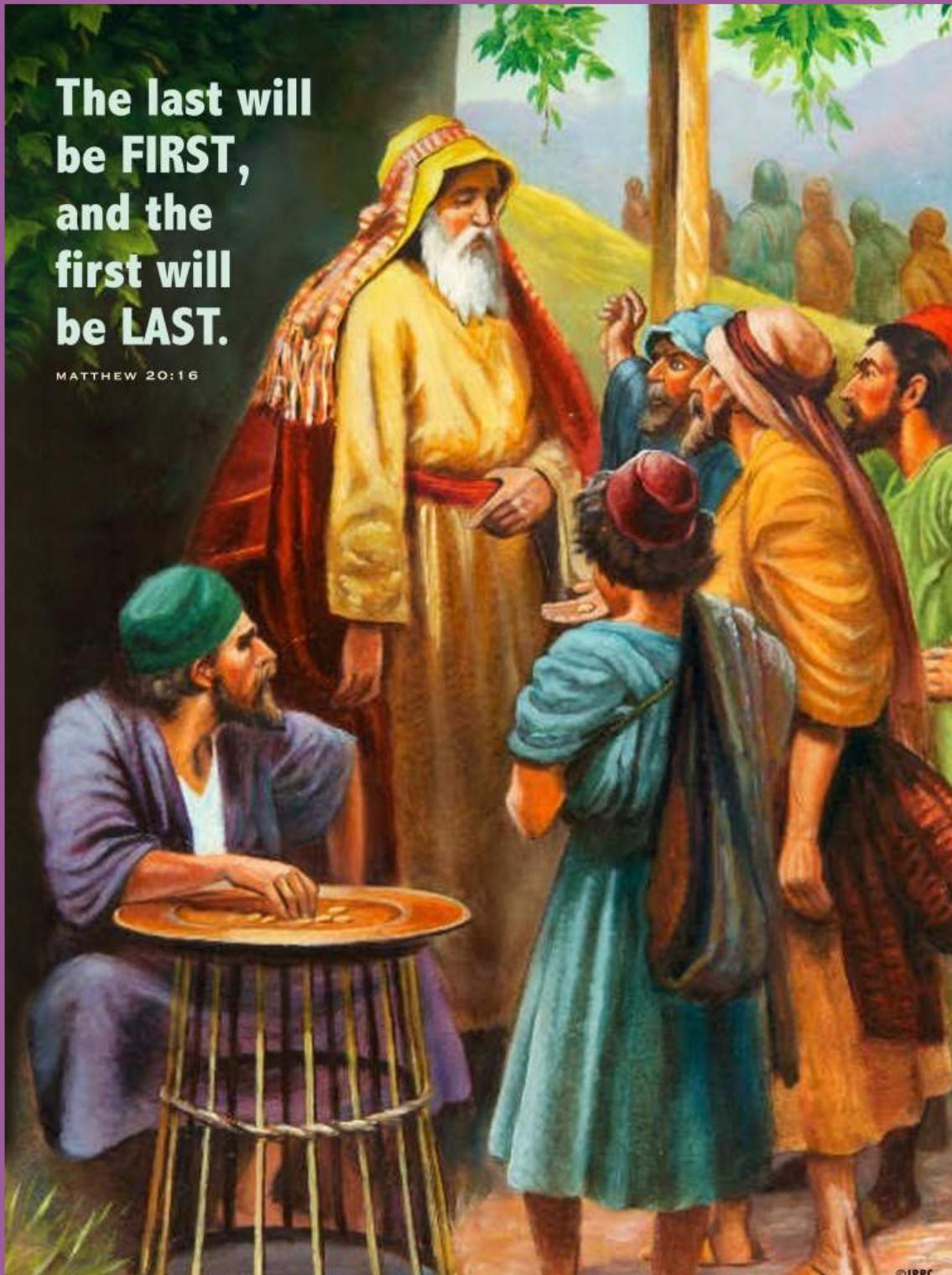


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**The last will
be FIRST,
and the
first will
be LAST.**

MATTHEW 20:16

©IPPC

**25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 24, 2023**

Pastor: Rev. Rees W. Doughty
pastor@stmariannecope.com

Weekend Assistant: Fr. Robert Phelps

Deacons: Leonard Farmer, Anthony Ferraiuolo, Joseph Lieby, John Pelella

Faith Formation Director: Mary Ellen Tiernan
metiernan@stmariannecope.com

St. Thomas of Canterbury Church
340 Hudson Street
Cornwall on Hudson, NY 12520

St. Joseph Church
4 Saint Joseph's Place
New Windsor, NY 12553

stmariannecope.com

Parish Office
845.534.2547 · FAX 845.534.1357
office@stmariannecope.com

Mass Schedule
at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, noon

Daily Mass:
Monday-Saturday, 8:30 am

Confession
Saturday: 9-9:45 am or by appointment

St. Marianne Cope Outreach Ministry
outreach@stmariannecope.com

Prayer Chain: 845.746.8829
prayerchain@stmariannecope.com

Offertory: Thank you for your generosity
and continued support of the parish!

