

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## September 13th, 2020



"Parable of the Unforgiving Servant," Claude Vignon, 1629

### *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: Monday - Friday at 8:00AM

**Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy: Sunday at 9:00AM**

Holy Days of Obligation: 8:00AM

**\* Daily Eucharistic Liturgy remains temporarily Non-Public**

### *Holy Trinity Catholic Church*

2220 Reed Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

814.456.0671

[www.holytrinityrc.org](http://www.holytrinityrc.org)

email: [parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org](mailto:parishoffice@holytrinityrc.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

**Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy: Sunday at 10:30AM**

Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil at 5:30PM

**\* Daily Eucharistic Liturgy remains temporarily Non-Public**



## *Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity*

### *Partners in Faith & Mission*



**September 13, 2020**

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What right do we have to limit the amount and degree of forgiveness we show to others when we are so desperately in need of it ourselves? In not wanting someone who hurt us to downplay or forget the gravity of their wrong, we cling to anger, resentment, and wrath as a way of maintaining control. It is a way to acknowledge and express our deep hurt. We fail to realize that in doing so we hold ourselves hostage to these destructive feelings and actually become mired in the bondage of sin. All we gain is further alienation from ourselves, others, and especially God. We are no longer free but tethered to all of this unresolved negativity. Don't we really want to let it go? The fact is that we need to.

Perhaps we think that in offering forgiveness, even for the most grievous of wrongs, somehow excuses the person of their wrong and makes it almost acceptable. This is what makes revenge, retaliation, and punishment so attractive. We see forgiveness as being an eraser that easily wipes away the offense without consequence. It does not erase anything or position me vulnerably as a doormat to be walked on.

Forgiveness is an act of freedom that restores honest dialogue, shares true, and heartfelt feelings and acknowledges the consequences of an action. It admits that the wrong has caused a hurt that must be healed and squarely positions responsibility on the offender. The act of forgiveness recognizes our sinfulness and brokenness. It also admits that the most saintly among us is capable of doing very grave and deep harm to another person. With forgiveness, I release myself from the bonds of negativity and pursue a path of restoration, wholeness, and healing. I do not forget the wrong nor do I dismiss it. But we can still heal internally and be free.

For the one who wants to be forgiven and the one who needs offer forgiveness, the journey can be an adventure in learning what brought us to this place and what is needed to move forward. This is exactly how God treats us. Why would we not want to do the same for others?

#### **WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-12/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35 [24th Sunday]  
Monday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17 [Exultation of the Cross]  
Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 31:2-6, 15-20/Jn 19:25-27 [Our Lady of Sorrows]  
Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13/Ps 33:2-12, 22/Lk 7:31-35 [Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian]  
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 28/Lk 7:36-50 [St. Robert Bellarmine]  
Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1, 6-7, 8, 15/Lk 8:1-3  
Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 [14]/Lk 8:4-15 [St. Januarius]  
Next Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20-24, 27/Mt 20:1-16 [25th Sun]

**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 John's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.454.2873).

**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, Fr. Michael Polenik, at 1.800.374.3723.

**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.

### **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. 14th - Joseph & Victoria Baniszewski (Family)  
 Tues., Sept. 15th - Irene Chrzanowski (Ron & Jackie Orelski)  
 Wed., Sept. 16th - Louise Miklinski (Family)  
 Thurs., Sept. 17th - Arthur Justka (The Family)  
 Fri., Sept. 18th - Ann Ewiak (Family)  
 Sat., Sept. 19th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (Pro Populo)  
 Sun., Sept. 20th, 9:00AM - Ray & Doris Pomorski (Dan, Theresa, & Family)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **THE KRASINSKI & NOWAKOWSKI** as gifted by Bobby & Betty Nowakowski.

## BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Michael Alund & Karolina Czarnecka



## PIEROGI MAKING

Volunteers are needed to make pierogies for our upcoming "Polish Food Extravaganza." If you feel comfortable and are free to lend a helping hand, we will gather in the Social Hall at 9:00AM on both Thursday, September 17th, and Friday, September 18th. All are welcome, even if you have never made pierogies. We appreciate all of the help in making our "Polish Food Extravaganza" a success.

## WHAT ARE THE BANNS OF MARRIAGE?

The banns of marriage are the public announcement in a Catholic parish church of an impending marriage between two specified persons. The purpose of banns is to enable anyone to raise any canonical or civil legal impediment to the marriage, so as to prevent marriages that are invalid. Impediments vary between legal jurisdictions, but would normally include a pre-existing marriage that has been neither dissolved nor annulled, a vow of celibacy, lack of consent, or the couple's being related within the prohibited degrees of kinship.

