



Weekly Words from The Rock

My Catholic Life has a series of questions and answers on the Catholic Faith. It can be found at the site "Catholic Questions and Answers: Questions and Answers from My Catholic Life!" I am going to share with you some of their questions and answers in the weeks ahead.

Q. My friend committed suicide. I always thought that suicide was an unforgivable sin and people who did it would go to hell. What is the Church's teachings about suicide? Can someone who commits the act get to heaven? Is there a Book of the Damned?

A. This is a very difficult topic to address, but it is also very important. No doubt it is especially important to you as you mourn the loss of your friend. You and your friends will be in my prayers.

I think the place to start is with your last question. You ask, "Is there a "Book of the Damned?" I assume that this idea comes as a contrast to the Scriptural reference of the Book of Life. The Bible speaks very clearly of the Book of Life as God's "list" of those who are in a state of grace. In contrast, it is important to note that neither the Bible nor the Church's tradition speaks of the Book of the Damned. The Bible does speak clearly of those who may "go off to eternal punishment" where there will be "wailing and grinding of teeth." And our Church teaches that those who die in a state of unrepented mortal sin will have the same fate as the Devil and the fallen angels. However, since God takes no delight in the loss of his children, it is not proper to speak of a Book of the Damned in the same way that we speak of the Book of Life.

With that said, I think your real question is this, "Is suicide always and in every case an unforgivable mortal sin that destines one to Hell?" The answer: definitely not! Yes, the act of suicide is always a wrong choice. But in order for us to assign personal guilt to a particular action, we would need to know all of the

inner workings of that particular person's conscience. So often there is so much hurt and pain present in the case of suicide. Only God has access to one's conscience, which is the reason we can never know for certain who has committed an unforgivable mortal sin. Hell is certainly a real possibility for us all. But often times there are circumstances that can diminish one's personal guilt. I think this is especially true with suicide.

I certainly don't know the circumstances surrounding the suicide of your friend, but it is very important to note that factors such as depression, extreme emotional distress, mental illness, extreme anxiety and the like could have so clouded her thinking that she was not fully responsible for her action. This doesn't make the action itself good, or even neutral, but our Church does teach that these factors would have diminished her personal guilt if they were present. Furthermore, we must never forget the unfathomable and infinite mercy of God. God's love for those who have committed suicide, including your friend, will never end. Remember God's perfect love. It is this love that should help to sustain you and even give you hope at the loss of your friend.

Catholic Humor

Not so very long ago, an old German man was feeling guilty about something he had done, so he decided to go to Confession.

He said, "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. I feel terrible because during World War II I hid a refugee in my attic."

The priest said, "But that's not a sin! I wouldn't feel bad about that if I were you!"

"But I made him agree to pay me 50 Marks for every week he stayed."

The priest said, "Well, I admit that certainly wasn't the most noble thing to do, charging the man to save his life -- but you did save his life, after all, and that is a good thing. Don't worry about it too much; God forgives."

The man said, "Oh thank you, Father, that eases my mind. I have only one more question to ask you -- Do I have to tell him the war is over?"

God's blessings! Father Peter Schuster

Parish News

Baby Bottle Campaign Gives Alternatives to Abortion. Help Catholic Charities Pregnancy, Parenting, and Adoption Program provide assistance to pregnant women and women with babies through the Mother and Child Assistance Fund by taking a baby bottle home, and filling it with your spare change during the month of October. Baby bottles can be picked up and dropped off in the Gathering Space during the month of October. Donations go directly to assisting women across Southern Minnesota who are choosing life for their babies. Catholic Charities assists more than 150 women with financial assistance each year.

Unable to pick up a bottle? Please mail your donation directly to Catholic Charities Baby Bottle Campaign, PO Box 379, Winona, MN 55987 or give online at www.ccsomn.org/donate and designate your donation to the Baby Bottle Campaign in the notes section.

Let us come together as the body of Christ to support life! "And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it." 1 Cor. 12:26

Every Sunday we'll update the homepage of our website with a link that will let current registered members request seats for weekend Masses. Reserved seating will be done completely online.

If you were unable to get a seat at Mass, we still welcome you to join us! Simply sit in your car in the parking lot and pull up our website on your phone. We will live stream the Mass on our homepage. During Communion, we will invite you to enter the east doors by the adoration chapel, receive communion in the gathering space, and head back to your car using the south main doors. Our website is rescathroch.org.

No Daily Mass on Wednesday, September 30th. Deacon Rob Miller will offer Liturgy of the Word, followed by the Eucharist. Time will be the same as Mass, 8:30 am.

