

# Dear Padre,

## Does religious freedom mean we're free to worship whoever and whatever we wish? I thought Jesus gave us rules on this.

Jesus gave us the gift of freedom. Even as he hung on the cross, he didn't use force to change the minds of people or coerce them to believe in him. His example shaped the Declaration on Religious Freedom (*Dignitatis Humanae*), a document from the Second Vatican Council. The council gave us several principles that outline our beliefs about religious freedom:



PHOTOGRAPHEE EU / SHUTTERSTOCK

First, God has made known to us the way in which we are to serve God and find salvation and eternal life in Jesus.

Second, this one true religion consists in the catholic and apostolic Church. To this Church, the Lord himself committed the obligation and duty to spread the truth that salvation in Jesus is ours.

Third, all people are bound to seek the truth, to embrace the truth they come to know, and to hold fast to that truth.

Finally, all of us have a right to be immune from coercion by individuals, social groups, or other human powers. No one is to be forced to act contrary to personal beliefs or prevented from acting in accord with those beliefs.

This also means that if people choose to reject Christ, they must not be forced to do anything against their will. The judgment for their actions must be left up to God. As a Church, we proclaim the truth of Christ and set high standards for membership in the Church, but we do not force people to convert or believe.

Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

### Calendar

**Monday**  
JULY 5  
Weekday  
Gn 28:10–22a  
Mt 9:18–26

**Tuesday**  
JULY 6  
Weekday  
Gn 32:23–33  
Mt 9:32–38

**Wednesday**  
JULY 7  
Weekday  
Gn 41:55–57;  
42:5–7a, 17–24a  
Mt 10:1–7

**Thursday**  
JULY 8  
Weekday  
Gn 44:18–21,  
23b–29; 45:1–5  
Mt 10:7–15

**Friday**  
JULY 9  
Weekday  
Gn 46:1–7, 28–30  
Mt 10:16–23

**Saturday**  
JULY 10  
Weekday  
Gn 49:29–32;  
50:15–26a  
Mt 10:24–33

**Sunday**  
JULY 11  
Fifteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Am 7:12–15  
Eph 1:3–14 or 1:3–10  
Mk 6:7–13

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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

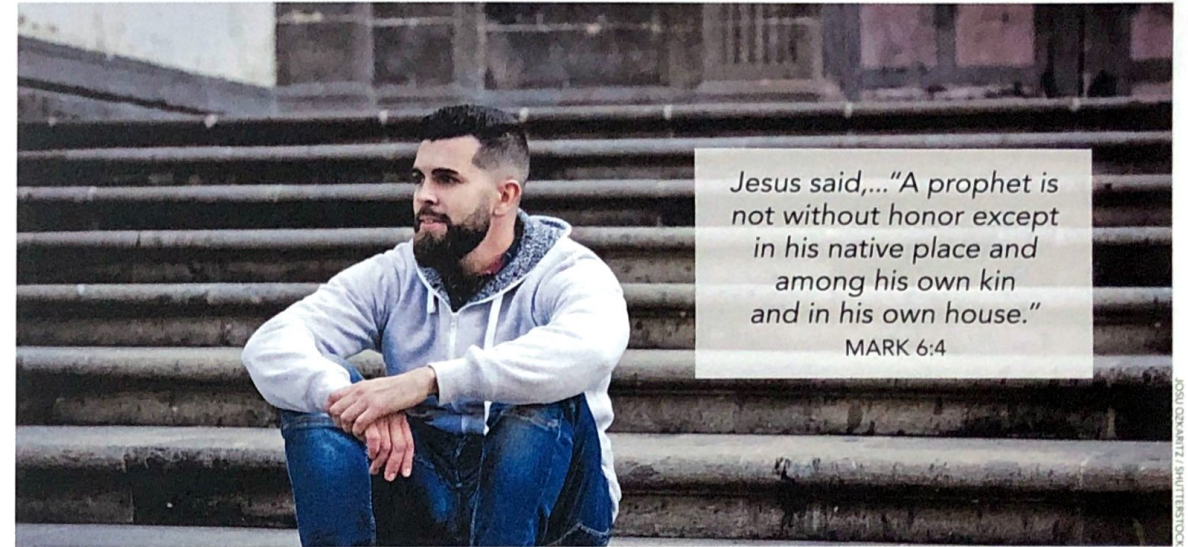
July 4, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Ez 2:2–5

