

OCTOBER

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YEAR B

WEEKDAYS II

Monday, October 1, 2018
(Lec. 455)

- 1) Job 1:6-22
- 2) Luke 9:46-50

MONDAY OF
26TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus,
Virgin and Doctor of the Church)

FOCUS: God is always present and always faithful.

The most important relationship we have is the one we forge with God. When all may seem lost, God has not departed. He is there, ever faithful and true. We honor and respect him when we are faithful and make every effort to love and obey him.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Satan unsuccessfully attempts to undermine God by claiming that Job's faith in God is rooted only in the blessings he has been given. In the Gospel, Jesus implores his disciples to not discourage anyone who acts in his name.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: United in faith, let us bring our prayers for ourselves and for the world before God.

- 1) For all the baptized, may the grace of our divine adoption help us work together to seek the fulfillment of the Reign of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government officials, may they experience an increase in charity, so that every person is looked upon as an image of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who flee their homelands for safety, especially refugees, may God grant them relief through the kindness of his people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the elders of our community, especially those who live in isolation, may the Lord grant them perseverance in faith and hope, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all the souls of the faithful departed, may they rest in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Good and gracious God, listen to the prayers of your people. If it is your will, grant what we have asked. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, October 2, 2018
(Lec. 456)
1) Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23
(Lec. 650)
2) Matthew 18:1-5, 10

TUESDAY OF
26TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
The Holy Guardian Angels)

FOCUS: We are never alone; God has blessed us with the presence of angels.

Because God loves us so much, he has blessed us with the presence of angels. These angels are always with us, not just as bystanders and companions, but as ones who actually fight with and for us as we journey through this world.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Job bemoans his fate in the midst of all his trials. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven, it is necessary to become like children, whose worth is indicated by their angels' presence before God.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With God as our loving Father, let us bring our prayers before him.

- 1) For all those in leadership in the Church, may they be guided by the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our elected officials, may God's will be accomplished in and through them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who struggle with depression or abandonment, may they know God's constant presence with them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our local community, may the light of Christ shine upon us and be gracious to us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they abide with Christ in heaven forever, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, your love never fails us. Please hear and answer our prayers, for we offer them through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Wednesday, October 3, 2018
(Lec. 457)

- 1) Job 9:1-12, 14-16
- 2) Luke 9:57-62

WEDNESDAY OF
26TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: What does following Jesus unconditionally look like in our own lives?

What does it mean to follow Jesus unconditionally? In today's Gospel we learn the answer to this question directly from Jesus. It is to have an unwavering commitment to the proclamation of the kingdom of God. It is a willingness to put this commitment before any earthly attachments so as not to hesitate in moving forward on the mission he gives us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Job's testimony to the power of God gives a picture of the relationship between God and humanity. In the Gospel of Luke, as the followers of Jesus commit to him, Jesus clarifies in concrete ways what it will mean to follow him.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As people of faith, let us turn to God our Father with our needs and those of the world.

- 1) That the work of the worldwide Church may prosper under the Spirit of Truth who guides her, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That government leaders may be led by the Gospel in their development of policies, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those who suffer from addiction may find peace in their lives and help for their pain, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That those in our community who are without the basic necessities of life may receive relief from their burdens, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may find eternal rest in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, as you hold us in the palm of your hand, we thank you for your presence among us. We ask you to hear and answer our prayers according to your will, through your son Jesus Christ.

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Thursday, October 4, 2018
(Lec. 458)

- 1) Job 19:21-27
- 2) Luke 10:1-12

THURSDAY OF
26TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Francis of Assisi)

FOCUS: We are called to carry God's message of love to others in spite of distractions and challenges.

In spite of adversity and emotional pain, Job trusted God. Jesus instructed his disciples to concentrate on sharing the Good News rather than being preoccupied with possessions or reacting to rejection. We're also called to trust God and focus on sharing his love with others, in spite of inner feelings or outside circumstances.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Job cries out to his friends in pain and anguish, while affirming his faith that God will vindicate him. In the Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples to announce God's kingdom, instructing them on what to carry with them and how to respond to their reception among the people.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in God's loving care and providence, let us offer him our prayers.

- 1) That Francis, our pope, all Church leaders and all those who work to further God's kingdom may be sustained by his love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That all those in public office may be guided by God's wisdom to work for and promote justice for those who are vulnerable, especially the unborn, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those experiencing physical pain or emotional anguish may feel the comfort of God's presence through the ministry of his followers, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That those gathered here today may be empowered by their spiritual gifts and grow in holiness and generosity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died, especially those who have died this week, may be experiencing the peace of God's loving embrace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, please accept the prayers we offer you with humble trust, and grant us reassurance of your loving care. We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ.

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Friday, October 5, 2018
(Lec. 459)

1) Job 38:1, 12-21;
40:3-5

2) Luke 10:13-16

FRIDAY OF
26TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.)

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest)

FOCUS: Like Job, let us remember the mighty power of the one who formed us and guides us.

