

The Price of Goodness

We all know genuinely good people. Somehow they are able to live the virtues of their religious tradition. It might even appear that it is easy for them to do so. One would think that such good people would be valued. Well, yes and no. While we might truly value the goodness of others, that goodness can also shame us. And there is the rub. People are uncomfortable with the realization that they are not as good as they think—or not as good as others might view them. Today's readings underscore the price we might have to pay for such goodness.

The first reading describes a plot being devised to get rid of a righteous person whose goodness has become "annoying" (Wisdom 2:12). This is not someone who flaunts goodness; it is a genuinely good person, one who is referred to as "the righteous one" (2:18). (Here "son of God" simply means someone belonging to the people of God.) The plotters insist

that God will come to the rescue if the righteous one is truly good. The petitions in the psalm response are placed on the lips of that righteous one. Like many good Bible stories, this story is open-ended. We do not know what happens. The price paid for righteousness is found in the Gospel passage as well. Here the righteous one is Jesus. Though we know how his story ends, here the disciples did not.

Today we are faced with the starkness of these stories. Are we willing to pay the price of goodness?

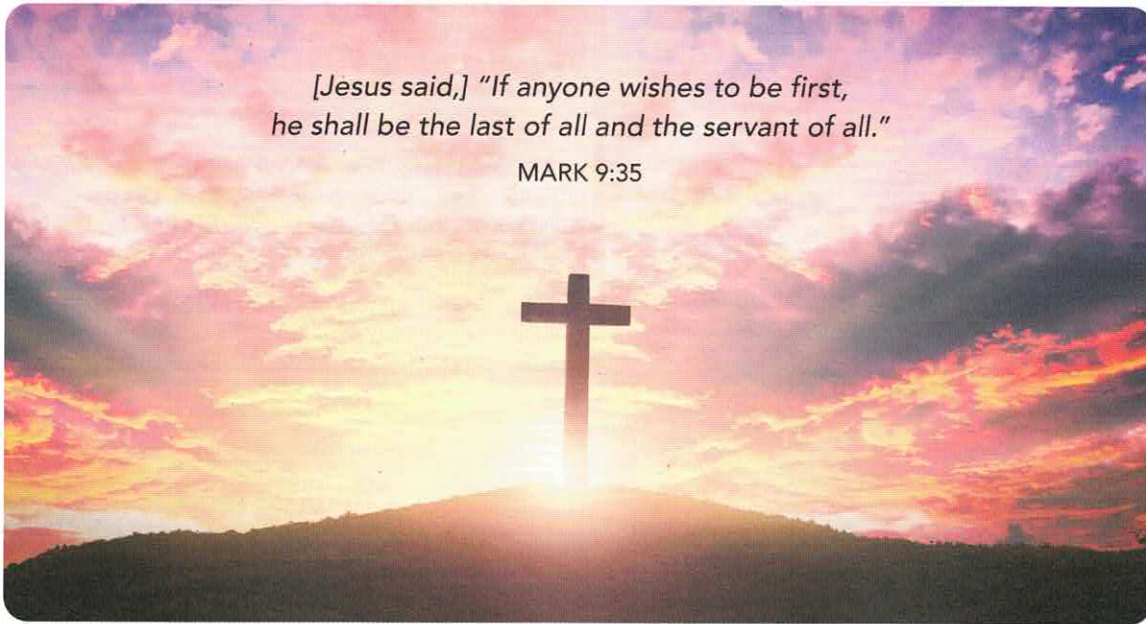
Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

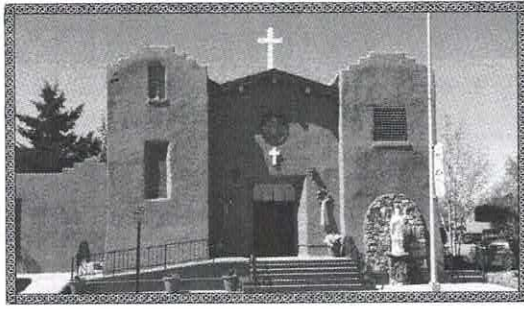
FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Where in your life do your religious values conflict with social norms?*
- ★ *Do you ever resent the goodness of others? If so, what might you do about it?*

