

## Our Civic Duty

**B**y coincidence, these readings appear during election time. They might not tell us how to vote, but they do throw some light on the notion of civic duty. Cyrus in the first reading was the Persian king whose foreign policy allowed conquered and displaced people to return to their homelands, even though they would still be under Persian control. In the Isaian passage, this foreign king is called the Lord's anointed and is blessed by God despite the fact that he is unaware of it. This suggests that even those who do not know or worship the God of Israel can be competent civic leaders as long as they work for the benefit of their citizenry.

The Gospel story is a bit more complex. Jewish law banned making a graven image of a person, as was found on Roman coins. This means that those trying to trap Jesus exposed their own violation of the law by possessing such a coin. Jesus did not condemn the Romans for casting such coins. Rather, he says that political leaders deserve our civic allegiance. How the Jews were to accomplish this without using forbidden Roman coins isn't explained. But then, how civic-minded people are to uphold complicated political and social values today is hard to explain as well. This is one of the challenges of belonging to a pluralist society. No political ticket perfectly mirrors all of the gospel values. Our civic duty is to decide which values we should advance.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ How seriously do you take your civic duty?
- ✦ How informed are you about the values of the candidates you support?







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29th Sunday

In Ordinary Time

Matthew 22: 15-21

Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and give to God what belongs to God.



**MASS INTENTION: TODAY 10:30am .....George & Martha Shaw**

**\*WEDNESDAY 6PM.....St. Patrick Youth Group**

**\*THURSDAY 6PM.....Oct 15.....Nick & Edna Breiner**

**Oct 25....Doug & Carol Lane**

**Oct 29...Charlie & Mary Ann Hyska**

**Nov 1....Paul Ford**

**Nov 5....Kathie Igo**

**Nov 8..... Patty Schmidt**

**Nov 12.....Trish Hyska**



**Birthdays OCT: 18—Ann Musson, 20—Filiberto De La Cruz-**

**Lopez, 21—Denise Ackerman, Alan Maze, 22—Carolyn Drennen**

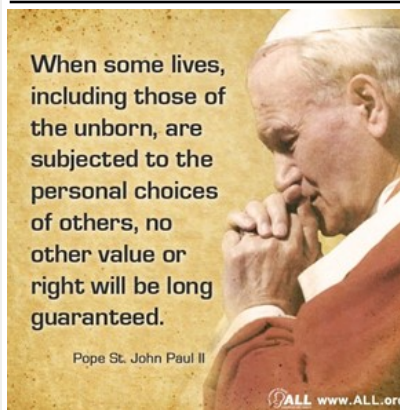
**23—Jose Salinas, Erika Snyder, 24—Alessandro Cervantes**

**25—Luisa Molle De Jesus**

**Wedding Anniversaries OCT: 20—John & Jan Coburn**

**24—Phillip & Mary Fawns, Andy & Mary Baker**

**30—Perry & Susan Howard**



### OCTOBER 2020 WORD OF LIFE – Intercessions for Life

That the life of every person, from conception to natural death, will be protected in our laws and cherished in our hearts;

*We pray to the Lord:*

"We are called to reverence and love every human person as ourselves. It is our responsibility to care for and protect human life, especially the lives of the most vulnerable among us. *The Gospel*

*of Life* teaches us that 'the task of accepting and serving life involves everyone; and this task must be fulfilled above all towards life when it is at its weakest'" (EV 43).

Excerpt from *Evangelium vitae*, © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana.

Used with permission. All rights reserved. "Serving Moms in Need: Living the Gospel of Life" [respectlife.org/serving-moms-in-need](http://respectlife.org/serving-moms-in-need)

### Reconciliation/Confession:

Thursday 5:30-6pm

**Baptism:** by appointment

**Marriage Prep:** Notify the priest six months in advance

### Anointing of the Sick & Visits

Please call the office if you know of someone in need of a pastoral visit.

