



# Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 16, 2022

**St. John the Evangelist Church**  
 309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503  
[www.stjohnsaltoona.org](http://www.stjohnsaltoona.org)

### PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com  
 Rev. Brian Norris - bnorris@dioceseaj.org  
 Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net  
 Joyce Cunningham - Parish Council President - jmsc1863@gmail.com  
 Jena Bowman - Business Manager - stjohchurch@atlanticbb.net  
 Deborah Johnson - Director of Music/Pastoral Associate - dj219@msn.com  
 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary - stjohsecretary@atlanticbb.net  
 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - iristat38@gmail.com  
 Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - mark.krepich@gmail.com  
 Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

### NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

#### LECTORS

Sat. Oct. 22 - 4:00 PM - Maria Spayd,  
 Joyce Cunningham  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 11:00 AM - James Krug, Susan Podoletz

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Oct. 22-4:00 PM - Sadie Swope, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 8:00 AM - Nicholas Helsley, Emily Miller  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 11:00 AM - Evie Koch, Estella Koch

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Oct. 22 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 11:00 AM - Donna Moyer, Marilyn Bevan

#### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Oct. 22 - 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Carolyn English,  
 Connie Baker, David Langguth  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker,  
 Jane Strasser, Charlie Moore  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Peg Madden,  
 Patrick Podoletz, Dolores Capriotti

#### SACRISTAN

Sat. Oct. 22 - 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

#### SCRIP

Sat. Oct. 22 - 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Oct. 23 - 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

### MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY - 8:30 AM • TUESDAY - 8:30 AM**  
**WEDNESDAY - 6:00 PM**  
**THURSDAY - 8:30 AM • FRIDAY - 8:30 AM**  
**SATURDAY - 4:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY - 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM**

### October Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

**For a Church open to everyone**  
 We pray for the Church; ever faithful to,  
 and courageous in preaching the Gospel,  
 may the Church be a community of  
 solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living  
 in an atmosphere of synodality.

"Will not God then secure the rights  
 of his chosen ones who call out  
 to him day and night?" Luke 18:7

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**MASS OF ANOINTING** - Please mark your calendars for this special Mass of Healing which will be celebrated this Sunday afternoon at 2:00 PM. This will be an ideal time to reach out to those who have been homebound and arrange for their transportation to this important celebration. This liturgy is for all those who desire to receive the healing touch of Christ, whether one's challenges are physical, emotional, or spiritual. Christ the Healer extends his loving embrace to all! Please plan on joining us!



**CLERGY CONFERENCE** - Because Fr. Norris and I will be attending the annual clergy conference at the beginning of this week, there will be no Tuesday morning mass.

**ADULT EDUCATION TO RESUME!** - After an extended break due to the Coronavirus, our Sunday morning Adult Ed between the 8 and 11 o'clock Masses will resume next Sunday, October 23, at the usual time – 9:15 to 10:45 AM. Utilizing the FORMED program which is now available to every parishioner (see below), the focus of this six week series of sessions will be Lectio: Prayer, Finding Intimacy with God. Please plan on joining us for this inspiring series of presentations on the importance of deepening our life of prayer!.

**DESPOT SCHOLARSHIPS!** In memory of John and Helen Despot, again this year there are two \$500 scholarships available for any St. John students attending Catholic school, grades K through 8. Applications are available in the Gathering Space or in the Parish Office. The application must be submitted by November 7<sup>th</sup> and will be awarded in early December. We are most grateful to the Despot family for establishing this fund which provides these annual scholarships!

**PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS!** We are well aware of our need for vocations to the priesthood. This need is felt not only in our own diocese, but throughout the world, particularly North America and Europe. You will notice in the General Intercessions offered at each Mass that we have included weekly a prayer for an increase in vocations. You are urged to listen attentively to these intercessions and to make prayer for vocations an important part of your daily prayer. As Jesus reminds us, *“the harvest is great but laborers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest!”*

**FORMED** - We are excited to announce that we have decided to invest in an online Catholic video database service called Formed. Formed is a powerful video and program library full of bible studies, topical series on the Sacraments, movies on the saints, books on tape and much more. Each and every parishioner can access this whole library of video content from their own homes! Here is how you can start watching content on Formed.org:

Go to - <https://signup.formed.org/>

Search for the zip code 16602, and then select St. John the Evangelist Parish

Instructions on signing in and instructions on how to access Formed on different streaming devices (firestick or Roku) or cell phones/tablets (IOS or Droid) can be found on the formed website.

