

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 4, 2022

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,
that we may shout for
joy and gladness all our days.

Psalm 90:14



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH
3130 Parkwood Lane
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Phone: 314-739-0230
Fax: 314-739-0237
Website: www.holyspiritstl.org
E-mail: parish@holyspiritstl.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Bob Evans, Pastor.....	Ext. 103
revans@holyspiritstl.org	
Fr. Jerry Meier, In Residence.....	Ext. 112
jmeier@holyspiritstl.org	
Deacon Jim DeNatale	
deaconjim@holyspiritstl.org	
Deacon Scott Kaufman	
deaconscoth@holyspiritstl.org	
Mary Saputo, Parish Secretary	Ext. 102
msaputo@holyspiritstl.org	
Julie Spinner, Parish & PSR Secretary	Ext. 101
jspinner@holyspiritstl.org	
Jim Essner, Business Manager	Ext. 104
jessner@holyspiritstl.org	
Marilyn O'Neill, Director of Music.	Ext. 107
moneill@holyspiritstl.org	
Donna Eisenbath, PSR Director/Youth Minister	
314-954-1326 deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org	

John Honey, Maintenance

Faith in Action	(Call the Parish Office)
Prayer Chain:	prayerchain@holyspiritstl.org
HandS	314-739-9796
Stephen Ministry	314-739-0230 ext. 130

SCHOOL

(K-8 & PRE-SCHOOL & PREK INFORMATION)

3120 Parkwood Lane
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Phone: 314-739-1934
Fax: 314-739-7703

Katie Koberlein, Principal
kkoberlein@holyspiritstl.org
Kate Ayres, School Secretary,
kayres@holyspiritstl.org

PARISH ANNEX

3111 Parkwood Lane,
Maryland Heights, MO 63043,
Pre-School, Pre-K 314-739-5020

MASS SCHEDULE

*MASSSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED AT 6:30 AM MON/TUES/WED;
8:00 AM THUR/FRI; AND 9:00 AM ON SUNDAYS
(YOU TUBE HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH MARYLAND HEIGHTS)*

Monday thru Wednesday.....6:30am
Thursday and Friday.....8:00am
Saturday:8:00am and 5:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am
Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin.

Eucharistic Chapel Hours

Weekdays: 12am to 6am and 9am to 12 midnight.
Saturdays: 12am to 7am
Chapel will close at 7am Saturday until 9am Monday.

Eucharistic Adoration

1:00pm—6:50pm followed by Benediction

SPECIAL REQUESTS

COMMUNION CALLS

Please call the Parish Office to request Communion if someone is unable to attend Church.

HOSPITAL VISITS

Please notify the Parish Office concerning hospitalization.

SACRAMENTS

CONFESSION

Saturday 4:00 to 4:45pm or by appointment

BAPTISMS & CLASSES:

Baptism Class for parents/godparents is normally held on the first Monday of the month at 7 PM in the Church. To register for the meeting and/or to arrange for a baptism, call the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning marriage contact the pastor at least six months in advance.

Registration

New parishioners may register at Parish Office or download a registration form, www.holyspiritstl.org.

New information, such as change of address, phone numbers or moving from the parish, please call Parish Office at 314-739-0230

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Please submit information for the bulletin by Noon TWO Fridays before publication. Include name, daytime phone number of person submitting information, and group name.
Items can be e-mailed to msaputo@holyspiritstl.org.



A Note from Father Bob

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you!

Have you seen the latest message on our sign? Have you heard the announcements at the end of Mass recently? Have you seen the signs in the neighborhood? This Wednesday we can expect Fr. Jerry to visit every classroom in our school with this message, “The rides are here! The rides are here!” Yes, it is time for our Carnival. The Carnival begins this Friday, September 9th at 5 pm and continues through Saturday evening. Outside of Christmas and Easter celebrations, it is the largest community event of our parish year. Many volunteers have been hard at work for many months preparing for the Carnival. On behalf of the parish, I would like to thank our Carnival chairs, Jeff and Shannon Purvis, Co-Chairs, Jay McFarling, Dean and Sandy Flack, and Pete and Jeanne Kielhofner, and the 2021 Chairs, Bryan and Sue Hercules. Thank you for your dedication and hard work, the Carnival is not possible without your leadership and the assistance of many more volunteers.

