

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPT 20, 2020

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen
to the words of your Son.

—ACTS 16:14B

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Today is Catechetical Sunday!

On Catechetical Sunday, we honor and commission our parish and school catechists who teach and pass on the Catholic faith each year.

A PRAYER FOR CATECHISTS

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists.
We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church.
Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word.
Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.
Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son.
We pray this through Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Saint Maurice and Companions

Died circa 287 | Feast Day September 22

In the fifth century, St. Eucherius of Lyons described the legendary martyrdom of Maurice and the Theban Legion, comprised of Christians from Upper Egypt. Maurice was first officer of the legion, sent by Emperor Maximian to Switzerland to put down some rebellious Gauls. When Maximian ordered the soldiers to sacrifice to Roman gods, Maurice and his legion refused. The outraged emperor ordered “decimations” in which one of every 10 men was killed; when the remainder still would not worship Roman gods, Maximian had other soldiers massacre the entire legion of 6,000. Though the number may be exaggerated, a martyrdom of some Christian soldiers seems believable. Maurice is a patron saint of all armies, the Swiss Guard and Austria.

