

October 6, 2013: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." — Lk 17:5-6

Reprinted from the Lectionary for Mass 2010, 199, 199. CCC.

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, October 6 (Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10) *Respect Life Sunday*

8:00 am- Living & deceased members of the Czech Heritage Society

10:30 am- Henry Jones

Monday, October 7, *Our Lady of the Rosary* (Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37)

7:00 am- V. L. & Rose Rainosek

10:00 am- Joseph L. Oatis (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, October 8 (Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42)

7:00 am- Theresa Steffek

Wednesday, October 9, *St. Denis, Bishop, & Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest* (Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4)

7:00 am- Josephine Janak

8:05 am- Charles & Mary Vana

Thursday, October 10 (Mal 3:13-20b/Lk 11:5-13)

7:00 am- Eugene Mucala

10:00 am- Stanley Kutac (Stevens)

Friday, October 11, *Bl. John XXIII, Pope* (Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26)

7:00 am- Frank, Annie & Gene Holik

8:05 am- Clifford & Barbara Frederick

Saturday, October 12 (Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28)

5:30 pm- Deceased members of Joe & Mary Vanek Family

Sunday, October 13 (2 Kgs 5:14-17/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19) *Vocation Awareness Sunday*

8:00 am- Anton Bujnoch, Sr.

10:30 am- For our Parish Family

Bulletin Sponsor: Charles & Evelyn Michalec in thanksgiving for their 64th Anniversary.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of Andy Leopold, Sr.

Vigil Light: In memory of Elaine Rogers by Deacon Sonny Rogers, Gilbert & Mary Urbish.

Flowers at the Altar of Sacrifice this weekend are in honor of Bernadette Bludau's 80th birthday by her children.

Perpetual Adoration: An adorer is needed on Friday's at 8:00 a.m. Please call Charlene Bradbury 798-3224.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$6,429.50; Catholic Education Envelopes-\$1,085; Loose-\$1,080; Children-\$54.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

-Life Chain, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Hwy. 77 South, K.C. Hall.
-Confirmation Candidate & Sponsor Meeting 11th Gr., 4:30-7:30 p.m., Family Center.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

-Rosary & Evening Praise, 5:30 p.m., Church.
-SHCS Capital Campaign Presentation, 5:30 p.m., Family Center.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., K.C. Hall of Fame Room.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

-CCD: K-12th Grade, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
-SHCS Booster Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m., K.C. Hall.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

-RCIA, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Family Center.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

-Youth Night Holy Hour, 5:00 p.m., Church.

Among our sick: Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Matt Pohler, Wilbert Kalinec, Mary Bonorden, Josephine Muniz, Vivian Janak, Bobbie Lee Drozd, Donna Steffek, Glenn Rabel, Lisa Grissom, Rachel Davis, George Meyer, Richard Grahmann, Colin Grahmann, Marie Hermes, Emil Hermes, Georgia Schaefer, Pat Hanslik, Leroy Loth, Debby Kolos, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Yvonne Muska, Russell Janak, Timothy Brosch, Marilyn Palmquist, Johnny Krenek, Doug Blumberg, Ronnie Rainosek, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

Anniversaries:

Royce & Irene Schulte	57 years	Oct. 6
Dennis & Darlene Shimek	40 years	Oct. 6
Bill & Virginia Curley	63 years	Oct. 7
Jimmy & Sarah Gutierrez	54 years	Oct. 7
Ronnie & Shirley Hollas	30 years	Oct. 8
Gene & Grace Reese	25 years	Oct. 8
Herbert & Georgie Etzler	63 years	Oct. 10
Kenneth & Dolores Renger	54 years	Oct. 11
Jerry & Mary Jo Janak	50 years	Oct. 12

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Ray Earwood* of our parish family; and, *Eugene Pagel*, brother of Glenn Pagel. *May they and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

Welcome to the Parish: Jim & Nancy Evans, Jacob, Joseph & Jamie, Lorice & Alan Norwood; Juan & Alexandria Villanueva, Jordan, Alyssa & Jason; and, Stephanie & Tim Loewe, Kaitlyn & Kourtney.

