

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 3, 2023



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)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:

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

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

*** Reconciliation is celebrated until 15 minutes before Mass
(If the priest is not in the confessional, inform a greeter)**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671

www.holytrinityrc.org
email: parishoffice@holyltrinityrc.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)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:

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

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

*** Reconciliation is celebrated until 15 minutes before Mass
(If the priest is not in the confessional, inform a greeter)**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



September 3, 2023
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isn't it easy to relate to Peter? One moment Jesus announces Peter's deep communion with God the Father. The very next, when he rejects the logic of Jesus' suffering and death, Jesus calls Peter Satan. We Christians shouldn't be too shocked when we experience both spiritual highs and lows, when we perceive breathtaking contradictions in our hearts.

Like the great apostle, you and I are recipients of unfathomable graces. God dwells in us, calls his beloved children, and takes care of our every need. And we also continually fail to embrace our sufferings with trust in Jesus. We know the truth of the creed, but we easily scorn the weight of the cross.

The good news is that, like Peter, we are never abandoned by the Lord even at our worst moments. Peter will eventually learn the beauty of the cross when he is willingly crucified. But it took time for him to get there. And it takes time for us, too. This week let's not be too shocked at these divisions in our hearts but accept them and patiently seek to be more obedient to Jesus' cross-shaped plan for us.

— Father John Muir

Labor Day Prayer

Good and Gracious God,
You created human beings in Your image and likeness, and gave us dominion over creation to be stewards of the land and co-creators of Your Kingdom.

Jesus, You became one of us and labored as a carpenter. You ask all people -- whatever our state of life -- to follow you faithfully.

Holy Spirit, bless all workers this Labor Day. May all our actions be animated by Your love, as we do all things for the glory of God.

Amen.

Readings for the week of September 3, 2023

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1-5, 11-13/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10-11/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Mi 5:1-4/Ps 13:6/Mt 1:18-23
Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-6, 8/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

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 Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452.3395) from St. Stanislaus, or Kathy (392-8974) at 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, music minister, or usher/greeter, 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 Sue (450-2987).

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 (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. 4th - Private Intention
Tues., Sept. 5th - Gay & Bob Wlodarczyk (Family)
Wed., Sept. 6th - Phyllis Kuklinski (Dave & Stan Lesnieski)
Thurs., Sept. 7th - Raymond & Rose Ruffley (Tom & Sharon Zielinski)
Fri., Sept. 8th - Thaddeus Mielnik (Irene Mielnik)
Sat., Sept. 9th, 4:00PM - John, Irene, & Rosie Smerick (Grumblatt Family)
Sun., Sept. 10th, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **GAY & BOB WLODARCZYK**, as gifted by the Family.



WOMEN'S SOCIETY

Our Women's Society will meet on Sunday, September 10th, at 1PM in the Parish Hall. All are invited to attend.

HAPPY LABOR DAY

PIEROGI MAKING SESSIONS

The crew will be gathering in the Parish Hall on September 19th & 20th (9AM-2PM) to begin making pierogi for our annual "Parish Day/A Taste of Poland." All are invited to help. As always, no experience is necessary and lunch will be provided.

CHOOSING THE CROSS

I've been called a lot of things in my life, but I've never been called "Satan," at least not to my face.

It seems to me the worst name you could call a person, and today we hear it straight from the lips of Jesus. It's just one of the many small reminders strewn throughout Scripture that Jesus preaches meekness, but he is not mild - not when mildness serves no purpose, anyway.

And here, when Peter is trying to deter Jesus from making the right choice, mildness serves no purpose at all.

Can we blame Peter? I certainly can't. I'm sure I would have said the same thing to my own dear friend. He is, in today's Gospel, wholly unwilling to embrace the cross - he's afraid of it, even - but aren't we all, in the end, afraid of our cross? I am. It's no sin, it's only human. Fear is natural. Self-preservation is a reflex.

What Christ speaks of today is a choice, one we are all faced with, again and again, just as Peter is. We will not always respond perfectly; Peter does not respond well today. He does not respond well on Holy Thursday.

But on his last day, on the day of the ultimate choice? On that day, he chooses the cross.

