

# Dear Padre,

**Isn't evangelization a role best left to religious professionals? I worry about being ridiculed if I try to spread the Good News. Any suggestions?**

**M**any Catholics incorrectly assume that evangelization is not their job but a task for priests, deacons, or others serving in an official capacity. But it is helpful to remember that evangelization is more a matter of commitment rather than a specialized competence. The Gospel proclaims that a disciple must go out into the world and spread the Good News.

Evangelization is the mission and purpose of the whole Church. It is doing God's will and work on earth.



CNS PHOTO/JOHN MURPHY

Your anxiety about being ridiculed may arise from a notion that others will reject information about Jesus Christ. This fear may be underestimating the powerful attraction of the Good News. This worry may be based on your own lack of confidence rather than the response of others. There are several ways for dealing

with this concern: First, acknowledge this fear and seek counsel and advice from someone who has overcome it. Second, remember that to help us offset these negative emotions we are all given the fruits of the Holy Spirit: joy, love, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Third, remember the future—God works in mysterious ways, and grace, though powerful, may take a long time to come to fruition.

*The Redemptorists / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*It is our great responsibility, as baptized persons, to proclaim Christ, to carry the Church—this fruitful motherhood of the Church—forward. Mary, during the persecution of the first Christians, prayed so much and moved those who had been baptized to go forward with courage.*

HOMILY, APRIL 17, 2013

## Calendar

**Monday**  
SEPTEMBER 27  
St. Vincent de Paul,  
Priest  
Zec 8:1–8  
Lk 9:46–50

**Tuesday**  
SEPTEMBER 28  
Weekday  
Zec 8:20–23  
Lk 9:51–56

**Wednesday**  
SEPTEMBER 29  
Sts. Michael, Gabriel,  
and Raphael,  
Archangels  
Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 or  
Rv 12:7–12a  
Jn 1:47–51

**Thursday**  
SEPTEMBER 30  
St. Jerome,  
Priest and Doctor  
of the Church  
Neh 8:1–4a, 5–6, 7b–12  
Lk 10:1–12

**Friday**  
OCTOBER 1  
St. Thérèse of the Child  
Jesus, Virgin and Doctor  
of the Church  
Bar 1:15–22  
Lk 10:13–16

**Saturday**  
OCTOBER 2  
The Holy Guardian Angels  
Bar 4:5–12, 27–29  
Mt 18:1–5, 10

**Sunday**  
OCTOBER 3  
Twenty-seventh Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Gn 2:18–24  
Heb 2:9–11  
Mk 10:2–16 or 10:2–12

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

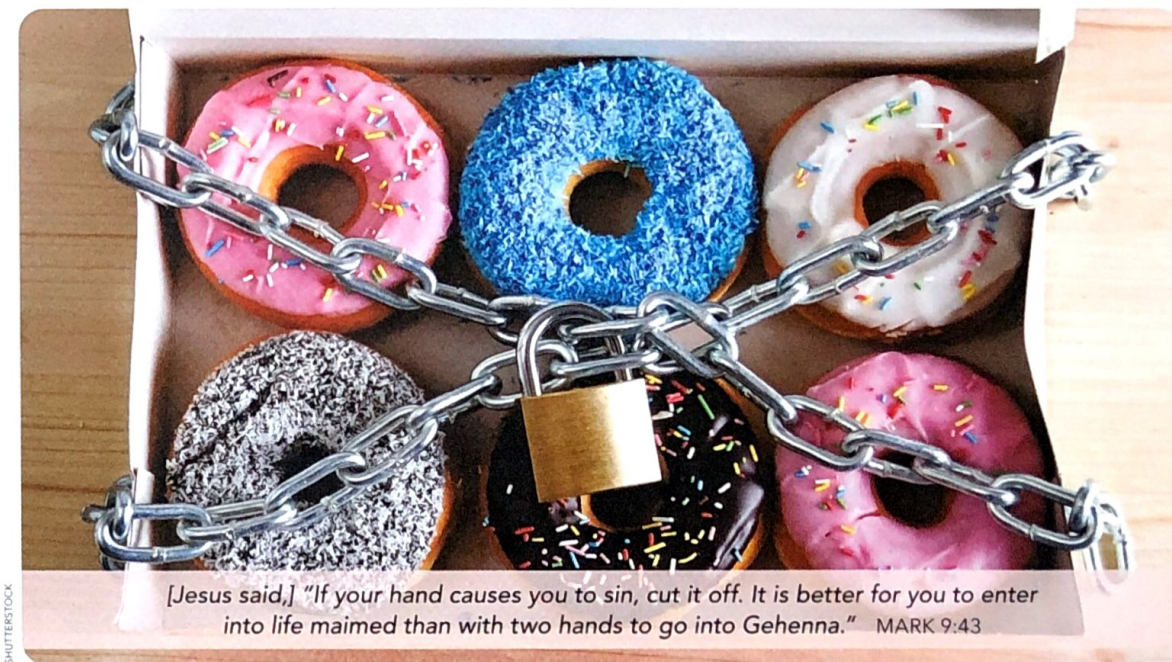
September 26, 2021

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Nm 11:25–29

Jas 5:1–6

Mk 9:38–43, 45, 47–48



SHUTTERSTOCK

[Jesus said,] "If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna." MARK 9:43

