Dear Padre,

My prayer-group leader is encouraging us to write our own prayers for our meetings. Don't you need some formal religious training to write prayers? Will our prayers count?

It's given to every human being to be able to pray. On the level of the spiritual life, prayer is as basic as breathing is to physical life. Everyone at every moment has the grace to say a prayer.

Sometimes I ask people, "Do you pray?" At times they tell me they don't. Then I ask them, "Well, do you talk with God?" And most answer, "Of course." That's praying.

When writing your prayers, I suggest you use this ancient definition as inspiration: Prayer is the raising of the mind and heart to God. I'm sure your prayers will be that in word and feeling, and they will count.

When writing more formal prayers, it's nice to include the prayer elements the Church considers important: adoration of God, contrition and sorrow for sin, thanksgiving for life and for God's care of us in good times and bad, and petition for what we desperately need in our poverty. And for you, a final word. Remember that no matter how bad things may get, no matter how out of control things feel, you always have the gift and power of saying a prayer. Especially in time of temptation—when things really go bad—ask Mary your Mother to pray with you.

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
October 16	October 17	October 18	October 19	October 20	October 21	October 22
Weekday	St. Ignatius of	St. Luke,	Sts. John de	Weekday	Weekday	Twenty-ninth
Rom 1:1–7	Antioch, Bishop	Evangelist	Brébeuf and	Rom 4:1-8	Rom 4:13,	Sunday in
Lk 11:29–32	and Martyr	2 Tm 4:10-17b	Isaac Jogues,	Lk 12:1–7	16-18	Ordinary Time
	Rom 1:16-25	Lk 10:1-9	Priests, and		Lk 12:8–12	ls 45:1, 4-6
	Lk 11:37-41		Companions,			1 Thes 1:1–5b
			Martyrs			Mt 22:15-21
			Rom 3:21-30			
			Lk 11:47-54			



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The banquet hall is filled with the "excluded," those who are "outside," those who never seemed worthy to partake in a feast, in a wedding banquet. In fact, the master, the king, tells the messengers: "Call everyone, both good and bad. Everyone!"....He prepares his banquet for everyone: the just and sinners.

ANGELUS, ROME, OCTOBER 11, 2020

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October 15, 2023 Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Isaiah 25:6-10a / Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 / Matthew 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

Yes or No?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

onfronted by a social obligation I would prefer to avoid, I frequently find myself musing that the timing is right for me to break a leg or get the flu. Yet more often than not, once I go, I find myself enjoying the gathering. Not all invitations are exciting or even desirable, but many become the building blocks of our lives.

When the parable of Jesus tells of an invitation to come to a wedding feast, it's really a story of our invitation to the kingdom of heaven, where, if we accept, we will dwell in the divine presence and enjoy the peace, joy, and love of God. Heaven is not only *where* we are but also *how* we are. It's an invitation to deeper and richer life—a taste of heaven, even in this life.

So it's good to consider going where we'd rather not

go. It's not simply about social gatherings, though a social gathering may be the event where you meet the person you fall in love with. It also may mean going for counseling when that may be a bit scary, or confronting one's addiction, or moving to a new city, or accepting serious and lifelong illness, or saying yes to having a child with special needs, or not getting the job you hoped for. Saying yes to what life brings may be the wedding garment that enriches our lives. It may be saying yes to God.

Reflect When has going where you'd rather not go enriched your life?