**SOCIAL GATHERING:** All parishioners and friends of St. John's Church are invited to attend a turkey dinner provided by Holland Brothers Meats on Thursday, November 3, in the cafeteria. The cost of \$20 per person includes appetizers, a complete turkey dinner, drinks, and dessert. Appetizers will be served at 5:30 PM and dinner begins at 6:00 PM. Please sign up on the kiosk. Make checks payable to: St John's Church & drop in the collection basket or take to the office.



Lord Jesus Christ, shepherd of souls, who called the apostles to be fishers of men, raise up new apostles in your holy Church. Teach them that to serve you is to reign: to possess you is to possess all things. Kindle in the hearts of our young people the fire of zeal for souls. Make them eager to spread your kingdom upon earth. Grant them courage to follow you, who are the Way, the Truth, and the Life; who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.





**Twenty-ninth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
October 16, 2022**

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains;  
whence shall help come to me?  
My help is from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.

— Psalm 121:1-2

**Schedule for the Week**

**Sunday, October 16 - The 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM - Mass for *John Lloyd* requested by  
Betsy Lloyd & Family  
11:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*  
2:00 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish in Need of Healing*

**Monday, October 17 - St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by  
Ron & Marilyn Adams

**Tuesday, October 18 - St. Luke, Evangelist - NO MASS**

**Wednesday, October 19 - Saints John de Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues, Priests, & Companions, Martyrs**

5:30 PM - Confessions  
6:00 PM - Mass for *Tom Semelsberger* requested by  
Barb & Dave Hastings

**Thursday, October 20 - Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Bernadine Farrell* requested by  
Alice & John Joyce

**Friday, October 21 - Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Helen Baca* requested by Family

**Saturday, October 22 - Vigil of The 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 PM - Mass for *Dave English* requested by  
Carolyn English

**Sunday, October 23 - The 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM - Mass for *Jim Showalter* requested by  
Betsy  
11:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Eph 2:1-10; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 12:13-21  
Tuesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9  
Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Lk 12:39-48  
Thursday: Eph 3:14-21; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19;  
Lk 12:49-53  
Friday: Eph 4:1-6; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 12:54-59  
Saturday: Eph 4:7-16; Ps 122:1-5; Lk 13:1-9  
Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23;  
2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14

**FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL:** The widow in today's gospel is praised for her PERSEVERANCE. In our homes perseverance is a critical ingredient to resolving differences and teaching lessons and skills to children. Perseverance is always an act of faith in the goodness of the other person.  
*Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.*

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Stewardship cannot succeed unless it is steeped in prayer. Prayer will make our stewardship efforts fruitful. Today's readings show us the immense value of prayer and the privileged place it must have in our individual lives and in our parish community. God does not answer our prayers merely because we continuously ask. God intends each one of us to play a unique role in carrying out the divine plan.

We cannot expect people to respond to calls to increase their prayer life, their formation, and their service within and outside the parish, if they do not first feel welcomed and valued through the warmth of hospitality. It just makes good sense. Jesus does not call us as nameless people in a faceless crowd. He calls us individually by name. The challenge then, is to understand our role, our vocation, and respond generously to this call from God. (*Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 9/2019*)

**October 1/2 2022**

Envelopes	\$ 4,718.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 273.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 5.30
Parish Development	\$ 35.00
Catholic Education	\$ 161.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 35.00
Retired Priest Medical	\$ 35.00
All Saints Day	\$ 25.00
All Souls Day	\$ 25.00
Online Giving	\$ 3,472.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 8,784.30</b>

**Catholic Ministries Drive  
January 1 - September 30**

Gifts/Pledges \$39,555  
Goal - \$42,211

**ROBO CALLS:** If you would like to be added (or removed) from our calling list, please call the office at 814-942-5503.