## SSJ SOUP KITCHEN

Baked Goods are needed for the SSJ Soup Kitchen tomorrow, **September 20th**. As they are serving "take-out" only, they are asking for individually wrapped treats like "Hostess Twinkies" or "Little Debbie's" snack cakes. All donated goods can be dropped off at the church vestibule Sunday, September 20th between 9:00AM-Noon, or brought to the Nazareth Center on Monday, September 21st between 2:00-3:00PM.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for **CARL KLAN** on Thursday, September 10th. Please keep Carl and his loved ones in your prayers.

## SCRIP CARDS

Even during the pandemic, we have still be filling SCRIP CARD orders. If you are interested in purchasing them, simply contact the Parish Office.

## CSA 2020: UPDATE

Parish Assessment: \$31,019.00  
 Pledges: \$34,185.00  
 Paid To Date: \$30,430.00

**Thank you** for the 89 families who have committed! Any additional CSA money remains in our parish. So, if you haven't yet pledged, please continue to prayerfully consider doing so.

## WEEKLY OFFERING (SEPTEMBER 6, 2020)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$41,560.00
Amount Received	\$3,378.00	\$26,828.00
Net over/under	(\$778.00)	(\$14,732.00)

Mass Attendance: 54 (Covid Mass)



**CONGRATULATIONS!  
 JILLIAN CONROY!**

First Communion: August 30, 2020

# Holy Trinity Parish Community

## A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Unable to forgive another means we are holding on to a past wrong and hoping for a better past. That is not going to happen. We must move on with our life by accepting we were unjustly treated and it will not be corrected. We aren't condoning the injustice. We just don't let it control our lives any longer. Forgiveness is critical to living a healthy life in the present.

**"Gonna ask my mom if that offer to slap me into next year is still available."**

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Sept. 14th– Souls in Purgatory  
 Tues., Sept. 15th - Living & Deceased Mothers of Holy Trinity  
 Wed., Sept. 16th - Living & Deceased Fathers of Holy Trinity  
 Thurs., Sept. 17th - Msgr. John Daniszewski  
 Fri., Sept. 18th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families  
 Sat., Sept. 19th - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)  
 Sun., Sept. 20th, 10:30AM - Florence Kaminski (Kaveney Family)



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of **BOB & SHIRLEY KEMPISTY** as gifted by Jack & Sandy Kempisty

## SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?

Life is not always easy on us and it can be hard to figure out the next step to take in our journey. We can even become immobilized by indecisiveness and fear about making the wrong move or choosing the incorrect path. I think of the song, Should I Stay, or Should I Go, as a mantra for many times in my life. Should I stay in this house, this job, or this car? Should I go here or there? When those times of decision surface, I usually turn to my wife, my friends, or even my children. Talking it out can help, and their perspectives give me more data to consider. When I lean on others to help me make a decision, it helps me become more confident in my choices.

Discerning the will of God is not easy either. Rarely do we understand God's calling clearly at first. God's calling is always more easily discerned within a community of faithful disciples. Our stewardship way of life can suffer greatly if we refuse to allow others to assist us in the process of discernment. What gifts or talents are needed for the task at hand? Where do I fit best into God's plan? Where is God leading me? No one should have to decide the answers to these questions alone. We need to always lean on the Body of Christ to help us see the path that God has laid before us. Without a little help along the journey, over time we might find ourselves stuck in the same place where we started.

## WEEKLY OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Regular Offering: \$2,700.00 (32/145)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$30,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$23,650.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,700.00	\$20,856.00
Net (over/under):	\$355.00	(\$2,794.00)

## CSA UPDATE

Assessment: \$12,425.00  
 Pledges: \$24,692.00  
 Paid: \$23,242.00  
 Families Contributing: 69

## The Unforgiving Servant

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

sisters	PETER	LORD	heavenly
forgive	creditor	wife	seventy
mercy	servant	GOD	master
kingdom	heaven	fellow	children
tortured	king	debt	brother

*So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives..."*

- Matthew 18:35

## *News for Our Partnership*

### **PRAYER REQUEST**

Monsignor Dan will be on his annual priest retreat this week. Please keep him, and all of our priests of our Diocese on retreat with Monsignor Dan, in your prayers this week.

### **COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND**

Special thanks to all who have been contributing to our Covid-19 Response fund, which is being used for the purchase of sanitizers, dispensers, and PPE for those volunteering to clean our facilities after each Mass. Whenever you are able, please consider contributing to this fund so we can keep our facilities as safe and virus-free as possible.

