

Dear Padre,

The Bible is critical to our Christian lives, but why is it so hard to understand?

The Bible is a unique piece of literature—perhaps the most distinctive in the world. In fact, it is not just one publication. The word *Bible* derives from a word meaning “library.” The Bible is a library of books—seventy-two books, to be exact—dating from antiquity, written and edited by authors known and unknown. It contains, as any library would, a vast array of literary forms and expressions. It covers more than 3,000 years of history. Reading and understanding the Bible, and living up to its precepts, is indeed a formidable task and will take us all a lifetime to do.

The first key to the Bible is noting that this isn't just the work of human authors; it is the word of God. We acknowledge the human element of the Bible, the authors' lived experience, the historical circumstances that form the background of the revelation. But we believe unequivocally that the truth and meaning of the Bible is the inspiration of God. The Catholic view is that God was able to reveal truth through the work of sacred writers.

The Scriptures are layered accounts. They begin with historical facts, followed by years of oral tradition, and ending with the author's final version.

The best way to familiarize yourself with Scripture is to find a good Bible-study program or group. This will acquaint you with the history of Israel, the times and culture in which the Bible was written, and its rich variety of literary forms. Enjoy your biblical journey.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Calendar

Monday
AUGUST 10
St. Lawrence,
Deacon and Martyr
2 Cor 9:6–10
Jn 12:24–26

Tuesday
AUGUST 11
St. Clare, Virgin
Ez 2:8–3:4
Mt 18:1–5, 10, 12–14

Wednesday
AUGUST 12
Weekday
Ez 9:1–7; 10:18–22
Mt 18:15–20

Thursday
AUGUST 13
Weekday
Ez 12:1–12
Mt 18:21–19:1

Friday
AUGUST 14
St. Maximilian Kolbe,
Priest and Martyr
Ez 16:1–15, 60, 63
or 16:59–63
Mt 19:3–12

Saturday
AUGUST 15
The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Rv 11:19a;
12:1–6a, 10ab
1 Cor 15:20–27
Lk 1:39–56

Sunday
AUGUST 16
Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Is 56:1, 6–7
Rom 11:13–15, 29–32
Mt 15:21–28

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 9, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11–13a

Rom 9:1–5

Mt 14:22–33

Who Are the People of God?

This is still an unresolved theological issue. For so long the resolute answer of many was: the Roman Catholic Church is the people of God. However, the Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism (*Unitatis Redintegratio*) opened the Church's understanding to include all Christian denominations, paraphrasing Ephesians 4:4–5: “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one Baptism” (*UR* 2). The council went even further in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*), “calling together a people made up of Jew and Gentile, making them one, not according to the flesh but in the Spirit. This was to be the new People of God” (*LG* 9).

To be united with Protestants is one thing; to be united with Jews is quite another. For centuries, many interpreted the New Testament to say that the Jews lost favor with God. Such thinking supported—even caused—various forms of anti-Semitism, ethnic and religious persecution, and killings. We realized how wrong this thinking was. Vatican II quotes

today's second reading and later states: “This sacred synod wants to foster and recommend...mutual understanding and respect which is the fruit, above all, of biblical and theological studies as well as of fraternal dialogues” (*Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions [Nostra Aetate]*, 4).

We may have corrected some grievous errors in this matter, but we have not gotten much further than Paul did in resolving the issue. However, he experienced “great sorrow and constant anguish in my heart” (*Romans* 9:2) because of the separation. Do we?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