We marvel at first responders who put themselves in harm's way for the sake of others, because to do so is not human, it is divine. I have to believe that if even a firefighter's loved one threw themselves in his way, he would still charge toward the flames, crying, "Get behind me." Christ runs into the burning building for us, shaking off not only his own fear but the fear of everyone who loved him.

"Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God..." (Romans 12:1).

I love the original movie Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory. All the way through while I watch the film I still laugh and feel like a child. It is only the last line with which I have an issue. Wonka by now has chosen Charlie to succeed him as head of the chocolate factory. They board an elevator that proceeds to crash through the roof and begins to fly. Wonka then asks Charlie if he ever heard of what happened to the boy who got everything he ever wanted. After Charlie says no, Wonka explains, "He lived happily ever after." As I get older, I can say I have met several people who got all or most of all they have ever wanted, but unlike Charlie, it did not lead to endless bliss. In fact, as a Christian I know that that statement of Wonka's is a lie. The secret to living happily ever after lies in not getting all you ever wanted, but instead in giving all you ever wanted away. A person can't have any sense of that reality until they begin to see his or her life transformed by Jesus. When we have accepted the challenge placed before us and made a choice to live a certain way daily, we can find ourselves transformed. Following Jesus is not easy, but it is the only true way to find authentic joy. When we have emptied ourselves and allowed him to fill the open spaces in us, we become different. We are transformed and, if enough of us in a parish community experience the same journey, our parish is transformed as well. Then we begin to transform the world around us. Don't be fooled: A flying elevator is cool, but it pales in comparison to what can happen when we find a new life in Jesus Christ.

— Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPI

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR AUGUST 27TH

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$37,404.00
Amount Received	\$1,921.00	\$20,468.00
Net over/under	(\$2,235.00)	(\$16,936.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 48; 9:00AM = 49
Envelopes: 46/168



Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **JOSEPH CHERMACK**, as gifted by Dave & Jane Thieman.



9/5 - Shirley Dudzinski
9/6 - Richard Korytowski & Msgr. Daniel Magraw
9/7 - Cameron Zbrzezny
9/9 - Connor Simora
9/11 - Skip Ignaczak

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Sept. 4th - Warfel Family (Estate)
Tues., Sept. 5th - Daniszewski & Gorka Families (Estate)
Wed., Sept. 6th - Intention of Msgr. Dan Magraw
Thurs., Sept. 7th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)
Fri., Sept. 8th - Norb Madura (Dee)
Sat., Sept. 9th, 5:15PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)
Sun., Sept. 10th, 10:30AM - Bob & Shirley Kempisty (Jack & Sandy)

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

We are asking worshippers to bring down the gifts at the offertory. If you would like to do this, please see one of the Ushers when you arrive at Mass or call the Parish Office in advance and we will put you down for the Mass you want. It is always nice to have families participate in the Mass when the intention is for their loved one.

A RECORD BREAKING YEAR?

While the final numbers are not yet in, we are poised to announce a record breaking year for Zabawa in terms of both attendance and profit. Sincere thanks goes out to all who volunteered and worked so hard over the course of the weekend. You were amazing! You are what makes our weekend so successful! Please allow us to express our thanks by planning to attend our "Wrap-Up/Thank You Dinner." Details will be forthcoming. Again, many, many thanks!

Let's be honest. If we are striving to live the stewardship way of life, it's not going to be easy. Dying to self and living for Christ and others is tough. It's the work of a lifetime. But in the end, it's the only work that really matters and the only life that truly satisfies. Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, reflects this challenging reality. Jesus tells His disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." This sounds harsh. Why would anyone want to do this? Our Lord has the answer, of course. "Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." It's all about love. Jesus loved (and loves) us totally, giving us all of Himself on the Cross, in His Word, and in the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist. And so we must choose: love of self, or love of God and others — which is tough, but fulfilling and leads to the eternal reward of heaven. Jesus promises that He "will come with his angels in his Father's glory and then he will repay all according to his conduct." Let us make the tough choice to lose our life for Christ's sake in grateful response to His love. Honestly, what better life could there be?