2 Cor 12:7–10

Mk 6:1–6a



Jesus said,...“A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.”  
MARK 6:4

## Who Do You Think You Are?

This question is not always posed in a spirit of lightheartedness. It could be hurled at someone in indignation. This indignation might be justified; the other could be assuming an unwarranted attitude of superiority. However, the fault could be our own. We might resent another's genuine insight or unquestionable wisdom. There seems to be within some of us a sense of inferiority that is threatened by the abilities of others—as if their talents diminish those of us who feel inferior. And what do we do about this? We might ignore such an individual, implying that she or he has nothing that interests us. This probably happens more often than we like to admit. Or we might try to embarrass the person, thus lowering the individual in the estimation of others. This is how some people depicted in the Gospel passage acted toward Jesus.

Prophets are not people who only look into the future. Such people are called seers. Genuine prophets have insight into the present, understanding the

implications of the social forces that are operative and the challenge they might pose to religious traditions. That's why they are so often resented. We see this attitude in the passage from Ezekiel. God sent him to a rebellious people to call them to repentance. Chances are, this did not make him popular. It also did not make Jesus popular with some.

So often we applaud people who have religious insight—unless we know them well. Then we may think: *You're no better than the rest of us. Who do you think you are?*

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ★ Do you appreciate the valid insights of others, even when they challenge your own?
- ★ Who do you think has insight into today's chaotic world? Why do you choose that person?



### A WORD FROM Pope Francis

[Religious] freedom remains one of America's most precious possessions. And, as my brothers, the United States Bishops, have reminded us, all are called to be vigilant, precisely as good citizens, to preserve and defend that freedom from everything that would threaten or compromise it.

VISIT TO THE WHITE HOUSE, SEPTEMBER 23, 2015



Rectory & Parish Office  
 600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860  
 Mailing Address: PO Box 983  
 Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405  
 Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 Email: [saintanthonylakin@gmail.com](mailto:saintanthonylakin@gmail.com)  
 Website: [saintanthonylakin.org](http://saintanthonylakin.org)

Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee	355-6833
Liza 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 & Nanette Rice	355-1696 355-7676

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Monday, July 5</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Charles &amp; Eileen Hoff+</b>
<b>Tuesday, July 6</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Ron Gorges</b>
<b>Thursday, July 8</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Favorable Weather</b>
<b>Friday, July 9</b>	<b>12:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Private Intention (T.P.)</b>
<b>Saturday, July 10</b>	<b>4:00p.m.</b>	<b>Charles &amp; Eileen Hoff+</b>
<b>Sunday, July 11</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Chuck Sullivan</b>

July 3, 4:00 p.m.	Debbie Frederick
July 4, 9:00 a.m.	Julie Kaps
July 10, 4:00 p.m.	Karen Burden
July 11. 9:00 a.m.	K of C
July 17, 4:00 p.m.	Gwen Waechter
July 18, 9:00 a.m.	Alvin Bergkamp
July 24, 4:00 p.m.	Tom Bachman
July 25, 9:00 a.m.	Fred Jones

*Thank you so much for your ministry!*

**Reconciliation:** Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. every Friday from 4:15—4:50 p.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.

**14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME— JULY 4, 2021**



**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor (Luke 4:18)**

It is true that we all have limitations. I know I have more than I can count. But not in regard to everything. You see, when it comes to spiritual things, when it comes to God-things, when it comes to the things that ultimately matter --- we don't really have those same kinds of limitations. Believing otherwise is a kind of lie, a sort of illusion. No, when it comes to being generous, when it comes to being kind, when it comes to being compassionate and forgiving and merciful --- that is, when it comes to loving --- there are no limits. We can love, and love, and love some more --- and that love will never run out. And that's how we change the world.

My friends, God can and will work through you and me just as we are --- with all our faults and weaknesses and even sin. As we heard from St. Paul in this Sunday's Second Reading, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." But it won't happen if we don't believe it --- if we don't believe that flawed me and flawed you can do some pretty wonderful things when we do them for the right reason and for the right person. If we aim low, we will achieve little. If we move tentatively we will impact few. If we question our abilities in doing God's work, the outcomes will be exactly what we thought they would be. But if we believe and trust and let God come alive in us . . . who knows?

