



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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WELCOME!

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

12:30 pm (Vietnamese for Youth)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30 pm Adoration
6:00 pm Mass

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30 pm - 4:50 pm
Sunday 8:00 am - 8:20 am
Tuesday - Friday 5:30 pm - 5:50 pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



PARISH STAFF

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Barb Ridge

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed
Tuesday & Friday: Please Call for Appointment
Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Thursday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (SEPTEMBER 3RD – 4TH)

Donation	\$4,524.00
Donation Online	\$1,402.00
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$5,931.00

2022 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL GOAL \$24,876

GIFTS RECEIVED \$37,552.50

 Annual Catholic Appeal

**TOGETHER WE CAN
be Christ to Others**



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

WORKING ON THE MARGINS



www.usccb.org/cchd

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SPECIAL COLLECTION: CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. SEPTEMBER 17TH & SEPTEMBER 18TH

Next week, we will take up a special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Your support of this collection will provide a sustainable future for the one in six Americans who struggle and live in poverty. In addition, 25% of the funds collected will remain in our Archdiocese to support local antipoverty projects. Please be generous.

God's True Opinion of Sinners

Homily by Father Joseph Vu

These parables teach us more about the heart of God than a whole library full of theological treatises.

- They show us vividly that God cares about each one of us: he will not rest if only one sheep is missing, or one coin is lost.
- They show us that he cares deeply enough to go out of his way to save us when we are lost: it was certainly an inconvenience to go bushwhacking after the foolish stray sheep, and to light the lamp and sweep the dirt-floored house trying to find the lost coin.
- They show that God rejoices when we return to him, as the shepherd rejoices upon retrieving his sheep, and as the woman rejoices upon recovering her coin - every sinner who returns to God causes a joyful celebration to break out in the halls of heaven and the heart of the Father.

This portrait of goodness is set in high relief by the contrary attitude of the Pharisees, whose self-righteous and judgmental comments provided the occasion for these parables.

- If the Pharisees had possessed Christ's power and authority, they would have destroyed all "sinners."
- But Christ uses all his power and authority to bring sinners back into communion with God.
- The Pharisees' idea of God is off base.
- They see God as harsh and judgmental, when the truth is that God is a dedicated shepherd.
- God feels anxiousness in regards to sinners, not anger.

He wants them back. He doesn't want to condemn them.

The Pharisees can't understand this, because they have painted their image of God in their own likeness.

- They enjoy condemning others for being less perfect than themselves, because it feeds their vanity, making them feel superior.
- But the Lord has no vanity, only love.

The Right Spin on Confession

This message of God's attitude towards sinners gives us the secret to the sacrament of confession.

Our fallen human nature, egged on by the devil's temptations, tends to see confession as something unpleasant.

- We tend to avoid it, or not to look forward to it.
- But think about that for a minute. Have you ever gone to confession and felt worse afterwards than you did before?
- Of course not.

God didn't invent the sacrament of confession in order to torture us. He invented it because he loves us. It is not meant to be drudgery. Nor is it God being manipulative or coercive.

- Rather, confession is God's way of making it as simple and direct as possible for us to come back into the flock after we have wandered off.
- It is the perfect way for us to let him take us back into his arms, back into his home after we have turned away from him,
- just as the father in the parable took back his prodigal son,
- and just as the woman searching for the coin rejoiced when she had it back in her possession.

God knows the devil will keep sowing doubts in our hearts about whether or not God really can forgive our sins, especially the particularly bad ones that we are most ashamed of.

God loves us too much to leave any room for that kind of nagging doubt. So he gives us the sacrament of confession to cut right through the devil's deceptions.

If we aren't using this great gift regularly, every month, for example, we probably need to examine our idea of God.

