

# Dear Padre,

Isn't natural family planning (NFP) a form of birth control? The couple still controls the potential of human life that God may have wanted to create at a particular moment.

Couples who use NFP aren't practicing contraception. By giving themselves completely to one another in body and soul, they're preserving the integrity of the marriage sacrament. In God's design, women

are naturally infertile for many days of the menstrual cycle. The marital act during these times promotes bonding and yet is open to new life. There is no sin in abstaining from the marital act. When a husband and wife use NFP appropriately, they share responsibility for living with their combined fertility. Neither spouse takes

the other for granted. NFP is a healthy and holistic way to plan for children.

Many couples find that living an NFP lifestyle gives them a better understanding of their fertility, frees them from fear of medical side effects, increases their communication, encourages a greater sense of sharing and a generosity toward life, fosters sexual self-control, and gives them the peace of following their spiritual, religious, cultural, or ethical beliefs. Periodic abstinence encourages couples to focus on aspects of their relationship beyond the physical, resulting in a "honeymoon effect."

NFP's most important benefit is that it enables spouses to live the mutual gift of self that is an essential element of marriage. The Church values marital sexual love. NFP helps couples to be authentic in the expression of that love.

From *Natural Family Planning: A Catholic Approach*, © 2009 Liguori Publications.



## Calendar

**Monday**  
AUGUST 29  
*The Passion of St. John the Baptist*  
1 Cor 2:1-5  
Mk 6:17-29

**Tuesday**  
AUGUST 30  
Weekday  
1 Cor 2:10b-16  
Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday**  
AUGUST 31  
Weekday  
1 Cor 3:1-9  
Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday**  
SEPTEMBER 1  
Weekday  
1 Cor 3:18-23  
Lk 5:1-11

**Friday**  
SEPTEMBER 2  
Weekday  
1 Cor 4:1-5  
Lk 5:33-39

**Saturday**  
SEPTEMBER 3  
*St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church*  
1 Cor 4:6b-15  
Lk 6:1-5

**Sunday**  
SEPTEMBER 4  
*Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Wis 9:13-18b  
Phlm 9-10, 12-17  
Lk 14:25-33

 Liguori Publications is celebrating 75 years of ministry throughout 2022. Follow progress toward our October 23 anniversary date in *Liguorian* magazine and at [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).



### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Jesus teaches this: "The one who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:11). God does not exalt us because of our gifts, because of our wealth, or because of our skills, but because of humility. God loves humility. God lifts up those who humble themselves; he lifts up those who serve.

ANGELUS, SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION, AUGUST 15, 2021



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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

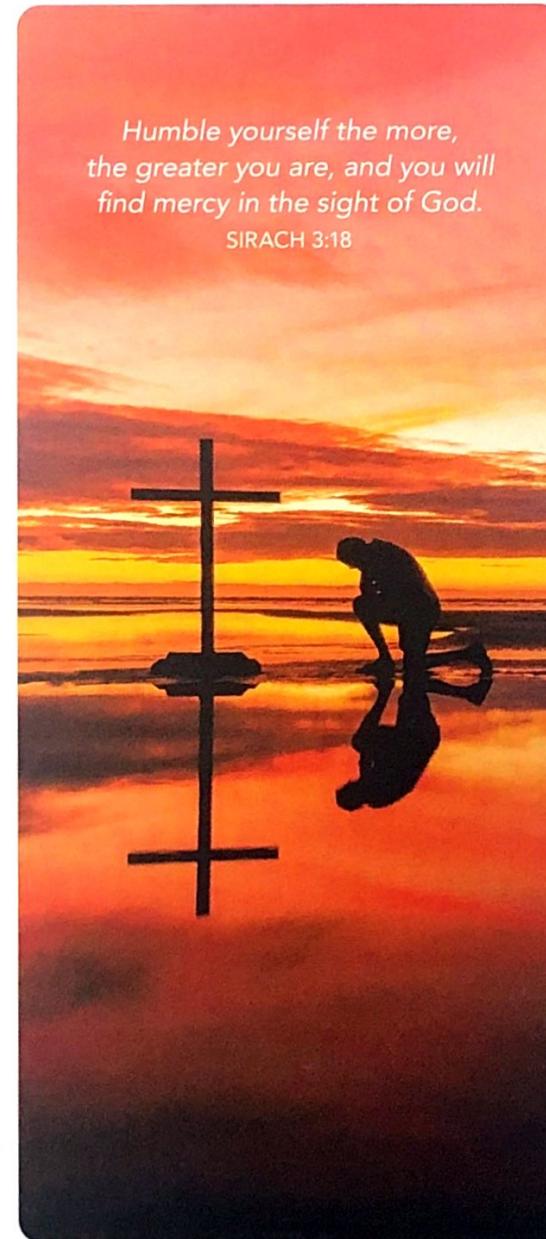
August 28, 2022

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a

Lk 14:1, 7-14



*Humble yourself the more,  
the greater you are, and you will  
find mercy in the sight of God.*

