



**SEPTEMBER 24, 2023**  
**Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

|       |      |  |   |
|-------|------|--|---|
| Sun   | 9/24 | 8:00 AM<br><b>10:00 AM</b>                         | In Memory of June Linsmeyer *Birthday- 9/26 by Gary and Bev Bunkelman<br><b>Mass at St John's Dorothy Fellion</b>                                     |
| Tues  | 9/26 | <b>8:15 AM</b>                                     | <b>Mass at St John's Living &amp; Deceased Members of Coonen &amp; Kline Families</b>   |
| Wed   | 9/27 | <b>8:15 AM</b><br><b>9:00 AM</b><br><b>9:30 AM</b> | <b>Mass at St John's For the Preservation of Peace and Justice</b><br>Communion Service<br>Faith Formation  |
| Thurs | 9/28 | <b>8:15 AM</b>                                     | <b>Mass at St John's For the Sick</b>   |
| Fri   | 9/29 | 8:15 AM  | In Memory of Rick DeRuyter *2nd Anniversary in Heaven Love, Sherry & Family   |
| Sat   | 9/30 | <b>4:00 PM</b>                                     | <b>Mass at St John's For the Resolution of Family Problems</b>  |
| Sun   | 10/1 | 8:00 AM<br><b>10:00 AM</b>                         | Gary & Dorie Kropp and Rich & Leona DeRuyter by Jim & Jodi Soltvedt<br><b>Mass at St John's Alice &amp; Harry Bluma &amp; Deceased Family Members</b> |

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

Once I gave my three-year-old niece a certain toy for Christmas. When she opened it, she was happy. Shortly thereafter her five-year old sister opened another present from me: the same toy, along with some play jewelry. The three-year-old cried out: "That's not fair! Why'd she get the jewelry, too?!"

Let's face it: there's something about God's grace in our religion which bugs us. We love to look at others' blessings and cry out: "That's not fair!" Catholicism is not fair in the sense that it is a religion founded on God's grace which is *unmerited* favor. God pours his mercy, love, and divine life upon us not because we're good but because He is infinitely good.

If you think the "not fair" quality of grace is easy to accept, consider how typically angry we get when we hear the parable of the workers who get paid way more than they deserve. The hyper-generous landowner says to the indignant hard workers, "Are you envious because I am generous?" Well, yes, they are, and so are we! Therefore, we *have* to reckon with this painful truth in order to move into the divine sphere of gifts, which is the world of Christ and his Church. Then we are able to move beyond a tit-for-tat world and into one where gifts are poured forth on those who don't deserve it — namely, upon us.

— Father John Muir

**WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

**Catholic Vs. Protestant Bibles**

**Question:** Why are Catholic & Protestant Bibles different?

**Answer:** Since the earliest days of the Church, Christians used a Greek translation of the Old Testament known as the Septuagint. This collection of the texts of the Hebrew Scriptures included 46 books. At the time of the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s, the Protestant reformers began to create their own translations of the Bible (into local languages) and some began to question why the Jewish Scriptures would have included texts that were written in Greek, because, they assumed, the only valid Jewish Scriptures would have been written in Hebrew. And so, they decided to remove seven books from the Old Testament: Baruch, Sirach, 1 and 2 Maccabees, Tobit, Judith and Wisdom (as well as portions of the Books of Daniel and Esther). This means that the Protestant Old Testament only includes 39 books, while Catholic Bibles continue to include those original 46 books. Both Catholic and Protestant Bibles include 27 books and letters in the New Testament.

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**The Invitation to the Vineyard**

I have been working since I was 17, and in that time, I've encountered my fair share of bosses who don't like being, well, fair.

There was the retail gig that paid me less than the official minimum wage because I was a minor and scheduled me for long shifts because it meant cheaper labor. There was the restaurant manager who tried to convince me to leave seventh period early so I could waitress on a busy dinner shift (totally illegal, by the way). There was the unpaid internship with the editor who had no sense of work/life balance.

Our resumes are all full of these experiences — it's capitalism, after all. It conditions us to look out for ourselves, because we know no one else will. And it breeds an attitude of suspicion that often blooms into jealousy when we encounter the reckless mercy of God.

Most of us work hard for what we have in this life, and so we make the mistake of thinking we deserve the good things that come our way. That's all right and good when we're talking about a just wage. But sometimes we get our lines blurred and we begin to think we deserve, or have done something to earn, the salvation offered by Christ.

I am not the laborer who has borne the heat of long hours in the sun. I am the straggler, the lost one, the idler at the marketplace as the day draws to a close.

**"As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways, and my thoughts above your thoughts." — Isaiah 55:9**

| DAY/TIME  | LECTOR      | DISTRIBTORS       | GREETERS | SERVERS      | USHERS         |
|-----------|-------------|-------------------|----------|--------------|----------------|
| SUNDAY    | Pat Posbrig | Dcn Rich Matuszak |          | Vincent Sigl | Kurt Schuh     |
| October 1 |             |                   |          | Owen Sigl    | Don Eisenreich |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>INCOME FOR WEEK:</b><br>Church Support \$ 2,865.00<br>Loose Collection \$ 105.00<br>Mass Intentions \$ 30.00<br>Bulletin Sponsorship \$ 30.00<br>Votive Candles \$ 8.75<br>Christian Women Dues \$ 16.00<br>RE Tuition \$ 40.00 |  |  | <b>LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK</b><br>Let us never make the grave mistake of assuming we earn our salvation in the same way we earn a wage. It is a gift lavished upon us by a God who does not count the hours of our labor or measure the amount of our output.  |  |  |
| <b>DISBURSEMENTS:</b><br>Cathedral Corp. Envelopes \$ 167.00<br>DeWitt Church Goods \$ 8,429.20  |  |  | St. Therese of the Little Flower, Inc. (St. Therese) is a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the state of Wisconsin for the purpose of providing services such as financial, accounting, information technology, communications, and other administrative services in accordance with and in support of the mission of the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay. |  |  |

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The September Bulletin is sponsored in memory of Ron Laskowski's Anniversary of Death (9/17/1991) and 60th Wedding Anniversary (9/28/1963) 

With Love,  
Bonnie 

**CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN**

**Question:** What salary do Popes receive from the Vatican for their service? **Answer:** None!  
Popes don't even have a bank account!

**Pray to End Abortion.**

  
WWW.40DAYSFORLIFE.COM

**SEPT. 27 – NOV. 5, 2023**  
**WWW.40DAYSFORLIFE.COM**

*\*If you are interested in a yard sign, please contact Laurie at the Parish Office. She will order if there is enough interest.*

**Prayer for Vocations**

Dear Lord,  
How lovely are your ways!  
Guide each of us closer to your will.  
Pour your courage into those you are calling to the vocations of married, religious, consecrated, and single life.  
Help them to respond boldly, and with trust in your provision.  
Amen.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** 

**Registration has ended.**  
**Classes begin Sunday, October 1st.**

**If you missed the deadline, contact Jessica Melchert at: REcoordinator@stsebastianseymour.com**

**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**