

And [immediately] the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.

MARK 7:35

He Has Done All Things Well

Deep in the heart of each of us is a desire for a perfect world—a world of peace and harmony, where life flourishes and people care for one another. From beginning to end, our religious tradition promises that such a world is just ahead of us. Today's readings assure us that physical obstacles will not prevent its accomplishment, because the graciousness of God is stronger than any other power.

Today's reading from Isaiah instructs us: "Be strong, do not fear!" (35:4). It encourages us to believe in this promise of ultimate fulfillment and to trust that God will see it through. Our focus changes slightly in the Gospel passage. What was a promise of the future for Isaiah bursts forth as a reality in the Gospel, where the healing of broken bodies and troubled lives is realized by the warm words and gentle touch of Jesus.

Do such miracles really happen? Or are these fanciful stories that provide hope for people with little scientific understanding? Are miracles real? Of course they are. However, their true meaning might be much more profound than we realize. A miracle is a manifestation of divine power far beyond human control or comprehension. It is an experience of being made whole again, an occurrence in which peace and harmony are reestablished. Sometimes a miracle is spectacular; at other times it is far too deep to be seen. But always it is God working in our lives to create us anew.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- * *Where does your life need healing? What are you doing about it?*
- * *How might you be a source of healing in the lives of others?*

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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www.stjosephwaycross.com

September 5, 2021 Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Dear brothers and sisters,

A few years ago, the United Nations drew our attention once again to the beauty of the Noble laureate and Catholic saint, Mother Teresa of Calcutta. In recognition of her work to alleviate human suffering, this secular body declared September 5, the anniversary of Saint Teresa's death, the International Day of Charity.

Mother Teresa continues her ministry in the world today the Missionaries Sisters of Charity (the congregation she founded) and every one of us whenever we say or do anything that lifts the burden of others. It is the same work of charity that the people in the Gospel of this weekend were doing when they brought a deaf person who had a speech impediment to receive healing from Jesus.

This is our Christian vocation as well, to contribute to the healing of our world through our goodness and charitable deeds, not necessarily through great acts but by doing ordinary things in extraordinary ways. Mother Teresa's powerful words remain true:

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Happy long Labor Day weekend. May God keep us safe and continue to bless us in His love!

Fr. Daniel Ter Melaba

septiembre 5, 2021 Vigésimo tercer Domingo de Ordinario Hora

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

Hace unos años, las Naciones Unidas llamaron nuestra atención una vez más sobre la belleza de la noble laureada y santa católica, la Madre Teresa de Calcuta. En reconocimiento a su trabajo para aliviar el sufrimiento humano, este organismo secular declaró el 5 de septiembre, aniversario de la muerte de Santa Teresa, el Día Internacional de la Caridad.

La Madre Teresa continúa su ministerio en el mundo de hoy, las Misioneras Hermanas de la Caridad (la congregación que ella fundó) y cada uno de nosotros cada vez que decimos o hacemos algo que alivie la carga de los demás. Es la misma obra de caridad que estaban haciendo las personas del Evangelio de este fin de semana cuando trajeron a una persona sorda que tenía un impedimento en el habla para recibir la curación de Jesús.

Esta es también nuestra vocación cristiana, contribuir a la curación de nuestro mundo a través de nuestra bondad y obras de caridad, no necesariamente a través de grandes actos, sino haciendo las cosas ordinarias de maneras extraordinarias. Las poderosas palabras de la Madre Teresa siguen siendo ciertas:

"No todos podemos hacer grandes cosas. Pero podemos hacer pequeñas cosas con mucho amor."

Madre Teresa de Calcuta.

Feliz fin de semana largo del Día del Trabajo. ¡Que Dios nos mantenga a salvo y continúe bendiciéndonos en Su amor!

Padre Daniel Ter Melaba



Eternal Rest: Our parish offers condolences to Dave and Debbie Cahill for the loss of Dave's mother, Ruth Cahill on August 29, 2021 in Kentucky. "Eternal rest grant unto her and may your perpetual light shine upon her. May she and all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen."

Dave & Debbie Cahill
433 Loblolly Lane
Waycross, GA 31503



The Word Among Us: Copies of this fine monthly prayer book in English and Spanish are available to you free for the months of September, October, November, and December. We have a limited amount of copies in the back of church. The September copies are now available until the supply is gone.

