

Dear Padre,

Previously you wrote that the Church is the bride of Christ, and we should remain faithful to that bond. Is there another reason to remain in the Catholic Church?

The Church is also the body of Christ. When Jesus ascended into heaven, he left his disciples with the mission he had received from the Father: instruct everyone in Jesus' teachings and baptize them into his divine life (Matthew 28:19–20). Through the Church, Jesus would remain present in the world.

Some take offense because the Church claims the authority of Jesus himself to teach. It teaches that marriage is between one man and one woman, that

contraception and abortion are immoral, that capital punishment is a sin. Jesus himself may not have expressly addressed these issues, but he said to his apostles, "Whoever listens to you listens to me. Whoever rejects you rejects me" (Luke 10:16). And to Peter he said, "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19).

It's true that since the time of the apostles some members, and even Church leaders, have caused scandal. The Lord asks that they, like Peter, repent and live a life of obedience and service to the Lord.

That's why it's important that we examine our own actions. Someone who abandons the Church due to scandals within its ranks should realize that encouraging others to abandon the bride of Christ and the body of Christ is a scandalous act itself.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

We need to stop seeing the reform of the Church as putting a patch on an old garment, or simply drafting a new Apostolic Constitution....It cannot be a matter of putting a patch here or there, for the Church is not just an item of Christ's clothing, but rather his body.

ADDRESS TO THE ROMAN CURIA, DECEMBER 21, 2020

Calendar

Monday
FEBRUARY 21
Weekday
Jas 3:13–18
Mk 9:14–29

Tuesday
FEBRUARY 22
The Chair of St. Peter
the Apostle
1 Pt 5:1–4
Mt 16:13–19

Wednesday
FEBRUARY 23
St. Polycarp,
Bishop and Martyr
Jas 4:13–17
Mk 9:38–40

Thursday
FEBRUARY 24
Weekday
Jas 5:1–6
Mk 9:41–50

Friday
FEBRUARY 25
Weekday
Jas 5:9–12
Mk 10:1–12

Saturday
FEBRUARY 26
Weekday
Jas 5:13–20
Mk 10:13–16

Sunday
FEBRUARY 27
Eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Sir 27:4–7
1 Cor 15:54–58
Lk 6:39–45

Do you have
a question
for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org
to send your question
and to learn more
about Dear Padre.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
1 Sm 26:2, 7–9, 12–13, 22–23
1 Cor 15:45–49
Lk 6:27–38

Love Your Enemies

Perhaps one of the most difficult mandates that Jesus directed of his followers is love of enemies. He was not talking about people whom we do not particularly like or who do not belong to your families, ethnic or political groups. He was very clear about this. Jesus was talking about those who actually hate us, cause us physical harm, or who take from us what we need to live. This kind of love is not only difficult but seems contrary to a specific kind of justice. This justice is called *retributive justice* and it maintains that evil deeds should be punished. This kind of justice is often accomplished by requiring time in jail or some form of fine.

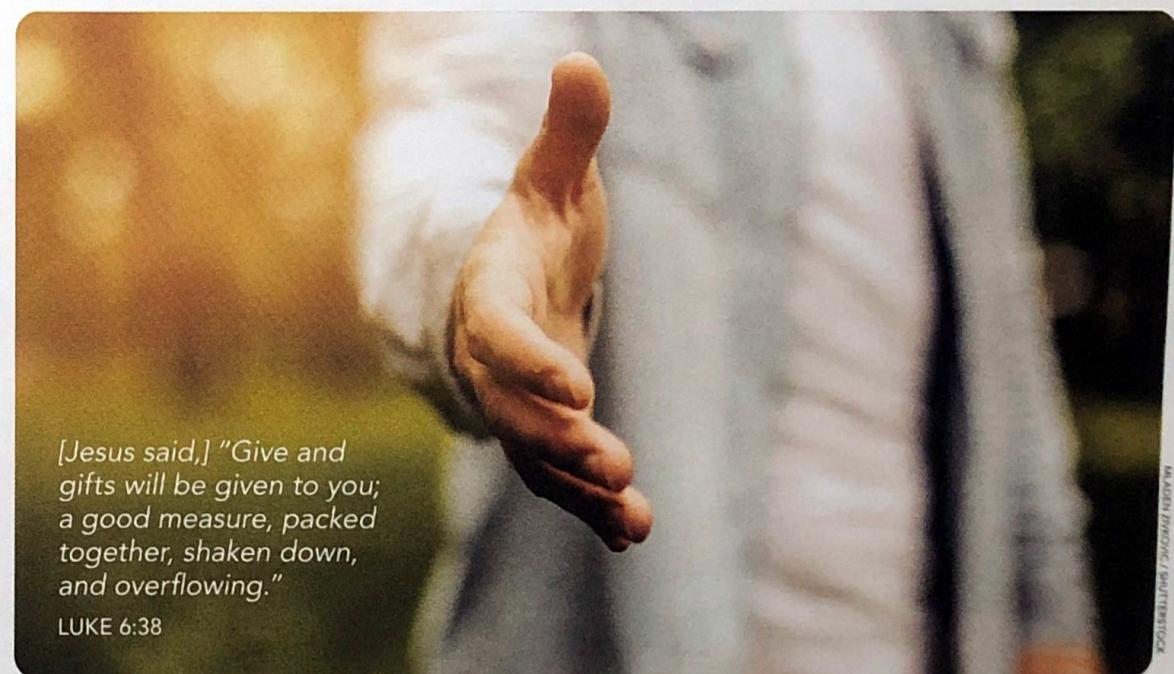
However, another kind of justice is called *restorative justice*. It maintains that a violation of someone's rights not only harms the victim, but it also fractures

