

# Dear Padre,

*A friend of mine wants to be cremated. Does the Church permit it?*

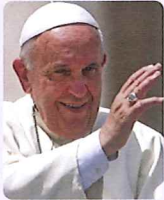
The Church permits cremation when extraordinary circumstances warrant it. There was never a direct canonical ban on cremation until 1886, simply because it was not widely practiced by the Christian Church; its members preferred inhumation—the traditional form of burial—in hopeful imitation of Christ, whose body was resurrected from the dead. The Church reacted to a proliferation of nineteenth-century cremation societies, primarily in Europe, with a decree that forbade Catholics from membership in these societies or from cremation (with obvious exceptions made in times of public crisis, plagues, wars, etc.). The Church restated the ban as late as 1926 out of concern that these groups were anti-religious in promoting cremation as an argument against belief in the resurrection.

The Vatican has allowed cremation as an acceptable alternative to burial since 1963, except in cases where irreligious motives are apparent (Canon 1176, No. 3). Nevertheless, “although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites” (No. 413, *Order of Christian Funerals*, “Appendix 2, Cremation,” 1997). Moreover, while the Church permits cremation, the scattering of ashes is forbidden. They are to be reserved with reverence in a sacred place. ●



Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



*The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience.... God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades.*

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION, JOY OF THE GOSPEL (EVANGELII GAUDIUM), NOVEMBER 24, 2013

### MONDAY

June 26  
Weekday  
Gn 12:1–9  
Mt 7:1–5

### TUESDAY

June 27  
Weekday  
Gn 13:2, 5–18  
Mt 7:6, 12–14

### WEDNESDAY

June 28  
St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr  
Gn 15:1–12, 17–18  
Mt 7:15–20

### THURSDAY

June 29  
Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles  
Acts 12:1–11  
2 Tm 4:6–8, 17–18  
Mt 16:13–19

### FRIDAY

June 30  
Weekday  
Gn 17:1, 9–10, 15–22  
Mt 8:1–4

### SATURDAY

July 1  
Weekday  
Gn 18:1–15  
Mt 8:5–17

### SUNDAY

July 2  
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Kgs 4:8–11, 14–16a  
Rom 6:3–4, 8–11  
Mt 10:37–42

### Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

June 25, 2023

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Jeremiah 20:10–13 / Romans 5:12–15 / Matthew 10:26–33



## What Is a Soul, if Not...?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**he Gospel of Matthew warns that the greater danger is not about those who may kill the body, but rather it is about those who can destroy both body and soul.

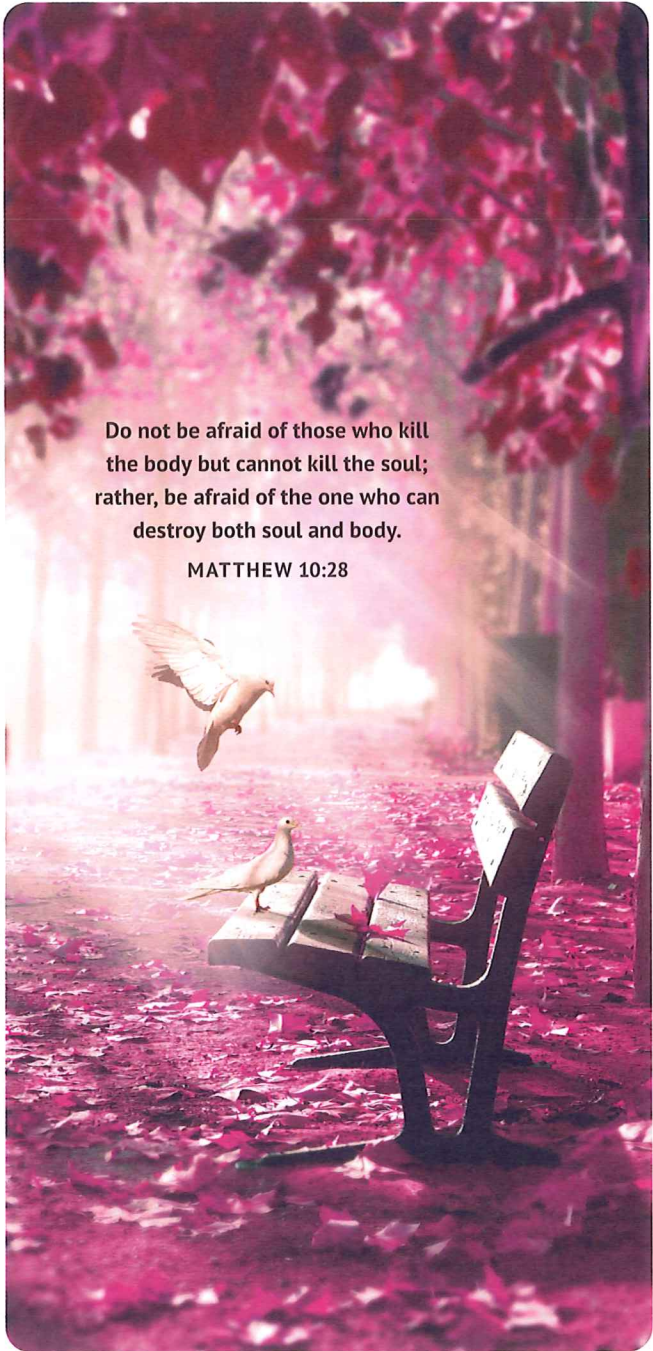
Indeed, what if our soul dies long before our body dies? What then has become of our living?

