

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Did you hear this interesting piece of advice about the importance of making your bed first thing in the morning? The idea is simple: By completing one minor goal at the start of our day, we begot the motivation to complete another, and so on and so forth until, by the end of the day, we have completed—or made progress toward—a number of productive goals, because having nothing to strive for everyday can severely harm our mental health, self-esteem, and relationships. But there is also the danger of being so hyper-focused on achieving goals that even when we do accomplish them, we find that we should not have pursued them to begin with, for as someone once said, *“It’s a terrible thing to spend years climbing up the ladder to find out, once you’ve reached the top, that it’s set against the wrong wall.”* This is why pursuing our goals should always come after discernment through prayer and the seeking of wise counsel. Perhaps the following questions may help you succeed in this enterprise:

1. What are my reasons for pursuing this? Material gain and social esteem, or to produce some real and tangible good for my family and community overall?
2. Am I realistically equipped with the right skills, talents, and temperament to do so?
3. Will I be imprudently risking the welfare of my family or my relationship with God?
4. As best as I can tell, will this process lead to my genuine and true fulfillment and flourishing, or a counterfeit stemming from selfishness in this endless “rat race”?

Certainly, there will always be unknown variables and sacrifice in pursuing any goal. More time in prayer is less time with family. More time working out is less time studying. But unless you are regularly discerning the quality and end of your goals through prayer, you risk white knuckling yourself toward things that may lead to restlessness and even to burnout.

St. Francis de Sales gives us some good advice in this area: *“We usually do not count small change; business would be too troublesome and would consume too much time if we tried to account for every nickel and dime in our pockets. And so, we ought not to weigh every petty action to decide whether it deserves more time than something else. . . . [However], choice of vocation, plans for some affair of great importance, a work requiring a long time, some very great expenditure of money, change of residence, choice of associates and other such similar things require that we think seriously as to what best accords with God’s will.”*

There is something called a rule of life in monastic communities. This “rule” structures the days in specific ways, allowing time for private and liturgical prayer, study, work, relaxation, and so on. These “micro-goals” spread throughout the day are all aimed at achieving one major goal: union with God and others. They offer us a good model for how we can approach our own routines, disciplines, and daily goals, making sure that they aim, ultimately, toward loving God and others better. So, like all things in life, prudence and moderation remain necessary virtues for us to thread the needle of a well-ordered life, so to speak. But no matter our state in life or vocation, the end result of every goal should be the same for all of us: love of God and neighbor. The desires of our hearts provide the fuel and motivation to pursue a number of noble goals to glorify God and experience true fulfillment. But we need to do our best to ensure that the success that comes from achieving our goals is the success God wants for us, which is to say, the success that leads to true joy and full satisfaction. Who could ask for anything more?

Fr. Slawek

September 13, 2026

70th Anniversary Album—Parishioners who had their photo taken for Holy Spirit Parish 70th anniversary album can now pick up the directories from the Parish office hours Monday—Thursday during 8:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS SESSIONS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2026 -2027

Parents and/or Guardians, if you have a young person who will be in grades 2 thru 7 who have not made their sacraments for the school year 2026-2027, and they wish the reception of either First Holy Communion, Confirmation or both, please be advised that a letter will be given out in our parish schools Holy Spirit and St. Gerald next week. Also, much of our notices/communications about Sacramental prep is posted in the parish bulletins so please be vigilant and pick up weekly bulletins. Peace of Christ!

- Info Session for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, September, 27th 10 a.m. in the Church Hall
- Info Session for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be on Sunday, October 4th 12 p.m. in the Church Hall.



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Holy Spirit Conference

We learn to help the needy from the love of God. Such concern not only provides the poor with material help but also represents an opportunity for the spiritual growth of the giver.

St. John Paul 11

Thank you for your ongoing love and generosity towards the poor. Your donations to the Poor Box go a long way to help many poor and unfortunate families.

Thank you all parishioners for your contributions!



Children's Liturgy
will resume
Sunday, September 20th
For the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Masses.



COFFEE & TEA & SNACKS SOCIAL

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Everyone welcome



ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU ALREADY MOVED?

Please contact the parish office so your records can be updated. Thank you

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, September 15

9 a.m. **Intentions of** Mavis Pacus req. by John & Philo,

Wednesday, September 16

9 a.m. **Private Intentions.**

Thursday, September 17

9 a.m. + **Repose of the soul of** Jon Joseph Balon req. by the Balon family.

Friday, September 18

9 a.m. + **Repose of the soul of** Walter Anchuelo req. by Lourdes Anchuelo.

Saturday, September 19

4:30 p.m. + **Repose of the soul of** Patrick Hannon req. by Bridget Murphy.

Sunday, September 20

9 a.m. **Intentions of** all Parishioners.

11 a.m. + **Repose of the soul of** Francisco Anchuelo Sr. & Francisca Anchuelo req. by Lourdes Anchuelo.

ANOTHER WAY TO DONATE TO OUR PARISH

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan

Pre-Authorized Giving is a very simple procedure. When you participate in Pre-Authorized Giving, your offering will be withdrawn from your account on or about the 20th of the month. This amount will then be deposited to the Parish's account.

This amount will be receipted at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Application forms are on the table at the back of the church.

