



**READINGS OF THE WEEK**

Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:7, Rom 14:7-9, Mt 18:21-35  
 Monday: Nm 21:4b-9, Phil 2:6-11, Jn 3:13-17  
 Tuesday: 1Cor 12:12-14, 27:31a, Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
 Wednesday: 1Cor 12:31-13:13, Lk 7:31-35  
 Thursday: 1Cor 15:1-11, Lk 7:36-50  
 Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20, Lk 8:1-3  
 Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49, Lk 8:4-15  
 Sunday: Is 55:6-9, Phil 1:20c-24, 27a, Mt 20:1-16a

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY** **September 14, 2020**  
**Exaltation of the Holy Cross**  
*Nicola Lamberti*  
**7:00AM** *Stanley Kacprzycki*  
**9:00 AM**  
**TUESDAY** **September 15, 2020**  
**Our Lady of Sorrows**  
**7:00AM** *Frances M. Hickey*  
**9:00AM** *Daniel .L. Hogan and Anne Marie Murphy*  
**WEDNESDAY** **Sept. 16, 2020 St. Cornelius, Pope and St. Cyprian, Bishop**  
**7:00AM** *Mary and Dominic Sanzoverino*  
**9:00AM** *Deceased Members of the Morschner and Murphy Families*  
**THURSDAY** **September 17, 2020**  
**St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop**  
**7:00AM** *Tom, Leona and Mike Bergin*  
*Birthday Blessings in Heaven*  
**9:00 AM** *Maureen Hanlon*  
**FRIDAY** **September 18, 2020**  
**7:00AM** *Rita Bergin (Living) Healing Prayers*  
**9:00AM** *Joan Chwalisz*  
**SATURDAY** **September 19, 2020, St. Januarius**  
**9:00AM** *Domanico Commisso*  
**5:00PM** *Patrick Hayden*  
**SUNDAY** **September 20, 2020**  
**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**7:30AM** *Parishioners of St. Ignatius Loyola*  
*Mary Smith*  
**9:30AM** *Kathleen Reiter*  
**11:00AM** *Rose Lyons*  
**12:30PM** *Msgr. Donald T. Bennett (Living)*  
**5:00PM** *Gladys Bermudez*  
*Mass in Spanish*



*We Pray For Our Sick*

*Jennifer Lentini, Josephine Lucas, Carolyn Fitzgerald, Mary Messina, Florence Morris, George Natarius, Theresa Kessler, Lorraine Mierzejewski, Lourdes Mulligan, Lenny Miongiello, Ann Calza, Timothy Mulligan, Arthur Marks, Remedios Koenig, Jacqueline Perez, Baby Julia Roi, Brian Shea, Victor D'Amico, Mary Manascalco, Lou Pinto, Jayden Handowar, Kathy Allen Grossman, Joanne Mulligan, Rita Bergin, Joe Giordano, Antonio Esposito, Joseph Albanese, Mary Frances Horan, Elizabeth Sarah Merz, Bob Cassese, Lawrence Wilson, Jim Keough*  
*Michael Kruppenacker*

Names will be kept on the Prayer for the Sick List for three weeks, unless a family member calls to extend the time.

*We Pray For Our Dead  
 And We Mourn With You*

*Lorraine Reinheimer  
 Dorothy M. Pfrang  
 Peter P. DiLorenzo*



*We Celebrate Our Sacraments  
 Marriage Banns*

*Kristin Cheslock, St. Ignatius Loyola  
 Christian Camorillo*

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY**

Anyone with a family member serving in the military, please forward their name and rank to our bulletin editor at [bulletin1859@aol.com](mailto:bulletin1859@aol.com) or bring the name to our Rectory Front Office.

