

# PARISH CALENDAR

Twenty-third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

September 8, 2019

Treat us with your love, O Lord!

Saturday, Sep 7	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, Sep 8	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, Sep 9	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
	.... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, Sep 10	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
Wednesday, Sep 11	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
	.... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, Sep 12	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
	..... 7:30 p. m.	Prayer Meeting - Church
Friday, Sep 13	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
	.... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, Sep 14	.... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**Exodus:32:7-11, 13-14:** *The Lord relented and did not punish the people.*

**1 Timothy: 1:12-17:** *Christ came for sinners.*

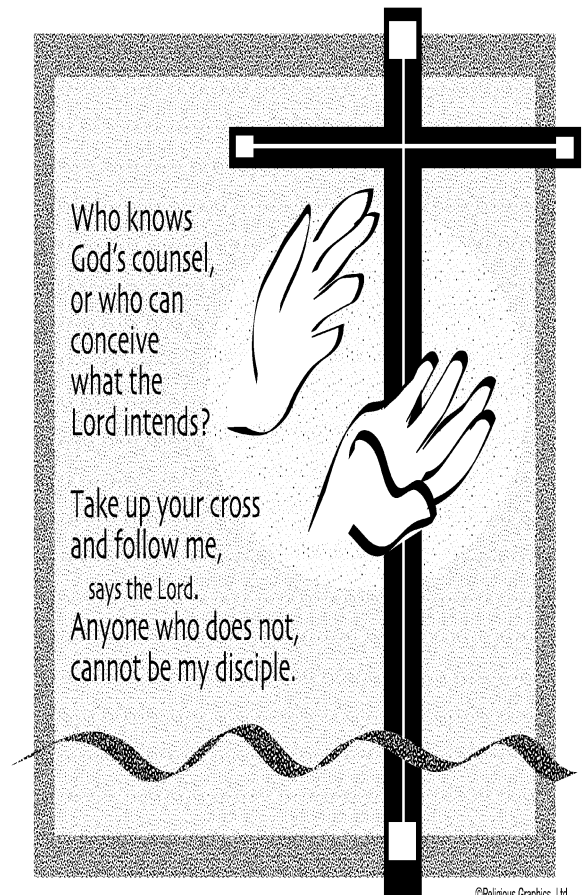
**Luke:15:1-32:** *Three parables of mercy*

The reading from Wisdom contrasts human wisdom with divine. It points out that human wisdom is narrowed and focused by limitations, but that God's wisdom knows no limits. It cannot be broken down, taken apart, minutely examined. Without this latter wisdom, we cannot even begin to grasp the things of earth, much less launch an investigation into the mind of God. The reading reminds us that, when it comes to understanding, even the wisest person barely scrapes the surfaces of things. It tells us, in effect, that the order of things as we know it is not as we think. In fact, the passage asserts that true wisdom means knowing that we don't know!

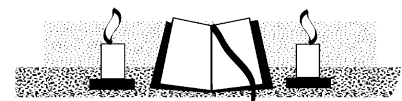
The second reading finds Paul sending back a runaway slave, Onesimus by name, to his owner, Philemon. In his letter, Paul does not ask Philemon to release Onesimus, nor does he demand that Philemon not punish him. Instead, Paul asks Philemon to see that because Onesimus is now a Christian, a new social order exists. He who was once a possession is now an equal. There is no master here, no slave. Rather, both men are united to one another in Christ. This provocative little letter may sound somewhat pious to us, but it sounded outrageous to Philemon. Paul praises Philemon for his clear understanding of the social order—which included slavery—and for his good treatment of Onesimus, his slave. Then Paul goes on to drop his bombshell. He tells Philemon that Onesimus is now a Christian and should be treated as such—as a brother, an equal. What was Philemon to think? What was he to do? Clearly, Paul called Philemon to think and to act in a revolutionary way, to do more than just acquiesce to the values and mores of the existing social system, but to create a new order “in Christ,” where there was no “slave or free.”

