

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SEPTEMBER

27

2020

Humbly regard others as
more important than yourselves,
each looking out not
for his own interests,
but also for those of others.

Philippians 2:3-4

Saint Therese Of The Child Jesus

(1873-1897)

October 1

“The cornerstone’s dated 1872, but the stained glass is much later,” explained the pastor, astonished when his visitor accurately dated it to just before the Great Depression, explaining, “The window for the Little Flower”—Thérèse’s nickname—“gives it away.” From her canonization in 1925, her statues and windows adorn most churches where European immigrants worshiped. Entering Carmel at fifteen, victim of tuberculosis at twenty-four, Thérèse proposed her “Little Way” to sanctity: doing ordinary tasks with extraordinary love. Thus ordinary Catholics, many of whom had lost loved ones to tuberculosis, embraced her. Though she never left her cloister, this Carmelite’s spiritual communion and devoted correspondence with missionaries earned her the title Patroness of Missions. Her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*, continuously in print since her death, chronicles her prayerful perseverance through doubt and caused her to be the youngest person ever named a Doctor of the Church. Countless physical healings and spiritual conversions testify to her fulfillment of her deathbed promise: “After my death, I will let fall a shower of roses. I will spend my heaven doing good upon earth!”
—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Familiar Insights

Spiritual teachers tend to repeat themselves, and to repeat other teachers. Maybe there really aren’t that many different truths to tell. Just a lot of slow, sleepy human beings—like us—who need to hear the basics over and over. Consider today’s readings.

People complain God isn’t “fair,” and Ezekiel answers that God is more than fair. People choose their own fates, and people can change. Even evildoers can turn, do right, and live. “Actions speak louder than words.” A fresh new insight? Hardly.

Paul tells the Philippians that he would truly be encouraged if those who claimed to be believers would, in fact, look to others’ interests and not their own. “The proof of the pudding is in the eating.” A novel idea? I don’t think so.

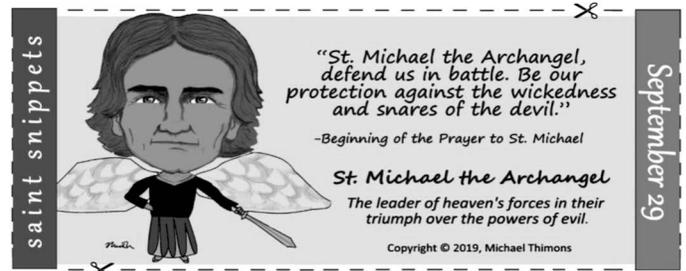
In Jesus’ story of the farmer and his sons, everyone knows that the one who said he wouldn’t work—but did—is way ahead of the one who said he would work—but didn’t. “Talk is cheap.” Heard that before?
Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Jb 1:6-22; Ps 17:1bcd-3, 6-7; Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday:	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
Wednesday:	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Ps 88:10bc-15; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday:	Jb 19:21-27; Ps 27:7-9abc, 13-14; Lk 10:1-12
Friday:	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Ps 139:1-3, 7-10, 13-14ab; Mt 18:1-5
Saturday:	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130; Lk 10:17-24
Sunday:	Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Day for Migrants and Refugees; Priesthood Sunday; Yom Kippur (Jewish day of atonement) begins at sunset
Monday:	St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions; St. Wenceslaus
Tuesday:	Ss. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels
Wednesday:	St. Jerome; Sukkot (Jewish harvest festival) begins at sunset
Thursday:	St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus
Friday:	The Holy Guardian Angels; First Friday
Saturday:	Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday



Today's Readings

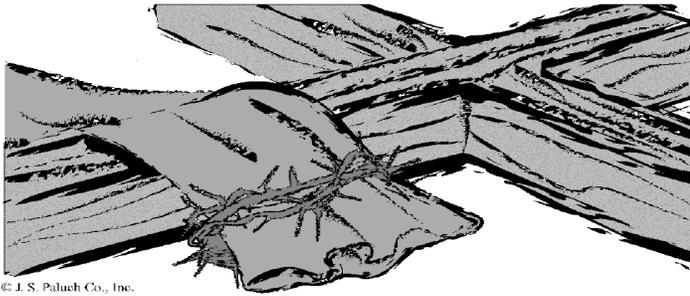
First Reading — When the wicked turn away from their wickedness they have committed and do what is right, they shall surely live (Ezekiel 18:25-28).

Psalm — Remember your mercies, O Lord (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — Consider others as better than yourselves; look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:1-11 [1-5]).

