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# 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

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SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



5 p.m.: Chester Pierce, Betty Harris, Kevin Stanton and Catherine Cronin  
10 a.m.: The Saward Family, Marie Lancellotti Richard Tolliver and Nic & Chris Pierce

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Nic Pierce, who died last week - just eight months after losing his wife, Chris. Please keep them in your prayers.

## SCAM ALERT

It has come to our attention that the scammers are at it again.

Several parishioners have received a text from "Fr. Sean" purportedly reaching out to see how they're doing. (His cell number does not have an 845 area code.) When they respond, they are asked for a favor in the form of gift cards.

Clearly, this is NOT being generated from Fr. Sean. We are not certain where the breach of phone numbers came from – or what can be done on our end to stop it. What we do know is that all suspicious texts and emails should be ignored.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

August 22-29: Totaled \$ 4,758.06

Envelopes: \$ 2,254.00 – Online: \$ 2,504.06

THANK YOU!

## YOUTH MINISTRY MESSAGE

The start of a new school year is often exciting and nerve-wracking – made even more so this year as many students haven't been inside a school building since the start of the pandemic.

Know that your Youth Ministry team understands and offers this prayer for all of you:

**God of Goodness,**

**Bless the new school year that lies before us.**

**You are Alpha and Omega.**

**Bless the firsts and lasts that this year will bring.**

**You are Wisdom and Life.**

**Bless the lessons we will learn  
and the ways we will grow.**

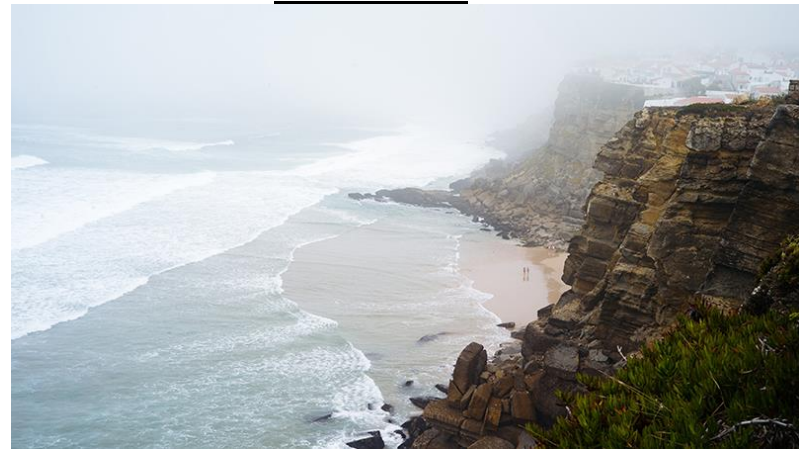
**You are Truth and Light.**

**Bless our study of the past  
and our work toward the future.**

**Amen**

If you have a special intention you would like us to pray for – or if you have any questions about the Youth Ministry – contact Chris Worthington and Deb Harrison at [saintpaulsym@gmail.com](mailto:saintpaulsym@gmail.com)

## A PRAYER



Dear Lord,

Today I thought of the words of Vincent van Gogh: "It is true there is an ebb and flow, but the sea remains the sea."

You are the sea.

Although I experience many ups and downs in my emotions and often feel great shifts and changes in my inner life, you remain the same. Your sameness is not the sameness of a rock, but the sameness of a faithful lover. Out of your love I came to life; by your love I am sustained; and to your love I am always called back.

There are days of sadness and days of joy. There are feelings of guilt and feelings of gratitude. There are moments of failure and moments of success. But all of them are embraced by your unwavering love.

O Lord, sea of love and goodness, let me not fear too much the storms and winds of my daily life, and let me know that while there is ebb and flow that the sea remains the sea.

Amen.

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## CLW COMES BACK TO MASS ...

CLW, or **Children's Liturgy of the Word**, will return at 10 a.m. Sunday, **September 19**. Once again, first- through sixth-graders (give or take), who must wear masks, will be escorted to Deacon John Hall, enabling their parents to give their undivided attention to the readings and homily.



wee worship

The children will each have their own mat, spaced three feet apart in Classrooms 1 and 2, from where they will hear the Word at their level and enjoy age-appropriate activities. The mats will be sanitized.

And, of course, they will be safely returned to their families for the remainder of Mass. Promise.

## ...AND SEEDS WILL BE PLANTED, TOO

Along with CLW and classes for school-age children, a pre-K/K program called **Seeds** – for potty-trained three-, four- and five-year-olds – is also offered several Sunday mornings a month, beginning **September 19**.

**Children must be registered.** Contact coordinator Jessica Carpino at 361-5816 for an appointment

## BOOK CLUB'S NEXT CHAPTER

In his book, **“Learning to Pray: A Guide for Everyone,”** by James Martin, SJ. Fr. Martin explains how anyone can have an intimate relationship with God through prayer. As a trusted and experienced guide, the author provides a primer on the rich history of different styles of prayer. In this inviting and accessible book, we learn what happens when we pray and, moreover, that prayer is accessible to anyone – from the doubtful seeker to the devout believer. All that is required is a willingness to open one's heart.

Participants will meet from 10-11:15 a.m. via Zoom for five weeks beginning **September 14** when the first five chapters will be discussed.

The book can be purchased in hard copy or electronically from Amazon or other book sellers. New members are very welcome to join and can contact the church office (361-3107) or Deacon Carl (carlloc@yahoo.com) for further details.

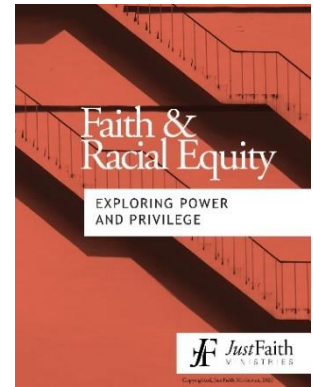
## SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



## POWER, PRIVILEGE AND RACE

Do you want to address racism but don't know where to begin?

Faith & Racial Equity: Exploring Power & Privilege is an eight-session program that awakens a realization of how the economic systems, public policies, cultural norms and hidden biases empower some and oppress others.



The first half of the program lays the groundwork for understanding and identifying racial privilege. Sessions 5-8 take a deeper dive into specific issues related to power and privilege, including affirmative action, the school-to-prison pipeline, disparities within the criminal justice system, and biases in media representation. As with all JustFaith Ministries' programs, participants will explore how their faith should inform their response to their learning, as well as discern action steps for working toward racial equity in their own communities.

This program will be offered free of charge via ZOOM starting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 5, and continuing every other week thereafter. The co-facilitators are Peter Adams and Julie Laurenzi, who have completed the program.

Contact Lourdes Eyer at 664-0171 or Pat Davies 704-726-1082 for registration guidance and information. To learn more visit:

<https://justfaith.org/faith-and-racial-equity>

## CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

We continue to share resources into social justice issues from a Church/Biblical perspective.

This week's topic, although not strictly one of "social justice" by definition, does address a divisive issue within the church.



For many Catholics, the Holy Father's motu proprio **“Traditionis Custodes,”** restricting the celebration of the Latin Mass, was a difficult document to read, as well as a surprise, even a shock.

“While I have never celebrated a Latin Mass as a priest (I'm using a shorthand for several variations of the Mass in Latin), I have as a Jesuit attended several,” says Fr. James Martin. “I found those Masses rich and beautiful. ... Still, I feel more comfortable with Mass in the vernacular.”

To read Fr. James Martin's full analysis of the pope's decree, visit:  
<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2021/07/19/latin-mass-pope-francis-james-martin-241078>