

Christi simus, non nostri

We belong to Christ, not ourselves

# ST COLUMBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Parish of the  
Archdiocese of Seattle

## St. Columban Church

506 First St. S | Yelm, WA 98597

Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM

Saturday 5:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:00 AM (*Tuesday-Friday, Except First Fridays*)

Eucharistic Adoration First Fridays 6:30 PM

Confessions Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM

Anointing of the Sick By request

Baptism & Wedding Preparation

Contact the Parish Office

## St. Peter Mission

149 Keithahn St S | Tenino, WA 98589

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM

First Friday Mass 9:00 AM

Confessions Sunday 7:30-7:45 AM

Anointing of the Sick By request

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Providing emergency assistance for those in need.

Help Line: 360-458-1904

Parish Office Hours at St. Columban Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Friday by appointment

June 25, 2023

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them forever.

**1st Reading:** Jeremiah 20:10-13

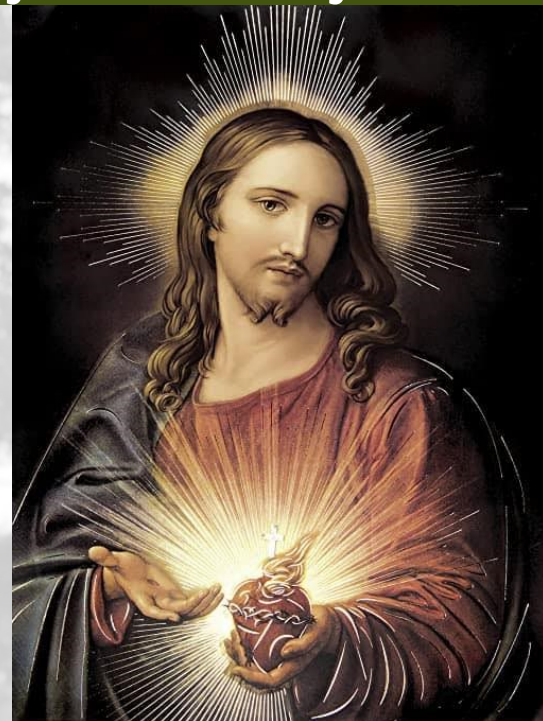
**Responsorial Psalm:** *Lord in your great love, answer me.*

**2nd Reading:** Romans 5:12-15

**Gospel Acclamation:** *The Spirit of truth will testify to me says the Lord, and you also will testify.*

**Gospel:** Matthew 10:26-33

**Communion Antiphon:** *I am the Good Shepherd, and I lay down my life for my sheep says the Lord.*



# Welcome to St. Columban

## Parish Staff

360-458-3031

**Fr. Brian Thompson** Priest Administrator  
[frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org) Ext 6

**Jennifer Langham** PA for Admin, Liturgy, and Music  
[jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org) Ext. 1

**Holly Dodd** PA for Admin, Bookkeeping, & Records  
[holly@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:holly@saintcolumbanyelm.org) Ext. 4

**Gabriela Makinster** Elementary & Adult Faith Formation  
[gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:gaby@saintcolumbanyelm.org) habla Español Ext. 2

**Chad Lucero** Youth Ministry  
[chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:chad@saintcolumbanyelm.org) Ext. 3

**Steve Slater** St. Columban Maintenance  
[steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:steven@saintcolumbanyelm.org)

**Gilberto Espino** St. Peter Maintenance

## St. Columban Parish Pastoral Council

Judith Cusick (Chairperson), Sheila Johnson, Jerome Didier, Joseph Judge, Dennis Stumpf

## St. Peter Advisory Commission

Sherry Bachmann (Chairperson), Marilyn Ritter, Bernie Schwarz, Bob Bacon, Diane Weston

[stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:stpeteradvisory@saintcolumbanyelm.org)

## St. Columban Parish Finance Council

Joseph Judge (St Columban), Mari Evans (St Peter)

## Weekly Calendar & Mass Intentions

All events are at St. Columban unless otherwise noted.

### MONDAY June 26

Rosary Prayer Group 7:00PM Church

### TUESDAY June 27

**St. Cyril, Bishop & Dr**

Mass 9:00 AM *Int. Sarita Tepale* Church

Spanish Prayer Group 6:30PM Church

### WEDNESDAY June 28

**St. Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr**

Mass 9:00 AM *Int. Esperanza Morales* Church

Bible Study 11:00AM St. Peter

### THURSDAY June 29

**Ss. Peter & Paul, Apostles**

Mass 9:00AM *+In Mem: Michelle Paula Penn Wesley RIP* Church

Altar Society Weekly Cleaning 9:30AM Church

Choir Practice 6:00PM Church

Sunday Scripture Study 6:30PM RE Bldg.

### FRIDAY June 30 First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

Mass 9:00AM Church

### SATURDAY July 1

**St. Junipero Serra, Priest**

DeHan-Schorno Wedding 2:00PM Church

Confession 3:30PM Church

Anticipatory Sunday Mass 5:00PM *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

### SUNDAY July 2

**13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Confession 7:30-7:45AM St. Peter

Sunday Mass 8:00AM *Int.: Pro Populo* St. Peter

### Sunday Mass

10:30AM *Int.: Pro Populo* Church

"God is the source of all activity throughout creation. He cannot be seen or described in his own nature and in all his greatness by any of his creatures. Yet he is certainly not unknown. Through his Word the whole creation learns that there is one God the Father, who holds all things together and gives them there being. As it is written in the Gospel: No man has ever seen God, except the only-begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father; he has revealed him." - St. Irenaeus

