



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 27, 2020

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Ez 18:25-28

Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5

Mt 21:28-32

*Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves.*

PHILIPPIANS 2:3



SHUTTERSTOCK

## He Emptied Himself

In the Gospels, Jesus seldom teaches doctrine. Rather, the stories themselves provide examples of how we are to model our lives after him. He was a man for others, a compassionate healer, an understanding friend. As clear as such stories might be, because we can be selfish people, the example they offer us is difficult to follow. If it is hard to follow a man who lived a human life with others, how are we to follow the example sketched by Paul in today's second reading?

Paul declares in Philippians: "Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus" (2:5). What attitude is he talking about? Jesus emptied himself of the preeminence that was rightly his as possessing "equality with God" (2:6). He did not demand that they treat him with the reverence and veneration that was due him. Rather, "he emptied himself...he humbled himself" (2:7, 8).

Why does Paul insist on this? It seems the Philippians were having internal problems that were threatening their unity. Various forms of arrogance were tearing them apart: *Don't you know who I am? I am a celebrity. I have more money. I know the right people. And who are you? Who do you know? What can you do?* These attitudes of arrogance infect our communities even today. To this Paul proclaims: If Jesus, who "though he was in the form of God" (2:6) could empty himself of such dignity for the sake of others, you certainly should be able to put aside your trivial vainglory and be "united in heart" (2:2).

Can we?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ★ *In what circumstances does your arrogance raise its ugly head? What do you do about that?*
- ★ *What might you do to strengthen the bonds of unity in your family? Your workplace? Your parish?*



**St. Martin of Tours  
Catholic Community  
at Fort Belvoir, Virginia**

**Mass Schedule**

**Monday – Thursday, 1205** at Fairfax Chapel

**Saturday, 1700** at Belvoir Chapel

**Sunday, 0930** at Belvoir Chapel  
**1100** at Fairfax Chapel

**Pre-Registration is required for weekend Masses.**

**The link to register is:**

[https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/  
anim.cfm?i=563340&k=0767410A7F57](https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=563340&k=0767410A7F57)

**The Sunday 0930 Mass is live-streamed  
and can be viewed from this link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO/>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Saturday – 1600-1645** at Belvoir Chapel  
or by appointment. Contact Fr. Lindsay directly  
to schedule.

**For More Information**

**CH(MAJ) Michael P. Lindsay**  
Catholic Chaplain  
571-266.2086  
michael.p.lindsay.mil@mail.mil

**Sister Michael Bochnowski,**  
Director of Religious Education,  
703-806-3418  
smary.m.bochnowski.civ@mail.mil

**Mrs. Louise Oliver,**  
Catholic Pastoral Life Coordinator  
254-449-6417  
FBCCInfo@gmail.com

**Website: [www.FortBelvoirCatholicCommunity.com](http://www.FortBelvoirCatholicCommunity.com)**

**Facebook Page:**

**Fort Belvoir St. Martin of Tours Catholic Community**

**NEW Catholic Office Space**

**Religious Support Annex  
10011 Middleton Rd, Bldg 221, Ft Belvoir  
(near the Main Post Office on 21<sup>st</sup> St.)**

The Religious Support Annex is now open and is the new home to the Family Life Center, the RSO Funds Office, and the offices of Catholic Chaplain, Fr. Michael Lindsay, and Catholic Coordinator, Louise Oliver. (We don't have our new phone numbers yet!)

All COVID-19 related protocols will be practiced in this building.

**DIGITAL GIVING  
TO OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

**You can now make a donation to our  
Ft. Belvoir Catholic Community ONLINE!**

**Simple, Safe, Secure Stewardship for our  
Army Faith Communities**

**To donate go to:**

**[www.ArmyCTOFDigitalGiving.com](http://www.ArmyCTOFDigitalGiving.com)**

**Remember to choose:**

**Fort Belvoir, VA  
Catholic - RCKA**

Still unsure, watch a video about this  
new program by going to:

**<https://vimeo.com/451294408>**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

As our Catholic Community continues to celebrate in-person Masses, the need for ministry volunteers has increased. **Volunteers are needed to serve as:**

- \* Eucharistic Ministers
- \* Altar Servers
- \* Lectors
- \* Ushers

Should you like to volunteer or have questions, please email our new Liturgy Committee email address:  
[FBCCatholicLiturgy@gmail.com](mailto:FBCCatholicLiturgy@gmail.com).

## Update on Mass Participation

\*Our children's 1<sup>st</sup> Communion will be celebrated during our weekend Masses. This will decrease the number of congregants able to celebrate Mass in-person.

\*New guidance from the Garrison Commander has limited the number of those present during religious services to 50, to include the ministry team, such as the Priest, organist, lectors, etc. This also will decrease the number of congregants able to celebrate Mass in-person.

\*Masks must be worn in all Chapels. Masks with valves will not be permitted. Additionally, face shields are not considered masks. Face shields can only be worn if a mask is also worn under the shield.

\*Congregants MUST receive a confirmation email from the Catholic Coordinator to attend in-person services. Registering for Mass does not guarantee a space. Be assured that we are making every effort to include as many congregants as possible at our in-person Masses. We appreciate your patience.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will now be offered from 1600-1645, every Saturday, prior to the 1700 Mass at Belvoir Chapel. No reservations are required to go to confession.