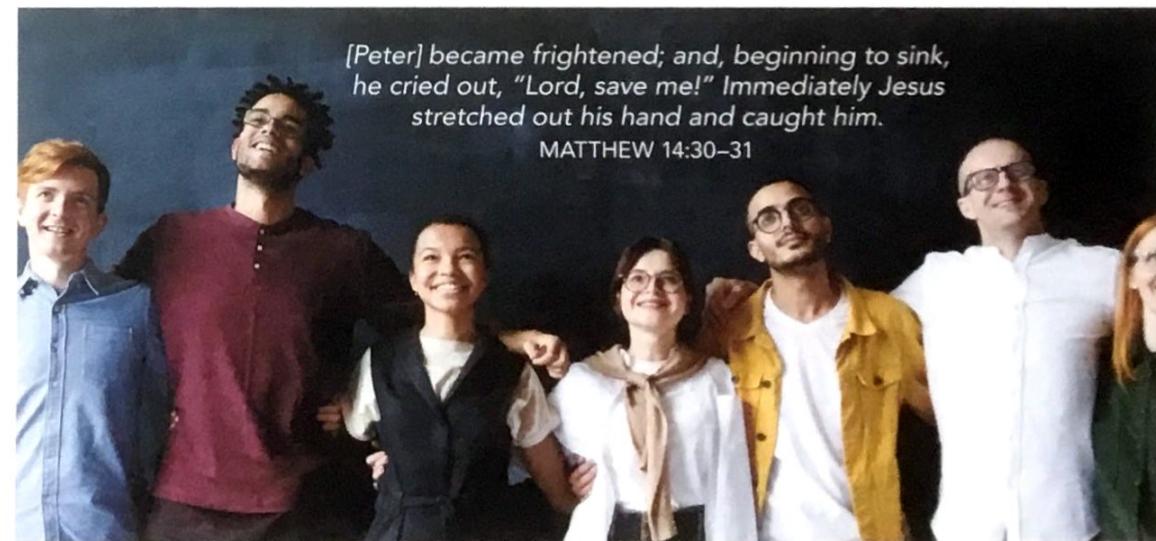
- The original followers of Jesus were simply different kinds of Jews.
- Much of our Christian religious tradition is grounded in the Old Testament.



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

We must ensure that in the usual activities of every Christian community, in parishes, in associations, and movements, there actually be at heart the personal encounter with Christ who communicates himself to us in his word, because, as St. Jerome teaches us, “ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.”

—ADDRESS TO CATHOLIC BIBLICAL FEDERATION, JUNE 19, 2015



[Peter] became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him.

MATTHEW 14:30–31



Rectory & Parish Office
 600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860
 Mailing Address: PO Box 983
 Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405
 Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com
 Website: saintanthonylakin.org

Louise Miller, Bookkeeper jingles@pld.com
 Molly Shelden DRE 640-2742
 Cindy Achen, RCIA 320- 429-0359
 Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair 272-1030
 Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair 355-6206
 Altar Society President, Nanette Rice 355-7676
 Tom Bachman, Grand Knight 640-8259
 Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek 355-1696
 & Nanette Rice 355-7676

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 10	8:00 a.m.	Pastor's Intention
Tuesday, August 11	8:00 a.m.	Pastor's Intention
Thursday, August 13	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention
Friday, August 14	6:00 p.m.	Pastor's Intention
Saturday, August 15	4:00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, August 16	9:00 a.m.	Pastor's Intention

Readers for Saturdays & Sundays

August 2020

August 8, 4:00 p.m. Tom Bachman
 August 9, 9:00 a.m. Steve Sullivan
 August 15, 4:00 p.m. Gwen Waechter
 August 16, 9:00 a.m. K of C Members
 August 22, 4:00 p.m. Karen Burden
 August 23, 9:00 a.m. Cindy Achen
 August 29, 4:00 p.m. Tom Bachman
 August 30, 9:00 a.m. Alvin Bergkamp

Thank you so much for your ministry!

VOCATION VIEW Jesus is with us to help us do what may seem impossible. Have faith that you will not sink. Listen for his voice of encouragement. (Matthew 14: 22-33). If you think God is calling you to priesthood or to consecrated life, visit our website at www.dcdiocese.org/vocations

STEWARDSHIP VIEW Elijah recognized the voice of God not in the strong and heavy wind, not in the earthquake, and not in the fire, but in a tiny whispering sound. May we find enough quiet in our clamorous world to hear His voice and discern what He is calling us to do and be.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment. Please be humbled to reconcile with God, the Church, and the community.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