**MASS FOR THOSE GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A CHILD:** Bishop Mark will celebrate a Mass for those who are grieving the loss of a child. This is for parents who may have lost their child to miscarriage, or when their child was young, as well as having lost adult children. The Mass is open to parents, grandparents, and grieving relatives and friends. The Mass will be held at St. Matthew Parish in Tyrone, PA, on Sunday, November 6, at 10:30AM, with light refreshments to follow. Registration is not necessary. If you have any questions, please contact the Family Life Office at the Diocesan Pastoral Center by calling 814-695-5579 or emailing familylife@dioceseaj.org.

### ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [giny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:giny.reeder@gmail.com) to add or remove someone from the prayer list. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

**Aiden • Seth Alexander • Janine Anna • Joshua Banks  
Bernie Beiswenger • Diane Blyler • Scott Brenneman  
Dan Burley • Cari Ann • Arthur Campbell • Cheryl Cherry  
Michelle Cooney • Mary Lee DeStefano  
Michael DeStefano • Kathy Felty • Leann Frazier  
Donna Harpster • Norman Hastings • Don James  
Nancy James • Tim Jimenez • Lisa • Bradley Johnson  
Sherri Maffettone • Genevieve Mathias  
Angela Mazzei • Susie Miller • Karrie McCall  
Sylvia Louise Mills • Ailani Myers • Patricia Olson  
Linda Pletcher • Mary Rajnish • Ryan Raybuck  
Allison Recker • Vicki Riley • John Rita • Carol Rodgers  
Olga Romerowicz • Mike Rudolph • Bruce Shank  
Anne Showalter • Betsy Slat • Mary Jo Stephenson  
David Sunderland • Patty Swanson • Rick Swanson  
Tim Temofonte • Marion Tessitore • Mary Truesdale  
Kathy Wagner • Lois Werfel**

**HOME WITH THE LORD:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

**James Baird**

*May he rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.*

**SCRIP TIP:** Here are some ways you can earn with gift cards every day without a lot of extra planning. All you have to do is use gift cards to buy common items like these—and brands automatically give back to your organization.

1. **Gas & groceries:** The household essentials that every family needs. Pay for your weekly gas and grocery bills with gift cards and watch your earnings add up.
2. **Home improvement:** Fall is a great time to get things done around the house. From small touch-ups to large remodeling projects, don't miss out on the opportunity to make your hard work pay off even more.
3. **Date night:** Whether it's quality time with your significant other or a few hours dedicated to the kids. Use gift cards to get dinner delivered and watch a movie at home, or plan a special night out. There are many entertainment and dining brands to choose from.
4. **Holiday gifting:** Delivering presents without contact just became way easier with the new ship to home feature, available only in our RaiseRight mobile app. Shop physical gift cards from 250+ top-selling brands and have them shipped directly to friends and family.
5. **Employee appreciation:** Do you own your own business or manage a team? Show your appreciation for their hard work with a gift card to their favorite lunch spot.

### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

**October 16: NO CLASS**

**October 23: CLASS - 9:15 - 10:45 AM**

**9th Grade Fall Session (The Creed)**

**10th Grade Fall session (Scripture)**

**October 30: NO CLASS K-8**

**October 30: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM 11th Grade Fall Session**

**October 30: 1:00 PM TRUNK OR TREAT**

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net).

## TRUNK OR TREAT



**St John the Evangelist Church**  
**309 Lotz Ave Altoona**  
**Sunday October 30th**  
**1:00pm church parking lot**

Safe and fun place to trick or treat!  
All ages welcome!  
Bring your grandchildren and friends!



**All families are invited to dress up in their best costume, decorate the trunk of their car, and join us in the church parking lot. Each family is asked to bring candy to share as children trick or treat from car to car. We will be pairing up with the Lakemont Fire Hall again this year for the Halloween parade starting at 2pm. Help us make this a great annual event for our parish and community!**

**JOURNEY THROUGH LOSS AT ST. ROSE OF LIMA AND ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISHES:** Have you, a family member, or a friend experienced a significant loss through death? Whether your loss was this year, or in the past, you are invited to join the Journey Through Loss support group. We come together to share or to listen, to connect with others who understand, to learn about common grief experiences, and to cling to Christ our great hope. Journey Through Loss is a Christian based support group. All faiths are welcome.

