

## Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 27, 2020

Have in you the same attitude that  
is also in Christ Jesus

— *Philippians 2:5*

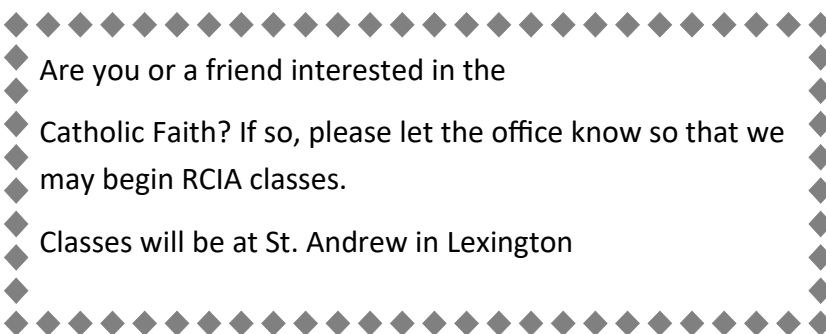
### FAMILIAR INSIGHTS

Spiritual teachers tend to repeat themselves, and to repeat other teachers. Maybe there really aren't that many different truths to tell. Just a lot of slow, sleepy human beings—like us—who need to hear the basics over and over. Consider today's readings.

People complain God isn't "fair," and Ezekiel answers that God is more than fair. People choose their own fates, and people can change. Even evildoers can turn, do right, and live. "Actions speak louder than words." A fresh new insight? Hardly.

Paul tells the Philippians that he would truly be encouraged if those who claimed to be believers would, in fact, look to others' interests and not their own. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." A novel idea? I don't think so.

In Jesus' story of the farmer and his sons, everyone knows that the one who said he wouldn't work—but did—is way ahead of the one who said he would work—but didn't. "Talk is cheap." Heard that before?



Are you or a friend interested in the  
Catholic Faith? If so, please let the office know so that we  
may begin RCIA classes.  
Classes will be at St. Andrew in Lexington

### WEEKLY OFFERING

BUDGET \$1351.00

SEPT 20

\$750.00

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The sacrament of penance has a long and difficult history. The Church sometimes struggles with how best to be faithful to the image of an all-forgiving God. Once a very public rite with publicly visible participation on the part of the penitent, it became in time a very private matter. By the fourteenth century, when a prayer of absolution and a laying on of hands was still required in sacramental confession, theologians were saying that even that was too much liturgy. All that was required was confession itself, and the sacramental words *Ego te absolvo*, or "I absolve you."

In 1614 the Council of Florence tried to flesh out this bare skeleton, requiring that if possible the priest should wear a stole, that the confession should be in church, and that there be questions about the person's state in life, occupation, and last confession. This is the first time the Church recommended that the penitent and priest be separated by a grill, thereby eliminating the ritual laying on of hands once so central to the sacrament, substituting the priest's raised right hand in blessing. This is the rite that remained in force until the sacrament became the subject of very stormy debates at the Second Vatican Council, leading to a major reform in 1974 that is still only partially received.

Oct.4th 2020

LECTOR

Jeff

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — When the wicked turn away from their wickedness they have committed and do what is right, they shall surely live (Ezekiel 18:25-28).

**Psalm** — Remember your mercies, O Lord (Psalm 25).

**Second Reading** — Consider others as better than yourselves; look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:1-11 [1-5]).

**Gospel** — Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you (Matthew 21:28-32).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jb 1:6-22; Ps 17:1bcd-3, 6-7; Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a;  
Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51

Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Ps 88:10bc-15;  
Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Jb 19:21-27; Ps 27:7-9abc, 13-14;  
Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Ps 139:1-3, 7-10,  
13-14ab; Mt 18:1-5

Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Ps 119:66, 71, 75,  
91, 125, 130; Lk 10:17-24

Sunday: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9;  
Mt 21:33-43

### Decree from the Most Reverend Bishop David Talley:

:FIRST of all, please note that the dispensation from the obligation to attend holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation will end on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October. As all know, "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are obliged to participate at Mass (canon 1247)". Starting with the weekend liturgies of 10-11 October, I ask all Catholics to renew the spiritual obligation, to join in at their parish for holy Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation. We need to come back to the Sunday celebration of holy Mass. We need to come back to the strength of each community of faith.

To read the entire Decree, go to [cdom.org](http://cdom.org)

### Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,  
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,  
Martha Jo Neuenschwander , Judy Hendricks  
James and Ann Ferebee , Genevieve Schachle