## Isn't That a Bit Extreme?

**N**o sacrifice is too extreme in pursuit of a dream. We will forego sleep, the enjoyment of a favorite pastime, the company of good friends—even the pleasure of good food. Ask anyone who has spent hours preparing for a recital, trying out for a position on an athletic team, or studying for an entrance exam. The same is true when one's livelihood is involved. Ask farmers, people in the military, teachers, or health-care workers. Ask new parents, or even those who have been at it for a long time. If we really value something or someone, no sacrifice is too great—at least for a while—when that cherished goal is in view.

We don't seem as willing to forfeit comfort when negative inclinations are involved, and we all have them: rivalry, jealousy, fury, selfishness, slander,

gossip, conceit, to name a few. We know that such pettiness or rank cruelty can harm us as well as those we offend, but too often we seem unwilling to restrain such inclinations.

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus speaks quite strongly to such reticence. Does he really expect us to maim ourselves? Isn't that a bit extreme? The fact is, when we try to purge ourselves of reprehensible behavior it is like cutting off our hand or plucking out our eye. Ask anyone who deals with an addiction. If Jesus asks this of us, it means that we certainly have the strength to do it.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

## FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Pray for the insight to recognize a bad habit that keeps you from being your best self.
- ★ What behavior might you have to give up?





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 Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com  
 Website: saintanthonylakin.org

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 & Nanette Rice	355-1696 355-7676

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Monday, Sept. 27</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Charles Eileen Hoff+</b>
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 28</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Harold Smith</b>
<b>Thursday, Sept. 30</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mr./Mrs. Tom Vincent</b>
<b>Friday, Oct. 1</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Special Intention (TP)</b>
<b>Saturday, Oct. 2</b>	<b>4:00p.m.</b>	<b>Eddie Catlin+</b>
<b>Sunday, Oct. 3</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Special Intention-Healing (A.H.)</b>

Sept. 25, 4:00 p.m.	Debbie Frederick
Sept. 26, 9:00 a.m.	Fred Jones
Oct. 2, 4:00 p.m.	Gwen Waechter
Oct. 3, 9:00 a.m.	Julie Kaps
Oct. 9, 4:00 p.m.	Karen Burden
Oct. 10, 9:00 a.m.	K of C
Oct. 16, 4: 00 p.m.	Tom Bachman
Oct. 17, 9:00 a.m.	Mike Broeckelman
Oct. 23, 4: 00 p.m.	Debbie Frederick
Oct. 24 9:00 a.m.	Alvin Bergkamp

**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.

**26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME— SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**



“Your word, O Lord, is truth; consecrate us in the truth (**John 17-17**)”

I don't have to tell you that we live in a competitive world. We seem to be constantly competing for all sorts of things --- jobs and promotions, attention and affirmation, power and prestige, even love and affection and companionship. And in many of these areas of life there seems to be a “winner” and a “loser”. For example, if my best friend starts spending all of his/her time with someone else, it probably means that we're not really best friends after all. Yes, unfortunately in life it seems that when someone else is “winning”, we are “losing”. And because of that perception, we sometimes find ourselves acting in harmful, unjust, or less-than-honorable ways.

St. John, in this Sunday's Gospel (Mark 9:38-48) says to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.” Jesus tells him, “Do not prevent him. . . . For whoever is not against us is for us.”

I think, the moral of the story is this: Life is not win-lose --- it's win-win. When we affirm the good wherever we find it, we are encouraging others to continue doing the right thing, continue living in such a way as to help the world become the beautiful place God created it to be. In other words, when we build up and stop tearing down, when we point out and embrace the good in each person we meet and the situations in which we find ourselves, everyone wins --- we win, they win, the world wins. So let's stop putting others down. Let's stop trying to diminish or dismiss others. Let's stop trying to demonize those with whom we disagree, or those we feel threatened by. Rather, let's acknowledge and affirm every good thing we come across. The only things we stand to lose are our pettiness and our envy and our self-centeredness. And that's good for everybody.