SIRACH 3:18

## I'm Nobody! Who Are You?

This is the title of one of Emily Dickinson's most beloved poems. Did she really think she was nobody? Probably not. But neither was she eager to get bogged down by the approval of others. She seems to have been satisfied with who she was and how she lived her life.

Unlike Dickinson, many of us live for the approval of others. In fact, we almost glorify celebrities—and not simply for their accomplishments. Their taste becomes our choice in buying clothes; their opinions shape our thinking; their social life becomes our entertainment. This is a strange turnaround, for the only reason they are famous is that we have given them our approval. We made them celebrities.

We all know people who, in the eyes of the broader society, might be considered "nobodies" but who really are the "somebodies." They are like Dickinson. They know who they are and do not pretend to be someone or something else. They do not put on airs; they do not expect to be treated better than others. They simply are who they are. These are the people described in today's readings. They have lived as Sirach counsels: "Humble yourself" (Sirach 3:18). This does not mean humiliate yourself or put yourself down. It means be who you are, the *you* that God made. Don't try to be someone else. The Gospel story shows what might happen if you think you are more than you really are. The proud man was literally put in his place.

So, who are you?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ★ *What do you do to gain other's approval? Does that change who you are?*
- ★ *How often do you describe yourself as better than others? Is it true?*



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 RCIA 355-6405  
 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**

**Saturday, August 27 4:00 p.m. For the People**  
**Sunday, August 28 9:00 a.m. Bergkamp F. Int. & Sullen**  
**Monday, August 29 8:30 a.m. Charles & Eileen Hoff**  
**Tuesday, August 30 8:30 a.m. Special Int. Smith Family**  
**Thursday, Sept. 1 8:30 a.m. Special Int. –Powers F.**  
**Friday, Sept. 2 8:30 a.m. Kelly & Joan Rice &F.**  
**Saturday, Sept. 3 4:00 p.m. Linda Schneider**  
**Sunday, Sept. 4 9:00 a.m. Leon Martinez**

**22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
 (color: Green)**

**8/27/2022- Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.**

**Servers:** Maggie Gannett, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

**Reader:** Debbie Frederick

**8/28/2022–Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Servers:** Kirbe Koons, Taybree Lohman-Fuller, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

**Reader:** Julie Kaps

**23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
 (color: Green)**

**9/3/2022- Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.**

**Servers:** Lucy Gannett, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

**Reader:** Gwen Waechter

**9/4/2022 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Servers:** Kingston Guerrero, Cade Berning, Jace Berning

**Reader:** Fred Jones

**Reconciliation:** Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

**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 four to six months before the wedding.

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

**22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME –AUGUST 28, 2022**

**GOD IS LOVE**

Friends, Jesus in this Sunday Gospel reading invite us to do as He did. He says, “When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you.”

You see, when Jesus exhorts us to invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind --- he’s simply asking us to do what he has already done and is continuing to do. The poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame aren’t just other people. They’re me. They’re you. And God has already invited us into the feast. He’s welcomed us in through our baptisms and the life of the community. He’s fed us and nourished us at this sacred table. He’s forgiven us and healed us and consoled us time and time again. And most importantly --- he has won a great victory for us through his death and resurrection --- a victory which holds out the promise for each of us to be united with him for all eternity.

And so God calls us to love others because he has loved us first.

He asks us to forgive others because he has forgiven us over and over again.

God wants us to shower others with kindness and mercy because he does the same for us each and every day.

Thank you, God, for inviting us to the feast --- broken, wounded, blind, sinful us. And we know that we can never repay you. That’s simply not possible.

Fr. Peter

**COLLECTION** for August 21, 2022: Envelopes: \$405; Loose: \$352.25; Online Giving: \$198.07; Total \$955.32.32; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under -805.85

**CHURCH PROJECT GOAL** \$52000—Last weekend contribution: \$305; Building Fund To Date: \$14,542.26

*Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.*

**THANK YOU** A “HUGE” THANK YOU to all who helped in any way to make this year’s Rummage Sale a success. Your time is greatly appreciated. The total sales of \$2468.90 goes towards Parish Maintenance Fund. Thanks also to those who donated items to sell and to those who purchased items.

**ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING** There will be an Altar Society meeting on September 4th at 5:00 p.m. in the parish Hall. You are encouraged to attend the meeting and all ladies of the parish are Altar Society Members. Thank You!

### **ADULT CONFIRMATION & RCIA**

- Have you been worshiping with us, but never officially taken the step to become Catholic?
- Have you been away from the Church, and have now returned, but want to know more?
- Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist)?
- Have you joined us from a different background and would like to find out more about the Catholic Church?

If any adult Catholic who hasn’t been confirmed and would like to be confirmed this coming Easter Please call Fr. Peter (620-355-6405) or Mrs. Karen Burden (355-6388) On behalf of the Catholic faith community of the St. Anthony, we look forward to welcoming you.

**VOCATION VIEW** Humility is needed for those who choose to serve. Recognize your gifts and offer them in humble service. (Luke 14:1, 7-14)

**STEWARDSHIP** In the Gospel today, Jesus warns us not to give in hopes of repayment, but to give openly to the poor and needy. That sort of giving mirrors the bountiful giving of God and Jesus assures us it is blessed indeed!

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** (adapted from The Litany of Humility) Hear me, O Jesus, meek and humble of heart. Deliver me, Jesus, from the desire of being honored, from the desire of being praised, from the desire of being preferred to others, from the desire of being consulted. Deliver me, Jesus, from the fear of being humiliated, from the fear of being despised, from the fear of suffering rebukes, from the fear of being forgotten, from the fear of being ridiculed, from the fear of being wronged. Jesus, grant me the grace to desire to be humble in all that I do. Amen.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Luke 14:1, 7-14)**

**A tense meal** In the New Testament era evening meals were opportunities for philosophical and/or religious discussion. Well-known teachers might even give a lecture during the meal. At this point in Luke’s Gospel Jesus has emerged as a teacher within Judaism, but his teachings have often angered people. Three things about this meal prepare us for more conflict. • The meal is hosted by a Pharisee. Jesus has not had happy interactions with Pharisees. • It’s a sabbath meal, and Jesus has shown that he will break sabbath laws • The guests are scrutinizing Jesus (v.1)

**Taking the top spots** At the time of Jesus some places at table were more prestigious than others. Luke describes how the guests at this meal try to take the best positions. As they scramble for places of honor, they’re forgetting Proverbs 25:6-7, which Jesus references: Claim no honor in the king’s presence, nor occupy the place of great men; for it is better that you be told, “Come up closer!” than that you be humbled before the prince. Although the guests suspect Jesus of betraying their Jewish heritage, they seem to be the ones ignoring it.

**Humbling oneself** Jesus critiques human pride with its status-seeking behavior (vv.8-10). He then shifts the discussion to God’s kingdom (v.11). Just as we should humble ourselves in human affairs, so we should humble ourselves before God. In the end, God alone invites us to a higher place. Jesus next addresses the host of this meal. The host probably expected one of his current guests to seat him at a place of honor at a future meal. Such reciprocity was one way for wealthy members of society to maintain their social status. Jesus insists that his host (and future hosts) should invite people who are too poor to host a big meal of their own. God will see the generosity of the rich and reward them with a place in his kingdom because God cares the most about the very people whom society cares about the least.

(www.oursundayreadings)

### **UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING** (Sirach 3: 17-18,20,28-29)

**Getting an education** The Book of Sirach (or Book of ben Sirach) was probably written between 200-175 BC. Because schools as we know them didn’t yet exist, Jewish boys whose parents could afford a good education hired a tutor or sage. This book is an example of the wisdom taught by such sages.

**Know your limits** Because many people at this time believed that wealth was a sign of God’s favor, a rich person might think he was better than others. Since it was usually only wealthy families who could afford a tutor, the students of this sage are probably wealthy. The sage thus urges his rich students to be humble. The sage also discourages students from trying to understand things that they can’t. He might have meant Greek philosophical ideas. In this era Greek culture and philosophy were popular.