I hope to see you there!

Annual Catholic Appeal Update

Thank you to all who have shown their support for this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal! This year our parish pledged \$130,434! This surpassed our Challenge Goal of \$120,000. Thank you for your generosity and care for so many who will be helped by your pledge. It really makes a difference in the lives of many people when we come together as a parish and archdiocese to make these pledges. A complete recap of the Appeal should be published in the St. Louis Review soon.

Let’s pray for each other this week!

Peace,

Father Bob

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 4

7:30am Jane Dixon
9:00am People of the Parish
11:00am Richard & Leonard Pemberton

Monday, September 5—LABOR DAY

9:00am John Roberson

Tuesday, September 6

6:30am Bonaventure Soares

Wednesday, September 7

6:30am Carol Smith

Thursday, September 8

8:00am Kathy Schneider

Friday, September 9

8:00am Bonaventure Soares

Saturday, September 10

8:00am Bud Dallavalle
5:00pm Bonaventure Soares

Sunday, September 11

7:30am John Roberson
9:00am Fisk Family—SI
11:00am People of the Parish

PRO-LIFE NEWS



A Night for Life Gala

benefitting Birthright Counseling, St. Louis

September 17, 2022

Chase Park Plaza: Khorassan Ballroom

Cocktails: 6pm

Dinner/Program: 7pm

Dancing/Music by Trilogy: 8:30pm

Crash the Ball (ages 21-39): 8:30pm

Join us as we celebrate our dedicated volunteers
and generous donors in support of
Birthright STL mothers.

[Go to birthrightstl.org/friends/](http://birthrightstl.org/friends/)
for tickets or call 314-962-5300



FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

We express our deep sympathy
and assurance of our prayers
to the families of

- ◆ NORMA GROSS, PARISHIONER
- ◆ PAT HACKMEISTER, PARISHIONER
- ◆ JAN TELTHORST, PARISHIONER

MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Stewardship for Aug. 15 - Aug. 21, 2022

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 7,272.00
Loose Collection	\$ 512.00
Online Donations	\$ 8,268.33
Total	\$ 16,052.33
Weekly Budget	\$ 17,410.00
Weekly Surplus (shortfall)	\$ (1,357.67)

HandS	Parish Improv.	Assumption of Mary
\$215.00	\$350.00	\$10,147.00

The Young Catholic Musicians

will be holding auditions in preparation for their 48th year
of service to the Church. These young people, aged 10-17,
represent many parishes and schools in the St. Louis area.

They learn quality liturgical music and lead the music
for Mass once each month at different parishes.
Auditions are for singers and instrumentalists.

Please call Fr. Bruce Forman, 314-231-7464 or
Mrs. Mary Smith, 314-749-1444 for more information.
www.youngcatholicmusicians.org

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS AVAILABLE

Gluten allergy? Would you like a gluten-free host?
Please contact the Parish Office, 314-739-0230.

OUR MISSION:

*We, the community of Holy Spirit Parish, centered in the Eucharist, and guided by the Holy Spirit, will use
our shared wisdom to be a joyful, accepting and forgiving community. We encourage all to grow in the Catholic
faith by teaching and proclaiming the Gospel, serving others and praising God.*

SCHOOL NEWS

Mon., Sept. 5:	NO SCHOOL—LABOR DAY
Tues., Sept. 6:	Golden Ticket Dress Out Day -student must have Golden Ticket to Dress Out (Parent Attendance at Home/School Meeting Aug. 31 is required for ticket)
Thur., Sept. 8:	NOON DISMISSAL—Parish Carnival Set-Up NO Spirit Zone After School Care Program
Fri., Sept. 9:	NO SCHOOL—Parish Carnival begins at 5:00 PM
Mon., Sept. 12:	First Red & Blue Raffle Ticket drawn today!

YOUTH MINISTRY

FIND HOLY SPIRIT YOUTH MINISTRY

ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM www.facebook.com/hsyouth AND as [hs_youth_stl](#) (HS Youth STL) on Instagram

HIGH SCHOOL TEENS:

EAT. PRAY. DISCUSS. gatherings are on Thursday nights in the Resource Center from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. WE NEED YOU to help us plan and vision for youth ministry at Holy Spirit! The more people we have the more fun it will be. We have games, snacks, and will pray together. Join us and bring a friend. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to commit to every Thursday. Just come when you can and stay as long as you like. We are always happy to have you. **We are inviting the 8th grade to join us this year to help build up our youth ministry and small faith community. WE HAVE A GROUP TEXT MESSAGE for 8th grade/high school gatherings USING REMIND APP.** Contact Donna Eisenbath to be added to the group messages and reminders.