*We pray to give all of our military personnel the courage and strength to do the duty that is required of them. May they always remember our appreciation for the sacrifice they are making for us. We are thankful for the men and women who are willing to risk their lives to protect our freedom. I ask You to go with each of them and protect them wherever they go. Amen.*

- Sgt First Class. Matthew Loheide
- MSgt. Kevin J. Hennelly
- CDR. Jonathan W. Lang
- CDR.. Jeanine A. Lang
- SPC Justin T. Sikorski
- Staff Sgt. Mathew Burrafato
- Col. Paul J. Laughlin
- Major Patrick O. Kelly, USMC
- 2nd Lt. Thomas P. McLoughlin, USMC
- Atan Lisa Olynk, USN
- M Sgt. Michael Marascia
- Sgt. Stephen L. Emlaw
- P.O.Third Class E-4 Kyle A. Kamermayer, Navy
- Major Edward A. McGoldrick, US Army
- Steven Orbon, 1st Lt., U.S. Army
- Lt. David Jacobs
- Pvt. Thomas Wright
- Tech Sgt. Peter F. Clark, USAF
- Capt. Joseph Whittaker, USMC
- SSGT Michael J. Mc Ilwraith, USMC
- 1st Lt. James Michael Vaz, U.S. Army
- Gunnery Sgt. Brian Moran, USMC
- Cpt. Richard Macchio
- Pvt. Joseph Gergely, U.S.M.C.
- LTJG Alie Disher, U.S.N.
- LTJG John Patrick Orr, USN, C.E.C.
- PVC Andrew Hughes
- Sgt. Lotachukwu Okoye
- PFC Jim Arbelaez, US Marine
- Sgt. Dustin Lusby
- LTJG Christopher Medford, US Navy
- Airman First Class Gianinna Roldan (USAF)
- PVT Lorenzo LaPlaca, US Army
- Corporal William J. White, USMC
- Pvt. Daniel Sullivan, US Army
- PO3 Hunter Morales, US Navy
- HA Morrigan Hayes, US Navy
- SA Peter Cavallo, US Navy
- Adam Cespo—Air Force
- Oscar Martinez—Marines
- Pvt Ryan Blazo

For your convenience, below is a directory of our parish staff e-mails and extensions.

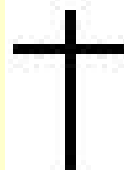
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- Tony - Maintenance Supt.– Ext 125
- George Mais— Deacon—Ext 140  
deacongeorgestignatius@aol.com
- Parish e-mail stignatius1859@aol.com



**Don't Forget to do the 6's**

1. **WEAR A MASK**
2. **HANDS**—Wash them Often
3. **ELBOW**- Cough into it
4. **FACE** -Don't touch it.
5. **FEET**—Stay more than 6 ft. apart
6. **FEEL SICK?** - Stay home

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING**



Sunday, September 6, 2020 \$12,347  
Missionaries \$ 2,449  
September 8, 2019 \$8,563

Dear St. Ignatius Family,

What was the best gift you have ever received? We might have a lot of different answers depending on our ideas about what makes a great gift. For children, it may be a favorite stuffed toy, bicycle, a PlayStation or, for others it might be the first gift from your partner, a personalized necklace, a photo print of an important life moment etc. During my 14 years of priestly ministry, I received several gifts, for example, chalices, chasubles, statues of saints, gift cards, money, and an autograph of my favorite NBA star Steph Curry. Those gifts helped in various ways to enhance my priestly ministry and to reach out to people who are in need. Amongst various gifts, my favorite one is an antique German Reliquary Crucifix with 12 saints. This cross has been handed down to several generations and finally, the family made a decision to give it to a priest. Their family friend, Elizabeth Bachmayer, who was my benefactress during my seminary formation, asked my opinion and thus gave it to me while I was visiting her in Germany.

### **What is your favorite gift?**

As Christians, what is our greatest gift? It is the gift of eternal life. How much did it cost? It cost God His only Son. Jesus, through his Cross, reconciled us to His Father and gave His life as a sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. Our path to eternal life is a path of the Cross, paved with forgiveness and reconciliation. We shall be forgiven our sins by the merciful God if we are merciful to our transgressors. Forgiveness does not come easy. It is the fruit of our personal friendship with Jesus through prayer, embracing His Cross and carrying our cross in our daily lives.

As we celebrate the **"Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross"** on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September, let us exalt the living Christ through our words and deeds with a renewed zeal and commitment. Let us absorb the spirit of Jesus teaching in our hearts this weekend, that those who refuse to forgive others build their own prison, where they are held captive by their own bitterness and hurt. But those who are willing to forgive others, liberate themselves from the shackles of the past and live as the ambassadors of God's mercy and reconciliation in the world.

