



Woe to those who
are complacent....
[T]hey shall be
the first to go
into exile.

AMOS 6:1, 7



Adrift

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge found himself confronted by the person he had become: someone forced to accept the reality painted by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. Scrooge hadn't realized how he had slowly drifted into becoming an uncaring and greedy person, unable to show compassion because he never really saw someone else's pain. The story of Ebenezer Scrooge is the story of the rich man in this Sunday's gospel who was unmoved by poor Lazarus, sitting at the gate of the rich man's sumptuous life. They are both stories of human beings drifting into emptiness.

St. Thomas Aquinas suggested that our motivations in life can ultimately be reduced to eight different categories. If we're interested in understanding what sort of people we are becoming, we might ask

ourselves which of these questions best describes our motivation: Am I making my decisions and choices about life based on wealth? Or am I looking to be admired by others and be praised? Is it lasting glory that I seek? Or power so that I can be noted for "making a difference?" Is what I seek a life of ultimate pleasure and comfort? Is it health that I look for? Or perhaps something related to my inner life—some intangible good, like virtue or knowledge? Or is it to see God already in this life what I truly want? It is always a challenge to know our true selves because all too often we may be adrift, unaware of who we are becoming. ●

Reflect

Which of St. Thomas Aquinas' questions describes me and my choices?



**Immaculate Conception &
St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

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Mass Schedule – Forsyth

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule – Hysham

Sunday at 10:30 AM

Sunday at 12:30 PM

Office hours: By appointment – call 406.853.5252 or come to the rectory.

Religious Education: Contact Diane Wyrick for Forsyth at 406.351.2845 and Amber for Hysham at 406.342.5448.

Confession: Saturdays @ 2 PM.

Baptism: Adults and children under 7 (please contact Father Rob.)

Anointing of the Sick: If you are having surgery or are sick, please contact Father Rob to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

Funerals: When anticipating or planning a funeral, please contact Father Rob or Heather Pester at 406.346.7297 before finalizing the arrangements.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to have a Mass offered and be listed in the bulletin, please contact Father Rob, or Heather Pester.

Homebound & Sick: If you or someone you know can no longer attend Mass due to physical inability, please contact Father Rob or Diane Wyrick at 406.351.2845 or Rosemary in Hysham at 406.740.1457 to receive Holy Communion and Anointing.

Immaculate Conception Prayer Chain: For requests, call Cherie Heser at 406.351.9048 or any member of the Prayer Chain listed on the bulletin board in Parish Hall.

Mass & Liturgy Schedule:

Sunday	09/28	10:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Fern Vonderheide (D) from Frank & Yvonne Smith.
Sunday	09/28	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for Denise O'Reilly from Joan & Willie Thibault.
Tuesday	09/30	5:15 PM	Mass in Forsyth for the People of the Parish.
Friday	10/03	9:00 AM	Mass in Forsyth for the People of the Parish.
Saturday	10/04	4:00 PM	Mass at the Nursing Home for the Residents.
Sunday	10/05	10:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Charles Hall (D) from Jim & Lavina Hall.
Sunday	10/05	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for Alpha Hopf, Scott & Tanya Hargrove & Linda Howell from Chuck & Chrissy Hopf.

† Rosary every Monday at 8:15 AM, Tuesday at 4:45 PM and Friday at 8:30 AM.

† Religious education for children Sunday at 9:30 AM.

† Bible Study in Forsyth is Friday morning after Mass.

† CCD & Sacramental Prep Classes on Sunday morning. Questions: Please contact Diane Wyrick in Forsyth and Amber in Hysham.

† Mass times at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Colstrip Sunday 8:30 AM.

† CCW meeting the 2nd Sunday after Mass.

Announcements:

The Immaculate Conception Parish Harvest Dinner is fast Sunday, October 26th. Mark your calendars. If anyone wishes to donate a raffle prize, drop it off at the Parish. More details to come. Thank you!

Forsyth – Religious education will begin on Sunday, October 5th at 9:30 AM (before Mass).

Hysham – October is the month of the Rosary. Please join us to pray the Rosary before Mass at 12 noon on Sundays in October.

The Bismarck Diocese is offering a SEARCH for Christian Maturity to those ages 15 through college age. It is a weekend retreat to encounter God and his will for their lives. If you are interested, please take a brochure from the table in the dining room.