Job is reminded by God of the mighty power of the one who created the world. And Job listened. Jesus performed mighty deeds in the cities, but they did not listen. Can we say we listen like Job? Or do we sometimes resemble the people who did not listen to Jesus?

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lord speaks to Job, questioning whether he could possibly comprehend the creation of the earth or understand its breadth and all that surrounds it. Jesus criticizes cities that have not repented although they have seen mighty deeds, reminding his disciples that a rejection of them by the people of these towns is a rejection of Jesus himself.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With hopeful hearts, we approach our God who created us, presenting our needs and those of the world.

- 1) That those who minister in the Church may have the Spirit of Wisdom to guide and fortify them in their witness to the Good News, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That leaders throughout the world may be blessed with the integrity and strength necessary to support justice and flourishing for all their people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That missionaries may be given the strength they need to face opposition and resistance to the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That this community of faith may, like Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, grow in love and zeal for the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may be blessed with eternal peace in the heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, you bless those who fear you and walk in your ways. Guide us, we pray, along the everlasting way that leads to your eternal light. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, October 6, 2018
(Lec. 460)
1) Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17
2) Luke 10:17-24

SATURDAY OF
26TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint Bruno, Priest;
USA: Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin;
Saturday in honor of BVM)

FOCUS: God does marvelous things through and for us.

When things go well for us, we may be tempted to think we have done something remarkable. In fact, God is the one doing marvelous things through and for us. The one really good thing we *can* do is put our lives in God's care and follow where he leads us. This brings not only earthly satisfaction, but eternal life as well.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Job acknowledges that God knows and can do all things. He repents because he doubted, and God rewards him richly. In the Gospel, the seventy-two disciples return from their first mission rejoicing. Jesus joins in the rejoicing, but reminds them not to rejoice in their power, but in the knowledge that God has written their names in heaven.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us pray together and offer to the Lord our own needs and those of all people.

- 1) That Christian missionaries may be kept safe, and that their work may always reflect the goodness of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That policymakers may always respect the rights and dignity of the human person, especially the unborn, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those who are overwhelmed by circumstances and difficulties may be blessed with consolation and peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That each of us here may grow in faith and love as we live our lives of discipleship, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may be welcomed into the peace and joy of the heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, hear these prayers and help us to be faithful as we strive to do your will. We pray through your son, Jesus Christ.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2018

(Lec. 140)

- 1) Genesis 2:18-24
- 2) Hebrews 2:9-11
- 3) Mark 10:2-16 or
10:2-12

**TWENTY-SEVENTH
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: Christ became one with us in the flesh for our salvation.

We are made for one another and for relationships. Christ became one with us in the flesh and shared all our human experiences so we might realize that true love is possible only when we are united with him.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Genesis, God creates a suitable partner for man: woman. The Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that Jesus *was made "lower than the angels"* for our salvation. In the Gospel, Jesus answers the Pharisees' question regarding divorce by referring to the scriptural account of creation and God's design for man and woman.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in his goodness, let us bring before the Lord our needs.

- 1) For those entrusted with leadership in the Church at all levels, may they be strengthened and encouraged by our prayers, especially in times of difficulty, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all those called to government and civic leadership, may the Lord give them hearts of compassion to serve those who need them most, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who experience separation and divorce, may the love of God sustain them through every difficulty, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all families in our faith community, may justice, respect and reconciliation abound in them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they enjoy the peace and happiness of God's kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, we thank you for the blessings we have received in our families. With confidence, we entrust our prayers to you and pray that what we have asked in faith we may obtain, through Christ our Lord.

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Monday, October 8, 2018
(Lec. 461)

- 1) Galatians 1:6-12
- 2) Luke 10:25-37

MONDAY OF
27TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: To gain eternal life we must love our neighbor, and Jesus helps us understand what that means.

It is written in the law that we are to love God with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind. We are also commanded to love our neighbor as ourselves. But what does that mean? What might that look like? Jesus' parables and life help us understand the answers to those questions.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul explains that the Gospel he preaches is the true Gospel because it is not of human origin, but *a revelation of Jesus Christ*. In the Gospel, Jesus uses the parable of the Good Samaritan to demonstrate what it means to love one's neighbor.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us now offer our prayers and petitions to our merciful Father.

- 1) For the Church, as the Mystical Body of Christ, may she grow and prosper in the Lord's saving work, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our public officials, may God help them use their talents for the common good, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those in need of food or shelter, may the Lord grant them relief and hope, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here, may God give us a spirit of joy for the gift of our faith, and allow it to bear good fruit in our daily lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they enter into their eternal reward, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we implore you to hear these prayers and those we hold in our hearts. We pray this in the name of your son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Tuesday, October 9, 2018
(Lec. 462)

- 1) Galatians 1:13-24
- 2) Luke 10:38-42

TUESDAY OF
27TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem. Saint Denis, Bishop,
and Companions, Martyrs;
Saint John Leonardi, Priest)

FOCUS: Let us not only welcome Jesus, but take time to listen to him.