September Baptisms: Michael Benedict, son of Aaron & Robyn Machac; Abram Brenner, son of Kevin & Nicole Dworsky; Cullen Dane, son of Mark & Rachel Hanslik; Brantley Wade, son of Darren & Jamie Steffek; Bryce Wayne, Cullen Judd & Zoe, children of Allen & Allison Machicek; Everlyn Rubi, daughter of Victor & Maria Peralta; Cole Ward, son of Chris & Kimberly Rainosek.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today, October 6th, we will be joining in the Life Chain for Respect Life Sunday. You are invited to come out from 1:00-2:30 p.m. at the K.C. Hall and help form a line. Posters to hold will be provided.

There have been some questions about who can be a godparent or sponsor for Baptism and a sponsor for Confirmation.

These are the official requirements of the Catholic Church: A candidate for Baptism must have at least one godparent. The godparent cannot be the mother or father of the one to be baptized. The godparent must be at least sixteen, a practicing Catholic (one who is in good standing with the Catholic Church and practices his or her Catholic faith regularly) who has been confirmed and has received the Holy Eucharist. There can be two godparents, a man and a woman. Non-Catholics cannot be godparents, but can be admitted as a witness to the Baptism.

Those to be confirmed are required to have a sponsor – someone to guide them in living a full Christian life. It is appropriate that the sponsor for Confirmation be one of the baptismal godparents. A sponsor must be at least sixteen, be a practicing Catholic (one who is in good standing with the Catholic Church and continues to practice his or her Catholic faith regularly) who has been confirmed, and has received the Holy Eucharist. A sponsor for Confirmation should not be the mother or father of the one to be confirmed.

A godparent or sponsor must be Catholic in order to share the Catholic faith by word and example, and by being able to receive the sacraments.

CCD News ~~

Oct. 20: 9th Grade Youth Involvement 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Oct. 23: Safe Environment, Jr. High & High School.

Sacred Heart Catholic School News ~~

Oct. 11: Homecoming Pep Rally, 7:00 p.m., Gym.

Oct. 12: Homecoming Memorial Mass, 12:00 p.m. in Church. Kickoff 4:30 p.m. Activities will be held at the K.C. Hall after the game.

Sacred Heart Youth ~~ We are looking forward to our next youth night scheduled for OCT 13th from 5-7:30pm. We will be grilling burgers! We encourage all youth ages 8-12 grade to participate as much as they can in this youth night. It will begin as usual at 5pm at the church for a holy hour of adoration, followed by brief discussion in continuation of our last meeting on the topic 7 needs 7 answers 7 sacraments. These discussions outline how each sacrament given to us by the Church provides for some of the most fundamental needs we have as human beings. I want to encourage all youth to attend the entirety of the Youth night; however, those

who are unable to attend the entire meeting are encouraged to take part as much as they are able. We will not turn anyone away who wishes to attend the holy hour alone, or the social and discussion only. Come for whatever you can! God bless and see you there!

Area Picnics & Festivals:

Oct. 6: Sacred Heart Parish, Flatonia. Turkey & Dressing Dinner 11am-2pm, dine in or take out. Silent Auction.

Oct. 6: Holy Rosary Church, Hostyn. Fried Chicken & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, games, booths, music.

Oct. 6: St. John Church, Hungerford Hall. BBQ Beef, Chicken, Sausage Dinner 10:30am. Auction, booths.

Oct. 6: St. Roch Church, Mentz. BBQ Beef, Pork & Sausage Dinner 11am-2pm. Music, auction, booths.

Oct. 6: Holy Cross Church, KC Hall, Bay City. Turkey & Dressing Dinner 11am-1pm. Auction, booths, music.

Oct. 13: Our Lady of Victory Parish, Victoria Community Ctr. BBQ Beef & Sausage Dinner. Auction, booths.

Oct. 13: St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, K.C. Hall, El Campo. BBQ Brisket Dinner. Auction, booths, games.

Oct. 13: Holy Cross Parish, Riverside Hall, East Bernard. BBQ Beef, Chicken & Sausage Dinner.

Oct. 13: St. Anthony Parish, K.C. Hall, Columbus. BBQ Beef & Sausage Dinner. Auction, bingo, booths, games.

Sacred Heart HSA 62nd annual Apple Strudel Bake, Saturday, October 26. Unbaked strudels -\$14, baked -\$16. Pickup 10am - 5pm on Oct. 26 at the SH Family Center in Hallettsville. To order, call Charlene Bradbury [361-798-3224](tel:361-798-3224), Annette Henke [361-798-5374](tel:361-798-5374) or email charlene_bradbury@hotmail.com. (Advance orders are required to guarantee order fulfillment.)

