

# TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## OCTOBER 10, 2021



### *Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church*

516 East 13th Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503  
814.452.6606

[www.ststanserie.org](http://www.ststanserie.org)  
email: [ststaner@outlook.com](mailto: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](http://www.holytrinityrc.org)  
email: [parishoffice@holylrinityrc.org](mailto: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*



**October 10, 2021**  
**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

If we are truly in love with God, then the basics are not going to be enough. That love is going to want to be expressed in going above and beyond, in leaving the comfortable and familiar, in stretching and growing, and in following a voice other than our own. St. Teresa of Calcutta rightly instructs us that for "love to be real, it must cost, it must hurt, it must empty us of self." Being in love with God requires more than just checking the boxes of the commandments. It requires a sincere and unconditional self-investment. Desiring God with our whole heart, mind, and soul means that I must also desire a relationship with my neighbor with that same degree of fervor.

Biases and prejudices usually occur when people are kept at a distance and treated as objects. We cannot truly know our neighbors, especially if they are different than us, if we keep them in boxes and do not listen to their stories. When we open ourselves to listen to another person's story, we begin to realize more how similar we are than dissimilar. Being overly attached to our possessions, ideologies, agendas, lifestyles, and personal needs are absolute barriers to achieving the type of personal investment love demands.

Contemporaries of Jesus would know that a camel could not enter through the portal of a city weighed down with the baggage it was carrying. In order to enter, the baggage must be removed so that the animal could fit through the entry way. The same is true for us. We carry a lot of excessive baggage around with us that keeps us tethered to our past histories, wounds, myopic world views, prejudices, fears, and suspicions. To invest ourselves in the Kingdom of God, do God's work and live out our love relationship with God, we need to shed the extra weight. While it may seem that a lot of that stuff is necessary, it really is not. We are much more than the things that we think define us and more secure than we think. The more there is to hold on to and the more that we carry with us, the harder it will be to leave it all behind. Many choose not to and walk away sad because they are not ready to trust.

#### **Readings for the week of October 10, 2021**

Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-17/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 [28th Sunday]

Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-4/Lk 11:29-32 [St. John XXIII]

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-5/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-9/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1-6/Lk 11:47-54 [St. Callistus I]

Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1-5, 11/Lk 12:1-7 [St. Theresa of the Child Jesus]

Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18/Ps 105:6-9, 42-43/Lk 12:8-12 [St. Hedwig]

Next Sunday: Is 53:10-11/Ps 33:4-5, 18-22/Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45 [29th 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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

### **"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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606 or Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

### **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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

### **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 Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

### **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., Oct. 11th - Private Intention  
 Tues., Oct. 12th - Gabriella Wlodarczyk (Family)  
 Wed., Oct. 13th - Thaddeus Mielnk (Irene Mielnik)  
 Thurs., Oct. 14th - Eugene Tomczak (Elaine & Family)  
 Fri., Oct. 15th - Vernon & Ellen Gambill (Paul & Renee Gambill)  
 Sat., Oct. 16th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)  
 Sun., Oct. 17th, 9:00AM -



Today is our annual Parish Day ("A Taste of Poland")! Please come to the Parish Hall between 11AM and 5PM to enjoy our Polish cuisine, homemade baked good, and our raffle. You are sure to have a good time!



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **JOSEPH MACIOCH** as gifted by his Family.

## IF HEAVEN WERE LIKE HARVARD

There's no getting around it: life on earth can seem easier if you're rich. Most of the bodily and material needs a person could have are fulfilled if you've got a little bit of money behind you. So why doesn't this same theory apply to entering the kingdom of Heaven? Why isn't Heaven like an Ivy League school, where a connection and a hasty tuition check might open a lot of doors? When you think about it, the virtues required to enter Heaven — things like charity and justice and courage — should be even closer within the grasp of those who never had to worry about where their food is coming from. In theory, your capacity for good works should only increase with the resources at your disposal. The same is true for stewardship potential. Let's say I've got a lot of talent. Maybe I've got a lot of free time. On paper, it should be easier for me to give freely of these gifts, because I have the luxury that eluded the widow and her two coins: I can see my ample gift being put into action, when so many can only offer what they have and remind themselves that God sees it and appreciates it. But here we get into the mess of humanity: if we have a lot of something, it means we have a lot of something we could use any way we want. And then we hear the whisper of the serpent: Think of what this (money, time, talent) could do for you. May we pray for God to give us the heart of the widow, no matter our resources.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## WEEKLY OFFERING (OCTOBER 3, 2021)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$58,184.00
Amount Received	\$4,614.00	\$40,098.00
Net over/under	\$458.00	(\$18,086.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 55; 9:00AM = 51  
 Envelopes: 71/168



## WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS!

We extend our prayerful congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Matthew and Erika Puda (Woll), who were joined together in the Sacrament of Matrimony on Saturday, October 2nd. On a note of interest: Erica's great-grandparents (Leo & Veronica Tomczak) were married on the same date in 1928 - 93 years ago.

