



# St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

Madison Heights, MI [www.stvincentferrer.net](http://www.stvincentferrer.net)

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023 † TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## From The Pastor

I, for one, am so glad God understands the human way. God knows what it means to be human through the personal lived experience of Jesus. Jesus knows the heights of human dignity and joy, as well as the darkness and disorder that can creep into the human heart. I can almost feel the comfort and love Jesus felt as Mary washed his feet with her tears and dried them with her hair in anticipation of his journey to the Cross. Jesus also knows and understands the experience of being hated, rejected, misunderstood, ignored, called a fake, and scorned as a blasphemer.

How did Jesus put up with it all? An immature answer would be that he was God and it didn't really bother him. A more mature answer would understand and accept Jesus in both his Divine and human nature. Jesus knew the deep joy and compassion of our human nature in those who loved him. He also suffered deep distress in the hatred and humiliation of those who rejected him as a lie. How did he do it? Jesus loved himself in the pure love of the Father. He could tolerate hate and rejection because he trusted himself in the heart of the Father's love.

It is with intentional wisdom that the two greatest commandments are to love God with your whole self, and to love your neighbor as yourself. If we love ourselves little, we can only by reason love others with little love. After listing several of the Commandments, St. Paul reaches past the rule of Law to the life of the Spirit concluding, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Wow! That challenges a lot. It challenges us to accept God as loving, trustworthy understanding, and forgiving. It confronts images of God that cling to the idea that God is a punishing sin counter needing to be appeased. If I trust God as loving and merciful, I will be confident to bring myself before the Lord despite my failure and weakness. In doing so I encounter a felt experience of God's mercy in my person, with the acceptance of God's love for me just as I am. I learn to accept God's personal and specific love for me as an imperfect human being. This becomes the ground in which my love for others will grow.

In the gospel, Jesus teaches us the need to forgive others their offenses. He does so in a social and relational way. Notice that it is person to person, then a small group of supporters, and finally to the larger faith community. Why does Jesus do this? Sin and personal offense will always have an effect on relationships in the larger community.

When a person hurts or offends us, we carry that hurt around in our heads and in our bodies. Often enough, or

too often, we complain about the offending party and share the pain of the offense with others. In time, not only is a single person hurt or offended, but the larger community is negatively burdened in the continual retelling of the harm done. Jesus directs us to the root of the problem.

Ours is a broken world. We hurt others and others hurt us. Such offenses are personal, social, communal, familial, national, and global. They touch every aspect and reality of human life. The Christian way calls us to the greater good of forgiveness. The first movement of forgiveness is engaging our faith in the love God has for us, and the fruit of that love in all we ourselves are forgiven. Forgiveness is not simple business. It is hard. Some offenses are small while others are deep or even tragic. If love is the root of the Christian life, then forgiveness is the flower or the fruit it produces.

Jesus talks about binding and loosing. Each of us has the power to forgive, to release the offender or to hold them bound. This is real power and it has real consequences. To sincerely forgive another is to free them from the debt of their offense. Ideally, for the sake of a new or restored relationship. This is always a two-way street. To unbind or release the offender, you are also releasing yourself. This is the wisdom gained in forgiveness against the prison of unforgiveness.

To bind another person through unforgiveness is a form of self-punishment. The one who binds becomes the one who is bound. Consider the wasted energy and heavy emotional weight a person carries by not releasing the offense of the other. To bind forgiveness is to bind love. To bind love is to lose the capacity to love our self freely and maturely. Old unforgiven wounds affect the mind, body, and soul of a person. The weight of judgment, condemnation, rejection, or hatred wears on a soul and blocks the ability to realize the freedom and gift of Divine Love.

To loose is to set free. To forgive is an act of self-love that has the capacity to reach and offer freedom to the other. To not forgive harms you more than the offender. Jesus gave his life to offer with perfect love that forgives every sin and offense. For all Jesus suffered, under the weight of human hatred and sin, he could still pray, "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing." When we reject forgiveness, we do not know what we are doing or the weight we force ourselves to carry. This is serious business. God has given us the Divine power to bind or to release. Choose love's forgiveness and free yourself and the other.

