

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.
TWENTIETH-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**INVEST JUST FIVE MINUTES A DAY,
AND YOUR FAITH WILL DEEPEN AND
GROW, A DAY AT A TIME.”**

**SUNDAY, SEP 20, 2020 TWENTY-FIFTH
SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

GROW YOUR FAITH

Who gave you your first God lessons? On this Catechetical Sunday, we thank family members, preachers, teachers, RCIA teams, and others who brought the Good News to us. We're also grateful for holy ones, like Venerable Mother Theresa Dudzik, who taught by their example. A remarkable seamstress, Dudzik arrived in Chicago at age 21 after the Great Fire of 1871. She took the destitute into her apartment and sewed to earn money to feed them. In time she founded the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago to run homes, schools, day-care centers, and an orphanage. What will your own example teach others?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a (133).* "Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near."

**MONDAY, SEP 21, 2020 FEAST OF
MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND
EVANGELIST RISE UP**

Nobody likes paying taxes or has warm, fuzzy feelings about the IRS, but it seems tax collectors in Jesus' time had it especially rough—being lumped in with all manner of sinners. That is because tax collectors were Jews who worked for the Romans, the enemy occupiers of Jewish lands, so they were viewed as traitors by their people. Jesus sought them out for salvation anyway and led Matthew to a new position: apostle and evangelist. What does it take to get a promotion like that? Merely "get up and follow Jesus," as Matthew did.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13 (643).* "I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."

**TUESDAY, SEP 22, 2020 TRADE
STRESSED FOR BLESSED**

Back-to-school September is such a stressful time for families. Add the reality of COVID-19—with parents trying to work from home, kids' schedules often up in the air—and it gets all the messier. Even if you don't have children at home, you probably know people who do and are stressing. How can we all find balance? Honor the sabbath in whatever way you are able, by hitting the pause button—even for a few hours. "Human life has a rhythm of work and rest," says the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "The institution of the Lord's Day helps everyone enjoy adequate

rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives." Plan ahead for this coming Sunday.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21 (450).* "To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD."

**WEDNESDAY, SEP 23, 2020 MEMORIAL
OF PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST
LISTEN FROM THE HEART**

Saint Pius of Pietrelcina (1887-1968) is better known by his nickname, Padre Pio. He is said to have borne the stigmata, the wounds of our Lord, for more than 50 years. To be sure, he was a man of prayer and suffering, a Capuchin Franciscan priest who lived in a small Italian friary nearly all of his life. However, the principal reason for his local fame was his ability to listen to those who came seeking his counsel, to "read their hearts" and to offer them the love of God in the sacraments. His frequent message to penitents, "Pray, hope, and don't worry," is a message for us to treasure and savor today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Proverbs 30:5-9; Luke 9:1-6 (451).* "He sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God."

**THURSDAY, SEP 24, 2020 FIND THE
BALANCE BETWEEN LAW AND
FREEDOM**

Today's gospel notes King Herod's interest in Jesus, whom Herod likely saw as a threat. The tension between political power and the moral and religious power of Christianity has been part of the faith since its beginning. In *Dignitatis Humane*, the Vatican II document on religious liberty, the Council "urges everyone, especially those who are charged with the task of educating others, to do their utmost to form people who, on the one hand, will respect the moral order and be obedient to lawful authority, and on the other hand, will be lovers of true freedom." Sounds like a recipe for peace and progress.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9 (452).* "But Herod said, 'John I beheaded. Who then is this about whom I hear such things?'"

**FRIDAY, SEP 25, 2020
KEEP THE FAITH!**

The coronavirus has taken quite a toll on Catholic parish and sacramental life. Nearly every bishop responding to a recent survey said the pandemic has seriously affected the celebration of the sacraments and rites and sacramental preparation programs in their dioceses. In addition, they report that the morale of priests, lay ecclesial ministers, deacons, and chancery staff has been damaged by the long shutdown, according to a survey

out of Georgetown University. People are hurting at all levels of church life because the very thing we thrive on—gathering together—has become problematic and potentially life-threatening. Be patient and work with your local faith community to find safe and creative pastoral responses. And keep faith alive in your own home and heart!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22 (453).* "There is . . . a time for everything under the heavens . . . a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces."