May each of us be astonished and open to all the wonderful things our loving God has in store for us.  
 Fr. Peter Tran

**COLLECTION** for June 27, 2021: Envelopes: \$455; Loose: \$331; Online Giving: \$213.95. Total \$999.95; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under (-761.22)

*Thank you so much to your faithful stewards for supporting our parish, diocese, and worldwide Church.*

### **HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY EVERYONE!**

“God, source of all freedom, this day is bright with the memory of those who declared that life and liberty are your gift to every human being. Help us to continue a good work begun long ago. Make our vision clear and our will strong: that only in human solidarity will we and liberty, and justice only in the honor that belongs to every life on earth. Turn our hearts toward the family of nations: to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship, and to find safety only in the common good of all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.” (C. Household blessings & Pr.)

**MEETING:** Religion Education Meeting will be on July 14th at 5:00 p.m.

**JULY WORDS AMONG US** is available for you to pick up at the church’s entrances.

**RUMMAGE SALE** The Rummage Sale this year is to be on August 7th. We would like to start collecting items. If you have something you would like to donate, please contact any of the following:

Jana Jenkinson	290-5201	Janet Rooney	640-1946	Tressa Power	260-6247
Jane Sullivan	355-5118	Carolyn Robertson	290-5569	Gwen Waechter	272-1030

**BUDGET SHOP REMINDER** our church is scheduled to work at the budget shop every four weeks. We always appreciate all your help. We will be working on July 6 and 31st, August 3, 28th, and 31st and on September 25 and 27th. Please put these dates on your calendar. Your children can qualify for a very good scholarship from the Budget shop by volunteering 12 hours a year. So encourage them to work also. Thank you.

**VOCATION VIEW** God works through the prophets to make known His message of salvation. Has He called you to be a prophet in our day and age? (Ez. 2:2-5)

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT** This week as we celebrated the Independence of our country, we will do well to echo the Psalmist, saying, “Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.” May we always recognize and use wisely the gifts of freedom and abundance He has showered upon us.

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** (—adapted from the Missionaries of Charity)

Lord Jesus, you stand at the door of our hearts day and night. Even when we aren’t listening, even when we doubt that you are there, you await the smallest sign of our response, the softest whisper of an invitation to enter. When we invite you in, you come quickly. You come silent and unseen but with infinite power and love, bringing the many gifts of your Spirit. Lord Jesus, come with mercy, come with forgiveness and healing, come with a love beyond our comprehension. Enter our hearts, and transform us every day and every night of our lives. Amen.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Mark 6: 1-6)**

**Rejection** Early in his Gospel Mark shows us ways in which people are reacting against Jesus. For example – • Jewish leaders plot to kill Jesus because of his controversial teaching (3:6) • Jesus’ family thinks he’s crazy (3:20-21) • Scribes (literate men) from Jerusalem think Jesus is possessed (3:22) In this passage Jesus’ extended family as well as others who’ve known him for years deny that he’s anything other than a normal Galilean villager. They see him as a laborer, a worker, with parents and siblings like everyone else. Jesus compares himself to prophets who weren’t warmly received by their fellow Jews. After Jesus was crucified, one of the ways his followers explained the terrible circumstances of his death was by calling him a prophet. Like other prophets before him Jesus was also rejected by the very people to whom God had sent him.

**Family** One way Jesus upset his fellow Jews was by setting aside the importance of one’s biological family. Jesus insisted that a true Jew was someone who believed in his ministry. Jesus redefined God’s chosen people as those who accepted him rather than those who were descendants of Abraham. Jesus’ disciples symbolize the new family that accepts Jesus and his teaching. By choosing twelve close followers, Jesus symbolically replaces the twelve tribes of Israel that had descended from Abraham. After Jesus is rejected (again) by his biological family, he sends the Twelve to continue bringing people into this new family (6:7-13).

**Faith that heals** In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, faith is usually required for a person to be healed. People don’t have to perfectly understand or believe in Jesus to be healed, but they must at least recognize that God is acting in and through Jesus.