Gospel — Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you (Matthew 21:28-32).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**Twenty-sixth Sunday
In Ordinary Time
September 27, 2020**

**Have in you the same attitude that is also in
Christ Jesus.**

—Philippians 2:5

Treasures From Our Tradition

The sacrament of penance has a long and difficult history. The Church sometimes struggles with how best to be faithful to the image of an all-forgiving God. Once a very public rite with publicly visible participation on the part of the penitent, it became in time a very private matter. By the fourteenth century, when a prayer of absolution and a laying on of hands was still required in sacramental confession, theologians were saying that even that was too much liturgy. All that was required was confession itself, and the sacramental words *Ego te absolvo*, or “I absolve you.”

In 1614 the Council of Florence tried to flesh out this bare skeleton, requiring that if possible the priest should wear a stole, that the confession should be in church, and that there be questions about the person’s state in life, occupation, and last confession. This is the first time the Church recommended that the penitent and priest be separated by a grill, thereby eliminating the ritual laying on of hands once so central to the sacrament, substituting the priest’s raised right hand in blessing. This is the rite that remained in force until the sacrament became the subject of very stormy debates at the Second Vatican Council, leading to a major reform in 1974 that is still only partially received.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co

For the past several weeks, the word of God has drawn us into the mystery of mercy. Today’s readings deepen our reflection, reminding us how blessed we are to know God’s kindness and sharing practical ways to show compassion to others. The prophet Ezekiel cautions God’s chosen people, emphasizing that bad behavior naturally leads to painful consequences. The psalm responds prayerfully: “Remember your mercies, O Lord.” In this prayer, we ask for the mercy of recognizing our sins and receiving the strength to act differently. In his letter to the Philippians, Saint Paul invites us into a daunting challenge of mercy: “humbly regard others as more important than yourselves.” If we scoff at Paul’s challenge as impossibly naïve, the Gospel gives us a chance to reconsider. Our natural instincts of self-preservation might reject merciful behavior initially, but like the son in today’s Gospel of mercy, we can change our minds.

Nature

The prophet Ezekiel scolds God’s chosen people for demanding more than they deserve. Acting like spoiled children, the Israelites complain when their wicked actions lead logically to negative consequences. Nature has built-in punishments for bad behavior: laziness leads to unpreparedness; overwork leads to exhaustion; overindulgence leads to poor health; violence leads to injury. The natural world brims with corrective countermeasures to our poor choices. Why is it, Ezekiel wonders, that we become upset when sin leads to predictable and natural punishments?

Supernature

Animals never object to punishment, only humans. A wounded gerbil wouldn’t shake her fist at the skies and ask, “Why me?” But as Ezekiel knows, human beings complain constantly. Humans are supposed to be more logical than animals, yet we irrationally protest natural consequences that we do not like, such as pain or death. Mysteriously, our bitterness against nature is rooted in our unique capacity for greatness. Unlike every other creature in the universe, we humans are made in the image and likeness of God. We may live in the natural world, but God calls us every minute to supernatural glory. Though we are mortal, God’s mercy has destined us for immortality. Our hearts long for perfect bliss unlike anything we will ever know on earth. No wonder we demand so much from God! Preserved for glory as we are, we experience pain when earthly life falls short of our divine expectations. Jesus shows us the antidote for that pain—service. Though we share in the kingship of Christ, we must demonstrate our royalty as Jesus does, by serving others. As Saint Paul tells us, Jesus is God, yet takes the form of a slave—our slave. The Gospel encourages us to imitate Jesus in this way. We may object to being a servant at first, and even grumble about it. But God’s strength can help us overcome natural objections and enter gracefully into our supernatural role, heirs to the kingdom of God.

Today’s Readings: Ez 18:25–28; Ps 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; Phil 2:1–11 [1–5]; Mt 21:28–32

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc

Sunday Readings
September 27, 2020
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1

Ez 18:25–28

Thus says the LORD: You say, “The LORD’s way is not fair!” Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 25:4–5, 8–9, 10, 14

R. (6a) Remember your mercies, O Lord.
Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.
Remember that your compassion, O LORD,
and your love are from of old.

The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not;
in your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.
Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice,
and teaches the humble his way.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Reading 2

Phil 2:1–11 or 2:1–5 In the shorter form of the reading, the passage in brackets is omitted.

Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others. Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus,

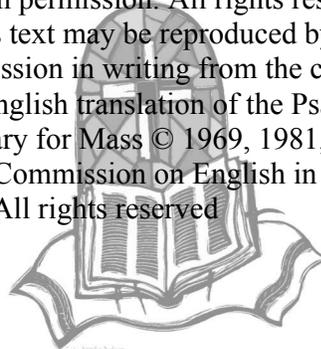
[Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.]

Gospel

Mt 21:28–32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: “What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, ‘Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.’ He said in reply, ‘I will not,’ but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, ‘Yes, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did his father’s will?” They answered, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him.”

