

Dear Padre,

When I was young, we always prayed for “the poor souls in purgatory.” Is this because some go to hell and some go to heaven?

On the feast of All Souls' Day, we remember all of our faithful departed. Most of them are already with God in heaven. But some of them might still need some purification. Those needing purification from the temporal punishment still due to their sins are in purgatory. These people aren't damned. They are the elect and are friends of God. They are already saved, assured of salvation. There is no going to hell from purgatory. There is only upward movement to heaven.

There has always been an ancient tradition in the Church that there exists a strong bond between the faithful who die and those of us who are still alive. The Church especially emphasizes the mutual help that Christians on earth and in purgatory give to one another by their prayers. It is the belief of the Church that our prayers lessen the amount of time a person could spend in purgatory. Our prayers speed their journey into the fullness of God's love.

On this upcoming All Saints' Day (November 1) and All Souls' Day (November 2), we are invited to unite with all the faithful Christians, living and dead. These feast days are our opportunities to pray for and with them and to receive the benefits of their prayers for us in return.

From *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*, © 2003 Liguori Publications



SHUTTERSTOCK

Calendar

Monday
OCTOBER 26
Weekday
Eph 4:32–5:8
Lk 13:10–17

Tuesday
OCTOBER 27
Weekday
Eph 5:21–33
Lk 13:18–21

Wednesday
OCTOBER 28
Sts. Simon and Jude,
Apostles
Eph 2:19–22
Lk 6:12–16

Thursday
OCTOBER 29
Weekday
Eph 6:10–20
Lk 13:31–35

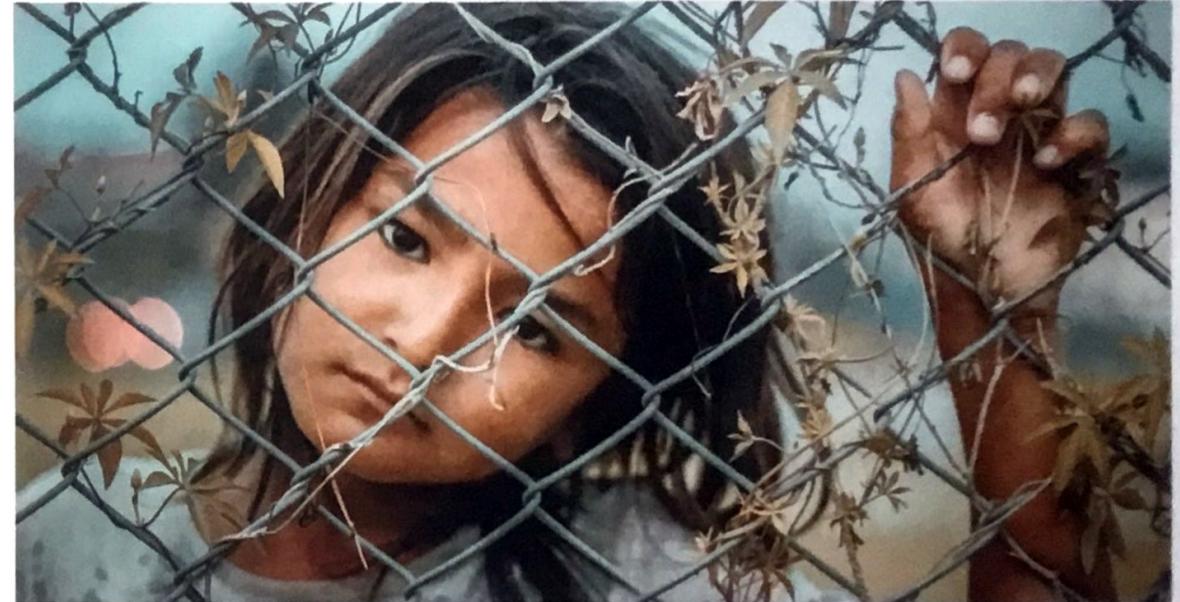
Friday
OCTOBER 30
Weekday
Phil 1:1–11
Lk 14:1–6

Saturday
OCTOBER 31
Weekday
Phil 1:18b–26
Lk 14:1, 7–11

Sunday
NOVEMBER 1
All Saints
Rv 7:2–4, 9–14
1 Jn 3:1–3
Mt 5:1–12a

Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 25, 2020
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Ex 22:20–26
1 Thes 1:5c–10
Mt 22:34–40



