

# ST. ANTHONY CHURCH

PARISH: 600 SODERBERG ST., LAKIN, KS 67860 PH:620-355-6405 MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 983  
 EMAIL: SAINTANTHONYLAKIN@GMAIL.COM WEBSITE: SAINTANTHONYLAKIN.ORG

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 | 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## REFLECTIONS

One of my favorite movies is the 1991 comedy *What About Bob?* Bill Murray plays a troubled, paranoid hypochondriac named Bob Wiley who innocently but annoyingly hounds Dr. Leo Marvin, played by Richard Dreyfuss. Bob is paralyzed by his fear of, well, everything, and is convinced the psychologist can heal him. But Dr. Marvin's failed attempts to heal Bob end up driving the doctor to attempt to murder Bob. He fails. The surprise is that, having faced death head on, Bob is suddenly healed. He attributes his healing to Dr Marvin for break-through "death therapy." In facing the cause of his deepest illness and dysfunction, Bob is healed.

Underneath this light-hearted comedy is a dead-serious resonance with this week's feast: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Christ is lifted up on the cross to force us to face the truth of sin and death. In that reckoning we find healing. Like Moses' snake on a pole, the cross says: this is what is causing your sickness – rebellion, disobedience, sin. Look at it! Don't run from it. Now seeing it exposed, we see life. We see our physician mercifully healing us. In this sense, we are all like Bob Wiley. The "death therapy" of the cross is our only hope for healing.

This week I invite you to "exalt the cross." If you don't have one in your house, get one. Use it for prayer. Gaze on it frequently. It teaches us to not be afraid. It heals us.

— Father John Muir



## THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man." For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:13, 17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## THIS WEEK AT-A-GLANCE

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>LAKIN, DEERFIELD</b>
3-3:50 pm	Confessions
4:00 pm	Mass (St. Anthony)
5:20 pm	Confessions (Christ the King)
6:00 pm	Mass (Christ the King)
<b>Sunday Lakin &amp; Syracuse</b>	
8:00 –8:50 am	Confessions
9:00 am	Mass (St. Anthony)
9:50-10:25 am	Confessions
10:30 am (MT)	Mass (St. Raphael)

## COLLECTION FOR 9-7-2025

<b>Envelopes:</b> \$	740.00
<b>Loose:</b> \$	371.00
<b>Online Giving:</b> \$	1243.22
<b>Total:</b> \$	2354.22
<b>Average Weekly Exp.:</b>	1,761.17
<b>Surplus for the Week:</b>	<b>+593.05</b>



# St. Anthony Church — 600 Soderberg Street

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## DEAR PADRE,

A Protestant friend tells me that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. That doesn't seem accurate to me. What does the Church teach about the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross?



Jesus understood his mission to be sacrificing his own life "as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was even at the cost of death. However, saying Jesus' death was payment for our sins doesn't mean that a vengeful God was appeased by the slaughter of his own innocent son. Rather, we are redeemed because of the mutual love between Father and Son, as well as the love Christ had for us all when he offered his life. "It is love 'to the end' (see John 13:1) that confers on Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus' death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice "that completes and surpasses all other sacrifices," when "the Father handed his Son over to sinners in order to reconcile us with himself," and the Son of God freely and lovingly offered his human life to his Father "in reparation for our disobedience" (CCC 614). Christ "bore our sins in his body upon the cross.... By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24). Viewed in light of the resurrection, Christ's death has meaning in eternal life's triumph over sin.

## The Exaltation of the Holy Cross / September 14, 2025

**First Reading:** "We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you.

Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us." (Nm 21:7)

**Psalm:** Do not forget the works of the Lord! (Ps 78)

**Second Reading:** He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

**Gospel:** For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)

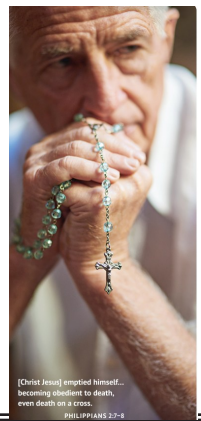
## Observances for the week of September 14, 2025

Sunday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
 Monday: Our Lady of Sorrows  
 Tuesday: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs  
 Wednesday: St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church  
 Friday: St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr  
 Saturday: Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs [M]  
 Next Sunday: 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

## WHEN LIFE IS ON EMPTY

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, "Pain is weakness leaving the body." Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one's child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life's joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul. If St. Paul's assertion that Jesus came and "emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross," then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God's spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full.



(Christ Jesus) emptied himself... becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8

## Prayer of Love

Dear God, Expand my heart in new ways today, to understand the love You have for me, to take that love deeply into myself, and to act from that love. Amen.

## REFLECT FOR THIS WEEK

What emptying am I experiencing? Can I accept it as becoming more like Jesus?

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## O.C.I.A (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church or finding out more about the teachings of the faith? Consider joining the St. Anthony's OCIA program. The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith. The process invites participants into discernment, prayer, and spiritual formation. If you'd like to join us, please call please call Fr. Peter (620-355-6405) or Mrs. Karen Burdens(620-271-4506)

## Prayer for Abundant Harvest

Lord God almighty, who never fail to bestow on men an abundance of heavenly gifts, as well as the rich fruits of the earth; we give thanks to you in your glory for this harvest of grain, and beg you again to bless the harvest which we have received from your bounty, to preserve it and to shield it from harm. Grant also that, having had our desire for earthly needs filled, we may bask under your protection, praise your kindness and mercy without ceasing, and make use of temporal goods in such a way as not to lose everlasting goods; through Christ our Lord.