Father John Esper

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday thru Thursday

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 9:00am

Church doors open 1/2 hour before Mass begins

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm  
in Adoration Chapel

Only one person allowed in chapel at a time. Persons seeking Sacrament of Reconciliation will be allowed in church to line up at 3:00pm

LIVE  
STREAMING

Live Streaming of Mass  
Monday thru Thursday 8:00am and  
Sunday 9:00am

Adoration on Tuesdays  
8:45am to 10:00am

Livestream of Rosary on Thursday  
following Mass

Search for St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (in Madison Heights) on youtube to find our channel or connect via our APP or website

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### ST VINCENT FERRER PARISH OFFICE

28353 Herbert St., Madison Heights, MI 48071  
248-542-8720 Fax 248-542-8721  
Website: www.stvincentferrer.net

### PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm,  
Friday 9-Noon  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

### Parish Office Staff

Reverend John C. Esper, Priest in Solidum  
Deborah Tourville, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation  
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin  
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator  
Mary Ann Przybysz, Evangelical Charity Coordinator/  
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA) Coordinator  
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor  
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

### Faith Formation Summer Office 248-398-1743

Matthew Zinser, Childhood Faith Formation Coordinator

For information on Baptisms, OCIA and  
Funerals contact the Parish Office 248-542-8720



### MONDAY, September 11, 2023

8:00am Mass: Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom

### TUESDAY, September 12, 2023

8:00am Mass: Casimer & Stella Guc† req. by Mary Jane Guc

### WEDNESDAY, September 13, 2023

8:00am Mass: Jennifer Giasone† req. by Susan Bechard  
7:00pm Mass: Intergenerational Healing

### THURSDAY, September 14, 2023

8:00am Mass: Deanna's Intentions req. by Mom

### SATURDAY, September 16, 2023

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer  
Peter Conway (Special Intention) req. by Mom  
Tim Esper† req. by Family

### SUNDAY, September 17, 2023

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer  
Kathy Meloche† req. by Bill & Mary Beth Hochstetler  
Mike Kapolka† req. by Wife & Son  
Mary Beth Hochstetler (health) req. by Bernadette Gutowski  
Joseph Dong Kim Pham† req. by Family

## INTERGENERATIONAL HEALING MASS

### THIS WEDNESDAY

September 13, 2023  
7:00pm

Celebrant: Fr. John Esper

All are welcome to come and pray to heal the negative influences of past generations for the healing of current and future generations.

## READINGS THIS WEEK

### September 10, 2023

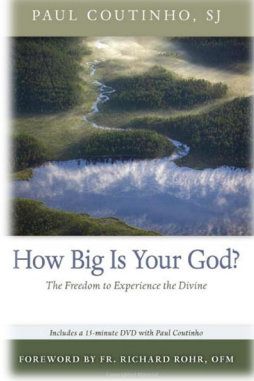
Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20  
Monday: Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:6-11  
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11/Lk 6:12-19  
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26  
Thursday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17  
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49  
Next Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

**Wednesday Mornings  
16 Week Book Study**

**How Big is Your God?**

by Paul Coutinho, SJ

**Study Begins This Wednesday  
September 13th  
9am in Admin Bldg.**



“How big is your God? In other words, what limits have you placed upon God in your life? If your experience of the Divine has become static and predictable, or if you have a relationship with God that is small and confined, Fr. Paul Coutinho, invites you to believe that God is bigger – much bigger! This book will challenge one to grow deeper and stronger in faith by embracing a God whose love truly knows no bounds.” – Loyola Press

The Wednesday Morning Book Study begins September 13th at 9:00am in the Parish Admin Building. The book will be studied over a 16-week period allowing us to prayerfully reflect on the chapters. Each class will offer a time for teaching, reflection, and sharing. A small breakfast is offered so please let the office know if you are attending, 248-542-8720.

**Owe Only Love**

I have to smile when I read in St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another." I smile because I know that in today's world few people owe nothing to anyone. We have credit card debt, mortgages, student loans, car loans, and new loans to consolidate old loans. It would seem that we actually owe everything to everyone.

These debts are of this world. I am pretty sure no one residing in heaven is still making mortgage payments. We have created contracts in this world to make possible certain transactions of goods, services, and shelter. But there is one thing that we naturally owe one another and that lasts longer than our time on earth: love.