**Diocesan Website:** [www.cdlex.org](http://www.cdlex.org)

### Mass times:

Sunday 10:30am

4:00pm Spanish

Wednesday 6pm

Thursday 6pm

*Confession 5:30 on Thurs*

### Pope Francis' Universal OCTOBER Prayer Intention:

#### The Laity's Mission in the Church

We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Roseanne Ackermann, Doug Stamm, James Walker, Edna Fields, Jodi Ortiz, Lillie Harkness & Family, Paulett Hedge, Ernestine Jeffries, Linda Martin & Family, Janet Wilson, the Pecina Family: (Trina, Jose, Rita) Perry Joe Sr., & Perry Joe Jr. Norris, Erika Janeth Garcia, Blanca & Isabel Valdez, Elizabeth Munoz, Steve, All those in our parish who are unemployed.

**Please pray daily: 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, and 1 Glory Be for Fr. Frank & all those who are sick.**



## FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

### “A Well-Formed Conscience”

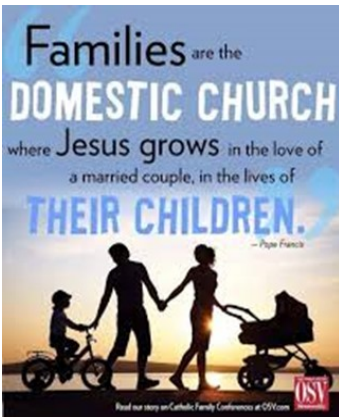


#### Doing Good & Avoiding Evil

22. *There are some things we must never do*, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. Such actions are so deeply flawed that *they are always opposed* to the authentic good of persons. These are called “intrinsically evil” actions. They must always

be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned. *A prime example is the intentional taking of innocent human life, as in abortion and euthanasia.* In our nation, “abortion and euthanasia have become preeminent threats to human dignity because they directly attack life itself, the most fundamental human good and the condition for all others” (*Living the Gospel of Life*, no. 5). It is a mistake with grave moral consequences to treat the destruction of innocent human life merely as a matter of individual choice. A legal system that violates the basic right to life on the grounds of choice is fundamentally flawed.

—Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,  
A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic  
Bishops of the United States, Digital Edition 2020



#### PARENT INFO: CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Dear Parents,

With the restrictions due to Covid 19, CCD will not look like we wish. Our option right now is a virtual program where you follow at home with instructions from your child's teacher.

I will have a take-home packet monthly for the Kindergarten class. Our ultimate goal after Covid is to hit the road and will return to the classroom; but for now, online is what we have.

We need to know how many students will be joining us this year. If your children are joining us, please do one of the following: **text me your child's name and current grade at 859 585 0701 or email the church at [stpatmtsterling@gmail.com](mailto:stpatmtsterling@gmail.com).**

Our classes this year are being offered for kindergarten through 5th grade. Middle school and high school have the option of youth group this year. When we have our list, we will send out an updated registration sheet (no fee this year)

Thank you for your patience while we work with unprecedented times.—Melissa Buttry

## St. Thomas Cemetery



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 @ 5pm, we will meet in the cemetery (across the road from Speedway on Maysville Rd) to pray for the deceased souls that are buried there.**

Holy Scripture tells us that, "it is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins," (2 Maccabees 12:46). The Catholic Church urges us to spend time in prayer for those who have gone before us. Prayer for the souls in Purgatory is a requirement of Christian charity, and it helps us to call to mind our own mortality.

Spending even the briefest of moments in prayer for the dead in this location reminds us that we, too, will someday need the prayers of the other members of the Communion of Saints—both those still living & those who have entered into eternal glory. A cemetery visit takes only a few minutes, & yet it reaps immense spiritual benefit for the Holy Souls in Purgatory—and for us as well, since those souls whose suffering we ease will pray for us when they enter into Heaven.

