

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED **YOU.**

LUKE 17:19



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERVING ST. MARY'S/MALTA, SACRED HEART/DODSON, ST. FRANCIS/SACO

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025

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Contact Us

Fr. Felix Nayak, Pastor

Cell 406.946.2195 or Rectory 406.654.1446

Deacon Tom DePuydt

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Administrative Assistant office hours are Tuesday & Thursday, 10am to 2pm at RE Center

Please check our website for additional information. Weekly bulletins are posted in full color with several additions – check them out here: <https://www.saintmarysmalta.org/bulletins>

Confession – Friday's 9-10am, Saturday's 11-noon or contact Fr. Felix directly for an appointment.

Adoration – every Friday 9:00-10:00am immediately following daily Mass.

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday vigil – Malta 5:00pm

Sunday – Saco 8:30am, Malta 10:30am, Dodson 12:30pm

Homily by Fr. Felix:

XXVIII Sunday (C): 2 Kings 5:14–17, 2 Timothy 2:8–13, Luke 17:11–19

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

In today's liturgy, we see God's mercy is revealed to those who humble themselves in faith, as Naaman's healing and the grateful leper's return show that true salvation flows from a heart that recognizes God as the source of every blessing. Like Paul, we are called to endure in faith and thanksgiving, trusting that the risen Christ remains ever faithful, transforming our suffering and gratitude into the joy of eternal life.

Naaman, a powerful Syrian commander, comes to Israel in search of healing. Yet it is not the prophet's grand gesture but a humble act, washing seven times in the Jordan, that restores him. Naaman's healing reveals that God's grace is found in obedience and faith. When Naaman immerses himself in the water, he also immerses his pride into humility, and from that humility springs healing. His response is thanksgiving; he acknowledges that there is no God but the Lord.

This passage invites us to recognize how God works through simple, ordinary means, sacraments, words, gestures, to bring extraordinary grace. Like Naaman, we too are called to surrender our human logic and pride, allowing God's mercy to transform us in the quiet waters of faith.

St. Paul, imprisoned for the Gospel, His faithfulness in suffering mirrors Christ's own endurance. The apostle proclaims that if we die with Christ, we shall live with Him; if we persevere, we shall reign with Him. Yet even when we are unfaithful, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

This reading reminds us that Christian discipleship involves endurance and trust. To remember Jesus Christ is to root our lives in the victory of the Resurrection, knowing that our crosses and struggles are never in vain. God's faithfulness sustains us even when our strength falters, inviting us to live with hope and perseverance.

In the Gospel, ten lepers cry out to Jesus from a distance, "Master, have pity on us!" Jesus heals them all, but only one, a Samaritan, a foreigner, returns to give thanks. His gratitude is not mere courtesy; it is the recognition of salvation itself. The other nine receive physical healing, but the grateful Samaritan receives something deeper, spiritual wholeness. Jesus tells him, "Your faith has saved you."

Gratitude, therefore, is not just an emotion; it is an act of faith. It acknowledges that every blessing flows from God and that our response must be worship and thanksgiving. The Samaritan's return to Jesus represents the Eucharistic heart of the Christian life, coming back to the Source of mercy to give thanks.

In our own lives, we often receive countless blessings yet forget to turn back and thank God. Today, Jesus calls us to live as that one grateful leper, to see beyond the gifts to the Giver, to make our lives a continual "Eucharist," a thanksgiving that bears witness to faith. Gratitude transforms healing into holiness and blessings into communion with God.

The leper's gratitude, Naaman's humility, and Paul's endurance all point to one truth: salvation is God's merciful gift, received through faith and expressed in thanksgiving. Let us, therefore, live each day as a hymn of gratitude, proclaiming with our lives, "There is no God but the Lord, and His mercy endures forever." Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No daily Mass Monday (10/13) or Tuesday (10/14) as Fr. Felix is away.

Fr. Felix is pleased to announce that **Macie Hould** has been hired as our new **part-time Administrative Assistant and Religious Education Director**. We welcome Macie to this role and ask for your patience and support as she becomes familiar with her new responsibilities. Hours - Tuesday & Thursday 10-2 at RE Center.

There will be a **Liturgy & Worship Commission meeting at 5PM on Wednesday, October 15th** in the Rectory. All ministry leaders and anyone interested in invited. Agenda includes review of Ministry duties, recruiting new Ministers, and most anything related to worship and liturgy – your ideas are welcome.

We are pleased to share that **St. Mary's in Malta has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana!** With this generous support—and the help of additional funds—we will be installing a **modern, reliable sound system** for the main body of the church and the choir loft.



The Finance Council has approved the grant agreement, with funding to come from our current parish raffle and from new donations dedicated to this effort (estimated cost of the project is over \$10,000.) Anne Boothe assisted with the grant application and will provide oversight of the project, with input from parish musicians and other parishioners, they will finalize the budget and move forward. We hope to complete all aspects of the project **before Christmas**.