## From the Parish Office

### Week of June 12, 2023

| Ordinary Income                                 | St Columban  | St Peter   |
|---|--------------|------------|
| Weekly Goal                                     | \$5,800.00   | \$1,000.00 |
| Collection<br>(Cash & Envelopes)                | \$2,267.00   | \$604.25   |
| Online Giving                                   | \$2,282.64   | \$15.00    |
| Net   | (\$1,250.36) | (\$380.75) |
| Special Funds                                   |              |            |
| St Vincent DePaul                               | \$93.18      | \$0.00     |
| Sacramentals<br>(Candles, Beeswax tapers, Salt) | \$0.00       | \$0.00     |
| Flowers   | \$185.79     | \$50.00    |
| Building Fund                                   | \$118.59     | \$0.00     |
| Mass Intentions                                 | \$20.00      | \$0.00     |

### Part Time Bookkeeper

St. Columban Catholic Church in Yelm is seeking a part-time (12-15 hours per week) bookkeeper. Responsibilities include but are not limited to overseeing weekly donation counting, entering data on proprietary system, posting to appropriate accounts, reconciling checking accounts, reporting to appropriate personnel. Work experience of 2-4 years as bookkeeper required. Final candidate will be required to pass a background check and take Safe Environment training. Interested applicants may submit a resume to:

[frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:frthompson@saintcolumbanyelm.org).

Sign up for updates via email or text: [saintcolumbanyelm.flocknote.com](https://saintcolumbanyelm.flocknote.com)



# A Word from Father Thompson



Last year, we were all rather apprehensive about what to do in the wake of the amazing news that the US Supreme Court had rightly found that the federal Constitution provides no right to kill unborn children. While this finding is, of course for us as Catholics and men of good will, a good in and of itself, we recognized that there were many practicalities that did complicate and perhaps even dampen the joy of this victory for humanity.

On the positive side, the strong language of the finding was very encouraging. Not only that *Roe v. Wade* was consigned into the trash heap of absurd and evil legal findings alongside the likes of *Plessy v. Ferguson* and *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, out of the shadows of which our nation has emerged from in the past, but that *Roe* was not merely overruled, but overruled in a spectacular and forceful rejection: “*Roe* was egregiously wrong from the start. Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences.” Not “times have changed” or by dint of some technical legal jargon, but that the very principles used to reach the decisions that created the (always) fictitious “right” to abortion are abhorrent to both logic and law. Indeed, the only downside is the ruling’s incompleteness: the other cases that also created unreal “rights” out of the ether were given (rather illogical) carveouts in the *Dobbs* decision, and the question of recognizing the positive natural rights of unborn children was not considered (as courts can only rule on what is set before them). Nonetheless, we were and are right to be joyful a year ago and this weekend on the anniversary.

There were and are negative practicalities as well that put a damper on our joy a year ago, and even now. Not all states, only about half, were ready to immediately defend the right to life, and fewer than that were, or have been, categorical and uncompromising in their pro-life laws; of course, our state has doubled down on the brutality, enthusiasm, and funding with which it is supporting the continued regime of this unspeakable evil that cries to Heaven and forcing our moral cooperation (if remote, mediate, and I would hope unwilling). Also, those who—ignorant, deceived, or wicked—embrace the killing of children as a defensible practice or even a positive good, unfortunately verbally and in some cases physically attacked faithful Catholics and some of our parishes, as well as other advocates for human life. What is more, there are fellow Catholics who, not understanding or having compromised with the World, did not and perhaps do not share our joy a year ago and today, we need to be patient and kind as they work through this speed bump in their journey of Faith and deepening conversion (but never shy from the fact that they are wrong and must repent). Finally—and this is perhaps the only one really worth giving us pause—there was and is, of course, the concern that our rightful joy at the rejection of *Roe* would be a cause of shame or guilt or fear for those who had unfortunately been affected by or even committed an abortion, as well as perhaps intimidating away mothers in need of mercy and aid in a moment of crisis from the mercy and practical aid of the Church.

The Church, of course, joyfully proclaims that there is nothing one can do that would lessen God’s willingness to shower down love and forgiveness, and the Church’s works of mercy are second to none; however, we need to make sure that this can be heard and understood by people who might be tempted to see our celebration of this victory for life as a personal condemnation or judgement of them (even though that is obviously the farthest thing from our minds!).

This last January, there were still marches and vigils for Life as always across the country, as there is a long way to go to correct state laws, and positively to defend life at all levels, rather than the now-current condition of the Constitution being silent on the matter. However, at least *Roe* and all that followed in its wake did not reach 50 years. As of this year, there will now be more years marching for Life itself than marching for it in opposition to a federal regime of death (at least on this issue). If you can, consider contributing to Prepares ( <https://preparesforlife.org/> ) or another reputable provider of corporal mercy to mothers and babies in crisis as an act of thanksgiving to God for this joyful anniversary.

In Christ,

## Remember in Your Prayers

*Loving God, we join with others of your people here asking you to hold in Your hands all of our homebound brothers and sisters and those who have asked for our prayers:*



### **The Sick and Homebound**

Jessica Nash, Mary Taylor, Dan & Jeanine Kavanaugh, Vivienne Hayden, Eitan Hadayo, Tracy Slater, Stan Villadelgado

### **The Deceased**

### **Extraordinary Intentions**

- + All those in harm’s way, especially those experiencing natural disasters and terrorism.
- + All the souls in purgatory, especially those who have no one to pray for them.

