

# Dear Padre,

*Is it wrong for children to dress up as zombies and devils and other evil creatures for Halloween?*

No. It is perfectly acceptable to choose these kinds of costumes and to participate in the festivities of Halloween. Halloween is primarily a secular celebration. Although it is true that the original celebration is deeply rooted in the Christian tradition, that tradition is more properly celebrated during the great feast days of the Church that follow Halloween: All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

Mythological representations, and the costumes that remind us of these kind of characters, are to be understood with a sense of fun and mischief. There is no difference between a ghost, a goblin, a zombie, Captain America, Superman, or one of the Mario Brothers. They are all fictional characters in the very human stories we share with each other. The meaning we assign to them must be proportional to what they represent. On Halloween, they represent nothing more than a person in costume. It could be an entirely different story under different circumstances in which there might be the possibility of a misunderstanding about the meaning of such a costume. Halloween pretty much blurs that distinction and takes away the misunderstanding. It is meant to be entertaining and fun. That is all. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org



FRANKO / SHUTTERSTOCK

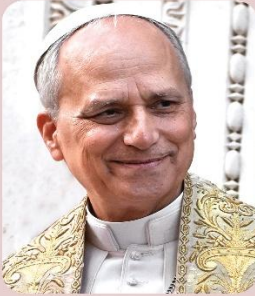
## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*My own story is that of a citizen, the descendant of immigrants, who in turn chose to emigrate. All of us, in the course of our lives, can find ourselves healthy or sick, employed or unemployed, living in our native land or in a foreign country, yet our dignity always remains unchanged: it is the dignity of a creature willed and loved by God.*

AUDIENCE OF THE HOLY FATHER, ROME, MAY 16, 2025



STEFANO SPANANI

#### Monday

October 27  
Weekday  
Rom 8:12–17  
Lk 13:10–17

#### Tuesday

October 28  
Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles  
Eph 2:19–22  
Lk 6:12–16

#### Wednesday

October 29  
Weekday  
Rom 8:26–30  
Lk 13:22–30

#### Thursday

October 30  
Weekday  
Rom 8:31b–39  
Lk 13:31–35

#### Friday

October 31  
Weekday  
Rom 9:1–5  
Lk 14:1–6

#### Saturday

November 1  
All Saints  
Rv 7:2–4, 9–14  
1 Jn 3:1–3  
Mt 5:1–12a

#### Sunday

November 2  
The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)  
Wis 3:1–9  
Rom 5:5–11 or Rom 6:3–9  
Jn 6:37–40  
(These readings or any from no. 668 or from the Masses for the Dead)

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 26, 2025

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sirach 35:12–14, 16–18 / 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18 / Luke 18:9–14



## Like the Rings of a Tree

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**F** or some, going to confession can bring a sense of relief—as if the slate has now been wiped clean; as if we have gotten a do-over with life or the past has been left behind as though it never happened. Our past, however, is always with us—the good and the bad, the joys and the sadness, the grace and the sin. There are no do-overs. We carry with us the marks of our lives simply because every experience, every kindness and cruelty, every moment of generosity and selfishness, all have made us into who are. We are much like a tree that adds a ring to its trunk each year. The ring always bears the marks of that year, whether it has been a year of rain or drought, whether insects have attacked, or whether Mother Nature has been kind. The tree always remembers and carries with it forever the rings of what life has been.