We will meet from 1:30-3:00 at the St. Rose rectory on Thursday afternoons, for six weeks from November 3<sup>rd</sup> through December 15<sup>th</sup>. To register or for more information contact

Mary Petrak, (814) 502-6076 or [mfpetrak@hotmail.com](mailto:mfpetrak@hotmail.com)

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES SHRINE TRIP:** Come join Our Lady of Lourdes for a trip to Washington DC on Tuesday, November 15th to tour the St. John Paul II National Shrine and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Included in the cost of this trip is a dinner at the Golden Corral in Frederick, MD. You will need to pack a lunch that is scheduled to occur between the times of the two tours.

Our day begins at St. John Paul II shrine where we have a guided tour of the sacred art and celebrate mass. After this tour, lunch will be held in the shrine's cafeteria. (This cafeteria was closed during covid, and the kitchen has remained closed ever since.)

After lunch, we continue our day with a guided tour of the Basilica. Explore the unique architecture and sacred artworks of the largest Roman Catholic church in North America. We depart DC at 4:30 PM; dinner will be held at the Golden Corral in Frederick, MD. The dinner includes your meal, drinks, and taxes. Any gratuity will be an additional cost. Our bus will depart from Our Lady of Lourdes at 6:30 AM; approximate arrival back to the church is 10:00 PM. The cost for this trip is \$75.00; we need a minimum of 35 individuals to sign-up and pay for the trip to guarantee this price. Deadline to sign-up and pay for the trip is Friday, November 4th. Reservations can be made by calling Raystown Bus Lines at 814-944-2585. Must pay by cash or check, make checks payable to: Duane Bordell. Address: 1117 Logan Boulevard, Altoona, PA, 16602.

**OCTOBERFEST:** Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church of Philipsburg is inviting all members of local churches to attend our annual Oktoberfest Fundraising Event on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> in our Parish Hall. The day begins with a delicious Brunch! Brunch tickets are only \$8 and portion sizes are generous! Brunch will be served by 8:30 A.M. till 12:30 P.M. Then enjoy the vast array of theme baskets. Table after table are filled with wonderfully stuffed theme baskets. There will also be a 50/50 Raffle, Gift Card Trees, Raffle, Religious Items, Bingo and Rip-Offs. All events take place Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. in the Parish Hall at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church 400 South Fourth Street in Philipsburg. All proceeds will benefit the Ss. Peter and Paul Altar and Rosary Society.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE:**

Saturday, November 5, 8AM-3PM. Breakfast 8-10AM with Paula Binus homemade sweet rolls.

Lunch 11AM-2PM with homemade soups, ham potpie, meatballs. Crafts, Homemade Lollipops, Baskets, Balloon Pop, Kids Carnival.

Photos with Santa 11AM-1PM

*We have elevator access!*

**TOASTY TODDLER COLLECTION:** St. John's Women's Group is accepting donations of NEW- Hats, Scarves & Gloves, Coats & Snowsuits for Boys and Girls for the Toasty Toddler Program. Sizes needed-Newborn through Toddler Size 5T and 4, 5, 6, 6x, 7, 8 or Small. There will be a box in the Gathering Space for your donation. Thank you!

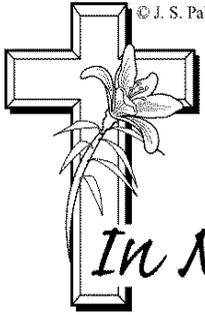
**ORGANIST NEEDED:** An organist is needed for the 9:30 am Mass on Sundays at the Assumption Chapel, Altoona (which is the Chapel associated with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church). Please contact Fr. Frank at 814-942-8501 if interested.

**DIOCESAN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** If you would like to work in an environment that supports Catholic values and allows you to speak freely about and share your faith, please consider working for our diocese. There are many full and part time positions available in the maintenance, administrative assistant, and teaching fields along with openings at our homeless shelter and an Accountant position within Catholic Charities. For more information and to apply online, go to <https://www.dioceseaj.org/> employment or email [lmcevoy@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lmcevoy@dioceseaj.org).

**FAITH UNDERSTOOD:** Friday, October 28 at 7:00 PM in the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel ~ Special guest speaker Paul Zuccarelli ~ Allow his experience to restore your faith! Paul suffered nine cardiac arrests after surgery and was dead for two hours. He was graced to witness heaven during this time. Come and hear his amazing testimony of God's love and saving grace. There is no charge ~ free will offering accepted.