*To add a name to this list or request a Mass Intention please contact the parish office. All submissions must have permission from the named individual or an authorized family member for privacy purposes. St. Columban Prayer Chain: Confidential and private prayer chain. To join, contact the parish office.*

**The Pope’s Prayer Intention for June 2023:** *For the abolition of torture:* We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

# Faith Formation

## MEETING CHRIST: EXPLORING THE LITURGY

*In this series, we will delve into the Mass—our daily prayer, our weekly worship, the most familiar and the most profound of Christian rituals. To begin, we'll look at what liturgy is and explore the Introductory Rites of the Mass. Through this 5-part series, our purpose will be to uncover ways to pray the Mass more deeply and intentionally.*

### LITURGY: PLACE OF ENCOUNTER

Do you want to meet Jesus?

Pope Francis has written, “if we had somehow arrived in Jerusalem after Pentecost and had felt the desire not only to have information about Jesus of Nazareth but rather the desire still to be able to meet him, we would have had no other possibility than that of searching out his disciples so that we could hear his words and see his gestures, more alive than ever.... That which was visible in Jesus, that which could be seen with the eyes and touched with the hands, his words and gestures, the concreteness of the incarnate Word—everything of Him had passed into the celebration of the sacraments.” (*Desiderio Desideravi*, 9). In other words, liturgy is the place of encounter. Liturgy is where we meet Christ. In fact, Pope Francis says, “The Liturgy guarantees for us the possibility of such an encounter” (11, emphasis added).

Liturgy comes from a Greek term that means “work of the people” or “public work.” For Catholics, “liturgy” refers to the formal worship offered by the Church and includes the Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, celebrations of the sacraments, rites, and blessings.

The definition of liturgy as “work” is worth pondering. Catholic isn’t just something we are—Catholic is something we *do*. Faith is not passive; faith is lived. Through the ordered and repeated patterns of the liturgy, we enter into the tradition of the Church and touch the mystery of faith.

But the true “work” of the liturgy is what God does. (Saint Benedict referred to liturgy as *opus Dei*, work of God!) It is Christ who gathers the community together, Christ who fills and gives meaning to the rites and makes them fruitful. The Church, united with Christ, offers with Christ the eternal sacrifice to the Father. When we all come together for the liturgy, we are much more than a crowd that gathers for a concert, sporting event, or lecture. We are not spectators, but a worshipping assembly, being formed, by Christ, into the very body of Christ. And our presence is no accident. As Pope Francis writes of the apostles at the Last Supper, “no one had earned a place at that Supper. All had been invited. Or better said: all had been drawn there by the burning desire that Jesus had to eat that Passover with them” (DD, 4). As we hear in Eucharistic Prayer III, “look graciously



upon this family, whom you have summoned before you.”

So what is the liturgy? Liturgy is God gathering his people together to offer worship through, with, and in Christ. Liturgy follows patterns, many of which are extremely ancient. Liturgy speaks many languages—not only spoken language, but also the languages of movement, sound, silence, gesture, and symbol. Liturgy employs many different art forms—music, poetry, architecture, and rhetoric, among others. In short, liturgy does not exist on paper. Liturgy is something that happens, when Christ gathers a community in prayer.

### The Introductory Rites

Mass begins with a procession, as the ministers of the liturgy enter the worship space. The procession is practical (those with particular roles to perform in the liturgy, like the presider, altar servers, readers, Eucharistic ministers, and choristers, need to get into the sacred space somehow!) but, more importantly, the procession is a symbol of the gathering of the people of God around the cross of Christ. Procession is a powerful symbol of the Church on a journey to the Kingdom. Music accompanies the procession—and not just music, but the whole assembly joining in a song of praise. In the liturgy, communal singing really matters: the simple act of singing together both expresses and reinforces the reality that we are one in Christ.

After the entrance procession, the introductory rites of the Mass unfold with four prayers. We begin with the Sign of the Cross: *in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit*. This is a profession of faith in miniature, a reminder of who we are and in whose name we gather. The sign of the cross marks the beginning and the end of the Mass, of this time consecrated to God.

The Penitential Act which follows is a public acknowledgment of sin. When, in one of his first public interviews, Pope Francis was asked who he was, he replied, “I am a sinner. This the most accurate definition. It is not a



figure of speech, a literary genre. I am a sinner.” We acknowledge our sinfulness, not so we can feel bad about ourselves, but so we can recognize our need for God. Because how can we recognize God’s power if we fail to recognize our own weakness? The pattern we see at the beginning of our liturgy—sin and mercy; humanity and divinity—will be repeated many times in the course of the Mass. We acknowledge who we are so we can, as the saying goes, “let God be God.”

That same pattern is reflected in the Gloria, the song of praise which is sung on Sundays (except the Sundays of Advent and Lent) as well as on Feasts and Solemnities. The Gloria is an ancient song which begins with the words of the angels to the shepherds on Christmas night: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.” The rest of the Gloria is an ancient “riff,” if you will, on those words of Scripture, a rhapsody of praise which almost exhausts the vocabulary of praise and thanksgiving: “We praise you. We bless you. We adore you. We glorify you. We give you thanks.”

Following the Gloria, the Introductory Rites of the Mass conclude with the opening prayer, called a “Collect” because it gathers or “collects” the prayers of the assembly into one. The Collect always includes a petition, an “ask”—sometimes for the community gathered, sometimes much broader: “that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ” (First Sunday of Lent); “that the course of our world may be directed by your peaceful rule” (8th Sunday); “that... we may rise up in the light of life” (Easter Sunday). With this prayer, the Introductory Rites come to an end. The entire assembly sits to listen to the Word of God.

