

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray,
your own sins will be forgiven.**

— *Sirach 28:2*

FORGIVENESS

Nearly ten years before, a son and father had parted ways when the business they shared went bankrupt. The son blamed the father. They did not speak to each other again.

Then the father became seriously ill. The mother called the son and told him he had better come soon. The son walked sheepishly into the hospital room. The father motioned his son to him and whispered: "Did you ever think you could do anything that would keep me from loving you?"

Resentment and anger are foul things, the first reading from Sirach tells us. Remember the last things. Stop hating. Live by the commandments. As Saint Paul writes to the Romans, we are to live for the Lord and die for the Lord.

Jesus' parable in today's Gospel reminds us of God's compassion. The immense sin of humanity has been forgiven and stricken from the record. We are to forgive others in the same way.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

COMMENT

Sirach provides a perfect foundation for today's Gospel. Nearly two hundred years before Jesus preached the parable of the unforgiving servant, Sirach's son wrote this wisdom book to help the people of his day live in harmony with God's creation. He cautioned people to let go of their anger. You can almost see them clutch it tightly as though it were a priceless gem. Our own sins will be forgiven, he tells us, if we forgive others. We must show mercy if we are to receive it.

Jesus illustrates this wisdom absolutely when Peter asks how often we need to forgive someone who's hurt us. The king forgave the enormous debt of his servant, but the servant demanded payment and

punishment when a fellow slave could not pay what he owed.

Have you ever paid off a large debt? Perhaps it was a car, a college loan, or your mortgage? It's a joyful feeling. But imagine one step further (or maybe this has actually happened to you). By some serendipitous event, the money appeared unexpectedly. The weight of the world was lifted as you crawled out from underneath the burden of debt. Isn't it strange that the servant's response to his fellow slave was one of greed and anger just after something so wonderful had happened? We might wonder if more was troubling the servant than just his debt.

REFLECTION

We ask God to forgive our sins. We know we are forgiven. Jesus died for just that purpose. God, then, is the great king who forgave his servant (you and me). But what happens when our peers come forward and ask for our forgiveness? Is it possible that our own greatest sin is our inability to forgive one person in our own lives?

Jesus told Peter that we must forgive seventy-seven times. It was never intended that we keep a ledger, but the main idea is that we forgive over and over. This should give us some practice at being humble and gracious. But in the reverse, when we ask someone for forgiveness, we must be willing to try to correct our wrongdoing. We must be willing to change something of ourselves in order not to repeat the hurt.

Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

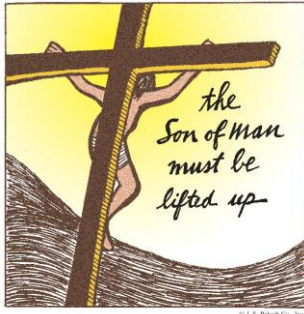
Monday:	Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1b-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Tuesday:	1Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Wednesday:	1Cor 12:31-13:13; Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday:	1Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16-17, 28; Lk 7:36-50
Friday:	1Cor 15:12-20; Ps 17:1b-d, 6-7, 8b, 15; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday:	1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14; Lk 8:4-15
Sunday:	Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

COLLECTION DATA September 5/6, 2026

ENVELOPES/CHECKS.....	\$3334.00
LOOSE PLATE.....	1642.38
CCD.....	790.00
TOTAL COLLECTION.....	\$5766.38

"Thank you for your generosity"

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2026 - Next Sunday September 20th, we recognize and appreciate all our Catechists, aides, and helpers. Catechists will be commissioned during the 11 o'clock Mass.



Saturday, September 12th -

5:00PM-IHM – For our seminarians, Cameron Moore & Martin Luna; +Estela Perez Gomez; +Alma & Frances Solano;

Sunday, September 13th –

8:00AM – IHM +Cirilo, Victoria y Lucia Chavira; +Sarah Gomez, Eulalio y Sarita Olvera, Ysidro y Elvira Navarrete; En acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Tecla Chavira y Jenny Medellin

11:00AM – IHM – For the People of Nolan County

Tuesday, September 15th 9:00 AM-HF

+Asuncion Martinez

Wednesday, September 16th 6:00PM - IHM

In thanksgiving for the birthdays of Hannah Heredia and Lucy Taylor

Thursday, September 17th 9:00 AM-HF

+Leticia Acopa Montejo; For the well-being of Fr. Humberto Diaz

Friday, September 18th 9:00 AM-HF

+Ray T. Reyes

Saturday, September 19th -

5:00PM-IHM – +Belinda Gomez, Tomas and Guadalupe Morales; +Daniel Grimaldo; +José Cruces

Sunday, September 20th –

8:00AM – IHM +Por Grupo Misionero y en acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Lisa Martinez-Soto y Lily Ensenia; +Fidencio y Polly Carlos; +Quintin Alvarez

11:00AM – IHM – For the People of Nolan Count

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE

September 19 Misioneros September 26 Guadalupe

FORGIVE OTHERS

There are many kinds of alms the giving of which helps us to obtain pardon for our sins; but none is greater than that by which we forgive from our heart a sin that someone has committed against us. —*St. Augustine*

“BE A JAMAICA SPONSOR!”

