

# Dear Padre,

*I would like to do more spiritual reading, but everything I've tried is either over my head or too sweet and pious for me. Do you have suggestions for any down-to-earth authors?*

You might try reading shorter works. More is not necessarily better. Consider several publications available at Liguori.org. *In My Own Words* is a series of books that gathers excerpts from different authors: Dorothy Day, Sr. Thea Bowman, Pope St. John Paul II, and others. Also consider the *Wisdom* series for Advent and Christmas or Lent and Easter. These include the writings of ancients and a few more current authors like Pope Francis, Henri Nouwen, and Thomas Merton. *Daybreaks* for Advent and Lent are booklets of short meditations for each day of each season. *Catholic Update*, a four-page newsletter from Liguori, features in-depth articles on contemporary topics written by expert authors.

C. S. Lewis was a prolific and popular Christian author. His *Mere Christianity* is practical and informative. *A Grief Observed* is a beautiful meditation for those who have lost someone dear to them, as is Henri Nouwen's *In Memoriam*. Merton's *New Seeds of Contemplation* has inspired readers since it was first published in 1949.

Finally, the best place to start might be the Gospel of Mark—not to study or analyze. Rather, read it just to get to know Jesus a little better. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

## DAYbreaks

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections and prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at Liguori.org.

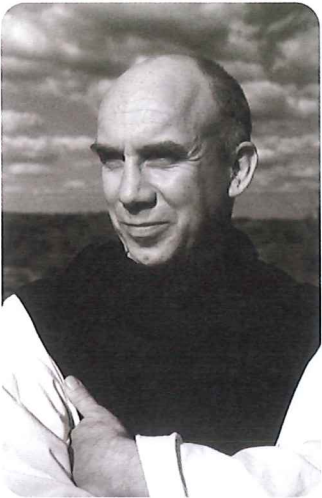
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
November 6 Weekday	November 7 Weekday	November 8 Weekday	November 9 Dedication of Lateran Basilica	November 10 St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church	November 11 St. Martin of Tours, Bishop	November 12 Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Rom 11:29–36	Rom 12:5–16ab	Rom 13:8–10	Ez 47:1–2, 8–9, 12; 1 Cor 3:9c– 11, 16–17	Rom 15:14–21	Rom 16:3–9, 16, 22–27	Wis 6:12–16
Lk 14:12–14	Lk 14:15–24	Lk 14:25–33	Jn 2:13–22	Lk 16:1–8	Lk 16:9–15	1 Thes 4:13–18 or 4:13–14 Mt 25:1–13



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*People today are attracted by things that are faster and faster: rapid Internet connections, speedy cars and planes, instant relationships. But at the same time we see a desperate need for calmness, I would even say slowness. Is the Church still able to move slowly: to take the time to listen, to have the patience to mend and reassemble?*

MEETING WITH BISHOPS OF BRAZIL IN RIO DE JANEIRO, JULY 27, 2013



Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk and one of the most influential Catholic authors of the 1900s

CNS PHOTO/MERTON LEGACY TRUST AND THE THOMAS MERTON CENTER AT BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 5, 2023  
Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)  
Malachi 1:14b–2:2b, 8–10 / 1 Thessalonians 2:7b–9, 13 / Matthew 23:1–12



## A Church on the Way

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In July 2013, as part of a visit to Brazil, Pope Francis met with the Latin American conference of bishops. Speaking informally, bishop to bishops, he said, “At times we lose people because they don’t understand what we are saying, because we have forgotten the language of simplicity and import an intellectualism foreign to our people.”

I thought about how his words could be applied in my parish, so one Sunday I asked the people in the pews what they looked for from the Church. I was impressed and touched by their answers: wisdom to make their way through life; where and how to find God; a desire to be treated like adults; compassion for themselves and for others; guidance to reach out to the needy in society; a link between faith and life; a place to find some peace and quiet; wisdom for the political process. It was a list by which we who lead need to examine our consciences.

The charge from Pope Francis is to be a Church that speaks to people where they are with the words of everyday life. We look for wisdom that enables us to become our best selves. And that is what healthy religion is about: to guide rather than to control; to inspire rather than to shame; to participate fully rather than to simply “pray, pay, and obey.” ●

### Reflect

What have you found in the Church and what more do you long for?



[Jesus said,] “Do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice.”