## The Spirit of the Liturgy

The first document to emerge from the Second Vatican Council was *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (1963), the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. Most of us know that the Council allowed for the liturgy to be in the vernacular, and opened the way for laypeople to participate more actively in the Mass, by joining in the dialogues and responses, singing many of the parts of the Mass, and taking on different liturgical ministries. What is less well known is *why* those changes were made: so that all could participate fully, consciously, and actively, and become “deeply imbued with the spirit of the liturgy.”

What is “the spirit of the liturgy”? As we look at the Introductory Rites of the Mass, we can see that the spirit of the liturgy is a response to the invitation of God. The spirit of the liturgy is entering into community and walking together with Christ. The spirit of the liturgy is humility and joy, wonder and awe in the presence of God.

As our exploration of the Mass unfolds, we’ll add new layers as we seek to answer this question—what does it mean to be imbued with the spirit of the liturgy?

—Corinna Laughlin, *Pastoral Assistant for Liturgy*

## A Prayer before Mass

O God, my God, Mass is about to begin. You have called me to be part of this liturgy; you have prepared a place for me at the table; you want me to be here today. Help me to enter into the Mass with heart and mind, body and voice: with my whole self. Around me are the others you have called: not strangers, but my family in faith. Help me to recognize your presence in them. May we honor each other’s gifts, put up with each other’s weaknesses, treasure our unity and rejoice in our diversity. As we celebrate Mass together, may we truly become what we receive: the Body of Christ for a world in need. Amen.

MEETING CHRIST: EXPLORING THE LITURGY is a 5-part series of articles provided by the Archdiocese of Seattle

### Questions of the Week *Reflect and Respond to the Sunday Readings*

**First Reading:** “Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!” (Jer 20:13)  
We hear how the prophet Jeremiah turned to God when he felt alone and attacked. What do you need to pray to God for this week?

**Second Reading:** *But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.* (Rom 5:15)

Paul taught that through the grace of God, Christ reversed the sin of Adam, which brought death to all. When have you felt God’s grace in your life?

**Gospel:** “What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.” (Mt 10:28)

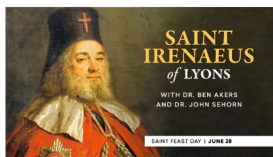
Jesus encourages his disciples not to be afraid. What are some fears you have that you could turn over to God?

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. Reflections ©LPi

# Catholic Media Recommendations for Everyone

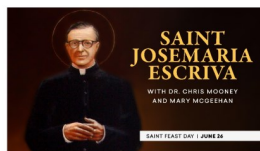
## THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Our parish pays for a subscription to FORMED.org, a streaming service from the Augustine Institute and Ignatius press. Go to [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) and enter our parish name to redeem your FREE membership. Once logged-in access these suggestions at [watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed](http://watch.formed.org/this-week-on-formed)



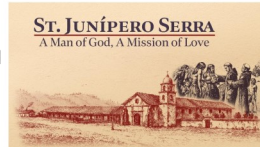
### Saint Irenaeus of Lyons | Catholic Saints

In this episode of FORMED Now, Dr. John Sehorn and Dr. Ben Akers discuss this second-century Church Father, explaining his importance to the history of Christianity and his title, the “Doctor of Unity.”



### St. Josemaria Escriva | Catholic Saints

Called “the saint of ordinary life” by Pope John Paul II, St. Josemaria Escriva centered his ministry around a simple truth: each person can experience the extraordinary grace of holiness even in the ordinary events of day-to-day life.



### St. Junípero Serra: A Man of God, A Mission of Love

In this documentary, learn about Father Serra’s heroic missionary activity to Indigenous peoples in 18th-century North America.

# Parish Ministries & Events

Please contact Jennifer at the Parish Office for more information about events and to connect with our various parish groups: 360-458-3031 x1 [jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:jennifer@saintcolumbanyelm.org)



## PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

See what's new with the Partners in the Gospel initiative. The Current Reality report provides a snapshot of the archdiocese today and outlines data and trends across the region – as well as forecasts demographic changes over the next decade. It also outlines the urgent need for change and why we must re-envision parish life today. View the Current Reality Video at [archseattle.org/partners](http://archseattle.org/partners).

See what's new with the Partners in the Gospel initiative. The Current Reality report provides a



On June 29 is celebrated the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. St. Peter is the patron of our mission church in Tenino and of our local Catholic hospital

Grant, we pray, O Lord our God, that we may be sustained by the intercession of the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, that as through them you gave your Church the foundations of her heavenly office, so through them you may help her to eternal salvation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Embracing the Divine Gift of Freedom: Religious Freedom Week 2023 (June 22-29)

Beginning June 22, the feast of **Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher**, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops invites Catholics to pray, reflect, and act to promote religious freedom. Religious freedom issues can range from the freedom to worship in countries where Christianity is under attack to the freedom to serve refugees and immigrants, regardless of their status.

Visit the USCCB's Religious Freedom Week webpage to learn more about how we can pray, reflect, and act for religious freedom.



## RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK



### Altar Society

Meets every Thursday after Daily Mass to clean the church.



### Daughters of Mary

St. Columban Catholic Church, Yelm, WA

### Monthly Meeting

July 25th, 6:00 PM

Parish Hall

[daughtersofmary@saintcolumbanyelm.org](mailto:daughtersofmary@saintcolumbanyelm.org)



### Knights of Columbus

Council 17152 / Assembly 3947

CHARITY + UNITY  
FRATERNITY + PATRIOTISM

### Next Council Meeting:

July 19, Begins with Evening Prayer in the Church at 5:30 PM

### Next Assembly Meeting:

July 17

Join us for our next breakfast!