Two natural disasters have recently affected our brothers and sisters in Christ. Hurricane Laura in Louisiana and the California wildfires have created widespread destruction. We are asking you to respond with the Catholic community across the United States to a special emergency collection. Catholic Charities USA is the official domestic relief agency of the U.S. Catholic Church and is already responding to urgent needs for shelter, water, and food of those affected by these two disasters. Checks should be made payable to your local parish and put in an envelope marked Catholic Charities Disaster Fund. Please submit your funds by September 30th.

Baptism

Born to a new life in Christ and joined to our faith community through the Waters of Baptism, we welcome:



**Finley Rose
Baptized
September 6th**

**Child of
Jason & Caitlin Blau**

Wedding

**May the Peace of Christ
Live in their hearts and home**

Nicole Herrli and Matthew Saleno

September 26th, 2020

Liturgical Ministries for October 3rd/4th

If unable to fulfill your ministry as scheduled, please find a substitute. Thank you.

Ministry Schedule as of September 19th, 2020

Lectors

8:00 pm Therese Schoenfelder
 8:00 am Michael Lose
 10:30 am Thomas Kelly

Sacristans

8:00 pm Judith Pelowski
 8:00 am NOT FILLED
 10:30 am Bob Voss

Eucharistic Ministers

8:00 pm NOT FILLED - (IF NO DEACON)
 (1), Theresa Root (2), Devon
 Wald - LG

Greeters

8:00 pm Lee Witter, NOT FILLED
 8:00 am Nancy Brehmer, Gretchen
 Cutshall
 10:30 am NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

Ushers

8:00 pm John Schoenfelder,
 Reilyn Schoenfelder
 8:00 am Jerry Krantz, Kenneth Mueller
 10:30 am Gordon Robertson,
 Elaina Robertson

8:00 am Charlotte Robinet (B1 if no
 Deacon), Mary Lose, (B2), Helen
 Alexander, LG

10:30 am Charles DeVos, B1 (if no
 Deacon), Mary Stettler (B2),
 Denise Kelly, LG

Today is Priesthood Sunday. Remember to thank Fr. Schuster and Fr. Shawn for the work they are doing.

"*Gracious loving God, we thank you for the gift of the priesthood. Through them, we experience your presence in the Sacraments. Help Fr. Schuster and Fr. Shawn to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Mother of the Church, Mary, pray for Fr. Schuster and Fr. Shawn that they will be able to do your Son's will and that your immaculate heart will be their courage and strength. O Jesus, keep our priests within the shelter of your Sacred Heart, we pray. Amen.* Thank you Serra Club members for providing this prayer to share.



Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel 24 hours/7 days a week

"Sitting before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, a new life begins. Another birth takes place; eternal life within us. We do not see Jesus with our eyes, but rather in the transformation of our lives, where Jesus loves to be and desires that we experience love." Mother Elvira Petrozzi

Open Hours available

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	2 am		1 am		1 am	
			2 am		2 am	
					3 am	
					4 am	
					5 am	

You can help by choosing an open hour from the graph to the left. You commit to one hour a week of adoring Jesus in the Chapel at Resurrection. Seating will be limited and masks required to wear.

To sign up or for more information, call the church office at 507-288-5528.

Weekly Calendar with Readings

The dispensation from the obligation of Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation remains in effect until further notice.

Monday 28 September	Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am• Angel Learning Centers Gr1-5, 4:00pm - 7:00pm
Tuesday 29 September	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am;• Office Walk in hours: 9:15 am - 3:30 pm
Wednesday 30 September	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15 [3]/Lk 9:57-62 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO Daily Mass/ Liturgy of the Word 8:30 am• Office Walk in hours: 9:15 am - 3:30 pm• Faith Formation Classes Gr 6-10 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Thursday 1 October	Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 [13]/Lk 10:1-12 Mass Registration closes at 10:30 am for Oct 3rd/4th . Go to our website rescathroch.org to sign up. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am Office Walk in hours: 9:15 am - 3:30 pm• Wedding Rehearsal 6:00 pm• RCIA 6:30 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm
Friday 2 October	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 10-11/Mt 18:1-5, 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am• Office Walk in hours: 9:15 am - 3:30 pm• Wedding 3:00 pm
Saturday 3 October	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130 [135]/Lk 10:17-24 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sacrament of Reconciliation 9:15 am - 10:15 am• Mass 8:00 pm
Sunday 4 October	Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mass 8:00 am• Church locked after Mass until 10:00 to clean and disinfect• Mass 10:30 am• Church locked after Mass until 12:30 pm to clean and disinfect



Michelle's

Music & Choral Director &
Coordinator of Liturgy
choirdirector@rescathroch.org

How often do you offer gratitude? Sure, you might say the words "thank you" a lot. I certainly say "thank you" once every few minutes. I even think of my dad, who always ends our phone calls with "Love you. Oh, okay. Okay, thank you, okay, buh-bye!" There's a huge difference, though, between saying thank you and offering gratitude. Saying thank you is kind and polite, but it usually ends there. After all, we typically don't explain why we're thankful, to them or to ourselves. Offering gratitude, though, implies that we have to express humility and vulnerability. That can be a very hard thing to do.

