

# Dear Padre,

There are so many preachers urging us to “reform our lives.” Most of this preaching centers on asking forgiveness for personal sins. Isn’t there more involved?

Consider that the reform more Christians should be focusing on is the social reform that fosters equality among human beings.

A central conviction of all Jesus’ followers is that every person of whatever race, gender, class, nationality, or any other distinction is fundamentally equal in dignity to every other person. That is why we vigorously support the unborn, the disabled, the mentally challenged, the poor, and the elderly. Every human is a creation of God, created in God’s image. No one is better or more worthy than another.



This was certainly a key conviction of the Second Vatican Council: “With respect to the fundamental rights of human persons, every type of discrimination, whether social or cultural, whether based on sex, race, color, social condition, language or religion is to be overcome and eradicated as contrary to God’s intent” (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World [*Gaudium et Spes*], 29).

If you wish to truly reform yourself, make a commitment to overcome discrimination on all levels, which is so obvious in our country’s division between rich and poor. Get involved with social causes that help the poor, the unborn, the oppressed, and the elderly. Become a beacon of hope this new year.

Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

## Calendar

**Monday**  
JANUARY 31  
St. John Bosco,  
Priest  
2 Sm 15:13–14, 30;  
16:5–13  
Mk 5:1–20

**Tuesday**  
FEBRUARY 1  
Weekday  
2 Sm 18:9–10, 14b,  
24–25a, 30–19:3  
Mk 5:21–43

**Wednesday**  
FEBRUARY 2  
*The Presentation  
of the Lord*  
Mal 3:1–4  
Heb 2:14–18  
Lk 2:22–40 or  
2:22–32

**Thursday**  
FEBRUARY 3  
Weekday  
1 Kgs 2:1–4, 10–12  
Mk 6:7–13

**Friday**  
FEBRUARY 4  
Weekday  
Sir 47:2–11  
Mk 6:14–29

**Saturday**  
FEBRUARY 5  
St. Agatha,  
Virgin and Martyr  
1 Kgs 3:4–13  
Mk 6:30–34

**Sunday**  
FEBRUARY 6  
Fifth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Is 6:1–2a, 3–8  
1 Cor 15:1–11  
or 15:3–8, 11  
Lk 5:1–11

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 30, 2022  
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)  
Jer 1:4–5, 17–19  
1 Cor 12:31–13:13 or 13:4–13  
Lk 4:21–30



Love is patient, love is kind....  
It bears all things, believes all things,  
hopes all things, endures all things.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4, 7

## How Do I Love Thee? Let Me Count the Ways.

Paul’s praise of love from the second reading is a favorite passage for weddings where it acts as a set of promises the bridal couple make to each other. They seem to be saying: “This is the way I am going to act, because I love you. I promise to put you ahead of me.” And they genuinely mean it. They’re convinced the passion they feel, the concern they experience, will be all that’s needed to transcend any future difficulties they might face.

Soon, reality sets in and they realize that the list is really a strategy for scaling the heights of unselfishness or critically examining the conscience to reveals one’s failures. This is not to say that people do not genuinely love each other. They do. But we are all so human, and selfishness is a weakness to which we are all susceptible. Perhaps Paul should have written: “Love tries to be patient, love tries to be kind....”

In a way, it is precisely in the give-and-take that occurs between imperfect humans that all the wonderful characteristics listed by Paul are refined. Our impatience is worn away as we deal sympathetically with the disagreeable traits of our loved ones. We become humble when those who should encourage us fail to acknowledge accomplishments that might otherwise inflate our egos. These are the slights we endure because we love the other person. Actually, such humble endurance is evidence that love truly is patient and kind.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



## A WORD FROM Pope Francis

The great biblical tradition enjoins on all peoples the duty to hear the voice of the poor. It bids us break the bonds of injustice and oppression which give rise to glaring, and indeed scandalous, social inequalities. Reforming the social structures which perpetuate poverty and the exclusion of the poor first requires a conversion of mind and heart.