MATTHEW 23:3



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Mailing Address: PO Box 983  
Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405  
Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com

**31th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**11/4/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.**

**Servers:** Lucy, Jonathan, & Nathan Gannett

**Reader:** Gwen Waechter

**E.O.HC:** Tino Rosales Jr., Karen Burden

**11/5/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Servers:** Cade & Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

**Reader:** Kyle Berning

**E.O. HC:** Robert Longoria, Kyle Berning

**32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**11/11/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.**

**Servers:** Volunteer, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

**Reader:** Karen Burden

**E.O.HC:** Rosary & Tom Bachman

**11/12/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Servers:** Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

**Reader:** Mike Broeckelman

**E.O. HC:** Del & Julia Kaps

Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee	355-6388
Lisa Gannett, DRE	355-6611
RCIA	355-6405
Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair	272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair	355-6206
Altar Society President, Nanette Rice	355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight	640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek	355-1696
& Nanette Rice	355-7676

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Saturday, Nov.4</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Special Int. Bachman Family</b>
<b>Sunday, Nov. 5</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>For more priestly vocation</b>
<b>Monday, Nov. 6</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Peter &amp; Ann Sack</b>
<b>Tuesday, Nov. 7</b>	<b>9: 30 a.m.</b>	<b>David Hoang</b> (Tuesday Mass at the High Plains Retirement Village )
<b>Wednesday Nov. 8</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>David Hoang</b> (EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOLLOWS MASS UNTIL 8:30 P.M.)
<b>Thursday, Nov. 9</b>	<b>12:10 p.m.</b>	<b>Gary Sack</b>
<b>Friday, Nov. 10</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Saturday, Nov. 11</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>People of our parishes</b>
<b>Sunday, Nov. 12</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Charles &amp; Mary Margaret</b>

**Reconciliation:** Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

**Baptism:** Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

**Marriage:** Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

**November 5, 2023**

**31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*"IN you, Lord, I have found my peace." (Psalm 131)*

In this Sunday’s Gospel story from Matthew (23:1-12) we see Jesus once again taking issue with the scribes and Pharisees. And from the text it appears that Jesus really didn’t have an issue with what the scribes and Pharisees were saying to others in the community. What he did have an issue with was the apparent “disconnect” between what they were saying and what they were doing, between the way they told others to live and how they lived, between the kinds of attitudes they expected in their fellow Jews and the attitudes they carried in their own hearts. They talked a good game --- that much was true. But on the field of faith, they fell far short “For they preach but they do not practice.” And so today is a sort of “wake-up call”, a time to take an honest look at the consistency (or lack thereof) of what we say and what we do. Let’s not let ourselves be deluded or tricked into believing that we can somehow have one without the other. And so let’s be the kind of people who don’t babble on about the truth, but who live it. And let’s be people who don’t talk about forgiveness, but rather sincerely and deeply forgive (even our enemies) --- seven times seventy times if necessary. Anything else is just talk. And we know what Jesus thinks about that. Fr. Peter

**COLLECTION** for October 29, 2023: Envelopes: \$560; Loose: \$307; Online Giving: \$302.64; Total \$1169.64; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under –591.53

**CHURCH PROJECT GOAL** \$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$37194.74. *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.*

**THE TRAVELING MONSTRANCE AND ADORATION** This Month During the visit of the Diocesan Traveling Monstrance in our parish during November, Father is offering additional times for Adoration besides on Fridays. On Wednesdays the Holy Mass will be at 6:00 p.m. follows by Eucharistic Adoration until 8:30 p.m. This will include with Benediction. On Saturdays and Sundays Eucharistic Adoration will follow after Mass.

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE** During the month of November we hold in prayer all who have passed away in our parish in the past years. Located in our church vestibule is a Book of Remembrance to which parishioners may add lists of names of deceased friends and loved ones. All names will be remembered at our upcoming Masses in November.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK** When do I fail to practice what I preach? What change must I make to do so as effectively as Paul and his fellow disciples?

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** (adapted from The Litany of Humility) Hear me, O Jesus, meek and humble of heart. Deliver me, Jesus, from the desire of being honored, from the desire of being praised, from the desire of being preferred to others, from the desire of being consulted. Deliver me, Jesus, from the fear of being humiliated, from the fear of being despised, from the fear of suffering rebukes, from the fear of being forgotten, from the fear of being ridiculed, from the fear of being wronged. Jesus, grant me the grace to desire that others may be honored more than I, that others may be chosen and I set aside, that others may be praised and I unnoticed. Jesus, grant me the grace to desire to be humble in all that I do. Amen.

**UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Matthew 23:1-12)**

**Sitting on Moses' seat** After a series of confrontations with Jewish leaders, Jesus sharply criticizes them. The tension between these leaders and Jesus may reflect the conflict that came years later when this Gospel was written. After the Romans invaded Jerusalem in 70 AD and destroyed the temple, Jews were in turmoil. Both Christians and Pharisees presented themselves as knowing the true path to God.

**Scribes and Pharisees** Scribes were part of the learned class. They would have been well-versed in scripture. Pharisees seem to have been Jewish laymen who were trying to fulfill the Jewish law while living in changing times. Less well-educated Jews turned to the Pharisees for guidance (v.2).

**Impressive displays** Jesus roundly condemns these Jewish leaders for their hypocrisy and pride. • They demand a rigorous observance of the law that they don't observe themselves. • They try to appear pious. Phylacteries are small boxes containing the scripture verses that some Jews wore on their forehead and wrists (Deuteronomy 6:8). Tassels reminded them of God's commandments (Numbers 15:37f). • They want to sit in places reserved for honored or esteemed guests. • They want people to validate their status by addressing them with particular titles.

**A community of equals** Jesus warns his followers not to adopt such practices. The use of titles allows pride and division to creep into the new community. As the church grew, however, it had to figure out how to continue to treat everyone as equal while developing an organizational structure in which some people held leadership roles.

(oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

**UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING OF THE WEEK - (Malachi 1: 14b-2;2b, 8-10)**

**Disguised** Malachi isn't a name; it's Hebrew for my messenger. The prophet may have concealed his identity in order to avoid retaliation. He sharply criticizes priests and other Israelite males for impious and immoral actions.

**Bad offerings** In this passage the prophet rebukes priests for letting weak or sick animals be sacrificed in the Jerusalem temple. By allowing poor quality animals to be offered to God, the priests lead the rest of the people into thinking such sacrifices are acceptable.

**Levi** is one of the twelve sons of Jacob. God gave Levi and his descendants the responsibility for handling everything used in worship (Numbers 3:5f.).

**Bad marriages** Verse 10 is the beginning of a new section in which the prophet speaks against marriage with non-Jews. The reason for this prohibition is concern that the Jewish spouse will be drawn into the worship of other gods.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION NOVEMBER 5**

*"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." - Matthew 23:12*

The world celebrates people in the spotlight and those who have the most of everything. We think celebrity, money and possessions is the key to happiness. Yet, our world is filled with more loneliness, anxiety and depression than ever before. The key to a happy life is relationship. Relationship with God and each other. Trust is the foundation of any good relationship and humility is the seed of trust.

*"Porque él que a sí mismo se enaltece será humillado y él que se humilla será enaltecido." - MATEO 23:12*

El mundo celebra a las personas que están en el centro de atención y a aquellas que tienen más de todo. Pensamos que la celebridad, el dinero y las posesiones son la clave de la felicidad. Sin embargo, nuestro mundo está más lleno que nunca de soledad, ansiedad y depresión. La clave de una vida feliz son las relaciones. La relación con Dios y la relación entre nosotros. La confianza es la fundación de cualquier buena relación y la humildad es la semilla de la confianza.

**CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF DODGE CITY VOCATION DAY** November 10, 2023 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This event is for all 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders in the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City; Catholic School, Public School, and Homeschool Students. Please note RSVP deadline is November 6<sup>th</sup> to Monica Del Real [executivesecretary@dcdiocese.org](mailto:executivesecretary@dcdiocese.org) or 620-227-1500.

**HUNDREDFOLD WORKSHOP –TALLER SEMBRANDO SEMILLAS** December 2, 2023 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This bilingual workshop is for lay people who wish to foster vocations in their parishes. If you feel called to serve on a Vocation Committee at your parish, please talk to your priest and let him know. He will guide you through the steps of how to attend.

**NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL**  
**DO THIS IN REMENBRANCE OF ME, PART 2: GENUFLECTION**

**The Mass**

As we arrive at the church to join together with Christ in his perfect offering to the Father, our first gesture at the church door is to bless ourselves with holy water. After we have recalled our Baptism by making the Sign of the Cross with water from the font, the next thing we do is look for a place to sit. Before we slide into the pew, however, if the Blessed Sacrament is present in the sanctuary of the church, we genuflect.