Finance Update: Last Sunday Collection: 09/21/2025

Immaculate Conception – Forsyth		St. Joseph – Hysham	
Loose Cash	440.00	Loose Cash	135.00
Loose Checks	105.00	Loose Checks	125.00
Envelope Cash	120.00	Envelope Cash	10.00
Envelope Checks	955.00	Envelope Checks	500.00
Other (Bathroom)	860.00	Other	0.00
Diocese Assessment	0.00	Building Fund	0.00
Special Collection	0.00	Special Collection	0.00
Capital Campaign	0.00	Capital Campaign	0.00
Current Operating Fund	0.00	Current Operating Fund	0.00
TOTAL:	\$ 2480.00	TOTAL:	\$ 770.00

Forsyth & Hysham Ministry Schedule for next Sunday: 10/05/2025

Forsyth:			
	Time	Service	Names
	Mass at 10:30 AM	Eucharistic Ministers	Albert Martens & Frank Smith
		Cross Bearer	Albert Martens
		Lector	Cherie Heser
		Ushers	Bill & Margo Anderson
		Gifts	Bill & Margo Anderson
		Col. Counters	Brian Sullivan & Ray Smith
		Sacristan	Margo Anderson
Hysham:			
	Mass at 12:30 PM	Eucharistic Ministers	Joan Thibault & Rosemary Olson
		Lector	Hope Manning

Dear Padre,

Why does my parish priest preach about love practically every Sunday?

"Through the course of the liturgical year, the homily sets forth the mysteries of faith and the standards of the Christian life on the basis of the sacred text" (*Lectionary*, 24). A translation of the English word "love" appears in the Bible more than 500 times; by comparison, "sin" appears approximately 400 times. Thus, insofar as the homily "should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from sacred Scripture" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 65), God's word on "love" is far too prevalent to overlook.

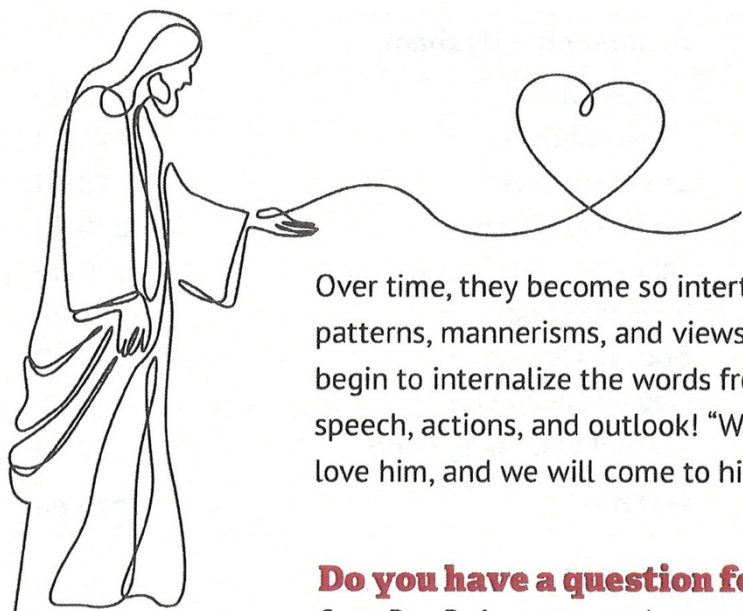
Pope Francis called God's word "a love letter, written to us by the One who knows us best." In the Bible, this God who desires to bestow his love on us (See 1 John 3:1), is essentially telling us, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." How we love God in return may be likened to two partners in a committed relationship.

Over time, they become so intertwined that they can even assume each other's speech patterns, mannerisms, and views. Likewise, for those who love God, over the years we can begin to internalize the words from God's "love letter" and reflect them in our Christian speech, actions, and outlook! "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him" (John 14:23). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



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LEONARD ZHUKOVSKY / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

In our day, there is a widespread thirst for justice, a desire for authentic fatherhood and motherhood, a profound longing for spirituality, especially among young people and the marginalized, who do not always find effective means of making their needs known. There is a growing demand for the Church's social doctrine, to which we need to respond.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025

Monday

September 29
Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or
Rv 12:7-12ab
Jn 1:47-51

Tuesday

September 30
St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Zec 8:20-23
Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday

October 1
St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Neh 2:1-8
Lk 9:57-62

Thursday

October 2
The Holy Guardian Angels
Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12
Mt 18:1-5, 10

Friday

October 3
Weekday
Bar 1:15-22
Lk 10:13-16

Saturday

October 4
St. Francis of Assisi
Bar 4:5-12, 27-29
Lk 10:17-24

Sunday

October 5
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4
2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14
Lk 17:5-10