Henry David Thoreau spent a year at Walden Pond in 1845. He did not go to escape life, he said, but to preserve it, to live it more fully. “I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not when I came to die, discover that I had not lived,” he wrote in *Walden* in 1854. “I did not wish to live what was not life, living is so dear, nor did I wish to practice resignation, unless it was quite necessary. I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life.”

To have a soul is not as if some other-worldly reality has been given a home in our body. Rather, to have a soul is to have a source of hope even in the face of failure, to love in imitation of Jesus even when we are not loved, to see goodness even when it is hidden, to trust in God even when we are powerless. It is the source of mystery, of all that is transcendent, the home of all that is holy. ●

### Reflect

*How would you know if your soul was in danger?*







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

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

12 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6/24/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

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

**Reader:** Karen Burden

**E.O.HC:** Debbie Frederick, Gwen Waechter

6/25/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

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

**Reader:** Mike Broeckelman

**E.O. HC:** Toby & Jessica Lohman-Fuller

13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7/1/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

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

**Reader:** Tom Bachman

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

7/2/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

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

**Reader:** Hannah Schauf

**E.O. HC:** Maria Enriquez, Rosa Cardenas

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, June 24	4:00 p.m.	Ritha Linenberger
Sunday, June 25	9:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving for rain
Monday, June 26	8:30 a.m.	David Hoang
Tuesday, June 27	8:30 a.m.	Special Int. Powers Family
Thursday, June 29	8:30 a.m.	David Hoang
Friday, June 30	8:30 a.m.	For vocation.
Saturday, July 1	4:00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, July 2	9:00 a.m.	Suellen Bergkamp

**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.

JUNE 25— 12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*"Lord, in your great love, answer me." (Psalm 69)*

My friends, modern life can be awfully difficult to navigate. So many options and decisions and choices to be made. So many uncertainties and fearful situations. So many temptations and opportunities to stray from the right path. So many conveniences and technologies and gadgets that are meant to make our lives easier, but often don't. It's not easy --- not easy at all. And for those of you who are currently raising children or caring for elderly parents, you know those things pose some huge additional challenges. A busy life can weigh us down if we're not careful. It can distract us from what's most important. And so I encourage each to find ways to turn off the metaphorical bright lights or turn down the radio or whatever else we need to have go away from time to time so that we can the only voice that matters --- the voice of our loving God who has some pretty important things to say to us. . . if we'll let him.