JOURNEY TO THE PHILIPPINES, JANUARY 16, 2015



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

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 & Nanette Rice	355-1696 355-7676

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

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

1/29/2022 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

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

**Reader:** Gwen Waechter

1/30/2022—Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**Servers:** Cade Berning, Joce Berning, Luke Woodrow

**Reader:** Mike Broeckelman

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

2/5/2022 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

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

**Reader:** Karen Burden

2/6/2022 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**Servers:** Volunteers

**Reader:** Kyle Berning

<b>Monday, Jan. 31</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Charles &amp; Eileen Hoff</b>
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 1</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Bob Rooney</b>
<b>Thursday, Feb. 3</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Sp.Int.—Stephanie Gonzalez</b>
<b>Friday, Feb. 4</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>For the People</b>
<b>Saturday, Feb. 5</b>	<b>4: 00 p.m.</b>	<b>Carol Meier</b>
<b>Sunday, Feb. 6</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Jack, Leona &amp; Joe Randolph</b>

**Reconciliation:** Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. every Friday from 4:15—4:50 p.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.

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**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JANUARY 30, 2022**



I assume there are some people that we just can't stand. Surprised? You probably shouldn't be. After all, I'm just like many of you, and struggle with all of the same sorts of things. But the question is "can we love them?" Jesus, in this Sunday's gospel reading seems to tell us that Yes. we can.

The truth is it's unreasonable to assume that we should "like" everyone the same. And we don't even need to presume that God is asking or demanding that of us. I don't think that's it at all. Certain personalities just seem to clash. Certain behaviors can be off-putting or annoying. Some behaviors demand our disappointment or rebuke or outrage --- and most importantly, demand these things when these behaviors are our own. Remember --- a better world doesn't start with other people changing, other people being better. It starts with each of us being better, each of us being willing to change. So how do we do this? How do we love people we don't like?

Well, there is no exact way, no precise blueprint that will absolutely assure us of the outcome we desire. But one thing seems to be clear: We will never be able to authentically love others if we don't truly believe that God loves them just as much as us, that God wants good things for them just as much as us, that God forgives them just as much as us, and even that God dwells in them as he does in us.

My friends, we can only love others, only want good things for every single person, if we honestly see them as God sees them. Let's start loving them today.

**COLLECTION** for January 23, 2022: Envelopes: \$885.00; Loose: \$199.37; Online Giving: \$257.72; Total \$1342.09; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under -419.08. Candles: \$160

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

**K of C Meeting** will be Wednesday, January 12 at 7:30 p.m. Parish Hall.

**LOOKING AHEAD** Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, Wednesday, February 2 –5:30 p.m. K of C Meeting – Wednesday, February 2 at 7:30 p.m.

### **SYNOD OF SYNODALITY (From Bishop Gerald Vincke, Apostolic Administrator)**

The Synod is meant for everyone to participate. How can each participate? By following the process below.

- Please take the time to listen to another person's story...perhaps someone you have been meaning to talk with but haven't for one reason or another. Perhaps a neighbor, perhaps someone in Church whom you have seen but haven't had a conversation with, perhaps someone who is struggling, someone that you may have different views on politics and the Church, someone who is poor.
- Listen to your spouse, your parents, your siblings, your children, your coworkers, your friends...
- After listening to their story, you might not need to ask anything. But if it's needed do ask them, "how has your parish community walked with you on your faith journey?" "Is there anything your parish community could do to help you?" "Is there anything the Church could do better?" There might be a parish specific question the Pastor might want to ask.
- The questions that can be asked to one another are meant to "share with honesty and openness about their real-life experiences, and to reflect together on what the Holy Spirit might be revealing through what they share with one another"
- Write a short summary of what you learned from that person. Then please send that summary to the chancery either via a letter or email.
- Or if you personally would like to share your faith story, please also write down your thoughts and send that in.

Synod Summary, PO Box 137, Dodge City, KS 67801 or [bishop@dcdioocese.org](mailto:bishop@dcdioocese.org)

Please contact Georgina Paz [gpaz@dcdioocese.org](mailto:gpaz@dcdioocese.org) or 620-227-1531 if you have any questions on how to participate.