Pecans & sugar are needed! If you have any to donate, call Barbara Grahmann 798-4167 as soon as possible. They may be dropped off at SHS Office or the Rectory.

LIFE CHAIN. We are His hands. We are His voice.

Join us in prayer on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Come and join thousands of Christians from across the country in a National Pro-life Silent Prayer Chain. We will meet on the grass in front of the K.C. Hall on Hwy 77 S. in Hallettsville. Join us in peacefully holding signs that proclaim our pro-life message "Abortion Kills, Jesus Forgives, Choose Life," etc. Prayers and meditations are on the back of the sign. This event will provide a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian Community – that abortion is wrong and that the Church is opposed to the killing of unborn children! Our community needs to know that the Church supports the sanctity of human life. Please plan to attend. You may bring a chair if you are unable to stand for the allotted time. This is a family event. All are welcome, even children in strollers. You may bring drinks and should wear comfortable modest clothing. For more information, please call Angela at 361-741-8730. ***Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Jeremiah 1:5***

Abortion In Young Women & Subsequent Mental Health

Most debates on abortion have centered around ethical, religious & other issues concerning the rights of the unborn child in circumstances of an "unplanned pregnancy."

However, a recent study in New Zealand focused on the mental health of young women following an abortion.

The study concluded, "Those having an abortion have elevated rates of subsequent mental health problems including depression, anxiety, suicidal behaviors & substance use disorders" (*Journal of Child Psychology & Psychiatry*).

Advocates of abortion do not like (& invariably ignore) empirical evidence like this. It is not consistent with their rhetoric which often trivializes the expectant mother's life & death decision.

Once again, science supports the pro-life position, including the fact that abortion harms women. The serious mental health implications of abortion is biological fact---not religious dogma!

By Pro-Life Articles Author, www.pro-lifearticles.org

October is RESPECT LIFE month for The Gabriel Project! Please remember these unborn babies and their moms in the prayers of the faithful and your daily prayers. Contact Barbara for more information about the Gabriel Project at 361-649-1612. We meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8 at 101 W. Convent, Victoria (corner of Main & Convent behind St. Mary's Catholic Church). Join us for learning, discerning, and fellowship. A light supper is provided. Everyone is welcome!

Prayer Circles, 10:00-11:30 a.m. on Tuesdays of October, Amor Meus Prayer Room, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria. If you can't get away for a day or a week, perhaps joining an Amor Meus Prayer Circle may help you deepen your relationship with God. Prayer Circles are small groups (10 or less) coming together for prayer. These may include Scripture reading, Faith Sharing, Lectio Divina, Rosary and others. Each circle is guided by a leader. Attendance every week is not required. For more information call: [361-575-7111](tel:361-575-7111).

Taizé Prayer, 7:00-8:00 p.m., October 15, Amor Meus Prayer Room, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria. A Taizé Prayer Service consists of music, song, chant, scriptural readings, meditation, and prayers of praise and intercession. For more information call: 361-575-7111.

Guided Retreat, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., November 9, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria. Come and spend a quiet day of prayer listening to the voice of God speaking in the stillness of your heart. The theme for the November Retreat "Advent: For What Are We Waiting? How?" The retreat will be guided by Sister Marian Sturm, IWBS. Women and men are welcomed. Call for reservations 361-575-7111.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time –

Quarterly earnings reports for many publicly traded companies have either just been released or will be in the next week or so. Since every company reports them on its own schedule after the end of the quarter, it is a rolling release that investors will examine in the days to come. How well a company does will affect its share price on the stock exchange, and the compensation that is eventually determined by the board of directors for a company's leaders. Company policies or union contracts often determine how the rest of the workforce down the line get to share in any benefits of a positive earnings report.

The words of Jesus in the Gospel may seem a bit harsh this week. He tells His apostles that they could describe themselves as unprofitable servants who have only done what they were obliged to do. It does not seem to be a very flattering picture of what it means to be a Christian. In Jesus' day a servant performed such menial tasks that it is hard for us to even imagine them today. We hear Jesus describing the master as telling the servant to prepare something for him to eat. Such actions required much more than popping something in a microwave. Meal preparation involved hard work like grinding grain, catching fish, plucking chickens, or gathering produce. It even meant hauling jars of water from the communal well. And the next day it was the same all over again.

