

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**MASSES FOR THIS WEEK**

***Saturday, September 26th***

St. John de Brébeuf, S. Isaac Jogues and Companions  
430 Louise de Heinrich by MaryLou and Antonio Sacconaghi

***Sunday, September 27th***

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
*World Day of Refugees and Migrants*  
10:30 Kate and Ed Sampson by Ann & Louis Mallette

***Monday, September 28th***

St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions  
9:00 Ruddy Songuir by the Family

***Tuesday, September 29th***

St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael, archangels  
9:00 Michelle Barrett by Mary Prillo

***Wednesday, September 30th***

St. Jerome  
9:00 Kurt and Linda Krause by the Estate

***Thursday, October 1st No Mass***

St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

***Friday, October 2nd***

The Holy Guardian Angels  
9:00 Donat Taddeo, Sr. by Don Taddeo

***Saturday, October 3rd***

430 Francis Erwin De la Cruz by Mr. & Mrs. D. Corpus

## REFLECTION

As Christian stewards we are called to a high and holy standard — living as Christ’s disciples every day and with every person the Lord places in our path. But we can move towards this goal in “baby steps.”

Jesus demonstrates this comforting truth through the parable He tells in today’s Gospel from Matthew. It is the story of two sons whose father instructs them to go out and work in his vineyard that day. While the second son agrees to his father’s request, he does not follow through — he fails to obey the father’s will. The first son tells his father, “no.” At least he is honest! And in the end, he reconsiders and obeys his father.

The first son’s honest, less-than-perfect response, is consoling to us Christian stewards. Haven’t we all felt this way at times when God’s will for us seems to be just too hard?

We can be honest with God at these times. He knows our thoughts already, after all. But when we stayed engaged in a real relationship with Him, even if it’s just to say, “I don’t think I can, Lord,” He will supply us with just the grace we need to change our minds and do what He is asking us to do.

We can even take a step backward from time to time because our Father is merciful and kind. What matters is that we keep baby stepping along, assured of the grace we need to more closely imitate the actions and attitudes of Christ. This is the beauty of the stewardship way of life.

[www.catholicsteward.com/blog/](http://www.catholicsteward.com/blog/)

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### ***September 27<sup>th</sup>      World Day of Migrants and Refugees***

The Theme for this year is “Like Jesus Christ, forced to flee. Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating internally displaced persons.”

In his message for this year Pope Francis says:

At the beginning of this year . . . I pointed to the tragedy of internally displaced people as one of the challenges of our contemporary world. . . . In the light of the tragic events that have marked 2020, I would like this Message, although concerned with internally displaced persons, to embrace all those who are experiencing situations of precariousness, abandonment, marginalization and rejection as a result of COVID-19. . . .

Unfortunately, in our own times, millions of families can identify with this sad reality. . . . We are called to respond to this pastoral challenge with the four verbs I indicated in my Message for this Day in 2018: welcome, protect, promote and integrate. To these words, I would now like to add another six pairs of verbs that deal with very practical actions and are linked together in a relationship of cause and effect. You have *to know* in order to understand. Knowledge is a necessary step towards understanding others. . . . If we encounter them, we will get to know more about them. And knowing their stories, we will be able to understand them.

It is necessary to be close in order *to serve*. . . . Fears and prejudices – all too many prejudices – keep us distant from others and often prevent us from “becoming neighbours” to them and serving them with love. Drawing close to others often means being willing to take risks.

In order to be reconciled, we need *to listen*. . . . A love that reconciles and saves begins with listening. In today's world, messages multiply but the practice of listening is being lost. Yet it is only through humble and attentive listening that we can truly be reconciled.

In order to grow, it is necessary *to share*. Sharing was an essential element of the first Christian community. . . . We have to learn to share in order to grow together, leaving no one behind.

We need to be involved in order *to promote*. . . . We must find "the courage to create spaces where everyone can recognize that they are called, and to allow new forms of hospitality, fraternity and solidarity" (Meditation in Saint Peter's Square, 27 March 2020).

It is necessary to cooperate in order *to build*. . . . To preserve our common home and make it conform more and more to God's original plan, we must commit ourselves to ensuring international cooperation, global solidarity and local commitment, leaving no one excluded.

As the Pope proposes to us at the end of his message, let us take advantage of this day to show solidarity through prayer and actions that set us firmly on the "path of encounter" with migrants and refugees.

To read the full message visit:

[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco\\_20200513\\_world-migrants-day-2020.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco_20200513_world-migrants-day-2020.html)

### ***SEASON OF CREATION***

The season is observed annually, and runs from September 1, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and through to October 4, the Feast of St. Francis, who is the patron saint of ecology in many traditions. The theme of this year's celebration is Jubilee for the Earth.

This season is a special time for the Creator and each other. Some of us pray, some of us do hands-on projects, some of us advocate. We all protect creation. The momentum continues long after the season ends. By seeding ongoing prayer, changes in lifestyle, and advocacy, the season grows hope in our communities each year. It's powerfully good work that's urgently needed!

Excerpt from joint statement issued by the presidents of The Council of Bishops' Conferences of Europe (CCEE) and the Conference of European Churches (CEC):

*"This year, the COVID-19 pandemic revealed how deeply the globe is interconnected. We realised more than ever that we are not isolated from each other and that conditions related to human health and well-being are fragile. Impact of the pandemic forces us to take seriously the need for vigilance and the need for conditions of sustainable life throughout the earth. This is even more important when considering the environmental devastation and the threat of climate change."*

For more information and ways to observe this season, please visit [www.SeasonofCreation.org](http://www.SeasonofCreation.org)