We congratulate our Zabawa Grand Award Winners:

Bob & Cindy Pelkowski - \$3,000

Paul Sadler - \$2,000

Heather Fetcko - \$1,000

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR AUGUST 27th, 2023

Regular Offering: \$3,844.00 (22/120 envelopes)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$4,000.00	\$36,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,400.00	\$21,600.00
Total Offertory:	\$3,844.00	\$24,956.00
Net (over/under):	\$1,444.00	\$3,356.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 596; 10:30AM = 218

Take Up Your Cross

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Matthew 16:24 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:22-28 (NIV)



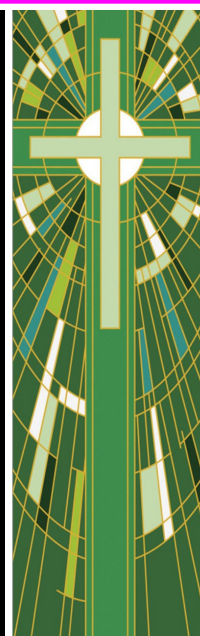
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GIVE
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GAIN
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LIFE



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

- Matthew 16:24

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

A PRAYER FOR WORKERS

God our Creator,
Your Word worked wonders to create the heavens and the earth and all they contain. Jesus Christ our Savior and Brother, You labored alongside your foster father Joseph, living the life of an ordinary worker. Holy Spirit, we are baptized into your life. You live and move and have your being in us as we go about our daily tasks. On this Labor Day, may all who work recognize their intrinsic value. Show them that their worth depends not on any task, responsibility, or skill. Remind them that their dignity lies in You, oh Lord. In all of our labors, may we remember that we imitate You.
Amen.

GARAGE SALE

Saint Stanislaus will host a garage sale on:

Friday, September 8th, from 9AM-4PM

Saturday, September 9th, from 9AM-1PM

The sale will take place in the Parish Hall parking lot, the rectory garages, and in the Parish Hall. We will also be serving hot dogs! Come and find a treasure, or grab a quick lunch, or both!

WHAT IS THE RCIA?

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process of initiation into the Catholic Community of Faith.

It enables the study of the Gospels, Catholic Christian teaching, the acceptance of Christian values and morality, the development and deepening of a life of prayer and action with the support and involvement of the local Christian community. Who is RCIA for?

- Non-Catholics who want to find out more about the Catholic Faith
- Those who want to join the Catholic Church through Baptism, or Profession of Faith
- Those who were baptized Catholic as infants but never received religious education, Confirmation, or First Eucharist.

If you are interested please contact the parish office or talk with one of the priests in the upcoming weeks.

OUR PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH, IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

BACK TO SCHOOL

Fr. Jason's schedule this semester has him teaching on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Consequently, he will not be in the office on Tuesday and Thursday after 11:30AM.

The Catholic Education Collection will be taken on the weekend of September 16-17. This annual collection supports lifelong education and faith formation opportunities for everyone throughout our entire diocese. Please generously support this collection. You play an integral part in our success in nurturing growth in mind, heart and spirit of the faithful. Half of the funds raised from this collection remain in our parish to support our local education and faith formation programs. The other half provides funds across the diocese for ministry and leadership training, technology support, creative projects in faith formation, as well as tuition assistance for families attending Catholic schools. A small portion also supports The Catholic University of America. Contributions can be made directly at our parish or online at <https://www.eriercd.org/cec.html> Be assured of my prayers for you and your family.

With every best wish, I am,
Bishop Lawrence Persico

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 17th
St Benedict Alumnae Bingo
Polish Falcons Club
431 East 3rd St.

Doors open at Noon; Bingo starts at 1PM
Kitchen/bar open

Get a free bingo packet with a paid admission; just bring gloves, or hat or toy or scarf for a child that will be donated to the Saint Benedict day care center.

Packets \$ 25/9 cards. 50/50, \$100 lottery wreath,
tips/instant
CASH GAMES !

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

9/4) Patty & Ed Czulewicz, & Marie Przepierski; 9/5) Mary Ann Merski & Michelle Inter; 9/6) Msgr. Dan Magraw;
9/7) Ed Korytowski & Lori Krasnesky; 9/8) Steve Rimpa, Stephanie & Bill Wycech, & Charlie & Charlene Schroeck;
9/9) Edie Luniewski & Rose Marie Radomski; 9/10) Elizabeth Dalton & Eleanor Walker

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

Sunday, Sep 03, 2023

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Jeremiah 20:7-9; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27
"Do not conform yourselves to this age
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind."