[The LORD said,] “You shall not oppress or afflict a resident alien, for you were once aliens residing in the land of Egypt.” —EXODUS 22:20

God's Lessons of Love

The readings today are all about love. The first reading tells us *who* we should love; the Gospel tells us *how* we should love. We know that it is not difficult to love those who love us, who are kind and generous to us, who make us feel that we are important. The reading from Exodus moves us in a different direction. We are to love the alien, the widow, the orphan, and the poor neighbor. In a patriarchal society, such as was ancient Israel, aliens, widows, and orphans were the ultimate outsiders. They had no male relative through whom they would benefit from the kinship structure. While the neighbor might be of the same tribe or clan, it is the poor neighbor who was to be loved, the one who might be a drag on one's life and resources.

In other words, we are to love the ones who cannot

promise to make our lives more comfortable or enjoyable. In fact, the point of loving them is to make their lives more comfortable and enjoyable.

How are we to love them? The Gospel reading offers two different answers that are really very much alike. We are to love God totally, with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind. We are to love others as we love ourselves, with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind. More practically, we must do for others what we would do for ourselves, for to love them is to love God.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- Who are the outsiders or people living on the margins of your society?
- What might you do to make their lives more comfortable or enjoyable?



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

All of us, living and dead, are in communion, that is, as a union; united in the community of those who have received baptism, and of those who are nourished by the Body of Christ....We are all the same family, united. For this reason, we pray for each other.

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, NOVEMBER 30, 2016



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	451-0548
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

Monday, Oct. 26	8:00 a.m.	Favorable Weather
Tuesday, Oct. 27	8:00 a.m.	For our Country
Thursday, Oct. 29	8:00 a.m.	Favorable Weather
Friday, Oct. 30	8:00 a.m.	Pastor’s Intention
Saturday, Oct. 31	4:00 p.m.	Eddie Catlin
Sunday, Nov. 1	9:00 a.m.	Tom Strunk

October 24, 4:00 p.m.	Debbie Frederick
October 25, 9:00 a.m.	Steve Sullivan
October 31, 4:00 p.m.	Tom Bachman
November 1, 9:00 a.m.	Alvin Berkamp
November 7, 4:00 p.m.	Karen Burden
November 8, 9:00 a.m.	Mike Broeckelman
November 14, 4:00 p.m.	Gwen Waechter
November 15, 9:00 a.m.	Julie Kaps
November 21, 4:00 p.m.	Debbie Frederick
November 22, 9:00 a.m.	K of C Members
November 28, 4:00 p.m.	Tom Bachman
November 29, 9:00 a.m.	Alvin Berkamp

VOCATION VIEW

Let go of worry. Go to God in prayer. Then the peace of God will dwell in your heart and mind. Ask God to show you how to follow Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-9). If you think God is calling you to priesthood or to consecrated life, visit our website at www.dcdiocese.org/vocations.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

We fulfill the commandment to love our neighbor when we exercise good stewardship – joyfully sharing our gifts of life, abilities, and resources to meet our neighbor’s need.

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.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Parishioners: Greetings in the Lord on this thirtieth Sunday of the ordinary time. In today’s Gospel reading (Matthew 22: 34-40) we hear Jesus --- when asked which commandment is the greatest --- answers by articulating TWO commandments: love of God and love of neighbor. If we really want to know if we do indeed love God, we simply need to look at our lives --- our day-to-day ordinary lives, determining if we truly treat ourselves as if we are the least and if we treat others as if they are the greatest. That’s the only measure that matters. However, to want the one (to love God), but not be willing to do the other (love neighbor), indicates that our faith is somewhat diminished, impoverished, and in extreme cases, dead. It’s like when you hear people say: I really wish I knew how to play the piano (while thinking --- I don’t want to have to practice day after day.) I would really love to run a marathon someday (while thinking --- But who wants to get up at 5 am for the workouts?) I wish I would have become a doctor (while thinking --- I’d never want to do all that schooling). I’d sure like to be married someday (while thinking --- If I could only keep my independence and not have to deal with children). There are many things “we want”, but are unwilling to do what is necessary to achieve them. Who doesn’t want to love God? Seriously --- who doesn’t? I know I sure do now if I can only find the strength to want to love my neighbor just as much. What do you think?