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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

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10/14/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m. Servers: Volunteer, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

Reader: Karen Burden

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

10/15/2023 - Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

Reader: Hannah Schauf

E.O. HC: Teresa Beltran, Karen Burden

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10/21/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Lucy, Jonathan, & Nathan Gannett

Reader: Tom Bachman

E.O.HC: Rosemary & Tom Bachman

10/22/2023 - Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Cade & Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

Reader: Alvin Bergkamp

E.O. HC: Alvin Bergkamp, Bob Woodrow

Sı	unday, Oct. 15 9:00 a.m. Fo	r our parishioners					
Sa	aturday, Oct. 14 4:00 p.m. Ed	die Catlin					
MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK							
	& Nanette Rice	355-7676					
	Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek 355-1696						
	Tom Bachman, Grand Knight	640-8259					
	Altar Society President, Nanette Rid	ce 355-7676					
	Tressa Powers, Finance Council Ch	air 355-6206					
	Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Ch	air 272-1030					
	RCIA	355-6405					
	Lisa Gannett, DRE	355-6611					
	Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee	355-6388					

Sunday, Oct. 15	9:00 a.m.	For our parishioners				
Monday, Oct. 16	5:30 p.m.	Gary Sack				
Tuesday, Oct. 17	9: 30 a.m.	Special Int. Powers Family				
(Tuesday Mass at the High Plains Retirement Village)						
Thursday, Oct. 19	12:10 p.m.	David Hoang				
Friday, Oct. 20	7:30 a.m.	Richard Randolph				
Saturday, Oct. 21	4:00 p.m.	Rick & Bonnie Knoll Family				
Sunday, Oct. 22	9:00 a.m.	For our parishioners				

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.

October 15, 2023 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life." (Psalm 23:)

To conclude the parable this Sunday (Matthew 22:1-14) Jesus says, "Many are invited, but few are chosen." That seems to imply that getting to heaven is extremely difficult, seems to imply that we have to get just about everything right in this life to even have a chance at getting in. It's as if heaven is an extremely exclusive club with a really strict doorman who allows only a couple of people here or there to trickle in. Yet, here is the king letting in not only good people but bad people too. What did they do to deserve that?

My friends, the more we try to "figure out" how this all "works" the more we can drive ourselves crazy. The truth is, we know very little about these very sorts of things, and throughout its history the Church has even struggled to illuminate these things for us in a helpful, healthy way.

And so, if we find ourselves wondering about these things, unsure exactly what all of it means --- we shouldn't worry. It's when we think we have all the answers we should worry.

And so, let's simply accept the invitation for what it is, an opportunity to a live a life beyond our wildest expectations --- a life infused with every good thing --- mercy, kindness, generosity, love. And we do so not to "earn" a single thing, but to respond in love to the incredible God we have --- the God with whom we hope to spend the rest of our earthly lives and eternity too. Fr. Peter

<u>COLLECTION</u> for October 8, 2023: Envelopes: \$1075; Loose: \$376.39; Online Giving: \$1916.32; Total \$3,367.71; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under +1,606.54

<u>CHURCH PROJECT GOAL</u> \$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$37036.74. *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.*

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE As you have seen in the daily Mass schedule, daily Masses are scheduled different time frames to meet most of the people's survey outcome. Thank you so much for doing the survey and your constant love for our parish community. Note that when daily Mass is celebrated in our church, rosary is prayed 30 minutes before Mass. Please make an extra effort to attend weekend as well as daily Masses to show your love for the Lord and to His people.

<u>THE DIOCESE OF DODGE CITY YOUTH SUMMIT</u> will be held on November 4th at Dodge City Middle School. The day will consist of a Junior High Rally in the afternoon from 2-4 p.m. and a High School Leadership Retreat in the morning. As part of the Leadership Retreat, high schoolers will help prepare for and implement the junior high portion of the day. When registering, they are asked to select which portion(s) of the day they will be able to attend and help with. More information, a schedule of events, and registration can be found at dcdiocese.org/youthevents

DIOCESAN MATRIMONY ANNIVERSARY MASS Couples who are observing their 5 th, 10th, 20 th, 40 th, 50 th or other significant anniversary in 2023 are invited to the Diocesan Matrimony Anniversary Mass. It will be held Sunday Oct. 22, 2023 at 3 pm at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City. A light meal will follow in the Holy Family Social Center. Register online at: https://form.jotform.com/90425952763160. If you need help to register online, please call the Parish office and we will help. Also, if you are celebrating a significant anniversary but are unable to attend the Cathedral Mass with Bishop Brungardt, please let Father Peter know so that your anniversary does not go unrecognized. Registration for the Cathedral Mass is due by Oct. 9.