One time in the third grade, the children were asked to write an essay about a special person in their life. One 8-year-old decided to write about his grandma. This is what he wrote: "A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own, so she likes other people's little boys and girls. Grandmas don't have to do anything except be there. If they take us for walks, they slowdown past pretty leaves and caterpillars. They never say "hurry up". Usually grandmas are fat, but not too fat to tie kids' shoes. They wear glasses and sometimes they can take their teeth out! They answer questions like why dogs chase cats and why God isn't married. They don't talk Baby Talk like visitors do because it is hard to understand. When they read to us they don't skip words or mind if it is the same story over and over again. Everyone should try to have a Grandma especially if they don't have a television, because grandmothers are the only grownups who always have time!"

As we celebrate Grandparents Day this weekend, on behalf of St. Ignatius parish, I thank you from my heart for your prayers, your wisdom, your generosity, your beautiful stories, and for being such an important part of our lives. **'May the wisdom that earned you your gray hairs is now leading you to holiness'**( Proverbs 16:31). We will have a special blessing of our dearest Grandparents after every Holy Mass. Happy Grandparents day!!!

*"Pray as though everything depended on God; Act as though everything depended on you."*

In Jesus and Mary,

*Fr. Shibi*

# Clergy Corner

3er Boletín

¿Cuál fue el mejor regalo que has recibido? Es posible que tengamos muchas respuestas diferentes dependiendo de nuestras ideas sobre qué es un gran regalo. Para los niños puede ser un juguete de peluche favorito, una bicicleta, un PlayStation o para otros puede ser el primer regalo de su pareja, un collar de letras personalizado, una foto de un momento importante de la vida, etc. Durante mis 14 años de ministerio sacerdotal recibí varios obsequios, un cáliz, casulla, estatuas de santos, tarjetas de regalo, dinero y un autógrafo de mi estrella favorita de la NBA, Steph Curry, etc. Esos obsequios ayudaron de varias maneras a mejorar mi ministerio sacerdotal y llegar a las personas que lo necesitan. Entre varios obsequios, mi favorito es un crucifijo antiguo relicario alemán con 12 santos. Esta cruz ha sido entregada a varias generaciones y finalmente la familia ha tomado la decisión de entregársela a un sacerdote para su custodia. Su amiga de la familia Elizabeth Bachmayer, quien fue mi benefactora durante mi formación en el seminario, me pidió mi opinión y así me la dio mientras la visitaba en Alemania. ¿Cuál es tu regalo favorito?

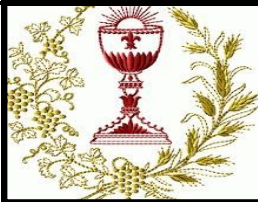
Como cristianos sa, ¿cuál es nuestro mayor regalo? Es el don de la vida eterna. ¿Cuánto costó? Le costó a Dios su único Hijo. Jesús a través de su Cruz nos reconcilió con su Padre y dio su vida como sacrificio por el perdón de nuestros pecados. Nuestro camino hacia la vida eterna es un camino de cruz, pavimentado de perdón y reconciliación. Seremos perdonados nuestros pecados por el Dios misericordioso si somos misericordiosos con nuestros transgresores. El perdón no es fácil. Es el fruto de nuestra amistad personal con Jesús a través de la oración, abrazando su Cruz y llevando nuestra cruz en la vida diaria.

Al celebrar la "Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz" el día 14 de septiembre exaltemos a Cristo vivo a través de nuestras palabras y hechos con un celo y un compromiso renovado. Embriaguemos el espíritu de Jesús enseñando en nuestros corazones este fin de semana que aquellos que se niegan a perdonar a otros construyen su propia prisión, donde están cautivos de su propia amargura y dolor. Pero aquellos que están dispuestos a perdonar a los demás se liberan de las cadenas del pasado y viven como embajadores de la misericordia y la reconciliación de Dios en el mundo.

