



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021



Dear Friends in Christ,

*“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”*

We see it is clear that there is a connection between God the Father and the Son, Jesus Christ, between the Savior and us, and between God the Father and us - His children (through Jesus Christ).

How do we keep and improve our *“relationship”* with God our Heavenly Father and our Savior Jesus Christ, and with other disciples/our brothers and sisters in Christ?

To our God -

- ♦ We praise Him unceasingly through the Holy Mass;
- ♦ We sincerely keep His commandments, teachings and laws;
- ♦ We trust in the Divine Wisdom, especially when we are faced with difficulties in life, confronting *“the devil,”* or struggling with our own weaknesses;
- ♦ We keep our eyes fixed on the Lord, so we will not lose our hope in God's promises through our Redeemer, Jesus Christ;
- ♦ We come to Him day and night when we are happy or sad, successful or unsuccessful, pleased or disappointed;
- ♦ We invite Him to come to *“our house”* (though we are not worthy) through receiving the sacraments, particularly the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation;
- ♦ We pay Him *“greatest homage”* which belongs to Him; and you can name many more.

To our brothers and sisters in Christ -

- We build up and strengthen the bond of love among us;
- We respect one another;
- We promote the dignity that each human being has and deserves;
- We courageously, in the love of Christ and for the sake of their souls, correct (not giving harsh judgment) the wrong doing of our brothers and sisters (it is not easy at all, but Jesus showed us how to do it);
- We extend God's forgiveness, love and peace;
- We live peacefully and courageously among the turmoil caused by those who do not understand or hate us; and again you can name more.

Standing before the Lord or in whatever we do, we should learn to be humble and trusting in God just as a child is humble and trusting in his loving parents.

With humility, the child accepts to be corrected or disciplined, trusting that his parents (mother and father) still love him with the love that they received from God and with the love that they shared with each other. With that kind of humility and trusting, I think we are like *“the child”* whom Jesus is *“putting his arms around.”*

Let us continue to place our trust in God and to practice in order to *“achieve”* the virtue of humility. With trust and humility, let us come before the Lord to worship Him and pay Him the *“greatest homage.”*

Peace, Fr. Tien



The dedicated priests who served us in the past (you may want to mention former pastors or parochial vicars who are now retired), now deserve to live out their retirement years in dignity. Our parish has been assessed for the priests' retirement and benefits plans. Please be as generous as you can in this second collection, which will be taken in our parish next weekend, September 25/26. Additional envelopes are available in the foyer of the Church or in our parish office.

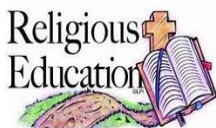
The following information is provided for a better understanding of the Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection. You may choose to use some of these facts as you promote the collection at the parish level.

- A total of 28 retired diocesan priests currently receive benefits.
- There are 84 diocesan priests in active ministry.
- A contribution will be made to the retirement funds of the nine religious orders serving the Diocese of Charlotte.
- There are currently 23 religious order priests for whom contributions will be made.
- While the average age of retirement in this country is 60, priests are asked to serve until age 70 and beyond.
- The Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection helps provide for the future retirement of those priests who are currently working, ensuring the funds will be available when a priest becomes eligible for retirement benefits.



This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Under the theme of "Say the Word and My Soul Shall Be Healed". Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to thank our Catechists who have dedicated themselves to this mission.

Faith Formation will begin class on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. In person registration will be held this Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> and next Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> for four years old through high school. Registration for First Communion and Confirmation will also be held on those Sundays. Information about the St. Francis Youth Group will also be available. This year, we will be offering online registration; the link for online registration will be available on the church website by September 19<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the Faith Formation program, please attend one of the registration dates or contact Kristin Fox at 200-3870.



In addition, if any parishioners would like to volunteer with the Faith Formation Program, we welcome you; we could use help in many areas including teacher assistants, guest speakers, youth group and sacramental preparation classes.



RCIA classes begin at St. Francis on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room downstairs. Classes are open to everyone from initial faith inquires to cradle Catholics. Come share the faith together. Masks are required. Bring your Bible and Catechism of the Catholic Church if you have one. Snacks will be provided. Call Deacon David at 828-506-3348, if you have any questions or speak to him after Mass.

We are in need of someone who would like to lead the rosary before our 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Please contact Alice Cano at 931-841-5240 if you would like to help with this ministry.



The "Shoes for Kids Program" is cranking up for this school year for those children in need of shoes!!! Please do not buy shoes. Monetary donations can be left at our Parish Office.

**IS THIS YOUR YEAR?** Couples married 25 or 50 years last year or this year will be honored at an Anniversary Mass held on Sunday, November 7, 2021 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Charlotte. Mass begins at 2:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Simply call our church office to be included.



**Pray for those who seek healing:** Shirley Allegretti, Ray Behr, Dean Birchard, John Wayne Crunkleton, Mary Cude, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Fiorillo, Brendan Fox, Carol Fox, Tony Frede, Brandon Hatch, Joan Hatch, Aaron Ivey, Millard Michaels, Bill and Dee Mollitt, Germaine Moffitt, Dolores Molter, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Tanja Savage, Bill Shaw, Linda Smith, Catherine Holten Snider, Marlene Taber, Irene Tisdale, Marlene Woods, Alice Yuzzi



## Mass Schedule and Intentions

### Saturday, September 18

5:00 P.M. †Joan Kurczewski by Mike Kurczewski  
†Bertha Sanchez by Rolando Zuniga

### Sunday, September 19

#### Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. †Teresita Orgiles, †Conchita Orgiles  
11:30 A.M. †Jack Bennet

### Monday, September 20

#### Saints Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs

9:00 A.M. †Clyde, Kerry and Michael Blue  
by Helen Blue  
†Jay Lucas by Mary Murphy

### Tuesday, September 21

#### Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

9:00 A.M. Teresa Valdivia;  
Margie Curran by Mary Murphy

### Wednesday, September 22

5:30 P.M. †Andrew Mcgee, †Donna Ceraso

### Thursday, September 23

#### Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

9:00 A.M. Stacy Roisin

### Friday, September 24

9:00 A.M. †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia

### Saturday, September 25

5:00 P.M. †Eric Urrutia

### Sunday, September 26

#### Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. World peace and blessings by Jerry Ames  
11:30 A.M. †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 6:15 p.m.

### The Rosary

The Rosary is recited everyday one-half hour before Mass.

**Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces:**

Stephen Fox, Kyle McCormick, Elizabeth Scoone