<u>QUESTION OF THE WEEK</u> How can God's generosity give me peace of mind through difficult times?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (adapted from The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Heavenly Father, you have called us out of darkness and into faith, hope, and love. Through the power of your Spirit we have become a new creation and have clothed ourselves in Christ. Kindle in us a spirit of true repentance. Free us from the power of sin. Guide us along the path of holiness. Make us living proofs of your grace. On the day of judgment, may we stand before you bearing fruits of holiness and love. We ask this in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Matthew 22;1-14)

New invitations In the Bible banquets, especially wedding feasts, often represent eternal fellowship with God. Jesus uses this metaphor as he directs a third parable of judgment against the Jewish leaders. As they reject the next stage of salvation history that has begun with Jesus, God opens the banquet to others.

The allegorical interpretation Kings didn't pause in the midst of wedding receptions to wage war. With verses 6-7 this passage becomes an allegory. • The king is God • The wedding feast is the heavenly banquet. The king's son is Jesus, who sits in the place of honor • The first invitation represents God's call through the prophets of the Old Testament. The second invitation represents the efforts of Christian missionaries like the apostles. • The first invitees are the Jewish leaders. The last minute guests are Gentiles and other Jews • The new guests represent the church • The city the king attacks probably represents Jerusalem, destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD. Some Christians believed God punished this city because its leaders rejected Jesus.

Dressing for the feast The king's servants gather the good and bad alike (v.10). Now the focus shifts from the Jewish leaders to the church. Everyone is invited into God's church, but people must follow Jesus' teachings and example if they wish to remain there. Accepting God's invitation means more than merely showing up: we must also try to change into good people. The man who isn't wearing a wedding garment represents those who haven't changed their way of life. When given the chance to explain why he isn't dressed appropriately, he gives no explanation. The conclusion of the parable points ahead to the Last Judgment. We're given every possible chance to be included in God's kingdom. Jesus warns us not to throw those chances away.

(oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

<u>UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING OF THE WEEK - (Isaiah 15:6-10a)</u>

This mountain At 750-785 meters above sea level, Jerusalem's elevation isn't especially high. However, in biblical times mountains represented proximity to God. Jerusalem, after becoming a city sacred to God's chosen people, is thus portrayed as being on a mountain. The terms Jerusalem and Mount Zion are sometimes used interchangeably. **Fine dining** The mountain in this passage also represents God's kingdom. One day God will transform the holy city and from there, the whole earth. The passage is eschatological: it describes what things will be like in the final age (the eschaton). Eating together was an important symbolic action for ancient people. A meal shared by different families, tribes, or leaders represented friendship and peace. God's promise includes an eternal meal or heavenly banquet. In this prophetic vision people from all over the world share this meal of peace.

Wiping away tears God will help non-believers understand and embrace what he wants for the world (v.7). Once he does, there will be no more war, hatred, or division. God will end all that leads to death – even death itself. God will also heal the confusion, pain, and grief of his chosen people, the Israelites, who had been conquered and scattered by foreign empires (v.8).

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION OCTOBER 15,2023

"My God will fully supply whatever you need ... " - Philippians 4:19

God really does provide for those who are grateful and generous. This is very difficult for people that don't live a stewardship lifestyle to believe. People are skeptical and say it's just coincidence. If you are skeptical, try living a stewardship lifestyle for just one month – be generous with your gifts of time in prayer, talent in charitable works, and treasure, then see how God provides for your needs.