**Mass will follow @ 6pm in the cemetery.**

**Please bring a folding chair.**

**The Columbarium will also be dedicated at this gathering.**



**Do You Shop @ Kroger? If “yes” do you already have a Kroger Plus Shopper’s Card?**

**If you have not yet enrolled in this FREE program which can earn \$ for St. Patrick, please see Jim Bonfield or call him @ 585-5978.**

**Remember, purchases will not count for our parish until after you register your card! You must swipe your registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone # that is related to your registered Kroger Plus card when shopping for each purchase to count towards St. Patrick parish.**

**Parents:** For a fun way for Catholic kids to learn about the Faith every week, go to:

**[thekidsbulletin.com](http://thekidsbulletin.com)  
[holyheroes.com](http://holyheroes.com)**

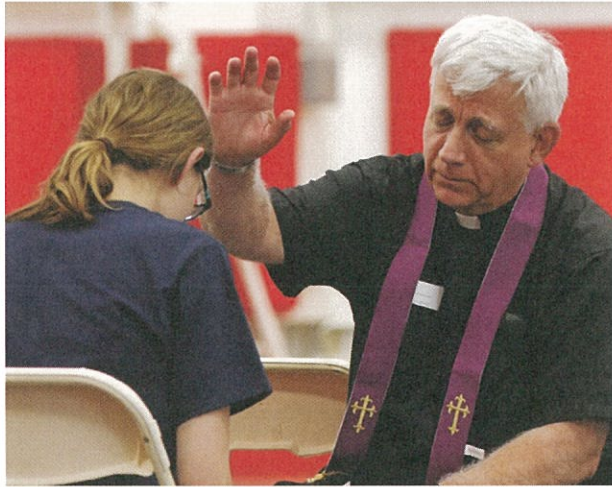




# Dear Padre,

**As a recovering heroin addict, do I need to go to reconciliation to confess my addiction? Addiction is a disease, not a sin. Right?**

**R**ight, but addiction and actually using drugs are two different things. As you know, recovering addicts who don't use drugs are still addicts, and that in itself isn't a sin. But it's against the law to use heroin in the United States, so even if you never committed a secondary crime to get it, getting it was a crime.



More important, though, the body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, and it's a sin to abuse ourselves in any way. Even if it weren't against the law, your use of heroin is certainly an abuse of your body.

The sacrament of reconciliation is more than just receiving absolution for sins. It also helps us look

more deeply at our lives. Before you go, examine your conscience: Ask yourself how your addiction has affected your body, your life, your relationship with God, and the welfare of others.

If you bring honest answers to those questions as well as an open heart and an open mind, your conversation with your priest at reconciliation will help you heal your relationship with God and others. You will also receive the grace to improve your life and do things like overcome addiction so you can be a better person.

—Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Every drug addict has a unique personal story and must be listened to, understood, loved, and, insofar as possible, healed and purified. We cannot stoop to the injustice of categorizing drug addicts as if they were mere objects or broken machines; each person must be valued and appreciated in his or her dignity.*

—ADDRESS TO PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES,  
NOVEMBER 24, 2016

## Calendar

### Monday

OCTOBER 19  
Sts. John de  
Brébeuf and Isaac  
Jogues, Priests, and  
Companions, Martyrs  
Eph 2:1–10  
Lk 12:13–21

### Tuesday

OCTOBER 20  
Weekday  
Eph 2:12–22  
Lk 12:35–38

### Wednesday

OCTOBER 21  
Weekday  
Eph 3:2–12  
Lk 12:39–48

### Thursday

OCTOBER 22  
Weekday  
Eph 3:14–21  
Lk 12:49–53

### Friday

OCTOBER 23  
Weekday  
Eph 4:1–6  
Lk 12:54–59

### Saturday

OCTOBER 24  
Weekday  
Eph 4:7–16  
Lk 13:1–9

### Sunday

OCTOBER 25  
Thirtieth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Ex 22:20–26  
1 Thes 1:5c–10  
Mt 22:34–40