

Dear Padre,

A Protestant friend tells me that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. That doesn't seem accurate to me. What does the Church teach about the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross?

Jesus understood his mission to be sacrificing his own life “as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was even at the cost of death. However, saying Jesus’ death was payment for our sins doesn’t mean that a vengeful God was appeased by the slaughter of his own innocent son. Rather, we are redeemed because of the mutual love between Father and Son, as well as the love Christ had for us all when he offered his life. “It is love ‘to the end’ (see John 13:1) that confers on Christ’s sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus’ death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice “that completes and surpasses all other sacrifices,” when “the Father handed his Son over to sinners in order to reconcile us with himself,” and the Son of God freely and lovingly offered his human life to his Father “in reparation for our disobedience” (CCC 614). Christ “bore our sins in his body upon the cross.... By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:24). Viewed in light of the resurrection, Christ’s death has meaning in eternal life’s triumph over sin. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



NANCY WIECHER / CNS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 15 <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i> 1 Tm 2:1–8 Jn 19:25–27 or Lk 2:33–35	September 16 <i>Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</i> 1 Tm 3:1–13 Lk 7:11–17	September 17 <i>Weekday</i> 1 Tm 3:14–16 Lk 7:31–35	September 18 <i>Weekday</i> 1 Tm 4:12–16 Lk 7:36–50	September 19 <i>Weekday</i> 1 Tm 6:2c–12 Lk 8:1–3	September 20 <i>Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</i> 1 Tm 6:13–16 Lk 8:4–15	September 21 <i>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Am 8:4–7 1 Tm 2:1–8 Lk 16:1–13 or 16:10–13



STANISLAW TOKARSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I chose to take the name Leo XIV...mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical Rerum Novarum addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution. In our own day, the Church offers...the treasury of [its] social teaching in response to...new challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor.

ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS,
ROME, MAY 10, 2025



© 2025 Liguori Publications. *Imprimi Potest*: Fr. Kevin Zubeł, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from *The New American Bible, Revised Edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 14, 2025
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Numbers 21:4b–9 / Philippians 2:6–11 / John 3:13–17



When Life Is on Empty

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, “Pain is weakness leaving the body.” Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one’s child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life’s joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul.

If St. Paul’s assertion that Jesus came and “emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross,” then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God’s spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full. ●

Reflect

*What emptying am I experiencing?
Can I accept it as becoming more like Jesus?*



[Christ Jesus] emptied himself... becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

PHILIPPIANS 2:7–8

St. Genevieve Catholic Parish
PO Box 6
403 Bugar Street
Twisp, WA 98856
Website: www.methowcatholic.org
Email: shbrewstercds@gmail.com



Pastor:
Rev. Pedro Bautista Peraza
509-689-2931
Deacon:
Rev. Mr. Bill Wehmeyer
425-941-9171
bwehmeyer1945@gmail.com

Child & Youth Protection:
Carmen Merrill 1-718-639-3188

Parish Council: Jim Brousseau – Chair,
Carmen Merrill, Dennis Doyle, Tom Leuschen,
April Stephens, Alicia Brown
Finance Council: Nancy Kirner, Robert
Gatlin, Tom Flynn
Bookkeeper: Nancy Kirner 253-370-0798
Building Committee: Tom Leuschen 509-670-
3122, Kyle Rogers, Julie Wehmeyer, John
Simon, Dennis Doyle.

Religious Education:
April Stephens - Children
Deacon Bill Wehmeyer - Adult

Baptismal Prep:
Deacon Bill Wehmeyer 425-941-9171
Altar Society: Alicia Brown, Ginny Humling
Altar Servers: Caleb Knox, Zach Knox

Sick & Homebound:
Deacon Bill Wehmeyer 425-941-9171
Prayer Chain: Julie Wehmeyer 425-830-0904
Adoration Scheduling:
Don Haley 509-989-9309
Church Cleaning:
Julie Wehmeyer 425-830-0904

Parish Bulletin:
Abby Brousseau 206-920-3811
Gale Haley 509-765-0653
Nancy Kirner 253-370-0798
Bill Wehmeyer 425-941-9171

WELCOME! NO MATTER WHAT YOUR PRESENT OR PAST STATUS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, NO MATTER YOUR PERSONAL HISTORY, AGE, RACE OR BACKGROUND, YOU ARE INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, AND LOVED AT ST. GENEVIEVE CATHOLIC PARISH.

