

# The Lost Sheep

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?" Luke 15:4 (NIV)

Based on Luke 15:1-7



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HOME
HUNDRED
ONE

RIGHTEOUS **HEAVEN** LOST

FIND FOUND REPENT SHEEP PARABLE **FRIENDS** 

PERSON SINNER REJOICE



Luke 15:24 (NIV)

"For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate".

#### LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY:

Limo Grant, Ann Bishop, Thelma Joseph, Michael Philbert, Dean Andrew, Clarissa Bain, Arnold Joseph, Ambrose Noel, Andrea Jessica, Veronica Thomas, Emma Joseph, Joseph Ross, Finley Gill.

sidered the chapter on mercy.

It relates three parables with which Jesus responds to the grumbling of the scribes and the Pharisees, who are criticizing his actions, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them" (v. 2).

With these three stories, Jesus wants to make us understand that God the Father is the first one to have a welcoming and merciful attitude toward sinners. This is God's attitude.

In the first parable, God is presented as a shepherd who leaves 99 sheep to go and look for the one that is lost.

In the second, he is compared to a woman who has lost a coin and searches until she finds it. In the third parable, God is imagined as a father who welcomes the son who had distanced himself; the figure of the father reveals the heart of a merciful God, manifested in Je-

A common element in these parables is expressed by the verbs that mean rejoice together, join in merry-making. Mourning is not spoken of; there is rejoicing, there is celebrating. The shepherd calls his friends and neighbours and says, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost" (v 6). The woman calls her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost" (v. 9). And the father says to his other son: "It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found" (v. 32).

With these three parables, Jesus presents to us the true face of God, a God with open arms, a God who deals with sinners with tenderness and compassion.

The parable that is most moving for everyone — because it manifests the infinite love of God — is that of the father who enfolds in a close embrace the son who has been found. What strikes us is not so much the sad story of a youth who falls into dissolute ways, but rather his decisive words, "I will arise and go to my father" (v. 18). The path to return home is the path of hope and new life. God always expects us to resume our journey, he awaits us with patience, he sees us when we are still a long way off, he runs to meet us, he

embraces us, he kisses us, he forgives us. That is how God is. That is how our Father is. And his forgiveness cancels the past and regenerates us in love. Forgetting the past this is God's weakness. When he embraces us, he forgives us, and forgets it. He doesn't remember.

He forgets the past. When we sinners convert and let ourselves be re-encountered by God, reproach and sternness do not await us, because God saves, he welcomes us home again with joy and prepares a feast.

This fills us with a great hope because there is no sin into which we may have fallen, from which, with the grace of God, we cannot rise up again. There is never a person who can't be recovered; no one is irrecoverable, because God never stops wanting our good — even when we

May the Virgin Mary, Refuge of Sinners, kindle in our hearts the confidence that was lit in the heart of the prodigal son: "I will arise and go to my father and I shall say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you" (v. 18). On this path, we can give glory to God, and his glory can become his celebration, and ours.

**Pope Francis** 

# NOTICES

Battle Hill Pilgrimage takes place this Sunday 14th September, 2025 at 3 pm at the Battle Hill Shrine. Please make arrangements to attend.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal invites all to a day of Renewal at the River Sallee Holy Family Catholic Church on Sunday 28th September at 2:00 pm.

## WEEKDAY READINGS (PSALTER WEEK (4)

15 Monday - Our Lady of Sorrows

First Timothy 2: 1-8; John 19: 25-27 or Luke 2: 33-35

16 Tuesday - Sts. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian Bishop Martyr

First Timothy 3: 1-13; Luke 7: 11-17

17 Wednesday - Weekday in Ordinary

First Timothy 3: 14-16; Luke 7: 31-35

18 Thursday - Weekday in Ordinary

First Timothy 4: 12-16; Luke 7: 36-50

19 Friday - Weekday in Ordinary

First Timothy 6: 2c-12; Luke 8: 1-3

20 Saturday - Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest & Paul Chong Hasang & Comp

First Timothy 6: 13-16; Luke 8: 4-15

21 Sunday - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 8: 4-7; Luke 16: 1-13

# **Nutrition Tip for the week**

Always speak to your health care team before trying a new food or medication once living with a chronic condition.