How does an encounter with Jesus change us? Do we take the time to let Jesus speak to us? Martha welcomes Jesus into her home, but then she becomes preoccupied with being a good hostess. Her sister, however, prioritizes listening to Jesus. Perhaps if we imitate Mary, and Saint Paul when *he* encountered Jesus, we will make room for God to do great things through us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Saint Paul tells the Galatians his conversion story: after encountering Jesus, he turned from persecuting Christians to being a missionary for Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds Martha that her sister Mary recognized the importance of listening to him rather than getting lost in the busyness of everyday life.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the Lord who welcomes us, we bring our prayers and petitions to him, for he is merciful and gracious.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may we witness to God's love in all that we do, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who strive to bring peace among the nations of the world, may the peace of Christ be with them, and may their efforts be fruitful, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those suffering from anxiety or loneliness, may they find rest in Christ's presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our parish, may our personal encounter with Jesus here in the Eucharist strengthen us in faith and love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, may they enjoy the joyful presence of Christ in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful Father, look graciously upon the prayers of your faithful gathered in your presence. We ask this in the name of your son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Wednesday, October 10, 2018
(Lec. 463)

- 1) Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14
- 2) Luke 11:1-4

WEDNESDAY OF
27TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Jesus teaches us how to pray.

Jesus provides a simple, yet also challenging, way of praying when he gives us the Lord's Prayer. We would do well to meditate on these words and ponder how this prayer addresses our every need – how it is relevant to our own lives each day.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Paul rebukes Peter in the first reading for his hypocrisy in treating Jewish and Gentile Christians unevenly. In the Gospel, Jesus presents the Lord's Prayer in response to being asked how we are to pray.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Reminded that we are invited to call on God as our loving Father, let us lift up our prayers to him.

- 1) That the Holy Spirit may bless the work of those who serve the Church in ministry, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That those charged with the duty of governance may grow in charity and wisdom, keeping the needs of the ones they serve fully in their hearts, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That the Prince of Peace may inspire all Christians to reconcile their differences, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That those among us who are suffering from physical illness may find healing and peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have passed into the next life may have eternal joy with our Father in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious Father, receive these prayers and lead us to greater holiness. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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Thursday, October 11, 2018
(Lec. 464)

- 1) Galatians 3:1-5
- 2) Luke 11:5-13

THURSDAY OF
27TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint John XXIII, Pope)

FOCUS: Persevere in prayer.

Believing God actually takes the time to listen to our prayers is difficult for us at times to believe. It takes work, it takes perseverance. It is especially difficult when we don't think he is answering us. The truth is that sometimes we just don't like his answer.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul is upset with the Galatians' lack of understanding of their newfound faith. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us about perseverance and the importance of prayer.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Gathering our needs before the Lord, and confident that we are heard, let us present our petitions to him.

- 1) For Pope Francis, may he be granted strength and wisdom as he gently shepherds in the spirit of Pope Saint John XXIII, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those in civil government, may their leadership be guided by the wisdom that comes from the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those facing adversity, may their faith in God and their perseverance in prayer bring them consolation, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all gathered here today, may we grow deeper in our relationship to Jesus through our prayer life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our deceased brothers and sisters, may they enjoy the blessing of eternal life in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious God, we come knocking at your door knowing you hear our every prayer. Help us to remain faithful to your ways each day. We pray through Christ our Lord.

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Friday, October 12, 2018
(Lec. 465)

- 1) Galatians 3:7-14
- 2) Luke 11:15-26

FRIDAY OF
27TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: The blessing of Abraham is bestowed on us through faith.

As Christians, we are the descendants of Abraham and inheritors of the promises made to him. We are truly *children of Abraham* if we have faith in these promises, and recognize the One – Jesus – who came to fulfill the law and extend God’s blessings to all. *The Lord will remember his covenant for ever*, the psalmist tells us. May we honor it by our love for and faith in God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In today’s reading, Paul tells the Galatians they will receive the promise of the Spirit through faith – not dependence on the law. The Gospel describes the crowd’s reactions after Jesus drives a demon from a mute person. Jesus demonstrates he is stronger than evil, but warns against the return of unclean spirits.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in our God who hears all our prayers, let us turn to him with our needs and the needs of the world.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may God’s great love for us inspire us to serve others with love and humility, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For leaders of nations, may they be moved by the Spirit to enact and uphold laws defending life in all its stages, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those facing suffering and pain, may they experience the presence of God through the prayers we offer and the care we extend, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those in our faith community who seek to discern God’s call in their life, may the Holy Spirit uplift and guide them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they be welcomed into the loving, merciful arms of the Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty, ever-powerful God, look favorably on our prayers and help us always to do your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, October 13, 2018
(Lec. 466)

- 1) Galatians 3:22-29
- 2) Luke 11:27-28

SATURDAY OF
27TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Saturday in honor of BVM)

FOCUS: Believing in God's word brings blessings to the faithful.

We are honored to be able to hear and read the word of God each day. Because of that privilege, we have the opportunity to obey his word and grow closer to him.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul tells the Galatians that through faith they are all children of God in Jesus Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus redefines for the crowd what it means to be blessed.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Confident that the Father hears our prayers, let us bring our needs to him.

- 1) For the Church, that we may grow in God's grace as we witness to his message of love and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our government leaders, that God may increase them in virtue so they may lead in truth and honesty, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the poor and the rejected, may they find hope and refuge in God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here, may we be transformed in Christ's love through prayer and good works, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, that they may find their home in the presence of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we unite our lives and hearts to you this day. Thank you for hearing our prayers and answering them according to your will. We ask all these things through your son, Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018

(Lec. 143)

- 1) Wisdom 7:7-11
- 2) Hebrews 4:12-13
- 3) Mark 10:17-30 or
10:17-27

**TWENTY-EIGHTH
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: God offers us the perspective of eternity.

In a secular world, so many people today have a limited perspective, valuing and pursuing what they see before their eyes and what benefits them in this current life. God calls us, as followers of Jesus, to take the longer view – to pursue eternal values, trusting that God will also give us what we need here and now.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the Book of Wisdom, Solomon sees beyond the beauties and attractions of this world and chooses the eternal values of wisdom and prudence. In the second reading, we learn of the keen edge of the word of God. In the Gospel, a rich young man is hampered by his wealth from responding to the call to follow Jesus.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: God knows our needs in this life and the next. Let us present to him the needs of our world.

- 1) For the Church on earth, that we may increase in faith and number, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For elected officials, that they may be blessed with the gifts of righteousness and integrity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For farmers everywhere, that God would bless them with enough sun and rain to produce an abundant harvest, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our community of believers, may the graces offered in the Blessed Sacrament unite us even more closely to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, that they might be received into the heavenly kingdom of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, you know all our desires and wants before we even ask. We bring these petitions before you with the faith that you always provide us with what we need, through your son, Christ our Lord.

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Monday, October 15, 2018
(Lec. 467)

- 1) Galatians 4:22-24,
26-27, 31-5:1
- 2) Luke 11:29-32

MONDAY OF
28TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Teresa of Jesus,
Virgin and Doctor of the Church)

FOCUS: Say yes to the kingdom of God.

Do we reach for God's kingdom with one hand while the other grasps tightly things of this world – power, possessions? Can we say yes to the new covenant which promises adoption as children of God, offering eternal life and freedom in Christ? Let's ask God to help us stand firm and taste the joy of freedom in Christ.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Paul's Letter to the Galatians, he rejoices in our freedom in Christ; we are born as children of the new covenant. In today's Gospel from Luke, Jesus reprimands the evil generation for seeking a sign; they will be given only the sign of Jonah, and Jesus is greater than the sign of Jonah.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Rejoicing in the freedom Christ has gained for us, let us present our needs to the Lord.

- 1) For the Church, that the Lord may guard and guide her to a deeper knowledge and love of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For elected officials and civic leaders, may God grant them the virtues necessary to protect all human life, from conception to natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all people enslaved by addiction, may the Lord provide them strength and healing, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our faith community, that we may grow in holiness through Mary's intercession, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who sleep in Christ, may they rejoice in eternal freedom and happiness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, we thank you for your grace and mercy. Please hear and answer our prayers in your wisdom, through Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, October 16, 2018
(Lec. 468)

- 1) Galatians 5:1-6
- 2) Luke 11:37-41

TUESDAY OF
28TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint Hedwig, Religious;
Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin)

FOCUS: Let us strive to live lives of *faith working though love*.

Rituals by themselves are useless if they are followed only because of tradition. We might hear people say, “we’ve always done it that way,” concerning something spiritual or physical. If we forget the true meaning behind traditional spiritual exercises, we may be in danger of forgetting that they are there to remind us of our faith, and the Lord’s constant love and call to us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In today’s first reading, Paul warns his readers about following traditions of the old law, such as circumcision, while neglecting the words and examples of Jesus. The Gospel tells of Jesus admonishing a Pharisee for being more concerned with physical appearances than with acts of charity.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us approach our loving God with confidence as we offer our needs in prayer.

- 1) That our Church leaders may be blessed with every grace and wisdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That those with responsibility for the public well-being may have Christ the King as their guide as they serve their people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those who are without the bare necessities for a healthy physical and spiritual life may have the Lord look graciously upon them and provide for them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That this community of believers may be perfected in unity with Christ and with one another, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That all of our faithful departed will live forever in the presence of the Trinity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we offer our prayers with confidence in your love. Hear and answer them according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Wednesday, October 17, 2018
(Lec. 469)

- 1) Galatians 5:18-25
- 2) Luke 11:42-46

WEDNESDAY OF
28TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr)

FOCUS: Living in the Spirit is living a righteous life for God.

If we lived only according to the fruits of the Spirit and not by the flesh, laws would not be needed. Living in the flesh leads to selfishness and is contrary to living a righteous life for God. Love is the essential ingredient for living a righteous life within the laws of the land.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Galatians, we are taught that if we are guided by the Spirit and not the flesh, we will inherit the kingdom of God. Living in the Spirit, we must also allow the Spirit to guide us in our daily lives. In the Gospel, Jesus condemns the Pharisees for their greedy lifestyles, reminding them that living selfishly is not living in the Spirit.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With grateful hearts, we join in offering our prayers and petitions to the Lord.

- 1) For the pope and all clergy, may Christ the High Priest conform them ever more closely to himself, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For community leaders, that the Spirit may guide and direct their leadership, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are overwhelmed by the pressures of life, may they find peace this day in the promises of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the sick of our parish and those caring for them, may they feel the Lord's presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our dead, that they may have eternal rest with our Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit to guide us in our daily lives. We ask that you hear our prayers, which we offer through your son, Jesus Christ.

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Thursday, October 18, 2018
(Lec. 661)

- 1) 2 Timothy 4:10-17b
- 2) Luke 10:1-9

**SAINT LUKE,
EVANGELIST
- FEAST**

FOCUS: On the feast of the evangelist Saint Luke, we strive to hear the ways God calls us by name to go out and announce the Good News.

Discipleship involves both following Christ and evangelizing, both growing in our own faith and going out into the world to share the Good News. Today we pray that, like Saint Luke, we may go out to all the world and proclaim the Gospel without fear or reservation.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In today's first reading, Saint Paul asks Timothy to join him soon. He marvels at the strength the Lord has provided him to endure in evangelization. Paul notes that Luke is with him. In today's Gospel, Jesus appoints seventy-two of his followers and sends them out in pairs to labor and reap the harvest of discipleship. He instructs them to take nothing as they go out to heal the sick and proclaim the kingdom.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Our heavenly Father calls us by name and showers us with the graces we need to follow him. Let us now offer our prayers to him as we strive to do his will.

- 1) For Pope Francis, bishops, priests and all who teach the faith, may God grant them courage and strength to spread his word, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government officials, may God lead them to greater selflessness as they are called to serve, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick and suffering, may God in his power and mercy heal their minds, bodies and souls, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our community, may God show us the way to greater peace and unity as we strive to follow him and proclaim his word, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the dead, may they be welcomed into the fullness of life with God forever, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, you gave Saint Luke the courage to follow and trust you. Grant us those same graces as we bring these and all of our intentions to you this day. We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ.

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Friday, October 19, 2018
(Lec. 471)

- 1) Ephesians 1:11-14
- 2) Luke 12:1-7

FRIDAY OF
28TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM USA:

Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests,
and Companions, Martyrs)

FOCUS: Trust in God, who knows us intimately and guides us in the way we are to go.

Can we look at the created world and not be amazed by what we see? We see beauty and simple complexity which God has created. And in all of this, we are assured that God cares for each and every one of us without exception. This is God's message that every missionary proclaims to the world.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul tells the Ephesians, and us also, that they have been chosen by God for a purpose – *for the praise of his glory*. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the pressing crowd of people that each of them is noticed by God. God is so intimately connected with each person that he even knows the number of hairs on their head.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With grateful hearts and trust in God's mercy, we offer our prayers and petitions for our needs and the needs of the world.

- 1) That the Church's priests, religious, lay ministers and missionaries may be blessed with strength, fidelity and vigor, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That God, who loves justice and right, may guide the leaders of nations to bring peace and justice to those whom they serve, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those experiencing difficulty in their lives may know the tender compassion of God through the kindness of caring people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That those of us gathered here may have the grace to know God's will and to follow it freely, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That our beloved dead may be welcomed into paradise by our heavenly Father and rejoice with all the angels and saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: O God of love, you know us and you know what we need. Hear our prayers and answer them according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, October 20, 2018
(Lec. 472)

- 1) Ephesians 1:15-23
- 2) Luke 12:8-12

SATURDAY OF
28TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(USA: Opt. Mem.
Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest;
Saturday in honor of BVM)

FOCUS: Let us avoid hardness of heart and blasphemy of the Holy Spirit.

The one sin that cannot be forgiven, according to Jesus, is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. There are no limits to God's mercy, but anyone who deliberately refuses to accept his mercy rejects the forgiveness of his sins and the salvation offered by the Holy Spirit.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In today's first reading, the Ephesians receive praise for their faithfulness, as well as prayers for their continued growth as the new body of Christ on earth. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of blaspheming against the Holy Spirit as unforgivable. He also reassures us that the Holy Spirit will be with those who are persecuted for their belief in Jesus.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Together, let us humbly present our petitions to our loving Father.

- 1) That we, the body of Christ, may be strengthened and sanctified through the sacraments, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That the violence plaguing the world may yield to the love and charity of God through the work of his kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those being persecuted for their faith in Jesus may be strengthened as they call on the help of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That the members of this faith community may be guided by the Holy Spirit in all aspects of our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may one day see God face to face in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty God, we entrust our needs to you, confident of your providential love. We offer these petitions through Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018

(Lec.146)

- 1) Isaiah 53:10-11
- 2) Hebrews 4:14-16
- 3) Mark 10:35-45 or
10:42-45

**TWENTY-NINTH
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: Through his suffering, Jesus justifies many and sympathizes with us in our weaknesses.

The coming of the kingdom has renewed all creation. Its fulfillment in Christ will bring complete renewal and hope. Even the difficult issue of suffering is changed. No longer without meaning or purpose, it has become an opportunity to serve and to be intimately joined to Christ, the Suffering Servant.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The prophet Isaiah foretells the burden to be borne by the Suffering Servant, and how through that suffering the world would find redemption. The writer of Hebrews reminds us that Christ, in sharing our human condition, truly understands our struggles and temptations. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us that discipleship and suffering are intimately related.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Guided by a spirit of true humility and compassion, we bring our prayers and needs before the Lord.

- 1) For our Holy Father, our bishops and all who lead our communities of faith, may they be strengthened by God's love and mercy in their lives of service, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who exercise authority in our world, may they be blessed with the virtues of wisdom and compassion in their governance, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For our community and all communities in our diocese and beyond, may we grow in discipleship through the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all who suffer, in mind, body or spirit, may they experience the healing presence of the Lord through the loving presence and care of others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they experience the justifying love and mercy of Christ, the Suffering Servant, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty God and Father, lover of justice and protector of all who struggle, hear our prayers and in your great mercy answer them. We pray this through your son, Christ our Lord.

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Monday, October 22, 2018
(Lec. 473)

- 1) Ephesians 2:1-10
- 2) Luke 12:13-21

MONDAY OF
29TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint John Paul II,
Pope)

FOCUS: Our redemption is purely a gift from God.

Like the rich man in the Gospel, we can be tempted to rely on ourselves and the good things we earn in life. What we earn certainly helps us to live this life, and to take care of those who depend on us. But it is God's pure gift that enables us to live in the next life. Our merciful God gives us the gift of salvation when we die and rise with Christ through baptism. No more than we would reject what we have rightly earned, let us not reject what has been freely given.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, we hear that we have all been dead in our sins, but through Christ, the free gift of God, we have been redeemed. In the Gospel, Jesus uses a parable about a rich man who relied on his large harvest to show that greed and gathering riches will not save one's soul.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the generosity of the Lord, let us bring our prayers and petitions to him.

- 1) For the Church throughout the world, may she grow in unity and holiness, by God's power and grace, let us pray to the Lord
- 2) For our government leaders, may the Holy Spirit guide them in their creation of legislation caring for the poor, the sick and the vulnerable, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who feel unloved, that God's merciful love may enfold and encourage them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our parish community, that the Lord may inspire us in the use of our time, talent and treasure, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, especially those who have no one to pray for them, that they may rest in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, look favorably on the prayers of your faithful gathered here. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, October 23, 2018
(Lec. 474)

- 1) Ephesians 2:12-22
- 2) Luke 12:35-38

TUESDAY OF
29TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.)

Saint John of Capistrano, Priest)

FOCUS: God calls us to be both one in prayer and one in service.

We often hear the dichotomy between prayer and action – between people called to a life of prayer and those who are expected to serve others. But we are called to be both: to be part of the Church, the dwelling of the Holy Spirit, and to be servants, working to build up the kingdom of God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Paul tells the Ephesians – and us – that we who were not part of the Jewish Covenant have become one through Jesus, who reconciled all of us through his blood on the cross. Jesus tells us in the Gospel to be vigilant, like a servant, so that when he comes, we will be found faithful and awake.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: We have been built as a dwelling place of God, so let us confidently present to him our needs.

- 1) For all members of the Church, that we might be ever united in the mission of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For diplomats, ambassadors and all other government officials who strive to bring about peace among nations, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For families who face the challenges of illness, addiction or division, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here, may we have the grace to be faithful to Jesus' command to love one another, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all of our beloved dead, especially those who have recently died, may they joyfully claim their citizenship in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Ever loving God, we present these needs to you, and the needs in our hearts, trusting that you will fulfill them according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Wednesday, October 24, 2018
(Lec. 475)

- 1) Ephesians 3:2-12
- 2) Luke 12:39-48

WEDNESDAY OF
29TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.)

Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop)

FOCUS: Let us serve the Master as faithful stewards of his blessings.

Everyone is blessed with a variety of talents. As disciples of Jesus, we are to discern how to best use those talents we have been given to build up the Lord's kingdom here on earth. Fullness of life with the Lord then follows in heaven.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul, the Apostle called to serve the Gentiles, reminds the people of Ephesus that Jesus came for all and not for some. In the Gospel, Jesus uses a parable about a not-so-good servant to teach the disciples about being good and faithful stewards.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: God continuously calls us to be faithful stewards of our blessings and talents. Let us approach the Lord, presenting our needs before him.

- 1) For Pope Francis and all pastoral leaders, may the Lord guide and sustain them as they shepherd us as faithful servant-leaders of the Church, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our civic leaders, may the Holy Spirit grant them a discerning heart as they select ways to improve the lives of those they are called serve, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick and all who suffer, may God's Holy Spirit restore them to the fullness of life and health and liberate them from all affliction, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of faith, may God grant us the strength to be peacemakers in our families, our community and our nation, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may God, the Master of all that is good and eternal, welcome them into his embrace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious God, help us each to pattern our lives after the example of your Son and our Divine Master. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday, October 25, 2018
(Lec. 476)

- 1) Ephesians 3:14-21
- 2) Luke 12:49-53

THURSDAY OF
29TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: The plan of the Lord stands forever.

God's plan isn't always easy to accept, is it? We may question why things happen rather than trust in our Lord. Jesus acknowledges that his own mission on earth will cause great anguish and even divide families. Yet, out of boundless love for us, he submits to the Father so we may be filled with the fullness of God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Paul prays for the Christians of Ephesus in today's reading. He asks the Father to deepen their understanding of God's plan of salvation, which is rooted in love. In the Gospel, Jesus says he has come to set the earth on fire. A baptism of fire awaits him, and he is in anguish until it is accomplished.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us now turn to the Father, with prayers for our Church and for the needs of all the world.

- 1) For consecrated religious men and women, may the Spirit set their hearts ablaze as they continue to grow in holiness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those who serve in public office, may they be blessed with the wisdom and judgment to promote the common good, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For married couples facing difficulties or separation, may truth and love inspire them to seek healing in their marriage, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those in our parish seeking a deeper faith, may the infinite dimensions of Christ's love fill them with the fullness of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they live again in the perpetual light of our Father's love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, you accomplish far more than we can ever ask or imagine. Hear our prayers and allow the Spirit to work within us, through your son, Jesus Christ.

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Friday, October 26, 2018
(Lec. 477)

- 1) Ephesians 4:1-6
- 2) Luke 12:54-59

FRIDAY OF
29TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Animated by the Spirit of unity and peace, we are called to practice the Christian virtues in every occasion.

The virtues should guide our interactions with others, even with those who oppose us. These virtues should be rooted in love, and should foster the unity and peace in which we share through the Spirit. This approach will help us respond to the animosity we may encounter in a manner that reflects our Christian identity.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live in a virtuous manner that reflects the unity God has brought about in them through baptism and is animated by the Spirit they have received. In the Gospel, Jesus exhorts his disciples to refrain from hypocrisy and to settle matters fairly with any opponents.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: In faith, let us humbly offer our prayers and petitions to the Lord.

- 1) For the pope, bishops, and all pastors, may the Spirit continue to strengthen them in their leadership of the body of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For civic leaders and all those entrusted with creating policy, may the Spirit of wisdom continue to inspire their decisions, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are hungry for community and friendship, may the Lord provide for them, encouraging relationships of love and care, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For families in this faith community, may their daily interactions be animated by the Spirit of peace and unity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they forever enjoy peace in the kingdom of heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, we thank you for listening to the prayers of your people, which we have offered to you with sincere and hopeful hearts. In Christ's name we pray.

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Saturday, October 27, 2018
(Lec. 478)

- 1) Ephesians 4:7-16
- 2) Luke 13:1-9

SATURDAY OF
29TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Saturday in honor of BVM)

FOCUS: Let us repent so that our lives bear good fruit for the Lord.

Today we reflect on our need for repentance, and how we must cultivate our lives in such a way that bears fruit for God's kingdom. We each have a unique role in building up the kingdom as a member of the body of Christ, the Church. We are united together with love and with Christ as the head.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Saint Paul points to the diverse ministries of the Church and the need to be bound in love with Christ as head. In the Gospel, Jesus implies that one's misfortune does not necessarily indicate the depth of one's sinfulness; rather, each of us is in need of repentance and a change in lifestyle that bears fruit for the Lord.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Confident that God's generous blessings are extended toward us, let us present our needs to the Lord.

- 1) For the pope and all those in the Church who serve the people of God, may the Lord bless them and keep them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For political leaders, may the Lord's gracious mercy and generosity inform them in their civic duties, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those suffering violence in their countries, communities or homes, may God's peace overcome the tumult and bring comfort and healing, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those in this community harvesting healthy food to share, may God bless them with a harvest that is easy and bountiful, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have passed through death into the next life, may they enjoy the heavenly banquet with all the saints and angels, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious God, hear our petitions and help us to grow in holiness and love. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2018

(Lec. 149)

- 1) Jeremiah 31:7-9
- 2) Hebrews 5:1-6
- 3) Mark 10:46-52

**THIRTIETH
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: Just as Jesus restored sight to the blind man, our faith in him opens our eyes to truth and eternal life in Christ.