**-- 2 more weeks --
Sunday, September 27th**

WELCOME Sacred Heart members from Abilene who are here this weekend after all Masses selling raffle tickets for their annual Fall Festival September 26 & 27. Please show them your support.

OCIA – Classes have started. If you are needing Sacraments or would like to learn more about the faith, you may still sign up to attend. Classes are held on Thursdays, 6:00pm, Holy Family Hall.

WEDNESDAY – Confessions begin at 5:15pm followed by Mass at 6:00pm & Adoration until 8:30pm at IHM.

ULTREYA MEETINGS

Sunday, September 13th - 6:00pm (*English*)

Monday, September 14th - 7:00pm (*Spanish*)

at IHM Hall. All are welcome! You don't have to be a cursillista to attend. For information on the Cursillo movement, please visit

<http://www.sanangelocursillo.com/home.html>

CCD RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2026-2027

Classes Start:

- Sunday classes September 13th - Pre-K to 6th Grades
Class Time: 9:30-10:40am

- Wednesday, classes started last Wednesday, September 9th: 7th to 11th Grades
Class Time: 7:00-8:30pm

- **PLEASE NOTE: NO REGISTRATION on WEDNESDAYS or SUNDAYS when CLASSES start.**

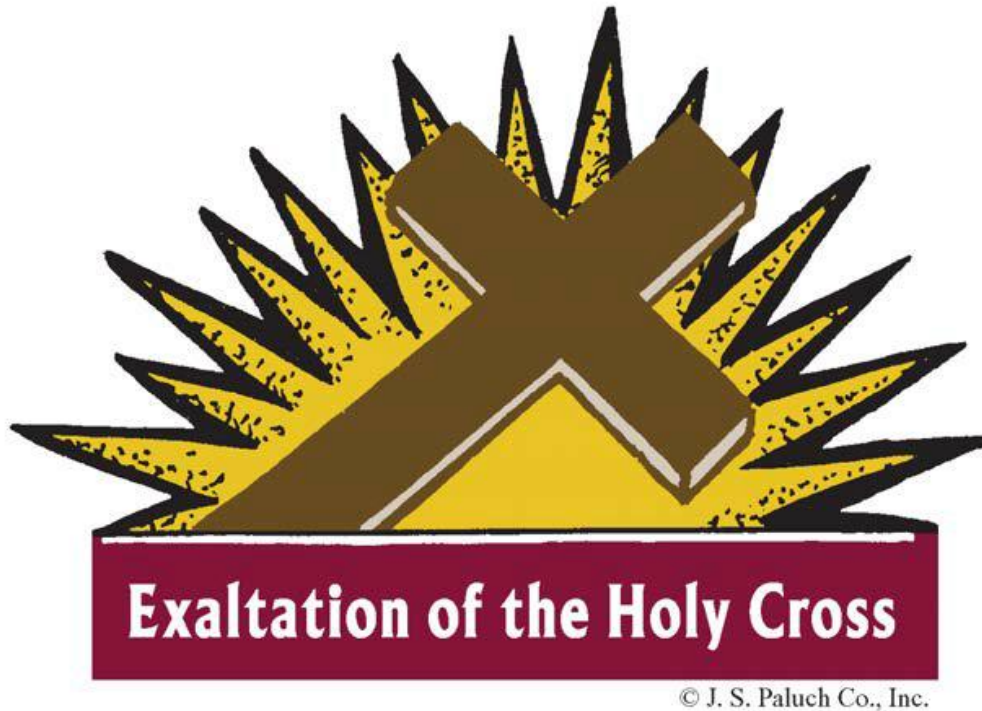
BINGO PRIZE DONATION REQUEST

The Jamaica committee is accepting donations of prizes for our Bingo game during the Jamaica. If you would like to help, we kindly ask that all donated items be new and unused so that everyone has the opportunity to win a wonderful prize.

Some ideas include gift cards, home décor, kitchen items, games, candles, snacks, seasonal items, or other new gifts. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps make this event fun and successful for our parish community. Please drop off all prizes at the parish office.

Thank you for your kindness and support. May God bless you for your generosity.

FUNDRAISER – This Sunday, September 13th, our church ministry groups will sell Breakfast Burritos & Pozole in the parish hall beginning after the 8 o'clock morning Mass -- ***'til sold out!*** All funds raised will be used for the December celebration of “Our Lady of Guadalupe.”



September 14

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.' For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him (Jn 3:13-17).

Prayer *Most High glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart, Grant me an upright faith, secure hope and perfect charity. Fill me with understanding and knowledge that I may fulfill your command. Amen*

(prayer of Saint Francis before the Crucifix of San Damiano)