- Do we see him as our loving Father whose mercy and care are limitless?
- That's how he wants to be seen - because that's how he is.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

So the LORD relented in the punishment
he had threatened to inflict on his people. (Ex 32:14)

PSALM:

I will rise and go to my father. (Ps 51)

SECOND READING:

This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
(1 Tm 1:15)

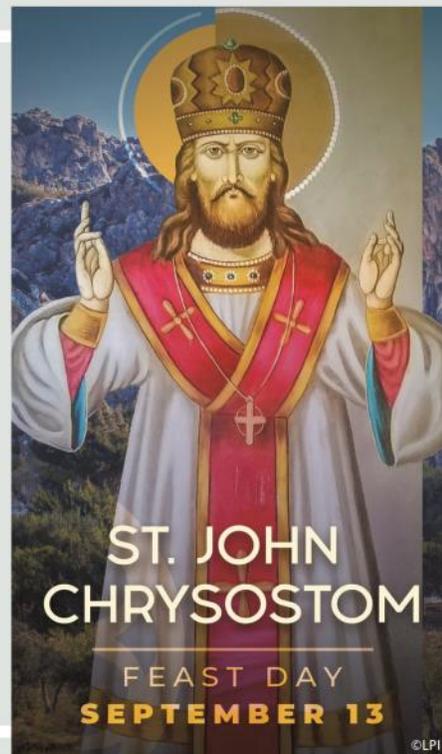
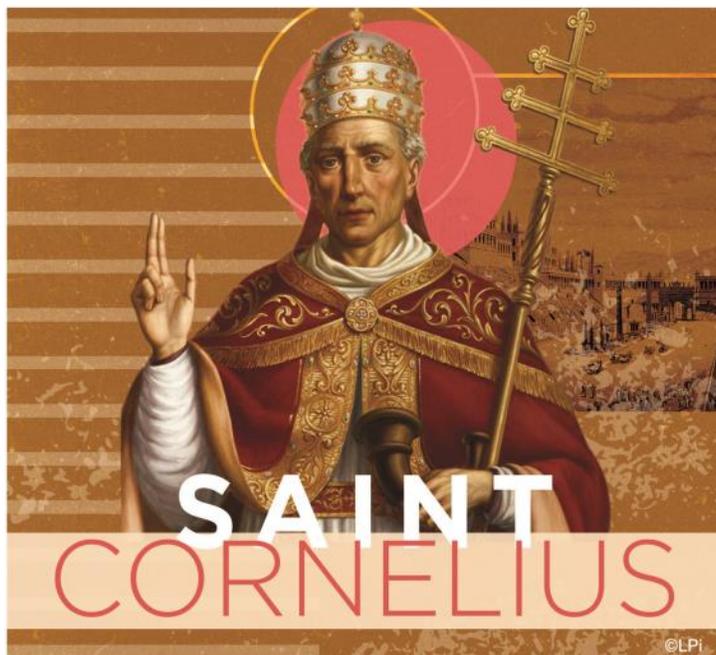
GOSPEL:

"I tell you, in just the same way
there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents
than over ninety-nine righteous people
who have no need of repentance." (Lk 15:7)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

- Sunday: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Patriot Day;
Grandparents' Day
- Monday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
- Tuesday: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Wednesday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Thursday: Our Lady of Sorrows
- Friday: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
- Saturday: St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Next Sunday: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday



Saint of the Week

Born in Antioch in the 4th century, and raised by his widowed mother, Saint John received a rigorous classical education. He was first called to the ascetic life, even spending time as an anchorite living in a cave near Antioch. However, this life of extreme mortification was hard on his physical body, and he eventually returned to the city to recover.

Saint John was ordained in 298. He spent the next 12 years preaching in the Cathedral of Antioch, and it was most likely during this time that he earned the name Chrysostom which means "golden-mouthed."

In 397 or 398 he was made archbishop of Constantinople against his will. This post placed Saint John in the midst of imperial politics. But he would not be drawn in. He kept a modest household without extravagance and refused to serve the sumptuous suppers for political supplicants that predecessors in the position had. He preached against corruption and decadence and fought for the reform of clergy even deposing corrupt bishops.

Unfortunately, this high moral stance made enemies of powerful people at court and in the Church. They conspired against him and eventually Saint John was exiled to Armenia. He died in exile in 407. He was made a Father of the Church at the Council of Chalcedon in 451 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1568.