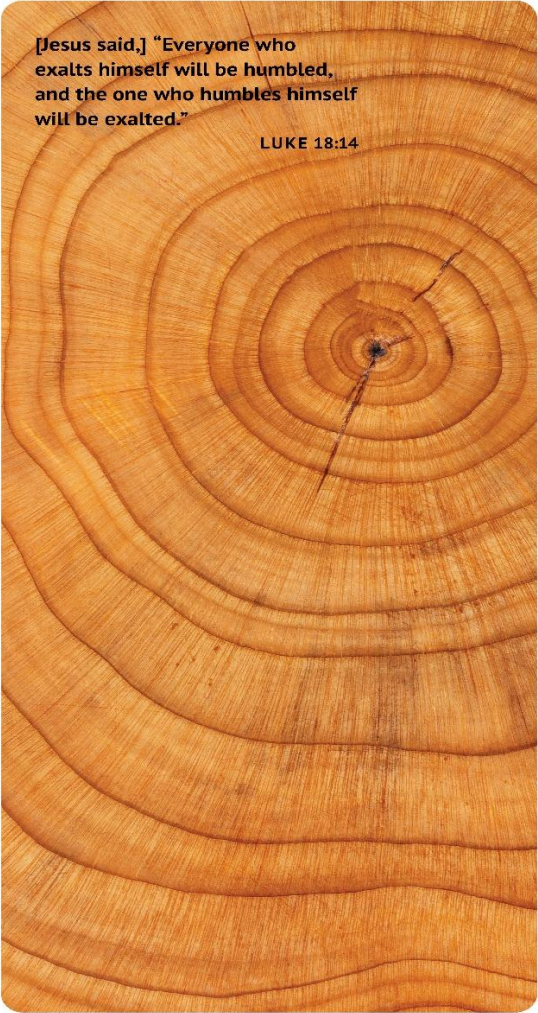
Our lives are the same. The story of the Pharisee and the tax collector tells this tale. Like the Pharisee, we have much good in our lives. We too have prayed and have been generous. We have been kind and honest and cared for the poor. We have tried to be faithful. The Pharisee's downfall was that he forgot about his sinfulness; he forgot he needed God's mercy. The tax collector, on the other hand, remembered his failings. Both were in need of God's love. Only the tax collector seemed to realize it. ●

### Reflect

*How has my life been a mixture of sin and grace?*

[Jesus said,] "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

LUKE 18:14



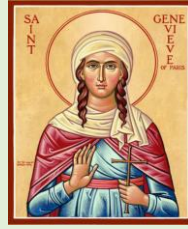
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509-689-2931  
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[bwehmeyer1945@gmail.com](mailto:bwehmeyer1945@gmail.com)

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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:**  
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**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  
10/12/25: \$1149.00  
10/19/25: \$1278.00  
Building Fund Donations: \$740.00

**ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS**

**THANK YOU!!** To our parishioners who cleaned Hwy 20 on Friday: Dennis Doyle, Linda Flynn, Mary McHugh, Jeff and Alicia Brown.



**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.**

**COVE NEWS:** Manger Mall is coming soon- drop off your unwrapped gifts at the church from 10/30-11/30 or at the Cove until 12/4. **THANK YOU!**

**Mass Schedule:**

**Sunday, Oct 26@ 11:00 am Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Rosary @ 10:20 am**  
**Wednesday, Oct 29 @ 9:30 am; Rosary @ 9:00 am;**  
**Adoration PAUSED UNTIL ADVENT**  
**Sunday, Nov 2 All Souls Day**  
**@ 11:00 am, Rosary @ 10:20 am**



The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, through all generations

**Liturgy of the Word**

*Sirach 35:12–14, 16–18 The God of justice knows no favorites.*  
*Psalms 34 “The Lord hears the cry of the poor.”*  
*2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18 I have competed well, I have finished the race.*  
*Luke 18:9–14 “O God, be merciful to me a sinner.”*

Centuries before Christ, Sirach writes that the Lord hears the prayers of the lowly, the poor, the weak, and the oppressed. He assures his readers that God will respond. In the Gospel, Jesus applauds those who humbly acknowledge their sinfulness and ask for God’s mercy, declaring that God will exalt them. May we realize our own poverty before the Lord as we sing the refrain to the responsorial psalm, “The Lord hears the cry of the poor.”

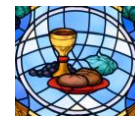
**Question of the Week: In what senses am I poor, in need of God’s grace? Do I recognize this poverty when I pray?**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**The 2025 Bishop’s Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) is now!** Please prayerfully consider how you can support the work of the Diocese. Donation envelopes are at church entrances and in the pews. As of 10/3/11 families participated and \$10,050 pledged. Thank You!!



**Adults, if you are wondering about Catholicism,** contact Deacon Bill at 425-941-9171 or [bwehmeyer1945@gmail.com](mailto:bwehmeyer1945@gmail.com).

**Parents,** if you have children who are at least 7 years old, please contact Fr. Pedro at either 509-997-4201, 509-689-2931, or [shbrewstercds@gmail.com](mailto:shbrewstercds@gmail.com) for sacramental preparation.

**ENDOW Seeker of the Truth-**Women’s Scripture Study is Monday October 6 6-8pm in the rectory. Please join us

**FALL BACK!** Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday November 2.



**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  
Howard Burcham  
Terry & Barb Anderson  
Bernice Morgan  
Mark Crum  
Wannita Knox  
Roland Cruz  
Duncan Bronson  
Brooke Stendera



**Repose of the Soul of**

**Fr. Paul Fitterer, SJ**