



September 28, 2025

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday	9/28	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Carl Eisenreich for His Birthday From Don & Patti <i>Mass at St John's Leonard & Esther Gilbertson</i>
Tuesday	9/30	8:15 AM	<i>Mass at St John's OPEN</i>
Wednesday	10/1	8:15 AM 9:00 AM	<i>Mass at St John's Don Raymakers</i> Holy Communion Outside of Mass / Adoration & Benediction to follow
Thursday	10/2	8:15 AM	<i>Mass at St John's OPEN</i>
Friday	10/3	8:15 AM	Clayton & Duane Ebert
Saturday	10/4	4:00 PM	<i>Mass at St John's Rick, Bonnie, Patty, and Andy VanRossum and Family</i>
Sunday	10/5	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Gary & Dorie Kropp ~ The Family <i>Mass at St John's Eugene Kaczowski</i>



*** RE Classes begin after Mass**
RESPECT LIFE Sunday

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Luke 16:19-31

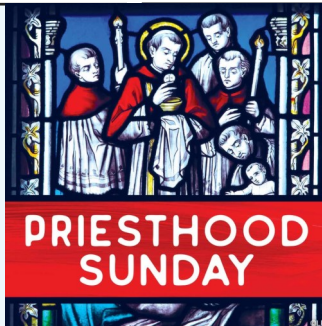
I am embarrassed to admit that I frequently find myself dining and socializing with people who have millions and sometimes billions of dollars. I've eaten more caviar, lobster and wagyu steak than most people on the planet. I justify it by saying it's part of my job. But I have seven pairs of nice jeans and expensive shoes.

So it is rather uncomfortable to hear Our Lord say: **"My child, remember that you received what was good in your lifetime, while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented" (Luke 16:25).** Fellow rich people (and if you're American, you're rich), do we not vehemently though quietly object to this parable's karma-esque reward system? Why bless the rich man just to curse him later? And curse Lazarus just to bless him later? So Americans go to hell, while Burundians and Afghans go to heaven? What is going on?

One clue is that the condemned rich man doesn't complain of injustice. Rather, he simply begs to help his brothers to repent. Of what? We don't know exactly. Perhaps another clue is that the rich man now seems more like the downtrodden Lazarus. He knows what it is to be hungry and thirsty, to be wounded in the gutter; that he deserved *that*, not fancy meals and clothes. Maybe the rich man finally understands how to receive true blessings, but it is too late for him. But not for me.

Not for us.

— Father John Muir



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Snow Days and Second Chances

Yesterday morning, my kids were playing outside in the snow, and I decided to take advantage of the quiet house to make a few important phone calls.

Fool. I forgot Murphy's Law of Parenting, which dictates that as soon as you dial a phone number, a bomb of irritation and neediness

explodes within the heart of your loudest child. Sure enough, as soon as the person on the other end of the line picked up, my son was at the back door, whimpering loudly. Horror of horrors, he had snow in his boot.

I gestured to the phone. He whimpered more loudly. I mouthed and mimed threats. He threw his boot at me. I gave him The Look. He started to scream.

Well, needless to say, the phone call didn't go well, and my son's snow day was cut short. He begged for a second chance, but I explained to him that life doesn't always give you second chances. The phone call was over. Ruined. I couldn't get it back.

But that's when I remembered that moms have a superpower: creating second chances where none had existed before. So I told him that if he could be quiet while I made the rest of my calls, he could go back outside.

My son is young right now. I give him lots of second chances because second chances help him learn. Second chances are the training wheels of life.

I dread the day when the training wheels come off, and I can't save him from his bad decisions. I think every parent does.

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus highlights a reality that we often wish to ignore: at some point, we will run out of chances, and it's not because God tires of giving them to us.

It's because a truly endless supply of chances would strip us of our free will. It would deny us the right of being taken at our word — and God respects us too much to do that.



