

Dear Padre,

Is it wrong to hope for a miracle? My son has been diagnosed with cancer, and I am praying for one!

When my mother was a teenage girl, she suffered from internal problems. Her mother took her across Detroit to a famous healer, Fr. Solanus Casey. He talked to her, prayed over her, and sent her back home. After that visit, my mother's internal problems disappeared!

As Christians, we believe in miracles. It is the legacy handed to us by the Lord Jesus. Remember that once Jesus had trained his disciples, he sent them out in pairs to cure the sick and drive out demons (Luke 9:1-6). They, like the Lord, became miracle workers. Jesus worked his miracles out of compassion (Luke 7:13). He wanted to show us that our God was a personal God, genuinely kind and loving.



The first step to asking for a miracle is to believe deeply in the power of Jesus. Jesus always demanded that an initial faith be present before he performed a miracle (Matthew 21:22). The miracle would then deepen, strengthen, and stabilize this faith. The second step is to be tireless in your asking. Saint Luke's section on prayer (Luke 11:1-13) promises success for those who keep knocking on God's door. The final step is to accept whatever the Lord gives. Perhaps the Lord has greater plans for your son than you might know or fathom.

The Lord's greatest miracle for us is the Eucharist. Here would be the proper place to lay your request before the Lord!

—Fr. Paul J. Cury, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Jesus shows a particular predilection for those who are wounded in body and in spirit: the poor, the sinners, the possessed, the sick, the marginalized. Thus, he reveals himself as a doctor both of souls and of bodies, the good Samaritan of man. He is the true Savior: Jesus saves, Jesus cures, Jesus heals.

—ANGELUS, FEBRUARY 8, 2015



Calendar

Monday
AUGUST 17
Weekday
Ez 24:15-24
Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday
AUGUST 18
Weekday
Ez 28:1-10
Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday
AUGUST 19
Weekday
Ez 34:1-11
Mt 20:1-16

Thursday
AUGUST 20
St. Bernard,
Abbot and Doctor
of the Church
Ez 36:23-28
Mt 22:1-14

