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24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH UPDATES- 13 SEPTEMBER, 2026

PARISH MINISTRY

Mass Intentions/Activities

12 Sept.	Sat	**11.00am**	Baptism	**16 Sept.**	Wed	**6:00pm**	No Mass
		6:30pm	**+Eileen O'Hagan**				
		7:30pm	Syro-Malabar Mass	**17 Sept.**	Thu	**6.00pm**	
13 Sept.	Sun	**10.00am**	All Parishioners	**18 Sept.**	Fri	**6.00pm**	Holy Mass & Adoration
14 Sept.	Mon	**6:00pm**		**19 Sept.**	Sat	**6.30pm**	
15 Sept.	Tue	**6.00pm**					

Syro-Malabar Holy Mass on the 1st and 3rd Saturday at 7:30 PM. Adoration every Friday after Holy Mass.

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Readings for Today:

First Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:1 "Forgive your neighbour the wrong that is done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray".

Responsorial Psalm: **Ps.103:1-4,9-12(R.8)** "The Lord is merciful and gracious; slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love".

Second Reading: **Romans14:7-9** "Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's".

Gospel: **Mathew 18:21-35** "I tell you, you should forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times".

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASSES

Preparation classes for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation will begin soon. First Holy Communion classes will be held **every Monday from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.** Confirmation classes will be held **every Tuesday from 4:45 PM to 5:45 PM**. Both classes will take place in the Parish Conference Hall at Our Lady of Victory Parish. Parents of children who have already registered will be contacted by the parish soon with further information about the program.

The first information meeting for parents and candidates preparing for First Holy Communion and

confirmation will take place on **Monday, September 21, at 5:00 PM** in the Parish Conference Hall at Our Lady of Victory Parish. This meeting will provide information about the preparation program, class schedule, expectations, and the journey toward receiving the Sacraments. We warmly invite all parents and candidates to attend this meeting and begin this beautiful journey of faith together.

COLLECTION FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN CANADA

The annual Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will be held on September 26–27, 2026. This collection supports the shared mission of the Catholic Church in Canada and assists our Bishops in carrying out pastoral initiatives and ministries that serve dioceses, eparchies, and the faithful across the country. We warmly invite all parishioners to participate generously in this important collection and to support the pastoral mission of the Church in Canada. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM

CEAY is hosting their annual joint AGM with the school councils of Christ the King, Holy Family, and St Francis on September 16th, at 7pm in the CYO hall. Everyone is welcome! Please check the school websites for the dates of their monthly council meetings as well.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Sacred Heart Cathedral is pleased to announce that **RCIA classes will be starting soon**, led by **Fr. Bartek**. Are you, or someone you know, interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is a welcoming journey of faith and preparation for those who wish to learn more about Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

RCIA is especially for:

- **Non-baptized adults** who are seeking initiation into the Catholic Church.
- **Baptized Christians from other traditions** who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.
- **Adult Catholics who have been baptized** but have not yet received First Holy Communion or Confirmation.
- **Anyone who would simply like to explore the Catholic faith**, with no obligation to become Catholic.

Registration forms are available at the church entrance/foyer or online through the parish website.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Sept. **14 -The Exaltation of the Holy Cross -** Rooted in the **4th-century** discovery of the **Cross in Jerusalem** by **St. Helena** and **its veneration**, this feast celebrates the Cross as the sign of **Christ's love, victory, and salvation**.

Sept.**15 – Our Lady of Sorrows –** This feast was instituted in 1668 by the Servite Friars. In 1814, Pius VII extended the feast to the whole Western Church. The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Mother are: 1) Simeon's prophecy at the presentation of Jesus in the Temple, 2) Flight into Egypt, 3) Disappearance of the boy Jesus in the temple, 4) Road to Calvary, 5) The Crucifixion, 6) Removal from the Cross, and 7) The Entombment.

Sept.**16 –** St. **Cornelius and St. Cyprian –** They were friend and allies. St. Cornelius, Pope and Martyr, and St. Cyprian, Bishop and Martyr, courageously defended the faith and the unity of the Church during times of persecution. Their martyrdom reminds us that **true Christian leadership**

means remaining faithful to Christ, even at the cost of one's life.

Sept.**17 –St. Robert Bellarmine –** is a patron of catechists and catechumens.

St. Hildegard of Bingen – was an 11th century Benedictine mystic and visionary.