CONFIRMATION

8th GRADE FAMILIES –

- ♦ **IMPORTANT!** Look for a sign-up sheet for your fall sessions in your email. Please return them by **September 2.**
- ♦ ***Your Sacramental Record Form was due in April. Please be sure to turn this in to Donna Eisenbath as soon as possible. Thank you to those who have turned them in.***
- ♦ Session 6: Relationships along with a service project should be done over the summer with your sponsor before our next session at the end of September.

WE NEED YOU!

PRAYER PARTNERS – The most important thing you can do for us is pray. Watch here for opportunities to pray for specific needs for youth ministry and our young people.

SEPTEMBER: Please pray for our young people of all ages as they begin a new school year, and for the lay ministers, volunteers, and parents who love and serve them.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MADNESS CHAPERONES – URGENT: Middle School Madness will begin in October! We will need PCG adults to help chaperone one Friday a month from 7-9 p.m. October to April. Please contact Donna Eisenbath if you are able to help one month. We have 7 dates to gather. Volunteer for one or more months to help make this fun opportunity possible for our 7th and 8th grade.

WAYS TO PRAY FOR PARENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- Gather your children and their backpacks, lunch boxes, school supplies, etc. Have each person extend their hands and say the prayer below together (you can say a line and have the others repeat, or all say together).
Backpack Prayer: Lord, bless these backpacks and the young people who carry them as they begin yet another year of school. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do. Amen

Please remember in your prayers our
Sick and Home-Bound Parishioners
and those who care for them.

Don Abramovitz	Kathy Glaser	Bob/Tootie
Julia Andert	Sherry Holland	Ponder
Lorraine Bath	Kenneth Jordan	Carolyn Putnam
Ronnie Bindbeutel	Sue Knoesel	John Rath
Carol Bonner	Ken Kramer	Jean Schepers
Becky Bonner	Sr. Joan Kuester	Pete Schwaninger
Jim Brockmeyer	Michael Lemp	Jim Smith
Karen Clarke	Charles Medvick	Lois Smith
Leon Deimeke	Susie Meyer	Rudi/Brenda
Tom DuBois	Glenn Mueller	Torricelli
Debbie Dufaux	Jacob Painter	Bill/JoanWeinzirl
Till Fehrenbacher	Bob/Donna Pedrotti	Tom/Jeanne
Ray/Betty Garvels	Karen Piskulic	Zemblidge
Jim Gerdes	Pat Romano	

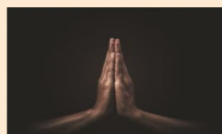
Please remember in your prayers our
Sick Relatives and Friends:

Kathryn Arnold	Carol Heffner	Liz Prange
Bailey Family	Greg/Jane Hefley	Mike Prinzi
Kendell/Tina	Paul Hyduchak	Jan Redden
Bedell	Suzanne Johnson	Alford Snowden
Ann/Bill Boewer	Jenny Lemkemann	Grace Solimando
Teagan Bracken	Steve Mashmeyer	Caroline Van Scoyk
Brenda Joyce	Barb McDonald	Bob Stroder
Crouch	Alton Mercer	Jerry Sutterer
Byron Difani	Trish Merklin	Will Vonder Haar
Steve Essner	Lou /Betty Merritt	Joyce Watts
Harold Feltmann	Colin Meyer	Chris Wells
Kathy First	John Misauraca	Paul Williams
John Garvels	Bill Nobles	Michelle Wilson
Michael Gill	Melinda Oeth	Ruby Winschel

Holy Land Pilgrimage (Mar 21-31, 2023)

Your prayer life, Scriptures and the Mass will become far more meaningful. It's a trip you'll treasure the rest of your life! Space limited to 35. \$100 discount for those who sign-up by Sep 21.

For more info, contact Mark Wyble at
816-233-8427 or religiousramblers@gmail.com.



PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, by whom we are redeemed
and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved
sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Holy Spirit Parish Ministry of Support Group Scheduled for Tues., Sept. 13 **HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

The next meeting will be Oct. 11 at 7pm.

For more information, please contact
Michelle and Rick Keating at 314-739-1768 or
michellekeatingrn@gmail.com.

PSR NEWS

Classes have begun for The Parish School of Religion on Tuesday evenings, from 6:45-8 p.m. for students in grades 1-8 who attend public schools. PSR sessions focus on the message of Jesus, experienced within a community of faith with opportunities to pray, worship and do service for others.

If you have a child who you would like to have join our PSR community, please contact Donna Eisenbath, PSR Director (email deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org), or Julie Spinner, PSR Assistant (email jspinner@holyspiritstl.org), or by calling the Parish Office at 314-739-0230 or email psr@holyspiritstl.org.

Parish School of Religion-Important Dates

- ***Tues., Sep. 6** – 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. – first night of PSR and Parent Meeting
- ***Tues., Sep. 13** – Families will join us for community prayer at 7:45 in the church.
- ***Sun., Sep. 18** – Catechetical Sunday with blessings during Mass for catechists
- ***Tues., Sept. 27 & Oct. 4** – Safe Touch

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday, September 4

◇ **ADVANCE TICKET SALES FOR CARNIVAL!**

8:00am-Noon—Scrip Sales, Parish Hall

7:00pm—Al-Anon, Rigali Rm & Zoom

Monday, September 5

1:00-7:00pm—Eucharistic Adoration,
closing with Benediction at 6:50pm

6:00pm—Quilting, Annex

Tuesday, September 6

9:00am—Quilting, Annex

Wednesday, September 7

9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

Thursday, September 8

9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

6pm-7pm—Bell Choir Practice

7:15pm-8:30pm—Adult Choir Practice

7:00-8:15pm—Al Anon, by Zoom only

Friday, September 9

5:00pm-11pm—CARNIVAL

Saturday, September 10

1:00pm-11pm—CARNIVAL

4:00pm—Confessions

Sunday, September 11

8:00am-Noon—Scrip Sales, Parish Hall

7:00pm—Al-Anon, Rigali Rm & Zoom

Holy Spirit ACTS

WANT TO GET AWAY?

A dedicated group of Holy Spirit parishioners are inviting you to attend the next ACTS Retreat! ACTS (Adoration/Community/Theology/Service) is a Catholic retreat that will take place this Fall at the **Pallottine Renewal Center in Florissant** on **Sept. 29—Oct. 2, 2022**

Registration is now OPEN

for this special weekend.

Just think...time to Increase your Faith with
No cleaning, No cooking, No grocery shopping,
No diapers to change No laundry, No emails
and No deadlines!

You will have a private room and enjoy the fellowship of other faith-filled women! The cost of each retreatant is \$250. Scholarships are available if this cost is a hardship.

**If you are interested or have any questions,
please contact: Sharon Silver**

314-578-5186

or sharonsilver2433@gmail.com

Following up on our first **Social Justice Speaker Series** presentation by Sr. Cheryl Kemner, The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Help are offering an uplifting educational opportunity on **Sept. 13, at 6:30pm at the Kirkwood Tau Center and via Zoom.**

September's presentation will be, *A Harvest of Awe and Wonder*, presented by Sr. Jan Stocking, RSM and Diza Velasco.

The sisters promise an evening of reflection, collective insight, and ritual.

To sign up for the event, go to <http://www.fsolph.org/events>.

If attending by Zoom, watch for a return email containing the Zoom link.

RCIA ~ RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Are you interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church?

Is a spouse, fiancé, neighbor, friend, or co-worker interested?

The RCIA process enables those who are interested in the Catholic faith to “come and see” – to explore Catholic teaching and to discover what it means to be a Catholic Christian.

Most people come because they are invited. **Be the voice of Christ and offer the first invitation.** RCIA is for anyone unbaptized or baptized in another Christian tradition, as well as Catholics who are baptized but have never celebrated Confirmation or received First Communion, or Catholics who want to return to the Church but have questions. There is no commitment placed on any one who may be interested or who has questions. Please contact the Parish Office, 314-739-0230, or the RCIA coordinator, Deacon Jim DeNatale, deaconjim@holyspiritstl.org, or have them contact us so we can invite them to attend inquiry sessions beginning September 14th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

HUMILITY

Humility is a divine veil that covers our good deeds and hides them from our eyes.

