

St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

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**Our Parish
COMMUNITY**

September 14, 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Numbers 21:4b-9 / Philippians 2:6-11 / John 3:13-17



Good News!

September 14, 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Numbers 21:4b-9 / Philippians 2:6-11 / John 3:13-17

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, “Pain is weakness leaving the body.” Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one’s child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life’s joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul.

If St. Paul’s assertion that Jesus came and “emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross,” then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God’s spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full. ●

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (C) September 14, 2025

In John's Gospel, Jesus' death on the cross as well as his resurrection and return to the Father are one event. For him, the cross is a sign of exaltation. The serpent that Moses lifted in the desert to offer healing to those injured by snake bites prefigures Jesus' being lifted up on the cross, bringing salvation.

The eternal life God offers through Jesus is not life without end, life lived in the unending presence of God. That is why it can begin now in this life. The world to which God sends the Son is not a place but those people who are at odds with Jesus and God. Jesus is sent to this world as a gift. Only believers accept the gift.

Finally, God's judgment on the world is not a future cosmic event but a present reality. God sent the Son out of love for the world. However, the world has to decide to accept him. Those who accept him have eternal life at the moment of the decision. Those who reject him don't.

Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of September 15, 2025

Mon.	Sept	15	7:00 AM	SJ	No Mass Fr. at Retreat
Tues.	Sept	16	7:00 AM	SJ	No Mass Fr. at Retreat
Wed.	Sept	17	5:30 PM	SA	No Mass Fr. at Retreat
Thurs.	Sept	18	5:30 PM	SB	No Mass Fr. at Retreat
Fri.	Sept	19	8:30 AM	SJ	No Mass Fr. at Retreat
Sun.	Sept	21	8:00 AM	SJ	Pam Wright †
Sun.	Sept	21	9:30 AM	SA	Jeannie Davenport †
Sun.	Sept	21	11:00AM	SB	People of the Parish

HAPPY
Birthday

Rod Brestel Sept 15th
Steve Frey Sept 20

Happy
Anniversary

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Phelps Sept 15th

ministry schedule

Date: Sept 21	St Agnes	St Boniface	St John's
Time	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>
Hospitality	Sue D. & Pam L.	Rod & Janel B.	Youth
Lector	John B.	Emily P.	Youth
Server		Emmett P. & Amelia P.	Youth
EMHC	Evan B. & Gary M.	Steve & Kristen B.	Youth
Communion to shut ins or Music		Steve B.	Music: Youth

St. Agnes

Our Gifts to God & Church
September 7, 2025

Total Collection:
\$1550.00

Diocesan Appeal

Dollar Goal = \$2585 of \$4014
Donor Goal: 6 of 16

Thrift Store
Open Sept 26 9AM to 4PM

CCD Sept 17th
Elementary 3:40 PM
High School 7:30 PM

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

If you know anyone who is interested to learning more about the Catholic Faith or if you want to grow in your Faith, please contact Fr. Michael at 308-660-5730 or Emily Pandorf at 308-660-0984.

St. Boniface

Our Gifts to God & Church
September 7, 2025

Total Collection:
\$3229.00

CCD Wednesday Sept 17th
PreK to 2nd 4 PM
3rd -12th Supper 6:10
Class 6:30 to 7:30 PM

SCHOLARSHIP FUND FISH FRY
PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US SEPT 21
AFTER MASS. PLEASE BRING A SALAD
OR DESSERT.

Word Among Us!

When you finish your Sept. Word Among Us, please send it to St Agnes Attn: Aleta or put it in the collection basket. The office will get it to Aleta.

St. John's

Our Gifts to God & Church
September 7, 2025

Total Collection:
\$160.75

CCD Wednesday Sept 17th
PreK to 5th 3:40 PM
6th -12th Supper 6:30 Jenny
Class Begins 7:00 PM

Coffee and Rolls
Sept 21 after mass

Saint Joseph Cupertino (1603-1663)

“Clearly, what God wants above all is our will, which we received as a gift from God in creation and possess as though our own. When a man trains himself to acts of virtue, it is with the help of grace from God from whom all good things come that he does this.”

Dear Padre,

A Protestant friend tells me that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. That doesn't seem accurate to me. What does the Church teach about the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross?

Jesus understood his mission to be sacrificing his own life "as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was even at the cost of death. However, saying Jesus' death was payment for our sins doesn't mean that a vengeful God was appeased by the slaughter of his own innocent son. Rather, we are redeemed because of the mutual love between Father and Son, as well as the love Christ had for us all when he offered his life. "It is love 'to the end' (see John 13:1) that confers on Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus' death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice "that completes and surpasses all other sacrifices," when "the Father handed his Son over to sinners in order to reconcile us with himself," and the Son of God freely and lovingly offered his human life to his Father "in reparation for our disobedience" (CCC 614). Christ "bore our sins in his body upon the cross.... By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24). Viewed in light of the resurrection, Christ's death has meaning in eternal life's triumph over sin. ●



Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 15	September 16	September 17	September 18	September 19	September 20	September 21
<i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	<i>Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gan, Priest, and Paul Chông Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</i>	<i>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
1 Tm 2:1-8 Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35	1 Tm 3:1-13 Lk 7:11-17	1 Tm 3:14-16 Lk 7:31-35	1 Tm 4:12-16 Lk 7:36-50	1 Tm 6:2c-12 Lk 8:1-3	1 Tm 6:13-16 Lk 8:4-15	Am 8:4-7 1 Tm 2:1-8 Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I chose to take the name Leo XIV...mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical Rerum Novarum addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution. In our own day, the Church offers...the treasury of [its] social teaching in response to...new challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor.

ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS,
ROME, MAY 10, 2025