehicles *Tools

Lunch served by OLP Catholic Church

Wow! The “Card Shower” was a huge success! I was able to celebrate my 90th Birthday for more than two weeks and received over 100 cards, (so far)!

“Thank you” to all who expressed wishes, sent cards, gave gifts and cared. It was great to touch base with you all. Enjoy the day and every day!

God Bless & take care!

In gratitude, Delores (Dee) von Ruden

Thank you to all who contributed to our Tabernacle fund. We have reached our goal and will soon be sending it away to be replated.



MON 9/14	OLP	No MASS	
TUES. 9/15	OLP	9:00 AM	
WED. 9/16	OLP	9:00 AM	
THURS. 9/17	OLP	9:00 AM	
FRI. 9/18	OLP	9:00 AM	
SAT. 9/19	OLP	5:00 PM	
SUN. 9/20	ST. AGNES OLP	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	PRO POPULO

OLP Stewardship 9/06/ 2020	
Adult Envelopes	\$2116. 00
Plate	75.00
Building Fund-Maintenance	640.00
Votive Candles	104.00
Mission Church – St. Ann’s	10.00
Religious Ed—Pop can Sales	75.00
Total \$3,020.00	

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Website: olp-stagnes.org
Holy Hour Sundays: 4:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Contacts for OLP Prayer Chain: Julie Lipsiea 786-2138 or julie.lipsiea@may-portcg.com; Marge Spies 788-8775 or e mail-
maggiej@yahoo.com; or Dee Von Ruden 788-3334

St. Agnes Parish



St. Agnes Parish
102 1st St East
Hunter, ND 58048



September 13, 2020

That we recognize everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God, including our very own lives.

September 13, 2020 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." – ROMANS 14:8

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He is calling you to the live the life that He intended for you.

Losing a loved one through death can be one of the most difficult experiences in a person's life. Learning about grief and being around others who have experienced a similar loss can provide some comfort.

Hospice of the Red River Valley will be offering "virtual" classes this fall. These classes are intended for those who have experienced a loss; they are not meant to serve as a training event for professionals. *All programs are free and open to the public, but registration is required prior to each class date.* For more information on any of these classes, please call (800) 237-4629 and ask to speak to a member of the grief support department. by Hospice of the Red River Valley

Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land
9/19/2020 and 9/20/2020
(Pope Francis had authorized a transfer to September because of the pandemic).
This supports the preservation of Holy Sites in the Holy Land as well as the local communities, including Christians displaced from neighboring countries because of civil unrest. Please pray for peace in the Holy Land.

St Agnes Stewardship 9/06/2020	
Adult Envelopes	\$245.00
Plate	40.00
Votive Candles	0.00
Total \$ 285.00	

If anyone has something to share that should be included in the bulletin, please contact Lois, 874-2144, 701-238-4380, lois_ewertzl@hotmail.com

Keep in your prayers: This week's prayer list: Please let Lois know who you would like to include on our prayer list.