**Help the poor** In verse 29 the author urges his students to give money to the poor because it will counteract their sins just like water counteracts fire. It’s not clear if he means that almsgiving will take away their sins or if God will treat them more mercifully if they give alms. (www.oursundayreadings)

### **DIOCESAN ZOOM CLASS THEO 4881**

#### **Loss, Grief, and Belief (1 hour college Course)**

Four nights, Four topics, Three instructors: Oct. 4 Psychology of Death and Dying – Instructor Sr. Joan Wolf; Oct. 11 Making sense out of Violence – Instructor Fr. Frank Coady; Oct. 18 Handling our losses and mourning our griefs – Instructor Sr. Francine Schwarzenberger; Oct. 25 The healing rituals of the church – Instructor Fr. Frank Coady

**Tuesday evenings** - 6:00 to 9:30 pm

**Class Dates** - Oct. 6, 11, 18, 25

**Location** - This course will be offered over Zoom. To be in a Zoom class, one will need a computer with a microphone and camera.

**Question:** I bless myself with holy water when I enter and leave the Church. Several people said I should not bless myself more than once a day, since I am already blessed. Is there a rule about this?  
— Name withheld

**Answer:** There is no rule in this regard. It is a matter of personal piety, and you are free to follow the practice you describe. Perhaps those who say this to you have some liturgical principles in mind, but they are overextending the norms or absolutizing them.

Generally speaking, there were some efforts when the ordinary form of the Mass was introduced in the 1970s to downplay or eliminate extra Signs of the Cross that had come into the Mass by custom. For example, there was the tendency to make the Sign of the Cross after the Confiteor, and many priests began and ended the sermon with the Sign of the Cross, etc. There was a conscious effort by some liturgists to emphasize that the Mass began and ended with the Sign of the Cross, and that other merely customary introductions should be eliminated to give emphasis to those prescribed moments of blessing.

Further, some liturgists thought that other pious customs, such as the priest giving a blessing to the servers or others in the sacristy after Mass, should cease. After all, they reasoned, had he not just blessed them at the end of the Mass? Did this request for a blessing in the sacristy not suggest that the blessing at Mass was inadequate? It was also this premise that made some think that, while blessing oneself with holy water on entering was a proper and even necessary sanctifying action, to do so on leaving gave the impression that the blessings received in Mass were not adequate or that people had actually lost sanctity during the Mass. While such concerns are not without some merit, as you can see there is also the possibility that we think a little too much about some things and can end up getting fussy or even pharisaical.

Teaching that the blessings at Mass are real and powerful blessings, not mere ritual actions, may, in a constructive way, lessen the felt need for extra blessings after Mass. However, to assume that people are denying the efficacy of the Mass by the pious customs described here is a stretch. You remain free to bless yourself any number of times a day, as long as superstitious notions are avoided. (Monsignor Pope)

## **TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### **Make us meek, again**

We're trained in the art of competition early. First, we barter for our parents' attention with siblings or tasks that distract them from celebrating us. In school, we compete for grades; in sports, for victories. By the time we arrive in the workplace, in marriages, or in adulthood in general, we're primed to fight for what seems rightfully ours: the spotlight. Saint Thomas Aquinas recommends the way of humility as the virtue that "most effectively removes the main obstacle to our spiritual welfare, the preoccupation with earthly greatness." Cede the floor. Surrender the talking stick. Cherish humility. (Prepare the Word)

## **VIGÉSIMO SEGUNDO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO**

### **Haznos humildes, de Nuevo**

Nos entrenan desde temprano en el arte de la competencia. Al principio, cambiamos la atención de nuestros padres por hermanos o por tareas que los distraigan de celebrarnos. En la escuela, competimos por las notas; en los deportes, por las victorias. Cuando llegamos al trabajo, al matrimonio o a la edad adulta en general, estamos preparados para luchar por lo que nos parece legítimo: el protagonismo. Santo Tomás de Aquino recomienda el camino de la humildad como la virtud que "elimina más eficazmente el principal obstáculo para nuestro bienestar espiritual, la preocupación por la grandeza terrenal." Cede la palabra. Cede el bastón de mando. Valora la humildad.

## **SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH CCD (PSR) 2022-2023**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Enrollment is:

September 7th @ 6pm-7:30pm and

September 14th 6:30pm-7:30pm

There is a MANDATORY Parent Meeting on September 14th as well, fees should be paid at this meeting.

There will be an Enrollment fee of \$10 per student or \$25 for families enrolling 3 or more students. The first CCD class is September 21st beginning at 6:30pm SHARP, please have students to the hall at least 5 minutes before so that teachers can get class started on time.

Confirmation classes will begin on September 25th from 10-11am.