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner. The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved



Prayer of the Faithful

**Let us keep the necessities and interests of others
foremost in our hearts as we lift up our
prayers for all their needs.**

**For Pope Francis as he continues to challenge
and mold the Church more in the likeness of Jesus Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.**

**For freedom for all those who are oppressed by
their governments, and for those governments to grow
in the ways of justice and peace,
let us pray to the Lord.**

**For all who work in our criminal justice system,
and for all who are subject to that system,
let us pray to the Lord.**

**For farmers, farm workers, and all who work the land,
that they may work in safety and enjoy abundant
crops as the harvest season continues,
let us pray to the Lord.**

**For all who are without sufficient food, shelter,
clothing, or health care, and for all who work
to meet their needs,
let us pray to the Lord.**

**For all those who are sick, for all who suffer from
COVID-19, and for all who have died,
especially N., N., and N.,
let us pray to the Lord.**

**For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our
hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken,
let us pray to the Lord.**

**Grant, O Lord,
that we may indeed be united in heart
and in service to the needs of others.**

**Hear these our prayers
and grant them through
Jesus Christ, our Lord.**



Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

St. Paul wrote to the Philippians: Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important ...

O	U	N	A
■	Y	R	H
E	S	E	T
■	L	V	S

T _ _ _ _ _ .

Answer: *than yourselves*

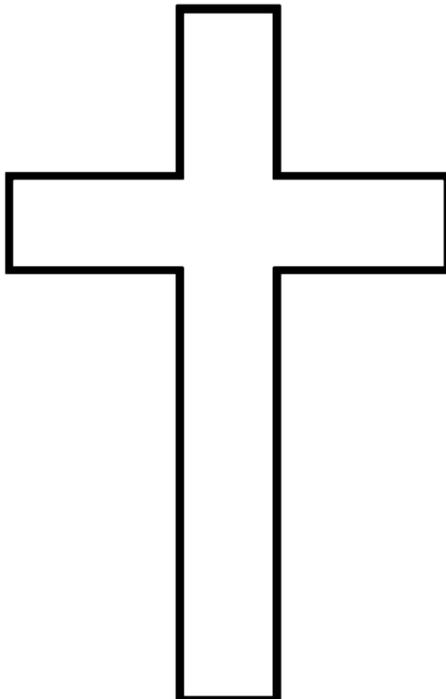
© 2020 International Puzzle Features

Excerpt from the NAB © 2010, 1991, 1970, CCD



Jesus did what God asked of Him, even to His death on the cross.

Directions: Draw a picture of Jesus on the cross.



Do you do what you are asked, without question?



Directions: Circle the statement that shows behavior like the first son.

1. There is a spelling test today, but I forgot to study.
2. I didn't want to, but I cleaned my room anyway.
3. I take my shoes off when I come into my house and put them away every time.
4. I told the truth even though I knew I would be in trouble.
5. I promised I would take out the garbage, but I did not do it.

Nationally Recognized
for Excellence



D'ESOPO
FUNERAL CHAPEL
Wethersfield
East Hartford
563-6117



Consider
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will.

For further information,
please call the Parish Office.



Giuliano-Sagarino
BROOKLAWN
FUNERAL HOME

Luke DiMaria
511 Brook Street • Rocky Hill 721-0087

If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

✓ Ambulance 24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

✓ Police

✓ Fire

✓ Friends/Family

FREE Shipping

FREE Activation

NO Long Term Contracts

Solutions as Low as

\$19.⁹⁵ a month



This Button SAVES Lives!

As Shown GPS, Lowest Price Guaranteed!



CALL NOW! **800.809.3352**

MDMedAlert
Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection
Nationwide, No Land Line Needed
EASY Set-up, NO Contract
24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship
of the Sea of the United States of America

Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email

eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com

www.sciwindows.com

Steve Czerwinski
I • N • C • O • R • P • O • R • A • T • E • D

Replacement Windows • Roofing
Retractable Awnings • Vinyl Siding

860-568-2063

FULLY INSURED
(LIC. # 555050)



HARVEY WINDOWS

Email: steve@sciwindows.com

Fax: 860-568-5419

**Graver's Tree
Care**



Removals • Pruning
Tree Maintenance

Bruce Graver Wethersfield
Licensed Tree Surgeon 563-6581

WHY IS IT

A man wakes up after sleeping
under an ADVERTISED blanket
on an ADVERTISED mattress
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
brushes his teeth
with ADVERTISED toothpaste
washes with ADVERTISED soap
puts on ADVERTISED clothes
drinks a cup
of ADVERTISED coffee
drives to work
in an ADVERTISED car
and then . . .
refuses to ADVERTISE
believing it doesn't pay.
Later if business is poor
he ADVERTISES it for sale.