If not, we might just continue to drive around in circles, not finding that special place God wants to lead us to --- a life of great meaning, and peace, and joy. Fr. Peter

**COLLECTION** for June 18, 2023: Envelopes: \$2146; Loose: \$338; Online Giving: \$302.64; Total \$2786.64; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under + 1025.47

**CHURCH PROJECT GOAL** \$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$29471.63 *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.*

**BISHOP JOHN BRUNGARDT MESSAGE** Bishop John has requested that the faithful throughout the Diocese of Dodge City, add the “Hail Mary” prayer after reciting meal prayers for an increase in vocations for our Dioceses.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK** What am I reluctant to take a stand on? How can I bear witness most effectively and realistically?

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK (by Dietrich Bonhoeffer)** O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you: I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness, but with you there is light. I am lonely, but you do not leave me. I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help. I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience. I do not understand your ways, but you know the way for me... Restore my liberty, and enable me so to live now that I may answer before you and before me. Lord, whatever this day may bring, your name be praised. Amen

**UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Matthew 10: 26-33)**

**Have no fear** Jesus speaks these words to his disciples as he prepares them to further his mission to bring about God’s kingdom (10:1f). He warns them about the rejection and persecution they will encounter. Jesus urges his followers not to fear whatever might happen to them. They will suffer for the sake of God’s kingdom just as he did (10:16f). Those who proclaim the gospel shouldn’t be afraid of anything, not even death (v.28). Instead they should fear what would happen if they stopped living and proclaiming the gospel. Losing a place in God’s kingdom is far worse than losing one’s comparatively brief life on earth.

**Public faith** Jesus wants his followers, both the Twelve disciples and all who will later believe in him, to proclaim all that he did and taught. This proclamation now includes the good news of his resurrection. No part of the story should be ignored, nor should Jesus’ words and deeds be shared with only a select few (vv.26-27).

**More than many sparrows** Jesus doesn’t say that God will prevent the suffering of those who minister in his name. Instead he assures them that God knows they are suffering for his sake. God cares about them even more than they care about themselves (vv.29-31). If God has counted all the hairs on our head, then God is paying much closer attention to us than we think.

**A divine mirror** Jesus tells his followers that the testimony they give (or not) about him on earth will become the testimony he gives about them in heaven. His words are a warning to wayward disciples but a consolation to brave and faithful ones.

**Gehenna** Gehenna was a valley near Jerusalem that had been the site of pagan sacrifice. By Jesus’ day it was a vast garbage dump. It became synonymous with hell, a place or state of eternal punishment. (oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

**UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING OF THE WEEK - (Exodus 19: 2-6a)**

**All alone** God called Jeremiah in the seventh century BC to warn Israel to stay faithful to God or suffer the consequences. Jeremiah prophesied as God wanted, but because God’s word was slow to come true, people mocked and attacked him (v.10). Right before this passage the prophet was whipped and placed in the stocks (20:2).

**Proving the prophet wrong** As Jeremiah’s warnings fail to materialize, even his allies turn against him (v.10). They hope he’ll say something that obviously isn’t true so that they can silence him for good. Jeremiah is now on the defensive. He had been pointing out their failures. Now they’re looking to point out his.

**Staying faithful** Jeremiah declares that God is with him as a warrior, a champion (v.11a). Eventually his opponents will realize this, and God will ensure that they are dishonored because of their past behavior (vv.11b-12). Until then Jeremiah will speak God’s word despite the pain it brings him. Jeremiah is like all the just and the poor. The just often suffer for doing what is right in God’s eyes. The poor turn more readily to God than the rich because they can’t easily satisfy their material needs. Jeremiah praises God for helping people remain faithful and righteous, come what may.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION JUNE 25**

*Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.” MATTHEW 10:32* Would others know that you are Catholic by the way you act and speak? Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith when the situation arises or do you remain silent? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself. Let us become the radiant light and bold witness that we are called to be!

*“A cualquiera que me reconozca delante de los demás, yo también lo reconoceré delante de mi Padre que está en el cielo”. MATEO 10:32*  
¿Pueden los demás reconocer que usted es Católico por la forma en la que habla y actúa? ¿Comparte su fe Católica con otros? Si se presenta el caso, ¿defiende su Fe Católica o se queda callado? ¿Reza en público antes de las comidas? Recibe para tener la fuerza y la valentía de ser un testigo jubiloso de nuestra Fe Católica cuando se presente la oportunidad. ¿Transformémonos en la luz radiante y los testigos valientes que estamos llamados a ser!

