

Readings for the week of October 20, 2024

Sunday:

Is 53:10-11/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22, (22)/
Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45

Monday:

Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5/
Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday:

Eph 2:12-22/Ps 85:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14/
Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday:

Eph 3:2-12/Ps 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/
Lk 12:39-48

Thursday:

Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19/
Lk 12:49-53

Friday:

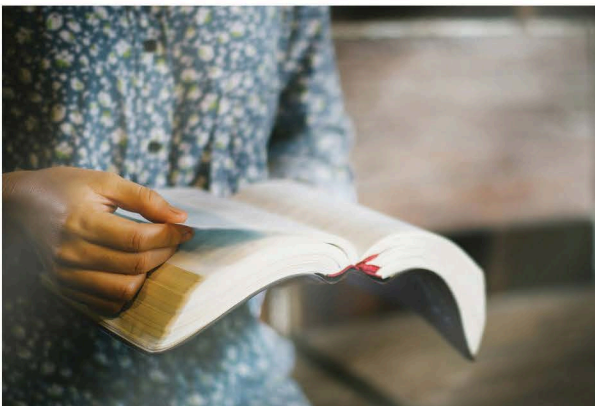
Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
Lk 12:54-59

Saturday:

Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/
Lk 13:1-9

Next Sunday:

Jer 31:7-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/
Heb 5:1-6/Mk 10:46-52



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

From a young age, I loved winning at sports. I confess that winning was a bit of an addiction. It was probably coming from a deep desire for attention and affirmation from others. Nevertheless, it was a driving motivation for me. Baseball, soccer, track, table tennis, and whatever else I could find was a chance to win. Competition was my obsession.

Another John, and his brother James, demonstrate a kind of wildly competitive obsession when they dare to say to Jesus: **“Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory”** (Mark 10:37). Their audacity arouses an indignant reaction from the other apostles, who are clearly raw that these two are out to win the highest spots.

How does Jesus respond to us in our desires for greatness? The same way he does to James and John. He does not criticize them for their desire for glory. But he does highlight their ignorance (**“you do not know what you are asking.”**). Then he invites them to be champions of true greatness: by drinking not the cup of worldly victory, but his cup of self-giving suffering love, to be the **“slave of all.”** The true winners are slaves of love. This week, dare to tell Jesus what your ambitions truly are. Hear him call you to an even greater victory.

— *Father John Muir*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Made to Serve

I thought it often in my first year as a mother, when I was every day discovering what this new life of parenthood looked and felt like: doing anything with kids is a hundred times harder than doing it without kids. But it's a thousand times better.

From eating dinner to going to Mass to taking a walk around the block — every single outing, even the simplest ones, had an extra level of logistical complexity. I had to bring diapers and food and extra clothes, I had to be ready to distract, to comfort, to settle, to de-escalate. Before, I just showed up, did the thing and went home. Now, I had to be ready to coordinate.

I had to be ready to serve.

But even while everything had become so much more complicated, so much harder, there was suddenly a joyfulness to these experiences that had not been there before. Yes, I was a mom now, a servant if there ever was one, constantly tending to someone else's needs, and it was difficult. Sometimes terribly so. But it was beautiful (not in a physical way — I was usually covered in baby spit-up — but my soul had that glow, you know?).

It was the first time in my life that I really understood what it was to serve, and the power of that vocation to which we are all called.

This isn't just true of parenthood. It's true of every relationship. When we find someone we can meaningfully, wholeheartedly serve — our spouse, our best friend, our employees, our students, our patients, whoever it is — the effort becomes nothing compared to the joy and the fulfillment we find in the work.

We were made for greatness, and Christ tells us that to be great is to serve. So don't be afraid of greatness. Don't be afraid to serve.

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Is Halloween a pagan holiday or a Catholic one?