July 23, after the 10:30 Mass

### Prayer Groups

Rosary Group Mondays

7pm, Church

Spanish Group

Tuesdays 6:30pm, Hall

### Society of

**St. Vincent de Paul**

### Monthly Meeting

July 20, 7:00 PM Parish Hall



### St. Peter's Circle

St. Peter Mission Tenino

### Next Meeting

July 11th 9:30 AM

Mark your calendars! Parish Picnic & Ministry Fair will be held Sunday, August 13, following the 10:30 Mass!

Sign up for updates via email or text: [saintcolumbanyelm.flocknote.com](http://saintcolumbanyelm.flocknote.com)



## Outside Events

OUR LADY OF  
PERPETUAL  
HELP SHRINE  
OLYMPIA, WA



# LIGHT FOR LIFE

## OLPH YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE

Fri, Jun 30 - Sat, July 1



### *Mt Rainier Day*

On Friday, Jun 30 we will meet at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Shrine in Olympia, WA and travel to Mount Rainier National Park for a hike and liturgy on the mountain! Breakfast and lunch will be provided and we will stop somewhere for dinner on the return trip.



### *OLPH Shrine Day*

Spend the day in prayer, inspiring talks, and fun at the first Catholic Marian Shrine in Washington State! The focus will be on "Christ Our Life: Vocations and the Eucharist"



**\$20**  
per day



**Ages**  
18-35

9730 Yelm Highway SE  
Olympia, WA 98513

**REGISTER TODAY!**

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[stgeorgeolympia.org](http://stgeorgeolympia.org)





SUPPORT THE WORKS OF THE  
HOLY FATHER THROUGH THE

# Peter's Pence Collection

*Be a sign of  
mercy.*

When Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, a humanitarian crisis began for Ukrainians, whose lives were shattered by the violence of war. Many left their homes in eastern cities in Ukraine for cities in the west, such as Lviv, farther from the most intense fighting. From the beginning of the war, the Holy Father pleaded for an end to the violence and expressed his love and concern for the Ukrainian people who were its victims. In solidarity with the victims of war, the papal almoner, Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, made two visits to Ukraine in March 2022. He first visited the cities of Rivne and Zhovka and other regions directly affected by the early conflict. He returned to Ukraine to celebrate Mass in the cathedral in Lviv and to deliver an ambulance donated by the Holy Father to the Center for Mother and Child Health to assist children displaced by the war.

The Holy Father's charitable outreach to victims of war, migrants and refugees, and the poor affected by illness and natural disasters is supported by contributions to the Peter's Pence Collection. When you participate in the collection, you join Catholics across the globe in supporting the pope's mission of mercy as well as the activities of the Holy See's dicasteries that assist his ministry.

Support for such papal efforts is rooted in the scriptural message to take care of the poor and expresses unity with

the Holy Father in two ways: through the ongoing activities of the Holy See and through the charitable works of the Holy Father on behalf of those most in need.

## How You Can Help

### PRAY

Pray for the Holy Father, for those he reaches out to serve in compassion, and for the ongoing activities of the Holy See, all of which benefit from the Peter's Pence Collection.

### SHARE

Share this bulletin insert with anyone who might be interested.

### GIVE

Give generously to this collection as a sign of mercy to those who suffer around the globe and in support of the ongoing work of the Holy See. By doing so, you help build up the Church so that it will continue to minister to all for generations to come.

For more information on Peter's Pence, please visit the Vatican's Peter's Pence website: <https://www.obolodisani-pietro.va/en/cos-e-l-obolo.html> (English) or <https://www.obolodisani-pietro.va/es/cos-e-l-obolo.html> (español).



**Peter's Pence Collection** | Office of National Collections | [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections)  
3211 Fourth Street NE | Washington, DC 20017-1194 | (202) 541-3346 | Fax (202) 541-3460

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ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

# At Home with Faith

**Living a Christian life can sometimes mean that we go against the grain of our culture.** Jesus shows us by his own example that we can take courage because God is with us always.



Photo: Adobe Stock

“For if by that one person’s transgression the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one person Jesus Christ overflow for the many.” (Romans 5:15)

We are called to share the good news of our salvation. But when we are misunderstood or challenged for our beliefs, we may feel hurt, defensive, or afraid. Scripture reminds us that we are “worth more than many sparrows.” (Matthew 10:31) It is from this abundance of love that we are called to share our faith. We show true courage by sharing our faith with openness, trusting in the Lord who is with us always, “like a mighty champion.” (Jeremiah 20:11)

## Read

Take time to read and reflect on the Scriptures for this day.

**Don't have access to a Bible?**

Visit [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

**Jeremiah 20:10-13**

“But the Lord is with me, like a mighty champion.”

**Psalms 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35**

“Lord, in your great love, answer me.”

**Romans 5:12-15**

“The gift is not like the transgression.”

**Matthew 10:26-33**

“Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

# At Home with **Faith**

## Talk

Here are some reflection questions to help you have **Great Conversations** with the whole family.

**“But the Lord is with me, like a mighty champion.” (Jeremiah 20:11) Think of a time when you had to choose between what was convenient or popular versus what your faith was calling you to do.** Which way did you choose to go? Would you make the same choice again today?

**Sometimes it can be difficult to make choices that align with our faith because we fear the consequences of going against the grain.** Courage is like a muscle that we build over time. We begin by remembering that God is with us always, and we allow that trust to guide us. We practice by choosing to live out our faith in the smaller choices, and gradually our faith grows so that we can make bigger choices more courageously.