Una vez, en tercer grado, se les pidió a los niños que escribieran un ensayo sobre una persona especial en su vida. Un niño de 8 años decidió escribir sobre su abuela. Esto es lo que escribió: "Una abuela es una señora que no tiene hijos propios, por eso le gustan los niños y niñas de otras personas. Las abuelas no tienen que hacer nada más que estar ahí. Si nos llevan a pasear, disminuyen la velocidad entre hojas bonitas y orugas. Nunca dicen "apúrate". Por lo general, las abuelas son gordas, pero no demasiado gordas para atar los zapatos de los niños. ¡Usan anteojos y, a veces, pueden sacarse los dientes! Responden preguntas como por qué los perros persiguen a los gatos y por qué Dios no está casado. No hablan baby talk como lo hacen los otros, porque es difícil de entender. Cuando nos leen, no se saltan las palabras o la mente si es la misma historia una y otra vez de nuevo. Todo el mundo debería intentar tener una abuela, especialmente si no tiene televisión, porque las abuelas son las únicas personas adultas que siempre tienen tiempo".

Al celebrar el día de los abuelos este fin de semana, en nombre de la parroquia de San Ignacio, les agradezco de corazón por su oración, su sabiduría, su generosidad, sus hermosas historias y por ser una parte tan importante de nuestras vidas. 'Que la sabiduría que te haya ganado tus canas y ahora te lleve a la santidad'. Habrá una bendición especial para los abuelos después





The Bread and Wine this week  
Are in Loving Memory  
Of  
Anne Marie Murphy  
From  
The Martha's Guild



The Candles this week  
Are in Loving Memory  
Of  
Frances M. Hickey  
Happy Birthday in Heaven  
From  
John Hickey and Family



The flowers this week  
Are in Loving Memory  
Of  
Tom, Leona and Mike Bergin  
Birthday Blessings in Heaven  
Love  
Rita



Dear Parishioners of St. Ignatius Parish;

On behalf of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate, I am deeply grateful for welcoming us warmly, your prayers and financial support which you gave us last weekend. Your generosity is a great witness of the good news. I assure you that your donation so kindly given and warmly received will help us meet the needs of the people we serve. It helps us make a difference in their lives and in turn witness to the great love God has for His people.

Please rest assured of the support of our prayers for you, your family and friends.

Yours in the Mission of Christ;

Sr. Helen Murage, S.M.I.



STEWARDSHIP



### Bulletin Reflection

We are all sinners who have offended God and our neighbors. However, God forgives us our trespasses when we ask for His mercy and forgiveness. The Gospel message today is about a man who, having owed a large debt, was forgiven by his master but did not forgive his fellow man.

#### Living Stewardship ~

#### Pillar of Formation

We have all been wronged and hurt by someone else. However, as Catholics, we should learn to forgive. This week pray for someone who has hurt you and forgive them.

Success is never achieved by the size of your brain, It is always achieved by the size of your thoughts.

## *Living in Exile in a Time of Adversity*

In the 6th century B.C., the Kingdom of Judah was conquered and the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed. As a result, the Jewish people were forced to leave their homeland of Palestine and were exiled to the Babylonian Kingdom ruled by a pagan monarch. This time of exile left a lasting impression on the culture and religious practices of Judaism. The people yearned to leave this foreign land and return to a place "flowing with milk and honey." Eventually they did, but a profound change had taken place.



Living through the pandemic and all its implications, can make us feel like a people living in exile in a land that is strange to us. It can evoke feelings of being displaced, disconnected and disoriented. And like the Jewish people of old, we yearn for our homeland, a place that is normal and familiar. We look back on routines and habits that were second nature and now have been altered in many ways. It's hard to be comfortable in a place that is foreign to us. If you have ever been in a foreign country not knowing the language, the customs, or the geography, you know the feeling.

There isn't any secret passageway to get back to the place "flowing with milk and honey" or what some may call a new normal. It is difficult to predict what will happen over the next few months about the spread, the vaccine, the political stage, school openings, and much more. Conferences have had to adapt to meet the needs of the poor and home visits are still on hold.

The prophet Ezekiel living in exile himself speaks on God's behalf offering a vision of hope for the people of Israel in their time of trial. "Then the nations shall know that I am the Lord...I will take you away from among the nations, gather you from all the lands, and bring you back to your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you...and give you a new heart and a new spirit."