**The September Bulletin is Sponsored in Memory of
Clifford Dembroski and All Living & Deceased Veterans**

DAY/TIME	LECTORS	DISTRIBTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
Sunday 8:00 AM October 5	Abby Matuszak	Janet Matuszak	Graham Kisling Harry Bluma Jack Bluma	Ron Matuszak Jr Dick Stedl

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 1125.00
Loose Collection	\$ 201.64
Votives	\$ 8.50
Mass Intentions	\$ 20.00
Christian Women Society Dues	\$ 14.00
Cemetery - Plot Sale	\$ 2400.00
Cemetery - Burial	\$ 600.00
Cemetery - Perpetual Care	\$ 850.00
NEW Homeless Shelter Meal	\$ 30.00

DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:

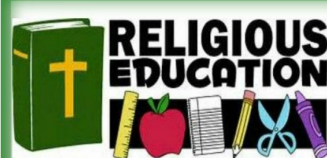
Brightspeed	\$ 343.72
St John's Church - Homeless Shelter Meal	\$ 30.00
Promesa - Background check	\$ 15.00
St Therese of the Little Flower	\$ 395.00
Burial Assist - Jeff Vanden Langenberg	\$ 274.79
Burial Assist - Kevin Van Lanen	\$ 100.00
Burial Assist - Jerry Mueller	\$ 400.00
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 7.20

Prayer for the Sick

For those in pain and in sorrow, God be their comfort.
For caretakers and medical staff, God give them grace.
Surround those afflicted with Your love, care, and mercy,
You who are our healing and hope. Amen.



Thank you to the St Sebastian Members that continue to give so generously to our community!
Seymour Food Pantry, St Vincent de Paul, NEW Homeless Shelter, Vida, Community 2000 and Salvation Army.



Religious
Education
Registration
NOW OPEN



Classes begin October 5th

Devotions, Explained! The Morning Offering

There are many variations of the Morning Offering, but all share the same purpose: to begin each day by offering oneself to God, along with all the experiences, struggles and blessings that the day will bring.

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

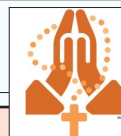
The rich man had a chance, every day of his life, to choose righteousness. But righteousness wasn't convenient for him. He discovered too late that the only time we have to follow God is now. Here. This moment.
Will we take our chance?



Pray the Rosary with us before Mass during the month of October



Sign up sheets to lead the Rosary are in the entrance of church.



Can Divorced Catholics Take Communion?

Question: Can a divorced Catholic receive holy Communion?

Answer: Unfortunately, too many people today — Catholics and non-Catholics alike — mistakenly believe that divorce separates one from the Communion of the Church and that divorced persons may not receive Communion. However, as the Church has communicated in a number of places, the issue at hand is not the reality of divorce, but is more often the reality of re-marriage outside of the Church (such as in the case of a Catholic who was previously married within the Church, divorced, and remarried without receiving an annulment).

Divorced persons are called to live chastely as single people and to observe the same call to avoid sin as anyone else who desires to receive the Eucharist. Beyond this, however, Pope Francis has reminded us that the healing power of the Eucharist can be especially significant for those who have “endured separation, divorce, or abandonment ... divorced people who have not remarried, and often bear witness to marital fidelity, ought to be encouraged to find in the Eucharist the nourishment they need to sustain them in their present state of life.” (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 242) Moreover, he continues, “The local community and pastors should accompany these people with solicitude, particularly when children are involved or when they are in serious financial difficulty.” (*AL*, no 242)

As Pope Francis has also reminded us, the Eucharist is “not a prize for the perfect,” but “a powerful medicine and nourishment” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 47). Because we all stand in need of healing and wholeness, the Church invites all who seek to live their faith in integrity and devotion to come and receive the grace offered in the Eucharist.

Ministry of the Sick: Please notify the parish office if a member of your family is confined to their home or is hospitalized. Also, please inform the hospital of your affiliation with your parish.

Baptisms: Please call the parish office two months in advance.

Marriage: Please call St. John's parish office eight months in advance.

Funeral Arrangements: Please call St. John's parish office.

Anointing of the Sick and Dying: Please call St. John's parish office.

Fr. Sengole Dass
St. John Parish Office - 833-6140

DC. Richard Matuszak
833-2294 or 609-5292

St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558
Current Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:00 – 4:00
Wed: 8:30 - Noon, Closed: Tues & Fri