## ANNUAL PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR

We will resume our annual pro-life holy hour this year, sponsored by our Pro-Life Committee. It will take place on Sunday, October 24th, beginning at 2:00PM. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, some quiet time for prayer, and public prayers of behalf of those whose lives are unjustly endangered. Consider joining us for as we uphold the sanctity of all human life.

## 27th ANNUAL ROSARY MARCH

The 27th Annual Rosary March will take place on Sunday, October 10th at 2:00PM. The march will begin at St. Jude's Church (2801 West 6th Street). The march will be live-streamed at [www.stjudeapos.org](http://www.stjudeapos.org). Those unable able to march can remain at the church where the rosary will be recited during the march. For more information, call John Walsh at 814.868.1100.

St. Teresa of Ávila (1515-1582) was a Spanish Carmelite nun who lived in the 16th century. She was a mystic and author of spiritual writings and poems. The originator of the Carmelite Reform, she founded numerous convents throughout Spain and restored a contemplative life to the order. She became well known for the mystical experiences, many of which she described in her autobiography. The first of only four women to be named a Doctor of the Church, St. Teresa's ascetic doctrine and Carmelite reforms shaped Roman Catholic contemplative life, and her writings on the Christian soul's journey to God are considered works of art. Her writings, especially the "Way of Perfection" and "The Interior Castle," have helped generations of believers. St. Teresa of Avila died on Oct. 15, 1582. She was canonized on March 22, 1622, along with three of her greatest contemporaries: St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Xavier, and St. Philip Neri.

# Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **CHRISTINE (MOLES) KEMPISTY**, as gifted by Marty & Tom Connelly.



10/10 Cindy Pelkowski  
10/11 Skip Ignaczak  
10/14 Julie Slomski  
10/16 Frank Agnello

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Oct. 11th - Carolyn & Al DiMattio (Betty & Stan Bialomizy)  
Tues., Oct. 12th - Anna Marie Neimeic (Family)  
Wed., Oct. 13th - For All Mothers, Living and Deceased  
Thurs., Oct. 14th - John Lanuha (Lillian & Family)  
Fri., Oct. 15th - The Souls in Purgatory  
Sat., Oct. 16th, 5:15PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)  
Sun., Oct. 17th, 10:30AM - Lillian Maciulewicz (Family)

## PRE-ELECTION PARTY

Holy Trinity Usher's Annual Pre-Election Get-Together is Sunday, October 31st from 4:00 – 7:00PM in our Parish Social Hall. Come and meet the candidates for the November 2nd Election. Admission is \$15.00 per person. Enjoy food and drink. Tickets available from any usher, parish office or at the door. You must be 21 to attend.

## A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Having possessions is an illusion. In today's gospel Jesus told the young man to give up his need to control and put his trust in God. He couldn't let go! In families, our need to control destroys relationships. We can lead, teach and encourage, but we can't control anyone but ourselves.



**mark  
your  
calendar!**

## GOLABKI DINNER!

Holy Trinity will be hosting our first ever Golabki Dinner on **Sunday, October 24th**, from Noon - 5:00PM. The dinner will be served in our Social Hall. More details to follow!

## CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT: CANCELLED

The Society of Holy Trinity has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's Cornhole Tournament due to Erie County's ongoing struggle against Covid-19 and the rising rate of infection the County is currently experiencing.

## A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

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## THE HOLY TRINITY USHERS' SOCIETY

... will meet on Tuesday, October 19th at 7:00PM in the Gathering Space. Primary on the agenda is finalizing details for our annual "Pre-Election Party."

## THANK YOU DINNER

Our annual "Thank You" dinner for our Zabawa volunteers will be held on **October 13th**, with hors d'oeuvres served at 6:00PM and dinner at 7:00PM. Please call Mary Ann (at 814-456-0671) to make your reservation.

## WEEKLY OFFERING FOR OCTOBER 3, 2021

Regular Offering: \$2,224.00 (33/134)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$39,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$31,316.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,224.00	\$33,619.00
Net (over/under):	(\$141.00)	\$2,303.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 33; 10:30AM = 57

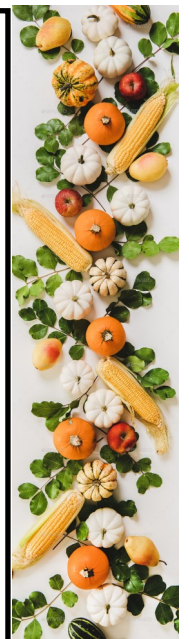
## Are You Good Enough?

