

Dear Padre,

Why must I choose practicing Catholics as my baby's godparents?

The Church is clear about the qualifications of godparents: at least sixteen years old; leading lives of faith; confirmed and having already received Communion, among others. (See the *Code of Canon Law*, 872–874.) “Godparent” isn’t simply an honorary title we bestow on someone. It’s an important role in a child’s faith life. Parents and godparents introduce us to Jesus and teach us to pray. We talk to Jesus on our own and learn more about him through Scripture. Our parents take us to church. We watch their example and that of our godparents. It is the gradual process of being introduced to Jesus by those who know him that leads us to trust him and have faith in him. At baptism, a godparent lights a candle from the Easter candle and holds it for the child as the presider says, “Receive the light of Christ.” That is how faith comes to us: a gift from God, but through other people. Parents and godparents must have the bright flame of faith in their own hearts if they hope to pass it to the child.

It is permitted to have only one godparent, fulfilling the requirements previously mentioned, and a special “witness” who is a person of faith but is not Catholic. ●



MARIUS MURESAN / UNSPLASH

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 28	September 29	September 30	October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4
Weekday	Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels	St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church	St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	The Holy Guardian Angels	Weekday	Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jb 1:6–22	Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 or Rv 12:7–12ab	Jb 9:1–12, 14–16	Jb 19:21–27	Jb 38:1, 12–21; 40:3–5	Jb 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–17	Is 5:1–7
Lk 9:46–50	Jn 1:47–51	Lk 9:57–62	Lk 10:1–12	Mt 18:1–5, 10	Lk 10:17–24	Phil 4:6–9
						Mt 21:33–43



AGE CYMRU / UNSPLASH

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

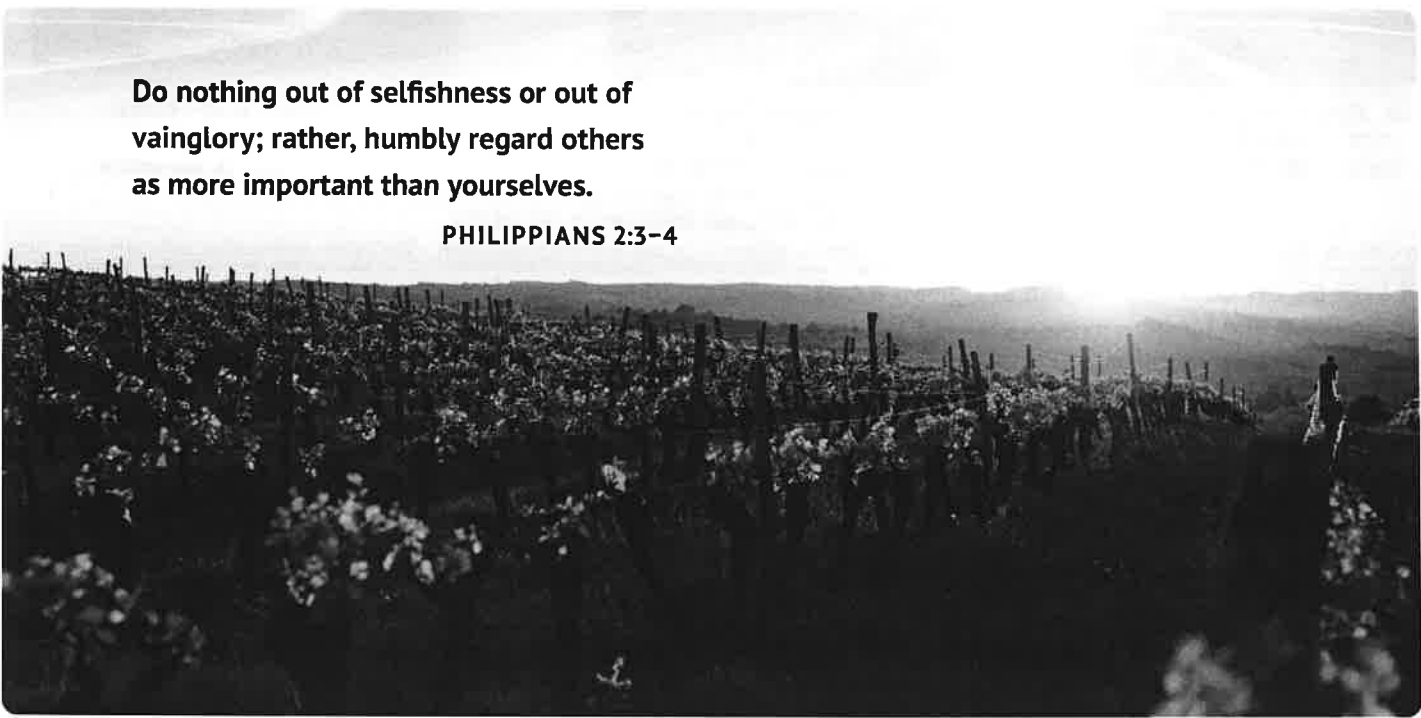
Jesus taught us that in discerning how to help our neighbor, we must imitate the example of the Good Samaritan, who selflessly gave of his time and resources to someone whom he had never previously met.... When we help those in need, especially those who cannot repay us, we become the Lord's instruments.

MESSAGE TO FADICA NETWORK, ROME, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 27, 2026
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Ezekiel 18:25–28 / Philippians 2:1–11 or 2:1–5 / Matthew 21:28–32



Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3–4

Will You Work in God's Vineyard?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Most parents can resonate with today's gospel. Who hasn't had a child promise to do their chores and then neglect to do them? Or a child who threw a fit when asked to help but then pitched in after all?