**Jesus’ siblings** Belief in Mary’s virginity is not addressed in this Gospel. By mentioning Jesus’ siblings, Mark shows how Jesus seemed perfectly ordinary to those who knew his family and who knew him as a boy. ([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings))

### **UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING (Ezekiel 2:2-5)**

**God was not exiled** Ezekiel lived when the Babylonian Empire conquered Israel in the sixth century BC. The Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and its temple and forced the Jewish leadership to live in Babylon. Some Israelites thought that their god, the LORD, had been defeated. Ezekiel lived in Babylon when God called him to prophesy, which meant that the LORD had not left his people. Ezekiel, among others, prophesied that the exile was God’s way of punishing his people for their sins. God will rescue his people from the Babylonians if they turn back to him.

**Spirit-filled** In chapter 1 Ezekiel has a vision of God. He then falls upon his face because he can’t bear to look upon such glory (2:1). He’s a small, fragile human (a son of man). God’s spirit, which can also be translated as wind or breath, takes hold of Ezekiel, lifting him to his feet and sending him forth to prophesy.

**In the name of the LORD** God empowers Ezekiel to speak in his name: Thus says the Lord GOD! A literal translation of the Hebrew is “Lord LORD.” LORD represents YHWH, God’s personal name. Because “Lord LORD” sounds odd, translators have chosen to replace LORD with GOD. ([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings))

## QUESTION AND ANSWER



### Question:

I am confused about the Ninth Commandment. What does it mean to covet? What if two couples are really good friends and one man thinks if my wife dies and the man of the other couple dies, maybe his wife and I would get together. (Not that he would ever want either one to die.) Would that be coveting your neighbor's wife? — Name withheld

### Answer:

There exists within each of us a whole range of appetites or desires. We desire everything from food, security, and temporal goods, to affection, friendship, sexual union, and a sense of being loved and respected. In themselves these desires are good, and they help protect and foster important aspects of us. However, since the human race labors under the effects of original sin, our desires tend also to have an unruly dimension. Frequently we desire things beyond what we know are reasonable or just. This is what coveting means. Coveting does not include momentary desires that occur to us and which we dismiss as being unreasonable or inappropriate. Rather, coveting involves the willful entertaining of inappropriate or excessive desires. The Ninth Commandment forbids coveting the wife (or husband) of a neighbor, which means the willful and excessive desire goes beyond adultery because, when one covets the wife of another, he seeks to end her spousal relationship with her husband to have her for himself. Adultery (which is sometimes committed in weakness, sometimes with persistence and malice) endangers a marriage by introducing infidelity. But coveting actively seeks to end the marriage in order to have the spouse of another for one's self. What you describe is not coveting. It is more of a remote form of wishful thinking. But it is likely important to curb thoughts in this matter since they are not helpful in either the marriage or the friendship that is shared by couples. It might be rather harmless "what if" thinking. But it shouldn't be allowed to grow. It is also a mild form of fantasy, and indulging in too much fantasy is seldom helpful for living in reality and cherishing what we have. (Catholic and Curious—Msgr. Pope)

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Get Jesus right and get right with Jesus

With so many Christian "brands" out there—Catholic and Protestant, evangelical and contemplative, high church or pop church—it's easy to wonder who's got Jesus right. Interpreting his significance is key to the church's mission. Still, Jesus' identity has been debated since his own generation. Mark's gospel, the earliest written, betrays a perceived shadow on Jesus' paternity: He's identified as Mary's son rather than the son of Joseph, as would have been customary. Later gospels replace what was seen at the time as a less-than-honorable reference by calling Jesus the "carpenter's son." The question remains: Is Jesus more than a human sage? Is he Lord of your life? (Prepare the Word)

## DÉCIMO CUARTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

### Comprender bien a Jesús y seguirlo

Con tantas "marcas" cristianas—católica y protestante, evangélica y contemplativa, de la alta iglesia o de la iglesia pop—es fácil preguntarse quién ha comprendido bien a Jesús. Interpretar su significado es clave para la misión de la Iglesia. Sin embargo, la identidad de Jesús ha sido debatida desde su propia generación. El evangelio de Marcos, el más antiguo de los escritos, deja entrever una sombra sobre la paternidad de Jesús: Se le identifica como hijo de María y no como hijo de José, como hubiera sido habitual. Los evangelios posteriores sustituyen lo que en su momento se consideró una referencia poco honorable llamando a Jesús "hijo del carpintero". La pregunta sigue siendo: ¿Es Jesús algo más que un sabio humano? ¿Es el Señor de tu vida?