**MADE FOR GREATNESS:** High School Pilgrimage for the Diocese of Dodge City will be held on February 20th from 4-6 p.m. This is a free event for high schoolers from the diocese to learn about virtuous living and Saints who exemplify a virtuous life. Registration can be found at <https://www.dcdioocese.org/youth-events>

**VOCATION VIEW** "Before you were born, I consecrated you." Do you think that you may be called by the Lord to serve Him as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life?

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT** Jeremiah declares that the Lord knew him before he was born and dedicated and appointed him to his role as prophet even before he drew breath. We, too, are known and sent by the Lord. What deeds of love and service are mine to perform?

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK (adapted from a text by St. Francis de Sales)** O God, you have guided and guarded me this far in my life. If I hold fast to your hand, you will lead me safely through all trials. When I cannot stand, you will carry me in your arms. Help me to look at the trials and crosses of my life not with fear but in the confidence that you will deliver me from them. You will shield me from suffering or give me the strength to endure it. You have taken care of me today; you will take care of me tomorrow and every day of my life. Give me peace, my Lord, and drive from my mind all useless thoughts, anxiety, and fear. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Luke 4:21-30)**

**A hometown boy** At first Jesus is well-received in the place he grew up. Someone points out that Jesus is the son of Joseph, that is, the son of a fellow villager. The people of Nazareth are proud that this bright young preacher is one of their own. Then Jesus says out loud what everyone is now thinking: like a doctor who heals himself, Jesus should help the people from his home village. Those who've known him the longest believe they should reap the benefits of knowing him.

**Using their words against them** Jesus mentions two stories in his people's scriptures (now our Old Testament) in which the prophets Elijah and Elisha helped Gentiles but not Jews. The Nazoreans resent how Jesus uses their own scriptures to point out that he doesn't have to stay and work wonders in Nazareth.

**Keep it in-house** Some of the villagers might resent Jesus' willingness to help non-Jews: both Jews and Gentiles lived in Capernaum. The Nazoreans might think Jesus should limit the scope of his ministry. The villagers might also be angry because someone who lived among them for so long is now critiquing them. Criticism is to be expected from outsiders, but insiders should be loyal.

**Another rejected prophet** Like Jesus, other biblical prophets faced angry crowds and angry kings. Jeremiah, Elijah, and Elisha all endured the rage and resentment of their own people. Ironically, by rejecting Jesus so violently, the villagers verify what Jesus said in v.24.

**Foreshadowings** The rejection that Jesus experiences at the local level (Nazareth) points ahead to the rejection he'll experience at the national level (Israel). The controversy also points ahead to the Book of Acts in which some followers of Jesus preach to Gentiles. Given what he says here, Jesus would have commended them for doing so.

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

### **UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING (Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19)**

**It's hard to be a prophet** Jeremiah lived when Israel was constantly threatened by stronger nations and the people often turned to idolatry. He tried to make Israel faithful to God despite the dangers and uncertainty that his people faced. Sometimes Jeremiah urged a course of action that made him seem like a traitor, though he was actually trying to make his people submit to God's will. As a result, his people often seemed like an army attacking (crushing) him, but God promised to make Jeremiah strong enough to withstand their onslaught (vv.18-19).

**A prophet from the womb** Clearly God has taken the initiative to speak to his people; Jeremiah wasn't chosen by Israel's king nor did he himself decide to become a prophet (v.5). Just as good parents love their children from infancy, so too does God love Jeremiah. In fact, God's love is greater, for God has known of Jeremiah since before Jeremiah was conceived. God's love is further shown in his promise to protect Jeremiah when the people oppose him.

**Gird your loins (v.17)** This phrase means to get ready. When preparing for battle, soldiers would pull their tunics up and tuck them into their belts so that they could move more freely. ([www.oursundayreadings.com](http://www.oursundayreadings.com))

Dear Friends,

The eagerness and generosity of many parishioners to make sacrificial gifts toward the Parking Lot Project made it an awesome one. The success of that has given rise to thoughts of the church improvements and the beautification of St. Anthony's parish such as electrical upgrades, new wall paint and replacing carpet.

