

Dear Padre,

Can a minister of holy Communion who visits hospitals bless a doctor? I was recently asked to do this. I didn't know how to say no, so I said a prayer over him even though I'm not ordained. Was that OK?

You did the right thing. The Church's *Book of Blessings* gives guidelines for a variety of blessings, some of which may be given by laypeople (see page xxviii). For example, parents may bless their children. Baptized laypeople

who carry out functions on behalf of the Church may also give blessings: catechists may bless their students, and eucharistic ministers who visit the sick may bless them.

Laypeople may give various other blessings, including blessing the sick, food, a new home, seeds at planting time, and throats on the feast of St. Blaise. A layperson may distribute ashes on Ash Wednesday, though the actual blessing of the ashes is reserved for the clergy. Also reserved for

the ordained are blessings of liturgical vessels and parishioners entering ministry as readers, altar servers, ministers of holy Communion, or musicians. Blessings of the cathedra (the bishop's chair in the cathedral church) and the consecration of the sacred chrism are reserved for bishops.

If you're trained to minister in the hospital and are there with the approval of your pastor and the hospital's pastoral team, you can give blessings. The *Book of Blessings* has texts to guide your words.

Fr. John Schmidt, CSSR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The way of service is the most effective antidote against the disease of seeking first place....Therefore, as disciples of Christ, let us receive this Gospel passage as a call to conversion, in order to witness with courage and generosity a Church that bows at the feet of the least, in order to serve them with love and simplicity.

ANGELUS, OCTOBER 21, 2018



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Calendar

Monday
OCTOBER 18
St. Luke, Evangelist
2 Tm 4:10-17b
Lk 10:1-9

Tuesday
OCTOBER 19
Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs
Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21
Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday
OCTOBER 20
Weekday
Rom 6:12-18
Lk 12:39-48

Thursday
OCTOBER 21
Weekday
Rom 6:12-18
Lk 12:39-48

Friday
OCTOBER 22
Weekday
Rom 7:18-25a
Lk 12:54-59

Saturday
OCTOBER 23
Weekday
Rom 8:1-11
Lk 13:1-9

Sunday
OCTOBER 24
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 31:7-9
Heb 5:1-6
Mk 10:46-52

Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 17, 2021
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Is 53:10-11
Heb 4:14-16
Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45

Can You Drink the Cup?

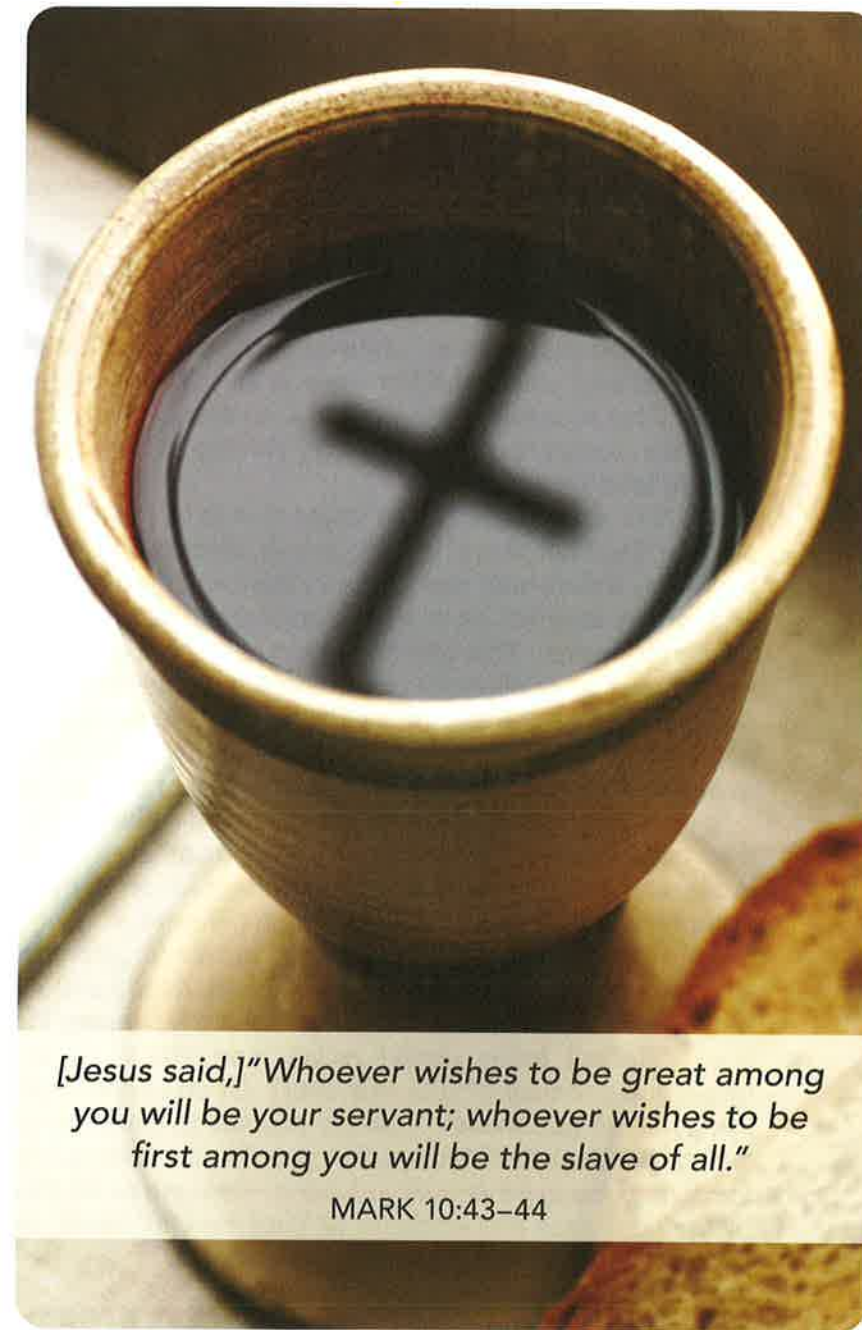
That is the question in today's Gospel that Jesus posed after James and John, two of his closest followers, asked for places of honor. They wanted to be recognized for their loyalty. Don't we all? Jesus asks them: "Can you drink the cup?" (Mark 10:38). Can you pay the price? And they both say: "We can" (10:39). Such confidence and self-assurance!

