

And [immediately] the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.

MARK 7:35

He Has Done All Things Well

Deep in the heart of each of us is a desire for a perfect world—a world of peace and harmony, where life flourishes and people care for one another. From beginning to end, our religious tradition promises that such a world is just ahead of us. Today's readings assure us that physical obstacles will not prevent its accomplishment, because the graciousness of God is stronger than any other power.

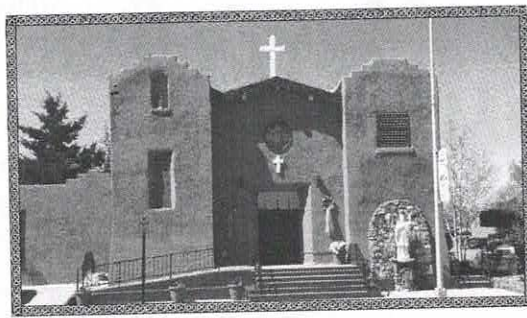
Today's reading from Isaiah instructs us: "Be strong, do not fear!" (35:4). It encourages us to believe in this promise of ultimate fulfillment and to trust that God will see it through. Our focus changes slightly in the Gospel passage. What was a promise of the future for Isaiah bursts forth as a reality in the Gospel, where the healing of broken bodies and troubled lives is realized by the warm words and gentle touch of Jesus.

Do such miracles really happen? Or are these fanciful stories that provide hope for people with little scientific understanding? Are miracles real? Of course they are. However, their true meaning might be much more profound than we realize. A miracle is a manifestation of divine power far beyond human control or comprehension. It is an experience of being made whole again, an occurrence in which peace and harmony are reestablished. Sometimes a miracle is spectacular; at other times it is far too deep to be seen. But always it is God working in our lives to create us anew.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *Where does your life need healing? What are you doing about it?*
- ✦ *How might you be a source of healing in the lives of others?*



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

SEPTEMBER 5TH

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 **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**

|                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sat, Sept 4</b>  | +Thomas Romero Jr.<br>+Clare Wood                                                   | By Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by the Carter & Vaughn<br>Families                                                              |
| <b>Sun, Sept 5</b>  | +Inez & Andres Romero<br>(OLOG) +Elbert & Sylvia Chapin                             | by Debra Thelander & Pam<br>Jordan<br>by Marjorie & Grant Long                                                              |
| <b>Sat, Sept 11</b> | +Clare Wood                                                                         | by The Carter & Vaughn<br>Families                                                                                          |
| <b>Sun, Sept 12</b> | +Lillie Barreras<br>+Inez & Andres<br>(OLOG) +Clare Wood<br>+Elbert & Sylvia Chapin | by Leo & Lupe Gonzales<br>Family<br>by Debra Thelander & Pam<br>Jordan<br>by Sammie & Chip Wood<br>by Marjorie & Grant Long |
| <b>Sat, Sept 18</b> | +Clare Wood                                                                         | by The Carter & Vaughn<br>Families                                                                                          |
| <b>Sun, Sept 19</b> | +Inez & Andres Romero<br>(OLOG) +Elbert & Sylvia Chapin                             | by Debra Thelander & Pam<br>Jordan<br>by Marjorie & Grant Long                                                              |
| <b>Fri, Sept 24</b> | +Margaret Heringa                                                                   | by Loretta Butler                                                                                                           |
| <b>Sat, Sept 25</b> | +Clare Wood                                                                         | by Sammie & Chip Wood                                                                                                       |

**Weekly Collections Summary: August 2021**

|              | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| August 28-29 | \$1,866.05 | \$ 346.00   |
| August 21-22 | \$1,820.00 | \$ 223.00   |
| August 14-15 | \$1,611.00 | \$ 401.00   |
| August 7-8   | \$2,808.45 | \$ 317.00   |

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

*Please visit the following very informative websites:*

- [www.archdiocesasantafe.org](http://www.archdiocesasantafe.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholicculture.org](http://www.catholicculture.org)

**Announcement**

Prayerfully Consider Donating Your Time:

Volunteers Needed!

CCD Teachers Cleaners

Lectors and More!

Please Contact the Office if interested or for  
more information.

C2270 Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person -- among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" (Jer 1:5; cf Job 10:8-12; Ps 22:10-11). "My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth" (Ps. 139:15).

2271 Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law: "You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the newborn to perish" (Didache 2, 2).

**Lectors for Masses**

- Sat, Sept 11-Shelley Carter
- Sun, Sept 12- Raymond Saccoccia
- Sat, Sept 18-Ross Carter
- Sun, Sept 19-Chase Carter

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,

**Martyrs and people who commit suicide willingly sacrifice their lives, so how are they different? If I deliberately put myself in a position to be killed—even for a worthy cause—isn't that a form of suicide?**

**L**ife is a gift from God. While both martyrdom and suicide contradict the natural human disposition to preserve and perpetuate life, the former is a totally self-giving act; the latter, a self-inflicted one.

The early Church believed that martyrs went directly to heaven because their sacrifice of life was the ultimate Christlike expression. Their courageous endurance of indignities and tortures—their heroic willingness to die in defense of the faith or to save another's life—demonstrates a supreme love of God and neighbor over love for life itself (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2473).

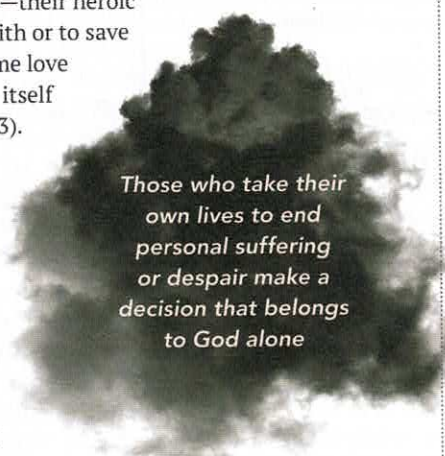
Those who take their own lives to end personal suffering or despair make a decision that belongs to God alone. It's an action that can revolve totally around the "self," often with little thought given to its consequences. It's a sin against hope (CCC 2091) that reveals a lack of faith and trust in God.

Conversely, martyrdom is a profound expression of faith, trust, and hope in God. Nevertheless, our compassionate God fully knows the intensity of suffering that triggers suicide and "can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance" (CCC 2283).

*Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*

**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.



*Those who take their own lives to end personal suffering or despair make a decision that belongs to God alone*

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Remember that story about the poor widow lady...Her husband had committed suicide; he jumped from the bridge into the river. And she wept. She said, "I am a sinner, a poor woman. But my poor husband! He is in hell."...And the Curé of Ars said, "But wait a moment, ma'am, because between the bridge and the river, there is the mercy of God."*

HOMILY, MARCH 18, 2019



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## Calendar

### Monday

SEPTEMBER 6

Weekday

Col 1:24—2:3

Lk 6:6—11

### Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 7

Weekday

Col 2:6—15

Lk 6:12—19

### Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 8

*The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Mi 5:1—4a or

Rom 8:28—30

Mt 1:1—16, 18—23, or  
1:18—23

### Thursday

SEPTEMBER 9

*St. Peter Claver, Priest*

Col 3:12—17

Lk 6:27—38

### Friday

SEPTEMBER 10

Weekday

1 Tm 1:1—2, 12—14

Lk 6:39—42

### Saturday

SEPTEMBER 11

Weekday

1 Tm 1:15—17

Lk 6:43—49

### Sunday

SEPTEMBER 12

*Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Is 50:4c—9a

Jas 2:14—18

Mk 8:27—35

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