#### **Catechesis Corner**

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS CONT... THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT CONT...

#### II. The Vocation to Chastity

#### The integrality of the gift of self

Charity is the form of all the virtues. Under its influence, chastity appears as a school of the gift of the person. Self-mastery is ordered to the gift of self. Chastity leads him who practices it to become a witness to his neighbor of God's fidelity and loving kindness.

The virtue of chastity blossoms in friendship. It shows the disciple how to follow and imitate him who has chosen us as his friends,(cf. Jn 15:15) who has given himself totally to us and allows us to participate in his divine estate. Chastity is a promise of immortality. Chastity is expressed notably in friendship with one's neighbor. Whether it develops between persons of the same or opposite sex, friendship represents a great good for all. It leads to spiritual communion.

#### The various forms of chastity

All the baptized are called to chastity. the Christian has "put on Christ," (Gal 3:27). The model for all chastity. All Christ's faithful are called to lead a chaste life in keeping with their particular states of life. At the moment of his Baptism, the Christian is pledged to lead his affective life in chastity.

"People should cultivate [chastity] in the way that is suited to their state of life. Some profess virginity or consecrated celibacy which enables them to give themselves to God alone with an undivided heart in a remarkable manner. Others live in the way prescribed for all by the moral law, whether they are married or single." (CDF, Persona humana 11). Married people are called to live conjugal chastity; others practice chastity in continence:

There are three forms of the virtue of chastity: the first is that of spouses, the second that of widows, and the third that of virgins. We do not praise any one of them to the exclusion of the others.... This is what makes for the richness of the discipline of the Church. (St. Ambrose, De viduis 4, 23: PL 16, 255A).

Those who are engaged to marry are called to live chastity in continence. They should see in this time of testing a discovery of mutual respect, an apprenticeship in fidelity, and the hope of receiving one another from God. They should reserve for marriage the expressions of affection that belong to married love. They will help each other grow in chastity.

To be cont'd...

#### **COLLECTIONS:**

#### 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time /C - 07th September, 2025

761.67	Belmont	\$ 245.00
718.45	Mt. Mortiz	\$ 182.00
789.50	Brizan	\$ 132.00
539.70	Fontenoy	\$ 162.30
	718.45 789.50	718.45 Mt. Mortiz 789.50 Brizan

Total: \$ 3,630.62

#### THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in Heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. **Amen.** 

#### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER:

#### For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

## Parish Contact Information

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Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Our Lady Queen of Peace, **BELMONT/SPRINGS** Saints Joachim & Anne, **BRIZAN**;

Blessed Trinity, **FONTENOY**;

Church of the Uganda Martyrs, **HAPPY HILL**;

Our Lady Queen of the Universe, **MT. MORITZ**; St. Benedict the Moor, **RIVER ROAD/DARBEAU** 

Our Lady Lily of the Valley, **TEMPE.** 

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## Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross -September 14th, 2025

#### **Sunday Mass Schedules:**

Cathedral Saturday: 6:00 p.m. Belmont Saturday: 6:00 p.m. Brizan Sunday: 6:30 a.m. Cathedral Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Happy Hill Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Tempe Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Fontenoy Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Mt. Moritz Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

#### Weekday Masses:

Cathedral: 6:15 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. Happy Hill - Wednesday - 6 pm

#### CONFESSION:

Cathedral: Saturdays: 7.00 a.m. - 8.00 a.m. (Priests available at request)

#### Welcome!

To sin is to stray from God. All of us have sinned and have strayed from God. But Jesus, the Good Shepherd, comes looking for us and is overjoyed when he finds us. As we gather to worship Him, let us call to mind our sins and ask God for His mercy.

**<u>First Reading:</u>** From the Book of Exodus chapter 32 verses 7 to 11, 13 to 14. Moses intercedes with God for the people because they have fallen into idolatry.

<u>Second Reading:</u> In conversion, Paul is a witness to the fact that Christ came into the world to save sinners. This we hear from his first letter to Timothy chapter 1 verses 12 to 17.

**Gospel:** According to Luke chapter 15 verses 1 to 32. Through telling three parables, Jesus justifies his concern for sinners.