society. Therefore, it is not enough for the perpetrator to be punished; society must be restored as well. This might require restoring the victim's sense of personal value or security. At times some form of community service is required. It has been said that the best way to get rid of enemies is to make them friends. That seems to be what Jesus is advocating in today's Gospel. If someone has hurt you, overwhelm that person with your kindness, just as God has overwhelmed you with kindness and mercy.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- * Think of how often you have been made new by the forgiveness of others.
- * Who in your life might be made new by your forgiveness?



[Jesus said,] "Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing."

LUKE 6:38



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

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(color: Green)**

2/19/2022 – Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Servers: Lucy Gannett, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

Reader: Debbie Frederick

2/20/2022 –Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Kingston Guerrero, Cade Berning, Jace Berning

Reader: Julie Kaps

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (color: Green)

2/26/2022 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

Servers: Maggie Gannett, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

Reader: Gwen Waechter

2/27/2022–Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: K of C

Reader: K of C

Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee	355-6388
Lisa Gannett, DRE	355-6611
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, Feb. 19	4:00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, Feb. 20	9:00 a.m.	Kelvin Hilger
Monday, Feb. 21	8:00 a.m.	Charles & Eileen Hoff
Tuesday, Feb. 22	8:00 a.m.	Special Int.—Smith
Thursday, Feb. 24	NO MASS	Bob Rooney
Friday, Feb. 25	8:00 a.m.	Special Int.-Power
Saturday, Feb. 26	4: 00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, Feb. 27	9:00 a.m.	Elaine Sack Special Int.

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.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Love your enemy within

“I hate myself,” I heard my daughter say. “I’m so stupid!” She was struggling with a school project, and it was not coming together as she had hoped. Maybe she got a late start or procrastinated on gathering some of the elements. Maybe the topic made sense to her inside but she was struggling to express it in the format that the project called for.

I wanted to ease the pain behind those words, to assure her she was wonderful and worthy of love. And I also knew I’ve aimed those same poisonous words at myself on more than one occasion. Love of others breaks down when we cannot love ourselves. In each of us there are things we do not appreciate and may actively abhor. In a crazy notion of false modesty, this self-loathing may even seem virtuous. But it’s not virtuous; it’s deadening to the spirit.

Family life offers a place where we can learn some valuable lessons about self-acceptance, despite our imperfections. If I can so readily love my daughters with all their foibles, how much more can God cherish them (and me) despite our sins? Love is like a river: Don’t stop the flow of love in your life because you are unworthy. Heck, we’re all unworthy. The good news is that God sees that and loves us anyway! Should we do less? (Tom McGrath from Prepare the Word)

COLLECTION for February 13, 2022: Envelopes: \$585.00; Loose: \$296.00; Online Giving: \$1620.32; Total \$ 2501.32; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under +740.15

CHURCH PROJECT GOAL: \$52000—Last weekend contribution: \$1257.00

Thank you so much to your faithful stewards for supporting our parish, diocese, and worldwide Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DEGREE CEREMONY—BREAKFAST—FEBRUARY 27TH Knights of Columbus will be hosting a degree ceremony after Mass that Sunday. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to stay for the ceremony. Breakfast will be served right after Mass.

GRAND KNIGHT NOTES: Greetings from your Grand Knight. The past month has been an eventful one. Not necessarily all good, but eventful. The weather has not cooperated and caused our monthly meeting to be postponed a week. So two months in a row our meeting occurred a week late. Our meeting last Wednesday, February 9, came on the heels of a rather bittersweet day Monday February 7, as that was the day we celebrated the life of one of our own. Mike had been a driving force in our council for 3 decades. He served as our Program director for many years after his stint as Grand Knight. Mike would read at church and when the Knights were in down for the Mass, he was a leader of the choir. He really loved to sing. When we had activities, Mike was always there to help and actively was a leader behind the scenes. At our meetings he seemed to add a perspective most didn't see. He will be truly missed by all in the council.

