

Dear Padre,

When can I take photographs in church? During my niece's baptism, I was told to put my camera away. We have a confirmation and a wedding coming up, and I don't want to get in trouble again.

Reverence and courtesy are the issues here. Reverence keeps in mind that what is real about baptism and all the sacraments does not come out in photos. Courtesy notes that other folks are trying to enter into the awe and joy of the mystery, and people taking photographs can get in the way or distract.

Parishes differ in rules and regulations. Many parishes prohibit the taking of pictures. Certainly taking flash pictures is annoying in a way that taking available-light photos is not. But even with nonflash pictures, the photographer is trying to get around people and into a good spot.

Weddings call for photos from approved photographers. In most United States cultures, photos at funeral Masses are out of place. However, there are exceptions, such as the situation of an infirm woman who was unable to attend her sister's funeral. She was extremely upset until her niece thought to record it with her phone. The pastor had no problem with this solution.

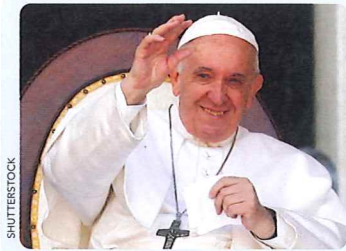
No matter what the situation, it is always best to check with the parish office before the event. If it is permitted, get a few good pictures and then be sure to close your eyes in prayer so you can see what is really going on. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
September 25 Weekday Ezr 1:1-6 Lk 8:16-18	September 26 Weekday Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 Lk 8:19-21	September 27 St. Vincent de Paul, Priest Ezr 9:5-9 Lk 9:1-6	September 28 Weekday Hg 1:1-8 Lk 9:7-9	September 29 Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a Jn 1:47-51	September 30 St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a Lk 9:43b-45	October 1 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ez 18:25-28 Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5 Mt 21:28-32



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus wants to make us contemplate the gaze of that landowner: the gaze with which he looks upon each of the laborers searching for work and calls them to go to his vineyard....It is a gaze which calls, invites one to get up and begin a journey because he wants life for each of us.

ANGELUS, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017



Late Bloomers

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Human beings grow and mature at different paces. Turning twenty-one is no marker of maturity. We've all known the ten-year-old whom people say is already an old man because of how he thinks and acts. Just as surely, we've known the forty-year-old who still acts and dresses like a teenager. If this is true with human growth, would it not be true as well with growth in faith?

This Sunday's parable of the landowner who pays all his laborers the same even though they have not all worked the same amount of time often sparks the comment that it's not good business sense. But the parable is not about business. It's about how we all come to faith at different times in life, all according to God's plan, not ours. Why then do some complain about deathbed conversions as being unfair? Who's to say when someone finally catches up to God's love and goodness? Too often human wisdom and divine wisdom spin in different worlds.

Pope Benedict XVI once commented on this Gospel's wisdom and how we should be patient with young people as they seek the sacraments. Jesus was patient with us, he said, so we should follow his lead. Federico Lombardi, SJ, the Vatican spokesman for Pope Benedict, reported that the pope had commented, "I used to be more strict about this, but the example of Christ led me to become more welcoming in cases in which, perhaps, there is not a mature and solid faith, but there is a glimmer, a desire of communion with the Church." ●



[The LORD said,]
"As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways,
my thoughts higher than your thoughts."

ISAIAH 55:9

Reflect

Has your faith matured over the years, or have you stopped growing?



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

25 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9/23/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Lucy, Jonathan, & Nathan Gannett

Reader: Tom Bachman

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

9/24/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Cade & Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

Reader: Julie Kaps

E.O. HC: Del & Julia Kaps

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9/30/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Volunteer, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

Reader: Debbie Frederick

E.O.HC: Rosemary & Tom Bachman

10/1/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

Reader: Kyle Berning

E.O. HC: Toby & Jessica Luhman-Fuller

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

Saturday, Sept. 23	4:00 p.m.	Eddie Catlin
Sunday, Sept. 24	9:00 a.m.	For the people
Monday, Sept. 25	8:30 a.m.	David Hoang
Tuesday, Sept. 26	8:30 a.m.	Rebecca Burden
Thursday, Sept. 28	8:30 a.m.	Gary Sack Jr.
Friday, Sept. 29	8:30 a.m.	David Hoang
Saturday, Sept. 30	4:00 p.m.	For the people
Sunday, Oct. 1	9:00 a.m.	Special Intention

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.

