



“What right do we have to limit the amount and degree of forgiveness we show to others when we are so desperately in need of it ourselves? In not wanting someone who hurt us to downplay or forget the gravity of their wrong, we cling to anger, resentment, and wrath as a way of maintaining control. It is a way to acknowledge and express our deep hurt. We fail to

realize that in doing so we hold ourselves hostage to these destructive feelings and actually become mired in the bondage of sin. All we gain is further alienation from ourselves, others, and especially God. We are no longer free but tethered to all of this unresolved negativity. Don't we really want to let it go? The fact is that we need to. A good self-reflective posture will quickly show us that when the shoe is on the other foot and we are the ones in need of forgiveness, we desire it above anything else. This is especially true with our relationship with God. It is hypocritical to want one thing for ourselves and something else for another. Yet, many act in precisely this way. Perhaps we think that in offering forgiveness, even for the most grievous of wrongs, somehow excuses the person of their wrong and makes it almost acceptable. This is what makes revenge, retaliation, and punishment so attractive. We see forgiveness as being an eraser that easily wipes away the offense without consequence. Or, we may believe that in offering forgiveness I must somehow forget the wrong and open myself as a victim of even greater possible hurts in the future. In fact, forgiving my sister or brother of their wrongful actions or attitudes involves none of this. It does not erase anything or position me vulnerably as a doormat to be walked on. Forgiveness is an act of freedom that restores honest dialogue, shares true, and heartfelt feelings and acknowledges the consequences of an action. It admits that the wrong has caused a hurt that must be healed and squarely positions responsibility on the offender. The act of forgiveness recognizes our sinfulness and brokenness. It also admits that the most saintly among us is capable of doing very grave and deep harm to another person. It sees that we all can be victims of our passions and works in progress that deserve unlimited chances to get it right. With forgiveness, I release myself from the bonds of negativity and pursue a path of restoration, wholeness, and healing. I do not forget the wrong nor do I dismiss it. Sometimes, we have to stay far away from the one who hurt us. But we can still heal internally and be free. For the one who wants to be forgiven and the one who needs offer forgiveness, the journey can be an adventure in learning what brought us to this place and what is needed to move forward. This is exactly how God treats us. Why would we not want to do the same for others?

Readings for the Week of September 13th, 2019

Sunday:	Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8]/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35
Monday:	Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
Tuesday:	1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 31:2 and 3b, 3cd-4, 5-6, 15-16, 20 [17]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Wednesday:	1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22 [12]/Lk 7:31-35
Thursday:	1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28 [1]/Lk 7:36-50
Friday:	1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Lk 8:1-3
Saturday:	1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 [14]/Lk 8:4-15
<i>Next Sunday:</i>	<i>Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 [18a]/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a</i>



Prayers for the Sick: Merciful Jesus, onto your Compassionate Heart we recommend Emelda Harris, Shavawna Flugence, Gustavia Thibeaux, Reginald Brown, Florena Landry, John Albert Ledet, Charles Lee, Mayola Williams, Lester Mouton, Mrs. Louvenia L. Gibson, Audrey Armelin, Rodney Dupuis, Bessie Johnson, Lorita Jeanbatiste, Rita Lewis, Albert Sam Jacquet, Amy Lawrence, Sylvania Cormier, Christopher Trailer, Natalie Martin, Lionel Ryes and Hazel Allen

Mass Intentions

Sat. 5:00 p.m.: Hilda Johnson, Alexson Mathieu, Audrey Mathieu, deceased members of the Mathieu & Mouton families, Christopher J Anderson, Wilbert & Thelma Jeanlouis, Harold Anderson Sr & Ethel Mae Decuir, Mazel Norbert, Wilbert & Thelma Jeanlouis, Christopher J. Anderson, Harold Anderson, Sr, & Ethel Mae, Decuir, Rose Mitchell, Charles & Bertha Washington Robert Pellerin Sr, Paul Pellerin Sr and George Pellerin Jr. Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

Sun. 8:00 a.m.: Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

Sun. 10:00 a.m.: Anne Lasseigne, Joseph Leo Sias III, Christopher Anderson and the deceased members of the Decuir & Anderson families, Sharon Landry and James Cooper. Special Intentions for all of our church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

God's Housekeepers:

St. Joseph: Thanks to all of the ladies in Group A that cleaned the church on September 12th, 2020. The next group is Group B: Carolyn Domingue, Barbara Thomas and Laura Williams – September 19th, 2020.

St. Anthony — September 2020: (Group C) Theresa Jones, Anne Tate and Marie Decuir.

Your hard work and time dedicated is appreciated!



PSR (Parish School of Religion) Corner:

Classes are on Saturdays from 9am – 12 Noon

1st – 5th Grade

6th - 11th Grade

CLASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

ST. JOSEPH & ST. ANTHONY

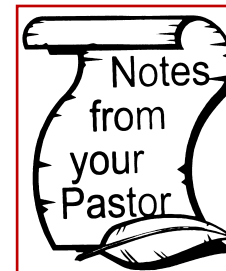
September 13th, 2020

Mass	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Ushers
SATURDAY September 19, 2020 5:00pm	Linda Alfred	Michael Rabon		
SUNDAY September 20, 2020 8:00am				
SUNDAY September 20, 2020 10:00am		Gaynell Kimble		

Please Note: Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion; by calling for a replacement when you are scheduled but cannot serve, you honor your commitment and help to ensure that there is no interruption for mass. Thanks!!

PASTORS CORNER

Matthew 18:21-35



Forgiveness is a Christian virtue and is the hallmark of our Christian faith and practice. Forgiving the other in the full sense is a form of loving and caring. It is the miracle of a new beginning. It is to start where we are, not where we wish we were, or the other person was. It is to hold out a hand; to want to renew a friendship; to want a new relationship with husband, father, daughter, friend, or indeed enemy. It may not take away the hurt and it does not deny the past injury. It does not ignore the possibility and need for repentance and a change in the relationship. It means being willing to take the initiative in dealing with any barriers that I may be raising towards a restored relationship. It means that I am willing to have a relationship with the other person that is based on Christian love and not on what has happened in the past if the response of the other person makes that possible. Christ from the cross showed what forgiveness is and how far we can go. The first reading from the Book of Sirach tells us that if we forgive our neighbor, we ourselves will be forgiven. In the gospel of today Jesus tells us in response to Peter's limited generosity that there is no limit to forgiveness. We are a people in need of forgiveness and we are endlessly called upon to forgive. Jesus tells us that we must be compassionate as our heavenly Father is compassionate. Summing up in the context of faith Paul tells the Church of Rome that Jesus is Lord both of the living and the dead and is the master of the Universe.

Fr. Ryszard Zawadzki, SVD

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Inspirations for Your Week

You are part of
a puzzle in someone else's life.
You may never know where
you fit. But, someone's life may
never be complete without
you in it.

Bonnie Arbor



The Web Site for St. Joseph/St. Anthony is: stjostant.org

Our Giving

Sept 5th & 6th, 2020

St. Joseph: (61 Envelopes) \$1,230.00

St. Anthony: (28 Envelopes) 572.00

\$1,802.00

“No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord your God has bestowed upon you.”



The next Baptismal class **“Has been canceled until further notice”.**