Another one of our council members, Chris Pollart, lost an older brother to Covid as well. Due to that loss Chris, our Deputy Grand Knight, was unable to attend our meeting. Prayers go out to the Pollart family.

The State council is pushing the “Value Them Both” amendment vote coming up in August. A vote “YES” is a vote for Pro-life. Back, earlier this fall, we had the State Chaplain, Father Bernie Gorges, here to explain and discuss the amendment and its importance to Pro-life in Kansas. For any questions you might have about this amendment visit. <https://archkck.org/prolife/resources/value-them-both/>.

Kenny Waechter reported that we need to have a workday, this spring to get some things cleaned/fixed up. A list is being compiled so that when we are able to get to it, the day will be scheduled. If any parish members know of a problem area around the church/parsonage/hall that needs attention, get in touch with Kenny and we will add it to the list. Not saying that it WILL get done but at least we will be aware of it and work toward the solution of the problem.

The knights will be hosting a biscuits and gravy breakfast after Sunday Mass, February 27. This will work in conjunction with the new member Degree Exemplification to be held at 10:15 after Mass. Parish members are invited to sit in on the initiation, whether you have someone entering the Knights or not. The degree will be pretty short approximately 30 minutes, and for those who don't know about, or would like to learn more about the Knights of Columbus please stay and observe. If that doesn't appeal to you, then, by all means, go on over to the hall and partake in a tasty biscuits and gravy breakfast.

Most of you have already noticed some of the changes being made to the church. All I can say is, there's more to come. Your financial support is of great importance in these updates/upgrades. Pick up one of those envelopes laying in the pews and donate to this cause. We are dipping into our reserves to try and get these updates completed, but we need to try refill those funds. The Knights are providing manual labor and some financial support to the projects, but Father needs the support of all parish members.

Well, I've carried on long enough. Our next meeting is March 2, which, just so happens to be Ash Wednesday. We will have our meeting immediately following the Ash Wednesday Service. Tom Bachman

PRAAYER OF THE WEEK (Found on a scrap of paper during the 1945 liberation of Ravensbruck Concentration Camp) Lord, remember not only the people of good will but also those of ill will. But do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted upon us. Remember rather the fruits we have brought, thanks to this suffering: our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, the courage, the generosity, the greatness of heart that has grown out of this. And when they come to judgment, let all the fruits we have borne be their forgiveness. Amen.

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Luke 6: 17, 27-38)

Jesus continues teaching This Sunday we continue hearing Jesus' teaching. Parts of this passage are also in Matthew 5–7. Luke presents this material a little differently in order to emphasize certain themes in Jesus' ministry.

Reciprocity The people of Jesus' day shared our concern for fairness. Such concern shaped cultural practices and expectations. When a man hosted a dinner, for example, he expected his guests to invite him to dinner later. If someone injured or stole from someone else, people wanted that person punished and/or forced to make some sort of restitution. If the followers of Jesus adhered to customary patterns of human behavior, they would be indistinguishable from everyone else. They would thus fail to reveal God's kingdom to others.

New approaches Jesus calls his followers to new standards of behavior. Rather than treat others in the same way that those people have treated them, Jesus cites the so-called Golden Rule (v.31), and tells people to treat others as they want to be treated. By responding with love to whatever treatment they experience, people treat others as God treats everyone. God lavishes love upon people regardless of their behavior. By treating people with patience and mercy, God entices people away from sin and toward love. In the same way, rather than retaliate against people who hurt them, Jesus tells his followers to seek creative and honorable responses that invite others to examine their behavior. The ultimate aim of such responses is real and lasting peace.

A full measure Jesus warns us that in the end God will treat us as we have treated other people. If we deal harshly with others, then God will deal harshly with us because we will have indicated that this is how we wish to be treated. By contrast, if we treat others with abundant patience and mercy, then God will meet us with overflowing love.

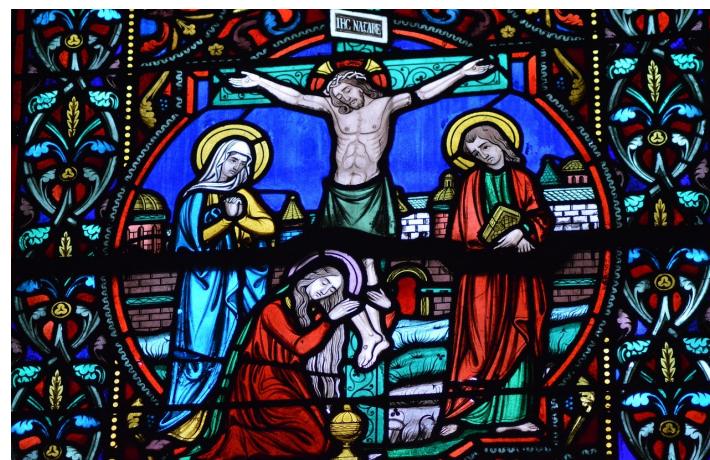
([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings.com))

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING (1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23)

Saul searches for David Saul rules Israel, but he's worried that David is trying to supplant him. David's power and prestige are growing. He is winning the loyalty of more and more Israelites. In response, Saul has gone to find and kill David. David, knowing Saul's intentions, tries to strike a balance between opposing Saul and respecting his authority.