You do not need to take out a loan to have more love to give. There also is no limit to the love you have been given to share. However, it is the one gift that we sometimes treat with the least respect. We hold back love due to sins of pride, prejudice, and apathy. We distort and manipulate love for our own gain and selfish desires. We can find ourselves placing more importance on the things for which we have taken out loans than the love that is eternal.

I am trying the best I can to get to a point where I no longer owe anything to banks and mortgage lenders. I don't want to leave this world owing anyone for the earthly things I had in this life. But even more importantly, I realize the shame it would be to leave people behind that didn't get enough love from me. There is nothing greater than love.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
© Liturgical Publications

**A Singles Brunch & Presentation  
open to all interested**

following 9am Mass on September 17th  
SVF Admin Bldg. Dining Hall

\$10 per person -

Paid in advance at the Parish office

Dr. Patricia Cooney Hathaway, PhD, a  
Professor of Spirituality and Systematic  
Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary will  
present insights into

*Faith During the Seasons of Life*

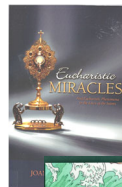
Join others in this insightful opportunity.

A light brunch will be served.

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**EUCHARIST BOOKS ON DISPLAY**

At the Admin Bldg.



In acknowledgement of celebrating a renewed focus on the gift of the Eucharist, a small display of books about the Eucharist can be found on the table just outside the parish library in the administration building. These books are ready for circulation. Please feel encouraged to visit our library which currently has hundreds of books, most of which have been donated by our generous parishioners to enhance your faith journey.

**QUESTIONS OF FAITH**

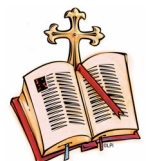
**THIS MONDAY**

**September 11th - 2:00-3:00pm**

On Monday afternoon, Sept. 11, 2023 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Father John will lead an informal conversation with participants who come with questions of faith and faith practices, “Questions you always wondered about, but never asked.” All are welcome to participate. This will be held in our administration building dining hall. Call the parish office to register. (248)542-8720.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP &  
SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**

Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 9am  
Faith Formation Office in School



The men's fellowship group gathers for a scripture reflection/sharing every other Saturday. All men are welcome. No registration is required.

## COVID-19 & FLU SEASON HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS

Covid-19 deserves a reminder, along with our entrance into the cold and flu season. In review let's look at ways to protect ourselves and others from covid, flu, and other viruses. Vaccines are available. Don't forget handwashing and/or use hand sanitizer frequently, stay home when you are sick. Social distancing is an example that helps prevent the spread of disease.

It is important to remember these prevention interventions at church and when we are close together in other settings. It is also important to mask if you are coughing. Coughs spray droplets up to six feet and sneezes can travel as far as 27 feet. Droplets also may spread when we talk or raise our voices.

A new vaccine is expected this fall to protect against the Omicron variant XBB.1.5. This Omicron variant first emerged in November 2021 and will continue to emerge new lineages.

Make a difference for yourself and others. You may be at increased risk or someone nearby you may be. Let's keep everyone healthy, whole and blessed.

Angela Maynard  
Parish Nurse



### PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

Calling all crafters, sewers, and artistic adults and children: The Prayer Blanket ministry resumes on Thursday, September 28, 2023. We are in need of decorated prayer blanket squares to begin this year's ministry. There is a basket of blank squares by the Herbert Street entrance of the church under the crucifix. Please take as many as you wish to decorate. We need some children's decorated squares as well as adults. Squares can be decorated with permanent fabric markers, embroidered, needle point, or by sewing machine. Please leave a 1 inch boundary around all the edges for sewing purposes. The finished squares can be placed in the basket next to the basket of blank squares. Thank you and may God bless you for helping in this ministry.

### MERCY IN ACTION COLLECTIONS BLESSING BAG & SNACK BAG ITEMS NEEDED Sept 2-24

Travel size: deodorant, brush, comb, Kleenex packet, shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste, tooth brush, tube socks, hand & feet warmers

Individual lunchbox sized: juice boxes, granola bars, cereal bars, crackers, cookies, fruit snacks

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Our personal relationship with Christ is important, yes — but thank God, that is not all there is to being a Christian. We depend upon the support, the encouragement, and even the correction of the rest of the Body of Christ.