Sept. **19 –St. Januarius -** Bishop and Martyr, and his fame is centered on a relic kept in the cathedral at Naples.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER:

For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

POPE LEO XIV

Saint Peter's Square
Wednesday, 9 September 2026

Catechesis. The Documents of the Second Vatican Council. IV. Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et Spes (GS12-22). 2. Human dignity: gift and responsibility.

Brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

The Conciliar Constitution *Gaudium et Spes* (*GS*), by dedicating the first chapter to the dignity of the human person, emphasizes that it is the foundation and condition for "those values which are most highly prized today", but these must not lose sight of their "divine source", in order to avoid possible distortions arising from the "taint in man's human heart" (*GS*, 11).

The journey that made it possible to highlight the fundamental characteristics and rights of human dignity certainly represents one of the most significant chapters in human history. However, the path ahead is not yet complete and must address the contradictions, both old and new, which prevent its full realization.

The Church clearly offers her contribution, reminding us that human dignity arises from the very being of the person. I had the opportunity to reiterate this also in my recent Encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas*: "Every human person is planned and willed by God to enter into communion with Him, with others and with creation. Human dignity does not depend on a person's abilities, wealth or position in life, nor on the right or wrong choices made; instead, it is a gift that precedes and transcends each person, endowed by God as an expression of His unfailing love" (no. 50). The infinite dignity of the human being, then, is rooted in his identity as a creature made "'to God's image' … capable of knowing and loving his Creator", a plan and gift of love that transcends other created realities, which are entrusted to his care to "subdue them and use them to God's glory" (*GS*, 12).

In faith we can understand the ultimate foundation for the dignity of the person, inasmuch as the Son, "by the revelation of the mystery of the Father and His love, fully reveals man to man himself and makes his supreme calling clear" (no. 22).

The person always implies relationship, communion and participation in relation to God and to others; hence, a filial relationship with God the Father and a fraternal relationship with Christ and with all humankind. It excludes self-centred isolation. To be a person means to perceive oneself as a gift to be shared, growing and maturing through acceptance, reciprocity and service.

This dignity is entrusted to the responsibility of each person: at the same time, it also demands

solidarity and mutual care, overcoming the many falsifications and manipulations that still disfigure our perception of it and hinder its realization. Indeed, as a result of the choices made throughout history that have run counter to this dignity, even today "man is split within himself", and "all of human life, whether individual or collective, shows itself to be a dramatic struggle between good and evil between light and darkness". This fragile and limited condition, however, can be regarded with hope, because "the Lord Himself came to free and strengthen man, renewing him inwardly and casting out that 'prince of this world' (*John* 12:31) who held him in the bondage of sin" (*GS,* 13).

Furthermore, the Constitution *Gaudium et Spes* affirms that human dignity concerns the whole person and, therefore, dualistic views must be overcome: the human being "though made of body and soul, is one". Reducing the body to an "object" to be disposed of arbitrarily is always a denial of the dignity of the person: "man is not allowed to despise his bodily life" and "is obliged to regard his body as good and honourable since God has created it and will raise it up on the last day", while ensuring that it does not become enslaved by "the evil inclinations of his heart" (*GS,* 14), since we are all wounded by sin.

Finally, there *Gaudium et Spes* recalls the three most significant expressions of the dignity of the person: intelligence, which makes the human being an insatiable seeker of the truth (no. 15); conscience, through which he gives unity and meaning to his life (no. 16), and freedom, which makes him the responsible agent of his own decisions (no. 17). These dimensions are closely connected to one another: it is in conscience that truth is recognized as such, and freedom can experience it as its foundation and possibility. The Holy Spirit, who gives life in Christ, makes us free and constantly assures us of our dignity as children of God, delivering us from fear and guiding us towards the ultimate goal, that life in its fullness beyond death which Christ has promised us. It is only in Him that the mystery of the human person finds true light; from Him we receive light on the enigma of suffering and death; and with Him we journey towards the Resurrection.

Dear brothers and sisters, created in God's image, through Christ and for His sake, we have received a unique and indelible dignity. Let us commit ourselves to promoting and defending it always, with the light and strength of the Gospel.

Summary of Catechesis:

Dear brothers and sisters, in our series of catechesis on the Second Vatican Council, we continue our reflection on *Gaudium et Spes*, focusing on the dignity of the human person. Human dignity flows from our identity as children made in the image and likeness of God. We are endowed with the gifts of intelligence, for seeking truth; conscience, for recognizing our ultimate calling; and freedom, for choosing the good. Only through Christ do we understand that our personhood implies relationship and the call to give ourselves as a gift to God and others. May we therefore help each other to guard and defend our God-given dignity and journey together toward our heavenly homeland.

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