When we finally get back to something resembling normal, what could be a better outcome than to have a new heart and a new spirit. God has a way of transforming us in times of trial and this may be one of them.

*Fr. Jerry Ringenback*  
Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

# St. Ignatius Loyola R.C. Church

Authorization Agreement for Parish Automated Giving Program

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize **St. Ignatius Loyola R.C. Church, Hicksville, NY** to initiate debit entries to my Checking ( ) Savings ( ) account indicated below and the depository named below to debit the same such amount.

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly (Every Monday morning)

**OR**

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly on the 15th of the month.

Depository: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Banking Transit-ABA# \_\_\_\_\_  
(always nine digits)

Bank Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Attach to this form a voided check if checking account debit or a pre-printed savings deposit ticket if savings account.)*

This authorization is to remain in full force effect until **St. Ignatius Loyola R.C. Church** has received written notification at least five business days in advance of the desired termination date.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized signature for above account) (Print Name) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If second signature is required:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized signature for above account) (Print Name) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Cancellation of Automated Giving

I, \_\_\_\_\_, direct **St. Ignatius Loyola R.C. Church, Hicksville, NY** to discontinue automatic debit entries to my bank account.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized signature for the parishioner bank account) (Print Name) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Only one signature is necessary to make this cancellation request)



# PIG ROAST



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HOUSE  
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## Focus on Religious Freedom

[www.cffor.org](http://www.cffor.org)

### Do Children Have First Amendment Rights in Public Schools?

Yes! "In every case defending students' rights to pray, the students have prevailed. Even teachers have the right to pray in school," said Brad Dacus, President of Pacific Justice Institute. <sup>(1)</sup>

"The First Amendment does not require students to leave their religion at the schoolhouse door. If students can wear T-shirts advertising sports teams or rock groups, they can also wear T-shirts that promote religion..." said President Bill Clinton in 1995. "Nothing in the First Amendment converts our public schools into religion-free zones..."<sup>(2)</sup>

Pres. Clinton directed the Dept. of Education to develop a set of guidelines entitled *Religious Expression in Public Schools* to be sent to every superintendent in the country with the purpose of ending confusion regarding students' rights to live their faith.

It's important that students, parents, teachers, and administrators know these rights:

- \* Students may read their Bible or other scriptures & say grace before meals.
- \* Students may express their beliefs about religion in homework, art or written work.
- \* Students may organize prayer groups and religious clubs before & after school.
- \* Students may engage in individual & group prayer and religious discussion
- \* Schools may teach about religion but may not provide religious instruction.

On Religious Freedom Day, January 16, 2020, President Trump reiterated these rights by updating the guidelines and approving plans to streamline and mandate a federal complaint process that students can use to alert authorities when they've been discriminated against. "We will not let anyone push God from the public square... We call this the right to pray... There is nothing more important than that I would say."<sup>(3)</sup>

"Too many misinterpret a separation of church & state as an invitation to separate people from their faith," said Education Secretary DeVos. "In reality our Constitution doesn't exist to protect us from religion, it exists to protect religion from government." <sup>(4)</sup>

(legaltoprayer.com,(1)(2); AmericanMinute.com(3); thought.com,3/29/19; [info@cffor.org](mailto:info@cffor.org); npr.org, 1/16/20; abcnews.go.com, 1/17/20(3)(4)

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***"We have become certain of two things: religious freedom is under attack, and we will not cease our struggle to protect it."*** - Cardinal Timothy Dolan, 2012

## Remembering and Caring for our Senior Priests

***Do you ever think about a favorite Pastor or Parish Priest and wonder how they are and where they may be living?***

Well, for our Senior Priests who are living at St. Pius X Residence, life is good and sometimes very busy.



*"We are very happy that more and more of our Priests are taking advantage of this wonderful facility. We thank you for your support, we depend on it, especially now with the increasing costs we are experiencing. We couldn't do it without you!"*

- Rev. Msgr. Thomas Costa,  
Vicar for Senior Priests

*"Since I arrived at St. Pius X, I have found living here like being at home. I have found much happiness with my fellow priests and in the entire community, and I especially appreciate the support I receive. Thank you for helping to make this home possible."*

- Rev. Msgr. T Peter Ryan



Even in retirement our senior priests retain roles as our shepherds, and St. Pius X enables these dedicated men who live there to be fully engaged members of the community. *"Still on duty,"* they serve as our teachers, counselors, and spiritual leaders.