Q: I read a quote by St. Augustine, which says, "Beauty is indeed a good gift of God; but that the good may not think it a great good, God dispenses it even to the wicked." Could you please explain further what this means?

A: St. Augustine states this in The City of God, XV,22. Essentially what Augustine is teaching is that we can become too focused on lesser goods and, thereby, neglect higher goods. Physical beauty, though somewhat differently defined, does exist, and is a pleasant gift of God to behold. But we can esteem it too much, failing to realize that spiritual beauty; truth, goodness, holiness and God Himself, are far greater gifts. Hence, God signals the limits of physical beauty by often bestowing it on those who may seem undeserving of it, to teach us that physical beauty is a limited good. St. Augustine continues, "And thus beauty, which is indeed God's handiwork, but only a temporal, carnal, and lower kind of good, is not fitly loved in preference to God..." The problem is not with beauty, but with us. So Augustine adds, "When the miser prefers gold to justice, it is through no fault of the gold, but of the man; and so with every created thing." (Monsignor Pope)

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

With justice for all

Politics is noble, among the highest forms of charity, Pope Paul VI once said. Pope Francis speaks often about the intersection of politics and justice. Yet Francis points out, "Some people continue to defend trickle-down theories which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice.... This opinion ... expresses a crude and naive trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the sacralized workings of the prevailing economic system." Politics is noble, but regrettably, not all politicians are. Work for justice, both in the system and on the street.


(Preparetheword)

DÉCIMO PRIMER DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Con justicia para todos

La política es noble, una de las formas más elevadas de caridad, dijo una vez el Papa Pablo VI. El Papa Francisco habla a menudo de la interacción entre política y justicia. No obstante, Francisco señala: "Algunas personas siguen defendiendo las teorías del goteo que suponen que el crecimiento económico, fomentado por un mercado libre, logrará inevitablemente una mayor justicia... Esta opinión... expresa una confianza burda e ingenua en la bondad de quienes ejercen el poder económico y en el funcionamiento sacralizado del sistema económico imperante." La política es noble, pero lamentablemente no todos los políticos lo son. Es necesario trabajar por la justicia, tanto en el sistema como en la calle.

**Totus Tuus:** If any youth would like to attend please contact to Miss Hannah Schauf. The parish will pay for the registration fees.



# TOTUS TUUS

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF DODGE CITY

FROM JUNE 25TH - 30TH, 2023

Totus Tuus is a Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship.

**Registration:**  
Are being taken during office hours

**GRADE SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
Students who have completed grades 1-6  
Monday thru Friday, June 26-30, 2023  
From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
Students who have completed grades 7-12  
Sunday thru Thursday, June 25-29, 2023  
From 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm

Cost is \$10 per child or \$25 for a family with 3 or more children registered. The schedule can work around summer activities, appointments, etc.

11:30 am Daily Mass  
(All are welcome)

Come join us!



# TOTUS TUUS

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF DODGE CITY

Totus Tuus (ESCUELA BIBLICA DE VERANO)  
Del 25 -30 de junio de 2023

Totus Tuus es un programa juvenil católico dedicado a compartir el Evangelio y promover la fe católica a través de la catechesis, la evangelización, el testimonio cristiano y el culto eucarístico.

**Matriculaciones:**  
Se están tomando durante los horarios de oficina

**PROGRAMA DE ESCUELA PRIMARIA**  
Estudiantes que completaron los grados 1-6  
De lunes a viernes, 26-30 de junio de 2023  
De 9:00 am a 3:00 pm

**PROGRAMA DE ESCUELA SECUNDARIA Y PREPARATORIA**  
Estudiantes que completaron los grados 7-12  
De domingo a jueves, 25-29 de junio de 2023  
De 6:30 a 8:45 pm

El costo es de \$10 por niño o \$25 por familia con 3 o más niños registrados. El horario puede adaptarse a actividades de verano, citas, etc.

11:30 am Misa diaria  
(Todos son bienvenidos)

¡Únase a nosotros!