**What choices will you make to build your courage today?**

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**Below is a quote from Pope Francis’s homily at the Palm Sunday Mass on April 5, 2020. He speaks about how Jesus is always with us, even in the moments when we feel the most fearful and alone.**

“When we have our back to the wall, when we find ourselves at a dead end, with no light and no way of escape, when it seems that God himself is not responding, we should remember that we are not alone. Jesus experienced total abandonment in a situation he had never before experienced in order to be one with us in everything. He did it for me, for you, for all of us; he did it to say to us: ‘Do not be afraid, you are not alone. I experienced all your desolation in order to be ever close to you.’”

— Pope Francis, April 5, 2020

Source:

[https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2020/documents/papa-francesco\\_20200405\\_omelia-palme.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200405_omelia-palme.html)

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023**

# 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." - Mt 10:31



# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"Sing to the LORD,  
praise the LORD,  
for he has rescued the life of the poor  
from the power of the wicked!" (Jer 20:13)

### Psalm:

Lord, in your great love, answer me. (Ps 69)

### Second Reading:

But the gift is not like the transgression.  
For if by the transgression of the one the many died,  
how much more did the grace of God  
and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ  
overflow for the many. (Rom 5:15)

### Gospel:

"What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light;  
what you hear whispered, proclaim on the  
housetops.  
And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but  
cannot kill the soul." (Mt 10:28)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Christ promises to acknowledge us before his Father if we will acknowledge him. In what ways are we called to acknowledge Christ today? In what ways are we tempted to deny him, to distance ourselves from him?

## Observances for the week of June 25, 2023

- Sunday:** 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Tuesday:** St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
**Wednesday:** Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr  
**Thursday:** Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles  
**Friday:** The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church  
**Saturday:** St. Junipero Serra, Priest  
**Next Sunday:** 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Saint of the week

Venerable Pierre Toussaint was born into slavery but became an elite hairstylist in New York City and a free man. He used the money he earned to transform the lives of impoverished New Yorkers, former slaves, and immigrants alongside his wife, Servant of God Juliette.

## Prayer

Lord God, source of love and compassion, we praise and honor You for the virtuous and charitable life of our brother in Christ, Venerable Pierre Toussaint.

Inspired by the example of our Lord Jesus, Pierre worshipped You with love and served Your people with generosity. He attended Mass daily and responded to the practical and spiritual needs of friends and strangers, of the rich and the poor, the sick and the homeless of the 19th century, New York.

If it is your will, let the name of Venerable Pierre Toussaint be officially raised to the rank of Saint, so that the world may know this Haitian New Yorker who refused to hate or be selfish, but instead lived to the full commandments of heaven and the divine law of love — love for God and for neighbor.

By following his example and asking for his prayer, may we, too, be counted among the blessed in heaven.

We ask for this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://nolacatholic.org/news/black-catholic-history-month-pierre-toussaint#:~:text=Prayer,served%20Your%20people%20with%20generosity>)



## Readings for the week of June 25, 2023

### Sunday:

Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 (14c)/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33

### Monday:

Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22/Mt 7:1-5

### Tuesday:

Gn 13:2, 5-18/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Mt 7:6, 12-14

### Wednesday:

Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 7:15-20

### Thursday:

*Vigil:* Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19 *Day:* Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

### Friday:

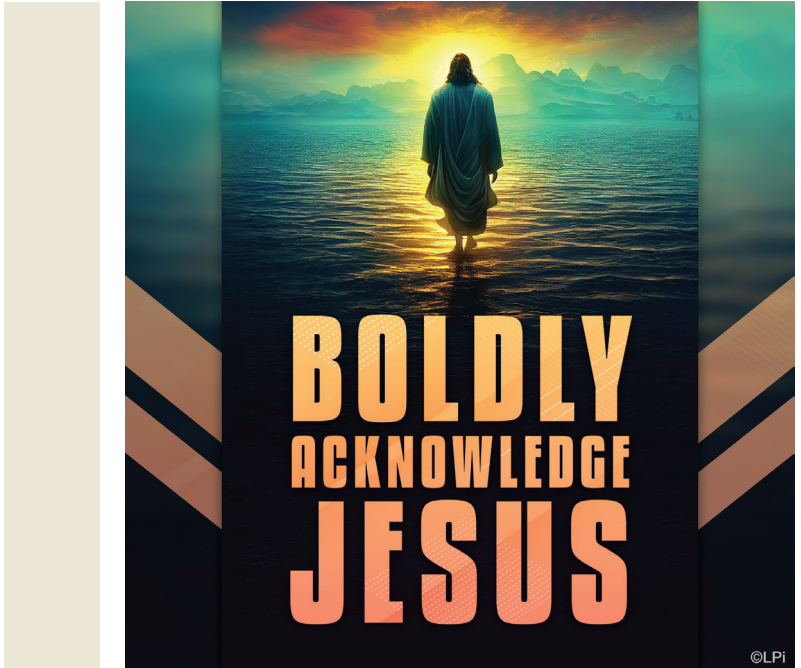
Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 8:1-4

### Saturday:

Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 and 53, 54-55/Mt 8:5-17

### Next Sunday:

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 (2a)/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42



## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was in middle school, there were times I didn't want my fellow students to see my parents drop me off or pick me up in the school parking lot. I was embarrassed of my parents. Why? I have no idea. Maybe it was our station wagon. Or I didn't want to look like a little kid. But in retrospect that was a silly thing to do. I was a kid. And I had two parents who loved me and had built a wonderful family. I was afraid of the other kids' judgment. How silly! I should have been afraid of forgetting or downplaying my family, which is where my identity had its deep roots.

This is a way to understand Jesus' words to his disciples this Sunday, when he says, "**Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.**" Fear, in this sense, refers to where we find our deepest identity and our highest love. That's why Jesus says next that when we acknowledge him before others, he will acknowledge us before the Father. It doesn't mean we're brash or boastful. But rather we unhesitatingly and humbly embrace our identity as followers of Jesus and children of God the Father. After all, if we love who we are and where we come from, who cares what the other kids think about us?

