



## Best Friends

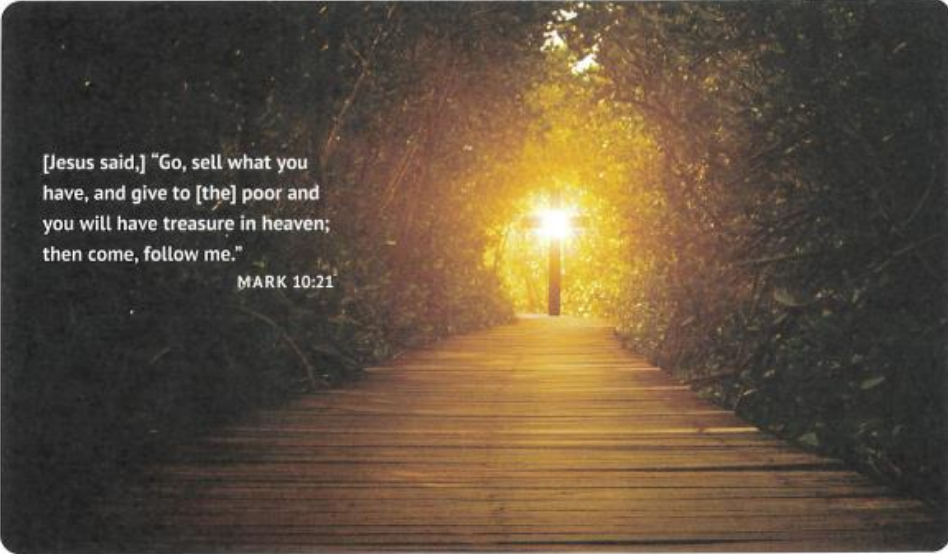
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**H**enry David Thoreau was a naturalist and philosopher who lived in Concord, Massachusetts, in the early 1800s. He spent a year living in a small one-room cabin in the woods at Walden Pond “because,” he said, “I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not when I came to die, discover that I had not lived. I did not wish to live what was not life, living is so dear.” Thoreau seems to have sought the same reality pursued by the author of the Book of Wisdom, who preferred Lady Wisdom to power, deemed riches to be nothing, and loved wisdom more than health or beauty.

Like the man who comes to Jesus wanting to know what he must do to inherit eternal life, most of us have a difficult time surrendering that to which we cling. It may be our possessions, our power to control others, the need to be youthful and stylishly dressed, or an addiction to drugs or gambling or pornography—anything that has become our “best friend.” Just as the apostles wonder who can then be saved, all of us wonder, because we, too, have one or another such “best friends.” It is God who breaks through, says Jesus. It may be a painful breaking through; it may be an upheaval; it may not be until the end of our lives. Always, it is God who ultimately turns us around. ●

### Reflect

*Who or what is your “best friend” that replaces God in your life?*



[Jesus said,] “Go, sell what you have, and give to [the] poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”

MARK 10:21

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

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### Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

#### From Fr. Pampara:

Today's readings remind us that we do not possess anything in our life that we refuse to surrender to the Lord, but our "possessions" often possess us, and we become their prisoners. That is because what we are doing is giving our "things" top priority in our lives. Thus, we violate the First Great Commandment, which demands that we give absolute and unconditional priority to God. Why do riches prevent man from reaching God? First, riches encourage a false sense of independence. The rich think that they can buy their way to happiness and buy their way out of sorrow and, hence, that they don't need God. Second, riches shackle a man to this earth. If a man's interests are all earth-bound, he never thinks of the hereafter. Instead of having security and tranquility, he is an eternal hostage of his money. Third, riches tend to make a man selfish. Fourth, greed for money, in addition to being idolatry, is also the source of unhappiness. The avaricious person is an unhappy one. Distrusting everyone else, the miser isolates himself. But we need to understand that Jesus is not against riches as such, nor against the rich. Zacchaeus, Joseph of Arimathea, and Nicodemus were Jesus' close friends, and they were rich. Jesus never condemned wealth or earthly goods in themselves. What Jesus condemns is that disordered attachment to money and property which views acquiring, possessing, and hoarding them for oneself alone, as essential to maintain one's life. In other words, Jesus is talking about our attitude towards wealth. There are very rich men who have acquired their wealth honestly and justly and who spend much of their wealth on charitable causes. Their wealth will not hinder them from reaching Heaven. The Bible doesn't say that money is the root of all evil; it says that the love of money is the root of all evil. Jesus also challenges the Jewish belief that material wealth and prosperity are signs of God's blessings, while poverty is the sign of His displeasure. Jesus here condemns a value system that makes "things" more valuable than people. Finally, Jesus asserts that those who have made the kingdom of God their priority, will be well compensated both in this life with earthly blessings and in the next life with everlasting life.

#### Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of October 14, 2024

Mon.	Oct	14	7:00	AM	SJ	No Mass
Tues.	Oct	15	7:00	AM	SJ	John Schacher †
Wed.	Oct	16	5:30	PM	SA	Cathy Weaver †
Thurs.	Oct	17	3:30	PM	SB	(Nursing Home) Denise Howard †
Fri.	Oct	18	8:30	AM	SJ	Cody & Charlie Sierks
Sun.	Oct	20	8:00	AM	SJ	Shawna Frey
Sun.	Oct	20	9:30	AM	SA	Ruth Conner †
Sun.	Oct	20	11:00	AM	SB	People of the Parish



Lacy Kinderknecht Oct 14th

Emmett Phelps Oct 15th

Charles Foran Oct 17th

Brooke Dickman Oct 20th

## Happy Anniversary

Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Foran Oct 14th

## Ministry Schedule

Date: Oct 20	<i>St. Agnes</i>	<i>St. Boniface</i>	<i>St. John's</i>
<i>Time</i>	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>
<i>Hospitality</i>	Gary & Margaret M.	Steve & Kristen B.	Youth
<i>Lector</i>	Margaret M.	Caden P. / Rod B.	Youth
<i>Server</i>		Amelia P. & Emmett P.	Youth
<i>EMHC</i>	Evan B. & Gary M.	Rod B. & John R.	Rex & Kristie W.
<i>Communion to shut ins or Music</i>		Mike P.	<b>Music:</b> Youth

<p><u>St. Agnes</u></p> <p><b>Our Gifts to God &amp; Church</b> Oct 6, 2024</p> <p><u>Total Collection:</u> \$2020.00</p> <p><u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Dollar Goal = \$4014/ Donor Goal: 16</p> <p>Thrift Store Open Oct 20th from 9AM to 4PM</p> <p><b>-CCD Class Oct 16th</b></p> <p><b>Note: As you finish using your Word Among US from Oct Aleta Ambler would like it. Please give it to Fr to take to Arnold.</b></p>	<p><u>St. Boniface</u></p> <p><b>Our Gifts to God &amp; Church</b> Oct 6, 2024</p> <p><u>Total Collection:</u> \$675.00</p> <p><u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Dollar Goal = \$7306/ Donor Goal: 19</p> <p><b>-CCD Class Oct 16th</b></p> <p>Please join us for The Search. Wednesdays at 9-10 AM at the church</p> <p>UPCOMING: CCW Oct 15th at 5:00 PM please plan to attend</p>	<p><u>St. John's</u></p> <p><b>Our Gifts to God &amp; Church</b> Oct 6, 2024</p> <p><u>Total Collection:</u> \$654.60</p> <p><u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Dollar Goal=\$5001/ Donor Goal: 17</p> <p><b>-CCD Class Oct 16th Supper Johnston's</b></p> <p>UPCOMING: Coffee and Rolls Oct 20</p>
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Prayer to Consecrate the 2024 US Election to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mary Immaculate, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the eternal Wisdom lies hidden to be adored and served by angels and men, Queen of heaven and of earth, beneath whose sway are subject all things that are lower than God, Patroness of the United States of America, sorrowful and mindful of our own sinfulness and the sins of our nation, we come to Thee, our refuge and hope. Knowing that our country cannot be saved by our own works and mindful of how much our nation has departed from the ways of Thy Son, we humbly ask that Thou wouldst turn Thine eyes upon our country to bring about its conversion. We consecrate to Thee the integrity of the upcoming election and its outcome, so that what is spiritually and morally best for the citizens of our country may be accomplished, and that all of those who are elected would govern according to the spiritual and moral principles which will bring our nation into conformity with the teachings of Thy Son. Give grace to the citizens of this land so that they will choose leaders according to the Sacred Heart of Thy Son, that His glory may be made manifest, lest we be given the leaders we deserve. Trusting in the providential care of God the Father and Thy maternal care, we have perfect confidence that Thou wilt take care of us and will not leave us forsaken. O Mary Immaculate, pray for us. Amen.

Fr. Chad Ripperge

# Dear Padre,

*When should confirmation take place? I read that baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist were received all at the same time in the early Church.*

Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation. The other two are baptism and Eucharist. In the early Church, all three sacraments were usually received at the same time because most people receiving baptism were adults. As infant baptism started to become the norm, this sacrament was separated from the other two. After Vatican II, the trend moved the age of confirmation into the teenage years, so that in many places, confirmation takes place in seventh or eighth grade, or even later. There is still an argument among liturgists, educators, and theologians about whether such a separation should exist. Some think of confirmation as a coming-of-age sacrament, marking, as it were, the transition from childhood into adulthood in the Church. The theology of this sacrament, however, is based upon baptism and connects it to the commission to go out and touch the world with our faith. The ideal age for confirmation is the age at which we can, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, conscientiously and reasonably witness to our faith. ●



*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October 14 Weekday Gal 4:22–24, 26–27, 31–5:1 Lk 11:29–32	October 15 St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Gal 5:1–6 Lk 11:37–41	October 16 Weekday Gal 5:18–25 Lk 11:42–46	October 17 St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr Eph 1:1–10 Lk 11:47–54	October 18 St. Luke, Evangelist 2 Tm 4:10–17b Lk 10:1–9	October 19 Sts. John de Brebœuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs Eph 1:15–23 Lk 12:8–12	October 20 Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 53:10–11 Heb 4:14–16 Mk 10:35–45 or 10:42–45



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*A faith without giving, without gratuitousness, without works of charity makes us sad in the end: just like that man who returned home “sorrowful” with a fallen countenance, even though he had been looked upon with love by Jesus in person. Today we can ask ourselves: “At what point is my faith?”*

ANGELUS, ROME, OCTOBER 10, 2021