~ *St. John Climacus*



**HOLY SPIRIT IS
NOW HIRING**

CAFETERIA MANAGER

PRESCHOOL AIDE

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

*Those interested should
contact Katie Koberlein*

314-368-6835

KKOBERLEIN@HOLYSPIRITSTL.ORG

SHOULD I HAVE A LIVING WILL?

Learn about Advance Directives and Estate Planning from local Catholic attorney Carl Markus at *The Conversation: A Catholic Perspective on Cycle-of-Life Issues*.

Additional topics include Principles of Catholic Bioethics, Funeral and Cemetery Planning and Charitable Legacy Planning.

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

St. Joseph's Academy • Sr. Mary DePaul Room
2307 S. Lindbergh Blvd. • Saint Louis, MO 63131

To register, visit

<https://bit.ly/3QdJZnM> or call
314.918.2892



St. Louis Catholic High School Nights

Welcome Fair Showcasing All Schools 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Three 15-minute school presentations 7:00 – 8:00 PM
(Parents choose which presentations to attend)

Families with students in grades 5-8 are welcome to attend,
no prior registration necessary.

Families may attend any of the high school nights.

September 13	St. Joseph Academy 2307 S. Lindbergh Boulevard, 63131
September 22	Incarnate Word Academy 2788 Normandy Avenue, 63121
September 27	St. Dominic High School 31 St. Dominic Drive, 63366
October 3	St. Louis University High School 4970 Oakland Avenue, 63110
October 12	St. John Vianney High School 1311 S. Kirkwood Road, 63122



Mark Your Calendars
Sunday, September 25
Returning to Holy Spirit Parish:
The Festival of Ministries
(In conjunction with Stewardship
Sunday, Donut Sunday
and Spirit Brew)

Come learn about all of the many ministries that help
make Holy Spirit such a vibrant parish community.
If you are looking to promote and grow your ministry,
contact Jeanne Kielhofner
(jkielhofner@holyspiritstl.org) for table information.



BLOOD DRIVE ~ SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

08:00 AM - 12:30 PM

**HOLY SPIRIT PARISH-ANNEX—Rigali Room
(3111 Parkwood Lane)**

ImpactLife St. Louis Email: hello@impactlife.org ~
To Schedule an Appt., Call 800-747-5401

CARNIVAL NEWS

ADVANCE TICKET SALES LAST CHANCE

SEPT. 3 & 4
IN THE PARISH HALL
AFTER ALL MASSES

Ride Tickets — 25 for \$20
(Day of: 22 for \$20 or \$1.25 each)

Game Tickets — 6 for \$5
(Day of: \$1 each)

Food & Drink Tickets — 6 for \$5

Main Raffle Tickets — 6 for \$25
OR \$5 each

**There is a Limited Number of
tickets Available for our
delicious Chicken Dinner!**
Get yours EARLY!

CHICKEN DINNER!

IN THE PARISH HALL
Saturday evening ONLY,
4:30 to 7:00 PM

White Meat Meal ~ \$10

Breast & Wing
(includes 2 sides, roll/butter, drink & dessert)

Dark Meat Meal ~ \$8

Thigh & Leg
(includes 2 sides, roll/butter, drink & dessert)

DESSERTS NEEDED!



Please drop off desserts in the
Parish Hall anytime on Friday,
Sept. 9, and up until 4:00pm on
Saturday, Sept. 10.

**Please provide desserts in a
disposable container.**

BASKET RAFFLE BOOTH

**IS STILL IN NEED OF DONATIONS
FOR BASKETS!**

**We desperately need gift cards,
cash (to purchase items) and New Items.**
We also welcome completed theme baskets.

Suggested themes are sports, dinner & a movie, baby
boy or girl, card/board games, crafts, tailgate party,
cats or dogs, etc. We also need actual
baskets/containers in good condition.