**The special collection for retired priests living at St. Pius X Residence will take place next weekend. Please be as generous as possible! Thank You!**

**[www.drvc.org/stpiusx](http://www.drvc.org/stpiusx)**

## Recordando y cuidando a nuestros sacerdotes ancianos

***Cuando recuerda a su párroco preferido u otro sacerdote que estuvo en su parroquia, ¿Alguna vez se ha preguntado cómo estará o donde estará viviendo?***

Pues bien, para nuestros sacerdotes ancianos que viven en la “Residencia Geriátrica de Vida Plena San Pío X” en Amityville, la vida es buena y a veces bastante atareada.



*Nos alegra mucho que cada vez más y más de nuestros sacerdotes están entrando a esta maravillosa institución. Dependemos de su colaboración, muy especialmente ahora debido a las alzas en los costos. ¡Sin su ayuda no podríamos hacerlo, muchas gracias!*

Rev. Mons. Thomas Costa  
Vicario para sacerdotes ancianos

*Desde que llegué a la Residencia San Pío X, he sentido que vivir aquí es como estar en casa. Estoy feliz con mis compañeros sacerdotes y con toda la comunidad, y estoy muy agradecido del apoyo que me brindan. Gracias por ayudar a que esta Residencia sea una realidad.”*

Rev. Mons. T. Peter Ryan



Pese a estar jubilados nuestros sacerdotes ancianos mantienen su rol pastoral y el residir en San Pío X les da la oportunidad de ser miembros activos de nuestra comunidad Diocesana. Ellos están “*Aún en servicio*” ejerciendo como nuestros maestros, consejeros y guías espirituales

**El próximo fin de semana será la colecta pro fondos de la Residencia Geriátrica San Pío X en donde viven sacerdotes jubilados. ¡Por favor sea tan generoso como sea posible! ¡Muchas Gracias!**

**[www.drvc.org/stpiusx](http://www.drvc.org/stpiusx)**



# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

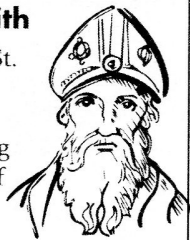
September 2020

St. Ignatius Loyola Parish  
Rev. Shibi Pappan OIC, Administrator

## One Minute Meditations

### Mysteries of faith

Legend says that St. Augustine was walking on a beach puzzling the mystery of the Holy Trinity when he spotted a boy filling a bucket from the ocean and dumping it in a hole. The boy said he was trying to fit the ocean into the hole. St. Augustine cried, "But you can never do that!" The boy replied, "And neither can you understand the Holy Trinity," and vanished. Some things we just have to take on faith.



### "God bless you"

When you sneeze, think of Pope St. Gregory, the Great. In 590AD, the bubonic plague was spreading to Rome. To combat the disease, the pope requested increasing prayer. "God bless you!" in response to a sneeze was part of that effort.

*"You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day, Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness, nor the plague that ravages at noon" (Psalm 91:5-6).*



## Do you trust God?

*"The Lord is my strength and my shield, in whom my heart trusts" (Psalm 28:7).* Do you trust God with everything in your life or only some things? Do you give him your problems but take them back when he doesn't do what you want? It is when we have complete trust in God that our lives work well.

**Is God trustworthy?** A person worthy of trust is one of good character and integrity. We have more than two thousand years of history that prove God means what he says and says what he means. He does what he promises.

**Is God capable?** God has power

over all creation – He even has power over life and death. Through the ages, we have learned that all things are possible with God. More to the point, God's Son told us that God loves us with unimaginable intensity so he always wants what is best for us. In fact, God is more qualified than we are to take care of what we need.

**Are you ready to really trust God?** Start

by thanking him no matter what. Everything that he allows to happen to us is for our good. Then remind yourself that God is fully in charge. Finally, ask him what you should do next and do it.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics believe the Eucharist is Jesus' Body and Blood?

The concept of transubstantiation means that, during Mass, the entire substance of bread changes into the substance of the Body of Christ. The entire substance of wine changes into the substance of His Blood. This change is brought about in the eucharistic

prayer through the Word of Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit.