— Father John Muir



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## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### The Necklace

I have a necklace that originally belonged to my great-grandmother. I don't really know much about the man who gave it to her, most of those details have been lost to time. But I know that he wanted to marry her, and that she refused, and it had something to do with religion — ultimately, he did not share her faith. And while I've certainly seen many interfaith couples have loving and successful marriages, in this particular case, my great-grandmother discerned that this would not be one of those marriages.

Like I said, I don't have many details about this man, but I know that she felt she couldn't marry him because it might jeopardize the souls of her children, and therefore the souls of their children, and their children after them — me. She turned him down because of me.

My great-grandmother never sold that necklace, not even when the Great Depression further reduced her financial circumstances. She kept it, and she gave it to her daughter, who gave it to her daughter, who gave it to me. The necklace is always given with a warning: there is something worse than being poor, worse than being scared, worse even than being desperate. Worse than all of these things is separation from God.

When I wear this necklace, I think about my grandmother and this man she possibly loved a hundred years ago. I think of the many decisions we make every day — large and small, good and bad — that reverberate down through the generations in ways we cannot, at the time, imagine. I think of the God who knows every hair on my head.

*"And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna."*

— Matthew 10:28

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

What is Lectio Divina, and how is it associated with the Benedictine Monastic tradition, whose founder, St. Benedict, we honor on July 11?

### Answer:

Benedict desired his monks to live in community, praying the Liturgy of the Hours together, contemplating sacred texts, and doing manual labor. The monks developed a technique to facilitate a spiritual and devotional reading of the Bible known as Lectio Divina, the holy reading of a text. This method encourages the reader to hear the biblical text with an open heart and focus on whatever God wants to highlight and then apply it to daily life.

There are variations on Lectio Divina, but essentially, the technique consists of a three-step process of reflection. When the reflection is done with a group, the responses are shared by all the participants. Once the text is selected, it is read meditatively, and the following are then explored: a word or phrase that attracts you; how and where the content of this reading touches your life today; what you believe that God wants you to do during this coming week (month, year, lifetime).

Thanks to Benedict, the Christian community has been gifted with this special way of entering into the biblical text. This week, use the Lectio Divina process on one of the readings for the coming Sunday and make a note of the life connections you are making. How is this reflection on the biblical text drawing you closer to God and others?



“Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father’s knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

- Mt 10:29-31

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## Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading

We hear how the prophet Jeremiah turned to God when he felt alone and attacked. What do you need to pray to God for this week?

### Second Reading

Paul taught that through the grace of God, Christ reversed the sin of Adam, which brought death to all. When have you felt God’s grace in your life?

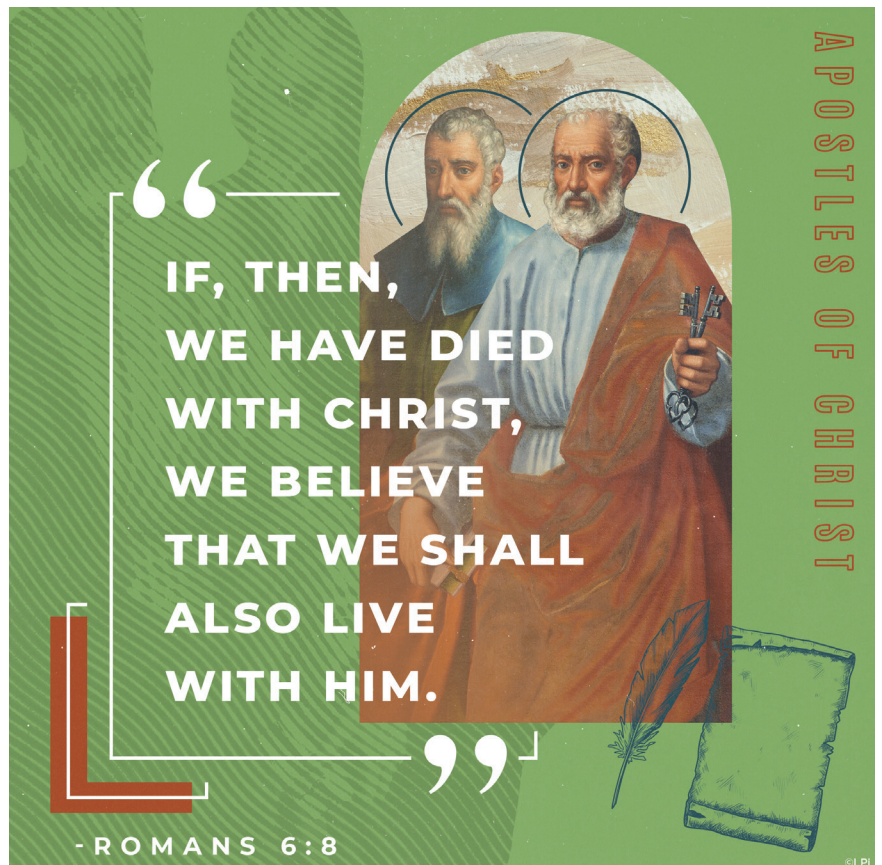
### Gospel Reading

Jesus encourages his disciples not to be afraid. What are some fears you have that you could turn over to God?

