

# **30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY**IN ORDINARY TIME

"But the tax collector stood off at a distance...and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." - Lk 18:13a, 13c-14

#### Saint Paul's Newman Center

Heart Speaks to Heart

**Liturgy Schedule** Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am, 11:00 am, & 5:00 pm

Evening Prayer and Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday, 5:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesdays & Saturdays: 4:00 pm

# THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 26, 2025



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## Live the Liturgy-Inspiration for the Week

The Pharisee took such pride in his good deeds that he forgot to ask God for forgiveness; the tax collector acknowledged his many sins, and went home justified. Remember that we are saved not by our own merit, but by the mercy of God.

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#### October 25-November 2

#### The Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sat	5:00 pm	Bridget Ruddy
Sun	8:30 am	The Intention of
		Diego Villaseñor
	11:00 am	Parishioners of Saint Paul's
	5:00 pm	The Intention of
		Diego Villaseñor
Mon	5:00 pm	Jesse Barela
Tues	5:00 pm	The Intention of Diego
		Villaseñor
Wed	5:00 pm	No Intention
Thurs	5:00 pm	No Inention

#### The Thirty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time

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Sat	5:00 pm	Bernard Ruddy
Sun	8:30 am	Jesse Barela
	11:00 am	No Intention
	5:00 pm	Parishioners of Saint Paul's

#### **SPNC Fall Mission**

Join us on October 27 and 28 for our fall mission: People of Hope: Journeying Together in a Divided World. We will have two evenings of community and faith formation, both beginning with Liturgy at 5:00 pm followed by dinner. After dinner, we will enjoy a presentation by our special guest Fr. Eric Immel, S.J., and then conclude with dessert and conversation.







Stem Cell Swab Drive Sunday, October 26, 9:30 am-1:00 pm and 3-7:00 pm

> SPNC Fall Mission October 27-28

Fall Grounds Cleanup Thursday, October 30, 10:00 am-12:00 pm

> **Día de los Muertos Celebration** Sunday, November 2, 5:00 pm

Vitalant Blood Drive Thursday, November 6, 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience November 7-9 in Gillette

**Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope Retreat**Saturday, November 8 in Riverton

First Reconciliation Preparation November 10, 17, and 24, 6-7:00 pm

Wyoming Catholic High School Youth Rally November 21-23 in Casper

First Reconciliation Penance Service Monday, December 1, 6:00 pm



#### **Donor Volunteers Needed**

Resident parishioner Susie Kidwiler's son Sean is in need of a bone marrow transplant. To help him find a donor, we are hosting an oral swabbing event in Bishop Newell Hall Sunday, October 26, 9:30 am-1:00 pm and 3-7:00 pm. Those who are interested in becoming potential donors can come get their cheeks swabbed to determine if they are a stem cell

match for Sean. Donors must be between ages 18 and 35. For more information, text "TeamSean" to 61474 or contact Sandy Rupp:

rupp@newmancenter.org. To sign up to volunteer, please click **here**.



Sunday Gift Offering
October 19 donations: \$9,336.00
Our 10% tithe for charitable outreach: \$933.60

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#### **Fall Grounds Cleanup**

Leaves are falling, and it is time to clean up our grounds. Volunteers are needed to help with cleanup on Thursday, October 30. Come to the

front lawn 10:00 am-12:00 pm ready to rake, weed, and sweep! All equipment and supplies will be provided.

Día de los Muertos Celebration

All are welcome to celebrate Día de los Muertos with us on Sunday, November 2. Our brothers and sisters in the



Latino community celebrate this holiday to honor their ancestors who have died. We will begin our celebration with Liturgy at 5:00 pm, followed by a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to share and a small photo of those you wish to honor. The photos will be placed on the ofrenda, the altar of remembrance in the fireplace room.

#### **Wyoming High School Youth Rally**

Prayer, fellowship, and fun await at the 2025 Wyoming Catholic High School Youth Rally November 21-23 in Casper. To register as a youth participant or adult chaperone, please click **here**.



Knights of Columbus Handyman Helpers
If you are in need of a handyman, the Laramie
Knights of Columbus can help. They have
established a free handyman program to
provide for the community. The service
includes short-term projects that do not require
a building permit or licensed professional, and
it is available to those who have a
demonstrated need: financial, physical, etc. To
request help, please contact
KofC.handyman@gmail.com or call

307-745-5461.

#### November Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will meet November 2 and 16 during the 8:30 am Liturgy.



