

**Homily Themes**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in OT through Christ the King, Year B**  
***Theme is TODOS, TODOS, TODOS! (Everyone x3)***

***Theme song for all weekend masses: Gather #812, A place at the table (all verses)***

**I have selected this theme, which is inspired by Pope Francis' desire that our church be one of inclusion. This theme also fits in very well with Precious Blood spirituality and mission.**

**Sept 7/8 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in OT**

***“My brothers and sisters, do you, with your acts of favoritism, really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ?” (James 2: 1)***

Today's second reading gets the theme amped up with asking us to consider if we judge people in church by the way they look. It challenges us to face up to our fears of someone different than ourselves and to build bridges of friendship rather than walls of suspicion.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: Table with dissheveled, dirty clothes**

**Sept 14/15 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“If a brother or sisters is without clothing and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill’ and yet you do not supply their bodily needs what is the good of that?” (James 2: 15-16)***

Discerning how we can help those in need is a way to build bridges with others and to help all people feel respected and connected to the wider community of faith. What can our church do to address the needs of those who come our way? What unmet needs are there in our wider city community? Might we find a creative way to meet those needs in the name of Christ?

**Liturgical Art & Environment: table with bag of groceries**

**Sept 21/22 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“Whoever wants to be first must be the last of all and servant of all...Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.” (Mark 9:35, 37a)***

Today's gospel invites us to explore how we do youth ministry in our church? Are all segments of our youth population encouraged to participate and to belong to our worshipping community. Are their parents helped when they seem to be stressed out? In what ways can we improve our welcoming of youth?

**Liturgical Art & Environment:** table with toys and books for children  
**Sept 28/29 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT World Day of Migrants and Refugees**

*“The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.” (James 5: 4)*

This Sunday is the World day of Migrants and Refugees which invites us to consider the plight of migrants and refugees and ways in which we can bring good news to their lives.

**Liturgical Art & Environment:** table with bundle of wheat.

**Oct 5/6 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT**

*“Jesus said, ‘Because of your hardness of heart, he wrote this commandment for you, but from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’” (Mark 10: 5-6)*

Today’s gospel asks us to focus on how we can help marriages to become stronger and more resilient. It also challenges us to find ways to minister to those who have suffered or are suffering from the effects of a separation or divorce

**Liturgical Art & Environment:** Table with dinner plates for two and candle.

**Oct 12/13 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT**

*“Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” (Mark 10: 20)*

One of the under-looked segments of our church population are those who are bound by rules. They like rules, they want everyone to follow the rules to a T, and they are very distressed when the rules get broken or changed by the hierarchy. How can we be a source of wisdom and grace to this segment of our church? How can we help our church community to see God, as not demanding perfection and rule-following, but faithfulness, mercy and compassion? Our first reading presents the true nature of God in a challenging way.

**Liturgical Art & Environment:** Table with the Ten Commandments, also with horn of plenty to remind us all of thanksgiving weekend.

**Oct 19/20 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT World Mission Sunday**

***“Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized? ‘We are able.’” (Mark 10: 38-39)***

What sacrifices are we willing to make, in what ways are we willing to drink the cup of suffering, so that others might have a better life in developing nations? Are we committed to the work of peace and social justice in our world today? How might our parish serve the needs of immigrants more effectively?

**Liturgical Art& Environment: table with chalice on it.**

**Oct 26/27 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT**

***“Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me.” (John 13: 1b)***

How do we help the differently abled to find a welcome and belonging in our church? How do we react to the differently abled when we meet them outside of the church? Do we make accommodations for their needs or do we shrug them off?

**Liturgical Art & Environment: table with a pair of dark sun glasses and the hearing loop tech.**

**Nov 2/3 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in OT**

***“You are not far from the Kingdom of God.” (Mark 12: 34)***

Todos, Todos, Todos, can be summed up in Love, Love, Love.....God and one’s neighbor irrespective of the differences we may have with our neighbor. It means taking the two greatest commandments to heart each and every day and finding ways to be the embodiment of Christ’s love for us sinners.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: table with the Word ‘Love’ propped up**

**Nov 9/10 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in OT**

***“A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.” (Mark 12: 42)***

How do we help widows and widowers to feel a part of our church community? What needs for friendship to they have? How do we value the contributions of those who have lost a spouse to our community? We can also reflect on how we minister to those who are single and have not married this weekend. In what ways can we minister to their needs and value their contributions?

**Liturgical Art & Environment** table with some coins on it. A flag for remembrance day can be hung on the wall this weekend as well.

**Nov 16/17 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in OT**

***“Where there is forgiveness of sin and lawless deeds, there is no longer any offering for sin.” (Hebrews 10: 18)***

Whom have we not forgiven in our lives? To whom do we harbor ill-feelings or resentments? Whom do we avoid when we come to church? Part of our vocation is to be ambassadors of reconciliation. In order to fulfill that task, we must first ask forgiveness ourselves if we've wronged someone or offended them in any way. Perhaps each person can reach out to someone with whom they're estranged this week and start the process of healing and forgiveness.

**Liturgical Art & Environment:** table with picture of a cell phone (to call and make peace)

**Nov 23/24 Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe**

***“To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (Rev 1:5b-6)***

As the last Sunday in Ordinary Time, today's homily will review the different ways in which we've been called to make Pope Francis' dream a reality during these weeks of Ordinary Time: **TODOS, TODOS, TODOS!**

**FYI....Next weekend, Advent begins.**

**Advent theme song will be Gather, #909 Jesus hope of the world**

**The theme, *Jesus hope of the world*, will prepare ourselves to celebrate the Jubilee of Hope!**