"Mi Dios les dará todo lo que necesiten..." FILIPENSES 4:19

Dios realmente provee a aquellos que son agradecidos y generosos. Eso es muy difícil de creer para las personas que no viven un estilo de vida de corresponsabilidad. Las personas son escépticas y dicen que es solo una coincidencia. Si usted es escéptico, trate de llevar un estilo de vida de corresponsabilidad por un mes - sea generoso con sus dones de tiempo en oración, su talento en obras de caridad, y sus tesoros, y luego verá como Dios provee para satisfacer sus necesidades.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL Pilgrimage

REFLECTION:

There are two types of people in the world: those that like to hit the open road, and those that prefer to stay at home. Whether or not you prefer to stay on your couch nestled under a cozy blanket or enjoy a long road trip with loved ones, the Christian life proposes a pilgrimage.

Of course, a pilgrimage is different from other road trips, and the idea of pilgrimage can feel foreign in today's world. However, a "pilgrim" is one who journeys for a religious reason. The endpoint of the journey is typically a holy place, perhaps a church or a shrine, but the end goal is altogether different. Pilgrimage is not simply about landing at a geographic location but transforming the heart.

"Pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey toward heaven and are traditionally very special occasions for renewal in prayer" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2691). You may have heard of pilgrimages to Lourdes, the Holy Land, or perhaps the Camino. All of those are amazing opportunities to encounter God's grace. Yet, traveling across the world is not the only way to experience pilgrimage. Anything that intentionally turns our mind to eternity and renews our prayer can be a pilgrimage.

Even if you've never partaken in an official pilgrimage, the truth is that each day we take a step closer to (or further from) heaven. Pilgrimage allows us to meditate on the reality that just as a pilgrim travels from one location to the next, each of us is journeying closer to our eternal home. This truth, when internalized, allows us to shed the weight of this world more easily as we race towards the finish line of life (Heb 12:2).

Whether or not pilgrimage to the Holy Land or Rome is in your future, each of us can make our weekly venture to the Sunday liturgy a private pilgrimage because, at the altar, Jesus meets us and presents himself to us as food for our journey forward.

Today, let us take an intentional step toward eternity with the confidence that Jesus is with us.

PRAYER:

Jesus, we know this world is not our home. Thank you for being our faithful companion on this pilgrimage. We pray that you grant us the grace to continue this journey forward, that each day we may take a step closer to you and your perfect will for our lives. Be our strength as we experience the ups and downs of life. Remain with us as we continue our way home to you.

CHALLENGE: Make a pilgrimage to Mass on Sunday, naming a specific intention that you offer up when you receive the Blessed Sacrament. (If you want your pilgrimage to be different than your normal routine, attend mass at the nearest Cathedral or Basilica, offering prayer while you travel).

TWENTY- EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Stretch your spirituality

Your doctor says that even a little exercise is important to keep the body flexible. Joints that move regularly are body parts that can function well a while longer. Walking 20 minutes a day or taking a water aerobics class are easy ways to lubricate the joints we need to perform our daily tasks. Saint Paul reminds us that flexibility is also a significant aspect of the spiritual life. Can we accept good times and bad, seasons of plenty or want, with the same light grip? Moving through circumstances fluidly makes for a freer life, and a gentler death. (Preparetheword)

VIGÉSIMO OCTAVO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Amplía tu espiritualidad

Tu médico dice que aunque sea un poco de ejercicio es importante para mantener el cuerpo flexible. Las articulaciones que se mueven con regularidad son partes del cuerpo que pueden funcionar bien durante más tiempo. Caminar 20 minutos al día o tomar una clase de aquaerobic son maneras fáciles de lubricar las articulaciones que necesitamos para realizar nuestras tareas diarias. San Pablo nos recuerda que la flexibilidad es también un aspecto importante de la vida espiritual. ¿Podemos aceptar los buenos y los malos tiempos, las épocas de abundancia o de escasez, con la misma fluidez? Moverse con soltura a través de las circunstancias hace que la vida sea más libre y la muerte más suave.