If you would like to make a special donation to help bring this project to completion, please earmark your gift for the **“Sound System Project.”** Donations may be mailed to **St. Mary's, P.O. Box 70, Malta, MT** or placed in the collection basket. You can also support this and other important parish projects by contributing to the **Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana**. Learn more at www.catholicfoundationmt.org or by reviewing the materials available at the back of the church.

All the buildings within the parish recently were inspected for safety by our insurance provider with the purpose to identify opportunities for improvement with regards to workplace safety, property and general liability risks. Fr. Felix will be working with Councils and parish members to resolve any noted concerns.

Mass Intentions - to schedule an intention, please contact Fr. Felix, suggested offering is \$10 each.

Saturday 10.11.25	All who are ill r/b Lana Fortin
Sunday 10.12.25 10:30 Malta 8:30am Saco Dodson	For the faithful of our parish Repose of soul of Father Robert Grosch r/b St. Mary's-Malta Repose of Soul of Derek Davis and for his family r/b Lana Fortin
Monday 10.13.25	No Mass
Tuesday 10.14.25	No Mass
Wednesday 10.15.25	Repose of soul of Father Robert Grosch r/b St. Mary's
Thursday 10.16.25	Repose of soul of Carolyn Morrow r/b Julie & Gary Howell
Friday 10.17.25	Repose of soul of Father Robert Grosch r/b St. Mary's
Saturday 10.18.25	For Sue Kron r/b Julie Howell
Sunday 10.19.25	For the faithful of our parish

Prayer Requests

*If you have a prayer request, please contact **Dianne Salsbery** at 406-654-4675. Names will be listed in the bulletin for a minimum of 30 days.*

Please pray for – the family of Norma Wyse, Carletta Benson, Joe Simanton, Judy Henry, Lorena James, Adalyn McCollom, Ramona Kienenberger, Gloria Combs, Corky LaBrie, Brian Shevlin, Kristi Shettel Peterson, Dianne Salsbery, Bob Kaluza, Tammy Peterson and those from our area serving in the military.

For the repose of the souls of – Shirley Eklund, Alvina Doucette, Derek Davis, KJ Wilke, Jim Robinson, David Williamson, Lee Stevens and all souls in need and pray also for their families that they find comfort and peace.

Readings for the week of October 12, 2025

Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9

Next Sunday: Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see 2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8

Finance Council members include:

Deb Sjostrom 406-654-1451,
sjostrom@itstriangle.com.

Lance Hould 406-539-5772,
lanceh_99@hotmail.com

Mike Ereaux 406-658-2613 (H), 406-654-7803 (C),
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Scott King 406-654-7302, sbking1959@gmail.com

Shyla Sunford 406-399-1484,
shylasunford@gmail.com (Saco)

Bonnie Lankford 406-390-2276,
Bonnie4339@hotmail.com (Dodson)

Meetings are generally the 3rd Thursday of the month. If interested in serving please contact a member of the finance council.

Parish Council members include:

Alora Snider— 399-1675,
alora_lynn_09@hotmail.com

Shawn Bleth— 654-7303, shawn.bleth@gmail.com

Nancy Ereaux—658-2613 (H),

Jeff Van Heel—406-266-1133

Joy DePuydt—674-5560, joyful@itstriangle.com
(Saco)

Leona Kienenberger—383-4459,

leona_kienenberger@yahoo.com (Dodson)

PCCW Raffle Tickets Available \$5 per ticket

1st Prize – ½ Beef (includes processing)

2nd Prize – ½ Beef (includes processing)

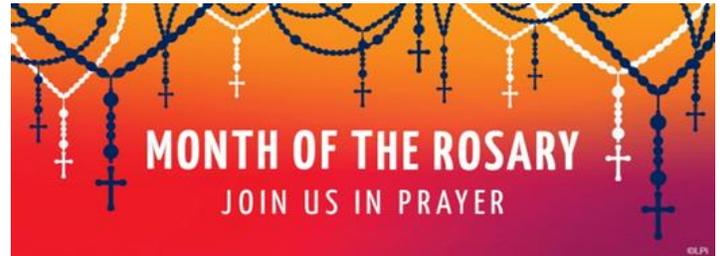
3rd Prize - \$500 Albertson's gift card

4th Prize – King Size Quilt made by the church quilters!

Drawing will be November 3rd

Contact Cheryl Moore or any church PCCW lady for tickets.

Special thanks for our wonderful donors.



“Where does St. Thérèse tuck her roses at night?”



“Into a flower bed.”



St. Thérèse loved flowers. She once stated that every person's mission is like a flower in God's garden, and that flowers both grand and humble were all beautiful to Him!

