

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 30, 2026



Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said

to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct." - Matthew 16:21-27

Holiness and the Cross As Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen has said Jesus has just asked the most important question he could ever ask: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter responded: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God!" Then Peter, who has announced Christ to be the *Son of the Living God*, places his will above God's and in doing so aligns himself with Satan. He denies the God of suffering, which is at the heart of our redemption. As Venerable Fulton J Sheen states: You come back to our Lord calling Peter *Satan*. The reason he did was because Satan tempted our lord from the cross. And that is precisely what Peter was trying to do, when he said to him, this shall not be. We will recognize your divinity but we'll not recognize the cross. This is the biblical essence of the satanic. The decline of the spirit of discipline is a hatred of the cross.

Sheen often argued that what the world needs most is holiness, which comes from the cross. In the desert, the devil attempted to lure Christ away from the cross with promises of an easier way. "The essence of the demonic from a biblical point of view is hatred of the cross," he explained, "and the temptations offered three shortcuts from the cross."

The first temptation was to turn stones into bread. Jesus was hungry but also a social reformer, Sheen explained. Turning stones into bread offered a way to give bread to the masses while satisfying his own hunger. "Jesus rejected it as one who says, 'I reject any plan which promises to make men richer without making them holier,'" Sheen said.

A second temptation followed. "Cast Thyself down to earth. For it is written, 'He has given charge to his angels concerning Thee, and they will hold Thee up with their hands, lest through should chance to trip on a stone' (Matthew 4:6)."

Sheen explained that the second temptation was to replace the cross with a display of power. "Our Lord might say, 'You repeat this temptation whenever you admire the wonders of science and forget that I am the Author of the Universe and its science. ... I refuse to perform stunts to win them, for they would not really be won that way. It is only when I am seen on the Cross that I really draw men to Myself; it is by sacrifice and not by marvels that I must make My Appeal.'"

For the third and final temptation, the devil showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and offered to give him command over them if Christ would fall and worship-

Cont...him (Luke 4:5-7).

"It's the temptation of co-existence of good and evil," Sheen revealed. "Find a quicker easier way. The kingdom Satan offered was the world, not the spirit, and to serve the world is slavery. Jesus came to conquer hearts first, then the world follows."

It is the cross that saves us, Sheen taught, and yet, even while dying on the cross Jesus was told: "Come down from that cross, if you are the Son of God" (Matthew 27:40). "It's human to come down; it's divine to hang there," Sheen stated. "The demonic, very simply, is the anti-cross, the anti-disciplined life, the anti-Christ."

Sheen identifies three powerful weapons against Satan: First, the *Holy Name of Jesus*, which Satan cannot stand because "at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow in the heavens, on the earth, and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10). Second, *the invocation of the Blood of Christ*: "We are saved by the Blood of Christ; therefore, in temptation, call upon his Blood, 'for without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin'" (Hebrews 9:22). Third, *devotion to our Blessed Mother*: "For at the beginning in the Book of Genesis it was the seed of a woman that would crush the seed of Satan" (Genesis 3:15).

He warned that our enemy today is the spirit of the world, which pressures us to conform lest we become branded. "We have to go into the world but not to be worldly. There are no fires. We have become broadminded and indifferent. ... Calvary was more endurable than the indifference of our day."

Strong advice that Sheen implored everyone to do was to make a Holy Hour, spending time before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration. The test, ultimately, according to him, is the choice between the spirit and the world. Time spent in adoration strengthens our spirit, leading us to holiness.

"He is training us," Sheen explained. "The only argument left to convince others is holiness. The world has heard every other argument and is ready to reject them all, except holiness." - *Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen of the United States (1895-1979) is set to be beatified on Thursday, September 24, 2026, in St. Louis, Missouri, after which he will have the title "Blessed."*

Readings For This Sunday

Reading 1: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Reading II: Romans 12: 1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

Readings For Next Sunday

Reading 1: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Reading II: Romans 13: 8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

FINANCE

Regular = \$3,162

This week's 2nd Collection = St. Vincent de Paul and Betty Chinn Ministry

Next week's 2nd Collection = *Mission Appeal (See announcement on next page).

AMA 2026 Goal = \$34,900 Pledges = \$23,574 Rec'd = \$20,869

St. Bernard Rosary Totals You may place your rosary counts in the collection baskets **Report: 13,529!**

Rosaries prayed last week = 55 Cumulative = 13,529

Eureka Holy Mass Schedule

Saturday, August 29

3:15 pm Confessions St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Tad Sarvinski St. Joseph Church

Sunday, August 30

7:30 am +Tad Sarvinski St. Joseph Church
9:00 am +Daniel Freitas Sacred Heart Church
10:30am Int. Mildred Perrone St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm For the People Sacred Heart Church

Monday, August 31

12:15 pm +Tad Sarvinski St. Bernard Church

Tuesday, September 1

7:30 am In Honor of the Holy Spirit St. Joseph Church

Wednesday, September 2

12:15 pm Int. Mildred Perrone St. Bernard Church
6:00 pm Adoration/ Confession
7:00 pm Int. Guerin Bliss (Sp) Sacred Heart Church

Thursday, September 3

7:30 am +Elvira Souza St. Joseph Church
11:30 am No Intention St. Joseph Hospital Chapel