September 24, 2023

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion." (Psalm 103:1-2)

My friends, the story we have from the Gospel of Matthew this Sunday (Matthew 20:1-16a) is familiar to all of us. It's an easy story to remember primarily for one simple reason --- because the landowner acts in a way completely opposite to how we would almost certainly act in a similar situation. The story, in a certain sense, is meant to not really make sense to us, is meant to make us take pause and try to figure out exactly what Jesus is trying to tell us through this story.

You see, if we only see ourselves as the ones who worked a whole day and therefore deserve more, we are in a dangerous place spiritually --- the place in which we are convinced that we aren't the problem, that we are doing it right, that we are always pleasing to God.

My friends, we aren't the ones who have given God a full day's work. We are the ones who have only given God a little effort, a little work, a little time, a little bit of ourselves. We are people who don't love unconditionally. We are people who aren't always generous. We are people who don't always show mercy and compassion. Simply --- we are sinners --- flawed people often unwilling to fully embrace the lives God is inviting us to.

May we never resent the blessings God showers upon others. May we never try to judge another person's relationship with God. And most importantly, may we never forget and always be thankful for God's unwillingness to give us what we truly deserve.

He gives us so much more than that. What a God we have!

Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for September 17, 2023: Envelopes: \$654; Loose: \$209; Online Giving: \$302.64; Total \$863.30; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under –897.87

CHURCH PROJECT GOAL \$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$36781.74. *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.*

UPCOMING MEETINGS KOC: 10/4 at 7:30 p.m.; Parish Pastoral Council: 10/11 at 5:30 p.m.

PARISH BREAKFAST—RIGHT AFTER MASS You are invited to join us for food & fellowship on Sunday, September, 24 served by our K of C Council.

BUDGET SHOP We will be working at the Budget Shop on Saturday, September 23 and Tuesday, September 26. Please keep these dates on your busy calendars and try to save a few hours to help us. We are open on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Any help will be greatly appreciated. And “Thank You” ahead of time.

DIOCESAN MATRIMONY ANNIVERSARY MASS Couples who are observing their 5th, 10th, 20th, 40th, 50th 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.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK How can I prioritize generosity over fairness in how I regard and treat others?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (by St. Ignatius of Loyola) Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve – to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, save that of knowing that I do your will. Amen.

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Matthew 20:1-16)

Fair wages The landowner agrees to pay the customary amount for a full day’s work. His decision to pay the latecomers first creates drama in the story. Those who were hired first now expect a bonus despite their initial agreement with the landowner.

Stingy hearts The landowner acts so generously that some people claim he isn’t being fair. As the employer points out, however, he honors his agreement with the first people he hired. Compared to him these people seem selfish and uncaring. This parable, unique to Matthew, is similar to the story of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32). The landowner is like the father who loves both his sons, even when the older brother gets angry at his father for forgiving the younger one.

Parable vs proverb Matthew has sandwiched the parable between a saying or proverb that doesn’t quite apply to it (19:30; 20:16). The moment of reversal is a minor part of the story. Moreover, the saying indicates that people who don’t seem worthy of God’s kingdom will enter it before those who seem worthy, whereas the parable indicates that everyone can be part of God’s kingdom no matter when they show up.

Undeserving One way to interpret the parable is through the lens of Jesus’ association with sinners. The sinners are the workers employed later in the day. The Pharisees and other good Jews are those hired first. Pious Jews may resent the inclusion of sinners in God’s kingdom, but God welcomes both. The parable is also a warning to those who expect a reward for their piety or good works. Right before this passage Peter asks what the disciples will receive for having given up everything (19:27). The parable suggests that the rewards of following Jesus are so great that they exceed what anyone could deserve. No one earns a place in God’s glorious reign. Despite all we do, eternal life with God is ultimately a gift.

(oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING OF THE WEEK - (Isaiah 55:6-9)

God’s hidden plans In the sixth century BC Israel was invaded by the Babylonians. They destroyed Jerusalem and its temple and forced hundreds of Israelites to live in far off Babylon. About fifty years later King Cyrus of Persia conquered Babylon and released those held in captivity. The Babylonian exile nearly destroyed God’s people. Isaiah and others perceived this terrible event as a punishment that was part of God’s plan to save his people from their sinfulness (vv.8-9).

Rebuild! Verse 6 is better translated: “Seek the LORD where he may be found...” For Jews, the holiest place on earth was their temple, a major symbol of God’s presence among them. The Babylonians destroyed it. The prophet declares that the time has come to rebuild the temple so that the Israelites can again enjoy the fullness of God’s presence (v.6). The LORD has forgiven his people for the sins that led to their exile.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION SEPTEMBER 24,2023

“Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last”.- Matthew 20:16

You’ve heard the saying “it’s not where you start, but how you finish.” This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live “God-centered” lives and not “self-centered” lives.

