

## Readings for the Week of September 13, 2020

Sunday: Sir 27:30–28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/  
Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Monday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/  
Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 31:2, 3b, 3cd-4, 5-6,  
15-16, 20/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31–13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12, 22/  
Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28/  
Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b, 15/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14/  
Lk 8:4-15

Next Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/  
Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

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## Observances for the Week of September 13, 2020

Sunday: 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents' Day

Monday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Tuesday: Our Lady of Sorrows

Wednesday: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

Thursday: St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Friday:

Saturday: St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

Next Sunday: 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time;  
Catechetical Sunday

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LIVE THE LITURGY –  
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Deciding to travel the challenging road of forgiveness is choosing a journey toward greater freedom. Resentment, anger, and clinging to past hurts not only keep open wounds that long for healing but bring us down paths that are eventually self-destructive. Harboring grudges and withholding forgiveness not only shut down relationships with others, but with God and myself as well. To choose to forgive another person, regardless of how grave the wrong, is a choice to be released from bondage to past wounds and scars and to pursue the gift of life and love again. Who among us has not wrong or sinned against another? We certainly would want God to understand, forgive, and show mercy upon us. It is hypocritical of us to not extend that same grace to our neighbor.

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Thank You  
FOR  
**GIVING**  
GENEROUSLY

Monetary donations for 9/5-6 were **\$3,381.00**. Online giving during week amounted to **\$74.40**. Thank you for your

generosity to our parish community.



Our Annual "NO STRESS" Picnic Fund as of 9/8/2020 is at **\$9,211.00**.



Sister Mary Ann Cody, I.H.M., *Parish Life Coordinator*  
Rev. Gerald W. Shantillo, V.E., *Sacramental Minister*  
Rev. John V. Polednak, V.E., *Priest Moderator*  
Rev. Thomas J. Maloney, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Ben Brubaker, *Director of Music Ministry*  
JoAnne McHale, *Coordinator of Religious Education*  
Barbara Grimes, *Coordinator Lucky # Calendar*  
Dennis Grimes, *Coordinator of Grounds and Maintenance*  
Mary Hanczyc, *Coordinator of Social Service Ministries*

## PARISH COMMUNITY MISSION STATEMENT

*Our Lady of the Eucharist Parish Community, inspired by the Word of God and nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ, serves as a community of Catholic Christians, proclaiming the Gospel and striving to be disciples of Jesus Christ through love, Liturgy, prayer, on-going faith formation, and charitable works for all God's people.*

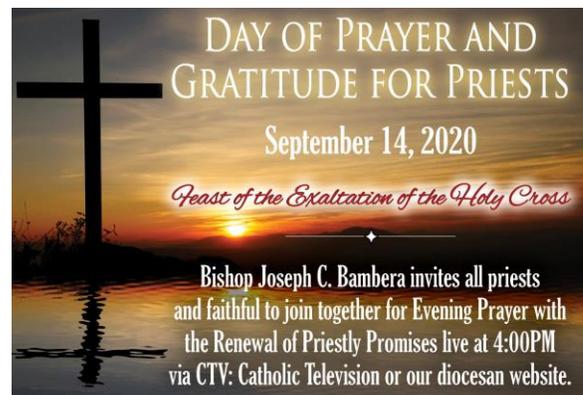
Mass  for the  
Intentions  Week

24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat	4:00 p.m.	Geri Samony – her husband, Jim
Sun	8:30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11:00 a.m.	Sam Latona – wife and family
Mon	8:00 a.m.	Susan Oschal Mongrandes – Helen Oschal
Wed	8:00 a.m.	Charles & Genevieve Morgan – Norinne & Jo Szydlowski
Fri	8:00 a.m.	Leonard F. Copp – Pahl, Carey & Amici Families

25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat	4:00 p.m.	Leo F. Tighe – Lois A. Schick & Family
Sun	8:30 a.m.	People of the Parish
Sun	11:00 a.m.	George Engleman – Ed O'Malley