Sept 16/17: \$9,389.70
Faith Formation: \$1,858.00

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New Day and Time — Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament —
Mondays, 7 to 8 pm, during the Eucharistic Revival, with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Exposition and Benediction. When a priest is available, confessions will be offered.

New Bible Study to begin October 10th — A Bible Study of the Account of the Creation and Fall. The story of creation found in the first three chapters of the book of Genesis ends in chapter three with the account of the sin of our first parents, which has plagued humanity and the world ever since. There is so much to be learned by studying the words of the text. Everyone is invited to join us for this study, which begins on Tuesday, October 10th. Each of the four meetings will be in the St. Thomas old school building, 7-8:30 pm. Email Deacon Joe at jlieby522@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the list of attendees.

Thank You! The Outreach Ministry thanks everyone who so generously donated to their recent Food Drive. If you know someone in need, email John at outreach@stmariannecope.com.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Rita #264 will be selling **Ten Month Raffle tickets** this weekend. Each ticket purchase has 10 opportunities to win. The total monetary award over 10 months is \$2,550. Your support benefits the National CDA's projects and charities, parish ministries, and the local community.

A **Lector Ministry Workshop** will be held on Tuesday, September 26th, 7-8:30 pm. All current ministers are asked to attend as a refresher. Everyone needs to take one of the online courses provided on the Archdiocese of New York website (archny.org/ministries-and-offices/liturgy/online-ministry-training/). To sign up, email Fr. Doughty at pastor@stmariannecope.com.

2024 Mass Book: The book for announced Masses for 2024 is now open. Please contact the office staff for available dates/times.

40 Days for Life: September 27-November 5

- ~ Newburgh Planned Parenthood Kickoff Campaign: September 24th at 3 pm at St Francis of Assisi Church
- ~Goshen Planned Parenthood Kickoff Campaign: September 26th at 7 pm
- ~Walk4Life: Saturday, Saturday, September 30th, 10 am-2 pm, at Twin Ponds, a Beacon of Light Family Event Fundraiser. Visit beaconoflightpsc.org to sign up.

Support the work of St. Christopher's Inn at Graymoor (an addiction treatment and recovery community and ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement) by joining in the **Be the Bridge Walk for Recovery** on Sunday, October 1 at the Walkway over the Hudson. To register, visit myevent.com/stchristophersinn-walk-for-recovery.

The 46th Annual **Columbus Day Mass** at Saint Patrick's Cathedral will be on Monday, October 9th at 9:30 am. Visit archny.org for the link to Eventbrite to request tickets by noon on Monday, September 25th. Questions? Email specialevents@archny.org.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

WHY GO TO SUNDAY MASS?

From the general audience of Pope Francis on Wednesday, 13 December 2017

TO DAY WE ASK OURSELVES: *WHY GO TO SUNDAY MASS?* The Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life (cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, n. 2177). We Christians go to Sunday Mass to encounter the Risen Lord, or better still to allow ourselves to be encountered by him, to hear his Word, to nourish ourselves at his table, and thus to become the Church, that is, his mystical living Body in the world.

From the first hour, Jesus' disciples understood this; they celebrated the Eucharistic encounter with the Lord on the day of the week that the Hebrews called "the first of the week" and the Romans called "day of the sun", because *on that day Jesus rose from the dead* and appeared to the disciples, speaking with them, eating with them, giving them the Holy Spirit (cf. Mt 28:1; Mk 16:9, 14; Lk 24:1, 13; Jn 20:1, 19), as we have heard in the Gospel reading. The great outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost also happened on a Sunday, the 50th day after Jesus' Resurrection. For these reasons, Sunday is a holy day for us, sanctified by the Eucharistic celebration, the living presence of the Lord among us and for us. Thus, it is the Mass that *makes* Sunday Christian. The Christian Sunday revolves around the Mass. For a Christian, what is a Sunday in which the encounter with the Lord is lacking? (There are Christian communities which, unfortunately, cannot enjoy Mass every Sunday; they too, however, on this holy day, are called to reflect in prayer in the name of the Lord, listening to the Word of God and keeping alive the desire for the Eucharist.)

Some secularized societies have lost the Christian sense of Sunday illuminated by the Eucharist. This is a shame! In these contexts it is necessary to revive this awareness, to recover the meaning of the celebration, the meaning of the joy, of the parish community, of solidarity, of the rest which restores body and soul (cf. ccc, nn. 2177-2178). Of all these values, the Eucharist is our guide, Sunday after Sunday. For this reason the Second Vatican Council wished to emphasize that Sunday "is the original feast day, and it should be proposed to the piety of the faithful and taught to them so that it may become in fact a day of joy and of freedom from work" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 106).