Fr. Peter Tran

**COLLECTION** for September 19, 2021: Envelopes: \$615.00; Loose: \$372.00; Online Giving: \$232.60 Total \$1219.60; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under - 541.57. Haiti Collection: \$374  
*Thank you so much to your faithful stewards for supporting our parish, diocese, and worldwide Church.*

**CONGRATULATIONS** We would like to extend our congratulations to our newly Baptized, Amaya Gonzalez Hernandez daughter of Manuel & Jessica Gonzalez who was baptized on September 19th, 2021 Welcome to God's family in the Church! May our Loving God continue to pour down His abundant blessings upon Amaya and her family.

**PARISH WORKDAY** A "HUGE" Thank you to all who helped in anyway on the parish workday, 9/15. We achieved many great things when we worked together. May the Lord reward you with many blessings.

**OCTOBER MEETINGS** K of C meeting—10/06 at 7:30 p.m.; Parish Pastoral Council meeting—10/13 at 5:30 p.m.; Finance Council—10/12 at 5:30 p.m.

**DIOCESAN CONVOCATION** Fr. Peter will be attending the required diocesan convocation from 10/4—10/8 at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. In case of emergency please contact Mr. Tom Bachman (640-8259).

**OCTOBER CCD CLASSES** Every Sunday for Confirmation and Every Wednesday for other classes.

**2021-2022 OUR CCD TEACHERS** We are very fortunate to have eight real great teachers to teach our children this school year. Ms. Ileen Enriquez—Kindergarten; Mrs. Jessica Lohman-Fuller—1st Grade; Mrs. Lupe Longoria & Ms. Sissy Davis—First Communion; Mrs. Sarah Owens—3rd Grade and 4th Grade; Mrs. Maria Ibarra—5th Grade and 6th Grade; Mr. Dale Gannett—7th Grade and 8th Grade; and Mr. Toby Lohman-Fuller—Confirmation-9th Grade thru 12th Grade. We truly appreciate their love and care for our parishes and our children. May the Loving God pour down many blessings upon them and their families.

**ADULT CONFIRMATION & RCIA** If any adult Catholic who hasn't been confirmed and would like to be confirmed this coming Easter Please call Fr. Peter (620-355-6405) or Mrs. Karen Burden (355-6388) On behalf of the Catholic faith community of the St. Anthony, we look forward to welcoming you.

**VOCATION VIEW** The Law of the Lord exists to guide and direct our steps here on earth so that we might arrive safely at the palaces of heaven. Embrace the Law with your whole heart, mind and soul that you might also grow in love with the Law-giver. (Psalm 19)

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT** St. James warns in today's second reading that those who hoard their wealth and live only for themselves will be condemned. But in the Gospel, Jesus assures us that all who give of themselves for His sake will be rewarded.

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK (By Thomas A Kempis)** God our Father, we are exceedingly frail and indisposed to every virtuous and gallant undertaking. Strengthen our weakness, we beseech you, that we may do valiantly in this spiritual war. Help us against our own negligence and cowardice, and defend us from the treachery of our unfaithful hearts, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Mark 9:38-41)**

**Insiders & outsiders** (vv.38-41) There were both Jewish and pagan exorcists at the time of Jesus. We don't know if the man in this story was doing exorcisms for years or started doing them after he heard about Jesus. Regardless, he was using Jesus' name to vanquish demons, but he wasn't one of Jesus' followers. The disciples want to stop the man from drawing on Jesus' power. They might be jealous: in 9:17-18 we learn that they failed to cast out a demon. Whatever their motivation, they think in narrow terms. Because the man hasn't been with them, they think he should be treated as an outsider. Jesus disagrees. By expelling evil the man has aligned himself with Jesus and God's kingdom. Other people, too, might not know or understand Jesus, but their life-giving behavior reveals that they are fundamentally good (see Matthew 25:31-46).

**Better off dead** (v.42) Verse 42 can also be translated "Whoever scandalizes..." The word scandal comes from the Greek word for obstacle or stumbling block. Jesus warns people not to place a stumbling block in the path of those who have faith in him. Such action could provoke a believer to sin or lose faith. God will deal so severely with those who cause such scandals that it would be better if they had swiftly died.

**Millstones** are giant stone wheels that crush grain into flour. They are so heavy that donkeys have to turn them.

**Cut off!** (vv.43-48) After warning people not to lead others into sin, Jesus warns against allowing one's self to sin. His vivid, hyperbolic language emphasizes the importance of taking radical action to avoid sin. It's better to cut off something that feels essential to us than to be permanently cut off from God.