This is a Sunday that focuses on hardship—not the hardship that comes from the burdens of life itself, such as economic distress, racial and gender bias, or the loss of loved ones. Jesus was certainly concerned about these. However, today's readings have a specific focus. He asks: "Can you drink the cup that I drink?" Can you face and endure what I must? Can you follow me to suffering?

Isaiah refers to the servant of the Lord, that mysterious individual who suffers at the hands of others precisely because of his loyalty. However, his suffering is not in vain: "Because of his anguish...my servant, the just one, shall justify the many" (53:11). The spirit of this servant lives on in many stories about Jesus. It certainly does this Sunday. Like the servant, Jesus will suffer for the sake of others. How ready are James and John, you and I, for such a role?

Jesus then turns the values of society upside down. You want to be great? Then you have to serve others. You want to be first? Then, for the sake of others, you have to put yourself last. To follow Jesus means to follow him even through suffering. "Can you drink the cup?"

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



[Jesus said,] "Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all."

MARK 10:43-44

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Think of times when the welfare of another made you forget about yourself.*
- ★ *Do you always seek praise? Are you indignant when others are praised? What can you do about this?*



St. Mary's Church
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
Bridgeport, NE 69336



Sacred Heart Church
Bayard, NE 69334

Mailing Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336

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

A True Leader

Jesus summoned the twelve and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all." [Mark 10:42-44](#)

This is certainly easier said than done. This passage reveals one serious temptation that those "who are recognized as rulers" may fall into. This is the temptation of an abuse of power and a lack of humble leadership.

For example, tradition states that at the heart of the fall of lucifer and the demons was a desire for power. "I will not serve" are the words attributed to lucifer. In other words, the desire for power and to be served by others was real and very powerful for these fallen angels. So it is with each one of us. Though we may not be in a position of great power over others, we will most likely all struggle with the desire for power. This can happen in just about any context. Take, for example, a friendship. Very often when there is the slightest disagreement on something, we want our own way. We want to be in charge. Or take the example of home life. How many enter into family life with a desire to serve the others and to humbly submit to the others' wills? This is hard to do. It's much easier to want to be the boss and to dictate to others what is to happen in this or that situation.

In the passage above, Jesus makes it clear to His Apostles that when they exercise their "authority" over others they are not to make it "felt" by others. In other words, Jesus was not calling His Apostles to be leaders by brute force, intimidation, manipulation or by any other severe exercise of their authority. The authority that Jesus wanted was much different.

Christian authority is centered in love and humility. It's a "leadership" that is lived in true humility. This leadership wins over hearts, minds and wills of others and invites them to follow in charity and love. This must happen within the family, among friends, at church and within society.

Reflect, today, upon how you lead others. Do you expect to be the "boss" and expect others to follow you because of your authority? Or do you lead others by humility and love drawing them to Christ through your goodness? Commit yourself to Christian leadership as Jesus intended and you will be amazed at the effect it has within your family, among friends and within the larger community.

Lord, help me to be a humble leader. Help me to let Your heart of love and mercy shine forth and to lead by the goodness and kindness of Your merciful heart. Help me to set aside all pride and egotism and to become a servant of all. Jesus, I trust in You.

Source of content: mycatholic.life

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
10/18	Monday	No Mass Today		
10/19	Tuesday	No Mass Today		
10/20	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
10/21	Thursday	No Mass Today		
10/22	Friday	No Mass Today		
10/23	Saturday	5.30 PM	Dalton	† Veronica Reilly
10/24	Sunday	8.00 AM	Bayard	† Epimonia Heredia
10/24	Sunday	10.30 AM	Bridgeport	† Bruno and Jairo Ramos

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

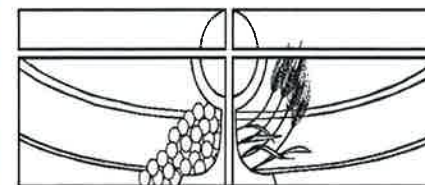
MASS TIME
Sunday — 10.30 AM



OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$710.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$629.00
SUBTOTAL	\$1,339.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$1,339.00
HEAT/AC	\$650.00
BUILDING FUND	\$310.00
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,046.00
DONATIONS	\$4315.00
BALANCE	\$1,731.00

- 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.
- Here is Fr. James Joseph's mailing address:
FR JAMES JOSEPH SDB
340 ZEMP WAY NE
NORTH BEND WA 98045-8306



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

MASS TIME
Sunday – 8:00 AM



OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$295.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$162.52
SUBTOTAL	\$ 457.52
MASS STIPEND	\$20.00
TOTAL	\$ 477.52
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$4,907.00
DONATIONS	\$3,165.00
BALANCE	\$1,742.00

- 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

MASS TIME
Saturday – 5:30 PM



OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$420.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$27.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 447.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$ 447.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,136.00
DONATIONS	\$6,439.00
BALANCE	(\$303.00)

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.