The Sunday abstention from work did not exist in the

early centuries: it is a specific contribution of Christianity. According to biblical tradition Jews rest on the Sabbath, while in Roman society a day of the week was not provided for abstention from servile labour. It was the Christian awareness of living as children and not as slaves, inspired by the Eucharist, which has made Sunday — almost universally — the day of rest. Without Christ we are condemned to be dominated by everyday weariness, with its worries, and by fear of the future. The Sunday encounter with the Lord gives us the strength to experience the present with confidence and courage, and to go forth with hope. For this reason we Christians go to encounter the Lord on Sunday, in the Eucharistic celebration.

Eucharistic communion with Jesus, Risen and ever-Living, anticipates the Sunday without sunset, when there will be no more weariness nor pain, nor sorrow nor tears, but only the joy of living fully and forever with the Lord. Sunday Mass also speaks to us of this blessed repose, teaching us to entrust ourselves during the course of the week to the hands of the Father who is in heaven.

How can we respond to those who say that it is of no use going to Mass, even on Sunday, because the important thing is to live well, to love our neighbor? It is true that the quality of Christian life is measured by the capacity to love, as Jesus said: "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13:35); but how can we practice the Gospel without drawing the energy necessary to do so, one Sunday after another, from the inexhaustible source of the Eucharist? We do not go to Mass in order to give something to God, but to receive what we truly need from him. We are reminded of this by the Church's prayer, which is addressed to God in this way: "although you have no need of our praise, yet our thanksgiving is itself your gift, since our praises add nothing to your greatness but profit us for salvation" (*Roman Missal*, Common Preface iv).

In conclusion, why do we go to Mass on Sundays? It is not enough to respond that it is a precept of the Church; this helps to preserve its value, but alone does not suffice. We Christians need to participate in Sunday Mass because only with Jesus' grace, with his living presence within us and among us, can we put his commandment into practice, and thus be his credible witnesses.

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE



II John brings us to the 70th book in our Bible. It is the second of three letters in the New Testament

attributed to John, and is one of the few books of the Bible (one in the Old Testament and four in the New) that is only one chapter long.

In this second Johannine letter, John has found the joy he was looking for in the first. In its verses, we find that the letter is addressed from “the Elder” to “a Lady who is elect and to her

children” although we do not know how many communities this may refer to. He calls the letter’s recipient(s) to love one another and to obey the commandments, and he warns against antichrists who will try to be deceptive and misleading. He closes sending greetings from the children of the recipient’s “elect Sister”, that is, another community.

When you finish this book, you will have read 70 (95.9%) of the 73 books of the Bible, yet 1,310 (98.2%) of the 1,334 chapters of the Bible.

Permission granted by Rev. Robert J. Schrader (based on Timothy Schehr's book, The Bible Made Easy: A Book-by-Book Introduction).

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, Sept 25

8:30 +Rafael Luciano by Maria Catalano

Tues, Sept 26: Sts Cosmas and Damian

8:30 +John Tigner by Hickey family

Wed, Sept 27: St Vincent de Paul

8:30 +Rose and Michael Prezioso by Fran Clifford

Thurs, Sept 28: St Wenceslaus

8:30 +Timothy Hickey by Cornwall Manor Board members

Fri, Sept 29: Sts Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael

8:30 +Marcelle Tahtouh by Ireifej family

Sat, Sept 30: St Jerome

8:30 +Fr Bernard Heter by Maryann and Bart Sicca

4:30 +Mim Sarubbe by Kathy and Jerry Sarubbe;

+Theresa Crispo by Zanin family

Sun, Oct 1: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 +Anthony Gagliardi by Jeanne Cibirka

10:00 +Kiernan M Kenny by family

12:00 The People of the Parish

Two intentions will be accepted at the Saturday, 4:30 Vigil Mass. The Sunday Mass at noon will ALWAYS be offered only for the People of the Parish. The offering for an unannounced Mass is \$10; for an announced Mass: \$15.

READINGS FOR THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I — Isaiah 55:6-9

The prophet exhorts people to look for God outside the sanctuary of the Temple. God is not only generous, but also has ways that are infinitely superior to our ways.

Reading II — Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Paul reflects on what lies ahead, and trusts that Christ may be glorified through his entire person hood. For him, “to live is Christ”.

The Gospel — Matthew 20:1-16a

The basic message of the Parable of the Landowner is about God’s generosity. It is unique to Him and far superior to our own. This is especially true in our culture.

Fourth Spiritual Adoption Program: September 12, 2023-June 4, 2024. CDA Court Rita #264 invites all to participate in their Spiritual Adoption Program.

We welcome all our parishioners and visitors! Stay informed by staying involved. Sign up for Flocknotes at stmariannecope.com, read the bulletin, and follow us on Facebook.



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