

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“ If anyone comes to me without turning his back on his father and mother, his wife and his children, his brothers and sisters, indeed his very self, he cannot be my follower.” When we hear a gospel passage like this, we often find ourselves wondering whether Jesus really meant that we should turn our backs on our families. Or was he exaggerating? Is it really necessary to hate and abhor our parents, family, brothers and sisters and even ourselves in order to follow Him? If we do this, then, we got a problem- our loved ones will get angry with us if we follow literally this word of Jesus. Jesus was engaging in poetic expression to emphasize the kind of dedication He expected from His followers. These were sayings of Jesus collected by St. Luke about the theme of dedication. So, the phrase ‘no turning back’ used in our gospel has no negative meaning but it has a positive implication. According to a drug advertisement: “Good is not good where better is expected.” In other words, God must come first no matter what. God is above anyone else. We must love God more than others, even more than our parents, family, brothers and sisters. This is a very serious matter. If we meet a conflict between our loved ones and Christ, what should our priority be, our family or God? God is not in competition with our family, parents, brothers and sisters for our love. Jesus states very clearly, however, that God comes first in our lives, nobody and nothing can become His rival. Giving God the first place, on the other hand, assures us that we practice true love to all people and give each person his rightful place. Jesus has often taught that our love for neighbor is the real test of our love for God. It is mainly in our caring and serving attitude to our neighbor that we cooperate with God’s plan. If we disregard this to please people, it will be a very questionable kind of love we express. We cannot agree to perjury out of our loyalty to a friend or to cheating to benefit our relatives or avenging or killing to meet the expectation of our family. Our love for people can never be an excuse to surrender our love for God. How about you, what is your priority in life? Is it God and His will? Do you put God above anyone and anything else? (Fr. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.)

BIBLE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK



“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” Corinthians 10:31

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday, September 8 9:00 a.m.

Birthday blessings for Fr. Saju
Praise and thanks to Jesus, Mary and Joseph for all the blessings and protection req Therese DeFreitas
Get a good partner for Emil Joseph, Holy married life for Christy and Rebecca, Job for Jino Oommen, and healing for Cherian Kurien req Alice Kurien
Elena Raso req Lina Raso
Soul of Blake req Grace Kennedy
Wedding anniversary blessings for Maricris and Eduard Victoria Req Erlinda Orosco

Tuesday, September 9 9:00 a.m.

Andy Sardella req Anthony and Patricia McLaughlin
Torio, Mercado and Abugan families and poor souls in purgatory req Tessie and Lorenzo Abugan
Soul of Blake req Grace Kennedy
Birthday blessings for Chris Joshua Orosco req Linda Orosco

Wednesday, September 10 9:00 a.m.

All souls in purgatory req Benilda Fajardo
Special blessings for Alvaro Abugan Saranggi req Tessie and Lorenzo Abugan
All souls in purgatory req Maria Laguisma
Soul of Blake req Grace Kennedy

Thursday, September 11 9:00 a.m.

Rosa and Luigi Sottile req Carmelina
Intention of Aaron Laguisma req Maria Laguisma
Soul of Pamala Forrester req Julia Vernon
Soul of Blake req Grace Kennedy

Friday, September 12 9:00 a.m.

Khanh Thong Luyen req Pauline Nguyen
Birthday blessings for Kenneth Sy req Felisa Go
Birthday blessings for Derek Podsiadly req Araceli Podsiadly
For all the participants to the Three-day Silent retreat at Mount Mary req Maria Laguisma

Saturday, September 13 5:00 p.m.

In memory of Helen McSorley req Williams family
20th Wedding Anniversary blessings for Susan and Andrew Miller req Susan and Andrew
Intentions of Anne McInnis and Donna Marcaccio req Irene Kapolka

**Sunday, September 14 10:00 a.m.
For St. Charles Garnier Parish Community**



SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS
Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually in the presence of our Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This week the Lamp burns for:

1. Healing and intentions of Hendrickson Sy and Manuel Go Req Felisa Go
2. In memory of Edmund Laguisma Req Maria Laguisma

August 30/31, 2025



**PARISH
SUPPORT**

**Sunday Offering
Loose Offering**

**\$ 2,040.00
540.00**

Thank you for your generosity and continued support to St. Charles Garnier Parish.

NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Sept. 8

As we celebrate the birthday of the Mother of God, spend time pondering her soul. Though much of her earthly life has remained hidden from our eyes, she is the greatest saint to ever live and the holiest daughter of God this world has ever known. In Heaven, we will be in awe of her virtues and will forever rejoice in the great things God did in and through her. Begin that rejoicing today by prayerfully honoring her and pondering her, seeking her prayer for your life and for the whole world. Mother Mary pray for us!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
FR. SAJU!!
(September 8)**



PARISH MOVIE & DINNER NIGHT

"NONNAS"

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

Following the 5:00 p.m. Holy Mass
Lasagna Dinner & Movie: \$15 / Person

Tickets are available after every Holy Mass

Please invite your family and friends

PARISH T-SHIRTS

We have had several more requests for t-shirts. I am happy to say, that the supplier is able to print more. Therefore, orders can be given to Donna or Anne. Payment is required at the time of ordering. The cost is \$22.00/shirt. (there is additional shipping costs). Sizes: children (S, M, L) and adult (M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL).

DEADLINE TO ORDER: SEPTEMBER 14TH.

FEAST DAY OF SAINT PADRE PIO TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

HEALING MASS



ADORATION 6:00 p.m.

HEALING MASS 7:00 p.m.

ANOINTING WITH HOLY OIL

*"Heal me, O Lord and I shall be healed;
save me and I shall be saved, for you
are my praise." Jeremiah 17:14*

Please join us with your family and friends.

PARISH UPGRADES AND ENHANCEMENTS

OUTSIDE CONCRETE WORK

We are pleased to have been able to finally complete the concrete work outside.

Please do not park on the concrete during this time of curing of the concrete. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

PAINTING

The painting of the church is still on-going. Please be mindful of instructions as to where to come in and out of the Church for the workers to do their job smoothly.

SHRUBS AND TREES

New, lower shrubs will be planted once the painting is done.

We are blessed to have this opportunity to beautify our parish property. We have a church that is inviting, peaceful, and conducive to prayer and reflection and fosters a sense of reverence. We give thanks.

BISHOP CROSBY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION

His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate the 50th anniversary with the Eucharist on **Saturday, September 27th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.** in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. Refreshments and an opportunity to greet the Bishop in McNally Hall following Mass. All are welcome

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross September 14

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, commemorates three historical events: the discovery of the True Cross in 326, its initial exaltation for public veneration in 335, and the recovery of the Cross from the Persians in 628. Nowadays, this feast also celebrates the boundless impact of Christ's Cross upon all of creation.