



October 1, 2023
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE MYSTERY OF MERCY

For the past several weeks, the word of God has drawn us into the mystery of mercy. Today's readings deepen our reflection, reminding us how blessed we are to know God's kindness and sharing practical ways to show compassion to others. The prophet Ezekiel cautions God's chosen people, emphasizing that bad behavior naturally leads to painful consequences. The psalm responds prayerfully: "Remember your mercies, O Lord." In this prayer, we ask for the mercy of recognizing our sins and receiving the strength to act differently. In his letter to the Philippians, Saint Paul invites us into a daunting challenge of mercy: "humbly regard others as more important than yourselves." If we scoff at Paul's challenge as impossibly naïve, the Gospel gives us a chance to reconsider. Our natural instincts of self-preservation might reject merciful behavior initially, but like the son in today's Gospel of mercy, we can change our minds.

St. Francis of Assisi (October 4)

Francis was born in 1181 in Assisi, Italy, into the Bernardone family, wealthy merchants engaged in the cloth trade. At the age of twenty he joined the army; after a failed expedition he was captured and suffered a complete breakdown. During his recovery he began to discover God in ordinary life. His encounters with God in the contemplation of nature grew more and more frequent, and he realized that true wealth is in heaven. He began giving away his possessions—and his father's—to the poor. This so enraged his father that he beat Francis and brought him before the bishop. There, Francis stripped naked, renounced his father's goods, and declared that God alone was now his father. Heeding a vision in which he was called by God to "Repair my house," Francis went to rebuild a small church called the Portiuncula. Over time, he was given to understand that what God desired was a spiritual rebuilding of the Church. This call he heeded as well, ultimately founding the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans) and contributing greatly to the renewal of the universal Church. Francis embodied the essence of living poor in order to embrace the poor. He died in 1226 at the age of forty-four, carrying on his body the stigmata of Christ's passion.

Medjugorje 25th of the month message

"Dear children! In this time of grace, I am calling you to prayer with the heart. May your hearts, little children, be raised in prayer towards Heaven, so that your heart may feel the God of love who heals you and loves you with immeasurable love. That is why I am with you, to lead you on the way of conversion of heart. Thank you for having responded to my call."

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — When the wicked turn away from their wickedness, they shall surely live (Ezekiel 18:25-28).

Psalm — Your compassion, O Lord, is from of old (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: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23;
 Mt 18:1-5, 10
 Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56
 Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-6; Lk 9:57-62
 Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11;
 Lk 10:1-12
 Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16
 Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Lk 10:17-24
 Sunday: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9;
 Mt 21:33-43

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time;
 Respect Life Sunday
 Monday: The Holy Guardian Angels
 Wednesday: St. Francis of Assisi
 Thursday: St. Faustina Kowalska;
 Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
 Friday: St. Bruno; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher;
 First Friday
 Saturday: Our Lady of the Rosary; First Saturday

ANGELIC

The reason angels can fly is because they take themselves lightly.

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer to My Guardian Angel

Angel of God
 My guardian dear
 To Whom His love
 Commits me here
 Ever this day
 Be at my side
 To light and guard
 To rule and guide. Amen.

OCT 1ST
 LECTOR MARK
 SERVERS LESLIE & MARINA
 COUNTER TOM & BEVERLY
 Oct 8TH
 LECTOR JANET/MARINA
 SERVER CARLOS & MAX
 COUNTER MARY & ANN F
 Oct15th
 LECTOR PEGGY
 SERVERS JESUS & LESLIE
 COUNTER TOM & BEVERLY
 Oct 22nd
 LECTOR JEFF
 SERVER CARLOS & MAX
 COUNTER MARY & ANN F
 Oct 29th
 LECTOR MARY
 SERVERS MARINA & JESUS
 COUNTER TOM & BEVERLY

PEACEFUL HEART

While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.

Sept 24th 2023
Sunday collection
\$1392.00

. ADORATION IS ON
 WEDNESDAY OCT 4TH
 BEFORE MASS

No P R E on Wednesday Oct 4th Fall Break

Scripture study on Jonah will start Sept. 14th at the home of Peggy Hauck from 1:30 until 3:00 pm . Questions call Peggy at 937-707-0083

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

Dre: Christina Hammond

Facilities Manager : Jim Molitor

Web Page: saintreginacatholicchurch.org

Remember In Prayer

Fr Robert Ponticello , Martha Jo ,
 Kaylee Bowling , Joy Williams ,
 ,Michelle Box , James Ferebee,,
 Eminel Milligan