[Jesus said,] "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

MARK 9:35





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 19TH

St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

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

Daily Mass: Wednesday: 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 & October 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 18</b> | +Clare Wood             | by The Carter & Vaughn Families                  |
|                     | +Sonia Maulsby          | by Ross & Shelley Carter                         |
| <b>Sun, Sept 19</b> | +Inez & Andres Romero   | by Debra Thelander & Pam Jordan                  |
|                     | +Corazon O. Bugas       | by Debra Thelander & Pam Jordan & Andrea Naranjo |
| (OLOG)              | +Elbert & Sylvia Chapin | 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                            |
|                     | +Corazon O. Bugas       | by Ross & Shelley Carter                         |
| <b>Sun, Sept 26</b> | +Inez & Andres Romero   | by Debra Thelander & Pam Jordan                  |
| (OLOG)              | +Elbert & Sylvia Chapin | by Marjorie & Grant Long                         |
| <b>Sat, Oct 2</b>   | +Clare Wood             | by Sammie & Chip Wood                            |
|                     | +Sandra Rael            | by Ross & Shelley Carter                         |
| <b>Sun, Oct 3</b>   | +Inez & Andres Romero   | by Debra Thelander & Pam Jordan                  |
|                     | +Corazon O. Bugas       | by Ross & Shelley Carter                         |

**Weekly Collections Summary: August 2021**

|               | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|---------------|------------|-------------|
| September 4-5 | \$1,664.00 | \$ 548.00   |
| August 28-29  | \$1,866.05 | \$ 346.00   |
| August 21-22  | \$1,820.00 | \$ 223.00   |
| August 14-15  | \$1,611.00 | \$ 401.00   |

**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)

**Announcements**

2021 Raffle Tickets are in.  
This year, \$6 per ticket or \$25 for a book of five.  
1st place prize \$1000, 2nd place prize is \$500,  
3rd \$400, 4th \$300, 5th \$200, 6th \$100.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CCD Classes officially started on  
Wednesday, September 15th.  
Kindergarten-6th grade at 4-5:30  
7th/8th/9th grade and Catechism at 6-7:30

**ATTENTION!!!**

**New Facebook Page has been created! Link has been posted in the old page. The new page is directly linked to the office.**

Facebook Page link:  
[@sfxclaytonparish1937](https://www.facebook.com/sfxclaytonparish1937)

**Pope Benedict XVI on Life...**

"We are well aware that all too often ... life is exalted as long as it is pleasurable, but there is a tendency to no longer respect it as soon as it is sick or handicapped. Based on deep love for every person it is possible instead to put into practice effective forms of service to life: to newborn life and to life marked by marginalization or suffering, especially in its terminal phase. The Virgin Mary received with perfect love the Word of life, Jesus Christ, who came into the world so that human beings might "have life... abundantly" (Jn 10: 10). Let us entrust to her expectant mothers, families, health-care workers and volunteers who are committed in so many ways to the service of life. Let us pray in particular for people in the most difficult situations" (Angelus, February 5,

**Lectors for Masses**

- Sat, Sept 25- Pat Crisp
- Sun, Sept 26- Laekyn Wagner
- Sat, Oct 2-Ross Carter
- Sun, Oct 3- Pat Crisp

# Dear Padre,

## In Bible times why did people sacrifice animals, children, and other living beings for their own sins?

**T**he practice of human and animal sacrifice is at least as old as written history, including in our own Scripture. Few stories are more chilling than when God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son, or when Jephthah sacrifices his daughter (Genesis 22; Judges 11). In scriptural theology, one's sins merited punishment and even death, but an animal or other person could be chosen to take one's place. God, in his mercy, instituted this animal sacrificial system as a symbol, foreshadowing Jesus' sacrifice for our sins (Genesis 8:20; Hebrews 10:1-18). In the New Testament, Jesus understood his mission as sacrificing his own life as a ransom for many (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was at the cost of death. However, to say that Jesus' death was payment for



our sins is not to say that a vengeful God was appeased by the sacrifice of his own innocent Son. Rather, Christ was willing to liberate us when he "bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that... by his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

Thus, "it is love 'to the end (John 13:1)' that confers on

Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus' death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice that "completes and surpasses all other sacrifices" (CCC 614).

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.



### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*The Catechism firmly states that human power has limits and that "it is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly." All such use and experimentation "requires a religious respect for the integrity of creation."*

ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME (LAUDATO SI'), MAY 24, 2015

## Calendar

### Monday

SEPTEMBER 20

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

Ezr 1:1-6

Lk 8:16-18

### Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 21

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13

Mt 9:9-13

### Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 22

Weekday

Ezr 9:5-9

Lk 9:1-6

### Thursday

SEPTEMBER 23

St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Hg 1:1-8

Lk 9:7-9

### Friday

SEPTEMBER 24

Weekday

Hg 2:1-9

Lk 9:18-22

### Saturday

SEPTEMBER 25

Weekday

Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a

Lk 9:43b-45

### Sunday

SEPTEMBER 26

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nm 11:25-29

Jas 5:1-6

Mk 9:38-43,

45, 47-48

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