

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

September 19, 2021 - Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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St. Mary's Catholic School

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR SEPTEMBER 18 - SEPTEMBER 26

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Leo & Joyce Parrigon
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Francis & Lois Fenski
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	+Charles Seufert
	6:30 p.m.	Justice & Peace
Friday	8:15 a.m.	+Frances Freeman Castle Anniversary
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Maury McDunner
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Francis & Virginia Jasumback

ST. AGNES

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Tuesday, September 21

Wednesday, September 22

Thursday, September 23

Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

PSR/CCD Classes will Begin at 6:15 p.m. and end at 7:15 p.m.

7:00 p.m. St. Mary's School Board Meeting in the C.R.

Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Fr. Peter's Birthday If you would like to send him a card his address is Springfield Villa, 1100 East Montclair St, Room 326, Springfield, Mo 65807

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, September 27

Wednesday, September 29

Thursday, September 30

Friday, October 1

Saturday, October 2

Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service

Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

8:15 a.m. Mass

PSR/CCD Classes will Begin at 6:15 p.m. and end at 7:15 p.m.

Memorial of Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Memorial of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

8:15 a.m. Mass

Memorial of The Holy Guardian Angels

OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in September: Tim & Patty Osterloh

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 3007.00

Haiti Collection \$175.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Charlotte Sloan, Louise Bellm, Kay Campbell, Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

THE PIERCE CITY HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES will be holding a "See you at the Pole" event at the football field on September 22nd at 7:00 A.M. Attendants will meet at the flagpole for prayer and conversation that morning. All are invited and welcome. Please join us if possible!

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR/CCD): We have been blessed to have dedicated teachers who willingly give their time to make PSR a rewarding experience for the kids. Would you like to be involved? If you have thought about offering to teach a class but have hesitated, please pray about it. It is a personally enriching experience and a great way to contribute to YOUR CHURCH. We are needing teachers for the 2021-2022 school year. If you or someone you know are interested in volunteering to teach please contact Martha Randall at 417-489-4589.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Thank you, for supporting the Craft Fair and the Urban Cowboy Rodeo!

The school has an apparel order going now. If you are interested in a St. Mary's shirt, hat, blanket, etc. you can order at the school or you can go to our spirit store at www.screenmastersart.com. We have mums available at the school for \$10 a piece and we are selling chances for an adorable turkey mum holder to be drawn in October.

APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

Saturday, September 25 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller

Ushers: Tom Cahalan, Tommy Cahalan

Sunday, September 26 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Joe & Denise Crowell

Ushers: Ellis Motley, Ian Brottlund

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20
Ps 54:3-6, 8
James 3:16--4:3
Mark 9:30-37

Monday September 20
Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn,
Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, & Co
Ezra 1:1-6
Ps 126:1b-6
Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday September 21
St. Matthew
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13
Ps 19:2-5
Matthew 9:9-13

Wednesday September 22
Ezra 9:5-9
Tobit 13:2-4, 7-8
Luke 9:1-6

Thursday September 23
St. Pio of Pietrelcina
Haggai 1:1-8
Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b
Luke 9:7-9

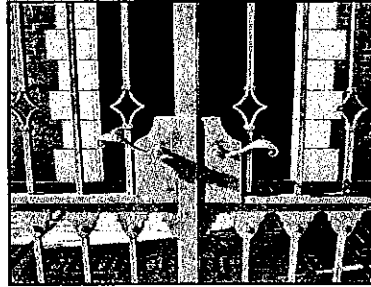
Friday September 24
Haggai 2:1-9
Ps 43:1-4
Luke 9:18-22

Saturday September 25
Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a
Jer 31:10-13
Luke 9:43b-45

In this Sunday's readings, we face wickedness: jealousy destroying what's good, selfishness causing harm to others, and pride squashing those who get in the way.

The first scripture covers the evil doings of outsiders who oppressed the Israelite nation. In the Gospel reading, Jesus predicts the evil doings of spiritual outsiders who were fighting against his ministry. The letter of James addresses the worst wickedness of all: the battle within the Church -- Christians against Christians.

Jealousy and selfishness are usually the root beneath every scandal in the Church, every division on the parish staff, every discord among ministries, every disappointed volunteer who feels pushed out, every broken relationship in Christian families, and every attitude that chases weaker Catholics away from the faith -- it's all wicked!



Jesus provided the cure for this: "If anyone wishes to be first" (motivated by selfish ambition) "you must become the servant of all."

Selfish ambition is sinful because it tries to grab success away from others. James pointed out that whatever we're ambitious for, if it's

good, we can have it simply by asking God for it and working in collaboration with the Holy Spirit to achieve our goals -- but not if we want it only to satisfy our personal, selfish passions.

When we desire something for the sake of how it will help others (rather than just for our own benefit), this desire is pure, peaceable, gentle, compliant, and full of mercy and will produce good fruits.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. When have you suffered from the jealousies and selfish ambitions of others in the Church?
2. How did this affect your faith?
3. Did it motivate you to avoid committing the same sin?
4. Identify how jealousy and selfish ambition have been the underlying cause behind one problem you've witnessed or experienced. What does your story teach about how to deal with such scandals with a pure heart, a peaceful response, gentleness, mercy, and good fruits that turn a tragedy into a triumph?

To get at the root of any divisive problem, look for self-centered ambition. Honestly and objectively identify even the most subtle forms of it so that you can also identify God's antidote. When you see divisiveness in others, do you feel sorrow for them? If not, why not? The answer to that usually lies in our own self-centered pride.