### **OUR LADY OF SORROWS (September 15)**

The Catholic Church celebrates the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15, the day after the feast of the Holy Cross to show the close connection between Jesus' Passion and Mary's Sorrows. This advocacy has its roots in the Gospel. This form of Marian piety goes back to the fourteenth century, but Mary's compassion was remembered from early centuries.

The devotion to the Sorrows of Mary properly appears toward the middle of the fourteenth century. Devotion to the five sorrows of Mary appears first and eventually develops into devotion to seven sorrows. In fact, two lists of seven sorrows were drawn up, one including the infancy and childhood of Jesus Christ, the other concentrating on the Passion.

The commemoration of Mary's sorrows gave rise to meditations, prayers, poems, lamentations, not to forget the representations of the *Pieta*. This devotion became part of the rosary, as we know, and the present form of the Seven Sorrows was popularized by John de Coudenberghe (1482):

1. The prophecy of Simeon (Lk 2:34-35);
2. The flight into Egypt (Mt 2:13-21);
3. The loss of Jesus for Three Days (Lk 2:41-50);
4. The ascent to Calvary (Jn 19:17);
5. The crucifixion and death of Jesus (Jn 19:18-30);
6. Jesus taken down from the cross (Jn 19:39-40);
7. Jesus laid in the tomb (Jn 19:39-42).

### **FREE ONLINE RETREAT OFFERED**

Due to the extraordinary times we're living through, this retreat on gratitude is being offered as a virtual event. It's about poets and lepers and mystics and other essential workers in the story of faith. The five 45-minute pre-recorded series includes reflections on:

- Poetry 101
- Gratitude 101
- Poetry Is an Inside Job
- Gratitude When Life Hurts
- Solitude and Gratitude

If you are interested in participating in this FREE online retreat, please contact the Oratory Center for Spirituality at [oratorycenter@gmail.com](mailto:oratorycenter@gmail.com). Once you are registered you will receive information on how to access the five-part retreat to do at your pace and on your schedule.

### **45th Annual ERIE CROP Walk**

"To feed the hungry" is a work of mercy. Millions of people are hungry throughout our world, our country, our city. YOU CAN HELP ease this hunger, made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic. Participate in the 45th Annual ERIE CROP Walk on Sunday, September 27. Many food pantries and soup kitchens receive grants to aid their work, among them Emmaus Soup Kitchen, St. Patrick's Food Pantry and the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network. For information or to contribute, please call Barbara Roseborough at 814/882-5972. Walk. Give. Change the world!

### **BLESSED SACRAMENT FALL FESTIVAL**

... cash raffle will be online Sunday, September 27th, on their Facebook page, from noon-5PM. Tickets: \$5 each and are available in Blessed Sacrament's Parish Office 8:00 -3:30 (1626 W. 26th Street) until Friday, September 25th. \$500 drawing every half hour from 12:30-3:00PM. Other prizes: 3:30PM - \$1,500; 4:00PM - \$2,500; 4:30PM - \$3,000; GRAND PRIZE at 5PM - \$5,000

**HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY!!**

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

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; 9/20) OPEN CALL THE OFFICE.

### **PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

9/13) Fr. William O'Brien; 9/14) Bishop Donald W. Trautman; 9/15) Fr. Joseph C. Gregorek 9/16) Pray For Vocations;  
9/17) Fr. Mark Hoffman; 9/18) Fr. Skip Davis; 9/19) Fr. Brandon Kleckner



### Sunday, Sep 13, 2020

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Share the wealth

Sirach 27:30-28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35  
“Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant,  
as I had pity on you?”

Jesus tells the parable of the servant forgiven his large debt who then refuses to forgive a small debt owed him. How could we not forgive others, when God has forgiven us so much? Someone always raises the objection that you can't let someone who kicked you once have another go at it. But that is not what Jesus is asking us to do. He's not asking us to be fools. He's reminding us we're all deep in the red with a debt we can't possibly repay. Be grateful we don't have to.

### Monday, Sep 14, 2020

#### Cross purposes

Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17  
“...but might have eternal life.”

It might seem strange to non-believers that the instrument of our savior's torture and execution is the symbol of our faith. But believers know that the cross represents Christ's defeat of death; the symbol is one of triumph. The entrance antiphon for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is: “We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection: through him we are saved and made free.” Reflect on how the crosses you've borne in your own life have also led to freedom.