“Entonces, los últimos serán los primeros, y los primeros serán los últimos.” - Mateo 20:16

Seguramente ha escuchado el dicho “no se trata de dónde empiezas, sino de cómo terminas”. Esto ciertamente se aplica a este pasaje de la Biblia. No solo somos responsables de nuestras vidas, sino también de las vidas de otras personas. Somos llamados a compartir nuestros dones con generosidad, no a acumularlos para nuestro propio uso. Nuestra gratitud sincera y nuestra alegre generosidad nos llevará a vivir una Vida “centrada en Dios” y no una vida “egocéntrica”.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL
HEALING

REFLECTION:

Sometimes our lives can feel like a rollercoaster, filled with high and low moments. As much as we strive to enjoy the positive moments, we know that they come and go, and even if we do our best to avoid the low moments, we know they are inevitable.

We experience traumatic and dark moments even more acutely. These moments aren’t simply “low” moments but can leave us with lasting wounds and scars. It doesn’t matter what stage of life you are in, your age, or where you live—we all have wounds. People we love get sick or pass away; we get sick ourselves, and we suffer psychologically.

Sin is messy. Whenever we sin, there is the potential for a wound to develop in our lives because these wounds come from sin—our individual sin, other people’s sin, and original sin. Our sin hurts other people and hurts our relationship with God, causing pain in our hearts. At other times, it isn’t our sin that causes a wound but the sin of others. The tragedy and evil of sin is that it is never private; other people can and do hurt us through their sin.

But, Jesus is that healer.

He spent a significant amount of time healing those who were broken and wounded. Jesus healed others to point out his redemptive mission. His healing was not for back then, but for all time. Jesus still heals us. Are we humble enough to bring our wounds to him?

We all need healing, and when we go to Jesus, we can be assured of his desire and power to heal us. As we begin the process first, we need to ask for healing in prayer. After that, we need to identify what kind of healing we need: counseling, rehabilitation, or therapy may all be necessary steps we need to take on our journey of healing. (There are many Catholic agencies and professionals who can walk this journey with you.) Healing sometimes requires reconciliation with people we have hurt or who have hurt us*.

We cannot become missionaries if we are wounded. Hurt people will end up hurting other people, and our wounds will impact the way we relate to and serve others. And even more, Jesus doesn’t want us to be wounded and is with us to confront the broken parts of our lives. However, he will not act without our consent. The choice to seek healing and experience it is up to each of us.

REFLECTION:

Jesus, you healed many people and still desire to heal us and make us whole. I offer you my wounds and the places where I am broken. I know I have caused some of these wounds through my actions, and you know the wounds that were inflicted upon me because of the sin of others. In your mercy, hear my prayer and send the Holy Spirit to provide me with courage so I may seek help from others. Lord Jesus, heal me. Amen.

CHALLENGE:

Spend time today to identify an area that is wounded or broken and the next steps you need to take to find healing. Then take 15-30 minutes in prayer, before the Blessed Sacrament if possible, asking Jesus for healing and the courage to take those next steps. *If you need to find healing from past hurts, reach out to your local parish or diocesan office and ask for a list of Catholic mental health professionals whom you can connect with.

TWENTY– FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
At home in the world

Free to leave, free to stay. Liberty of movement is a right most of us take for granted. Have you resided in more than one place? On this 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis asks us to imagine a world in which everyone has the option to stay or go as they please. It necessitates a world in which staying is safe: free from discrimination, violence, and dire poverty. All would have the protection of equal rights and respect, and could reach their potential in their present circumstances. Until that day, welcoming the stranger is our sacred obligation. (Preparetheword)

VIGÉSIMO QUINTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO
En casa, en el mundo

Libertad para irse, libertad para quedarse. La libertad de movimiento es un derecho que la mayoría damos por sentado. ¿Has sido residente en más de un lugar? En este 109º Día Mundial del Emigrante y del Refugiado, el Papa Francisco nos pide que imaginemos un mundo en el que todos tengan la opción de quedarse o irse como quieran. Para ello es necesario un mundo en el que quedarse sea seguro: libre de discriminación, violencia y pobreza extrema. Todos tendrían la protección de los mismos derechos y el mismo respeto, y podrían alcanzar su potencial en sus circunstancias actuales. Hasta ese día, acoger al extranjero es nuestra obligación sagrada.