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Pray for...** all government leaders to seek wisdom in finding a peaceful solution to world tensions.  
...medical and humanitarian aid for those suffering from economic hardship due to catastrophic weather, fires, earthquakes and disasters  
...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.  
...the homeless, the addicted and all who are suffering physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally  
...all who are sick, homebound, undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests

Lord Jesus,  
You are the Divine Physician and Healer. To You, we lift up in prayer all who are lonely, homeless, sick or addicted; all who are unemployed or underemployed; all who are anxious or depressed and all who are suffering in any way spiritually, physically or emotionally. In their pain and brokenness, we ask that you bring them the comfort of your loving presence. In You, may they find strength for the day and hope for the journey. Amen

## Ministry Schedule

September 16/17, 2023

Mass	4:00pm	9:00am
Sacristan	T Riley	C McCarthy
Reader #1	P Miles	P Allen
Reader #2	T Riley	C McCarthy
EME	R Pasiak	T Karolski
	P Miles	D Gray
	D Tourville	M Black
Greeters	P Miles	M Bessler
	J Ballantine	B Gutowski
	R Pasiak	M McLaughlin
	T Pasiak	D McLaughlin

Traveling Chalice Host beginning week of September 16/17  
Peter Miles



## Faith Formation Office Opens

### Children's Faith Formation Classes to Begin September 25

Registration forms are available at our website or you can pick up a packet at the Parish Office or at the Faith Formation Office

## BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

"Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted." (Matt.5:4) Through our life's journey, each of us has experienced losses of various sorts. Perhaps the loss that touches us most deeply is the loss of a loved one. Death marks an end of what has been known, and it precedes new beginnings. Each of us navigates this process uniquely. Some find "talking out our pain" with understanding family and friends very helpful. Some find solitude to be the place of healing. It is our hope at St. Vincent's to serve and support those in our parish who are in a bereavement process as they move into a new experience of wholeness. Over the last year, our Bereavement Committee has searched for ways that this prayerful support could be extended. We need a few more people to work with us in planning for such events, activities, service. If you find the Holy Spirit prompting you to be involved in this ministry, please contact Mary Ann at the parish office, (248)542-8720.



## 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

What are you supposed to do about the bad behavior of the people around you? You know who I'm talking about. That family member, friend, coworker, or acquaintance who is quite immoral. On this front there are two lively options in our culture: bash the person to others (probably online) or pretend everything's fine. The former damages the person. The latter ignores reality. What to do?

Jesus' strategy in the Gospel of Matthew is as wise as it is difficult: go directly to the person, and then gradually expand the circle of intervention. Simple, often effective, and hard. But what we often miss is the context of the Lord's strategy, "If your *brother* sins against *you*..." Notice the italicized words. Is the person in a Christian familial bond with you? And was the action in question against *you*? If so, proceed with the plan. Fine. But how often we fret over the sins of those who either aren't our spiritual siblings or have done nothing directly to us. This is not an invitation to ignore injustice in the world. Rather, we should build bonds of fraternal love, and carefully discern when and how others' sins are indeed our concern. Sometimes they are. Other times — frequently, perhaps — they simply are not.

— Father John Muir

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## WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

### SHOULD A CATHOLIC PURSUE AN ANNULMENT?

**Question:** After a civil divorce, is a Catholic obligated to pursue an annulment?

**Answer:**

Many Catholics are not exactly sure what an annulment does. An annulment does not deny that a marriage took place, nor does it deny that there once was love. It does not mean that people say anything untrue, such as they never loved each other or that everything in their marriage was wrong. An annulment does not negate children, nor make them illegitimate. An annulment addresses the spiritual aspect of marriage. In effect, an annulment says that at the time of the wedding, there was either something present or something absent that prevented the sacrament from taking place. It is a spiritual determination that, if granted in the affirmative, allows a person to marry in the Church.

Annulments have no legal standing and are unable to be used in a civil court. Therefore, a Catholic has no moral obligation to pursue an annulment. However, when the tragedy of divorce occurs, and there is no hope for reconciliation, annulments may help bring some spiritual closure to a person's life. Some people have found the process to be healing and others have found it to be difficult. Speak to your priest or a member of the Diocesan Tribunal staff to decide what is best for you. ©LPi

IF WE LEARN  
NOTHING ELSE  
FROM THIS TRAGEDY,  
WE LEARN THAT LIFE  
IS SHORT AND THERE  
IS NO TIME FOR HATE.