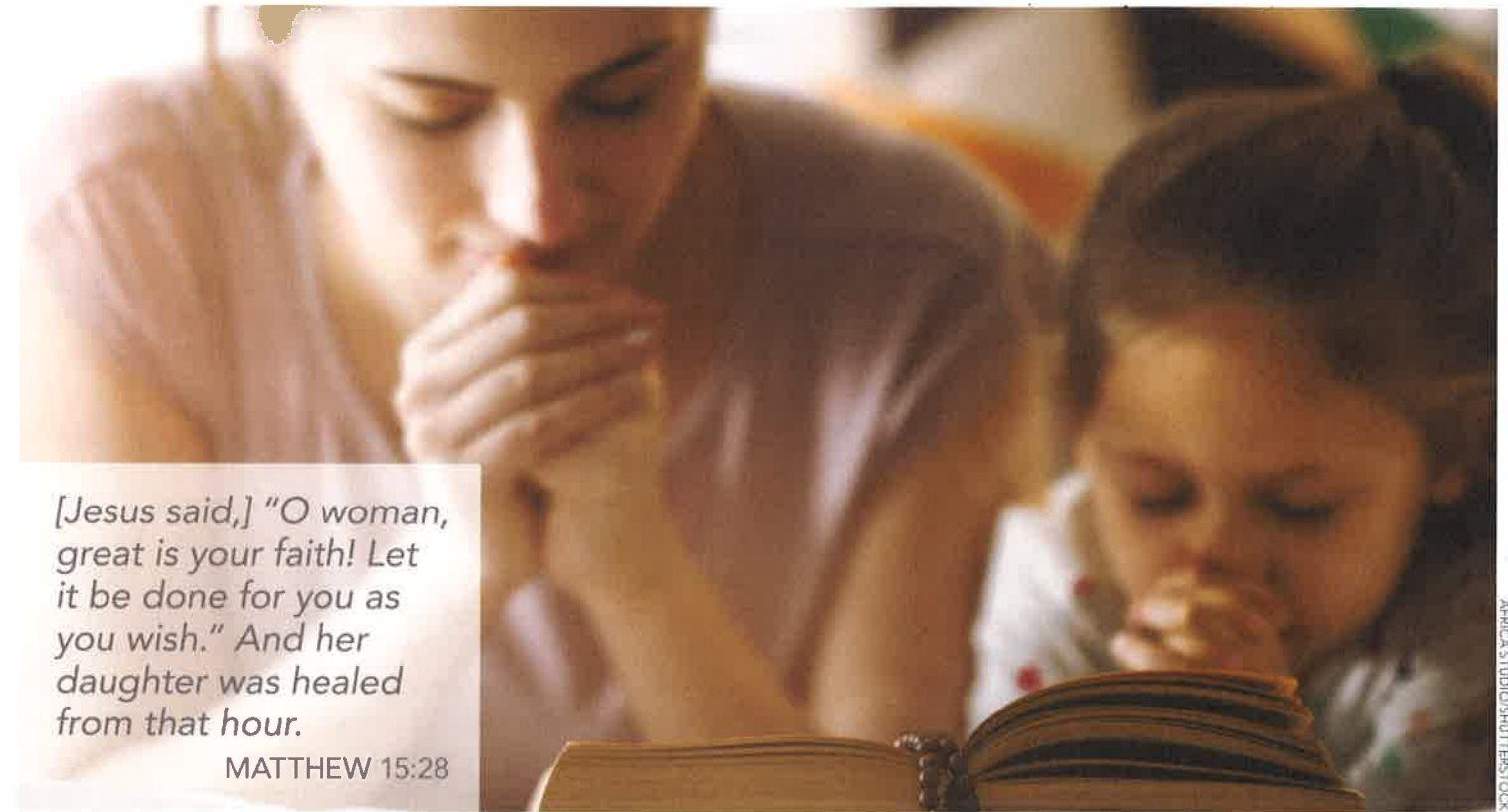
Friday
AUGUST 21
St. Pius X,
Pope
Ez 37:1-14
Mt 22:34-40

Saturday
AUGUST 22
The Queenship of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Ez 43:1-7ab
Mt 23:1-12

Sunday
AUGUST 23
Twenty-first Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Is 22:19-23
Rom 11:33-36
Mt 16:13-20

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 16, 2020
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Is 56:1, 6-7
Rom 11:13-15, 29-32
Mt 15:21-28



[Jesus said,] "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that hour.

MATTHEW 15:28

Insider Versus Outsider

Our need to belong often creates community. As nurturing and supportive as communities can be, they can also be exclusive, concerned only with the insiders and marginalizing the outsiders. Today's readings depict something remarkable. We read that foreigners, or outsiders, enjoy hospitality and privilege that one would expect insiders to receive.

The prophet Isaiah states that even foreigners will worship in the temple. This is not a story after conversion to the religion of Israel, but of Israel taking a step toward universality: "My house shall be called / a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:7).

The Gospel story recounts a discussion between Jesus and a Canaanite woman. She was doubly marginalized—as an inferior woman and as a despised Canaanite. Yet, her love for her daughter compelled her to approach Jesus, pleading for help—something a

"proper" Jewish woman would never do to a man, nor a Canaanite to a Jew. Many in Israel certainly had a sense of exclusivity, and a disdain for the Canaanites. Those may be evident in Jesus' reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 15:24). But we can be sure that Jesus—God's love in the flesh—didn't share his countrymen's disdain for anyone. The woman, having heard that Jesus was a healer, remains undaunted. She crosses restrictive gender and ethnic lines in her search for help. Jesus finally praises her, not for her love, but for the faith that her love engendered. And she was a Canaanite!

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ What groups are marginalized by our society? How open are you to them?
- ★ How welcoming are you to people who are new to your groups?



