

EPIPHANY

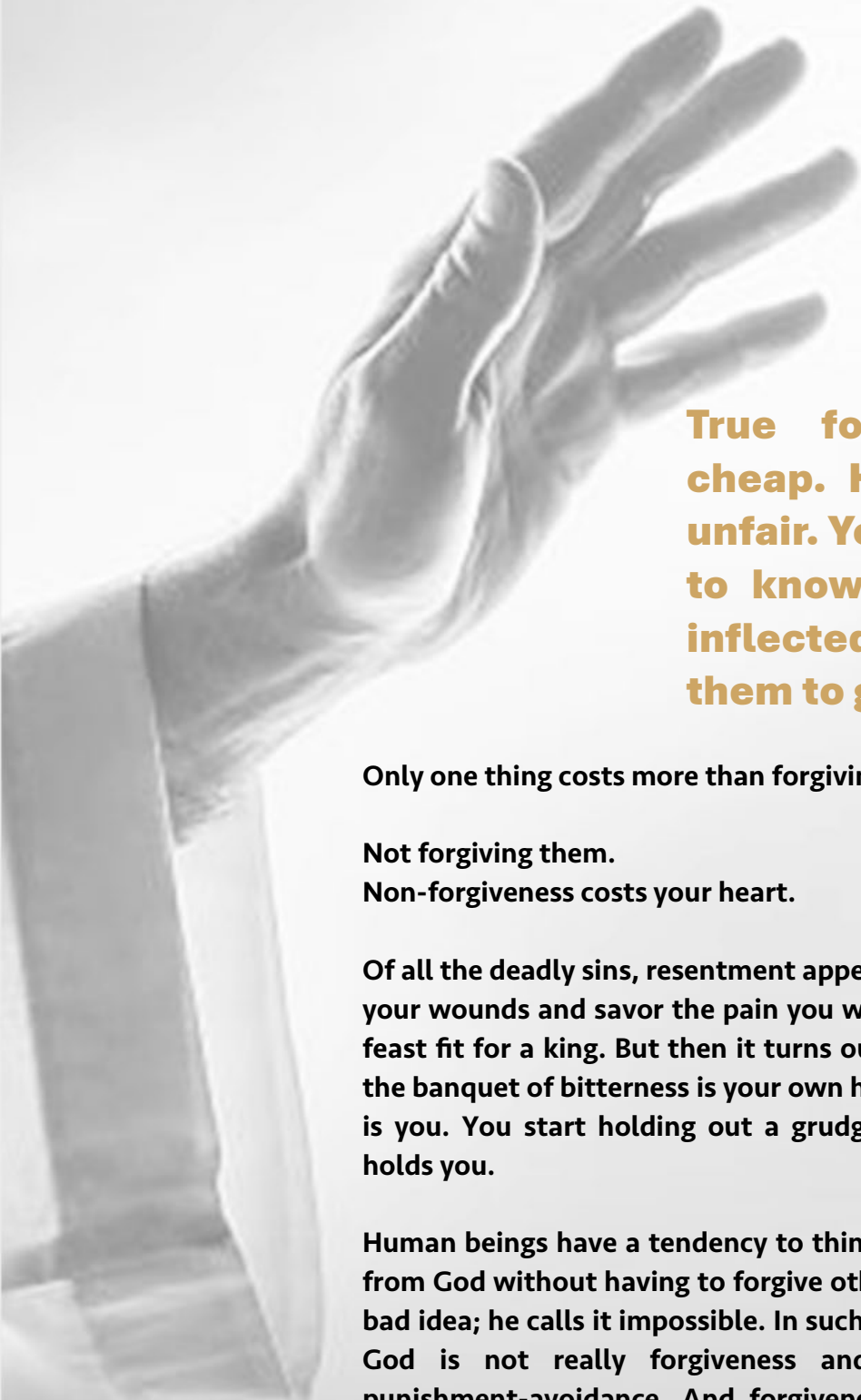
September 17, 2023

"Lord, if my brother sins
against me, how often
must I forgive?"



Twenty Third
Sunday of
Ordinary Time

WELCOME to Epiphany



True forgiveness is never cheap. Hurt is deep; hurt is unfair. You want the offenders to know the pain they have inflicted on you. You want them to get paid back.