La Palabra entre Nosotros: Copias de este excelente libro de oraciones mensuales en inglés y español están disponibles para usted de forma gratuita durante los meses de septiembre, octubre, noviembre y diciembre. Tenemos una cantidad limitada de copias en la parte posterior de la iglesia. Los ejemplares de septiembre ya están disponibles hasta que el suministro se haya ido.

Word from Pope Francisco

Where does fear lead us? The feeling of being closed in on oneself, trapped. Once we feel that way, our fear starts to fester and is inevitably joined by its 'twin sister,' paralysis: the feeling of being paralyzed."

Palabras del Papa Francisco

"¿Donde nos lleva el miedo? El sentimiento de estar encerrados en nosotros mismos, atrapados. Una vez que nos sentimos así, nuestro miedo empieza a supurar y es inevitable que se le una su 'hermana gemela,' la parálisis: el sentimiento de estar paralizados. "



The Wednesday Rosary Group will meet in the Chapel on Wednesday at Noon, September 8th. Come pray with us!

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE ILL, ESPECIALLY PARISHIONERS:

Joyce Bachofner, Arcelia Saucedo, Elizabeth Smith, Carlene Murray, Rose Mary Fulford, Bob & Kathy Odam, Colleen Matich, Debbie Cahill, Leslie Bennett, Abraham Gomez, Glenn & Shelly Chase, Clinton Vaughn, Morgan Hess & Ann Marie Hess, Genevieve Martin, Keith Fullenkamp, Bill Brewington, Phyllis Buck, Lucy Todd, Nathan Brooks, Cathy Long, Joanne Vaughn, Sam Scott, Ginger Worley, Jerry Wilkerson, Debbie Wilkerson, Trisha Pape, Lee & Angela McCohna, Jim & Louise Craig, Margie Read, Louvella Hoffman, Dee Parker, and Teresa Frawley.

PLEASE PRAY FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS OF OURS:

Robert Cushing Jr., Pat Marsh, Hannah Phillips & Family, Lindsay Joyce, Patricia Carter, Jason McCullum, Michael Driggers, Maurice Hannah, Earl Black, Tom Grizzaffe, James Kenneth Cox Jr., Merinda Mixon, Toby Foster, Harris Lott, Florence Struempler, Francis Ann Cook, James Stokes, Cindy Taylor, Kris Kruse, April Snider, Robin Johnson, Thomas Williams, Angel Sinai Gomez, Kim Messenger, William Willis, Sandy Wright, Ashley Hoffman, Sue Rossi, Betty Denyko, Sr. Chris Cullen, MFIC, David Greg Russell, Chloe Robinson, William Martin IV, Michelle Rio, Bobby Ziolkowski, Joseph McHendry, Dr. Richard Lynch, Rose Parisee, Adrian Arnold, Erin Crosby, Rosa Maria Santos, Ida Cook, Claudia Taylor, Megan Schultz, Millie Bailey, Ken Jorishie, Craig Carter, Dalin Thorton, Don & Marilyn Sanderson, Bill Byrd & Family, Reginald Ghioto, Chris Garafola, Marlene Brooker, Wesley Sowell, Jennifer Raulerson, Carol McNeary, Delia Fonzeca, Frank Oliveto, Michael Casavanc, Anette Vulah, Teresa Greer, Calista Oliveto, Tommy Pritchard, Pam Cox, Don Graham, James Spivey, Lee Martin, Diana Martin, Mark Smith, Amy Houle, Iris Boatright, Janice Strickland, Mark Parker, Julie Hoddinot, Perry Kolchek, Raymond Eastup, Martin Brewington, Joshus Parisse, Marie Fletcher, and Gugoying Patten, and Steve, Pam Raulerson, the father of Barbara Blasko, and Jason Jordan.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY:

LT. Tim Boyce, U.S. Navy, Rann Howell, Ethan Stanley, Richard Jacobs, and Spencer Hughes.

PLEASE CONTACT BARBARA ALBERT IN THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 912-283-7700 TO ADD OR REMOVE NAMES FROM THE PRAYER LISTS.



Our parish family extends our deepest sympathy to Carol and John Pass for the loss of Carol's sister, Peggy Maier, who died on July 31, 2021 in Buford, GA. May she rest in peace. Amen

Carol & John Pass
162 Lake Lure Dr.
Alma, GA 31510

Thank You

Words cannot express our gratitude to all of you who provided food, setup, and cleaned the social hall for our dear Mary Cahill Morris' funeral meal for her family and friends.

Thank you for all that you do for our church family.