\*please note that handicap restroom facilities are not available in the basilica at this time\*

**HUMANE SOCIETY COLLECTION:** October 10th through October 30th the Altoona Court of Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 ( <https://cda2625.com> ) will be collecting the following items for the Central Pennsylvania Humane Society ( <https://www.centralpahumane.org> ): cat litter (any brand); stainless steel litter pans; kitten food; cat food; puppy food; dog food; dog treats; toys-heavy duty; stainless steel pet dishes; flat sheets, towels, blankets, etc.; collars and leashes; paper towels; hand sanitizer; medium sized gloves; garbage bags; and dust pans and brushes. You can place the items you donate in the box provided in the back of the church. Thank you very much for helping with this project. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer using our online contact form at: <https://cda2625.com/contact>.



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# Mass of Remembrance

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

6:00 PM

St. John the Evangelist Parish Family will gather on this evening to pray, remember, and to find hope. Everyone is welcome. We will remember all our deceased loved ones.

During the Mass of Remembrance, there will be a special commemoration for those who have died since last November and a candle will be lit in their honor.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THIS VERY INSPIRATIONAL EVENING.

***If you wish to have someone who has died in the past year be remembered, please complete the following and place it in the collection basket or return it to the parish office by Monday, October 31.***

-----

Name of Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Member requesting memorial \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be present.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will not be present.

# Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## SUSTAINING HOPE

We all get weary sometimes. So often we face frustration, discouragement, and temptation to despair over what we can't change in our lives, or in the world. Today's readings give us resources to persist in sustaining hope and trusting in God. The reading from Exodus shows us that when our arms get weary, we are not alone, that God provides us companions to sustain us. The letter to Timothy reminds us that we are rooted in scripture, the story of God's past actions and promises for the future. The Gospel passage from Luke gives us the image of a persistent widow, who has a passion in her heart to sustain her relentless efforts to secure justice. This passion, this faith and hope, are God's gifts. But they require ongoing practices of prayer to stay alive and growing. Let us encourage each other in prayer when our arms get weary.

## GOD'S PERSISTENCE

Today's Gospel is set within Jesus' instruction to his disciples to prepare for a future after his ascension, and before Christ's final return. The early Church lived in an unjust and violent world, and likely wondered when Christ would return to complete his work. In this context, we hear a parable of a corrupt judge and a widow seeking justice. The widow has no worldly resources to affect the judge, but only her own persistence. And that was enough.

We today also live in an unjust world, and we the Church long for Christ to fulfill God's promises. But we are not asked to wait passively; instead we must join God's work in bringing justice. We can imitate the widow with our persistence in prayer and action to be instruments of peace in our own place and time. These efforts might well extend beyond our own lifespans, but God will inspire new instruments of peace in future generations. God's persistence will be enough.

## A DEEP BREATH

In today's passage from 2 Timothy, we hear that "all scripture is inspired." The Greek word translated as "inspired" literally means "God-breathed." That is, God breathes God's own life in and through scripture. We can see ourselves also as "God-breathed," as God's creation was the result of God's speech in Genesis, and as the Church received the Spirit from Jesus' breath (John 20:22). God breathes in and through these writings, and in our encounters with each other, to enliven and to transform us.

Using this word, Paul invites Timothy to engage with scripture, to allow it to teach, correct, and train. Scripture is not a set of rules or an answer book, but a breath of God's fresh air. It is the record of flawed human beings encountering a loving yet mysterious God. It is the story of God and humanity where we can place our life stories in dialogue with God's story. Take a deep breath.

## TODAY'S READINGS

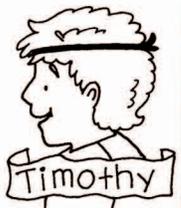
Exodus 17:8-13  
Psalm 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8  
2 Timothy 3:14 — 4:2  
Luke 18:1-8

**"Will not God then secure the rights  
of his chosen ones who call out  
to him day and night?"** Luke 18:7

# God's Word for Children

## Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Paul wrote a letter to young Timothy and gave him excellent advice (2 Timothy 3:14). Start at the pencil and cross out the first word. Then cross out every other word after that. Read the remaining words in the order they appear to discover what Paul said. His advice is for you, too!