St. Mary's Church
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
Bridgeport, NE 69336



Sacred Heart Church
Bayard, NE 69334

Pastor: Rev. Dr. C.P. Varghese
Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336

Parish Office & Fax: (308)262-0709. Rectory: (308)262-1332 Email: allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com Website: www.smasscatholics.org

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Children in Jesus Christ,

All three readings today speak of the expansive and universal nature of the "Kingdom of God," in contrast with the protocol of the day which demanded that salvation should come first to the Jews and through them alone to all the people of the earth. Although God set the Hebrew people apart as His chosen race, He included all nations in God's plan for salvation and blessed all families of the earth in Abraham (Gn 12:1-3). By declaring through the prophet Isaiah (the first reading), "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples," God reveals the truth that in God's eyes there is no distinction among human beings on the basis of race, caste, language, place of origin or color. The long-expected Messianic kingdom was intended, not only for the Jews, but for all nations as well. In other words, we all belong to one another; hence, there is no place for discrimination among God's children. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 67) rejects all types of religious exclusivity: "Let all the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. For You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth, so that Your saving power may be known among all the nations." In the second reading, Paul explains that, although the Jews were the chosen people, many of them rejected Jesus as the promised Messiah. Consequently, God turned to the Gentiles who received His mercy through their Faith in Jesus. In the Gospel story, Jesus demonstrates that salvation is meant for the Gentiles as well as for the Jews by healing the daughter of a Gentile woman as a reward for her strong Faith. Thus, He shows that God's mercy and love are available to all who call out to Him in Faith.

The greatness of this woman's Faith consists in: a) her willingness to cross the barrier of racism; b) her refusal to be put off or ignored because of her position in life and c) her humility in admitting that she did not deserve the Master's attention and time. The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that the woman in today's Gospel recognized in Jesus the messianic power attributed to the awaited "Son of David" (CCC #439). If one truly believes that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, one trusts him and fashions one's prayer requests accordingly (CCC #2610).

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Fr. C. P. Varghese
Pastor

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
08/17	Monday	No Mass Today		
08/18	Tuesday	6.00 PM	Bridgeport	Don Loxterkamp
08/19	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
08/20	Thursday			
08/21	Friday		Bayard	Elmer Scherrer
08/22	Saturday	5.30 PM	Bayard	For Fr. Murphy
08/23	Sunday	8.00 AM	Dalton	Ray Ernest
08/23	Sunday	10.30 AM	Bridgeport	Oneva Lummel

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

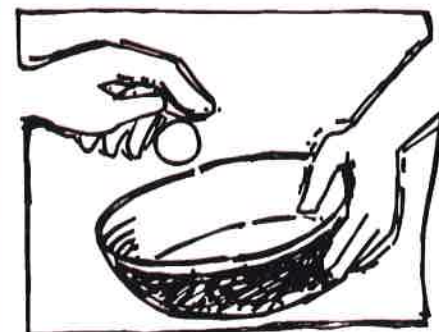
SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER:
MASS TIME
Tuesday — 6:00 PM
Sunday — 10.30 AM

On August 30th, the mass will be presided over by Fr. Vittorio Boria OFM Cap (Mission Coop program).

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$901.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$527.00
SUBTOTAL	\$1,428.00
MASS STIPEND	\$20.00
ASSUMPTION	\$30.00
TOTAL	\$1,478.00
BUILDING FUND	\$310.00
HEAT/AC	\$700.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-262-0453 or Teresa-262-0439.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER:
MASS TIME
Friday — 6:00 PM
Sunday — 8.00 AM

On August 29th, the mass will be presided over by Fr. Vittorio Boria OFM Cap (Mission Coop program).

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$445.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$5.00
SUBTOTAL	\$450.00
MASS STIPEND	\$10.00
TOTAL	\$ 460.00
BUILDING FUND	

- Prayer line requests may be made to Paula-586-2992.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.



SAINT MARY'S
718 FRANCIS ST
DALTON NE 69131

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER:
MASS TIME
Thursday — 6:00 PM
Saturday — 5.30 PM

On August 30th, the mass will be presided over by Fr. Vittorio Boria OFM Cap (Mission Coop program).

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$860.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$1.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 861.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$ 861.00
BUILDING FUND	

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.