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. Mark 10:18 (NIV)  
Based on Mark 10:17-31



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

MOTHER	SAVED	POOR	MAN	ETERNAL
FELL	INHERIT	ADULTERY	KNEES	FATHER
GOOD	FALSE	LIFE	JESUS	GIVE
SELL	TEACHER	STEAL	MURDER	HONOR



*"For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God."*

- Mark 10:27

## *News for Our Partnership*

### **ST. MARK SEMINARY AUXILIARY**

...is looking for new members. The St. Mark Seminary Auxiliary works toward inspiring priests for the Catholic Church. With an abundance of hope, the auxiliary is moving forward with planning a year filled with opportunities for fellowship and support of our seminarians through monthly meetings and the annual card party. The auxiliary is seeking new members and parish directors for several area churches. All are welcome to attend the first meeting on Oct. 13 beginning with Mass at 7 p.m. in the chapel of St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. For more information, contact Kathy Holland at 814-440-3406.

### **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL LADIES' GUILD**

...will hold its Annual Fall Luncheon and Auction on Sunday, October 17 from 1-4 pm at Scheffner Hall, 1531 East Grandview Blvd. Tickets are \$8.00 and include a delicious lunch. Also on tap – a Chinese Auction, Dessert Auction, tip boards, raffles, and a 50/50 drawing. Only 200 tickets will be sold, so reserve a table for your group today! For tickets or more information, call Carolyn at 814-825-3895.

### **ST. BENEDICT ALUMNAE BINGO**

November 14th  
Polish Falcons (431 East 3rd Street)  
Reservations only (call Valerie 814 566 3624)  
Doors open noon; Bingo at 1 pm  
Open kitchen; Cash BINGO; 50/50; Tips; \$100 lottery tree  
Benefits the Sisters ministries

### **BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH: CYBERBULLYING**

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like cell phones, computers, and tablets. Cyberbullying can occur through SMS, Text, and apps, or online in social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content. Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation. Some cyberbullying crosses the line into unlawful or criminal behavior. The most common places where cyberbullying occurs are: Social Media, such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Tik Tok; Text messaging and messaging apps on mobile or tablet devices; Instant messaging, direct messaging, and online chatting over the internet; Online forums, chat rooms, and message boards, such as Reddit; Email; and online gaming communities. Adults should take the same approach to address it: support the child being bullied, address the bullying behavior of a participant, and show children that cyberbullying is taken seriously. To see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments, visit <https://www.eriercd.org/childprotection/>.

### **SAFE ENVIRONMENTS - DIOCESAN CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Diocese of Erie is committed to protecting the children and youth who are entrusted to its care and to ensuring that those in ministry with our young people are in right relationship with the children/youth receiving services. To share in the ministry of Christ is a great privilege as well as a tremendous responsibility. The *privilege* is the joy of sharing in the mission of Jesus Himself. The *responsibility* is acting in a way that conforms to the attitude and actions of Christ. In this spirit, the diocese has issued a ministerial Code of Conduct. The code is included in the diocesan *Policy for the Protection of Children*. To read the Code of Conduct, go to: <https://www.eriercd.org/images/sections/childprotection/pdf/CURRENTPolicy.pdf>. For more information, contact Mrs. Cindy Zemcik, in the diocesan Office for the Protection of Children at 814-824-1195.

### **COVID VACCINATION CLINIC**

Saint Stanislaus is reaching out to our East-side neighbors and will be offering a free Covid vaccination clinic in our Parish Hall. The tentative dates will be October 20-23. Details are still being finalized, but your help in getting the word out would be greatly appreciated! If you know of someone who needs vaccinated, please share this with them.



### **THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS**

10/11) Sandy Kempisty & Ray Przybyszewski; 10/12) Edie Luniewski & Debbie Oldenski; 10/13) Deacon Tom Matusiak & Shirley Widomski; 10/14) Julie Slomski & Katherine Krainski; 10/15) Dorothy & Mead Carlson, Nancy & Art Kujawinski, & Carol Clark; 10/16) Corinne Dyakon, Mary Jo Sulecki & Kay Stankiewicz

### **PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

10/11) Fr. John Chaplin; 10/12) Msgr. John Herbein; 10/13) All Vocations; 10/14) Msgr. Andy Karg; 10/15) Fr. James Kennelley; 10/16) Fr. Bill Kuba; 10/17) Fr. Jeff Lucas



### Sunday, Oct 10, 2021

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

Wisdom 7:7-11; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30

"I prayed, and prudence was given me;  
I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me."