Anointed ones Kings, priests, and prophets were anointed as a sign that God had chosen them for that role. Saul is currently God's chosen leader, but David is proving more competent. God will ultimately reject Saul and make David king of Israel. Until then, David respects God's first choice, Saul. In this passage, God's favor has clearly shifted to David. David does not seize his advantage, however. Instead, David has mercy on Saul, which probably wins him even greater favor among the people — and with God. ([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings.com))

QUESTION & ANSWER



Question: Where did the Stabat Mater

Known as the *Stabat Mater Dolorosa* ("The Sorrowful Mother Stood"), this medieval hymn is referenced as early as 1388. It was utilized as a liturgical sequence at Mass until the Council of Trent (1545-1563) suppressed this usage along with hundreds of other sequences. It returned to the Roman Missal in 1727 and was recommended for the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15. Most of us know it because it's widely sung during the Stations of the Cross. Yet its authorship is uncertain.

Among those proposed as the composer of the *Stabat Mater* was Saint Bonaventure (1221-1274), a doctor of the church. Since the Stations of the Cross were a Franciscan invention [see article "[Where do the Stations of the Cross come from?](#)"], it seemed plausible that an eloquent Franciscan might be its author. Pope Innocent III, who gave authorization to Francis of Assisi to begin his order, was also proposed as the writer, with less evidence. One of the Popes Gregory (just which one remains unspecified) and Pope John XXII have likewise been asserted by various period writers as composers of *Stabat Mater*. These speculations are no better than hearsay.

The most popular contestant was Jacopone da Todi (ca. 1230-1306), a Franciscan brother. Jacopone joined the Franciscans after the sudden loss of his wife in an accident. He was a poet and dramatist known for the composition of many *laudi*—religious songs and poems—as well as theatrical presentations of the gospel.

Unhappily, Jacopone got swept up in a Franciscan controversy. After the death of Francis, many of his order were keen to relax the rule of absolute poverty. As Franciscans became more involved in apostolic work, some preferred to follow other religious orders in the acquisition of land and housing. A "Spirituals" faction, meanwhile, were repulsed by what they viewed as a sell-out of their ideal. The Spirituals broke from the order, and were excommunicated by Pope John XXII (a competitor with Jacopone as the source of *Stabat Mater*). Jacopone was imprisoned for writing poems criticizing his opponents—including the pope. A later pope freed him, and the Franciscans reclaimed Jacopone's body after death. These days Jacopone hovers near sainthood. But his penning of the *Stabat Mater* was thrown into question when a predicated copy was found in the prayerbook of some 13th-century Dominican nuns.

Whoever wrote it, the *Stabat Mater* has enjoyed more than 60 English translations. It's been set to music more than 50 times, including by Vivaldi, Haydn, Schubert, Liszt, Dvorák, and Verdi—and most recently, by James MacMillan in 2015. (Alice L. Camille)

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

It's a long road to freedom

Justice feels good—if we're on the side of the angels when it's meted out. Which means in most cases, the struggle for justice will cost us. This was certainly true for Frederick Douglass (1818-95), born enslaved yet becoming the first black American to gain a vote for president of the United States. As he wrote in his 1852 July Fourth speech: "The . . . conscience of the nation must be roused . . . the hypocrisy of the nation must be exposed; and its crimes against God and man must be denounced." On this World Day of Social Justice, consider the price you're willing to pay for justice. (Prepare the Word)

SÉPTIMO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

El largo camino hacia la libertad

La justicia nos sienta bien, si estamos del lado de los ángeles cuando se imparte. Lo que significa que, en la mayoría de los casos, la lucha por la justicia nos costará. Esto fue realmente cierto para Frederick Douglass (1818-95), que nació esclavo y se convirtió en el primer estadounidense negro en obtener un voto para la presidencia de los Estados Unidos. Como escribió en su discurso del 4 de julio de 1852: "Es necesario despertar la . . . conciencia de la nación . . . debe exponerse la hipocresía de la nación; y deben denunciarse sus crímenes contra Dios y el hombre". En este Día Mundial de la Justicia Social, piensa en el precio que estás dispuesto a pagar por la justicia.