Only one thing costs more than forgiving someone.

Not forgiving them.

Non-forgiveness costs your heart.

Of all the deadly sins, resentment appears to be the most fun. To lick your wounds and savor the pain you will give back is in many ways a feast fit for a king. But then it turns out that what you are eating at the banquet of bitterness is your own heart. The skeleton at the feast is you. You start holding out a grudge, but in the end the grudge holds you.

Human beings have a tendency to think they can receive forgiveness from God without having to forgive others. Jesus doesn't say this is a bad idea; he calls it impossible. In such cases what people want from God is not really forgiveness and reconciliation but merely punishment-avoidance. And forgiveness is not the same thing as allowing someone to avoid pain. It is longing for their spiritual well-being, which includes desiring that they become loving persons.



About God's Word

THROUGH THE WEEK AT EPIPHANY

Sunday, Sep 17, 2023

Each one, teach one

Teachers, preachers, and professors have their place. But most of us learn life lessons more broadly. The first school is our home environment. Groups we affiliate with and wider media influences also communicate their values. In 1935, the Vatican called for special acknowledgment of how our parish catechists pass on the faith. While it's right to honor our DRE or religion teachers on this Catechetical Sunday, let's recall too the role of parents and indeed all parishioners in modeling a life rich in love, generosity, compassion, and forgiveness. Catechists literally "echo" the example of Jesus. Deliver your echo boldly!

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 27:30—28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35 (130). *"Peter approached Jesus and asked him, 'Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?'"*

Monday, Sep 18, 2023

Make of your life a mission of peace

In an address to the World Council of Churches in Evanston, Illinois in 1954, Dag Hammarskjöld, the second United Nations secretary-general (1953-61), referred to churches as the "guardians of ... the deepest beliefs and the loftiest dreams ..." of humanity. He died in a plane crash on this date while on a peace mission in the Congo and is the only person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize posthumously. Pope Francis praised him in 2015 for giving his life for "reconciliation among peoples." May the example and inspiration of Hammarskjöld, and the many who work to end conflict in the world, unite the people of God in their pursuit.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 7:1-10 (443). *"I did not consider myself worthy to come to you; but say the word and let my servant be healed."*

Tuesday, Sep 19, 2023

The real magic of relics

The significance of saintly relics is best understood in light of basic Catholic teaching: Relics aren't talismans born of superstition, nor are they magical souvenirs from worship-worthy saints. Moreover, relics deserve the same basic respect as other human remains. This is key because, historically, relics have been the subject of misunderstanding and abuse, everything from pilgrims who would steal bits of saintly bodies to Martin Luther's objection when relics were sold and hoarded like baubles. God alone works miracles and is worthy of worship. Saints merely agree to be the conduit—in obedience to Divine Love—sometimes paying the price with their martyrs' blood. Consider: The real miracle of Januarius' blood might be that he was willing to sacrifice it.

MEMORIAL OF JANUARIUS, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17 (444). *"A great prophet has arisen in our midst and God has visited his people."*

Wednesday, Sep 20, 2023

Be inspired to broaden your concern

On this day in 1918, at the age of 58, Mary Theresa Dudzik entered into eternal life. She accomplished a lot of good in her time on Earth. After immigrating to Chicago from Poland at 21, she would invite poor elderly women and girls to her home. "I felt the misery and suffering of others, and it seemed to me that I could not love Jesus, or even expect Heaven if I were concerned only about myself," she wrote. Dudzik started the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago in 1893, the first order of religious women founded in

Chicago. The community devoted itself to aiding the elderly and those in need. She received the honorary title of "Mother" in 1948 and is now a candidate for sainthood. Learn more about Venerable Mary Theresa Dudzik and her heroic virtue.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35 (445). *"To what shall I compare the people of this generation?"*

Thursday, Sep 21, 2023

Witness value

When the name Saint Matthew comes up, many people recall him as the tax collector apostle who wrote the Gospel of Matthew. Modern scholarship has challenged the belief that Matthew the apostle wrote the gospel with his name on it, and other details of Saint Matthew's death by martyrdom cannot be definitively proven. Maybe having precision about all aspects of Matthew's life is not the most important factor in this feast, however. The church celebrates Matthew for being a faithful apostle and evangelist, things to which every Christian can aspire. Does your life evangelize, that is, bear witness to your belief?