### Tuesday, Sep 15, 2020

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

#### Pray for us, Mother of God

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31; John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35.  
“Behold, your mother.”

Yesterday was the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Today, in connection, we remember Mary as Our Lady of Sorrows. Many saints and poets have tried to convey the weight of Mary's pain. But it's Romanos the Melodist who, in the 500s, wrote the “Hymn of Mary at the Cross.” In it, Jesus reveals to his mother the redemptive power of his suffering—plus, her role as our intercessor. He says: “Run, Mother, announce to all that ‘By suffering he strikes the one who hates Adam, and as victor he is coming.’” How can Our Mother pray for you today?

### Wednesday, Sep 16, 2020

MEMORIAL OF CORNELIUS, POPE, AND CYPRIAN, BISHOP, MARTYRS

#### Let compassion prevail

1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13; Luke 7:31-35  
“Love does not brood over injury.”

The third century was a terrible time of persecution for Christians, some of whom had either to deny their faith or face death. Some rather understandably denied the faith in order to survive, but when persecutions lifted, asked to return. Their desire for reconciliation caused an uproar. Pope Cornelius faced strong challenges because he believed they should be allowed to return after a period of penance. His friend and brother bishop, the learned Cyprian, sided with him in this decision. Their compassionate response prevailed. Both men ended up giving their lives for the faith as Cornelius died in exile in 253 and Cyprian was martyred under the Emperor Valerian in 258. Always allow compassion to triumph.

### Thursday, Sep 17, 2020

MEMORIAL OF ROBERT BELLARMINE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

#### Live in peace to rest in peace

1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50  
“But he said to the woman, ‘Your faith has saved you; go in peace.’”

Today is the Memorial of Saint Robert Bellarmine, a Jesuit theologian and doctor of the church. His scholarly work inserted him into a number of the controversies of his day (late 1500s to early 1600s). One of his many works still in publication is *The Art of Dying Well*, whose advice starts with the concept that dying well (in peace, connected to God) depends on living well. Take a cue from this brilliant saint and contemplate whether you need to make changes to be living well by Christian standards. It's never too late to get right with God.

### Friday, Sep 18, 2020

#### Holy honey!

1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 8:1-3  
“Accompanying Jesus were the Twelve and some women . . . and many others who provided for them out of their resources.”

We don't often think about snacks in the Bible, but surprisingly they're there! While there were likely no cake pops or ice cream in the kitchens of our matriarchs and patriarchs in faith, they still had a sweet tooth—especially for honey! Do an online search of the Bible and read through more than 60 references to honey. Honey has become a symbol of God who can satisfy us with a most pure, joyful sweetness. The Jewish celebration of Rosh Hashana recalls the significance of honey, especially remembering how God cared for the Israelites in the desert by feeding them manna, which tasted like “wafers made with honey.” On this first day of Rosh Hashana, let us, with our Jewish friends, wish one another a good, sweet year ahead, trusting in the providence of God.

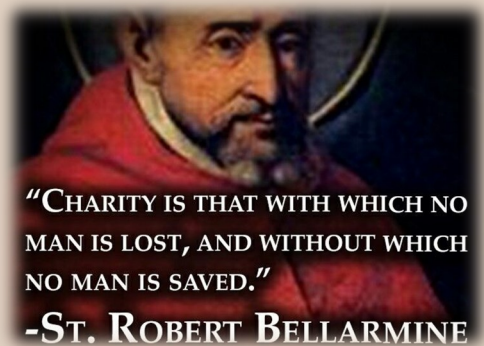
### Saturday, Sep 19, 2020

MEMORIAL OF JANUARIUS, BISHOP, MARTYR

#### Relate to the world's suffering

1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49; Luke 8:4-15  
“Some fell into good soil and . . . produced a hundredfold.”

Reading the gruesome details of tortures like that of fourth century Januarius, martyred by Emperor Diocletian in 305, may make their suffering seem far removed from our daily experience. But it's not a huge leap to consider more ordinary sufferings today: of the unemployed, the victims of racial hatred, trafficking, disease, or addiction. In the doctrine of the Mystical Body, all suffering is given meaning by Christ's. His Passion means that no one agonizes in vain, that all is redeemed. Consider a gift of financial support to an organization like Catholic Charities, which helps alleviate the suffering of the refugee, the hungry, the trafficked person.



“CHARITY IS THAT WITH WHICH NO  
MAN IS LOST, AND WITHOUT WHICH  
NO MAN IS SAVED.”

-ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE

