

JUNE

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Tuesday, June 1, 2021
(Lec. 354)

- 1) Tobit 2:9-14
- 2) Mark 12:13-17

TUESDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Justin, Martyr)

FOCUS: We owe God our very lives.

Jesus gives us valuable guidelines: Give to society and neighbors what is due to them, but give back to God what is God's. We owe our very lives to God, not only because he created us but because Jesus paid the ultimate price for our salvation – death on the cross. We owe God our lives, hearts, and souls.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Suffering from blindness for four years, Tobit lashes out at his wife and accuses her of stealing a goat that was given as a bonus for her work as a weaver. Jesus answers a question about the census tax posed by the Pharisees and Herodians: *Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With absolute trust, we turn to God with the needs of our world.

- 1) For our Holy Father, may God grant him the strength and grace he needs to lead and teach the faithful, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government leaders, may the Holy Spirit guide them in focusing on justice, mercy, and the good of all, especially those most in need, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For children awaiting adoption, may Christ move the hearts of loving families in order to nurture and guide them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all gathered in this holy place, may God's merciful love strengthen and sanctify us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they find eternal joy with God in their heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God our Father, we entrust to you these needs, knowing that you desire all that is good for us. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus, your Son.

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Wednesday, June 2, 2021

(Lec. 355)

1) Tobit 3:1-11a, 16-17a

2) Mark 12:18-27

WEDNESDAY OF

NINTH WEEK

IN ORDINARY TIME

(Opt. Mem.

Saints Marcellinus and Peter,

Martyrs)

FOCUS: We are inheritors of God's promise of eternal life.

In Jesus' response to the Sadducees, he tells them they are *misled* and do not know the Scriptures. They are not focusing on what is important, namely, that our God is *not God of the dead but of the living*. He is, not *was*, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob because those three still live – they are inheritors of God's promise of eternal life. The same promise that awaits us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading Tobit, in his despair, prays that God may deliver him from his anguish. In the Gospel, the Sadducees confront Jesus regarding marriage and resurrection. Jesus challenges their misguided thinking and invites them to be open to Scripture and the power of God.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With hopeful hearts, we offer our prayers to our merciful Lord.

- 1) That the power of the living God may inspire and strengthen all who preach and teach in the Church, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That all who hold public office may be guided by the Holy Spirit to use their power and authority to bear the fruits of peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That the Lord may comfort and console those who grieve the loss of a loved one, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That the Holy Spirit may open the minds and hearts of this faith community to God's will in our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may one day join the angels and saints in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, in your mercy, hear the petitions we offer this day. We pray in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Thursday, June 3, 2021
(Lec. 356)

- 1) Tobit 6:10-11; 7:1bcde
9-17; 8:4-9a
- 2) Mark 12:28-34

THURSDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Charles Lwanga
and Companions,
Martyrs)

FOCUS: Offer thanks to God for his goodness.

Tobiah was a righteous man of God, and because of this he received the archangel Raphael's help in marrying Sarah without being killed by the demon. His righteousness is evident in his prayer. Let us strive to imitate Tobiah by praising God in our prayer and giving thanks for his goodness before we present our needs.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The righteous Tobiah prepares to marry his kinswoman, Sarah, whose seven husbands had been killed by a demon on their wedding night. They pray for deliverance, praising God and asking for his blessing on their marriage. In the Gospel, Jesus states that the greatest commandments are to love God and love your neighbor as yourself.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Together as one voice, let us offer our prayers to the Lord.

- 1) For all those discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, may God open their hearts to the promptings of his Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the leaders of nations, may the Holy Spirit guide them in enacting laws that protect all life, from conception to natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those in troubled marriages, may Christ the Bridegroom grant them the graces needed for understanding and unity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For engaged couples in this faith community, may God bless them in their preparations for the sacrament of holy matrimony, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all the faithful departed, may the Lord soon welcome them to the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Eternal and ever-loving Father, look kindly on these petitions we bring in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

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Friday, June 4, 2021

(Lec. 357)

- 1) Tobit 11:5-17
- 2) Mark 12:35-37

FRIDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Prayers of praise are offerings of love to our heavenly Father that bring us closer to heaven.

Prayers of praise to the Lord are central in our first reading and the psalm. Regardless of good or bad times, God is always worthy of our praise. When we pray in this manner, we join the communion of saints and choirs of angels in heaven. *Praise the Lord, my soul!*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Tobit rejoices at the return of his son, the healing of his blindness, and the marriage of his son. He offers a hymn of praise to God in response. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches in the temple, asking how Christ can be *the son of David*, if *David himself calls [the Christ] "Lord."*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us join our hearts in prayer as we offer our petitions to God the 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 an end to persecution, discrimination, and bigotry in the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who suffer mental illness, may Jesus, the Divine Physician, be their help and their strength, 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, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, may they receive a place at the eternal banquet feast in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, in your boundless love you attend to the pleas of your children. In your mercy, we ask that you grant these petitions, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, June 5, 2021

(Lec. 358)

1) Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20

2) Mark 12:38-44

SATURDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Boniface,
Bishop and Martyr)

FOCUS: Let us give generously of ourselves to give glory and honor to God.

Jesus finds lessons to impart in the day-to-day life of the Jewish community. In today's Gospel, he is at the temple, where he points out the hypocrisy of the scribes, who are filled with pride and self-importance. We also witness the perfect giving spirit of the poor widow, who gives all she has to the temple treasury. May her complete faith and trust in God be a model for us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the archangel Raphael, sent by God, tells Tobit to give praise, honor, and glory to God. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus acknowledges the value of the poor widow's small gift because she gave *her whole livelihood* rather than from any *surplus*.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we gather together in faith and love, let us join our hearts and minds in prayer to our loving Father.

- 1) For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, as he leads the Church with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those in positions of authority, may God move their hearts in leading with compassion and kindness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who hunger physically, emotionally, or spiritually, may the Good Shepherd feed and nourish them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those in our community who are fighting addictions, may God grant them the strength to overcome their struggles, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they soon rejoice in eternal peace in the presence of the Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we offer these prayers and humbly ask that you hear and provide what we need, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021

(Lec. 168)

- 1) Exodus 24:3-8
- 2) Hebrews 9:11-15
- 3) Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

**THE MOST HOLY
BODY AND BLOOD
OF CHRIST
(Corpus Christi)
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Jesus establishes the new covenant between God and his people with his body and blood.

Since the beginning of time, God has loved and delighted in the people he created to share fully in his love. Despite their repeated rejection and betrayal of him, God's love for his people never ended. In Jesus, and the giving of his body and blood, God offers us the way to become one with him and know his love completely.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Moses uses the blood of young bulls to seal the covenant between God and the Israelites. In the Letter to the Hebrews, the author explains that Christ is the high priest, and the new mediator of the covenant. In the Gospel, Jesus blesses the bread and wine at the Passover meal and instructs his disciples to receive them, as his body and blood of the new covenant.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: God lovingly provides the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation for all who seek him. We now turn to him in prayer with our prayers for the Church and for the world.

- 1) That God may continue to protect our Holy Church and bless her efforts in spreading the Good News, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That those who lead may be guided by the Holy Spirit in seeking the common good in their communities, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That brokenness and conflict within families may be healed and resolved through the gracious mercy of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That nourished by the Eucharist, this faith community may continue to grow ever closer to the heart and mind of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died in the light of faith may enjoy the fullness of God's love at his heavenly table, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, you invite us to fullness of life through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus. We offer these prayers in his name.

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Monday, June 7, 2021

(Lec. 359)

1) 2 Corinthians 1:1-7

2) Matthew 5:1-12

MONDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Christ transformed death into a doorway to eternal life.

The promise of Christ is not that he will take away all suffering here and now – it is that he will enter into it *with* us and we will never be alone. Christ transformed death into a doorway to eternal life – a blessing – and he wants to bring this same power to you and to me today.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Paul writes of God's encouragement, especially in times of affliction. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches the disciples the blessings that abound for those who have certain dispositions and actions.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the love of God, who in his immeasurable power meets us in our struggles, we boldly lift our needs to him today.

- 1) For the Church, may the Lord continue to bless her people and her good works, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For public authorities, may the Lord grant them wisdom and courage in defending the poor, the marginalized, and the most vulnerable, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who mourn, for those who are persecuted, and for all who are struggling, may they be strengthened and consoled by God's loving presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of faith, may we be given the blessing of poverty of spirit, and the grace to humbly rely on God in times of trial, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they rejoice in the eternal blessing of heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of tender love, hear our prayers today and be with us in our need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, June 8, 2021

(Lec. 360)

1) 2 Corinthians 1:18-22

2) Matthew 5:13-16

TUESDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: The Lord encourages us to persevere in our lives of discipleship.

Sometimes, it may feel as though our individual efforts to live a Christian life are rather insignificant. But in today's Gospel, Jesus encourages us to persevere in revealing God's presence in the world through our words and actions.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Paul writes to the Corinthians, *the one who gives us security with you in Christ and who anointed us is God*. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that just as the purpose of salt is to season food and the purpose of light is to illuminate a room, their purpose is to do good works and thus inspire others to glorify God.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With humble and sincere hearts, let us bring before God our prayers and petitions for ourselves and for the world.

- 1) For the Church throughout the world, may the Spirit continue to enkindle our hearts with the light of God's love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all those who govern, may God graciously fill them with wisdom, understanding, and compassion, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all those who care for family members with Alzheimer's or dementia, may the Lord strengthen and support them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community as we live the Gospel, may the Spirit embolden us when we are doubtful or unsure, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all those who have departed from this life, may the Lord and all the angels and saints welcome them into the joy of eternal life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving and eternal God, we give you thanks for hearing our prayers, and trust that you will answer them in accordance with your divine will. In Christ's name, we pray.

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Wednesday, June 9, 2021

(Lec. 361)

1) 2 Corinthians 3:4-11

2) Matthew 5:17-19

WEDNESDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint Ephrem,
Deacon and Doctor
of the Church)

FOCUS: Jesus fulfills God's law of love.

When Jesus says in today's Gospel that he comes to fulfill the law, he speaks to the loving relationship that God initiated. When we, as his disciples, obey his commandments and teach others to do so, we are building up God's kingdom on earth. In order to do this, we must say "yes" each day to God's will in our lives.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul writes that all of his [and others'] qualification to minister to the new covenant come not from themselves, but from God, and in the Spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus says he has come not to abolish the law, but to fulfill it. Therefore, all should obey and teach the commandments.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in our merciful Father, we offer him our prayers.

- 1) For the Church, may the power and grace of the Holy Spirit continue to help her persevere in bringing Christ's truth to all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For elected and appointed officials, may the Lord's wisdom inform their actions, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who feel lonely or abandoned, may God's presence console them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may God send his Holy Spirit upon us to bless us and protect us from all evil, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may the Lord welcome them to his eternal banquet in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Lord God, we lift these prayers to you, confident that you will hear them. Please answer them according to your holy will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday, June 10, 2021

(Lec. 362)

1) 2 Corinthians 3:15–4:1, 3-6

2) Matthew 5:20-26

THURSDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: *Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.*

Every Christian is being transformed into the likeness of Christ Jesus. Not only are we given new sight, but others see more in us. When we see and look as Christ does, *we do not preach ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord*. It cannot be our righteousness which saves us, but his.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Paul tells the Corinthians that even the Gospel is veiled for the unbelievers of this age. But for those who turn to the Lord, the veil is lifted. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches the disciples that their righteousness must surpass those of the religious leaders in order to *enter into the Kingdom of heaven*.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With hopeful hearts, we lift these intentions to our merciful Father today.

- 1) For Church leaders, may God grant them clarity of vision in guiding his people to deeper holiness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government leaders, may God bring them grace and wisdom in working to protect the dignity of every human person, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who struggle with anger or forgiveness, may God transform their hearts by the power of his love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here today, may God open our hearts ever more fully to receive his Word and follow his will, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, may they rest in the eternal light of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of Light and Goodness, we bring you these intentions today, with confidence that you will answer them according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Friday, June 11, 2021

(Lec. 171)

- 1) Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9
- 2) Ephesians 3:8-12, 14-19
- 3) John 19:31-37

**THE MOST
SACRED HEART OF JESUS
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Jesus' Sacred Heart, full of love, is pierced; and from it flow the treasures of grace and mercy.

It is from Jesus' Sacred Heart that blood and water flow – the cleansing waters of baptism and the precious blood of the Eucharist. May we, who are loved by God who is love, receive every grace that he offers us for our own salvation and the salvation of the world.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Hosea speaks for the Lord, telling the people that God cared for them and stooped down to feed them, yet they did not know. Still, God promises mercy for them. Paul writes that God gave him the grace *to preach to the Gentiles the inscrutable riches of Christ*. He prays that God may grant them strength in the Spirit and the dwelling of Christ in their hearts. In the Gospel, the soldiers break the legs of the two men who are crucified with Jesus, but when they see that Jesus is dead, they don't break his legs. One of the soldiers *thrust[s] his lance into [Jesus'] side*, and blood and water flow out.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Depending on God for all good things, let us place our needs and those of the world before him.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may the power of the Holy Spirit embolden us in spreading the Good News, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our elected and appointed leaders, may God open their ears to hear the cries of the poor as the Lord hears them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the marginalized and the oppressed, may God's love comfort them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may the grace of baptism and the Eucharist deepen our ability to share the love of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may God, in his mercy, welcome them into his heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we thank you for your great love for us, revealed in your Son, Jesus. Hear and answer our prayers that we bring to you in his name.

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Saturday, June 12, 2021

(Lec. 364)

1) 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

(Lec. 573)

2) Luke 2:41-51

SATURDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
The Immaculate Heart
of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

FOCUS: Mary's love for God and his Son, Jesus, is an example for us.

Today's memorial, always falling the day after the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is an opportunity for us to reflect upon Mary's love for Jesus. Mary's heart bore the joy of immense love of her son, and was pierced by the sword of immeasurable sorrow. Her devotion, love, and faithfulness to Jesus and God is an example for all of us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Saint Paul says that we no longer live according to the flesh because *whoever is in Christ is a new creation*. In the Gospel, after returning to Jerusalem to find the boy Jesus in the temple, his parents *were astonished*. But Jesus says to them: *Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in God's love for us, we offer our prayers for those in need.

- 1) That the Universal Church may grow in holiness and grace through the work of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That under the protection of Christ, all nations may experience peace and justice for all people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That families in turmoil may be strengthened in their bonds of love by God's healing grace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That members of this faith community may be blessed with the grace we need to live as fruitful disciples, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may rest in God's peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Lord God, you sent your Son, born of the Virgin Mary, to bring salvation for the world. Hear the prayers we place before you today. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2021

(Lec. 92)

- 1) Ezekiel 17:22-24
- 2) 2 Corinthians 5:6-10
- 3) Mark 4:26-34

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: The seed of faith is in our hearts, and grace helps it to bear fruit.

Jesus speaks his Word to the crowds in parables because that is how *they were able to understand it*. Today, he uses agrarian images. Although farming is dependent on many variables the farmer has no control over, the seed of faith planted on our hearts is totally in our control. Will we take the time to weed? Will we take the time to water?

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Ezekiel speaks for the Lord, who will take a shoot from a cedar and plant it *on the mountain heights of Israel*, where it will *bear fruit*. In the second reading, Paul writes that *we walk by faith, not by sight*. In the Gospel, Jesus describes the kingdom of God using parables of a wheat field and a mustard seed.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Mindful of our dependence on God, we humbly place our needs before him.

- 1) For Pope Francis and the bishops of the Church, may God bless them with wisdom in their proclamation of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who work in the justice system, may the Spirit empower them in charity and right action, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who have distanced themselves from family members, may the peace of Christ end all division and bring healing to their relationships, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those of us gathered here, through the Lord's grace and providence, may we grow in the virtues of faith, hope, and love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they soon be gathered up into the arms of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, you are the Creator of all that is good. Please hear and answer our prayers this day according to your holy will. We ask through your Son, Christ our Lord.

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Monday, June 14, 2021

(Lec. 365)

1) 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

2) Matthew 5:38-42

MONDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: *Behold, now is the day of salvation.*

The Christian life is not easy. It takes discipline and humility to lead a life of servant discipleship. It also takes a willingness to resist worldly pursuits. But if we are willing to make the sacrifices Christ demands and fight the moral fight, the reward is eternal life. The time is now, for the day of salvation is at hand.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In our first reading, Saint Paul appeals to the Corinthians *not to receive the grace of God in vain, for the day of salvation is at hand*. He assures them of their faultless ministry, saying, *in everything we commend ourselves as ministers of God*. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks to his disciples about the commandment, *an eye for an eye ...* and tells them they are to turn the other cheek rather than seek retaliation for a wrong.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us take our petitions and prayers and lay them before the Lord.

- 1) For the Church, may the Lord look graciously upon us as we take the Good News of Jesus Christ to all parts of the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For world leaders, may the Holy Spirit be their guide in their efforts to protect the dignity and sanctity of human life from conception through natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all victims of oppression or racism, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of worship, may the outpouring of the Holy Spirit conform us ever more to the mind of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died after a life of service to God, may they be welcomed into the arms of Jesus in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Ever-loving and gracious Father, we humbly pray that you hear and answer the petitions we place before you today. We ask this through your Son, Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, June 15, 2021

(Lec. 366)

1) 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

2) Matthew 5:43-48

TUESDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: All are worthy of love, and God gives it abundantly.

Jesus' instruction to *be perfect* is a process of being perfected by love. And not just any kind of love, but love that does not discriminate between friends and enemies. This is a love like God's perfect love, for whom all are worthy and to whom he gives it abundantly.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In today's first reading, Paul urges the believers in Corinth to be generous in their giving as the churches in Macedonia had been. In the Gospel, Jesus expands the understanding of love for one's neighbor to include the enemy and the persecutor.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Grateful for the abundant blessings God pours out on us each day, we lift up these prayers to him.

- 1) For all who minister within the Church, may the grace of God uplift them in their proclamation of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For world leaders, may the example of Jesus' servant leadership guide their diplomacy, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who struggle to love others as Christ does, may Jesus grant them a cherishing heart and a fearless spirit, conforming them to his perfect love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may God help us to give generously of our time, talent, and treasure, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have recently died, may they soon find a place in the heavenly Jerusalem, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious God, we thank you for your unending love, and ask that you answer our prayers according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Wednesday, June 16, 2021

(Lec. 367)

- 1) 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
- 2) Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

WEDNESDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: God's generosity knows no bounds or limits.

God provides all that we need to be generous and to grow in righteousness. We will not run short, because God cannot be outdone in generosity. When we give from God's abundance, our generosity will point to and produce thanksgiving to God. We receive the reward we seek, whether earthly praise or heavenly treasure. God repays what we give him.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Paul writes to the Corinthians that *God loves a cheerful giver*. God will supply every grace to multiply their righteousness for his glory. In the Gospel, Jesus admonishes against giving alms, praying, and fasting in order to be seen. Rather, he says to perform these acts in secret and the Father will repay them.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Knowing that God cannot be outdone in generosity, we now offer our needs to the Father.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may the Holy Spirit empower each of us in offering praise and thanksgiving to God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For civic and government leaders, may God enlighten them in seeking always the common good, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who experience physical or spiritual poverty, may their needs be met through the abundant generosity of the Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all gathered here, may the grace we receive in the Eucharist help us grow ever deeper in our faith and in our desire for the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they soon delight with the angels and saints in the glory of God's heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, hear and answer the prayers we offer today, not as we deserve, but through your abundant grace. We ask this through your Son, Christ our Lord.

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Thursday, June 17, 2021

(Lec. 368)

1) 2 Corinthians 11:1-11

2) Matthew 6:7-15

THURSDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Jesus teaches us to call God *Our Father*.

Today's readings invite us to consider what leads us authentically to God. There are dangers in the world of false apostles and fake prophets. They preach for their own sake, not for love of God and for others. Jesus invites us to enter into a true relationship with God, calling upon him in prayer as *Our Father*.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Paul writes of his fear that the Church in Corinth may be corrupted by the false teachings of "superapostles." He urges the faithful to know that the truth of Christ is in him, and that he is genuine in his love for them. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples not to be like pagans when they pray, using many babbling words. He teaches them what to say in prayer.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Calling upon our merciful Father, let us bring our needs before him.

- 1) For Pope Francis and the entire teaching office of the Church, may God bless and strengthen their work of apostolic mission throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all of those who lead our communities, may God grant them fortitude and wisdom in their service to all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who have been victims of violence, may Jesus, the Divine Physician, offer them solace and healing, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our faith community, may God inspire our work in bringing the Gospel message to those around us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all of those who have passed from this life, may God lead them to eternal joy with him, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of mercy and love, your Son taught us to bring our needs before you. We humbly offer these prayers and ask you to hear and answer them. Through Christ our Lord.

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Friday, June 18, 2021

(Lec. 369)

1) 2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30

2) Matthew 6:19-23

FRIDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Trust in the providence of God, and not in our own strength.

In the first reading, Paul boasts of his weakness. Why? Because he desires to glorify God, whose strength overcomes human weakness and suffering. He is confident of the heavenly treasures promised by Jesus. These treasures are invisible to our earthly eyes, but the light that Jesus gives enables us to see and set our hearts on them. We can trust in God's providence, and not have to rely on our own abilities.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Paul counters the claims of the false disciples by establishing his credentials and telling of all he has endured for preaching the Gospel. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples not to store up treasures on earth, but to store up treasures in heaven, saying, *For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Acknowledging our weakness before God, we humbly bring our petitions to him.

- 1) That the Church may continue to grow in holiness and grace under the counsel of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That God may give elected officials wisdom in enacting legislation to protect the sanctity of human life from conception through natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those afflicted by physical, mental, or spiritual suffering may find consolation in God's loving presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That this faith community may be guided in all things by Christ's light shining around us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That the faithful departed may soon come into possession of their heavenly treasure, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty God, in your abundant generosity, grant these prayers we have brought before you, we ask through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, June 19, 2021
(Lec. 370)

- 1) 2 Corinthians 12:1-10
- 2) Matthew 6:24-34

SATURDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Saint Romuald,
Abbot;
Saturday in honor
of BVM)

FOCUS: Jesus calls for total reliance on God.

Today's Gospel challenges us to let go of our daily stresses about even our most basic needs, and instead, put God as our first priority and trust that God will provide all that we need. Those who actively live their faith can let go of their anxieties as they lean on the Mystical Body of Christ, which leads and sustains.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Paul mentions personal *visions and revelations of the Lord*, but rather than gloating about these graces, he underscores his weakness, through which Christ's power shines. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that one cannot have allegiance to both God and material things. He encourages them not to worry about anything because God will provide.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the Lord's providence, let us present our needs to him.

- 1) For the Church, may we, the Body of Christ, be strengthened in our mission through Word and sacrament, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For national and local leaders, may the Holy Spirit foster in them a thirst for peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those afflicted with fear or anxiety, may God's never-ending love for them bring them consolation and peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of believers baptized into Christ, may the Spirit of the Lord inspire us in our lives of faith, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died in the light of faith, may they live forever in the joy of heaven with all the angels and saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we ask that you listen to the prayers we present to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2021

(Lec. 95)

- 1) Job 38:1, 8-11
- 2) 2 Corinthians 5:14-17
- 3) Mark 4:35-41

**TWELFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: Jesus' power is greater than anything on earth.

Nature is a powerful force, and yet with three simple words, *Quiet! Be still!* Jesus showed that his power was greater. Jesus is here for us, too, to calm the storms in our lives and to draw us closer to him. We do our part by nourishing our faith and strengthening our relationship with Jesus as we journey with him toward the kingdom of God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the Lord speaks to Job from the storm, asking him who it was that took control of the stormy sea. Paul writes to the Corinthians that *whoever is in Christ is a new creation*. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus calms the storm with a simple command and asks them why they are terrified, saying, *Do you not yet have faith?*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With complete faith in God, we join together as his family to raise our voices in prayer.

- 1) For the Church in the world, may the Lord protect her from all evil as she testifies to the Good News of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those who have authority over others, may God grant them grace in leading with understanding and justice, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who feel burdened by the storms in their lives, may the hope of Christ bring them peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the sick and dying in this faith community, and for those who love them, may God grant them strength, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they rejoice in the presence of God in his eternal Kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, we ask that you hear our prayers offered in faith and trust. Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Monday, June 21, 2021

(Lec. 371)

- 1) Genesis 12:1-9
- 2) Matthew 7:1-5

MONDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Aloysius Gonzaga,
Religious)

FOCUS: Trust in the Lord and his grace will guide the way.

Abram was 75 years old. We are never too old or too young for God's call. Abram left everything behind, trusting God to guide him. As Abram obeys, God reveals. In the same way, we can place our trust in the Lord and allow his grace to guide our daily lives.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading from Genesis, Abram answers the Lord's call, leaving his homeland and traveling as God directs him. In today's Gospel from Matthew, Jesus says, *Stop judging, that you may not be judged.*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us approach the throne of the Father and offer him our needs.

- 1) For the Universal Church and those who minister to her members, may God's grace nourish and strengthen them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For peace among nations and peace in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For an end to division and intolerance among all people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those gathered here, may God nurture our efforts to grow in lives of holiness through the sacraments, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died in faith, as they trusted God on earth, may they rejoice to see his face in glory, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, in your mercy, please hear and answer our prayers this day, according to your holy will. We pray through your Son, Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, June 22, 2021

(Lec. 372)

- 1) Genesis 13:2, 5-18
- 2) Matthew 7:6, 12-14

TUESDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint Paulinus of Nola,
Bishop;
Saints John Fisher, Bishop,
and Thomas More,
Martyrs)

FOCUS: Prayerfully listen to God guiding us through the narrow gate.

The world tempts us with power, wealth, and other temporary pleasures. Many pursue these things along the broad road *that leads to destruction*. Jesus wants us to find the narrow gate leading to eternal life. He is the Way. By keeping close to God in prayer, like Abram, we can determine his will and follow that path.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Abram and Lot separated from one another, with Lot choosing the Jordan Plain, while Abram stayed in Canaan. God spoke to Abram and promised that all the land he could see would be his and his descendants forever. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples how to care for what is sacred and how to treat others rightly. He warns, *How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few.*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With grateful hearts, let us place our trust in the Lord and bring him our needs.

- 1) For those who teach the faith, may God bless their efforts to lead more people to Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For civic leaders, may the Lord bless them with skills and talents in bringing revitalization to impoverished communities, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who struggle with doubt, may God open their hearts to experience the joy and peace of his love at work in them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those of us gathered here, may God guide us through the narrow gate in pursuing his will for our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our dearly departed, may they have life everlasting with God in heaven, along with all the angels and saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father of love and mercy, we thank you for your unending faithfulness. Please look kindly upon the petitions we bring before you, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

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Wednesday, June 23, 2021

(Lec. 373)

1) Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

2) Matthew 7:15-20

WEDNESDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: *The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.*

The Lord promises Abram that he will have many descendants because of his faith and adherence to the covenant. We, in turn, will bear much fruit in the form of good works if we follow the commandments and remain in God's grace. God's promises are set apart for those who are faithful, and he remembers his covenant forever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

God establishes his covenant with Abram, in which he promises him countless descendants and possession of the land *from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River the Euphrates*. Abram has faith in the Lord, which was an act of righteousness. In the Gospel, Jesus warns of false prophets and tells how to identify them: A true prophet brings forth good works and a false prophet sinful ones.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Knowing that what God has promised us will be ours, let us humbly offer our petitions to him.

- 1) For the Church, may God's grace empower her servants in bearing good fruit for him, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those with authority and influence over nations and peoples, may the Good Shepherd lead them in protecting the flocks entrusted to them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the suffering and the despairing, may God bless and console them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those gathered here, may God increase our desire to generously share our gifts of time, talent and treasure, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they come to enjoy the fullness of life and love in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we thank you for hearing our prayers, and we ask you to answer them for our good, through your Son, Christ our Lord.

Thursday, June 24, 2021
(Lec. 587)

- 1) Isaiah 49:1-6
- 2) Acts 13:22-26
- 3) Luke 1:57-66, 80

**THE NATIVITY OF
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Give witness to the Gospel as faithfully as John the Baptist did.

The hand of the Lord was with [John]. Even before his birth, God was with John the Baptist, making him *strong in spirit*. In the same way that John prepared the way for the coming of the Messiah, so we are called to help build up the kingdom of God by giving witness to the Gospel and testifying to the light of Christ in the world.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah's prophecy anticipates God's servant, who is destined to be *a light to the nations*. Paul speaks of how God brought a Savior to Israel through the descendants of David, and John the Baptist *heralded his coming*. In the Gospel, Elizabeth gives birth to a son, and Zechariah is able to speak again after he confirms that the child's name is *John*.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us offer our prayers of petition to our gracious and merciful God.

- 1) That the Church may grow in perfection and love for God through the Holy Spirit's gift of piety, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That leaders of nations may be guided by God, who alone is just and merciful, in serving those who elected them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those who suffer in doubt and despair may be relieved of their burdens, through the gracious mercy of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That God may strengthen each one of us in our faith as we seek to live out our vocation as disciples, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may find peace with God at the eternal banquet in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Lord God, listen to the prayers of your people and answer them in your goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Friday, June 25, 2021

(Lec. 375)

- 1) Genesis 17:1, 9-10, 15-22
- 2) Matthew 8:1-4

FRIDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: We can bring our needs before the Lord and trust in his divine will.

Today's readings invite us to imitate Abraham and the leper in bringing before the Lord our doubts, our needs, and our requests, with humility and trust in his divine providence and goodness. The Lord responds in love, and we imitate this love when we acknowledge and respond to the needs of those around us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

God promises Abraham that his wife, Sarah, will bear a son, whom they are to name Isaac, within a year. It is through this son that God will establish his covenant. In the Gospel, Jesus is approached by a leper who states that Jesus could heal him if he wished. Jesus does so, and then instructs him not to tell anyone, to show himself to the priest, and to give the prescribed offering.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the Lord's mercy, let us bring before him our prayers and petitions for ourselves and for the world.

- 1) For the Church throughout the world, may the Lord strengthen each one of us in faith and unity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all those who govern, may the Spirit guide them in decision-making that builds just societies, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are homebound, may the Lord be their steadfast companion, easing their burdens and lifting up their spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community, especially those who have lost confidence in their faith, may God's love and care touch their hearts and reaffirm his promises to them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died marked with the sign of faith, may the Lord grant them eternal rest and perpetual joy, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Hear us, O loving and merciful God, and, in your goodness, answer the prayers we humbly bring before you. In Christ's name we pray.

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Saturday, June 26, 2021
(Lec. 376)

- 1) Genesis 18:1-15
- 2) Matthew 8:5-17

SATURDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Saturday in honor
of BVM)

FOCUS: We acknowledge our need for the Lord and his saving grace.

The centurion in today's Gospel provides an example of one who acknowledges his own need, while trusting in Christ's power. He felt he was not worthy to have Jesus come to his home, but yet he, who yielded power in other aspects of his life, had confidence that Christ could heal his servant with just his word.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Three men appear near Abraham's tent. Abraham and Sarah offer hospitality to them. One of them tells Abraham and Sarah they are to have a son. In the Gospel, Jesus heals a centurion's servant, and then Peter's mother-in-law.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With confidence, let us bring our petitions and needs to our loving Father.

- 1) For missionaries, may they be guided, protected, and empowered by the Holy Spirit as they testify to the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For national and local leaders, may the God of peace sow within them seeds of desire for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick and those in chronic pain, may God bring healing and relief into their lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may the saving grace of Christ be our hope and our refuge, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they experience fullness of joy with God and the saints in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we entrust our prayers to you in the holy name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2021

(Lec. 98)

- 1) Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24
- 2) 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15
- 3) Mark 5:21-43
or 5:21-24, 35b-43

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: Generosity and love come from God, and are at the heart of being a disciple.

In the second reading, Saint Paul encourages the Church at Corinth to be generous in their giving. With the knowledge that our God loves us unconditionally and generously, we can, in turn, model generosity of love and service to others with the grace given to us at our baptism.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The author of Wisdom rejects the idea that death was God's creation; rather, it was brought into the world *by the envy of the devil*. Paul exhorts the community at Corinth to be generous, and to share out of their abundance with those less fortunate. In the Gospel, Jesus heals Jairus' daughter and a woman who had been hemorrhaging for 12 years.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the love of our merciful Father, let us bring our prayers and petitions before him.

- 1) For the Church on earth, may the Lord increase us in faith and number, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For leaders of nations whose people live in fear amidst violence and poverty, may the Holy Spirit breathe the fire of repentance and humility into their hearts, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who suffer injustice, especially the victims of abuse and violence, may God grant them justice and healing, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those among us who are considering initiation into the Catholic Church, may God bless them with a fervor and an increasing desire for the fullness of communion with him, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may the Lord who came to give life welcome them into their heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty and eternal God, hear our prayers, and in your abundant mercy and love grant what we need according to your holy will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Monday, June 28, 2021

(Lec. 377)

1) Genesis 18:16-33

2) Matthew 8:18-22

MONDAY OF
13TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Irenaeus,
Bishop and Martyr)

FOCUS: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

The Lord is kind and merciful. These words from the psalm are a consoling mantra, especially when everything seems stacked against us. We see this mercy in God's sparing of Sodom through the intercession of Abraham; and we live it today, in the light of God's redemption of humanity through the sacrifice of his Son. The demands of discipleship may be steep at times, but if we follow him, the Lord will bless us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Abraham presses God on how many innocent people need to be found to spare the city of Sodom from the Lord's destruction. In the Gospel, Jesus heads to the other shore to avoid the crowd. He rebukes two followers, saying he has nowhere to rest his head and to let the dead bury their dead.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Together with one voice, let us bring our prayers to our merciful God.

- 1) That bishops, priests, and religious leaders may be filled with all spiritual wisdom and understanding, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That our merciful and gracious Lord may guide policymakers in protecting the dignity and sanctity of human life from conception through natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That the Holy Spirit may comfort the sick and the dying, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That all members of this faith community may be conformed to the Spirit of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That the faithful departed may soon find their place at Christ's eternal banquet, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we ask that you graciously hear and answer our prayers offered through your Son, Jesus Christ.

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Tuesday, June 29, 2021
(Lec. 591)

- 1) Acts 12:1-11
- 2) 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
- 3) Matthew 16:13-19

**SAINTS PETER AND PAUL,
APOSTLES
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Peter speaks the truth that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

On this Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, we hear the account of Peter confidently identifying Jesus as the Son of the living God. May we, who profess to be Christians, never tire or fear of proclaiming in word and deed that Jesus Christ is Lord.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter is arrested and imprisoned. An angel of the Lord wakes Peter from his sleep and leads him out of the prison. Paul writes to Timothy, *The time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith.* In the Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples: *Who do you say that I am?* Simon Peter says, *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Jesus tells Peter that he is the rock upon whom the Church will be built.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in God, the Father of us all, we offer our prayers to him for ourselves and for our Church.

- 1) For the Holy Father and all priests and religious, may the Holy Spirit continue to lead and guide them in proclaiming that Christ is Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government officials, may God bless their work in bringing peace to divided communities, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick, may Jesus, who is the Divine Physician, grant them healing graces, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of believers, may God's loving presence and our participation in the sacraments protect and perfect us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they be welcomed into the fullness of paradise, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we ask that you hear the prayers of your faithful and grant them according to your holy will. We ask this through your Son, Christ our Lord.

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Wednesday, June 30, 2021
(Lec. 379)

- 1) Genesis 21:5, 8-20a
- 2) Matthew 8:28-34

WEDNESDAY OF
13TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
The First Martyrs
of the Holy Roman Church)

FOCUS: God works in ways we don't always understand.

Each reading today presents a challenge. In both situations, in the midst of the turmoil, God is present and offers help. In our own times of trial or difficulty, we don't always understand how God is at work. But his ways are not our ways, and we must make every effort to pay close attention to his loving presence each and every day.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaac is born to Abraham and Sarah. Sarah asks Abraham to send the slave Hagar and the son (Ishmael) she bore with Abraham away from them. God assures Abraham that he will take care of Hagar and the boy. In the Gospel, Jesus is met by two demoniacs, whose demons ask to be driven out into a herd of swine. Jesus does as they wish.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us present our needs, and the needs of the world, to our merciful Father.

- 1) For the Church, may God continue to bless her ministry, teaching, and saving works, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who govern, may the Spirit guide them with wisdom and truthfulness in their decision-making, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all those who suffer despair, may God's powerful hand be upon them to console and comfort, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us in this faith community, may God deepen our awareness of his presence in our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, especially those who have no one else to pray for them, may God lead them to eternal life with him in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty and ever-living God, hear our prayers that we bring before you this day, and grant them according to our need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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