

# A Balanced Perspective

Kathleen Basi

We live in a world where science reveals wonders as distant as the far reaches of the universe and as intimate as the center of our own DNA. We prize knowledge and revere those who help us reach greater understanding of the world and ourselves.

It's good to seek wisdom, but focusing too much on intellect makes it easy to get jaded about the things that defy scientific testing. We think we should be able to pull apart the strands of the universe and reduce everything to its components. When we can't, we start worrying that we're being "taken for a ride."

Yet mystery surrounds us. For instance, after decades of research, scientists still uncover new components to human breast milk. In every age, humans have looked to the night sky with wonder and awe, marveling at the size of the universe and our own tiny place within it. And who contemplates



the death of a child without asking, *Why?* Mystery is part of the human experience. It can inspire awe; it can deepen grief; it can challenge our faith. As we long to understand the earth, so we long to understand the One who made us. Yet some things will always remain unfathomable. The tension between these two opposing realities will not be resolved on this side of eternity.

The deeper we dig, the more we will understand about God. Yet the more we understand, the more layers of mystery are revealed.

Frustrating, as it may seem, that's a good thing. Greater understanding allows us to exercise control over our surroundings. Yet the more control we impose, the easier it is to forget that every breath is a gift from God. Contemplating all that cannot be understood offers a much-needed balancing perspective—namely, that there is a bright center of the universe, and *I am not it*.

As hard as it may be, living the faith means accepting—even embracing the reality that not all things can be known and understood. At least, not right now. The poet Rainer Maria Rilke said it beautifully, in his *Letters to a Young Poet*, when he spoke of being patient toward the unknown, embracing the questions within, and living in the moment to uncover the answers. †

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*Gracious God, as we celebrate Labor Day, we pray, encourage us in our work, calm us in our rest, and inspire us in our prayer. Amen.*

The Redemptorists



# Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)  
September 3, 2023

## The Cost of Discipleship

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

In 1937, *The Cost of Discipleship* by a German Lutheran pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, was published. The book reflected on the Sermon on the Mount, and the demands it outlined led to Bonhoeffer's arrest and eventual death at the hands of the Nazis. It can be very dangerous to be faithful to Jesus' way of life. This shouldn't surprise us. Jesus' teaching cost Jesus his life.

Though the Gospel reading does not provide us with a program of action, it repeats Jesus' charge to take up our cross and follow him. This cross is different for each of us; it makes very personal

demands. We are called to lose our life for his sake. This was true at the time of Jesus; it is true today.

This was true at the time of the prophet Jeremiah as well. He was called to proclaim God's word to his own people. They would not listen. Instead, "I am an object of laughter; / everyone mocks me" (Jeremiah 20:7). The prophet wants relief from his prophetic responsibility. Who wouldn't? What follows is quite moving. He makes up his mind that he will stop talking about God—but he can't. "It [the word of God] is as if fire is burning in my heart... / I grow weary holding back" (Jeremiah 20:9). That is the cost Jeremiah had to pay. The cross was the cost Jesus paid. And what of us? †

## A Word from Pope Francis

Let us make sure that the cross hanging on the wall at home, or that little one that we wear around our neck, is a sign of our wish to be united with Christ in lovingly serving our brothers and sisters, especially the littlest and most fragile. The cross is the holy sign of God's Love.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 30, 2020



## Sunday Readings

**Jeremiah 20:7-9**

All day long I am an object of laughter; / everyone mocks me.

**Romans 12:1-2**

Be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God.

**Matthew 16:21-27**

[Jesus said,] "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

*The cross every person has to take up is different for each one of us.*



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- What is the cost of discipleship for you?
- What in your life might be the cross you are being asked to bear?

## WEEKDAY READINGS

September 4-9

**Monday, Weekday:**  
1 Thes 4:13-18 / Lk 4:16-30

**Tuesday, Weekday:**  
1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11 / Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday, Weekday:**  
Col 1:1-8 / Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday, Weekday:** Col 1:9-14 / Lk 5:1-11

**Friday, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary:**  
Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30 /  
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

**Saturday, St. Peter Claver:**  
Col 1:21-23 / Lk 6:1-5

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the Word

September 3, 2023

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## Parish of St. Vincent De Paul

"We as a community rooted in the Catholic faith seek to imitate Christ's  
Examples of love and service to others and spread the light of our faith to others."  
Parish phone: 509-234-2262 **Sept. 3, 2023** website: [stvincentconnell.org](http://stvincentconnell.org)

Fr. Lutakome Deo Nsubuga

Deacon Arturo Biebrich parish phone: 509-222-9223 after 5 pm only

### 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass Sept. 3, 2023

Lector: Greg Hart

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

Marv G., Wally G

**Greeters & Presentation of Gift**

Art & Pat Barrera Family

**Altar Servers:**

Adrian & Emmett

### 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass Sept. 10, 2023

Lector: Brandy Ferguson

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

Mike R.; Eloisa M.

**Greeters & Presentation of Gift**

Onna Polluck Family

**Alter Servers:**

Giselle & Aubriel

### Pope's Prayer intentions:

#### For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of  
society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be  
overlooked by institutions and never considered of  
lesser importance.