OLPI

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Naaman went down and plunged into the Jordan seven times at the word of Elisha, the man of God. His flesh became again like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean of his leprosy. (2 Kgs 5:14)

Psalm:

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (Ps 98)

Second Reading:

If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him. (2 Tim 2:11-12)

Gospel:

Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you." (Lk 17:19)

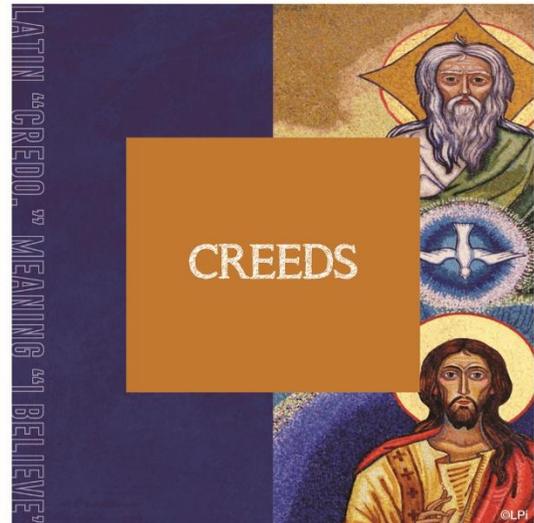
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

If we have faith, we call out to God and we beg him for healing. But when our faith is rewarded, what then? Do we take our miracle and run? No, we must return to the source of our healing to say, "You have changed me, Lord. Now help me change others."

Observances for the week of October 12, 2025

- Sunday:** 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** Columbus Day; Indigenous Peoples' Day
- Tuesday:** St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr
- Wednesday:** St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday:** St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin
- Friday:** St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr
- Saturday:** St. Luke, Evangelist
- Next Sunday:** 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Mission Sunday



Devotions, Explained!

A creed (from the Latin "credo," meaning "I believe") is a summary of the most important articles of faith agreed upon by a group of people who hold them as truth. Tradition has given us not just the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, but many more.

Prayer of Gratitude

Dear Lord,
Every day is full of blessings from Your generous hands. Thank You for waking us this morning, filling our lungs with breath. Thank you for the ways You are healing our past, working in the present, and opening possibilities for the future.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of October 12, 2025

Sunday:

2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/
2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

Monday:

Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday:

Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday:

Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday:

Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/
Lk 11:47-54

Friday:

Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday:

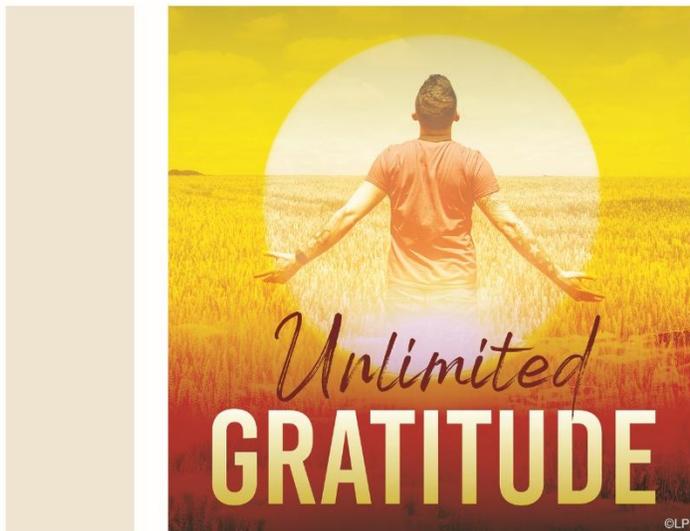
2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/
Lk 10:1-9

Next Sunday:

Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see
2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Dorothy Day, the great Catholic activist, doubted God's existence. At least in her early adult years. But something changed when after giving birth to her daughter, she experienced an overwhelming gratitude. She later described how, as she held her daughter, the only appropriate response was a kind of unlimited gratitude. She had done nothing to deserve such a gift — this tiny, miraculous life — but there she was, flooded with gratitude, completely undone by the love of such a Giver.

Something similar occurs in Luke 17:19 when Jesus tells a healed leper, **“Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.”** This man had already received physical healing through his faith. But the moment of an even deeper transformation came when he turned back, fell at Jesus' feet, and gave thanks. Like Dorothy, this man's gratitude led him to encounter the Giver.

Isn't that what we want, too? Gratitude to God has the power to break our chains of sadness, bitterness, and disenchantment. It empowers us to step out of the prison of self-pity and into the reality of God's abundant love. It shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have received, from what wounds us to what heals us.

Where do we learn this? The Mass. The priest prays: “It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks.” Always. Everywhere. Not just when life is easy. Not just when prayers are answered as we expect. Gratitude is not a passive feeling; it is an act of faith. In the eucharist, we remember that Christ himself has given everything for us. And in this act of gratitude, we are healed.

— *Father John Muir*