

Dear Padre,

What is the Catholic Church's position on grace versus works?

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works" (Ephesians 2:8-9). The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* attests that we have merit in God's sight only because "God has freely chosen to associate man with the work of his grace" (CCC 2008). After God acted first on his own initiative, it then follows that we're free to act through his collaboration, "so that the merit of good works is to be attributed in the first place to the grace of God, then to the faithful" (CCC 2008). In other words, it's only through God's empowering Spirit in each of us that makes our good works for salvation pleasing to the Lord!

Moreover, Catholics believe these good works "contribute to growth in grace, so that the righteousness that comes from God is preserved and communion with Christ is deepened. When Catholics affirm the 'meritorious' character of good works, they wish to say that...a reward in heaven is promised to these works. Their intention is to emphasize the responsibility of persons for their actions, not to contest the character of those works as gifts, or far less to deny that justification always remains the unmerited gift of grace" (*Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification*, Lutheran World Federation and the Catholic Church, 38).

Christian prayer provides us with the grace that's needed for meritorious actions (CCC 2010).

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



Calendar

Monday OCTOBER 12 Weekday Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1 Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday OCTOBER 13 Weekday Gal 5:1-6 Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday OCTOBER 14 Weekday Gal 5:18-25 Lk 11:42-46
Thursday OCTOBER 15 St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Eph 1:1-10 Lk 11:47-54
Friday OCTOBER 16 Weekday Eph 1:11-14 Lk 12:1-7
Saturday OCTOBER 17 St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr Eph 1:15-23 Lk 12:8-12
Sunday OCTOBER 18 Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 45:1, 4-6 1 Thes 1:1-5b Mt 22:15-21

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Do good works, don't just say words that are gone with the wind....Through the good works that we carry out with love and joy towards others, our faith emerges and bears fruit. Let us ask ourselves...Is our faith fruitful? Does our faith produce good works? Or is it sterile instead, and therefore more dead than alive?

—ANGELUS, JULY 10, 2016



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 11, 2020

Twenty-eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time (A)

Is 25:6-10a | Phil 4:12-14, 19-20
Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

Our Invitation from the King

When people think of heaven, they often imagine a place up in the sky. Episodes of *Star Trek* should challenge that notion. The Bible usually speaks of heaven as an experience. According to our first reading, it is like a banquet, "a feast of rich food and choice wines" (Isaiah 25:6). Such a meal is an extraordinary event for hardworking people who seldom get to enjoy such luxury. According to today's Gospel account, the kingdom of heaven is like a wedding banquet, a feast of "calves and fattened cattle" (Matthew 22:4), a celebration of love and new life.

Some people might prefer an image that thrills the ear rather than the palette, like a Handel concerto or a Beethoven symphony. Whatever image is favored, heaven is an incomparable phenomenon that cannot be described. It is an experience that will thrill us to the core of our being.

To be invited to such an astounding experience might well be the event of a lifetime. This is, after all, an invitation from the king. Who would possibly turn it down? And yet, some do. As the Gospel recounts, some are too busy with work. Others would rather watch "the game." Still others who might accept the invitation minimize it by refusing to dress appropriately. How can people be so foolish? Yet, you and I often are.

God's invitation to the heavenly feast simply asks that we realize the magnitude of the honor extended to us, that we accept it graciously, and that we enjoy the experience.

FOR Reflection

★ So often our invitation to the heavenly banquet is shrouded. What keeps you from recognizing this invitation?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



[Jesus said,] "The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike."
MATTHEW 22:10



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St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm 23: I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

St. Theresa's Parish News:

Sunday Mass has resumed at St. Theresa's, masks are mandatory. Please call Emile Sabourin or Lynda Ryshytylo to register for Sunday Mass.

St. Joseph The Worker Parish News:

*****Since Covid Epidemic has created a need for ushers & sanitizers following Saturday & Sunday Masses, please, if you are able to help in some way – call the parish office and leave a message. ***

National Catholic Health Care – Catholic Health Alliance of Canada Information

During month of October, computer on-line, free workshops & resources supporting health care. Topics such as: mental health resources, developing compassion, children who have disabilities, a covid survivor sharing the physical/mental/spiritual impact of covid, coping with grief & loss especially during this time of covid.

During the week of October 19-23rd, it is spiritual health awareness week. Available on-line computer is a workshop called, "How to Nurture Our Spiritual Health & have Resilience amidst a pandemic".

All information available in the "Canada Health Alliance of Canada Fall Newsletter" – available on our Archdiocese of Winnipeg website: www.archwinnipeg.ca . A few copies available at back of our church.

For more information or assistance with computer instruction contact parish office, leave a message: 204-773-2924.