However, the outward characteristics of bread and wine, the "eucharistic species," remain unaltered.

Jesus is truly present during Mass, Body and Blood, soul and divinity.



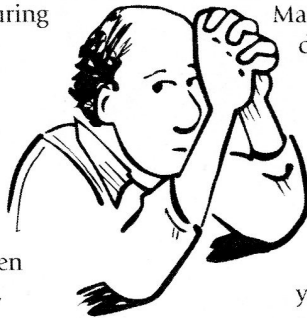


## Make distractions a plus in prayer

There is no better way to build a relationship with Jesus than through prayer. Relying on His strength during difficult times is how we get through them. Yet when we become distracted during prayer, we can become discouraged and give up. Try these ideas for turning distractions into blessings:

**Gently return.** Start your prayer by placing yourself in the presence of God. When you wander, gently bring yourself back.

**Practice recall.** St. Frances de Sales said, "When your mind wanders or gives way to distractions,



gently recall it and place it once more close to its Divine Master. If you should do nothing else but repeat this during the whole time of prayer, your hour would be very well spent and you would perform a spiritual exercise most acceptable to God."

**Turn distractions into prayer.** If you start thinking about people and events unrelated to your prayer, pray about them and then return to the original subject of your prayer.

**Pray out loud.** When distractions overwhelm you, pray out loud.

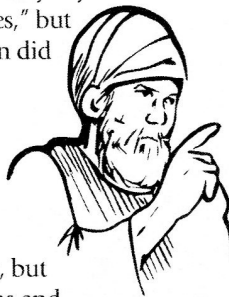
### from Scripture

#### Matthew 21:28-32, Faithful obedience.

Jesus told of a man who asked his two sons to go work in his vineyard. The first said, "No," but went anyway. The second said, "Yes," but didn't go. Which son did as the father asked?

The father in the parable is God. The first son represents the outcasts of society. They said "No" to God at first, but repented of their sins and changed.

The second son represents the Jewish religious leaders. They said "Yes," but it was just lip service. They followed rules rather than changing their hearts.



Saying, "Yes, God, I believe in you," is not enough. If we presume that the Lord will take us into Heaven just because we profess our faith, we will be disappointed. Words are not enough.

True obedience is lived. When we realize we are in a state of sin, we have two options. We can say we're sorry, or we can show we're sorry by going to Confession, doing sincere penance and amending our lives. Living as Jesus taught us is our way of "working in our Father's vineyard."



### Feasts & Celebrations

**Sept. 8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1st century).** Tradition holds that Mary was born in Jerusalem after her parents had been childless for more than twenty years. Mary's birth brought them - and us - joy.

**Sept. 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows.** In Luke 2:35, Simeon predicted Mary's sorrows as "a sword piercing" her soul. This referred, in part, to a time when Mary would stand at the foot of her son's Cross. Still, Mary stood dignified and fearless while others fled.

**Sept. 21 - St. Matthew (1st century).**

Also known as Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St. Matthew left everything behind when Jesus called him to spread the Gospel. He wrote the Gospel According to Matthew.

**Sept. 23 - St. Padre Pio (1968).** Francesco Forgione was born to farmers in southern Italy. Eight years after he became a Capuchin Friar, the five wounds of Our Lord's Passion (stigmata) appeared on his body. Despite intense personal and physical suffering, he remained dedicated to prayer.



### Q & A How can I stop worrying about what other people think?

The problem with placing too much importance on other people's opinions of you is that you give them inappropriate power over you. In effect,



you are substituting other people's values and judgment for your own and there is no guarantee that they have your best interests - or your eternal future - at heart. Not everyone is interested in helping you get to Heaven.

Try instead to live by the rules detailed in the Ten Commandments and in the Beatitudes. They tell us to be devoted to God, to care for other people, to be honest and dedicated to truth, and to value the blessings God has given us.

Remember that there is value in being criticized or insulted even though you do the right thing. Not only can you offer it as penance for your sins, such suffering teaches humility and patience - two virtues that will help you get to Heaven. And when it comes down to it, the opinion of other people will pass, but God's judgment is forever.

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