We are fortunate to live in the era that we do. While our daily work may not always seem as exciting as it could be, we are spared much of the drudgery of the past. For us, being a servant is an entirely different dimension. We don't go down to the lake or river in hopes of catching some food for the master. Instead, our servitude is that of being attentive to our neighbor. Our earnings report will shine if we do that!

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By tradition, the Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to a certain devotion. The month of October is dedicated to the holy rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7). The best way to celebrate the month is, of course, to pray the rosary.

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us!

This short invocation to Mary, the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, is an appropriate prayer for October, the Month of the Holy Rosary, as well as for reciting at the end of the rosary.





Prayer for rain: Heavenly Father, We believe that it is You Who created our world with all of its beauty and life. We believe that it is You Who put into place the systems of nature that sustain, nurture and renew this work of Your hands. We believe that it is You Who hears Your children when they call upon You. Hear then, this prayer which comes from a heart filled with confidence and trust. Grant to us and to all who seek it, the gift of a bountiful rain. Water our lands so that they may once again spring to life and reflect the beauty of Your creation. Fill our lakes and rivers with sufficient rain so that they may continue to provide life giving and refreshing water to all who depend upon it for their livelihood and well-being. Please do not let many more days pass without sending us this most needed blessing of rain. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.

REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS SEMINARY

BURSE – In honor of Rev. Msgr. John Peters: Roger & Beverly Janak-\$50. In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Ed & Peggy Scherer-\$25. In memory of Angela Hermes, Bobbie Jo Drozd, Tillie Schott, Earline Chovanetz, Helen Mitchon, Marcella Klekar, & Elsie Steffek: Catholic Daughters Court Sacred Heart No. 797-\$175

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Andrew Leopold, Sr.: Peoples State Bank-\$10. In memory of Dorothy Hass: Rita & Frank Zaruba-\$25

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND

In memory of Steve Henke: Andrew & Jane Pesek-\$10; James & Tonie Brooks-\$10; Leon & Nancy Etzler-\$20. In memory of Bernice Sevcik: Dennis & Sheila Jansky-\$15. In memory of Andrew Leopold, Sr.: Bill & Sweet Hrnecir-\$10; Emma Bujnoch-\$6. In memory of Joseph Jansky: David & Mary Polasek-\$25; Bill & Sweet Hrnecir-\$10; Emma Bujnoch-\$6. In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Leon & Nancy Etzler-\$10

SACRED HEART SCHOOL SHOP FUND

In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Arthur Spies-\$20.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL MUSIC FUND – In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Tim & Candy Hines-\$30

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS - In memory of Steve Henke: Charles & Irene Matula-\$40; Soila Sanchez-\$10. In memory of Marcella Klekar: Mark & Karen Janak-\$15. In memory of Agatha Janak: Roger & Beverly Janak-\$20. In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Snow & Irene Matula-\$40.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL BAND FUND –

In memory of Sr. Antoinette Peltier: Arthur Etzler, Jr.-\$50. In memory of Bernice Sevcik: Ronnie &

Agnes Huser-\$20. In honor of Victor Pavliska's birthday & Eleanor Huser's birthday: Ronnie & Agnes Huser-\$40.

CAROLYN DWORSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Deborah Holubec: Doris Opela-\$15. In memory of Marcella Klekar: Ben & Nancy Dworsky-\$10. In memory of Bernice Sevcik: Dennis & Lisa Dworsky-\$20. In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Benedict & Nancy Dworsky-\$10; Charles & Kathy Haas-\$20. In honor of Emil & Joyce Hermes' 50th Anniversary: Victor & Barbara Schindler-\$20; Donald & Mildred Grahmann-\$30.

DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND –

In memory of Rev. Msgr. Stanley Petru & Helen Kresta: Roy & Loretta Hardcastle-\$40; Richard Grahmann-\$10. In memory of Andrew Leopold, Sr., Joseph Jansky, & Marcella Klekar: Richard Grahmann-\$15. In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Richard Grahmann-\$5; Tommy & Elsie Grahmann-\$10; Roy & Loretta Hardcastle-\$20.

LOUIS & JOSEPHINE APPELT SCHOLARSHIP

FUND – In memory of Bernice Sevcik: Robert, Sharon & Reid Timm-\$15.

