



THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021



Dear Friends in Christ,

Through the Gospel from Mark, Jesus once again raises a crucial question to you and me who claim that we are Jesus' disciples: *"Who do you say that I am?"* And Jesus also reminds or reveals to us the details of how to be His true followers: *"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."*

First, who do we say that Jesus is? I am sure everybody who comes to Church knows exactly the answer, but how will the answer affect our lives in words and deeds. This will be different for each of us for it depends on how one really believes in the answer.

Having knowledge about Jesus is not enough; saying we have faith in Jesus is not enough. Knowing Jesus and having faith in Jesus must be proved by our life: obedience, humility, trust, forgiveness, kindness, good works, sacrifices, denying oneself, ready to lose one's life for Jesus' sake and so forth.

We may not have to shed our blood for Jesus like the martyrs, but we may have to be persecuted by being mocked, slandered, ridiculed, forced to practice unjust laws, being talked about behind our back, and ...



With all these "BAD" things, do you still want to be true followers of Jesus Christ? Do you still want to keep your faith in Him? Is keeping Jesus' teachings still worthwhile for you? Do you still want people to see how true your Catholic Faith is? Are you still willingly to forgive those who have persecuted you?

It is really tough to be true followers of Jesus Christ, isn't it, my dear friends?

Probably in the past, or even now, we just wish that we never knew Jesus. Probably we have complained to God: God, it is too hard or it is impossible to be faithful to You, to keep Your commandments, to do Your will, to fulfill Your desires, or to deny ourselves.



Dear friends, God knows what He is doing; God knows what is the best way to lead us back to our eternal home in heaven; God knows who we are, where we came from, what we were made of. God knows what is "right" and what is "wrong" for us to do and avoid; God knows at the end of the "road of the cross" there is a happy and peaceful life for eternity. God is in control, not us, nor the government, nor scientists nor ... for we "are thinking not as God, but as human beings."

We need to trust God more. We need to obey Him. We need to humbly bow down before the Almighty God. I think our world today LACKS all of these. We must be good examples of these things in our lives: words and deeds.

May God help us. May God come to our aid. May God always be with us, and may God re-direct our country and our world back to Him. Amen.

Peace in Christ,

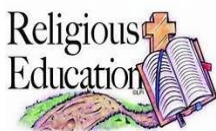
Fr. Tien





The Women's Guild will host Jesse Boeckermann, Western Region Director for Catholic Charities, as a speaker for their monthly meeting on Monday, September 13th. He will give an update on Catholic Charities services and activities. The talk will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in our Family Life Center. Light refreshments will be served. Parishioners are invited and masks are welcome.

Faith Formation classes will begin on Sunday, October 3rd following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. In person registration will be held this Sunday and next Sunday, September 19th, after our 9:00 a.m. Mass for students who are at least four years old through high school.



Registration for First Communion and Confirmation will also be held on those Sundays along with information about the St. Francis Youth Group. This year we are offering online registration. The link is available on our church website: stfrancisassisifranklin.org. 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. Thank you!



RCIA classes begin at St. Francis on October 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room downstairs. Classes are open to everyone from initial faith inquirers 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 mornings. 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.

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, Millard Michaels, Bill and Dee Moffitt, Germaine Moffitt, Dolores Molter, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Bill Shaw, Linda Smith, Catherine Holten Snider, Marlene Taber, Irene Tisdale, Marlene Woods, Alice Yuzzi



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

Stephen Fox, Kyle McCormick, Elizabeth Scoone



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, September 11

5:00 P.M. † Don Sanders by Donna Coennen,
† Adelaide Alborno, Mary Crumrine

Sunday, September 12

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. † Msgr. Joseph Ferraro by Marianne Barrone
† Sam King
11:30 A.M. † Gerardo Belman

Monday, September 13

Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 A.M. † Norma Deimel by Glenn Deimel
† Loretta and Harold Welsh

Tuesday, September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9:00 A.M. † William Nemeth by Bill and Cindy Nemeth
† Agnes and Virgil Clark

Wednesday, September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows

5:30 P.M. Stacy Roisin
Shirley Allegretti by Linda Behr

Thursday, September 16

Saint Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

9:00 A.M. William, Allison and John Wayne
Crunkleton by Marilyn Ricke

Friday, September 17

Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 A.M. Norma Osea, Leticia Madrideojos

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

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.