Sandy Dahl, wife of United  
Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl



### *Patriot Day Prayer September 11*

*Heavenly Father, Creator of All,  
You have created the human  
person as good. You have  
placed us in the world as one  
human family, as sisters and  
brothers. We pray today for  
all victims of violence across*

*the world, for the healing of their mind and body, for  
their mourning family members, for the repose of their  
souls.*

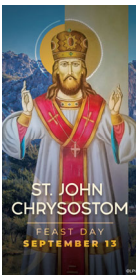
*Jesus, You have told us to love our enemies, and to pray  
for those who persecute us. Give us the strength and  
courage to forgive. Remove all lingering desire for  
revenge.*

*Holy Spirit, reveal to us the mercy of God. Give us the  
gift of Your peace that surpasses all understanding.  
Amen.*

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**GETTING TO KNOW OUR SAINTS...**



**SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM-SEPTEMBER 13**

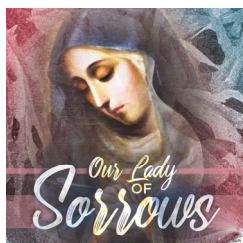
Born in Antioch in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, and raised by his widowed mother, Saint John received a rigorous classical education. He was first called to the ascetic life, even spending time as an anchorite living in a cave near Antioch. However, this life of extreme mortification was hard on his physical body, and he eventually returned to the city to recover.

Saint John was ordained in 298. He spent the next 12 years preaching in the Cathedral of Antioch, and it was most likely during this time that he earned the name Chrysostom which means “golden-mouthed.”

In 397 or 398 he was made archbishop of Constantinople against his will. This post placed Saint John in the midst of imperial politics. But he would not be drawn in. He kept a modest household without extravagance and refused to serve the sumptuous suppers for political supplicants that predecessors in the position had. He preached against corruption and decadence and fought for the reform of clergy even deposing corrupt bishops.

Unfortunately, this high moral stance made enemies of powerful people at court and in the Church. They conspired against him and eventually Saint John was exiled to Armenia. He died in exile in 407. He was made a Father of the Church at the Council of Chalcedon in 451 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1568.

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**September 15th**

**THE SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY**

- 1) The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34-35)
- 2) The Flight into Egypt (Mt 2:13-21)
- 3) The Loss of Jesus for three days (Lk 2:41-50)
- 4) Carrying of the Cross (Jn 19:17)
- 5) Crucifixion of Jesus (Jn 19:18-30)
- 6) Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross (Jn 19:39-40)
- 7) Jesus is Laid in the Tomb (Jn 19:39-42)

**MASS SCHEDULES**

***National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica***

2100 W. 12 Mile, Royal Oak, 48073

SATURDAY- 8:30am and 4:30pm (livestreamed)

SUNDAY-7:30am, 9:30am (livestreamed), 11:30am 4:00pm (Spanish-livestreamed), and 6:00pm

WEEKDAYS (*Monday - Friday*) 6:30am (livestreamed), 8:30am

***St. Justin, St. Mary Magdalen***

1631 E. Elza Hazel Park, 48030 (St J)

50 E Annabelle Ave. Hazel Park, 48030 (St MM)

SATURDAY - 4:00pm - St. Justin

SUNDAY - 9:00am & 11:00am - St. Mary Magdalen

MON-WED & FRI- 9:00am - St. Justin

***St. Mary***

730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, 48067

SATURDAY - 4:30pm

SUNDAY - 9:00am, 11 am

MON, TUES, THURS, FRI - 7:30am

WED - 12:10pm

**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION**

**First Reading:** Ez 33:7-9

The Lord teaches Ezekiel that he is personally responsible to be faithful to the prophetic words given to him. How could you show others that you take your faith seriously?

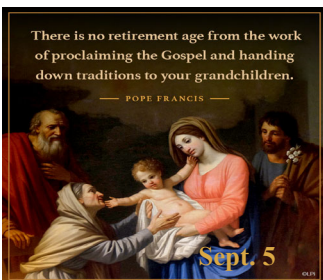
**Second Reading:** Rom 13:8-10

Paul taught that *love* (loving one’s neighbor) is the fulfillment of the law God gave to Israel. What do you think is most challenging to this seemingly simple command to love one another?