PAM DORNAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND –

In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Franklin & Nola Bohuslav-\$15.

DWAYNE JANAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND – In

memory of Siegfried Golsch: Beatrice Butschek-\$15.

VICTOR GRAFE SCHOLARSHIP FUND –

In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Frank & Jo Nell Janecek-\$25.

SACRED HEART DAYCARE CENTER –

In memory of Ronald Brown: Marvin & Barbara Koehne-\$10. In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Lee J. & Joyce Bacak-\$20.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER

In memory of Steve Henke: Glenn & Shara Steffek-\$20; Raymond & Virginia Steffek-\$25; Frank & Jo Nell Janecek-\$20; Trey & Jennifer Kraatz-\$10. In memory of Rev. Msgr. Stanley Petru: Bill & Virginia Grafe-\$100; Arthur Etzler, Jr.-\$100; Frank & Jo Nell Janecek-\$50. In memory of Bernice Sevcik: Margaret Henneke-\$20; SHCS 3rd Grade Class & Shanna Clark-\$50; John & Charlene Pillow-\$10; Joe & Ana Henke-\$25; SHCS 4th Grade Class & Jennifer Noska-\$100. In memory of Siegfried Golsch: Bill & Virginia Grafe-\$25; John & Charlene Pillow-\$10; Margaret Henneke-\$20; Madeline Migura-\$25; John & Ruth Barton-\$50; Larry & Doris Grubert-\$15.

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Steve Henke: Lillian Harned-\$10

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

October 2013

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Venerable Pierre Toussaint

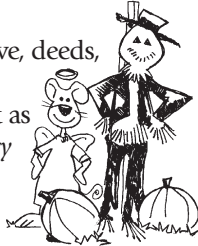
Pierre Toussaint was born a slave in Haiti. To escape civil unrest, he and his master came to the United States and Pierre was apprenticed to a hair dresser in New York City. Pierre became a popular stylist loyal to his owners. He cared for his master's wife after she was widowed and was freed shortly before her death. Pierre married, and he and his wife attended daily Mass and devoted themselves to caring for the sick and orphaned.

Father is waiting

In the prayer, "Our Father," we are reminded that our true Father lives in Heaven – our eventual home. We are only temporary travelers on Earth. By asking us to pray this particular prayer, Jesus helps us to keep our eyes on our home where our Father waits patiently for us.

From St. Therese of Liseux

"Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing." (*Story of a Soul*)



We can make a more peaceful world

Ordinarily we think of violence as physical – a blow, a gunshot, a bombing. It seems that we hear and read about acts of war every day. But wars escalate from everyday acts in homes, neighborhoods, and communities that can be as subtle as words or gestures that dampen the spirit of another person. As Christians, we can prevent violence by living our faith.

Embrace diversity – don't just tolerate it. Different as we are, we are all made in God's image and likeness. There is great diversity in the communion of saints.

Develop more empathy – see situations from another's perspective. It's the best way to understand the impact of our actions on those affected

by them.

Treat everyone with dignity – don't ignore others as a way of expressing anger or disapproval. Giving the "silent treatment" instead of working out problems denies much needed human contact and fails to solve conflict.

Choose entertainment carefully – a steady diet of violent entertainment and media helps us become comfortable with violence and

to see people as characters rather than humans. Instead, pray for victims of violence and for the souls of those who perpetrate it.

Detach – value people more than things. Share what you have. Don't take more than you need. Don't get so attached to achieving an outcome that you forget that love matters more.

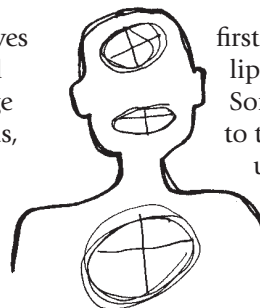


Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do we cross our forehead, lips, and chest before hearing the Gospel at Mass?

One reason we cross ourselves before listening to the Gospel is to ask God to let its message dominate our thoughts, words, and feelings.

Before the priest or deacon proclaims the Gospel, we trace the sign of the cross



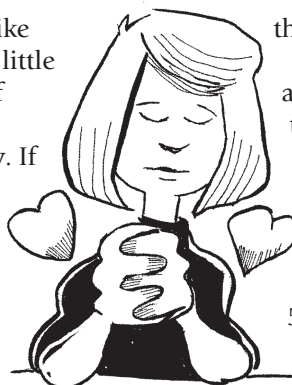
first on the forehead, then the lips, and finally over the heart. Some even say a prayer similar to this, "May the Lord purify my understanding, my speech, and my heart, so that I may receive the words of the Gospel."