### Mass Schedule

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m. @ St. Paul's in Eltopia

10:30 a.m. @ St. Vincent's (English)

12:00 p.m. @ St. Vincent's (Spanish)

**Saturday:** 7:00 p.m. @ San Juan Diego (Spanish)

**Wednesday:** 8:00 a.m. Adoration @ St. Vincent's

8:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Vincent's

**Confessions:** Wednesdays 6:30 pm @ St. Vincent's

Friday 4:30 pm @ San Juan Diego

**Church Secretary:** Elida Fernández - [secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com](mailto:secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com)

**Tues, Weds. Thurs 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm**

Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917; 12 pm – 3:30 pm on Tues. Weds. Thurs.

**Prayer Chain:** Call Carolyn Nordhus @ 509-234-5972

**Breezeway Calendar:** If you have any parish events or meetings that you would like  
on the all-parish calendar that is posted in the breezeway please contact  
Marla Goade @ 539-5354 [wmgoade73@gmail.com](mailto:wmgoade73@gmail.com)

**Weekly Bulletin:** Please email Elida Fernández [secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com](mailto:secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com) by  
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS for information to be included in the upcoming Sunday  
bulletin. Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917

**Website:** To add or send information, pictures or news to the website please  
email Jaeniffer Kaiser @ [jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com](mailto:jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com)

**LIKE our Facebook** page to get updated posts and information about our parish. You can also  
see photos of all the activities that have been happening. If you want to post church happenings on  
Facebook, please email Onna Pollock at [olpollock@yahoo.com](mailto:olpollock@yahoo.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### Altar Flowers

Sept. – Guadalupanas

Oct. – Altar Society

#### CONFESSIONS

This Wednesday Sept. 6th

@ St. Vincent Parish @ 6:30 pm

#### Confession Schedule

@ St. Pat's – Pasco

Wednesdays

5 pm – 8 pm

@ Sacred Heart- Othello

Wed. @ 5 pm

#### Steer Raffle

Enrique Lopez

(509-431-2272 for more info) is raising

funds for St. Vincent Parish.

\$20 per ticket.

He will be selling tickets after

both masses on Sundays.

#### Connell Food Bank

**Banco de Comida**

**Seniors: Tuesdays**

**3rd Edad- Tues. / Martes**

**Sept. 12th & 26th**

**10:00 am – 11:30 am**

**General Public:**

El público en general:

**Wed. / Miércoles**

**Sept. 13th & 27th**

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**

### Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

July 23, 2023

10:30 am - \$1153.00

12:00 pm – \$640.00

Basin City – \$956.00

July 30, 2023

10:30 am - \$856.00

12:00 pm – \$466.10

Basin City – \$1110.00

Aug. 6, 2023

10:30 am - \$1865.55

12:00 pm – \$577.60

Basin City – \$778.00

Aug. 13, 2023

10:30 am - \$593.00

12:00 pm – \$319.00

Basin City – \$760.00

### Registration for High School Rel. Ed

Registration for High School Wednesday  
program is still taking applications.

Please contact Elida Fernandez for an  
application. Eighth Graders, if you have  
your sacraments of Baptism, 1<sup>st</sup>  
Communion, & Confirmation you may  
apply and join the High School group on  
Wednesdays!

### Registration for Sunday Religious Ed

All registration will be handled in the parish  
office with the secretary.

Any questions, please speak with  
Enrique López – Coordinator Rel. Ed.

Elida Fernández – Parish Secretary

Registration for Sunday Rel. Ed program  
will close Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Expo '23 on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>

Procession begins at 1:30 pm

At Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral

Go to [expo23.org](http://expo23.org) to get your free ticket  
and join in the celebration.

Veronica Biebrich (521- 4602) is  
registering for the limited seats on the  
bus. \$20 per person.

### Wholehearted Women's Gathering

Saturday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>

At St. Patrick Parish, Pasco

Wholehearted is a one-day retreat offering  
Inspirational talks, Adoration, Reconciliation,  
and music.

Tickets on sale at Eventbrite

Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 am

### FR. LUTA'S SCHEDULE FOR 2 WEEKS:

Sept. 3, 2023 – Sept. 17, 2023

**Mon. Sept. 4:**

**Fr. Luta's day of rest.**

**Tues. Sept. 5:**

4:00 pm Confessions @ Eltopia

5:00 pm Mass @ Eltopia

6:00 pm Finance Council @ Eltopia

**Wed. Sept. 6:**

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

6:30 pm Confession @ Connell

**Thurs. Sept. 7:**

10:00 am Adoration @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Eltopia

5:30 pm Parish Council @ Eltopia

**Fri. Sept. 8:**

8:30 am Prison Ministry @ Connell

4:30 pm Confessions @ Basin City

**Sat. Sept. 9:**

1:00 pm Quinceanera @ San Juan Diego

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Sun. Sept. 10: Mass**

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass / Spanish @ Connell

**Please Keep Fr. Luta in Our Prayers.**

**Mon. Sept. 11:**

**Fr. Luta's day of rest.**

**Tues. Sept. 12:**

4:00 pm Confessions @ Eltopia

5:30 pm Mass / K of C @ Connell

6:00 pm Knights Meeting @ Connell

**Wed. Sept. 13:**

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

6:30 pm Confession @ Connell

**Thurs. Sept. 14:**

10:00 am Adoration @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Eltopia

**Fri. Sept. 15:**

8:30 am Prison Ministry @ Connell

6:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal @ Connell

**Sat. Sept. 16:**

1:00 pm Wedding @ Connell

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Sun. Sept. 17: Mass**

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass / Spanish @ Connell