In appreciation, the Bereavement Ministry,

Beverly DeLoach
Waveleen Wehling
Fe Saylor



So you want to play BINGO do ya—well then be here on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 10am and play all ya want! The noise & crowd will draw you into the Knights of Columbus Hall! Be there or be square!



Dave & Sharon Callaway

Congratulations!



Mass in the Extraordinary Form (The Latin Mass)

Mass in the Extraordinary Form (the Latin Mass) at St. Anthony of Padua (Ray City) on the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

September 12, 2021, Sunday, at 3:00 pm

St. Anthony of Padua (Ray City)

Depending on the level of engagement of the faithful and in accord with the life our parish, the Latin Mass will be offered on a regular basis on Sundays. A schedule will be posted on their parish website.

<http://www.anthonypaduaga.org/>

For more information please contact Fr. Juan Carlos Castillo by phone or email: 229-445-5554

pastor@anthonypaduaga.org

The Bible and the Church Fathers

St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology: 12 week DVD series

Where: St. Joseph's Social Hall

When: September 5, 2021

Day and Time: Sundays from 1:30 – 2:45

Embrace the Faith of Our Fathers:

Learn who the Early Church Fathers were and how they shaped the way we read Scripture. This study examines the earliest interpretations of the texts of Scripture, the origins of Catholic dogma and the foundations of Church. **Please join us.** Facilitator: Tammy Theologus. Sign up for Bible Study reminders be emailing tammytheologus@gmail.com or texting 912-282-0338.

St. Joseph Offertory
August 29, 2021

Weekly Offertory Needed	\$4,423.00
Weekly Offertory Collected	\$3,099.00
Difference Negative	(\$1,324.00)



PRE [Parish Religious Education] begins on September 12th at 10:30 AM. **Pre-registration is essential** if your child is going to be involved in preparing for sacraments and learning to live their faith. Pre-Registration is this weekend, September 5th, after the 9 am and Noon mass.

ERP[Educación Religiosa Parroquial] comienza el 12 de septiembre a las 10:30 AM. La preinscripción es esencial si su hijo va a participar en la preparación para los sacramentos y aprender a vivir su fe. La preinscripción es este fin de semana, 5 de septiembre, después de la misa de las 9 de la mañana y del mediodía.

Office for the Protection of Children and Young People, toll free reporting hotline: (888) 357-5530

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal. Each one of us is Christ to all we meet. As of 08/25/2021, our parish has given **\$23,931.00** which is **119%** of our target of \$20,050. Out of 212 families only 65 made a donation or pledge, which is 31% of the parish families. Thank You!

Llamamiento Católico Anual 2021. Cada uno de nosotros es Cristo a todo lo que conocemos. Al 08/25/2021, nuestra parroquia ha dado \$23,931.00 que es el **119%** de nuestro objetivo de \$20,050. De 212 familias sólo 65 hicieron una donación o promesa, que es el 31% de las familias parroquiales. ¡Gracias!

Our goal was \$20,050; We now have \$23,931
31% of the parish families have responded.
31% de las familias han respondido.



Social Hall Update

The contractor for installation of the new floor in the social hall and bathrooms, Dan Spires Flooring Company, is having difficulty finding workers with the skills needed for this project. Otherwise things are progressing well. Sound panels have been ordered and three double-pane tinted windows have been ordered to replace the clouded windows behind the basketball goal. The bathrooms have been refurbished with new quartz countertops, mirrors and lighting. Painting of the hall has been completed and the social hall entrance has been updated.

September 4, 2021-Mass in English-5:00 pm Saturday
English Lector– Tammy Theologus & Michelene Pearson-
EM Lillie Morris

Confession Saturday 4-4:45 pm

September 5, 2021-Mass in English-9:00 am Sunday
English Lector– Barbara Miller- & Marian Evans -**EM Loretta Coar**

September 5, 2021-Mass in Spanish-12 Noon Sunday
Spanish Lector-Maria Cruz-**EM Magdalena Santana**

September 11, 2021-Mass in English-5:00 pm Saturday
English Lector–Lillie Morris-**EM Marian Williams**
Confession Saturday 4-4:45 pm

September 12, 2021-Mass in English-9:00 am Sunday
English Lector-Frank Hoffman-**EM John Chancey**

September 12, 2021-Mass in Spanish-12 Noon Sunday
Spanish Lector-Guadalupe Zambrano– **EM Juanita Sosa**