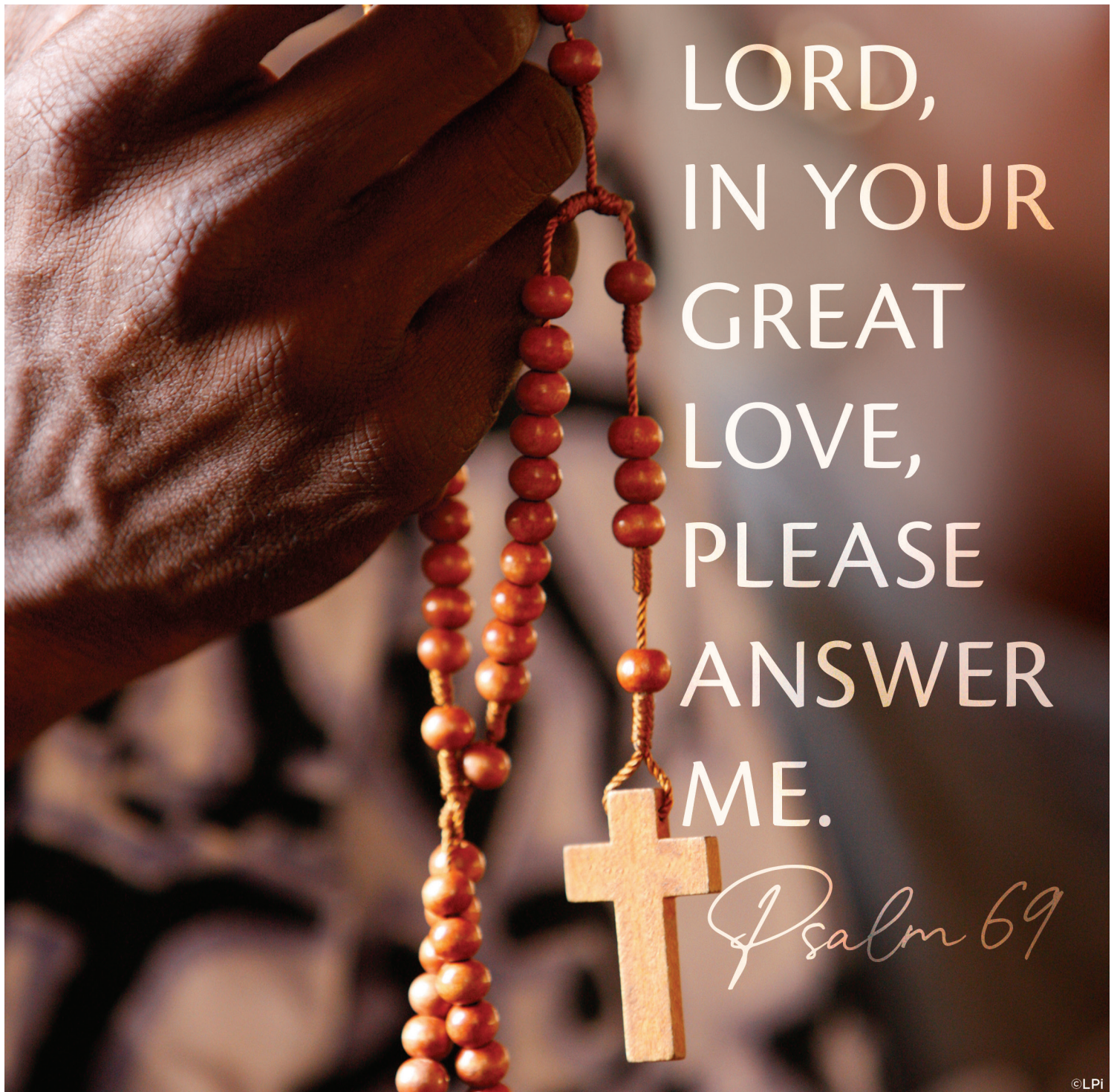


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“So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.”  
- Mt 10:31-33

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## Prayer

God, I thank you for loving me so much.

## Mission for the Week

After you brush your hair, count the hairs in the brush. God knows how many hairs you lost!

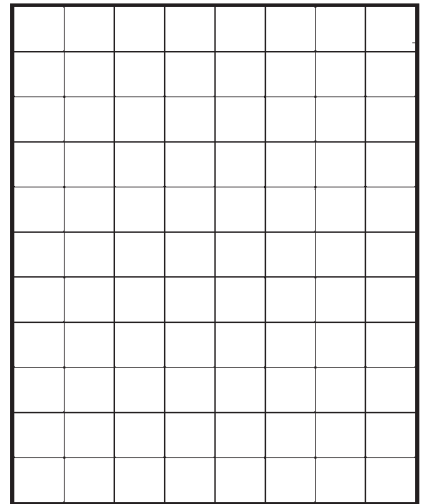
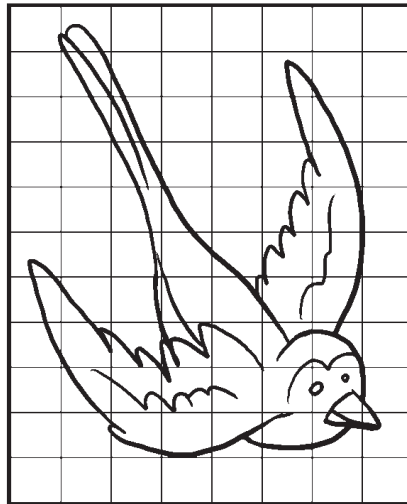
## Sharing the Gospel

You are God's special child. He knows all about you. He knows what you like to eat. He knows your favorite color. He knows how many teeth you have. He even knows how many hairs are on your head. No one in this world loves you as much as God loves you. Be sure to tell your friends how much God loves them, too.

**Now color the picture!**



Copy the picture square by square. Then color it.







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