As many can see, the church carpet is in a bad shape. One does not need to look long to see how badly our carpet is in need of replacing. In order to accomplish this daunting task, a bid by J & M Paint and Decorating Center has been submitted and accepted. The cost for this project by the J & M Paint and Decorating Center will be around \$26,000, plus the cost of the new paint and electrical upgrades will be around \$10,000.

Can we count on the many generous members of this parish to see these projects through? I, myself, along with the Parish Councils believe this to be so. Will you be willing to donate toward this as a gift to the parish or as a memorial to someone special? This can be an opportunity for families and parishioners to recognize the importance of the spirit of reverence and pride in providing an aesthetic environment of the Lord and His glory, where we sit to hear His words; stand to sing His praises; and kneel to give Him thanks!

On behalf of the Maintenance, Pastoral, Finance Councils I thank you for your love and support of this parish. I thank you for your time in considering your generous support for this worthy endeavor.

God bless you, one and all!

Fr. Peter Tran

#### Grand Knight comments January 2022

Greetings, my fellow parishioners. Welcome to the New Year. I hope and pray that it is treating you well. I've been really busy with things. So this letter is out late this month. Of course our meeting was a week late due to the Parish "After Christmas/New Years" party that was held on the 5<sup>th</sup>, so maybe I'm not as late as I think.

I'd like to report that, as a consensus, the Knights felt our After Mass drawings for Bob's Grocery certificates was a big success and that as the 6 weeks progressed, people started enjoying the give-away. We'll see how it goes, but we are looking into doing it again next year. Congrats to all the winners.

Our Bierock fundraiser was successful again this year. If you didn't get any of these delicious treats, I'm afraid you've missed out for this year. We made approximately 200 dozen again this year and any extras we had were sold off within a day. This fundraiser is our major fundraising project for the year, so it means a lot to us to be able to do, and that so many people enjoy them.

If we have any men in the parish who are interested in becoming a Knight, we are hosting a ceremony after Mass February 27<sup>th</sup>. It takes about 30 minutes and, unlike years past, everyone is welcome ... even encouraged, to stay for the ceremony. We will be hosting a breakfast of sausage gravy and biscuits after the ceremony as well. It appears that we have 3 very interested parties in joining the Knights of Columbus.

Speaking of the breakfast, if you want to just come over after Mass for the breakfast, we will be serving that for those not interested in joining the Knights ceremony.

Church improvements have been in the works for some time now and we will begin seeing some of those projects starting. Electrical upgrades will be started Wednesday January 26 with painting the inside of the church to come shortly. The new platform for musicians/song leaders will be underway as well in the near future. I hope everyone is up to these changes, most of which are long overdue.

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

##### **Children should be seen, heard-and guided**

It's been a tough two years on everyone, but especially on the kids. Childhood was upended by the pandemic. Schooling has been a heroic effort, and peer interactions have been stifled. This generation of young ones will have a special burden in trying to make up for lost time, missed opportunities, and natural social interactions. They've also learned unexpected lessons about global interconnectedness, the rich advantages of technology, and the bitter realities of social inequity. Today begins Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service," to remind us that our schools enable children to put what they learn in the context of gospel values. Support faith-based education! (Prepare the Word)

#### **CUARTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO**

##### **Los niños deben ser vistos, escuchados—y guiados**

Han sido dos años duros para todos, pero especialmente para los niños. La infancia se ha visto alterada por la pandemia. La escolaridad ha sido un esfuerzo heroico, y las relaciones con los compañeros estuvieron reducidas. Esta generación de jóvenes tendrá una carga especial al intentar recuperar el tiempo y las oportunidades perdidas y las interacciones sociales naturales. También han aprendido lecciones inesperadas sobre la interconexión global, las grandes ventajas de la tecnología y las amargas realidades de la desigualdad social. Hoy comienza la Semana de las Escuelas Católicas, con el tema "Escuelas Católicas: Fe. Excelencia. Servicio," para recordarnos que nuestras escuelas permiten a los niños ubicar lo que aprenden en el contexto de los valores del evangelio. ¡Apoya la educación basada en la fe!