by Remain Listen  
faithful yourself

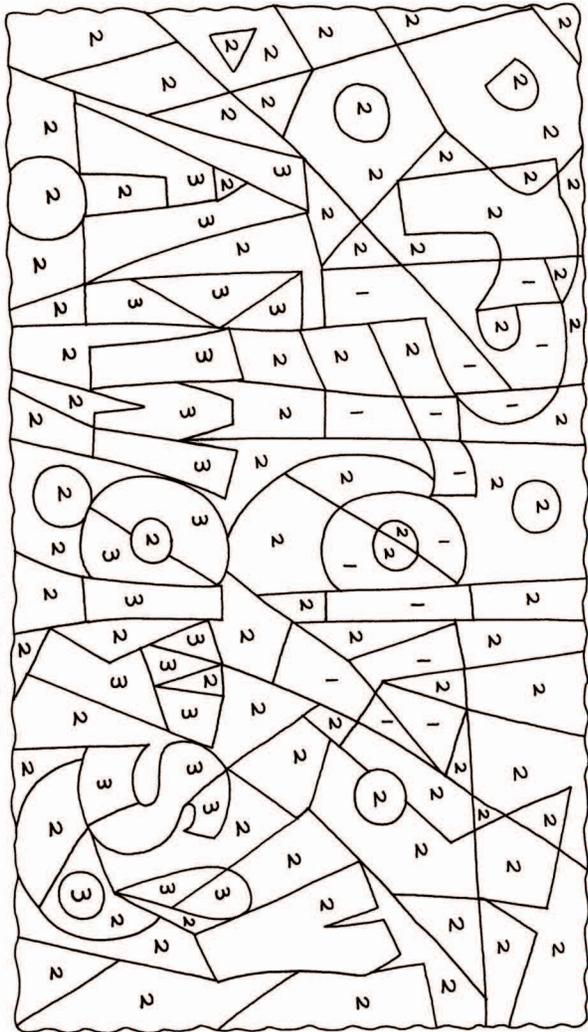
remember you  
what stay of

answer have think  
learned change

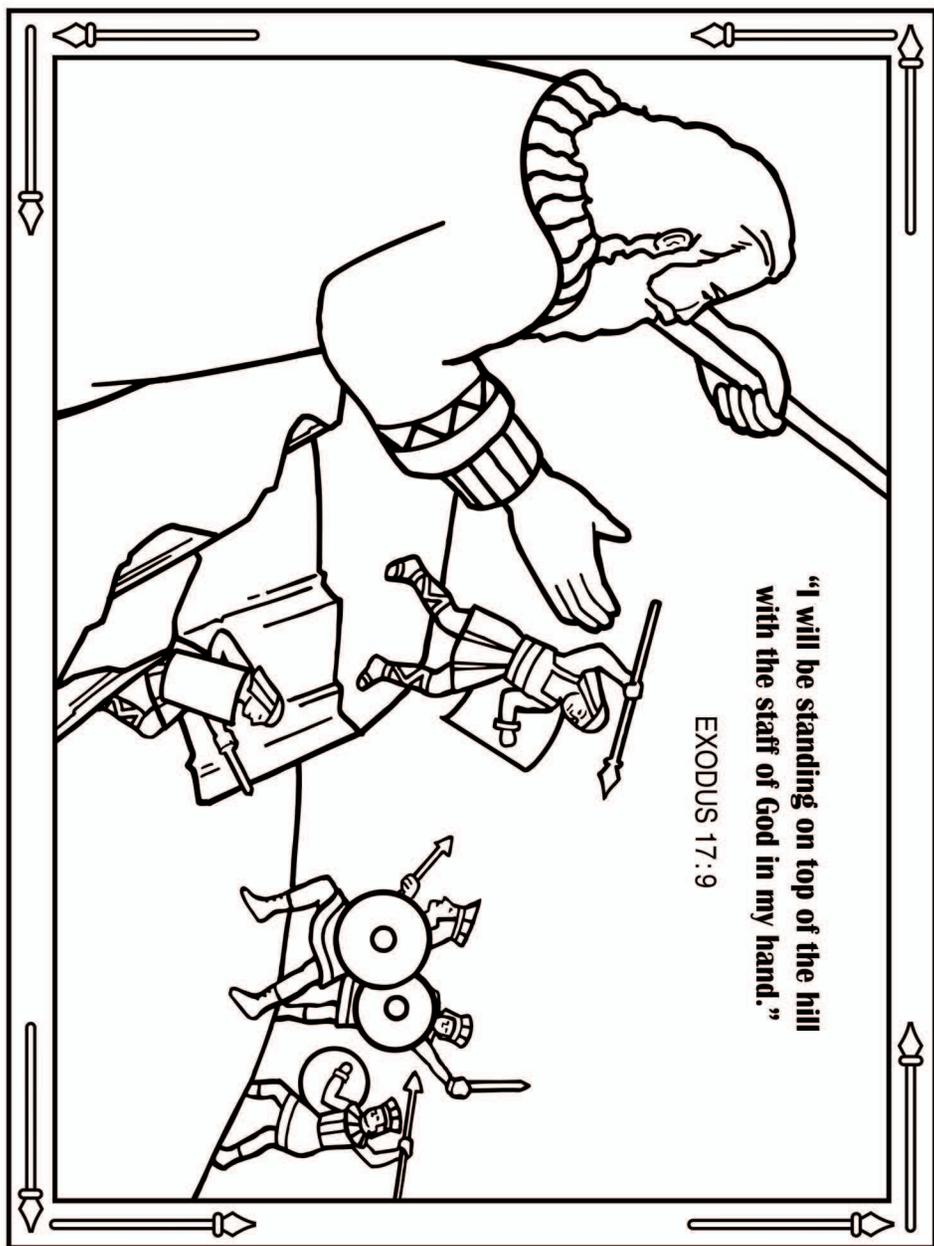
and town believed

Jesus told a story to his disciples about a widow who came again and again to a judge asking for justice (Luke 18:1-8). To find the lesson of the story, follow these directions:

1. Color all the spaces with a **1** yellow.
2. Color all the spaces with a **2** orange.
3. Color all the spaces with a **3** green.



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**“I will be standing on top of the hill  
with the staff of God in my hand.”**

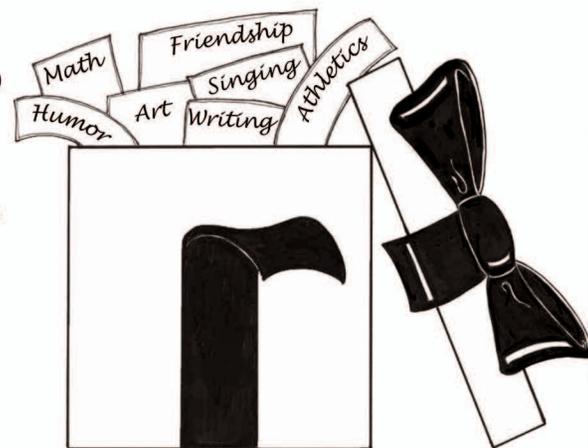
EXODUS 17:9

# CATHOLIC CORNER

## TO SERVE AS GOOD STEWARDS

*As each one has received a gift,  
use it to serve one another  
as good stewards of God's varied grace.  
(1 Peter 4:10)*

The Catholic Church believes that everyone has received gifts or talents from God, and we need to be stewards of them. This means that we need to use our gifts for good. But it is not always easy to recognize our own gifts and talents. Sometimes we need to ask someone in our family or a good friend to help us identify them. What would you name as your top five gifts or talents?



The U. S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship, *To Be a Christian Steward*, suggests four steps to take once we recognize our gifts.

1. *We should receive God's gifts gratefully.* Do you thank God every day for the gifts you receive and ask God to help you share them?
2. *We should cultivate them responsibly.* Do you try to develop your gifts every day by practicing them and using them only for good?
3. *We should share them lovingly in justice with others.* Do you share your gifts with only those people you like or who are your friends? Do you also think about sharing them with those who aren't your friends, or people in need, or people in other schools or in the neighborhood?
4. *We should return them with increase to the Lord.* If you identify your gifts, practice them, and share them, they increase and grow stronger. Then we offer them back to God by praying in thanksgiving for them and asking God to help us use them wisely. Do you offer your thanks in prayer at the end of the day? At Mass?

As a family, name at least one gift each person has. Talk about the four steps of becoming good stewards.

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