FEAST OF MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

TODAY'S READINGS: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13 (643). *"Live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience."*

Friday, Sep 22, 2023

Delve into fresh spiritual classics

The Spirit dwells in each of us and is expressed in myriad ways. The church treasures this rich diversity as "refractions of the one pure light of the Holy Spirit," as the Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it. Too often erased historically, the experiences of women haven't always been allowed to shine as brightly, however. And so we lift up writers such as Monica Coleman, Gloria Anzaldúa, Mary Oliver, Jung Eun Sophia Park, and Phyllis Tickle, renowned spirituality author who died on this date in 2015. Read one of these or another author whose particular "refraction" resonates with your own.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3 (447). *"Pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness."*

Saturday, Sep 23, 2023

The essentials of sainthood

Controversy shadowed the life of the mystical Padre Pio, as Pius of Pietrelcina was known. He was said to bear the stigmata, or wounds of Christ, though detractors claimed he manufactured the wounds with carbolic acid. However one views such claims and counter claims, the undeniable fact is that he was a compassionate counselor to the thousands who came to see him during his lifetime, a tireless servant who lived a simple life. At Padre Pio's canonization Mass in 2002, Saint John Paul II said: "The life and mission of Padre Pio testify that difficulties and sorrows, if accepted with love, transform themselves into a privileged journey of holiness, which opens the person toward a greater good, known only to the Lord." You don't have to be a mystic or stigmatist to mirror the ministry of Christ in your own life—all you need is a kind heart and generous spirit.

MEMORIAL OF PIUS OF PIETRELcina, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15 (448). *"And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold."*

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EVENTS



Food Drive
Catechetical Sunday
11:00am Family Mass
7:30 Young Adult Mass



12:10pm Mass
12:30pm Miraculous Medal Novena



11:00am 22Club
12:10pm Mass
2:30 Prayer Corps (Zoom)
7:00pm Connect



12:10pm Mass
12:40pm OLPH (Church)
2:00 Pocket Prayer Shawl
7:00pm Breaking Open The Word via Zoom



12:10pm Mass
7:00pm Legion of Mary
7:00pm YA Alpha



12:10pm Mass
6:00pm Curia of Legions of Mary
6:30pm Sant' Egidio Fridays



4:00pm Vigil Mass



11:00am Family Mass & Sunday Scripture
7:30 Young Adult Mass

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Special Collection - September 16-17 Maui Wildfires

Let us join together to provide our support to the suffering people of Maui. The Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF) will direct any funds collected at Epiphany to the relief efforts in Lahaina on Maui.

To donate online, please visit the HCCF website.
<https://tinyurl.com/MauiCatholic>

Never forget that our prayers will be heard by God who will grant his mercy and grace to the suffering people of Hawaii.

The 2023 Cardinal's Appeal

Our journey continues toward our goal in the Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal.

2023 current pledges - 69% of goal
Our Goal: \$167,200 Pledged: \$115,962 Gifts: 139

Last Year at this time - 96% of goal
Our Goal: \$164,500 Pledged: \$158,679 Gifts: 182

The Cardinal's Appeal supports Catholics in so many ways.

Please help us reach our goal!

As always, we are grateful for the generosity of our parishioners.



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MASSES

Monday-Friday 12:10pm

Saturday Vigil: 4pm

Sunday 11am & 7:30pm

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 16 *Memorial of Saints Cornelius*

4:00pm Eileen Connolly

Sunday, September 17

11:00am Virginia Monasterial

7:30pm Edith Dunfee

Monday, September 18

12:10pm Sally & Charles Marin

Tuesday, September 19

12:10pm Teresa Collins

Wednesday, September 20 *Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gan*

12:10pm Judith O'Connell *Paul Chông Ha-sang*

Thursday, September 21 *Feast of Saint Matthew*

12:10pm Lawrence Gonzales

Friday, September 22

12:10pm Belina D. Perez

Saturday, September 23 *Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina*

4:00pm Michael R. Gargiulo

Sunday, September 24

11:00am Loretta & Frank Kunkel

7:30pm Danuta Guzek

Monday, September 25

12:10pm Richard Coralde

Tuesday, September 26

12:10pm Joe Harrington

**May their souls and the souls of all the
faithful departed, rest in peace.**

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