The short parables that make up today's Gospel speak to what it takes to be a follower of Christ. They challenge Christians to think and plan ahead, and at the very least to be prudent or circumspect in our dealings. “Be prepared” is the first message of what it takes to follow. The second message is “Be prepared to give all” to follow. In other words, only the person who recognizes what it takes to be a follower has what it takes to follow. The Christian must be prepared to give over all that he or she values for the sake of following Jesus. That's what it takes. If we are to follow Jesus, we must do some serious planning, we must calculate the cost. And then, once all our planning is complete, we have to be willing to accept the fact that our plans are never enough, and that the cost is way beyond calculation. What then? Jesus challenges us to go against our own “best thinking,” to trust that our “best” is nowhere near God's “best,” and to enter into the risky business of becoming his followers—no matter that conventional wisdom calls us fools.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DIOCESE OF HONOLULU FAITH FORMATION

**CONFERENCE: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> &**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>.** 2019 Nurturing Seeds of FAITH. Conference will be held at Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa School. **KEYNOTE:** Truth, Love, Science and the Word of God. You can register online or Registration forms are at the back of Church. Registration deadline is **Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**

**ST. ANTHONY RETREAT CENTER PRESENTS:** *Praying with The Saints of Kalupapa:* St. Damien, St. Marianne, Brother Joseph Dutton, Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 9am -3 pm at Rose Hill (St. Anthony Retreat Center). Join Sr. Alicia Damien Lau, OSF, Fr. Bill Petrie, SS. CC., and Sr. Marie Lemert, SS. CC., in prayer and reflection with these holy ones who cared for Jesus "in distressing disguise". A light lunch will be served. Suggested donation \$25. Register with Sr. Ivy 808-845-0065 by **September 16<sup>th</sup>**.

**PRO-LIFE: PEACE STARTS HERE.** If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential and compassionate help is available. [www.HopeAfterAbortion.com](http://www.HopeAfterAbortion.com). Project Rachel Ministries

**WORD OF LIFE:** "By our baptism, we are members of Christ's body and sharers in his mission. Imitating Christ, we must care for all members of our communities, honoring each person as unique, sacred, and created in the image of god.." USCCB "Open Wide Our Hearts" Bulletin Insert

### WEEKLY READINGS

**Sep 8 Sun: 23<sup>RD</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Wis:9:13-18b ; Ps:90; Phi:9-10, 12-17; Lk:14:25-33

**Sep 9 Mon: Saint Peter Claver, Priest**

Col:1:24-2:3; Ps:62:6-7, 9; Lk:6:6-11

**Sep 10 Tue: Ordinary Weekday**

Col:2:6-15; Ps:145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11; Lk:6:12-19

**Sep 11 Wed: Ordinary Weekday**

Col:3:1-11; Ps:145: 2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab; Lk:6:20-26

**Sep 12 Thur: Ordinary Weekday**

Col:3:12-17; Ps:150:1b-2 3-4, 5-6; Lk:6:27-38

**Sep 13 Fri: Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

1 Tim:1:1-2, 12-14; Ps:16: 1b-2a, & 5, 7-8, 11; Lk:6:39-42

**Sep 14 Sat: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

Num: 21:4b-9; Ps:78: 1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Phil:2:6-11

Jn:3:13-17

### Wisdom

Today's readings urge us to look at things in a new way, in a holistic way. They encourage us to trust not in our understanding, but in God's, all the while recognizing that we can never understand it.

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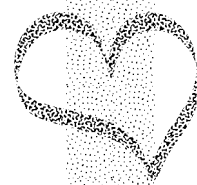
## NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

At the conclusion of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus tell a "great crowd" that "... anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciples." A few of Jesus' immediate disciples, such as Peter, John and James, did just that: They responded to Jesus' call, renouncing everything to follow him. How do modern disciples of Jesus respond when confronted with this apparently harsh command of Jesus? Surely the renunciation of possessions need not mean literally giving all one's possessions away, does it? Questions we might ponder this week though: Do our possessions keep us from encountering Christ at Mass? Do they distract us from our parish family? Do our possessions interfere with our relationships? Do they make us insensitive to those less fortunate? (International Catholic Stewardship Council)

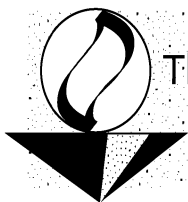
### REFLECTION

Before entering into a relationship with another, most of us want to know what's what. We generally take time to analyze all the ins and outs of a business deal before signing any contract. We usually investigate the rules and regulations of a club or organization before joining. For the most part, we also try to evaluate those who propose to be our leaders before electing or appointing them and undertaking to follow them.

Jesus lays out what we are to expect from a relationship from him, and he explains what he looks for from us. Even so, there's more there than meets the eye. Even after we pay as close attention as we can to what being a follower means, there's always more. Jesus warns us about this, then asks us to trust that God's concern for us is broader than our understanding of that concern. Conventional wisdom, "smart business" practices, may deem entering such a relationship as mighty risky business. Jesus makes it clear that it is. At the same time, Jesus also assures us that it is the only business worth a lifetime investment. Copyright © 2003, World Library Publications. All rights reserved



May the  
gracious  
care  
of the  
Lord  
our God  
be ours



The one who follows  
the Lord will have  
the light of life

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