



The Catholic Community of Divine Savior

# Family Faith Focus

Volume 10, Issue 12

October 17, 2021

## Dates to Remember

- October 17: Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time—  
9:00 AM Mass —  
K of C Pancake Breakfast,  
7:30-11:00 AM
- October 18: Feast of St. Luke
- October 19: Memorial of St. John de Brébeuf & St. Isaac Jogues
- October 20: Memorial of St. Paul of the Cross

### **Prayer for Missionary Discipleship**

Lord, you left your  
Mother in our midst  
that she might  
accompany us.

May she take care of  
us and protect us  
on our journey, in our  
hearts, in our faith.

May she make us  
disciples like herself,  
missionaries like  
herself.

May she teach us to go  
out into the streets.  
May she teach us  
to step outside  
ourselves. . . .

May she, by her  
meekness, by her  
peace, show us the way.

— Pope Francis

## Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Mark 10: 35-45**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee,  
came to Jesus and said to him,

"Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

He replied, "What do you wish me to do for you?"

They answered him,

"Grant that in your glory we may sit

one at your right and the other at your left."

Jesus said to them,

"You do not know what you are asking.

Can you drink the cup that I drink

or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"

They said to him, "We can."

Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink, you will drink,

and with the baptism with which I am baptized,

you will be baptized;

but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give

but is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this,

they became indignant at James and John.

Jesus summoned them 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.

For the Son of Man did not come to be served

but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Sunday Gospel Connection: October 17, 2021

### Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B

### Mark 10: 35-45

**Gospel Background:** In this Sunday's Gospel, we continue to read from the section of Mark's Gospel that reports Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Last Sunday we heard Jesus lament the particular challenges those with many possessions face in order to enter the Kingdom of God. Jesus then predicts his passion to the Twelve, who are amazed and afraid. In this part of Mark's Gospel, Jesus' words to his closest disciples seem to be intended to prepare them for the events that will occur in Jerusalem.

In today's Gospel, James and John ask to be given seats of honor when Jesus enters into his glory. Once again, the disciples seem to be selective in what they hear Jesus say.

They want to share Jesus' glory, but do not appear to understand that his glory will be preceded by his suffering. Jesus notes their lack of understanding and predicts the suffering they will endure for the sake of the Gospel. Jesus says that the honor they seek is not his to give. When the other ten hear what James and John have asked, Mark reports that they are indignant. Jesus takes the opportunity to teach them.

Jesus explains the importance of service and sacrifice in the life of a disciple. In particular, he seems to be preparing the Twelve for their leadership roles in the emerging Christian community. Echoing the Gospel we heard several weeks ago (on the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Mark 9:33-37), Jesus acknowledges that his teaching is countercultural. In today's Gospel, Jesus contrasts the dynamics within the community of disciples with those shown by the rulers of the Gentiles.

Following Jesus' example of sacrificial love continues to be countercultural in our day as well. We might take this opportunity to consider our models of authority and examine our own exercise of authority. On whose example do we model our leadership?

**Family Connection:** In the daily routine of family life, power struggles seem unavoidable. Whenever two or more people live together, there will be occasions of disagreement and attempts to exert influence over each other. Today's Gospel can be an invitation to consider how authority is exercised in your household. There is a temptation to exercise our authority in ways that show our power over others. Especially when conflicts emerge, many of us rely upon the power we believe our role gives to us. Jesus teaches us that there is a more persuasive form of leadership. In these daily challenges we have the opportunity to practice and teach the kind of service and leadership Jesus modeled for us in his ministry and in his passion and death.

As you gather as a family, invite family members to participate in a role play in which family roles are reversed. For example, you might assign children the role of parents putting their children to bed with parents acting like the children. Or you may have them role play parents asking for cooperation from children to clean up the family room.

*(Continued on pg. 3)*



*(Continued from pg. 2)*

When the role play is finished, ask if it was an accurate picture of how this situation usually plays out in your household. Does everyone cooperate when asked? What happens when someone doesn't cooperate? How are the conflicts that emerge resolved? Observe that conflicts based on power struggles in situations such as these seem unavoidable in family life.

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches how Christians are to show their authority over others. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 10:35-45. After reading the Gospel, talk with your family about Jesus' unique message to his disciples about how they are to exercise authority. Talk about ways in which you might apply Jesus' words in your family life. Conclude by praying we may receive honor in God's eyes by learning to serve others in love. Pray together the [Peace Prayer of Saint Francis](#).

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For more information and Sunday Connection resources visit:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/29th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-b-sunday-connection/>

## We Cannot Keep The Lord To Ourselves



Once we experience the power of God's love, and recognize His fatherly presence in our personal and community life, we cannot help but proclaim and share what we have seen and heard.... "Go therefore to the highways and byways, and invite everyone you find" (Mt 22:9). No one is excluded, no one need feel distant or removed from this compassionate love.... As Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves: the Church's evangelizing mission finds outward fulfillment in the transformation of our world and in the care of creation.... The theme of this year's World Mission Sunday – "We cannot but speak about

what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20), is a summons to each of us to "own" and to bring to others what we bear in our hearts.

—Pope Francis

On World Mission Sunday, we join our Holy Father in supporting his missions. As we pray and respond here at home, through our prayers and financial support, we bring the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism, as it offers each one of us an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than 1,111 mission dioceses.