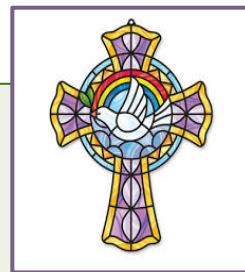
Marian Prayer Service  
3 October 2020  
1800 at Fairfax Chapel



The Knights of Columbus Council 11170 will conduct a Marian Prayer Service to Our Lady of the Rosary after the 1700 Vigil Mass in Belvoir Chapel.

All members of the Catholic Community are welcome to attend either in person or virtually.

The point of contact for more information is Brother Matt Jones  
At: [M4jr@msn.com](mailto:M4jr@msn.com).



## Homily Notes

*Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me; for you are God my Savior.*

*Remember that your compassion, O Lord, and your love are from of old.*

*Good and upright is the Lord; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble his way.*  
(Psalm 25)

Why do we seek God's wisdom and teachings? Why would anyone want to submit their life, heart and soul to serving God and selfless service to others? In our present age many people would say we are nuts. It is because we have been so greatly loved by God and openness to God is truly the way of happiness, fulfillment and peace.

Paul calls each of us to find meaning and purpose in our lives by listening to God who will teach us the way of joy and guide us to find grace and blessing. Psalm 25 is a great prayer to seek God's love and guidance in this pilgrimage of life. Why do we seek to walk the path of faith? Because it is this path that will lead us to encounter and experience the fullness of being loved by God that so filled the Psalmist and Paul during their lives.

Have a blessed and grace filled week.

*Fr. Mike*

# Dear Padre,

Where does the tradition of praying with your hands together originate? I pray with my fingers intertwined. Is that acceptable?

According to the *Caeremoniale Episcoporum* (The Ceremonial of Bishops, 1985), “palms extended and joined together in the front of the breast, with the right thumb over the left in the form of a cross” (CE 107, n. 80) is the correct Catholic hand posture at Mass and prayer.

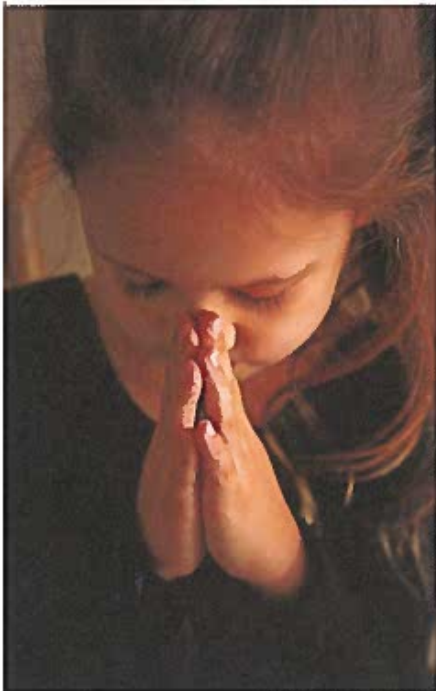
The origin of praying with hands folded is not known, but there’s mention of it in the Jewish Talmud. Historians have also asserted that it’s modeled on the practice of citizens in ancient Rome who joined their hands in the presence of rulers to communicate loyalty and submission to that higher authority.

Gestures and postures should allow our whole body to pray, as well as our heart and mind. Moreover, they are expressions of our faith. For example,

like the early Christians, we stand during prayer and worship to express our readiness for Christ’s return, and as a sign of reverence to hear the gospels. Kneeling and striking the breast are expressions of penitence, humility, and our lowliness before God.

Likewise, at Mass the priest assumes the ancient posture of outstretched arms and hands, slightly elevated, to symbolize surrender in a gesture that reverences Christ’s outstretched arms on the cross. When we join hands together in prayer, it’s a gesture of supplication and a symbol of total submission to God, our supreme authority.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Today let us look at our hands, so often empty of love, and let us try to think of some free gift that we can give without expecting anything in return. That will please the Lord. And let us ask him: “Lord, let me rediscover the joy of giving.”

—EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018



## Calendar

**Monday**  
SEPTEMBER 28  
Weekday  
Jb 1:6–22  
Lk 9:46–50

**Tuesday**  
SEPTEMBER 29  
Sts. Michael, Gabriel,  
and Raphael,  
Archangels  
Dn 7:9–10, 13–14  
or Rv 12:7–12a  
Jn 1:47–51

**Wednesday**  
SEPTEMBER 30  
St. Jerome,  
Priest and  
Doctor of the Church  
Jb 9:1–12, 14–16  
Lk 9:57–62

**Thursday**  
OCTOBER 1  
St. Thérèse of the  
Child Jesus, Virgin and  
Doctor of the Church  
Jb 19:21–27  
Lk 10:1–12

**Friday**  
OCTOBER 2  
Holy Guardian Angels  
Jb 38:1, 12–21; 40:3–5  
Mt 18:1–5, 10

**Saturday**  
OCTOBER 3  
Weekday  
Jb 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–17  
Lk 10:17–24

**Sunday**  
OCTOBER 4  
Twenty-seventh Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Is 5:1–7  
Phil 4:6–9  
Mt 21:33–43