

Law Versus Values

That is a very difficult choice to place before people. Why can't we choose both? Actually, that is the ideal.

Law is a legislated way that a group lives out a value. We value safe highways, and so we legislate traffic regulations, speed limits, and so forth. We value communal prayer, and so we devise liturgical calendars and worship ceremonies. Usually, the way we live out a value changes more frequently than the value itself. However, it often happens that people become so attached to a custom or law, though unfamiliar with the underlying value it embodies, that a change of custom becomes very disruptive. This certainly happened in the Church after the Second Vatican Council, which took place in the 1960s.

This seems to be the source of tension in today's Gospel scene. Washing hands before eating was a ritual custom here, not just a hygienic one. It probably originated with priests who bloodied their hands while sacrificing animals. Eventually, ritual washing became one of the 613 customs that Pharisees expected every Jewish man to observe. Referred to as "a hedge around the law," such customs served to ensure the law itself was protected and would not be broken. Jesus' disciples did not observe this ritual, and so they were criticized.

Jesus immediately came to their defense. He did not disparage the value of appropriate ritual behavior. Rather, he accused his opponents of clinging to out-of-date practices while disregarding underlying values. Practices are external; values are internal. Laws and customs can change; fundamental principles and standards endure.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

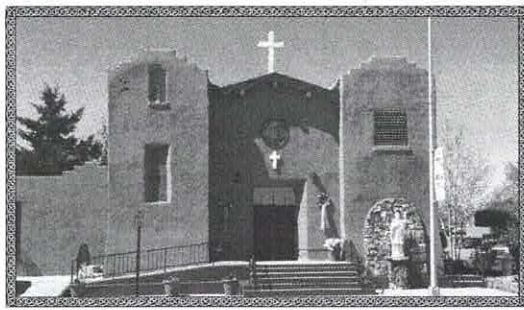
* Do you have a favorite religious practice? The rosary? Communal singing? What religious value does it reflect?

*[Jesus said,]
"Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile."*

MARK 7:15



SHUTTERSTOCK



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

115 N. First Street, Clayton, NM 88415

Office and Fax: (575) 374-8894 Email: sfxclayton@gmail.com

Rectory: (575) 374-8900 (After 9:00 PM-Emergency Only)

Missions: Des Moines, Folsom, Moses, NENM Detention Facility

www.sfxclayton.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jason Pettigrew
 Business Manager/Finance: Theresa Gard
 Secretary: Laekyn Wagner
 Religious Education: Rose Ramirez
 Adult Religious Education: Rev. Jason Pettigrew

Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)

Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9:00AM -1:00PM
 Closed on Wed, Fri

Sacrament of Baptism

(Classes and Parents Interview)
 Contact Pastor

Sacrament of Marriage

(Classes and Couple Interview)
 Contact Fr. Jason -6 Months Prior

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

By appointment with the Pastor

AUGUST 30TH

St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Daily Mass: Wednesday (Bilingual Mass) 12:10pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30pm Friday:12:10pm

Honor of Our Blessed Mother Mass 1st Saturday of the Month:10:30am

Confession: Saturday 4:00-5:00pm OR By Appointment

Adoration: Tuesday & Thursday 6pm to 7 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00am (Oct 1 - May 31)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

St. Joseph, Folsom

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00 am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

NENM Detention Facility, Clayton (For Residents/Staff)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday's Mass 2:00PM

Confession: Sunday 1:30pm—2:00

Nursing Home, Clayton

Every 4th Sunday 1:30 PM

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*This is my body, which will be given up for you.  
 This is my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.  
 It will be shed for you & for all... so that sins may be forgiven.  
 Do this in memory of me.*

*Masses will be offered August & September 2021  
 + All the Departed Parishioner's & Family Members  
 SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX Clayton  
 SI Good Health & Well Being of all Parishioners & Families*

|             |                                                     |                                                                                                                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| at, Aug 28  | +Thomas Romero Jr.<br>+Clare Wood                   | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Sammie & Chip Wood                                                                           |
| un, Aug 29  | +Margret Heringa<br>+Clare Wood<br>(OLOG)<br>(OLOG) | by Loretta Butler<br>by Rosa Lee Britt<br>by Grant & Marjorie Long<br>by Carlos & Bernie<br>Fernandez                       |
| at, Sept 4  | +Thomas Romero Jr.<br>+Clare Wood                   | By Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by the Carter & Vaughn<br>Families                                                              |
| un, Sept 5  | +Inez & Andres Romero<br>(OLOG)                     | by Debra Thelander & Pam<br>Jordan<br>by Marjorie & Grant Long                                                              |
| at, Sept 11 | +Clare Wood                                         | by The Carter & Vaughn<br>Families                                                                                          |
| un, Sept 12 | +Lillie Barreras<br>+Inez & Andres<br>(OLOG)        | by Leo & Lupe Gonzales<br>Family<br>by Debra Thelander & Pam<br>Jordan<br>by Sammie & Chip Wood<br>by Marjorie & Grant Long |