Mass Intentions for Week of September 4, 2021–September 12, 2021

Saturday, September 4 2021-5 pm Mass **+Gary Turk**

Sunday, September 5, 2021-9 am English Mass **+Martha Rubio**

Sunday, September 5, 2021-Noon Spanish Mass **Pro Populo**

Monday, September 6, 2021-No Mass

Tuesday, September 7, 2021-6 pm Mass **Madison Snider Health & Employment**

Wednesday, September 8, 2021-5 pm-6 pm Adoration and 6 pm Mass **+Raymond Johnson**

Thursday, September 9, 2021-9 am Mass **+Jan Parisse**

Friday, September 10, 2021-9 am **+Charles McElroy**

Saturday, September 11, 2021-5 pm Mass **Dave & Margie Acker Special Intention**

Sunday, September 12, 2021-9 am English Mass **+Robert Moors**

Sunday, September 12, 2021-Noon Spanish Mass **Pro Populo**

Dear Padre,

Martyrs and people who commit suicide willingly sacrifice their lives, so how are they different? If I deliberately put myself in a position to be killed—even for a worthy cause—isn't that a form of suicide?

Life is a gift from God. While both martyrdom and suicide contradict the natural human disposition to preserve and perpetuate life, the former is a totally self-giving act; the latter, a self-inflicted one.

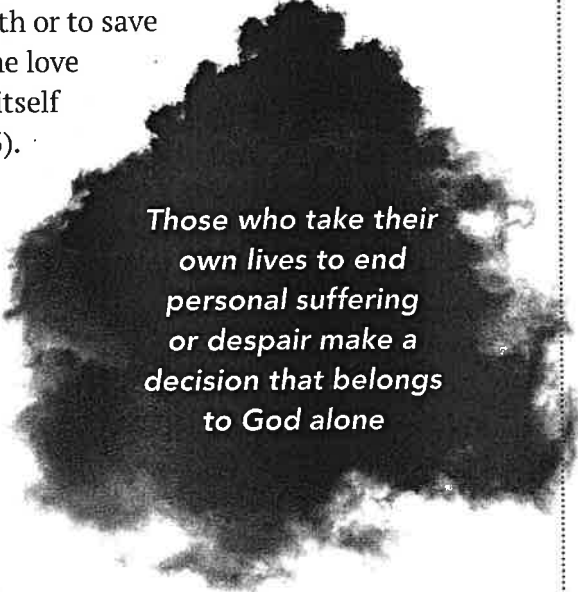
The early Church believed that martyrs went directly to heaven because their sacrifice of life was the ultimate Christlike expression. Their courageous endurance of indignities and tortures—their heroic willingness to die in defense of the faith or to save another's life—demonstrates a supreme love of God and neighbor over love for life itself (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2473).

Those who take their own lives to end personal suffering or despair make a decision that belongs to God alone. It's an action that can revolve totally around the "self," often with little thought given to its consequences. It's a sin against hope (CCC 2091) that reveals a lack of faith and trust in God. Conversely, martyrdom is a profound expression of faith, trust, and hope in God. Nevertheless, our compassionate God fully knows the intensity of suffering that triggers suicide and "can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance" (CCC 2283).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.



*Those who take their
own lives to end
personal suffering
or despair make a
decision that belongs
to God alone*



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Remember that story about the poor widow lady...Her husband had committed suicide; he jumped from the bridge into the river. And she wept. She said, "I am a sinner, a poor woman. But my poor husband! He is in hell."...And the Curé of Ars said, "But wait a moment, ma'am, because between the bridge and the river, there is the mercy of God."

HOMILY, MARCH 18, 2019

Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 6

Weekday

Col 1:24—2:3

Lk 6:6—11

Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 7

Weekday

Col 2:6—15

Lk 6:12—19

Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 8

*The Nativity of the
Blessed Virgin Mary*

Mi 5:1—4a or

Rom 8:28—30

Mt 1:1—16, 18—23, or

1:18—23

Thursday

SEPTEMBER 9

St. Peter Claver,

Priest

Col 3:12—17

Lk 6:27—38

Friday

SEPTEMBER 10

Weekday

1 Tm 1:1—2, 12—14

Lk 6:39—42

Saturday

SEPTEMBER 11

Weekday

1 Tm 1:15—17

Lk 6:43—49

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 12

Twenty-fourth

Sunday in

Ordinary Time

Is 50:4c—9a

Jas 2:14—18

Mk 8:27—35