## COMFORT ZONE

**Hospice St. Catherine Hospital is having a Family Retreat September 19-21, 2025 At Camp Lakeside in Scott City.**

This is for families or individuals who are grieving the death of a loved one.

Cost: \$10 per family member (includes 6 meals and 2 nights lodging) Financial aid is available

Pamphlets are at the south entrance and in the

## BUDGET SHOP

We will be working at the Budget Shop on **September 13** and **Tuesday, September 16**. Please keep these dates on your busy calendars and try to save a few hours to help us.



Fr. Peter will be gone from September 1 to 25. For the Sacramental emergencies please call Fr. Eric Awuah, Pastor of Mary, Queen of Peace – Ulysses. (620-356-1532)



## 14 de septiembre de 2025 - Exaltación de la Santa Cruz

“La Cruz es el camino que conduce de la tierra al cielo. Quien se abraza a ella con fe, amor y esperanza se siente transportado a lo alto, hasta el seno de la Trinidad” (Santa Benedicta de la Cruz). También decía en sus escritos: “La Cruz es el símbolo de la transformación de la debilidad en la fuerza”. Muchas personas llevan en su pecho una cruz y, muchas veces, la lucen tan solo porque es de oro y luce bonita. Pero, ¿sabes lo que significa? ¿Qué respeto tienes por ella?

“Hoy, 14 de septiembre, la Iglesia celebra la fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz. Alguna persona podría preguntarnos: ¿Por qué exaltar la cruz? Podemos responder que no exaltamos una cruz cualquiera, o todas las cruces; exaltamos la cruz de Jesús, porque en ella se reveló al máximo el amor de Dios por la humanidad. Es lo que nos recuerda el evangelio de Juan en la liturgia de hoy: 'Tanto amó Dios al mundo que entregó a su Unigénito' (3:16). El Padre dio al Hijo para salvarnos, y esto implicó la muerte de Jesús, y la muerte en la cruz. ¿Por qué? ¿Por qué fue necesaria la cruz? A causa de la gravedad del mal que nos esclavizaba. La cruz de Jesús expresa ambas cosas: toda la fuerza negativa del mal y toda la omnipotencia mansa de la misericordia de Dios” (Papa Francisco). Por la señal de la santa cruz...

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## PARISH STAFF

<b>Pastor:</b> Fr. Peter Tran	355-6405
<b>Rel.Edu. Committee:</b> Karen Burden,	355-6388
<b>DRE:</b> Lisa Gannett	272-6866
<b>Parish C. Chair:</b> Gwen Waechter	272-1030
<b>Finance C. Chair:</b> Tressa Powers	355-6206
<b>Altar S. President:</b> Nanette Rice	355-7676
<b>Grand Knight:</b> Tom Bachman	640-8259
<b>Prayer Line Starters:</b> Allison Bushek	355-1696
& Nanette Rice	355-7676
<b>Vocation Team:</b> Nanette & Sandra	355-7676
<b>Youth Director:</b> Hannah Schauf	316-765-4131

**Question:** I have a friend who says she doesn't need to attend Mass because she prays to God every day. What are your thoughts on this justification?

**Answer:** If the only reason for going to church were to talk to God, your friend might be right. Prayer is not something limited to a physical place or even a holy place. If the sole purpose of the Church were prayer, it would be a narrow purpose indeed. The Church is a community of believers, formed by "one Lord, one faith, one Baptism." It is an outward sign of our faith in God instituted by Christ, and the purpose of the Church is to give us grace, that is, a share in God's life.

Coming to Mass is not really for God's sake, but for ours. If we believe that Jesus is truly present in the holy Eucharist, then we will want to be in his presence. We will want to be fed by him. Our daily prayer and good works are strengthened by our authentic encounter with our Lord. For Catholics, it is at Mass that we celebrate the source and summit of our faith. If this is true, why would we ever stay away?

**Mon, Sept 15** No Mass

**Tue, Sept 16** No Mass

**Wed, Sept 17** No Mass

**Thurs, Sept 18** No Mass

**Fri, Sept 19** No Mass

**Sat, Sept 20** 4: 00 pm Sp. Int. Powers Family

**Sun, Sept 21** 9:00 am † Jerry Burden

## MINISTERS FOR THIS/NEXT WEEK THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

9/13/2025 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

**Servers:** Gus, Jonathan Gannett, Brisa Ibarra

**Reader:** Cecilia Harris

**Extra Ordinary of HC:** Bill & Janet Rooney

9/14/2025–Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**Servers:** Haley Berning, Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

**Reader:** Steve Sullivan

**Extra Ordinary of HC:** Teresa Beltran, Karen Burden

## 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9/20/2025 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

**Servers:** Ryann & Brecken Bamberger, Rowen Simon

**Reader:** Debbie Frederick

**Extra Ordinary of HC:** Tino Rosales Jr., Karen Burden

9/21/2025–Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**Servers:** Kingston Guerrero, Jace Berning, Haley Berning

**Reader:** Kyle Berning

**Extra Ordinary of HC:** Alvin Bergkamp, Bob Woodrow

**Reconciliation:** Confessions are heard every Saturday at 3:00 pm and every Sunday at 8:00

**Baptism:** Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

**Marriage:** Please contact parish priest at least four months before the wedding.

**Anointing the sick:** Celebrated anytime calling a priest.