**Please place non-monetary items in the
Parish Hall box marked "Basket Raffle".**
**Monetary or Gift Card donations can be dropped
off at the Parish Office or put in the collection
basket CLEARLY marked "Basket Raffle".**

Let's make this the best booth ever this year!
Questions? Contact Shelly Barry, 314-707-6049



**The CARNIVAL
Is THIS FRIDAY/SATURDAY!**
**Please consider donating some cute
and cuddly stuffed animals.**

**We ask that they are
NEW or GENTLY USED**
There is a drop-off box in the Gathering Area.
Thank You!



**Friday ~ Sept. 9
5 to 10:00 p.m.**

AND

**Saturday ~ Sept. 10,
1 to 3:30 p.m.
8 to 10:00 p.m.**

**Join us in the Parish Hall for
some FUN and Cool Off!**

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Wisdom 9:13-18b
Ps 90:(1) 3-6,12-17
Philemon 9-10,12-17
Luke 14:25-33

Monday September 5

1 Corinthians 5:1-8
Ps 5:5-7,12
Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday September 6

1 Corinthians 6:1-11
Ps 149:1b-6a,9b
Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday September 7

1 Corinthians 7:25-31
Ps 45:11-12,14-17
Luke 6:20-26

Thursday September 8 Nativity of Bl. Virgin Mary

Micah 5:1-4a
or Romans 8:28-30
Ps 13:6ab,6c
Matthew 1:1-16,18-23

Friday September 9 St. Peter Claver

1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-27
Ps 84:3-6,12
Luke 6:39-42

Saturday September 10

1 Corinthians 10:14-22
Ps 116:12-13,17-18
Luke 6:43-49

What in your life is a higher priority than your relationship with God? That's what Jesus wants us to look at in this Sunday's Gospel reading. Which people? What work? What trial? What possessions? What friendships? What goals? What activities?

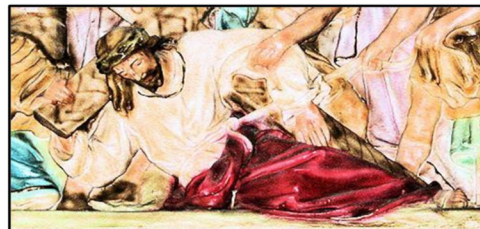
What crosses do you want to get rid of that, if you do escape from them, would require you to abandon Jesus on his cross? (Hint: What sacrifices of love are you unwilling to make?)

Jesus says that unless we are first and foremost committed to discipleship – learning from him and making every effort to become more like him – we are ill prepared for all the other tasks of life.

In other words, we can start building toward good goals, but if our relationship with Christ is not our highest priority, we'll miss his guidance and his surprises and his blessings. We'll get distracted by worldly interferences and sin. We'll become victims instead of victors in the battles we face. Anything good that we achieve will be less than the best, because there is much more in the kingdom of God than what we can imagine.

A disciple is a student. We learn from Jesus how to love others, even when this becomes a cross to carry. He teaches us how to live a life of joyful love but also of unconditional, forgiving love. And we learn from him how to put up healthy, holy boundaries against those

who interfere with our spiritual growth, and this too can be a cross.



who interfere with our spiritual growth, and this too can be a cross.

The strength to follow Christ and become more and more like him every day requires a conscious effort to grow stronger in our ability to carry our crosses while uniting ourselves to his cross and to his strength. When we lack this intimate bond with Christ, we stumble and fall, crushed by the weight of our crosses. But if we are willing to make sacrifices out of love for others, like Jesus did, we embrace him more fully and we receive his love more deeply. And this is the most satisfying way to live!

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Consider your daily activities: What are your top priorities?
2. What do you value more than the time you spend with Jesus in prayer, scripture, and other faith-building activities?
3. What are some common ways that we move God down in priority?
4. By making him our highest priority, what are ways that we can lovingly show concern for others even while putting God ahead of them in our daily activities?

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TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — (SEPTEMBER 11, 2022)

**Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19;
1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]**

Holy Spirit Catholic School

Red & Blue Weekly Raffle

- *First Monday of every month - \$100.00*
- *Remaining Mondays of the month - \$25.00*
- *Drawing to be held on Mondays*

September 12, 2022 – May 15, 2023

Proceeds to benefit technology/field trip transportation

Donation: **\$20.00** You need not be present to win.

Holy Spirit Catholic School

Red & Blue Weekly Raffle

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Seller's Name: _____

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Red & Blue Weekly Raffle

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Seller's Name: _____



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