First Friday, September 4

12:15 pm +Tom O'Flaherty St. Bernard Church
1-2pm Confessions
1:00-4:45 pm Adoration St. Bernard Church
4:45 Benediction St. Bernard Church

First Saturday, September 5

8:30 am First Saturday Marian Devotion Mass

Sacred Heart Church
3:15 pm Confessions St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm Mass for the People St. Joseph Church

Sunday, September 6

7:30 am +Annetta"Nettie" Balderson St. Joseph Church
9:00 am +Daniel Freitas Sacred Heart Church
10:30am Richard & Kenneth Burns St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm No Intention Sacred Heart Church

Please Pray For: Maria Santos, Basil, Bosco, Mario, Pio, and Mariano Mainus, Sylvia Clark, Martin Fosnaugh, Jean DeSimone, Marie Ruchards, Jim Hogue and Family, Kimberly Ennis, Terri, Marian Griffin, Johnny, Lucy Sokolow, Janina Dzieciol, Kathi Branum, Orion, Sidney Gabby, Zenssi, Olivia, Hunter, & C., John Johnston, Barbara Hill, Chet Williams, Maria Mendes Da Costa, Catie Biesecker, Stacy Cudney, Josephine Silva, Jo Ann Dellabalma, Ann Marie DeSimone, Bill King, Martin & Claudia Vess, Chris Miller, Mary Alpers, Nancy Allen, David Russell, Sonny, Garrett Anderson, Dottie Barrett, Harvey & Mary Anne Bennett, Mildred Perrone, Massimo Matteoli, and Gary Cormier

Please Pray For Our Beloved Departed:

Glen Schmidt, Helen Saunders, Lena Machado, Obdulia Walters, Derick Wyatt, Fran Hill, Dennis and Gina Costa, Joe Hohmen, Sandra Cofer, Lena Petty, Fred Emerson, John Gierak, Gloria Allen, Rebecca Bertain, Roseann Cooney, Lorraine Holland, Sandra Lingle, Sarah Mixon, Suanna Rowell, Erling Dellabalma, Paul Windham, Rosealee Schuler, Nick Giannini, Juvenal (John) Regalo, Evo Fannuchi, Dianne Luzzi, Rose Ann Hurst, Tom Long, Joe Thompson, Colleen Cruz, Rodrigo Reyna Sanchez, Mary Antonelli, Mary Ellen Hadley, Camille Regli, and Delores McBroome

This Week-Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

– First Friday Devotion - Sept. 4th On this coming First Friday, Sept. 4th we again have the privilege of spending time with our Lord in the Eucharist from 1-5pm. Please come to adore Him who made you and the beauty of the world. We also need at least 2 people per hour to sign up on the Adoration sheet. Please sign up.

Please Support This Mission Appeal Sept. 5/6

The Diocese of Gracias in Honduras is the youngest in Latin America; we just celebrated our fifth anniversary. We are located in indigenous territory where the roads are unpaved, and for much of the year we lack electricity and running water. We have 45 priests for 1,500 churches. We need to provide each priest with a car and build a seminary; we currently have 61 seminarians. Thank you for your support; we will grow as a Church.

TODAY OCIA: Come and Discover the Catholic

Faith! Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Church? Are you an adult seeking Baptism, Confirmation, or First Communion, or simply curious about what Catholics believe? Please join us for the opening of our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) class on August 30 at 11:30 AM at St. Bernard's Church in Eureka, following the 10:30 AM Mass. For this first meeting we will decide our meeting time, and you will find out more about this process. Come with your questions, explore the Catholic faith, and discover where God may be calling you. All are welcome!

In Gratitude for Mother Mary A day of quiet reflection in honor of Mary, the mother of Jesus (and ours, too) will be held on September 8, in Trinity Village, just east of Willow Creek. A donation of \$15 is requested and includes a light dinner following Mass. Retreatants should bring their own sack lunch. Registration forms are available at the entrance to the church and the parish office, and are due to Ann Lynch no later than Sept. 6. Space is limited, so early registration is recommended. For more information, please contact Ann Lynch (707-443-641).

Heaven In Stone & Glass Cathedrals Film Sept. 20/23

On Sunday, September 20th at 7:15pm and Wed. Sept 23rd at 4:45pm at the Broadway Cinema there will be a special screening of Bishop Barron's film about the wonder and beauty of the great cathedrals of Europe. Tickets are \$12.25. Just beyond the doors of Europe's Gothic cathedrals, light pours through colored glass, stone soars toward heaven, and something stirs deep within the human soul. Millions of pilgrims and tourists visit cathedrals each year, sensing in rose windows and sacred imagery a transcendent beauty that the secular world cannot explain. Experience the Spirituality of the Gothic Cathedrals with Bishop Barron, journey across France to explore sacred mysteries built into the crown jewels of Gothic architecture: Chartres, Notre-Dame, Reims, Amiens, and Saint-Denis. With characteristic clarity and theological depth, Bishop Barron—bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, founder of Word on Fire, and host of the acclaimed CATHOLICISM series—reveals what sacred architecture has proclaimed for centuries: God is not distant but weaves His revelation into the very fabric of creation.