

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021



Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606

www.ststanserie.org
email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday - Friday at 8:00AM

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:

Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM

*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671

www.holytrinityrc.org
email: parishoffice@holylrinityrc.org

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Mary Ann Merski, Secretary
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00AM

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:

Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM

*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



September 12, 2021
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them.

Readings for the week of September 12, 2021

Sunday: Is 50:5-9/Ps 116:1-9/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35 (24th Sunday)
Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-10, 17/Lk 7:1-10 (St. John Chrysostom)
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Ph 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17 (Exultation of the Cross)
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2-6/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35 (Lady of Sorrows)
Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-10/Lk 7:36-50 (Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian)
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2-12/Ps 49:6-10, 17-20/Lk 8:1-3 (St. Robert Bellarmine)
Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 8:4-15
Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-8/Jas 3:16-4:3/Mk 9:30-37 (25th Sunday)

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission

"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Rose Marie at 814.923.4438.

"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452-3395) from Saint Stanislaus, or Kathy Benes (898-1091) or Kathy Smith (392-8974) from Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Linda at 814.864.8476.

THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray Luniewski at 882-1032.

PROLIFE COMMUNITY

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

"PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Telephone Number

☐ Change of E-mail ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Sept. 13th - Private Intention
Tues., Sept. 14th - Mitch Oblinski (John & Joan Oldenski)
Wed., Sept. 15th - Gabriella Wlodarczyk (Family)
Thurs., Sept. 16th - Irene Lubiejewski (Family)
Fri., Sept. 17th - Gerry & Charles Bakera (Family)
Sat., Sept. 18th, 4:00PM - The Prosowski Family (Family)
Sun., Sept. 19th, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **VICTORIA & JOSEPH BANISZEWSKI** as gifted by the Family.



CONGRATULATIONS

Warmest congratulations to Reverend Tommie and Mrs. Cassandra Twillie (Lockett) who were united in the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony on Saturday, September 4th. May God's choicest blessings be on both of you!

OCTOBER LOTTERY RAFFLE

Our Holy Name Society is currently selling lottery raffle tickets for the month of October. See any member of the Society, or stop in the Parish Office, to purchase your chance to win!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Anyone interested in helping us make pierogi for our annual "A Taste of Poland" (Parish Day), we will be meeting on **September 13th and 14th at 9:00AM** in the Parish Hall. Experience is not needed; all volunteers are welcome!



On the first Sunday after Labor Day we celebrate National Grandparents Day. This year the date falls on September 12. Like Mother's day and Father's day we also have a whole day dedicated

to our grandparents. Grandparents and children have a special connection that is proven to both make grandparents live longer, and also make children more emotionally resilient. Grandparents Day is an opportunity to treasure that connection and spend some quality family time together.

WEEKLY OFFERING (SEPTEMBER 5, 2021)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$41,560.00
Amount Received	\$3,637.00	\$28,149.00
Net over/under	(\$519.00)	(\$13,411.00)

Mass Attendance:
4:00PM = 51; 9:00AM = 41
Envelopes: 49/168



CAN YOU WALK THE WALK?

I've met and talked with enough people to feel confident that if you polled 100 fallen-away Catholics about why they didn't want anything to do with the Church, the term "accountability" would pop up in almost all of their answers. And to be fair, a lack of accountability isn't just a Catholic problem. Talking the talk but not walking the walk has been a shortcoming handed down throughout the ages, across all creeds and nationalities. Loving our neighbor, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, feeding the poor — it all sounds fantastic, especially when we're the ones saying it. But the doing — well, that's a different story, isn't it? We would do well to remember that Christ calls one of his best friends "Satan" when Peter tries to convince Jesus to stray from his destiny. Have you ever been called Satan by one of your good buddies? I'll bet it's not a great feeling. But think about what Peter was doing. He had just said, "You are the Christ." And now, mere moments later, he's saying: "Don't say these things. Don't say you're going to suffer. Don't say you'll be killed." He was telling Christ to squander what the Lord had given him. He was telling him that having faith was fine, but being faithful? It's just a little too hard. God has a destiny for you, too, and He's asking you to be open to it. Maybe it's not in your comfort zone. Maybe you don't think you can do it. Lord, give us faith — but help us, also, to do the work.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

The Diocese of Erie has policies and procedures in place to address the national problem of child . The three main components of the Policy for the Protection of Children are: screening of all employees and volunteers who work with minors, training of all youth, parents, employees and volunteers, and reporting all suspected child abuse. The diocese is committed to promptly reporting any suspected child abuse directly to ChildLine or law enforcement. The diocese requires on-going screening and training of all personnel, paid or unpaid, who have regular contact with our children and youth under the age of 18. The diocese also requires yearly safe environment training of our children, youth and parents regarding touching-safety and safe environments.

Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **LILLIAN MACIULEWICZ**, as gifted by May Ann.



MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Sept. 13th - Norb Madura (Family)
 Tues., Sept. 14th - Kulig, Laszczewski, and Habas Families (Estate)
 Wed., Sept. 15th - For All Mothers, Living and Deceased
 Thurs., Sept. 16th - Fr. Dan Perz (Friends)
 Fri., Sept. 17th - Special Intention (Deacon Tom)
 Sat., Sept. 18th, 5:15PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)
 Sun., Sept. 19th, 10:30AM - Florence Kaminski (Family)

REFLECTION: EXULTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. Countless generations of artists have turned it into a thing of beauty to be carried in procession or worn as jewelry. To the eyes of the first Christians, it had no beauty. It stood outside too many city walls, decorated only with decaying corpses, as a threat to anyone who defied Rome's authority—including Christians who refused sacrifice to Roman gods. Although believers spoke of the cross as the instrument of salvation, it seldom appeared in Christian art unless disguised as an anchor or the Chi-Rho until after Constantine's edict of toleration.

People who ask me what I'm doing tomorrow probably assume that I even know what day of the week it is.

At least you always knew where it was.



Don't expect me to stop if you're broken down by the side of the road. You were offered an extended car warranty several times.

HOLY TRINITY USHERS

... will resume their normal meetings starting **Tuesday, September 14th at 7PM** in the Gathering Place. We look forward to planning something of a "normal" return to our activities.

Sometimes our grandmas and grandpas are like grand-angels.

~ Lexie Saige

Happy Grandparents Day



Take Up Your Cross

"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34b (NIV)

Based on Mark 8:27-38



O C I G P R O P H E T S B R N
 F Y V I L L A G E S Y I F C Z
 A S L S O U L I D D G S G H V
 C R O S S D W L A B C U O R S
 A H R G T M R G J M L F R I J
 L A F E Q O B L O H L F I S X
 D O J O W F E H I S U E S T Q
 S I S A R R B U I F P R E U K
 D A S E F F R D S Q E E Z E I
 E S T C A O E Q A A I F L N L
 N F E A I K L I V A V Z S X L
 Y U W V N P S L T H V E Q G E
 C N M H I W L L O O O N V T D
 B Y G A I N D E I W T E A C H
 E H A A F E T A S D W O E Z P

WORLD	CHRIST	LIFE	TEACH	DISCIPLES
DENY	KILLED	SOUL	FOLLOW	SATAN
FORFEIT	VILLAGES	LOSE	GOSPEL	GAIN
PROPHETS	SUFFER	SAVE	RISE	CROSS

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

Regular Offering: \$3,297.00 (34/134)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$27,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$21,852.00
Total Offertory:	\$3,297.00	\$24,205.00
Net (over/under):	\$932.00	\$2,353.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 35; 10:30AM = 57

"Who do you say that I am?"

- Mark 8:29

News for Our Partnership

BISHOP PERSICO RELEASES PASTORAL LETTER

Bishop Lawrence Persico has released "a pastoral letter in pandemic." Anchored in the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, one section of the letter looks at the challenges we've been facing during this time of pandemic. The bishop's words invite us to consider how Christ has remained with us, even if, like the disciples who unknowingly met Christ, we didn't always recognize him. Find the letter, as well as questions for reflection and discussion, at [www.eriecd.org/images/pdf/Pastoral letter in pandemic.pdf](http://www.eriecd.org/images/pdf/Pastoral%20letter%20in%20pandemic.pdf)

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

If commitment is the choice we make to give up other choices, then it is about "losing ourselves". If we try to be independent from others by "saving ourselves", we end up lonely and alone. Happiness is found in commitments. The gospel is true: We save our life by losing it!

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (SEPTEMBER 14TH)

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on." To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: PARISH PICNIC

Many have asked and the answer is "yes," we will resume hosting our annual parish picnic after the pandemic forced the cancellation of last year's picnic. Many places, like our traditional venue at Camp Glinodo, are still not accepting reservations. For those that are, the reservation fee is too steep to justify. So, it was decided that our picnic will take place at Saint Stanislaus Rectory & Courtyard on **Sunday, September 12th, starting at 11AM**. More details will follow.

FISH & PIEROGI DINNER

Our Lady of Mount Carmel will host a Fish & Pierogi dinner on Friday, September 17th, from 4-7PM. They are offering both a "dine-in" and "take-out" option. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. All meals are served with two sides (potato salad, cole slaw, macaroni cheese, green beans, or French fries), a roll, and ice cream. The Fish Dinner consists of 3 pieces of fish; the Pierogi dinner comes with 2 pieces; and the Combo dinner includes 2 fish and 1 pierogi.

ST. JUDE'S CHURCH PRESENTS:

WINAVETTE.COM CHARITY CAR RAFFLE

DETAILS CAN BE
FOUND AT
STJUDEAPOS.ORG
OR WINAVETTE.COM



TICKETS ARE \$100 WITH ONLY 3,000 BEING SOLD!
WIN THIS 2021 CORVETTE STINGRAY 1LT OR \$40K AT OUR LIVE
DRAWING ON CHRISTMAS EVE 2021!

Attention all Notre Dame fans!

Win \$2,000 and tickets for two to see the Fighting Irish play Navy on November 6 in a drawing sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy. The drawing will be on September 24th during the Mercy Day celebration. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse, 444 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, or by calling Sister Bernadette Bell RSM at 814-824-2516. Tickets may also be purchased online at: <https://45751.thankyou4caring.org/football>.

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

9/13) Deacon Tom Matusiak & Shirley Widomski; 9/14) Julie Slomski & Katherine Krainski; 9/15) Dorothy & Mead Carlson, Nancy & Art Kujawinski, & Carol Clark; 9/16) Corinne Dyakon, Mary Jo Sulecki, & Kay Stankiewicz; 9/17) Dave Slubowski; 9/18) Pearl Wisniewski; 9/19) Bill Dyakon & Fr. Jason Glover

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

9/13) Fr. Rob Horgas; 9/14) Dr. David Carter; 9/15) All Vocations; 9/16) Fr. Jim Sanner; 9/17) Fr. Bob Manning; 9/18) Fr. Peter Pierjock; 9/19) Fr. Glenn Whitman

Sunday, Sep 12, 2021

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From generation to generation

Isaiah 50:5-9a; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

"See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?"

Loving grandparenting is a special gift to those children who receive it. Nine-year-old Russell Capper first wrote President Nixon in 1969 with the idea of honoring grandparents with their own day. It would take another decade and another president, Jimmy Carter, to make Grandparents Day official on the Sunday after Labor Day. Reach across the generations today and close the gap of understanding by listening to each other's stories, dreams, and hopes.

Monday, Sep 13, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Preach often—use words when necessary

1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 7:1-10

"Say the word and let my servant be healed."

Glossophobia—fear of public speaking—is one of the most common forms of anxiety. Saint John Chrysostom was not a sufferer. His name means "golden-mouthed"—and was he ever. Renowned as a preacher, his sermons could last up to two hours. (Think about that the next time your pastor runs a bit long!) Few of us are that eloquent as speakers, but all of us are called to be witnesses to our faith in words and deeds. There's no need to impress—let your actions speak for you. Never fear living your discipleship humbly and sharing what's in your heart. The truth always speaks volumes.

Tuesday, Sep 14, 2021

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Lift high the cross

Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17

"He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross."

After ending Christian persecutions in 313, Constantine sent his mother, Helena, to the Holy Land where her team is said to have unearthed Christ's tomb. Here, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built. Excavations also reportedly unearthed the three crosses of Mount Calvary, the wood of the "True Cross" being the instrument of Jesus' Crucifixion and associated with miraculous healings. Whether it's the crucifix, the Jerusalem cross, Maltese cross, Celtic cross—or countless others—no other symbol represents Christian faith better. And so we pray: "We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world."

Wednesday, Sep 15, 2021

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

She's with him

1 Timothy 3:14-16; John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35

"Woman, behold, your son."

Being a strong companion or having great compassion is essential for discipleship. Mary had both. Under the title Our Lady of Sorrows, Mary is the first witness of the church and stood with Jesus through his pain and glory. The church uses "sorrows" here to lift up what it means to really be "with" another person and to share deeply their joy and sorrow. How do you experience Mary's companionship and compassion in your own life?

Thursday, Sep 16, 2021

MEMORIAL OF CORNELIUS

The cost of discipleship can be high

1 Timothy 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50

"[Jesus] said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'"

Saints Cornelius and Cyprian were friends during the 200s, a period when Christians were persecuted by the Roman Empire. Today a number of countries continue to oppress, harass, and even kill Christians. There is pressure today, as there was in the era of the early martyrs, to deny the faith in order to survive. With Cornelius and Cyprian in mind, stand in solidarity with courageous Christians everywhere. Learn what their needs are and how the worldwide church can help.

Friday, Sep 17, 2021

MEMORIALS OF ROBERT BELLARMIN & HILDEGARD OF BINGEN

Listen to your doctors

1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3

"Jesus journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God."

Jesus' ministry was simple: He went from town to town telling people that they were loved. The mantle, picked up by the doctors of the church, including those we honor today, was to interpret Jesus' message for subsequent generations. Saint Robert Bellarmine's Catechism clarified the Catholic understanding of faith and reason, and Saint Hildegard of Bingen's songs, such as "O virtus sapientie," helped unlock the mysteries of Divine Love and the Trinity. The Good News is meant for you. Find a way to hear it.

Saturday, Sep 18, 2021

Take the lesson to heart

1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15

"[T]he Devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts."

On the eve of Catechetical Sunday, it's good to reflect on our task of teaching the next generation matters of the Spirit. One comment heard too often when bad things happen is that "God must have a reason for doing this." Or, "It must be God's will." Looking at the biblical testimony, however, leads to the realization that most of the bad things that happen are not God's will at all but the work of sinful people. God says, "Feed the hungry" and children starve. God says, "Do not kill" and people murder. Let's teach our kids what's on God, and what's on us.

Hope is what Mary, Mother of God, sheltered in her heart during the darkest time of her life: Friday afternoon until Sunday morning. That is hope: she had it. And that hope has renewed everything. May God grant us that grace

Pope Francis