**SATURDAY, SEP 26, 2020 MEMORIAL
OF COSMAS AND DAMIAN, MARTYRS
SAINTS FOR THIS SEASON**

Today's brother physicians are patron saints to a long list of healthcare workers, and also against plagues. A brief year ago, biblical references to plagues and epidemics seemed quaint and far removed. Our eyes have been opened to the enduring force of such outbreaks, however, and Cosmas and Damian truly become saints for our time. Perhaps even more so when we learn they were Arab physicians from the area now called Syria. Healing role models come from all backgrounds. Thank the frontline healthcare workers in your own town. They are likely from diverse backgrounds as well.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8; Luke 9:43b-45 (454).* "Fill us at daybreak with your kindness."

Next Sunday

**Sunday, Sep 27, 2020 TWENTY-SIXTH
SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Still time to
change your mind**

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32 (136).* "Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not.'"

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

Sept. 19-20 – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospel this Sunday seems to contradict everything Catholic teaching offers about just wages and fairness. However, the point of the Gospel is not just wages, it is God's generosity toward all of us, even those of us who get serious about accepting the invitation to "working in the vineyard" later in our lives. God's generosity is an inspiration for us to practice both justice and charity. Justice means that we give to every person what is due to them as a child of God. Charity goes beyond justice by loving others and giving beyond what justice requires because of that love. We are loved much and therefore should love greatly in turn. Who needs love this week from me?

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MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

Blessings for, Brittney Jones, as she moves to Houston, for her new job, requested by the Jones family.

For the repose of the soul of Gladys Julian, requested by the Jones family

For all the souls in purgatory, requested by Jeannette Assiongbon-Akou

For those who have no one to pray for them, requested by the Mullen's.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

SUNDAY 10:00AM
WEEK DAY MASSES
TUESDAY – FRIDAY 12:00 NOON

WEEKENDS SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

OFFERTORY	\$4119.00
SVDP	140.00
E-GIVING	2480.91
SVDP(E-GIVING)	39.00
MSP(E-GIVING)	31.00
MSP	54.00
FLC/Debt Retirement	250.00
DR (E-GIVING)	298.00
Needs of Parish	100.00
Needs of the Parish(E-GIV)	119.00
Blackshear Elementary	50.00
Gift Store	200.00

NEEDS OF THE PARISH COLLECTION

This collection helps to pay things like repairs, intervention, and other needs of the parish. This collection happens every last Sunday of the Month. We would like you to convert much of your gift to St Vincent the Paul to the needs of the Parish as the parish funds St Vincent the Paul monthly. Thanks for your generosity.

HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR PARISH DURING THIS CHALLENGING TIME

Remember, the Church depends on your weekly donation for paying bills, and maintaining of the Church facilities. Even though Masses and other events are cancelled, the Church is still operating. Your weekly offering and donations are direly needed.

If you are not online giver, you can still do so by going to www.holycrossaustin.org

and give your donation. You also can mail it if you are able to. Thank you for your faith and commitment.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

Registration for Religious Education Classes will begin today and will continue until Sunday, September 20. Please register your child/children if they are going to participate in Holy Cross CCD/ Sacramental/RCIA classes and High School Youth Ministry. Fee is \$35 for one child, \$70 for a family, please mail to the church office or drop in the mail slot. Please contact Jennifer Brooks, DRE for further information.

Classes will begin via Zoom on Sunday, September 20 at 12noon. Zoom details will be sent via email (please make sure your email is current in the church office).

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ella Adams	Mary Anthony
Evelyn Battle	Mildred Carter
B.J. Dukes	Jude Ekpc
Vanessa Downey-Little	Bernie Little
Monica Godsey	Lester Johnson
Marion Welch	Sam King, Jr.
Vonnye Rice-Gardner	Bernadette Phifer
Ella Pease	Betty Ridley
Mary Sobers	Mary Waters
Charlene Postell	Gladie Stelly
Cornelius Harris	Vernell Smith

CONSIDER HOLY CROSS IN YOUR WILL

Call the Church Office 512 472 3741

YOU DID IT!
Congratulations
JARAYL JAVEY



AS OF 8:15 - 9/17/20

**JARAYL IS NOW A
TRUE EAGLE SCOUT**

Family Life Center Now Available for Renting

For all your events like:

- Wedding Party
- Birthday Party
- Graduation Party
- Wakes
- Coporate Events
- Ministry Events
- Meetings
- ETC

Contact the Church Office for details
5124723741