**Gospel:** Mt 18:15-20

Jesus taught his disciples to make every effort possible to be reconciled with someone who has wronged you. Is reconciliation a high priority for you?

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***Prayer for Grandparents***

*Dear Lord,*


*What a beloved idea you had with grandparents, relationships of care and support that bridge generations.*

*Bless those in this role today, biological or beyond, all those who care for little ones with patience, wisdom, and love.*

*St. Anne and St. Joachim pray for us!*

*Amen.*

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 **PUZZLE**  
 Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

Moses	lifted	snake
perish	save	world
loved	heaven	desert

soMes      M o s e s

havnee      \_\_\_\_\_

letfid      \_\_\_\_\_

saken      \_\_\_\_\_


dseret      \_\_\_\_\_

levod      \_\_\_\_\_

wrodl      \_\_\_\_\_

preshe      \_\_\_\_\_

seva      \_\_\_\_\_

BECAUSE I WANT  
 CHURCHES WATER  


*Love and Truth*

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I think even the most devout, the most pious Catholic reading this could summon to mind, if asked, one or even two examples of Catholic teaching for which they have desperately looked for a loophole.

Don't worry, I won't make you share with the group. But bring it to your mind now: the doctrine you once resented, or perhaps still do. The commandment you don't fully understand, the one you bristle against. The rule you find the hardest to follow. The belief you hate explaining to your friends.

If it disappeared from scripture or dropped out of the catechism, would your life really be easier? Would you be happier?

I am thinking of mine. For a long time, I searched high and low for a way around this particular teaching. I read books and Scripture and tradition, I prayed and reflected and tried to argue with myself. For a time, I gave up complying with it entirely. I threw it to the wind, with a shoulder shrug and a self-satisfied assurance to myself that God, being a loving father, does not want his child to be unhappy.

But reader: I was miserable. I was so, so miserable, and I stayed that way until I finally accepted that God is, indeed, a loving father, and desires nothing less than the unhappiness of his children. And so, to ward it off, he has given us the truth, and asked us to share it amongst ourselves like a cherished heirloom, a priceless inheritance.

To share truth, you must show love. To show love, you must share truth. One demands the other. Because this is what Christ does for us, and this is the mission of the Church in this world. Loosening and binding. Bearing witness. Giving testimony. Speaking truth, and in speaking truth, showing love.

*"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." — Psalm 95*

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**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK**

- Sunday: 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents' Day
- Monday: Patriot Day
- Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
- Wednesday: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Friday: Our Lady of Sorrows
- Saturday: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
- Next Sunday: 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP GIVING - WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 2/3**

<i>Fiscal Year 7-1-23 to 6-30-24</i>	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	245	104		
Offertory (including loose cash)	\$ 5,293.00	5,256.90	(36.10)	(1,244.93)
Energy	\$ 289.00	691.00	402.00	(181.53)
Other: Coffee & Donuts, Flowers, Memorial Trees, Candles	\$ 1,115.39	211.00	(904.39)	(9,587.15)
St. Vincent de Paul	n/a			
Mass Intentions	n/a	110.00		1,020.00
Special AOD Collections: Priest Retirement Fund	n/a	25.00		25.00
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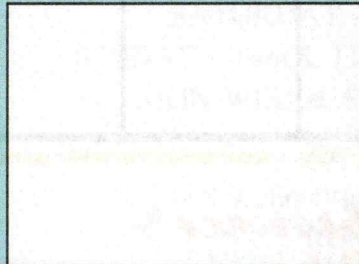
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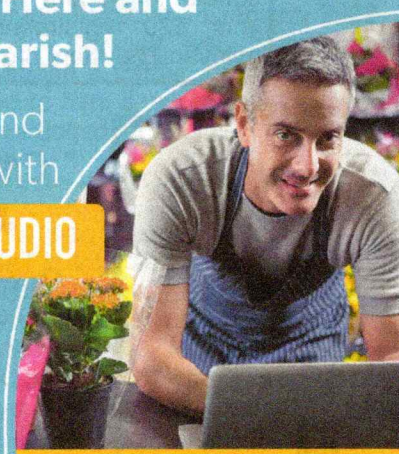
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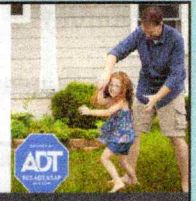


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