Jesus' parables intend to give clues about a mystery he called the kingdom of God—a revelation about what the world will look like when God's dreams for it are realized. We get a good hint that this parable is meant to be about the kingdom of God because it speaks of a vineyard, and Jesus often compared God's kingdom to a vineyard. Vineyards throughout the ancient world were associated with joy and abundance, but they also required much tending. They needed workers, and that is what God has called us to be for the kingdom.

Jesus observed that those who professed to support God's coming kingdom often seemed to do little to help bring it about whereas those who historically had been viewed as resistant to God's ways were more receptive to John the Baptist's preaching—and, we can imagine, Jesus' message as well. They were the ones who proved in the end more willing to lend a hand.

The vineyard of which Jesus spoke still requires workers. It still requires people willing to collaborate with God in gathering the abundant harvest that will mark a season of great joy. We can imagine that, like any parent, God's greatest delight would be to have children who say “yes” and then follow through on their word! ●



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Reflect

When I am tempted to be resentful, what would be a healthy response?



St. Mary's Church
718 Francis St.
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
617 P St.
Bridgeport, NE 69336
Rev. Tim Stoner



Sacred Heart Church
1003 Ave. B
Bayard, NE 69334

Mailing Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336

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

FROM THE DESK OF FR. TIM: We are given a clear invitation to turn away from sin. It is not something that you or I can do once and for all – except perhaps with an incredibly special grace from God. What is more important is that we obey God by volunteering to do something that He calls us to do. Out of love, we listen and fulfill what God lays before us.

October will begin on Thursday. Remember that we change our mass times: Saturday evening 5:30 at St. Mary's and Sunday morning at 8:00 at Sacred Heart.

Our Annual Diocesan Appeal will begin shortly. We have been very successful in reaching our goals these past years due to generous contributors in each of our parishes. I pray that we will continue to be generous in giving to this program.

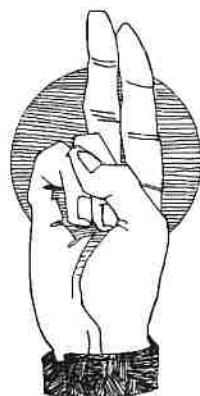
Our collections need some improvement. With the insurances in each of our parishes, it takes a substantial amount of money. Let us pray that we continue to do well as we have these past several years. Check the financial columns for the amount needed weekly to pay our bills. Thank you for your generosity.

Have a great week! *Fr. Tim*

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS?

All men interested in becoming a Knight of Columbus or upgrading their membership from 1st or 2nd to 3rd degree are invited to an exemplification on October 24 after the 5:00 PM mass at St. Agnes in Scottsbluff.

Please contact David Backer at 279-0973 or Fr. Tim to start the application process or more information.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Jesus calls us to reconciliation, guiding us to bring peace and healing into the lives of others. Every vocation is an invitation to embody His love and forgiveness. How might God be calling you to share His peace in your life? If you feel God is stirring a holy desire for the priesthood or consecrated life, be open and vigilant in prayer and if you have questions, talk to Fr. Neal Hock at the Vocation Office 308-234-1539 or email: vocations@gidiocese.org

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
9/28	Monday	No Mass Today		
9/29	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Bridgeport	† Fr. Richard Piontkowski
	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Bridgeport	"She Shall Be Called Woman"
9/30	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
10/1	Thursday	6:30 AM	Bridgeport	"That Man is You"
	Thursday	9:00 AM	Dalton	† Rosa Devier
10/2	Friday	9:00 AM	Bayard	† Robert J. Dailey
10/3	Saturday	5:30 PM	Dalton	† James Troidl
10/4	Sunday	8:00 AM	Bayard	† Louis Sauer
	Sunday	10:00 AM	Bridgeport	† Rita Vergil
	Sunday	1:30 PM	Bridgeport	OCIA class

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

MASS TIMES

Tuesday – 6:00 PM
Sunday – 10:00 AM

CONFESSIONS ARE
AVAILABLE FROM
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$890.00
CHILDREN	\$18.00
PLATE	\$417.00
SUBTOTAL	\$1325.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$1525.00
MASS INTENTIONS	
TOTAL	\$1325.00
BUILDING FUND	

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-279-2997
- Consider signing up for a ministry to help your church family.

Ministries for October 4

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Basa	Gabel	David	Deb A
Family	Stella	Sue	Ken
			Jerod

Rosary Doug V



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

MASS TIMES FOR SEPTEMBER

Friday – 9:00 AM
Saturday – 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER MASS
SCHEDULE
SATURDAY AT 5:30 PM
CONFESSIONS: 5:00-5:15

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$750.00
CHILDREN	\$6.00
PLATE	\$190.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 946.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$885.00
MASS INTENTIONS	\$10.00
TOTAL	\$956.00
BUILDING FUND	

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to Ann 308-225-1609.
- There will be coffee on the Second Sunday.
- Consider signing up for a ministry to help your church family.

Ministries for October 4

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Cawley	Jordyn	Jamie H	Mary T
Family		Donna	Tanner
			Anni



SAINT MARY'S
718 FRANCIS ST
DALTON NE 69131

MASS TIMES FOR SEPTEMBER

Thursday – 9:00 AM
Sunday – 8:00 AM

SEPTEMBER MASS
SCHEDULE:
SUNDAY AT 8:00 AM
CONFESSIONS: 7:30-7:45

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$985.00
CHILDREN	\$4.25
PLATE	\$52.00
SUBTOTAL	\$1041.25
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$1020.00
MASS INTENTIONS	\$10.00
TOTAL	\$1051.25
PEGGY TROIDL MEMORIAL	\$675.00

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.
- Consider signing up for a ministry to help your church family.

Ministries for October 3

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Bruce	Todd	Greg	Wayne
Jenn		Ryan	R. J.
			Jim E

