



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026



Background on the Gospel Reading

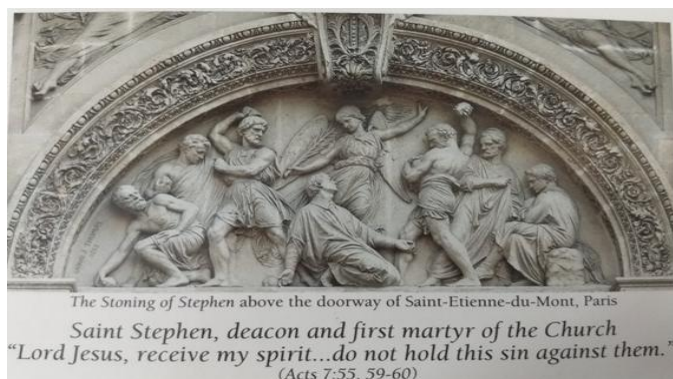
Our Sunday Connection

Today's Gospel reading directly follows last week's Gospel in which Jesus taught the disciples how to handle disputes and conflict within the Christian community. In today's reading Peter asks Jesus how many times one ought to extend forgiveness to another. Peter proposes a reasonable number of times, perhaps seven. Jesus replies by extending Peter's proposal by an enormous amount; not just seven times should one forgive, but 77 times. The parable of the unforgiving servant is Jesus' elaboration of his initial reply to Peter. Through the parable we come to understand the depths of God's mercy toward us and the results of our acceptance of God's forgiveness.

The king in the parable decides to settle accounts with his servants. We are told that one servant in particular owes the king an enormous sum of money. Despite the promise of the servant, it is unlikely that he would ever be able to repay the debt that he owes. The king is moved by the humility of the pleading servant and mercifully forgives the debt. Rather than displaying gratitude for this forgiveness, the servant confronts a fellow servant who owes him a small debt—a pittance when compared with the amount that was owed to the king. The unmerciful servant refuses the pleas of his fellow servant and sends the servant to prison.

the merciful king about the actions of the unforgiving servant. The king punishes the servant because he refused to show the kind of mercy he had himself received from the king. Jesus concludes by indicating that this is how it will be with God and those who refuse to forgive one another.

There is a temptation to quantify forgiveness as Peter tried to do, but Jesus' point is that forgiveness is not about quantity—the number of times we extend forgiveness to another. In the parable the king's forgiveness is like God's forgiveness, and it transforms us, helping us to be as forgiving as God. The lesson is clear: If we hoard God's mercy while showing no mercy to others, we risk forfeiting the effects of God's mercy in our lives.



Please remember to keep
Saint Francis Parish in your will.





Next weekend you will have a chance to express your gratitude/appreciation to retired priests who have served parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte, NC. As you have heard before they are only retired from administration, but not retired from doing ministry as a priest. They still go and help with weekend Masses at parishes when they are asked and are available. This collection does not fund only the priests who have retired already, but also for priests who will retire in the future (just like me)! Our assessment this year is \$9286.00

Catholic Adult Education /OCIA will begin this Monday night, Sept. 14 at 7 PM in the Family Life Center downstairs. We will use Bishop Barron's Catholicism video series. In the first meeting we will discuss the format of the course, the topics for the year, take a tour of the church, and learn to use the resources we will be using; the Bible and the Catechism. All members of the church are invited as well as friends and family. Snacks will be provided. Come share in fellowship and in our Catholic faith. Full list of meetings is on the bulletin boards.
Deacon David & Education team



Rosary is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.

Adoration every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m. and benediction till noon.
Reconciliation ½ hour before Vigil Mass; Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.

Prayers for healing: Donna Barbaro, Dolores Botti, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Daniel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Guyla Ivers, Anette ML Jigla, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Terry McConnell, Michelle Mercer, Dee Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Mike Scarborough, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell, Rosalie Perreault, David Ramsey, Susie Lopez Pineda, Kamri Peck, Kathy Tallent, Denise Burkart, Connie Blackburn, Sharon Beals, Josephine Jennings, Dominga Feria Lopez, Bill Garbinski, Nick Birchard, Mary Ann Janda, Josiah Mihok, Robert Horgan



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, September 12

The Most Holy Name of Mary
NO MASS – Eucharistic Congress

Sunday, September 13

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. ✚ Maxine Arzberger by Cindy Kessler
✚ Lee Zenoniani by Ed & Cheryl Steinwand
✚ Flo Capuano by Ed & Cheryl Steinwand
11:30 A.M. Misericordia Group

Monday, September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9:00 A.M. ✚ Claire Galam by Cindy & Ed
Jim & Mille Vasky

Tuesday, September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows
NO MASS

Wednesday, September 16

Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
5:30 P.M. ✚ Brevon Kimsey

Thursday, September 17

**Saint Robert Bellamine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church;
Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin & Doctor of the Church**
9:00 A.M. ✚ Frank and Odelia Laux

Friday, September 18

9:00 A.M. Joyce Mielnik by Stanislava Michalik

Saturday, September 19

Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

5:00 P.M. ✚ Bill Holten by the Choir
Sarah Kibel, Jerry & Sabina Anselmo

Sunday, September 20

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. ✚ Bill Holten by the Choir
11:30 A.M. ✚ Manuel Vienes by Karen Chairez



Donations made easy! Here is your QR Code that you can scan with your phone.