**Gehenna** Gehenna was a valley near Jerusalem that had been the site of pagan sacrifice. By Jesus' day it was a vast garbage dump. Jesus uses Gehenna in order to say, "You think it's hard to stop committing that sin? It would be a lot worse to spend the rest of your life in burning, rotting garbage with only maggots for company." The pain of cutting out a particular sin is far more bearable than that. ([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings))

**UNDERSTANDING THE SECOND READING (James 5:1-6)**

**What to treasure** All that the wealthy have accumulated won't help them on the day of judgment. Such possessions are useless; they pass away. Only by acting with justice and compassion will people gain the wealth of heaven (Matthew 6:19-21, Luke 12:15).

**The poor and the just** This passage draws on the language of the Old Testament prophets who repeatedly warned that God would punish those who oppress the poor. God's concern for the poor was also reflected in Jesus' ministry. This letter also echoes the biblical wisdom tradition. James condemns those who oppress the just, the righteous one (v.6; see Wisdom 2:10f).

**The day of slaughter** By oppressing the poor in order to accumulate their wealth, the rich reveal their indulgence and self-interest. Their hearts have grown fat on gluttony and greed, making them easy prey for God and his heavenly army (the hosts) when the day of judgment (slaughter) comes. ([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings))

## QUESTION AND ANSWER

Question: Saint Thomas Aquinas wrote that life does not begin until the second trimester. How should we answer this, especially in regard to abortion? — Thomas Dincher

Answer: The wording of your question is slightly inaccurate. Saint Thomas did not deny that life in the womb was, in fact, life. The teaching of Aquinas to which you refer is that an unborn baby receives a soul forty, or eighty, days after conception, depending on the sex of the child. (Note this is earlier than the second trimester.) Aquinas held this opinion based on Aristotle, who said a child has a soul when it first has a human “form” — that is, when the child looks human. The difference in sex was based on the point at which genitals could be observed on miscarried children, earlier for boys, later for girls.

While many link this position of Aquinas to the abortion debate, the date of ensoulment is not essential to the Church’s position on the sinfulness of abortion. The Church roots her teaching in Scripture (see, for example, Ex 21:22–23; Ps 51:5; Ps 139:13–16; Jb 10:11; Is 44:24; Jer 1:5), Tradition, and natural law.

Saint Thomas never wrote directly on abortion. There are only a couple of indirect references in the Summa (IIa, Ilae, q.64, a 8; q.68, a 11). But, surely, Saint Thomas was well aware of the Scriptures, as well as the ancient teaching of Tradition forbidding abortion at any stage. Beginning with the Didache, written in the late first century, which said, “Thou shalt not murder a child by abortion” (2:2), and continuing with Barnabas, Clement, Tertullian, Hippolytus, Basil, Chrysostom, Ambrose, Jerome, and many other early Christians, and also authoritative councils, the Church has consistently condemned abortion in no uncertain terms. Thus we ought not presume Aquinas, who never spoke on abortion directly, ever intended to contest the immorality of abortion at any stage.

Regarding his teaching on ensoulment, theologians do not hold such an opinion today, and most regard Thomas’s positions as rooted in an earlier understanding of embryology. Clearly, natural science today demonstrates the existence of a genetically unique individual at conception.

Finally, even if one wanted unreasonably to hold that Aquinas supported early abortions, Saint Thomas, venerable and respected though he is, is not infallible and is not the magisterium. While his teachings are influential, they have not been universally adopted by the magisterium. One obvious example is that Saint Thomas was not supportive of the belief, then unofficial, of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. (Catholic Curious—Monsignor Charles Pope)

### **TWENTY –SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

#### **Well done, good and faithful servants**

Mother's and Father's Days aren't occasions for parents to toot their own horns about how fabulously they fulfilled the tasks of child-rearing. These dates are for their children to recall and celebrate the special people who made their lives possible. Similarly, today's Priesthood Sunday isn't meant for priests to beat the drum about their vocation. It's an opportunity for the rest of us, who benefit from their fidelity, to thank the men who were present to the first moments of our life in faith and will be there at the last—plus countless moments in between. (Prepare the Word)

### **VIGÉSIMO SEXTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO**

#### **Bien hecho, Bueno y fieles servidores**

El Día de la Madre y el Día del Padre no son ocasiones para que los padres se jacten de haber cumplido fabulosamente con las tareas de crianza. Estas fechas son para que sus hijos recuerden y celebren a las personas especiales que hicieron posible sus vidas. Del mismo modo, el Domingo del Sacerdocio de hoy no es para que los sacerdotes alardeen de su vocación. Es una oportunidad para que el resto de nosotros, que nos beneficiamos de su fidelidad, agradezcamos a los hombres que estuvieron presentes en los primeros momentos de nuestra vida en la fe y que estarán en los últimos, además de los innumerables momentos intermedios.