It's a wonderful life

Our days are engulfed in chaos, conflict, and dispiriting news. Then along comes a director like Frank Capra, churning out what have been called "fantasies of good will," imposing order with his ragged little messiahs who take meaningful stands against king-sized injustices. Capra fought his moral battles on the silver screen. He believed each person is "essentially good, a living atom of divinity.... Films must be made to say these things, to counteract the violence and the meanness, to buy time to demobilize the hatreds." Take your stand. Tell a story of hope.

Monday, Sep 04, 2023

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Luke 4:16-30
"Is this not the son of Joseph?"

Come aside and rest awhile

In a Prayer for Labor Day, the U.S. bishops invite us to ask God: "Make a place in our hearts for compassion to the men and women who labor tirelessly for basic necessities." Labor has always held a place of dignity within our faith. Many a church document, including *Rerum Novarum*, outline the value of workers and their work: "Justice, therefore, demands that the interests of the working classes should be carefully watched over, so that they who contribute so largely to the advantage of the community may themselves share in the benefits which they create." And, today, in honor of our labor, it's time to take a break.

Tuesday, Sep 05, 2023

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11; Luke 4:31-37
"All of you are children of the light and children of the day."

The first daughter of charity

It's not every day that a Catholic saint is honored with a United Nations resolution. But then, Mother Teresa is hardly an everyday saint. The U.N. honored the famous nun from Kolkata, known the world over for her hands-on care of the poor, with a resolution in 2013. It declared that on the September 5th anniversary of Mother Teresa's death each year, the world would now observe an International Day of Charity. Let's take her at her word: "Love is not patronizing and charity isn't about pity, it is about love. Charity and love are the same—with charity you give love, so don't just give money but reach out your hand instead."

Wednesday, Sep 06, 2023

Colossians 1:1-8; Luke 4:38-44
"We have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus..."

Pray for the persecuted and forgotten

On this day, many Christians of the Eastern tradition celebrate the feast of Saint Donatian and his companions, a group of lesserknown fifth-century martyrs driven out of North Africa by the Arian King Huneric, who persecuted a great many Trinitarians for their faith. Though we may not today face death for our confession, many of our brothers and sisters around the world do, and it is for them that we must pray with the help of Donatian and all who died for the name of Christ. Even more, we are tasked to help them materially if we can, since—as the Lord says—whatsoever we do for the least of his siblings, we do for him.

Thursday, Sep 07, 2023

Colossians 1:9-14; Luke 5:1-11
"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."

School days, Golden Rule days

It's back-to-school season. Learning is foundational to our democracy and also to informed faith. In 2,000 years' time, Christianity has overcome countless heresies (a type of twisting of the belief) and accumulated many saints, martyrs, stories, and traditions. With school back in session, consider sending yourself to "school" to learn more about your own religion. Check out study materials from the U.S. Catholic bishops and formed.org, a program both individuals and parishes can use for faith formation. Make a choice to grow in wisdom and understanding.

Friday, Sep 08, 2023

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23
"They shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

A nativity set for the ages

The church officially celebrates three Nativities: the Nativity of Jesus, the Son of God (Christmas); the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (24 June); and the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8 September). These events tell us everything we need to know about God, faith, and the path to salvation. Through Jesus' Incarnation, we learn that God is with us—always and everywhere. Through John's witness we come to understand that we are not God—not even close—and we must prepare ourselves to welcome God's great goodness into our lives. And through Mary, we are shown the meaning of true discipleship—how to answer God's call and follow Christ through the joyful, sorrowful, and luminous mysteries of our lives in faith. Celebrate this dynamic trio by living in their light.

Saturday, Sep 09, 2023

MEMORIAL OF PETER CLAVER, PRIEST
Colossians 1:21-23; Luke 6:1-5
"You once were alienated and hostile in mind because of evil deeds."

Give us this day some peace

"Racism has been part of the social fabric of America since its European colonization. Whether it be the tragic past of Native Americans, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, or Blacks, the story is one of slavery, peonage, economic exploitation, brutal repression, and cultural neglect." This observation from the 1979 bishops' pastoral *Brothers and Sisters to Us* is why the church in the United States has established today as a "Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities" to promote healing of the racial divides of our nation. Make an honest examination of conscience regarding your thoughts, words, and deeds toward people of other ethnic and racial backgrounds.

