

# Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 2017

## *Greetings.*

How often must I forgive? (Matthew 18:21)

In his very first Sunday homily as the Holy Father, Pope Francis proclaimed, “This is the Lord’s most powerful message: mercy” (March 17, 2013). Since that day, he has repeated over and over the marvelous truth that God’s mercy has no bounds. That’s precisely the problem with the heartless servant in today’s Gospel: his mercy had limited, clearly defined boundaries.

How boundless is God’s mercy? The best way to answer that is to consider what our lives would be like without it. Imagine a world with no tenderness, no forgiveness, no compassion. Imagine being bound in your sin and selfishness, your guilt and shame, with no way out. Now imagine God sacrificing himself not only to rescue you, but to offer you the promise of eternal life with him in heaven. That’s how boundless his mercy is. That’s how deeply he loves you.

Struck by the depth of God’s love, how can we do anything but bow down to him in worship and show that same mercy to the people around us?

Mercy is not just an abstract idea or a nice theory. It’s a concrete reality. It’s not just a message that we can choose to live out when it’s convenient for us. God’s mercy for us is meant to be at the heart of how we think and act toward each other. It’s meant to be the characteristic that sets us apart in a world caught up in self-righteousness, division, and unforgiveness. It’s the best way we can reveal God’s love and invite people to taste it themselves.

Peter asked Jesus, “How often must I forgive?” (Matthew 18:21). He was looking for a solid number of times, after which he was off the hook. He was asking about the rules. But for the one who has grasped the depths of God’s mercy, rules and limits no longer matter.

May we all taste this mercy more deeply today so that we can become more merciful as well.

“Thank you, Jesus, for showering me with your love. Lord, help me to be more merciful.”

Called to Serve,

*Deacon Mark Race, Administrator*

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK**

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Veronica Bearce, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Jeannie Chapron, Katherine Clark, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Agnes Cooper, Rita Cormire, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Gwen Files, Ferdinand Foye, Betty Flowers, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Willie Goods, Nancy Goosby, Barbara Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Aaron Jittu, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Gloria McClaurin, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Sabrina Markos, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Dorothy Pulliam, Andrea Raggette, Dottie Rodriguez, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, George Simon, Sr., Maurice Simon, Jeremiah Skyes, Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Cassandra Williams, Thomas Williams, Peggy Wright and Emmerson Young.

## Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Sir 27:30-28:7, Ps 103:1-12, Mt 18:21-35
Monday	1Tm 2:1-8, Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday	1Tm 3:1-13, Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday	1Tm 3:14-16, Lk 7:31-35
Thursday	Eph 4:1-13, Mt 9:9-13
Friday	1Tm 6:2c-12, Lk 8:1-3
Saturday	1Tm 6:13-16, Lk 8:4-15
Sunday	Is 55:6-9, Ps 145:2-18, Mt 20:1-16a

## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 16</b>
5:15 PM	Soul of Milton Keys
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 17</b>
8:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
10:00 AM	Intention of Maurice Simon
12:15 PM	Soul of Henry Marine, Jr.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 23</b>
5:15 PM	Soul of Karen Lee
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 24</b>
8:00 AM	Soul of Dorothy Jones
10:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
12:15 PM	Souls of Theodore Leon, Jr. and Sr.

## Weekly Offering September 10, 2017

\$4,312.00 Tithe and Offering  
433.00 Building Fund  
66.00 "We Care"



## Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by **Cynthia Richardson** in memory of her beloved father **MILTON KEYS**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.

You are invited to join the Jr. Daughters on next

**Sunday September 24, 2017**

to honor our

**Grandparents**

in the parish hall  
after all masses.

All are invited!



## CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

**September 17, 2017**

10AM SCHOOL FAMILY MASS &  
FUNDRAISER IN HALL AFTER ALL MASSES.

*All are invited!*

## Pray for Cure Cancer Mass

The 12th Annual Mass to "Pray for a Cure for Cancer" is on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30PM at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. A luncheon will follow immediately after the Mass to recognize those who assisted Deacon Mark and Vickie Race with their first mass. Tickets are \$65.00. If you have any questions or to purchase tickets, please contact Vickie Race at 310.259.6430. Thank you for your Support!

## RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Anyone wishing to become Catholic; receive the sacrament of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation or renew your Catholic Faith may see a RCIA team member in the patio to register after mass. For more details call the church office or Anita Thomas at 323.810.0696. Classes begin October 1, 2017.

## Religious Education

For students from Kindergarten to High School will start September 24, 2017. It will include: First Communion, Confirmation, the study of scripture, the study and celebration of Liturgy and the Liturgical seasons.

## Stewardship Thought

*"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's"*

— ROMANS 14:8

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He wants you to use the gifts He has given you.

## Did You Know?

There are different safety priorities for children of different ages. The "My High 5" awareness campaign by Safe Kids Worldwide makes it easy to identify the safety actions that make the most sense for you and your family. Visit [www.safekids.org/my-high-5](http://www.safekids.org/my-high-5) for tips on creating safety priorities for children and youth from newborn to 18 years old.

## Las Vegas Casino Trip

Join the fun...Las Vegas Casino trip to the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino on **October 23, 24, 25, 2017**. For more information call 213.369.4889.