Let us come together in gratitude for those who minister to us, particularly, *Father Shantillo, Father Maloney, Father McDonnell, and Father Alvero.*



What right do we have to limit the amount and degree of forgiveness we show to others when we are so desperately in need of it ourselves? In not wanting someone who hurt us to downplay or

forget the gravity of their wrong, we cling to anger, resentment, and wrath as a way of maintaining control. It is a way to acknowledge and express our deep hurt. We fail to realize that in doing so we hold ourselves hostage to these destructive feelings and actually become mired in the bondage of sin. All we gain is further alienation from ourselves, others, and especially God. We are no longer free but tethered to all of this unresolved negativity. Don't we really want to let it go? The fact is that we need to.

A good self-reflective posture will quickly show us that when the shoe is on the other foot and we are the ones in need of forgiveness, we desire it above anything else. This is especially true with our relationship with God. It is hypocritical to want one thing for ourselves and something else for another. Yet, many act in precisely this way.

Perhaps we think that in offering forgiveness, even for the most grievous of wrongs, somehow excuses the person of their wrong and makes it almost acceptable. This is what makes revenge, retaliation, and punishment so attractive. We see forgiveness as being an eraser that easily wipes away the offense without consequence. Or, we may believe that in offering forgiveness I must somehow forget the wrong and open myself as a victim of even greater possible hurts in the future. In fact, forgiving my sister or brother of their wrongful actions or attitudes involves none of this. It does not erase anything or position me vulnerably as a doormat to be walked on.

Forgiveness is an act of freedom that restores honest dialogue, shares true, and heartfelt feelings and acknowledges the consequences of an action. It admits that the wrong has caused a hurt that must be healed and squarely positions responsibility on the offender. The act of forgiveness recognizes our sinfulness and brokenness. It also admits that the most saintly among us is capable of doing very grave and deep harm to another person. It sees that we all can be victims of our passions and works in progress that deserve unlimited chances to get it right. With forgiveness, I release myself from the bonds of negativity and pursue a path of restoration, wholeness, and healing. I do not forget the wrong nor do I dismiss it. Sometimes, we have to stay far away from the one who hurt us. But we can still heal internally and be free.

For the one who wants to be forgiven and the one who needs offer forgiveness, the journey can be an adventure in learning what brought us to this place and what is needed to move forward. This is exactly how God treats us. Why would we not want to do the same for others?

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## Religious Education

On **Sunday, September 27** at the **11AM Mass** we will celebrate the opening of our Religious Education school year. At that Mass all the necessary textbooks, directions, and teaching materials will be blessed and distributed. ***We know that the spiritual development of your child(ren) is a primary concern. Let us continue to work together to nurture our children in the love, faith, and Sacramental presence of our God.***



***God of love,  
we thank you for our  
wonderful grandparents.  
They bring such joy and  
happiness into our lives.  
Thank you for all the  
special times that we have  
with them.  
Please watch over them,  
protect them and care for  
them now.  
May they know your  
goodness and love always.***



The Knights of Columbus Council 372 and Assembly 948 are sponsoring a food drive for the next few weeks. The food will be distributed to food banks in our local community. We are accepting donations of non-perishable food or monetary donations. Please make checks payable to: **Knights of Columbus Council 372**. Donations can be dropped off at the Knights home at 55 South Main Street, Pittston, Monday through Saturday from 5 PM to 11 PM.

We thank you for your generosity.

**Baskets can be found at the back of the Church for food donations. Monetary contributions can also be placed in the collection baskets and marked K of C Food Drive.**

ST. MICHAEL'S BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 205 N. MAIN ST., PITTSTON, PA. is having a TAKE-OUT PIGGIE DINNER on Thursday, September 17 from 4 to 6pm or until sold out. The dinner has piggies, mashed potatoes, vegetable and a dessert. The price is \$12.00 per dinner. Please have exact monies. We will also have Halushki (\$6 per quart) and Pirohi for (\$8 per dozen). Please come in on Lambert St. then serpentine through the parking lot.