*"Lord Jesus, we your people pray to You for our priests.  
 You have given them to us for OUR needs. We pray for  
 them in THEIR needs.*

*We know that You have made them priests in the likeness  
 of your own priesthood. You have consecrated them, set  
 them aside, anointed them, filled them with the Holy  
 Spirit, appointed them to teach, to preach, to minister, to  
 console, to forgive, and to feed us with Your Body and  
 Blood.*

*Yet we know, too, that they are one with us and share our  
 human weakness. We know too that they are tempted to  
 sin and discouragement as are we, needing to be minis-  
 tered to, as do we, to be consoled and forgiven, as do we.  
 Indeed, we think You for choosing them from among us,  
 so that they understand us as we understand them, suffer  
 with us and rejoice with us, worry with us and trust with  
 us, share our beings, our lives, our faith.*

*We ask that You give them this day the gift You gave  
 Your chosen ones on the way to Emmaus: Your presence  
 in their hearts, Your holiness in their souls, Your joy in  
 their spirits, and let them see You face-to-face in the  
 breaking of the Eucharistic bread.*

*We pray to You, O Lord, through Mary the mother of all  
 priests, for Your priests and for ours. Amen."*

*I hope and pray you have a blessed week!*

**Weekly Collections Summary: July & August 2021**

|               | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|---------------|------------|-------------|
| August 21-22  | \$1,820.00 | \$ 223.00   |
| August 14-15  | \$1,611.00 | \$ 401.00   |
| August 7-8    | \$2,808.45 | \$ 317.00   |
| July 31-Aug 1 | \$2,535.00 | \$ 721.00   |

**Thank you so much for your generosity!**

*Please visit the following very informative websites:*

- [www.archdiocesesantafe.org](http://www.archdiocesesantafe.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [y2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://y2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholic culture.org](http://www.catholic culture.org)

**Lectors for Masses**

- Sat, Sept 4-Sammie Wood
- Sun, Sept 5-Sandy Vaughn
- Sat, Sept 11-Shelley Carter
- Sun, Sept 12- Raymond Saccoccia

All Ministry schedules are updated  
 monthly and posted on the church website.  
 If you need to know when you serve,  
 check **www.sfxclayton.org!!**

# Dear Padre,

I recently had a spirited discussion with a Protestant friend regarding Romans 8:26. He believes his “perfected prayer of being filled with the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues” is addressed in that verse. What does the Church say about this verse?

**R**omans 8:26 says, “In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.”

I'd be careful not to interpret this passage too narrowly and limit its application only to the gift of speaking in tongues. In fact, its application is much broader and actually can be applied to all Christian prayer.

When it comes to praying effectively, all of us can use some extra help. We get that help from the Holy Spirit. Scripture scholar Joseph A. Fitzmayer, SJ, maintains that the Holy Spirit actually plays an active and dynamic role in helping Christians pray effectively by interceding on his or her behalf. In effect, the Holy Spirit expresses for us the inaudible prayers and groaning of our hearts, for which we have no words. So, when we pray, the Holy Spirit is actually present to us and makes up for what we are lacking in our prayer due to our own human weakness.

Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSSR | [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



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**Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Let us try asking ourselves: Am I open to the action of the Holy Spirit?...This is a prayer we must pray every day: “Holy Spirit, make my heart open to the word of God, make my heart open to goodness, make my heart open to the beauty of God every day.”

GENERAL AUDIENCE, MAY 15, 2013

## Calendar

### Monday

AUGUST 30

Weekday

1 Thes 4:13–18

Lk 4:16–30

### Tuesday

AUGUST 31

Weekday

1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11

Lk 4:31–37

### Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 1

Weekday

Col 1:1–8

Lk 4:38–44

### Thursday

SEPTEMBER 2

Weekday

Col 1:9–14

Lk 5:1–11

### Friday

SEPTEMBER 3

St. Gregory the Great,  
Pope and Doctor  
of the Church

Col 1:15–20

Lk 5:33–39

### Saturday

SEPTEMBER 4

Weekday

Col 1:21–23

Lk 6:1–5

### Sunday

SEPTEMBER 5

Twenty-third Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

Is 35:4–7a

Jas 2:1–5

Mk 7:31–37

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