RECONCILIATION: (Confession) available, following Mass, on Sunday and Wednesday – please contact Fr. Pedro, before mass, to confirm availability. Also by appointment.
BAPTISM: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor, at least one month prior to desired date.
SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor at least six months prior to desired date.

Please remember St. Genevieve Parish in your Will

THANK YOU for your donations!

Weekly Budget: \$1,255.00
08/31/25: \$1,426.00
09/07/25: \$1,273.00
Building Fund Donations: \$620.00

CAFFEINE & CALORIES:
The weekly social hour continues, after Mass.

Thank you to all who volunteer and share!
Please consider hosting C & C. Contact Alicia Brown for info, 509-429-1621.

 **BUILDING COMMITTEE**
People with ideas about the new parish hall, especially those with building skills, are welcome to Contact the Building Committee.
PARENTS: Please do not allow your children to play on/around the new block retaining wall. Thank you!

 **The Cove is, again, in need of toilet paper. Donations can be left in the basket at the side door.**
The Cove THANKS YOU for your continuing donations of food, laundry detergent, dish soap, bar soap, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.

Mass Schedule:

Sunday, Sept 14 @ 11:00 am The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Rosary @ 10:20 am
Wednesday, Sept 10 @ 9:30 am; Rosary @ 9:00 am;
Adoration PAUSED UNTIL ADVENT
Sunday, Sept. 21, Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, @ 11:00 am, Rosary @ 10:20 am

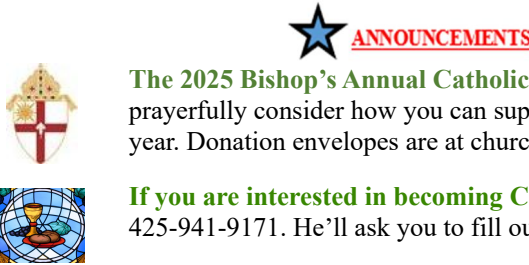


Liturgy of the Word

Numbers 21:4b–9 Moses fashions a saraph and mounts it on a pole.
Psalms 78 “Do not forget the works of the Lord!”
Philippians 2:6–11 Jesus emptied himself for our salvation.
John 3:13–17 God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.

In today’s first reading, God has Moses make a bronze serpent, mount it on a pole, and lift it up so that those who were bitten by venomous snakes could look upon it and live. Centuries later, Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man must be lifted up in a similar way so that all who look upon him as their salvation will live. On this feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, let us consider that what Jesus did for us on the cross to save our immortal souls recalls what God had Moses do in the desert to save the Chosen People’s mortal lives.

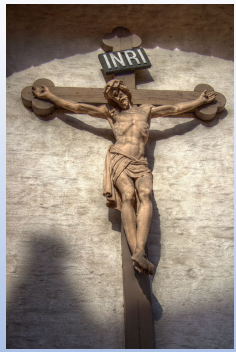
Question of the Week: How can I imitate Christ by helping someone else carry their cross, as he helps me carry mine?



The 2025 Bishop’s Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) is now! Please prayerfully consider how you can support the Diocese’s ministry this year. Donation envelopes are at church entrances and in the pews.

If you are interested in becoming Catholic, contact Deacon Bill at 425-941-9171. He’ll ask you to fill out an application.

Altar Society’s first meeting is Wednesday September 24th after Mass. Also, please bring a baby shower gift for the Community Connection Baby Shower in Omak. We'll be putting together a gift basket for expectant mothers from St. Genevieve Altar Society.



PRAY

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Lupe Garcia
Bill Wilburn
Sheila Kerr
Jonathan Kessler
Paul Budrow
Kyle Rogers
Fr. Sean Thomson
Thomson Family
Fred Nowicki
Evangeline Grace Knox
Teagan Maxwell
Melissa Larson
Jim Perra
Howard Burcham
Terry & Barb Anderson
Bernice Morgan
Mark Crum
Nate Chrastina
Wannita Knox
Roland Cruz
Duncan Bronson
Mary Rasmussen



Repose of the Soul of