FEW WORDS FROM THE PASTOR: Dear Parishioners: Greetings in the Lord on this nineteenth Sunday of the ordinary time. Last Wednesday one of my sisters in Vietnam called me to inform me that public Masses as well as public gatherings in Vietnam were cancelled again. Vietnamese thought that Covid-19 was over there but now it comes back again and we ourselves are still fighting with it. It is truly that we constantly face with difficulties in our life. Life is tough. We feel like we are in the shoes of Jesus' disciples in this Sunday's Gospel that "the boat was being tossed about by the waves, for wind was against it." Jesus came, walking in the water but they thought "It is a ghost." When sorrow or disappointment or challenges come our way, we can sometimes find ourselves feeling all alone in our troubles, feeling that we have to "fix" everything through our own efforts, all by ourselves. What we often fail to recognize or fail to see is the God who is in the midst of all of it, the God who wants to help, the God who wants to calm the storm. So often during troubled times we convince ourselves that God is absent, when in a reality he is standing on the waves just an arm's length away. The Gospel this Sunday encourages us to keep looking for Jesus in the difficulties of life. And it's meant to give us hope that the storms of our lives will never win. Only Jesus wins. Every single time. So if you feel yourself being crushed by a heavy cross in your life, if you feel it becoming more and more difficult to believe that God is present or that God cares (or that God even exists) - Remember this Sunday's Gospel reading. Hopefully, that will help each of us find a little joy, a little peace, a little comfort — an Easter morning for every Good Friday that comes our way that the Lord is always in our midst. May the loving Lord continue to pour down his abundant blessing upon us; especially for the end of the pandemic I love you all, Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for August 3, 2020: Envelopes: \$1530.00; Loose: \$257.00; Online Giving: \$821.12; Total \$2608.12; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,989.55. Income over/under (+618.57) *Thank you so much to our faithful stewards for supporting our parish, diocese, and worldwide Church.*

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH– NEW MEMBERS We would love to get to know you. If you are attending St. Anthony and haven't been registered yet we welcome you to do so by contacting the parish office (620-355-6405 or saintanthonylakin@gmail.com) or stopping by during office hours (Tuesday thru Saturday 9 am-11 am. or print out the Registration Form found in our parish website @saintanthonylakin.org. The Registration Form is also available at the back of the church.

RUMMAGE SALE: Due to the effect of Covid-19 we have decided to cancel the RUMMAGE SALE this year. Hopefully, we will have a great one next Summer. Sorry for causing any inconvenience and disappointment!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES staff members want to help if you are in need as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Call our helpline at 620-272-0010 or send us an email at COVID19help@CatholicCharitiesSWKS.org. we can help with food assistance, non –food pantry items, tracking down your stimulus check, health insurance paperwork, basic taxes, housing, counseling and other basic living needs.

WORD OF LIFE “Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains un-addressed. This lack of response not only often leads to unresolved grief, but also fails to clearly manifest our belief that each person, from conception onward, is precious and unique.”

INTO THE DEEP– DISCOVERING THE DEPTHS OF GOD EVERY DAY MINI-RETREAT: Do you want to transform your prayer life? Award-winning author and speaker, Dan Burke is coming to Goodland, Kansas! During the mini-retreat, Dan provides three powerful talks on the secrets of the saints regarding how to deepen your prayer life. Join us for an impactful day hosted by Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. Mass will be at 8:00 AM and the mini-retreat is from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Light breakfast/snacks provided. \$20 per person. Must purchase by

SCRIPTURAL QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading (I King 19:9a, 11-13a) “ 1. Who is God to you? 2. How do you know when God is truly presenting himself.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 14:22-33) 1. Do you need Jesus to grasp your hand? 2. Is there anything you want to say to Jesus? 3. What all do you think about as you continue across the water?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK adapted from St. Cyprian of Carthage

We pray to you, Lord, with honest hearts, in tune with one another, entreating you with sighs and tears, as befits our humble position. We are placed between those who have no concern for you and the saints who stand firm and upright before you. We pray that you will soon come to us, leading us from darkness to light, oppression to freedom, misery to joy, conflict to peace. May you drive away the storms and tempests of our lives and bring gentle calm. Amen.

Congratulations to our First Communicants!

We wish to congratulate the children of St. Anthony and Christ the King who celebrated their First Holy Communion this weekend and following weekend! We are grateful to their parents, catechists and teachers who together worked hard to prepare them for this very special day on their journey of faith! May the love of Jesus forever remain close to you as you receive Him in the Eucharist! Congratulations to our First Communicants!

St. Anthony—August 1 (Mass at 4:00 p.m.)

Varela Yareli Altamirano	Ryann L. Bamberger	Marcos E. Diaz
Ryker A. Dixan	Nathan Christopher Glenn Gammett	Miguel Ruben Hernandez
Jalyssa K. Magallanes	Ivan Jose M. Leyva	David C. Villa

Christ the King—August 1 (Mass at 6:00 p.m.)