More than three-quarters of those suffering from mental illness worldwide have no access to the care that could restore them to healthy relationships and productive lives. The World Federation for Mental Health therefore dedicates this Mental Health Day to the theme "Mental Health in an Unequal World." Factors like race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and economic status complicate the path to adequate support. Pray the Rosary's Mysteries of Light today that clarity be given to those who struggle with mental health issues, and the societies that devalue them.

### Monday, Oct 11, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JOHN XXIII, POPE

#### He saw thee more clearly

Romans 1:1-7; Luke 11:29-32

"Just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites,  
so will the Son of Man be to this generation."

The humble Pope John XXIII disliked the pomp and attention that came with his role, and he insisted on being called simply "the pope." Nearly 60 years since his pontificate, he is remembered in Italy as *il papa buono*, "the good pope." In the short time he was pope—less than five years before he died of cancer in 1963—he changed the Catholic Church like few others by convening the Second Vatican Council. On his deathbed, he said: "It is not that the gospel has changed; it is that we have begun to understand it better." We can always use the intercession of "the good pope" as we keep seeking to understand better what the gospel means in our changing times.

### Tuesday, Oct 12, 2021

#### Our pillar of strength

Romans 1:16-25; Luke 11:37-41

"I am not ashamed of the Gospel."

Today is the feast day of Virgin Maria del Pilar, a Spanish devotion commemorating the first official Marian apparition of the Catholic Church. According to tradition, Mary first appeared—while still alive—to the apostle James in the year 40, as he preached the gospel to the people of Spain. Saint James, despondent over his progress, prayed for reassurance, and Our Lady appeared to him in a supernatural manner, standing upon a pillar held aloft by angels. Because October is the month of the Rosary, honor Maria with the beautiful Hail Holy Queen prayer that's part of that devotion.

### Wednesday, Oct 13, 2021

#### God to humanity: Can't buy my love

Romans 2:1-11; Luke 11:42-46

"...but you pay no attention to judgment and to love for God."

From at least the time of the Pharisees, important people in the eyes of the world often assumed they had the inside track on a pleasant afterlife. Pope Francis begged to differ in an Advent season homily several years back. At the Last Judgment, Francis said, Jesus will not say, "You, come with me because you have given so much money to the church. You are a benefactor of the church. Come, come to Heaven." No. You can't buy your way into

Heaven. And He won't say: 'You are very important, you have studied so much and earned so many honors, come into Heaven.' No. Awards do not open the gate of Heaven," Francis said. "What will Jesus tell us to open up the gates of Heaven? 'I was hungry, and you gave Me to eat. I was homeless, and you gave Me shelter. I was sick, and you came to see Me. I was in prison, and you came to visit Me.' Jesus is humility," Francis said. Close your purse or wallet, and open your heart!

### Thursday, Oct 14, 2021

MEMORIAL OF CALLISTUS I, POPE, MARTYR

#### Patron saint of second (or more) chances

Romans 3:21-30; Luke 11:47-54

"You have taken away the key of knowledge."

Saint Callistus I is inspiration to anyone who has made major errors in life. Callistus seriously messed up, not once but twice. Born into slavery, his master put him in charge of a bank that Callistus criminally mismanaged. After a while in prison, he was freed to earn back the money he owed. Instead, he was arrested for brawling in a synagogue. Strike two. Nonetheless, Callistus reformed himself, served the early church as a cemetery manager, and was eventually elected pope! Consider saying a prayer of thanks for a church that offers redemption (even the papacy) to people who have fallen hard.

### Friday, Oct 15, 2021

MEMORIAL OF TERESA OF JESUS, VIRGIN, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

#### Don't be afraid of the dark

Romans 4:1-8; Luke 12:1-7

"...whatever you have said in the darkness will be heard in the light."

The dark night of the soul, a term coined by Spanish mystic Saint John of the Cross, describes a period on the spiritual journey when one feels distant from God and suffers physical and emotional pain. Saint Teresa of Ávila, a close friend of John's, actually felt like she was going mad as she pursued the contemplative life. But then, in 1567, while gazing at a statue of Jesus, she felt an ecstasy beyond description as she reached "union with God." Teresa wrote much about her interior life, and she encouraged others to experience the "great gifts that come through abandoning everything to God and dying to oneself." Pray for the patience and humility to stay the spiritual course.

### Saturday, Oct 16, 2021

#### I was hungry

Romans 4:13, 16-18; Luke 12:8-12

"I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before others  
the Son of Man will acknowledge before the angels of God."

World Food Day was established in 1979 by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and is celebrated annually on this date in 150 countries. The theme for this year's celebration is, "Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow." The World Food Program (WFP) is the food-assistance branch of the organization. As of 2019, the WFP has served 97 million people in 88 countries, and it was awarded the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to combat hunger and contribute to peace in conflict areas. Take a moment today to thank God for the food you eat and the people who produce it, and to support your local World Food Day celebration.