

The Work of the People  
*The Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

The Word of God is the Word of Life. We are so fortunate to have such easy access to the Word and we are called to make it the Word of our lives. Ask God each time you hear the Word proclaimed: "What do you want me to hear from your Word today?" This Sunday is also Catechetical Sunday and so we as God's assembled people offer a blessing for students and catechists and call all to a commitment to lifelong formation in God's Word.

The prophet Amos strikes out at those who exploit the poor and take advantage of those he calls "the lowly" when they come to the marketplace. The prophet uses the very words of the dishonest merchants as his judgment against them. His condemnation lies in reminding them that God will not forget their wrongdoing.

The author of Paul's Letter to Timothy instructs Timothy to exhort the believers to pray. It seems that the author expects these prayers of petition and thanksgiving to be done by the community at their common worship. Another reason for prayer is that God desires such prayer. These prayers are for the salvation of others, for God desires everyone to be saved.

In Luke's Gospel Jesus presents the parable of the unjust steward. This is a lesson about judging wisely worldly affairs and serving God instead of mammon. The commendation of the unjust steward makes the meaning of the parable difficult to grasp. The "children of this world" are contrasted with "the children of light"; the former are good at worldly affairs but the latter are charged with the "true wealth" that God will bestow on them.

The reflection for this week is from Mary De'Turris Poust who serves as director of communication for the Diocese of Albany. She is a retreat and pilgrimage leader and an author of several books on Catholic spirituality.

Truth and trust. I'm guessing that for most of us these two words stir up powerful emotions, whether close to the surface of our souls or buried deep within. Perhaps we still feel the sting of a trust that was betrayed, a truth that was twisted, leaving us devastated and permanently scarred. Or perhaps, just as painful but in a completely different way, we were on the other side of the equation, bringing damage and destruction to a relationship or even our own inner peace because of a sin or a weakness that caused us to choose omission over honesty, betrayal over loyalty, lies over truth.

"No one can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other or be devoted to one and despise the other." Jesus says this knowing full well how often we will choose badly in matters big and small, opting to protect our own egos and ideas, offenses, and indiscretions out of comfort or convenience or fear,

even at the expense of someone else's peace and happiness.

How do we restore trust and repair the wounds we bear on our own hearts or have left imprinted on the heart of another? Can we choose to live in the light despite the darkness of past sins, the ghosts that force us to live in shadows? Jesus says we can, but only when we turn our lives and hearts over to him and follow the way of truth, the way of the only Master that should matter.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Prv. 3:27-34/Lk. 8:16-18  
 Tuesday: Prv. 21:1-6, 10-13/Lk. 8:19-21  
 Wednesday: Eph. 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt. 9:9-13  
 Thursday: Eccl. 1:2-11/Lk. 9:7-9  
 Friday: Eccl. 3:1-11/Lk. 9:18-22  
 Saturday: Eccl. 11:9; 12:8/Lk. 9:43b-45  
 Sunday: Am. 6:1a, 4-7/1 Tm. 6:11-16/Lk. 16:19-31

### DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY MASS

Bishop Lawrence Persico will celebrate a Mass for Respect Life Sunday on Oct. 2 at 11:30 am at The Epiphany of the Lord Parish in Meadville. A reception immediately follows Mass. Pro-life groups are encouraged to RSVP and attend together. Questions can be directed to Patrice Swick, director of the Social Justice and Life Office at sil@Erie RCD.org

*"Holy Spirit, I'm listening!  
 Help me to hear and understand  
 God's word."*

### CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

If you are a Catholic who has been away from the Church for a while, this invitation is for you. Have you been praying to bring someone home to the Church? Pass this invitation on to them. Starting on Thursday, Sept. 22, The Epiphany of the Lord Parish will conduct a free series of informal listening sessions, titled "Catholics Returning Home," for 6 weeks at 7 pm at St. Brigid Church in Meadville. The series is an invitation to non-practicing Catholics to renew their relationship with the Catholic Church. These listening sessions will be conducted in a support-group format, with updates on the Catholic faith. Former non-practicing Catholics or converts will facilitate the evenings. Everyone is welcome. For more details call 814 336-1112.

## WORSHIP

Monday, September 19  
 8:00 am + Leo Wronko, Jr. (Joan Rembielak)  
 Tuesday, September 20  
 8:00 am + Charles Metzler  
 (Larry & Theresa Douglas)  
 Wednesday, September 21  
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 Frances Olszewski Taylor  
 (Stanley Styborski & Family)  
 Thursday, September 22  
 8:00 am + Healing of Peggy Wrzosek  
 (Gerard & Martha Adamczyk)  
 Friday, September 23  
 8:00 am + Healing of Patricia Yusavage  
 (Joan Smith)  
 Saturday, September 24  
 4:30 pm + Cecil Miller (Rose Miller)  
 Sunday, September 25  
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 Fred Weagraff (John & Kay Weagraff)  
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 Living & Deceased Parishioners

### CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

The Diocese of Erie, is committed to protecting minors who are entrusted to our care. The Diocese has policies and procedures in place to address the national problem of child abuse, to aid in the prevention of abuse and to maintain safe environments. All those who minister to minors are screened, trained, and agree to a Code of Conduct. To read the Policy that includes the Code of Conduct, go to: Policy effective March 15, 2021. For more information, contact Mrs. Cindy Zemcik, in the diocesan Office of the Protection of Children at 814 824-1195.

### ANNUAL ROAST BEEF DINNER

St. Lawrence & Philip Church  
 Albion, PA  
 Annual Roast Beef Dinner  
 Sunday, October 2, 2022  
 At St Lawrence Center  
 129 E. Pearl St., Albion, PA  
 Serving from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm  
 Price: \$12.00

## PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, September 19  
 5:00 pm - Doors open for BINGO  
 Tuesday, September 20  
 After Mass - St. Anthony Novena  
 Saturday, September 24  
 3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession  
 Sunday, September 25  
 AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION  
 Before Mass - Confession  
 AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
 After Mass - Confession

### “Gertrude Barber: Exploring Her Life and the Journey to Sainthood”

The community is invited to attend a free presentation, “Gertrude Barber: Exploring her life and the journey to sainthood” on Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 7:00 pm at the Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. in Erie.

The program features Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, executive vice president of the Barber National Institute, who will discuss Gertrude Barber’s mission to bring opportunity and acceptance for individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families. Monsignor Tom McSweeney, postulator for the Cause for her canonization, will explain the path to sainthood and provide an update on progress made in the canonization process.

A reception will follow.

The program is presented free of charge but reservations are requested at [JESerie.org/events](http://JESerie.org/events) or 814 459-8000.

*“Lord,  
give me the strength  
to carry your light into the world.”*

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Despite all our time saving gadgets, we still have less leisure and family time. To solve this we created the Myth of Quality time. Don’t be fooled: Quality Time is Quantity Time. Jesus counsels us today, we “cannot serve two masters” and expect to be happy. Dedicate time to your family. No one in their final hours regretted not spending more time at work.

### ST. BERNADETTE MISSION STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$658.00
Maintenance	10.00
Candles	3.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$671.00</b>

### ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$924.00
Maintenance	420.00
Candles	73.00
CSA	168.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,585.00</b>
Catholic Services Appeal	
Pledged: \$32,073.00    Paid: \$27,606.00	

**CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA**

**CHURCH NO.:**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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