Peace and good health to you all. Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for October 18, 2020: Envelopes: \$860.00; Loose: \$720.00; Online Giving: \$188.17; Total \$1,768.17; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,989.55. Income over/under (-221.38)

NINE CONSECUTIVE DAY PRAYERS FOR OUR NATION From Monday, October 26 through Tuesday, November 3 our parish will have an hour of Eucharistic Adoration and prayers for the election and our nation. Except on Saturday and Sunday the prayer service will start at 7:00 pm and end at 8:00 pm. Sunday and Saturday we will start the service right after Mass.

SINCERE SYMPATHY & PRAYERS Our deepest sympathy and prayers to you and your family, on the passing of your beloved father, Gilbert Phlieger. May the Almighty God wrap His loving arms around you and the entire family and give you peace. May he rest in peace.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE During the month of November we hold in prayer all who have passed away in our parish in the past years. Located in our church vestibule is a Book of Remembrance to which parishioners may add lists of names of deceased friends and loved ones. All names will be remembered at our upcoming Masses in November.

MATRIMONY ANNIVERSARY MASS St. Anthony will celebrate Matrimony Anniversary Mass today at 4: pm Mass and 25th at 9:00 a.m. Mass. All couples will be included, but we will especially acknowledge those celebrating 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 50+ plus years of marriage.

BUDGET SHOP We will be working Oct 24 and 27th, then again on November 21st and Nov 24. Please keep these dates on your busy calendars and try to save a few hours to help us. We are open on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 10 a.m.—3 p.m. Any help will be greatly appreciated. And thank you ahead of time.

OCTOBER CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES Confirmation class: Oct. 25 right after Sunday morning Mass. First Communion class: Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m. Please keep our First Communion and Confirmation students, their parents, and their Catechists in our prayers for their safety and perseverance.

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK (MATTHEW 22: 34-40)

Another test After Jesus spoke parables of judgment against the Jewish authorities (21:28 – 22:14) they tried to trap him with questions about taxes and the resurrection (22:15-33). Now they try to trap him again. There were hundreds of laws that Jews of this era were expected to follow. Most rabbis counted 613 of them. All of these laws ultimately came from God. If Jesus picks one law and says it's the greatest, then he would imply that all the other laws were less important.

Love is the basis of the law Jesus quotes the Shema, the great Jewish prayer based on Deuteronomy 6:4-5. The most important commandment is to commit every part of one's being to God. Because God cares about people, the next most important commandment is to love others. Love for God must be demonstrated in love for others. All other commandments must be evaluated in the light of these two.

Jesus, a true and faithful Jew Jesus' opponents believed he was rejecting his Jewish heritage because it often seemed like Jesus threw out or ignored the Jewish law. In his response to this question, Jesus shows that he isn't pre-occupied with the details of the law. His concern is instead to help people love God and other people – which is the whole point of the law. Jesus wasn't the first Jew to link these two laws and make them foundational: other widely respected teachers did, too. Jesus' opponents are likely to have agreed with Jesus' reply.

Jesus fulfills the law St. Matthew's community was rejected by Jews who thought Jesus was a false teacher. Matthew thus presents Jesus as both the true interpreter and fulfillment of the scriptures (5:17). Jesus fulfilled all that God promised for the world. Therefore, the teaching of Jesus is absolute. There is no greater authority. <https://oursundayreadings>

FEAST DAY OF THE WEEK—Saint Simon & Saint Jude, Apostles (Oct. 28)

Jude is so named by Luke and Acts. Matthew and Mark call him Thaddeus. He is not mentioned elsewhere in the Gospels, except of course where all the apostles are mentioned. Scholars hold that he is not the author of the *Letter of Jude*. Actually, Jude had the same name as Judas Iscariot. Evidently because of the disgrace of that name, it was shortened to "Jude" in English.

Simon is mentioned on all four lists of the apostles. On two of them he is called "the Zealot." The Zealots were a Jewish sect that represented an extreme of Jewish nationalism. For them, the messianic promise of the Old Testament meant that the Jews were to be a free and independent nation. God alone was their king, and any payment of taxes to the Romans—the very domination of the Romans—was a blasphemy against God. No doubt some of the Zealots were the spiritual heirs of the Maccabees, carrying on their ideals of religion and independence. But many were the counterparts of modern terrorists. They raided and killed, attacking both foreigners and "collaborating" Jews. They were chiefly responsible for the rebellion against Rome which ended in the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

As in the case of all the apostles except for Peter, James and John, we are faced with men who are really unknown, and we are struck by the fact that their holiness is simply taken to be a gift of Christ. He chose some unlikely people: a former Zealot, a former (crooked) tax collector, an impetuous fisherman, two "sons of thunder," and a man named Judas Iscariot.