5 tips for greater holiness

Achieving holiness requires a constant effort like climbing a mountain. To stop trying, even for a little while, is to lose ground. Daily effort will pay off with results.

1. **Become aware of Jesus' presence every day.** If you struggle to find him, ask for his help. Not only will awareness of him help you grow in love and kindness toward everyone, you will find it easier to control your faults.

2. **Don't be afraid of work or suffering.** Jesus experienced both in his time on Earth and used



them to pave our way to Heaven.

3. **Give God your full attention.** Speak to him, ask him for help, express sorrow for your mistakes, tell him you love him. Visit him regularly in Church.

4. **Nurture your faith.** Just as air and food keep our bodies alive, faith feeds our souls. It's the bond that unites us to God. Read Scripture every day. Learn about the saints. Listen to the Pope.

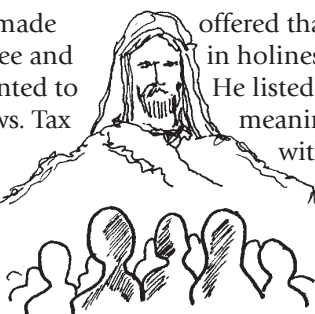
5. **Practice patience.** It's the first step toward holiness.

from Scripture

Luke 18:9-14, God wants only love

Imagine the impact Jesus made when he compared a Pharisee and a tax collector. Pharisees wanted to be emulated by everyday Jews. Tax collectors were usually Jews who collaborated with the hated Romans to collect unfair taxes from fellow Jews – and often cheated to gather a little extra for themselves. Yet in Jesus' example, the Pharisee didn't fare so well when both approached God in prayer.

The Pharisee marched up to a position of honor in the temple to pray, presumably to be seen and admired. He focused his prayer on himself and



offered thanks that he was superior in holiness to all around him.

He listed his many good (but meaningless) deeds, and looked with disgust upon the tax collector.

By contrast, the tax collector humbled himself before God and offered only a simple prayer casting himself on God's mercy. He was aware of God's graciousness in loving him despite his sinfulness. Jesus said that only the tax collector went home in a right relationship with God.

He said that our sincere love matters more than anything else.

Q & A Why does God make us suffer?

As Catholics, we know that God is infinitely perfect and incapable of doing evil. In fact, he created us out of love so that we could share in his own blessed life. It was his plan for us to live in harmony with him.



When our first parents sinned, they disrupted the harmony by which we were protected from suffering and death. The world we have now is not the original perfection of God's creation but a fallen one with sin and evil that God didn't put here. We suffer because of the disorder created by that Original Sin compounded by our own sin, not because God makes us suffer.

Sometimes God does allow us to suffer, though. The purpose of our lives on Earth is to determine where we shall be for eternity, either with God or separated from God. Sometimes God allows suffering in order to awaken us to the fact of our sin, our impending death and judgment, to help us repent and turn back to him.

Feasts & Celebrations

In October we celebrate the Rosary with the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th. The Rosary helps us meditate on the mysteries of our salvation – Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection.

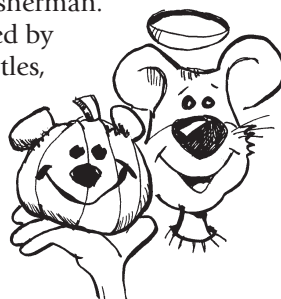
Oct. 15 - St. Teresa of Avila (1583). Teresa founded a strict religious order whose nuns wore rough brown habits and sandals instead of shoes. St. Teresa established more than 17 convents of Discalced Carmelites and helped reform the Carmelite friars.

Oct. 17 – St. Ignatius of Antioch (1st century). Succeeded St. Peter as the

second bishop of Antioch, St. Ignatius encouraged obedience to the world's bishops and reminded people that Jesus is present in the Church and in each other.

Oct. 28 – St. Simon and St. Jude (1st century). St. Simon was a Zealot – Jews who believed that the Messiah would free them from political oppression. St. Jude was a fisherman.

After being called by Jesus to be apostles, they ended up in Persia where they evangelized until they were martyred.



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