The story of Jesus healing the blind man speaks powerfully to us. *Your faith has saved you*, Jesus tells him. The man, with his sight restored, follows Jesus. May our own faith and determination give us sight as well, that we may also know and follow God in our daily lives.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The prophet Jeremiah proclaims that the Lord keeps his promises, gathering and delivering the people of Israel. In the Letter to the Hebrews, God calls some to be priests, representing the people and following the example set forth by Jesus. Mark's Gospel recounts the story of Jesus healing the blind man on the road from Jericho.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With clear sight and our eyes focused on Jesus, let us join together in prayer as we present our petitions to God.

- 1) For the Catholic Church, may she grow in faith, hope and charity in her ministry throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all first responders, may they be safe and protected as they answer their calls to give service to others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who face any type of health challenge or difficulty, may they feel the healing comfort of our Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may we grow in strength and understanding, and draw together through this Holy Sacrifice, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they enjoy eternal rest in the presence of our heavenly Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, please accept these petitions which we present with humble faith, knowing you will take care of our needs as you will. We offer these through Jesus Christ, your son.

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Monday, October 29, 2018
(Lec. 479)

- 1) Ephesians 4:32–5:8
- 2) Luke 13:10-17

MONDAY OF
30TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Our identity as children of God compels us to act accordingly, and Jesus can help us do so.

Our identity as children of God should mean something; it should make a difference in our lives. As sons and daughters of Abraham, we are inheritors of a way of life beholden to God, and destined for his Promised Land. Treating others with love and forgiveness, as Jesus does, is how we unite ourselves to this salvation history, and live as God's beloved children.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul instructs the Ephesians to live as children of God. He tells them how they should act, and warns them that those who do evil have no place in the kingdom of God. In the Gospel, Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath. When leaders criticize him, Jesus notes that even they take their animals to water during the Sabbath rest.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting that we are the beloved children of God, we bring our prayers to him.

- 1) For Church leaders, may the Holy Spirit continue to lead and guide them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government leaders, may they be emboldened by God's divine providence as they work to protect life in all stages, from conception to natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For married couples everywhere, may God's grace help them to uphold the sacredness of their vows, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For members of this parish, that the Lord may strengthen us in virtue as we strive to live as children of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, may they rest in the peace of Christ in the heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father of mercy, hear the prayers of your children gathered here and look kindly upon our intentions. We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, October 30, 2018
(Lec. 480)
1) Ephesians 5:21-33 or
5:2a, 25-32 (Lec. 122)
(Lec. 480)
2) Luke 13:18-21

TUESDAY OF
30TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: The kingdom of God flourishes in our lives each day.

At times, we imagine the kingdom of God to be a faraway place – distant from the realities of everyday life. But the Incarnation reveals the presence of the Lord's kingdom both in our physical world and in our relationships with others. It is accessible; it is here and now. Through prayer, we may come to realize the mystery of God's love each moment of the day.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Ephesians, Paul tells husbands and wives to be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. Husbands must love their wives; wives must respect their husbands. The Gospel compares the kingdom of God to a mustard seed. It starts small, then grows into a large bush.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in God's goodness and love, let us now offer our prayers for the needs of the Church and the people of the world.

- 1) For those who shepherd our Church, may they be blessed as they continue to help the faithful grow in their knowledge and love for the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those in public office, may truth and justice inspire them to always promote the common good, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those suffering any illness or infirmity, may God bless them with healing and resources to meet their needs, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our parish community, may the presence of the Lord in our everyday lives protect and perfect us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they be welcomed into the kingdom of God through the saving grace of Christ's love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, hear our prayers. Allow your Spirit to work within us so we may build your kingdom here on earth. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Wednesday, October 31, 2018
(Lec. 481)

- 1) Ephesians 6:1-9
- 2) Luke 13:22-30

WEDNESDAY OF
30TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Let us listen to what the Lord says to us, because he is our God and redeemer.

Obedience is a necessary part of our everyday lives – not only by those under supervision, but by those who supervise others. The same is true in living the Christian life. Obeying the Lord, and treating all others with respect, is how we do the will of God from the heart. It is how we honor and respect our God and redeemer.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, he instructs children and slaves to be obedient, and tells Fathers and Masters not to provoke their subjects to anger or to bully them. In today's Gospel, Jesus answers the question, *Lord, will only a few people be saved?* with a discourse on who God will recognize and who he will not.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us pray in confidence to our heavenly Father, who hears our every prayer.

- 1) For the Church, may the Lord grant us patience for one another, bearing with one another in love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those in public authority, may the Holy Spirit grant them discerning hearts to know his will and the courage to be obedient to it, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who live under oppressive governments, may the Lord's peace come upon them and deliver them from evil, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our faith community, may we always testify, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, that Jesus is Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all those who have died, may they see God face to face in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, please hear and answer these prayers, for we ask them through Christ, our Lord.

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