You will see the priest and servers genuflect at times during the Mass. When the tabernacle with the Most Blessed Sacrament is present in the sanctuary of the church, the priest and servers genuflect when they approach the altar at the beginning of Mass and when they depart from it after the final blessing (General Instruction for the Roman Missal, no. 274; Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite, no. 199). The priest also genuflects at the altar after the elevation of the consecrated host, after the elevation of the chalice, and before receiving Holy Communion (GIRM, no. 274). The priest's genuflection at these points in the Mass helps us recall the incredible gift of Jesus present in the Most Holy Eucharist. Since during Mass, the focus is on the altar, you will notice that at other times during the Mass, the ministers bow as they cross the sanctuary.

**Why Catholics Genuflect**

What is a genuflection, and why do we genuflect? The simple answer is that when we genuflect, we touch our right knee to the floor to honor Jesus, who is really present in the tabernacle!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines genuflection as “a reverence made by bending the knee, especially to express adoration of the Blessed Sacrament” (CCC, Glossary). By genuflecting or bowing deeply in a spirit of prayer and as a sign of adoration of the Lord, “we express our faith in the real presence of Christ under the species of bread and wine” (CCC, no. 1378). To honor the true presence of Jesus Christ, all who pass before the Most Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass, as well as when entering or leaving the church, should genuflect. If genuflecting is physically difficult, a bow is a reverent substitute.

**Say “Hi” to Jesus**

One of my favorite memories as a priest was teaching religion class to young children. Often we met in the church itself rather than the classroom. I wanted to show them the sacred art in the church, as well as the sacred vessels and books used at Mass. The first time we entered the church, I taught them to genuflect. Of course, we had to start with learning which was our right knee and which was our left knee! Next, we practiced folding our hands and putting our right knee down to the floor. Week after week, I noticed how the children were improving their form as well as their reverence. At the end of the year, when we were reviewing what we had learned, I asked the children: “Why do we genuflect when we come in the church?” One of them smiled and eagerly responded, “To say hi to Jesus and to honor him.” I couldn't have said it better!

The next time you enter a church, allow your eyes to be drawn to the sanctuary, altar, and tabernacle in the front of the church. In Catholic churches, a candle is kept burning next to the Tabernacle to indicate and honor the presence of Christ. Seeing the candle, called a sanctuary lamp, we can recognize that Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist and give Him the great honor that He deserves. When we genuflect, we make an act of humility that acknowledges the greatness of God and confesses that Jesus Christ present in the Eucharist is God with us. Jesus Christ, who loves us perfectly, who died for our sins and rose in triumph—Jesus Christ is there before us! While it is true that when we genuflect we honor Christ and profess our belief that he is present there, it is also a great honor for us, for in doing so we remember that we are part of God's beloved family. Pause and think about that for a moment.

**For Reflection:**

1. Reflect on Christ's humility as described in Philippians 2:6-11, which gives context to the claim that “at the name of Jesus every knee should bend” (Phil. 2:10). Consider how God is calling you to express humility in your own life.
2. What do you want to say to the Lord the next time you genuflect to greet him? Fr. Luke Spannagel

**THIRTY –FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Vocation 101**

It's National Vocation Awareness Week! What's your parish or Catholic organization doing to promote the call to ordained and religious life in your community? Consider the threefold tasks of "prayer, invitation, and education": to *pray* for vocations, *invite* likely candidates to consider them, and *educate* others about the joy of service to Christ and his church. Also check out the website of the [National Religious Vocation Conference](#). They offer Conversation Cards to keep handy: business-style cards that say "You would make a great priest/ sister/ brother/ nun" on the front. The back reads: "Imagine the possibilities." (Preparetheword)

**TRIGÉSIMO PRIMER DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO**  
**Vocación 101**

¡Es la Semana Nacional de la Concientización Vocacional! ¿Qué está haciendo tu parroquia u organización Católica para promover el llamado a la vida ordenada y religiosa en tu comunidad? Considera las tres tareas de "oración, invitación y educación": *rezar* por las vocaciones, *invitar* a los posibles candidatos a plantearse y *educar* a los demás acerca de la alegría de servir a Cristo y a su Iglesia. Consulta también la página web de la [Conferencia Nacional de Vocaciones Religiosas](#) . Ofrecen Tarjetas de Conversación para tener a mano: tarjetas de presentación que dicen "Serías un gran sacerdote/ hermana/ hermano/ monja" en el anverso. En el reverso se lee: "Imagina las posibilidades."