Think about the psalms, if you will. Did you know that one out of every six psalms is a song of gratitude to God? If you read those psalms, not one of them will simply say "Gee, thanks, God, you're a real pal." Rather, they give hundreds of reasons why we are grateful. Or better yet, think about the Magnificat, humbly professed by Mary. Now that is a canticle of gratitude to God. No wonder why it is still sung every evening during the Liturgy of the Hours!

A few weeks ago, I challenged us to offer gratitude to God. This week, I challenge us to offer gratitude to each other. Express your gratitude to the employee that drops off food in your car. Offer gratitude to the sister that calls to check in on you. And how about our priests? During this time in particular, let us express our heartfelt thanks and prayers to them as they continue their commitment to serve with deep compassion and sincerity of heart.

God Bless,
Michelle Perrier

Song of the Week:

"Holy Water" by We the Kingdom
Check it out on YouTube!

Mass Intentions

Mon	Sep 28	8:30 am	†John Henry
Tues	Sep 29	8:30 am	†Rob Frisby
Wed	Sep 30	8:30 am	No Mass-Liturgy of the Word
Thu	Oct 1	8:30 am	†Mary Born
Fri	Oct 2	8:30 am	†Joseph Scheffler
Sat	Oct 3	8:00 pm	John Tauzell (Healing)
Sun	Oct 4	8:00 am	†Richard Slaba
Sun	Oct 4	10:30 am	For the Parish

St. Francis School News

NWEA testing continues this week.

The weekly school mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, September 29th at 9:15 am.

Tuesday, September 29th is our HERO Day. Students may wear their HERO shirts with uniform bottoms. The HERO assembly will be in the gym at 1:20 pm with the grade responsible for planning it. It will be recorded or live streamed into the classrooms.

Friday, October 2nd is the first Friday of the month and will be a non-uniform day.

The Fall Festival at St. Francis of Assisi Parish has been canceled for this weekend.

Community News

Faithful Citizenship - We have heard that we should "form our consciences" in preparation for making a decision for the elections. But how do we do this? The Diocesan Social Concerns committee and Catholic Charities of Southern MN are sponsoring a virtual event to help us discern. On Oct 3rd at 10 am, join us and presenter Dr. Bernard Evans (Professor Emeritus - St. John's University) for his presentation: How to Approach Voting Around Issues of the Common Good. Registration is required – for more information or to register please contact Lisa Kremer at lkremer@ccsomn.org

Each Sunday leading up to the elections, join in public prayer near the corner of 4th St & 3rd Ave SE at 3:00 pm to pray for our country's elections, conversion & peace, except Oct 11th; we will pray on Saturday, Oct 10th, 3:00 pm on the sidewalk near Planned Parenthood 1212 7th St NW.

Faith Formation



News from Stacey, Grades 1-5, Family Ministry, dre1to5fm@rescathroch.org
"Angels Among Us" Learning Centers: Do you want to learn about all the angels we have around us every day? What do angels do all day? Do angels have jobs? Where are the angels mentioned in the scripture? Do you talk to your guardian angel? All parish families with children in grades 1-5 are invited to participate in our parent/child learning centers on Monday, September 28th 4:00-7:00pm. Bring your guardian angels with you and remember to wear your masks!



First Reconciliation: We are currently beginning to prepare children in grade 2 and older to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. If you want your child to be included in this year's group, please contact me by phone or e-mail.

Teaching Kids to Respect Others: Chapter two is called People Care and We Say Thanks! Caring means putting people first, even when society says to put progress, profits, or popularity first. Caring for others involves an unselfish sacrifice of our time and energy. Care is demonstrated by working for a better world through solidarity. Talk about the civil rights movement, rights to vote, or anti-death penalty work by Sr. Helen Prejean. For families, help children to see many people who take care of us through services that often go unnoticed. Give children "eyes to see" people to be grateful for janitors, waiters, farmers, police officers, garbage collectors, mail deliverers, and others whose work we need to be thankful for. Think of ways to go out of your way to say thank you to these people who make our lives better. Use scripture to pray: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. Luke 1:46-49



News from Sheila, Birth-KG, Grs 6-12, Children & Youth Ministry, dresscm@rescathroch.org

Fall Harvest Youth Fundraiser!
Now through October 31st.
Pick out your favorite fall harvest items:

Pie Pumpkins \$2

Small Pumpkins \$5

Large Pumpkins \$8

Small Squash \$2

Large Squash \$3

Gourdes and Minis' 5 for \$4 or \$1 each

