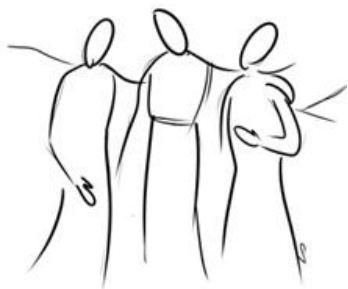




Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

27 September 2026 | Sunday



Which of the two did what
his father wanted?

Motivation

Sometimes God appeals to people's self-interest to get them to do what is right. Many of us need it, so that, through self-interest, we can overcome our self-interest.

We are shown this in the First Reading, where we find a straight-out argument between the people and God. They claim that "The Lord's way is not fair!" They quote the famous saying, "The parents eat sour grapes, but the children's teeth are set on edge" (Ez 18:2). Apparently their argument is that sin belongs to their fathers or mothers, not to them. So, God is punishing unjustly.

God's reply in this reading is as follows:

The house of Israel says, "The Lord's way is not fair!"

Is it my way that is not fair, house of Israel?

Is it not your ways that are not fair?

Then he shows them that punishment comes to those who actually commit an iniquity, not to those who just happen to be born of sinful parents. It is your own actions that matter. If you sin, it is fair that I punish you. If you do virtue, it is fair that I give you life.

Jesus' parable in the Gospel takes it one step further. There we hear about a man whose father asks him to go work in the vineyard. The man says, rudely, "I will not." Surely he would be counted as one of the sinful people described above. Or maybe he just had a headache, or was not a morning person, or whatever. But when his father leaves the house he changes his mind and goes out to work hard on the vines.

He has a brother. This one says in effect, "Yes, of course I will go out and do your will!" Isn't this exactly what God had been telling the people in the First Reading? I am sure the father in the present parable was pleased, especially after the rude reply he had gotten from his first son. Of course, as we know, this brother changed his mind and did not bother to go at all.



As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .

Monday, September 28 St. Wenceslaus, Sts. Lawrence
(8:25 a.m. rosary) Ruiz & Companions

9:00 a.m. †Antonio DeStefano

Tuesday, September 29 Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael
(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Vincenzo Forte

Wednesday, September 30 St. Jerome
(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Marlon Roldan

Thursday, October 1 St. Thérèse of the Child
(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Rosa DeLuca

Friday, October 2 Guardian Angels
(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. †Mathew Pendanathu Sr.

Saturday, October 3

4:30 p.m. †Giuseppe Vergalito, Nina Tamburri

Sunday, October 4 27th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

9:00 a.m. ♦ People of the parish

11:00 a.m. †Emma Garisto

5:00 p.m. †Brenda Callaghan

This second brother's selfish interests were served by saying "yes, yes" to his father. It made him look good. But he did not trouble himself to actually do what he had promised. Self-interest did not get him to do good, but only to seem to do good.

So finally God decided to show us motivation that cannot be reduced to self-interest.

If we want motivation, as well as encouragement, solace in love, participation in the Spirit, compassion, and mercy, St. Paul says to look at what Christ did (Second Reading). Then you will not act out of selfishness, but will serve others humbly, as Christ did. This is the ultimate motivation in Christianity.

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR
FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP!**



Sunday Collection
September 13 \$6,987

Prayer Intention for the Month of September:

For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS /CATECHUMENATE (R.C.I.A.)

Are you, or someone you know:
Interested in joining the Catholic Church?
Considering becoming Catholic?
Baptized Catholic but have not received all the
Sacraments of Initiation?
Simply interested in learning more about the Catholic faith?
A Catholic who would like to deepen or renew your
knowledge of the faith?
If you answered **YES** to any of the above, we invite you to
join us!

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)**,
also known as the Catechumenate, is a journey of faith and
discovery for adults who wish to learn more about the
Catholic Church and, for some, prepare to enter into full
communion with the Church.
Through prayer, reflection, and sharing with our parish
community, participants are invited to explore their
relationship with God and discover the beauty of the
Catholic faith.

**If you know someone who may be interested, please
invite them and consider accompanying them to our
introductory sessions.**

We would like to begin our introductory sessions soon, so
please help us plan ahead by providing the following
information:

NAME:

CELL:

COME OUT TO PRAY THE ROSARY

Please join us in praying the Rosary on

**Saturday, October 10 at 12:00 noon outside
St. Thomas More Church.**

This Rosary Rally is part of the Canada Needs Our Lady
campaign, with over 1,500 Rosary Rallies taking place
across the country on the same day.

Let us come together in faith our world is in great need of
prayer. Your presence and prayers make a difference!

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 17273 at



St. Thomas More will have a limited number of
"Roses for Life" pins available after all masses on
Oct 03/04 (until quantities last) for a donation. The red
rose signifies our opposition to abortion. The white rose
is the international symbol opposing euthanasia.



CWL

Stay Tuned for Socktober Campaign

*"The Rosary is a powerful weapon for putting the
demons to flight." — St. Padre Pio*

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Attention!



Parents and or Guardian from
Public & Catholic Schools
Does your child need to prepare for:
Baptism, (not baptized, or baptized in
another faith tradition)? Reconciliation?
First Communion? Confirmation??

Please come forward!

We begin sacramental preparation by attending
Sunday Mass. We do not wish for children to miss out
on preparation for the graces of these important
sacraments and the blessings they bring to family life.
We especially request that grandparents and friends
spread the word and to reach out. An information &
registration meeting with Fr. Mathew please call the
parish office today 905/356-7533 or email at
stthomasmoreparish@cogeco.net



Campaign Life Coalition Presents LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 4 (first Sunday in October) 2:30 –
3:30pm. Location: Niagara Falls Lundy's Lane at Prince
Edward Ave., Highland Ave., & Dorchester Rd. Contact:
Angela 905 931-0363; Annette 905 325-1251

Join thousands across Canada standing against abortion in
a peaceful, prayerful demonstration. For more information
lifechan.ca or 1 800-730-5358 or lifechaini@clife.ca

PILGRIMAGE 2027 "EXPLORERS OF FAITH"

Fr. Luke and QS Travel invite you to a wonderful
adventure of faith, May 5–19, 2027. Journey by land
and sea through Spain, France and Italy, visiting
Marian shrines, historic cathedrals and holy places
associated with the Apostles and saints. The
pilgrimage features a seven-night Western
Mediterranean cruise aboard Royal Caribbean
Explorer of the Seas, with daily Mass, prayer and
spiritual reflection.

Come and join the Explorers of Faith!

For the complete itinerary,
registration information
and QS Travel contact details, visit:

sites.google.com/view/explorers-of-faith/home

Or scan the QR code below.



YOUTH Parish Event Calling all youth ages 12–18 (Grades 7–12)!

**Attention
Youth!**

Get ready for an "Escape Room" game evening on Friday:
October 16: at 6:30 p.m. in St. Thomas More Church Hall
Team up for a fun: faith-filled evening of adventure as you
follow the clues: solve puzzles and escape!

This event is free. Sign up after weekend masses
or contact Anna Racine at 905—358-3412 or
email nacine37@cogeco.ca