Mass Intentions For The Week:

Twenty-Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday Oct. 10 7:30 p.m. Russell: Special intentions req. Jean Goba
Sunday Oct. 11 9:00 a.m. Russell: For all Parishioners req. Father Paul
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn: +Joe Zegalski req. John & Lynda & family

Monday Oct. 12 **No Mass**

Tuesday Oct. 13 **No Mass**

Wed. Oct. 14 **No Mass**

Thursday Oct. 15 9:00 a.m. Russell: Mass
 10:30 a.m. Rossburn: Adoration
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn:+Joe Zegalski req. Steven & Deloris Zegalski

Friday Oct. 16 8:30 a.m. Russell: Adoration
 9:00 a.m. Russell: For family req. Simone

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time – World Mission Sunday

Saturday Oct. 17 7:30 p.m. Russell: Special intentions req. Jean Goba
Sunday Oct. 18 9:00 a.m. Russell: For all Parishioners req. Father Paul
 11:00 a.m. Rossburn: + Frank Kaskiw req. Nellie Kaskiw

World Food Day – October 16th

A World Food Day has been promoted by the Food & Agriculture Organ. Since 1981. The Church is concerned about the issue of hunger in the world, remembering the words of the Son of Man on the last judgement of the nations... "I was hungry & you gave me food, I was thirsty & you gave me something to drink..." (Mt 25-35)

1. Coats for Cold, Drop Off:

If you have a gently used, laundered Winter coat that you would be willing to donate to someone in need, it can be dropped off at, Reavie's pharmacy, or Knox United Church (Assiniboine St. entrance) or St. Joseph The Worker - no later than Sunday Oct 25th. All sizes would be appreciated. We also gladly accept all winter apparel, (Ski pants, boots, mitts, toques, scarves etc)

2. Coats for Cold, Pickup:

Pick up, Oct 26 (5pm - 7pm) and Oct 27 (4pm - 6pm) at Grace Lutheran Church. See poster at back of St. Joseph's Church. If you know of anyone in need of a winter Jacket please let them know these dates.

The Catholic Moms Summit: Free! Nov. 13-15

Coming this November is an event you won't want to miss! For all Catholic moms (new Moms, seasoned moms, grandmothers, is hosted by Danielle Bean & features over 70 trusted & beloved Catholic women presenting, including Joyful Ever After's Melanie Owens!

Produced by Cardinal Studios, the same team that put on the Catholic Marriage Summit, this event will be getting into the real issue's moms face every day, and is full of hope, inspiration, and practical advice.

Register for free - support@cardinalstudios.org

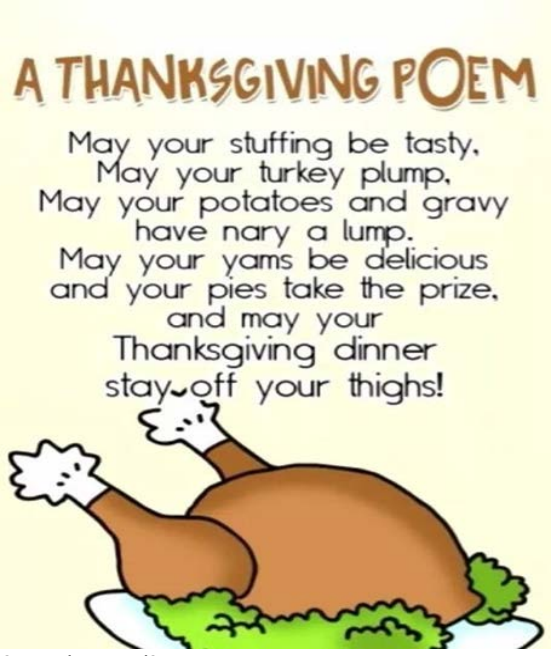
Collection for World Mission Sunday

Next week is World Mission Sunday. This celebration of the missions will take place in every parish in the world. It is also a global celebration of the Universal Church. Your prayers and donations will assist churches, hospitals, schools, and vocations where the church is still at a formative stage. With the assistance that Catholic communities throughout the world receive through World Mission Sunday, they will become self-sufficient and continue to flourish. By sharing the gift of faith, we can bring hope and love to those who need it most.

Thank you to all volunteers who give their time, care and generosity to usher & sanitize our Parish after mass!

Praying with Pope Francis, October: "We pray that by the virtue of baptism the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church."

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.



faith/work/family balance and many others. Come become an inspired leader! For more information or to register, please visit: virtualcatholicconfere...

Virtual Catholic Business Leaders Conference – Oct 23-25

With over 70 inspiring Catholic business leaders, come learn empowering wisdom on living our faith in the workplace. This Free, 3-day virtual Business Leadership Conference has assembled a growing list of the world's top leaders and Catholic presenters. These inspiring talks and presentations are focused on empowering Catholic professionals to achieve excellence in the business world and respond to current secular challenges with integrity, hope, love, and steadfast courage. The conference covers a wide range of topics including: business ethics, human resources, workplace culture, motivation and focus,