#### Martha and Mary Faith Sharing

All women are invited to gather with Martha and Mary to pray, read scripture, and foster a deeper connection with God and one another. Meetings will be from 10:00-11:30 am in the Emmaus House every Friday between October 24 and December 5, excluding November 28. For more information, please refer to the Martha and Mary bulletin board in Bishop Newell Hall.

#### **Blood Donors Needed**

Give blood, save a life. Our next Vitalant blood drive will be on Thursday, November 6, 11:00 am-2:00 pm in Bishop Newell Hall. To schedule an appointment, click here to visit donors.vitalant.org and use blood drive code "C1723," or contact Sandy Rupp: rupp@newmancenter.org.

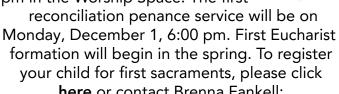
Walk-ins are also welcome.



Last weekend, we celebrated World Mission Sunday. It is not too late to give to our collection, which aids mission territories where the Church is young, persecuted, or struggling. To donate online, please click **here**.

#### **First Sacrament Formation**

First reconciliation preparation begins on Monday, November 10. Preparation sessions will be on November 10, 17, and 24, 6-7:00 pm in the Worship Space. The first



**here** or contact Brenna Fankell: brenna@newmancenter.org.

#### **Thanksgiving Baskets**

Do you need help with putting Thanksgiving dinner on the table? Laramie Interfaith is providing food baskets to those in need this



Thanksgiving holiday. To apply, click **here** to visit laramieinterfaith.org. Applications must be completed by Saturday, November 1.

#### Martha and Mary Christmas Basket Fundraiser

Raffle ticket sales begin next weekend! Tickets will be available after the Saturday



evening and Sunday morning Masses throughout November. Enjoy coffee and donuts while browsing baskets in Bishop Newell Hall.

#### **UPCOMING RETREATS**

# Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope Retreat The final Jubilee Year Pilgrims of

Hope Retreat is Saturday, November 8 at Saint Margaret Church in Riverton, beginning at

9:00 am and closing with Mass at 5:30 pm. This retreat focuses on hope for the poor, coinciding with *Spes Non Confundit* paragraph 15. Lunch will be provided. For more information and to RSVP, please scan click **here** or call 307-638-1530 Ext. 1002.



Sign up for the next Worldwide Marriage
Encounter Experience November 7-9 in Gillette,
and gain the tools you need for a great marriage.
Early registration is highly recommended. For
more information or to register, click here to visit
www.wwme.org or call
307-689-2820.



# Bringing Home the Word

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
October 26, 2025

# Righteous or Self-Righteous?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

God, I thank you that I am not like...this tax collector." The words of the Pharisee in today's gospel might look like a prayer of thanksgiving. However, it is not prayer, nor does it express gratitude. It is an arrogant statement of self-congratulation. One might think that he had a right to boast. After all, he did observe certain religious obligations and refrain from forms of public immorality. Why did Jesus say that he was not justified?

First, he haughtily presented himself in the Temple as a prayerful man. As we

#### **Sunday Readings**

#### Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means.

#### 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

[Paul said,] "I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith."

#### Luke 18:9-14

[The Lord said,] "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

saw last week, the fundamental character of prayer is acknowledgment of human neediness and a trust in God's loving care. This man did not see himself as needy or requiring God's care. Second, he did not realize that as important as religious observance and good works might be, they are not requirements fulfilled to earn God's love. Rather, they should flow from one's inner relationship with God. Third, he judged the inner disposition of others by observing the outer circumstances of their lives.

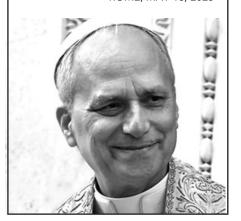
On the other hand, Jesus praised the tax collector. Why? First, he acknowledged he was a sinner in need of God's mercy. After all, as tax collector, he worked for the hated Romans who occupied the land. Most likely, he made his own living by adding a commission to the taxes he collected from others. Second, he made no claim of being righteous and deserving God's mercy. Third, overwhelmed by his own unworthiness, he compared himself to no one. His was genuine prayer. †

The fundamental character of prayer is acknowledgment of human neediness and a trust in God's loving care.

# A Word from Pope Leo XIV

My own story is that of a citizen, the descendant of immigrants, who in turn chose to emigrate. [We] can find ourselves healthy or sick, employed or unemployed, living in our native land or in a foreign country, yet our dignity always remains unchanged: it is the dignity of a creature willed and loved by God.

AUDIENCE OF THE HOLY FATHER, ROME, MAY 16, 2025



### REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GREATIONS

- Am I more like the selfrighteous Pharisee or the humble tax collector?
- Do I think of myself as superior? To whom? Why?