It is a reminder that we cannot receive too often. Holiness does not depend on human merit, culture, personality, effort, or achievement. It is entirely God's creation and gift. God needs no Zealots to bring about the kingdom by force. Jude, like all the saints, is the saint of the impossible: Only God can create his divine life in human beings. And God wills to do so, for all of us. <https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (adapted from St. Vincent de Paul)

O divine Savior, you came into this world to preach your gospel in delightful simplicity. I humbly ask you to let me learn from your example. Make me acquire your spirit of simplicity. By your grace may I spread your word in a simple and direct manner for the spiritual well-being of others. O my dear Savior, pour your spirit of simplicity into my heart so that I may be your true apostle by always cooperating with your grace. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

QUESTION AND ANSWER Why do Catholics light so many candles?

A. Like many liturgical practices, candle lighting began as a practical activity. It was how people turned the lights on before electricity. Early Christians illuminated the catacombs with candles. (In the same way, the *lavabo*—the ritual washing of the priest’s hands at the altar—was a pragmatic way to remove the residue of the people’s offering, which arrived in the sanctuary not as a basket of sanitary envelopes but as livestock and foodstuffs.)

Candles also had symbolic significance. They were placed on martyr’s graves or near saints’ images to testify that the light these holy ones bear still shines in eternity. A perpetual light at the altar acknowledges the constancy of the Real Presence. A light similarly burns near the Book of the Gospels. Votive lights at a shrine represent the prolongation of our prayer before God.

After electricity became standard, candlelight remained a fixture in both liturgy and devotions. The premiere candle in any church is also the largest: the paschal candle, blessed and lit from the new fire each year at the Easter Vigil. The paschal candle represents the light of Christ illuminating the hearts of the faithful. Five grains of incense embedded in the wax recall the wounds of Christ. As the deacon or priest carries the light forward in procession, the phrase “Light of Christ” is chanted three times, with the assembly’s reply: “Thanks be to God.” Individual candles dispersed through the assembly are lit from the paschal candle so testify that all share in the divine light.

The paschal candle is plunged into the baptismal font to bless the waters used for baptisms. Fire and water unite in this sign, reminding us of other Kingdom paradoxes: the last will be first, the poor will be blessed, and the dead will rise. At the celebration of every baptism, a candle is given to each baptismal candidate to acknowledge the light of Christ within them.

Advent, the season of light, is counted down with the violet- and rose-colored candles of the Advent wreath. Another liturgy in which candles hold a special place is the Presentation of the Lord, also called Candlemas (February 2nd). Candles were blessed on this feast which recalls the day the infant Jesus, the light of the world, was brought to the temple. This feast, honored since the 4th century, historically ended the Christmas cycle. On the following day, the memorial of St. Blaise, unlit candles are used to bless the throat and intercede for healing. (Alice L. Camille)



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Worship the Glory of God

Leadership earns public honors, and the best leaders exercise humility in accepting them. Pope Francis began his papacy by donning simple attire and asking for our prayers before offering his first blessing. Genuine leadership recognizes that all authority comes from God. Today is Priesthood Sunday, honoring the multitudes of pastors who did their job this year with passion, grace, and ingenuity under extraordinary circumstances. Pray the Rosary’s Glorious Mysteries for those who lead us to: rise up from despair, lift our gaze upward, encounter the Spirit’s power, give ourselves body and soul, and accept honor with grace. (Prepare the Word)

**TRIGÉSIMO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO
Adorar al Dios de la gloria**

El liderazgo gana honores públicos, y los mejores líderes ejercen la humildad al aceptarlos. El Papa Francisco comenzó su papado vistiendo un atuendo sencillo y pidiendo nuestras oraciones antes de ofrecer su primera bendición. El liderazgo genuino reconoce que toda la autoridad viene de Dios. Hoy es el Domingo del Sacerdocio, honrando a las multitudes de pastores que hicieron su trabajo este año con pasión, gracia e ingenio bajo circunstancias extraordinarias. Recemos los Misterios Gloriosos del Rosario por quienes nos conducen a: levantarnos de la desesperación, elevar nuestra mirada hacia arriba, encontrar el poder del Espíritu, darnos en cuerpo y alma, y aceptar el honor con gracia.