WHY IS IT?

Protecting Seniors
Nationwide



Medical Alert System

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



Call Today!

Toll Free 1.877.801.8608



DO YOU HAVE SALES EXPERIENCE? ARE YOU WELL
NETWORKED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

J.S. PALUCH COMPANY
NATIONAL PUBLISHER OF CHURCH BULLETINS

- Full Time Positions Available with Excellent Earning Potential!
- Medical Benefits, 401K, Life & AD&D Insurance Available
- Excellent Commission Compensation Program

Interested? Call Kay Leane 1.800.621.5197 x2823

or Email Resume to RECRUITING@JSPALUCH.COM

www.jspaluch.com

EARN MONEY!
DO GOOD! MAKE A
POSITIVE IMPACT!

DiLiccio
BROS. Inc.
Family Owned and Operated
Serving the Greater Hartford Area
Site Work • Trucking • Excavating
Drainage • Hydroseeding
860-666-1503

**FARLEY -
SULLIVAN**
FUNERAL HOME

34 Beaver Rd.,
Wethersfield
563-9999

50 Naubuc Ave.,
Glastonbury, CT
633-2521



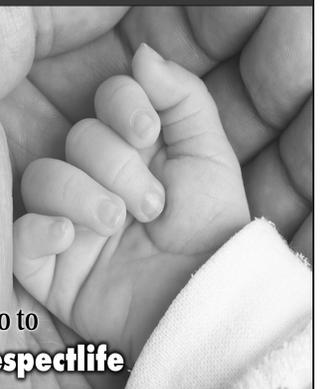
FINDaPARISH.com

The Most Complete Online National
Directory of Catholic Parishes

CHECK IT OUT TODAY!

Life
Matters

For more information go to
www.usccb.org/respectlife



Dillon-Baxter Funeral Home

1276 Berlin Turnpike
Wethersfield

Since 1880 • 956-1149



LEO'S PIZZA

Est. 1975
Wethersfield's Oldest Pizzeria
10% DISCOUNT W/AD

(860) 563-8144 689 Woolcott Hill Rd.

catholicmatch®
Connecticut



CatholicMatch.com/myCT



Specializing in
Fine Italian American Foods

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1932

675 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield • (860) 785-8998
www.DandDMarket.com



WETHERSFIELD MONUMENT CO.

526 Silas Deane Hwy.
Wethersfield, CT 06109

(860) 372-4020

Rose Hill Funeral Home &

Rose Hill Memorial Park

Providing compassionate and caring service.

We welcome you to visit our newly remodeled facility pre-need modeling available

580 Elm Street

Rocky Hill, CT 06067

(860) 529-3381

State of Savings.

Discounts up to 40%.



Franco Cianfagione
860-563-7283
www.getfranco.com



✂ Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers

Thank You

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it!

KENNY, BRIMMER & MAHONEY, LLC ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

RICHARD C. MAHONEY, SHANNON K. MCCARTHY
TERESA CAPALBO, SEAN P. CLARK,

JOSEPH A. HOURIHAN, WILLIAM S. SHAPIRO, VALDIS VINKELS
78 Beaver Rd., Ste. 2G, Wethersfield (860) 527-4226
www.kennybrimmer.com

CESAR'S FOREIGN CAR



Check Engine Light Experts | European & Asian Specialist
910 Wethersfield Ave - Near Silas Dean Highway
860.727.9512 • www.cesarsforeigncar.com

Double A
Veterinary Hospital
106 Nott St., Wethersfield

Andrea Autorino, D.V.M.
Katherine Lavery, D.V.M.
Taryn Pina, D.V.M.
529-0668
www.doubleavet.com

License #: HCA 0001048



Polish Caregivers Offering Home Care for Seniors
Anna Wilbik | 860-560-6116
www.nutmeghomeassistance.com



Your ad could be in this space!

M.A.O. ELECTRIC

Residential • Commercial

Michael A. Orsini
721-9009

Licensed & Insured CT#183694



CELEBRATING
30
Years
1990 - 2020

(860) 257-3775
219 Main Street

www.WethersfieldTravel.com

Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

Sign up here:

www.jspaluch.com/subscribe

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



Atty. Nancy W. Tonucci
Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP
Elder Law, Wills, Estates
750 Old Main Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
(860) 571-8988
ntonucci@bpslawyers.com

ONE PARISH

Download Our Free App or Visit
MY.ONEPARISH.COM

Grow in your faith, find a Mass, and connect with your Catholic Community with OneParish!



Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.

Support Your Church & Bulletin.

Free professional ad design & my help!

email: sales@jspaluch.com



www.jspaluch.com

For Information ... Call

800.524.0263