Answer:

The short answer: nowadays, a little bit of both. But it wasn't always that way. Halloween and All Saints' Day are closely connected. In the 800s, the Catholic Church began celebrating All Saints' Day. It was originally called All Hallow's Day or Hallowmas. The celebration began early on All Hallow's Eve. But if Halloween is really about the saints in all their victorious glory, where do we get haunted houses, costumes, and pranks?

All Saints' Day became associated with the other deceased rather quickly. November 2nd is All Souls Day, where we pray for the souls in purgatory. Throughout the European world, especially with the Celtic and Germanic peoples, the dead were honored in the autumn months. The Celtic pagan celebration of Samhain had its own folk rituals and occurred around the same time as these Catholic feast days.

Within the last few hundred years, this included dressing in disguise and going door to door, asking for food in exchange for a rhyme or poem. Some people masqueraded as "dark" spirits and pulled pranks on others. Today's celebration of Halloween tends to take on these later practices, rather than the original meaning of celebrating the saints. But remember ... this feast was Catholic first!

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

If he gives his life as an offering for sin,
he shall see his descendants in a long life,
and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished
through him. (Is 53:10)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.
(Ps 33)

Second Reading:

So let us confidently approach the throne of grace
to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.
(Heb 4:16)

Gospel:

For the Son of Man did not come to be served
but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mk 10:45)

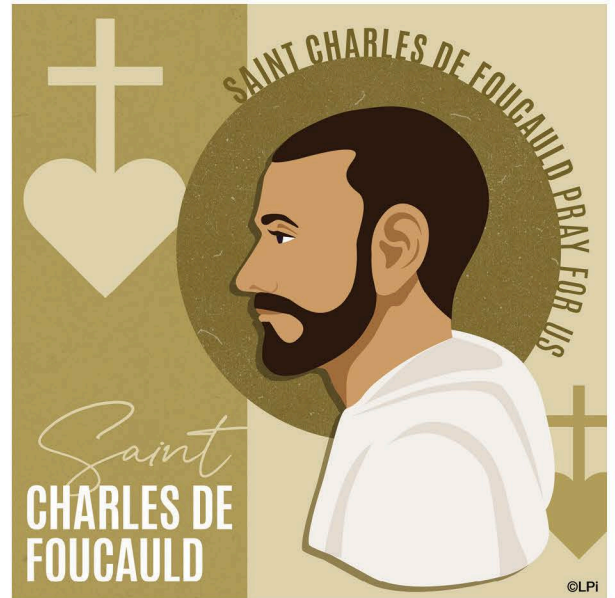
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Do you want to be like Christ? Pray for a servant's heart, for hands that never tire of giving, for arms that hold others up. Pray for feet strong enough to walk the path of a servant, in the footsteps of the one who came not to be served but to serve.

Observances for the week of October 20, 2024

- Sunday:** 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
World Mission Sunday
- Tuesday:** St. John Paul II, Pope
- Wednesday:** St. John of Capistrano, Priest
- Thursday:** St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
- Next Sunday:** 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint of the week

Charles de Foucauld (1858-1916) whose calling was to live like Jesus, is the inspiration for lay associations, religious communities and secular institutes of laity and priests collectively known as “the spiritual family of Charles de Foucauld.”

Prayer for those who Serve

Oh God,
With abiding gratitude,
we thank You for the men
and women who offer of
themselves in service to our
church and our community.
Bless them, their families,
and their ministries with
abundance!
Amen.

“The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

- Mk 10:39b-40

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah sees how suffering can have a positive outcome. How do you help family members or friends who are struggling?

Second Reading:

The author of Hebrews encourages us to be confident in asking for “timely help” from the Lord. In what ways do you need the Lord’s help today?

Gospel:

Jesus teaches James and John that humility and service to others is what defines greatness in the kingdom of God. How might you be of service to a friend or co-worker this week?



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“
ONE MUST
SEE GOD IN
EVERYONE.
”

MIRACULOUS
MEDAL VISIONARY

- ST. CATHERINE LABOURE



“But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” - Mk 10:43-45

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