Lucas Alfredo Soto Fierro	Clark Maddux	Blaine Sperry	Blake Vasquez
<u>St. Anthony—August 2 (Mass at 9:00 a.m.)</u>		Jace Berning	

St. Anthony—August 9 (Mass at 9:00 a.m.)

Ariel Jesus Carrizales	Jobany Carrizales	Aaliyah Cruz
Jennifer Cerrillo	Saulo Yadiel Fraire	Anamariz Lopez
Christopher Murillo	Hilary Sofia	



CATHOLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q. Q. Do people of different denominations go to the same heaven? Or is there any difference after death where different faiths go?

A. The simple answer to your question is pretty straight forward. There is only one Heaven and everyone who goes to Heaven goes to the same Heaven. So, no matter what your faith may be, if you go to Heaven you go to the one and only. But allow me to explain a bit about the beautiful reality of Heaven and what we actually believe about it.

First, Heaven is not a “place.” Rather, Heaven is a “state of being.” Now that may, at first, sound a bit deep and philosophical. But it makes perfect sense when understood properly.

When speaking about Heaven we often use language that implies it is some place we go to. Somewhere up there! But Heaven is not some location in this universe. It is, properly speaking, a state of being completely and totally united with God! Heaven, in a real sense, is a Person. The Person is Jesus Christ. Our goal in life is to enter into complete union with Him now and for eternity. Heaven, therefore, is simply the final state of complete union with Jesus after death. It is the permanent unbreakable bond or unity and oneness we will share with Him. And since He is completely united with the Father and the Holy Spirit, Heaven is a state of being fully immersed in the life the Most Holy Trinity.

Secondly, I think it’s important to know that Heaven is to begin here and now. Throughout our life on earth we are called to be continually purged of our attachment to sin so as to walk, day by day, ever more deeply united to God. The deeper that unity the more we are detached from sin and the more we share in the state of Heavenly unity right now!

Of course, as long as we are alive in this world we will always be tempted and usually be drawn back to sin on various levels. So the fullness of Heaven comes only after this life when we will never lose that full union with God again. This also begs the question, “What is Hell?” Sadly, Hell is simply the complete loss of God and, thus, the complete separation from Him. Here and now, a “living hell” is when one lives in a state of unrepented mortal sin. In that state there is no union with God, no joy in life and no fulfillment. If one dies in that state he/she remains forever separated from God.

And lastly, let me mention that Purgatory is the state of being purified of our sins and even our attachment to sin. It is a process that should begin now but will be completed upon death if we still have some attachment to sin. But even though it may be painful, in a sense, to be purged from sin, it is also joyous in that we are freed from those unhealthy bonds. (<https://mycatholic.life/catholic-question-and-answer/q-raising-hands-during-the-our-father/>)

SUNDAY MEDITATION (ROMANS 9:1-5)

Paul begins his long meditation on the mystery of Israel’s rejection of Christ by listing some of the blessings God has given to his fellow Jews: “adoption, . . . covenants, . . . the law, . . . the promises” (Romans 9:3). And in the middle of this list is a curious phrase: “the worship.”

How unique—and, yes, how blessed—was Israel’s worship! Unlike their pagan neighbors, who devised their own kinds of sacrifices to please their many gods, the people of Israel had the privilege of offering God the kind of worship that *he* desired. Following the commandments God gave Moses, they offered sacrifices of love and communion, of repentance and reconciliation with God. They worshipped God for his salvation. They praised him for his greatness and power. The fact that he had chosen them and made a covenant with them proved that he loved them deeply and wanted to form them in his image!

For our part, we have the privilege of worshipping God every time we celebrate Mass. Like the Israelites, we can praise him for his glory. We can thank him for saving us from sin and opening heaven for us. We can worship him for his promise never to leave us or abandon us.

Of course, we don’t slaughter sheep or cattle, and we don’t burn barley or wheat. That kind of worship played its part in the past. On the cross, Jesus offered one, perfect sacrifice to God and sealed an everlasting covenant with us through his blood. Now, when we gather to worship, we do it by recalling Jesus’ sacrifice, by receiving him in the Eucharist, and by pledging ourselves to live out the covenant he has so freely made with us.

So set your heart on worshipping the one true God at Mass today. His love for you is everlasting, and his salvation is eternal. It is a privilege and an honor to come into his presence with praise!

“Lord, we praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you!”

From Word Among Us