

September 27, 2015
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Moses and Jesus both attest to the fact that the work of the Spirit cannot be confined by an institution, and that no one can claim a monopoly of the Spirit's charism, or wisdom. Beware of growing rich while neglecting the rights and needs of others.



WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

September 28	10:30 AM	
Meagan Smith		RIP
September 30	6:00 PM	
Al & Penney King		SI
October 1	10:30 AM	
Greg Short		RIP
October 2	10:30 PM	
Harold Gregory		RIP
October 3	5:00 PM	
Al & Karin Malinverni		SI
October 4	8:30 AM	
Margaret Murphy-Norton		RIP
	10:30 AM	
Victor de Lira		RIP
	12:30 PM	
Pro Populo		
	5:00 PM	
Art Swanson		RIP

SI = Special Intention
RIP = Rest in Peace
Pro Populo = For the people of the parish

Daily Worship
Week of September 27, 2015

Monday, September 28	Zechariah 8:1-8 Psalm 102:2, 16-23 Luke 9:46-50
Tuesday, September 29 <i>Saints Michael, Gabriel, And Rafael, Archangels</i>	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Psalm 138:1-5 John 1:47-51
Wednesday, September 30 <i>Saint Jerome</i>	Nehemiah 2:1-8 Psalm 137:1-6 Luke 9:57-62
Thursday, October 1	Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12 Psalm 19:8-11 Luke 10:1-12
Friday, October 2 <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	Baruch 1:15-22 Psalm 79:1b-5, 8-9 Matthew 18:1-5, 10
Saturday, October 3 <i>BVM</i>	Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29 Psalm 69:33-37 Luke 10:17-24
Sunday, October 4 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Genesis 2:18-24 Psalm 128:1-6 Hebrews 2:9-11 Mark 10:2-16

SERVANTS OF THE LORD PRAYER GROUP

Mondays, 6:30-8:30 PM in the St. Cecilia Room

Praise the Lord, for he is good; sing praise to our God, for he is gracious; it is fitting to praise him." Ps. 147:1.

All are welcome.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Fridays, 1:30-3:30 PM

Stafford Room

"I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. Withhold not your compassion from me; may your kindness and truth ever preserve me" Ps. 40:2,12.

If you have suffered a loss in your life, we invite you to join us, it can help to have people walking this hard journey together. We pray and share our faith, read and discuss Dr. Wolfelt's program on grieving and even smile a little.

All are welcome.

EVENING PRAYER and EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Tuesday evenings beginning at 6:30 PM.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until Wednesday evening and ends with Benediction at 5:45 PM, and Mass at 6 PM.

Are you being called to spend an hour with the Lord? We especially need someone on Tuesdays at 11:30 PM and Wednesdays at 12:30, 3:30, and 4:30 PM.

If you are able to help, call Linda at 595-4366.

HEALING PRAYER

MINISTRY on Wednesdays after Mass 6:45-8:30 PM

"An angel came in holding a censor of gold. He took his place at the altar of incense and was given large amounts of incense to deposit on the altar of gold in the front of the throne, together with the prayers of all God's holy ones/ From the angel's hand the smoke of the incense went up before God and with it the prayers of God's people." Rev. 8:3-4.

If you have a burden, why not come and knock on God's door for help. May we join you as your companions in prayer?

Info: call Nancy Fudge, 734-9563.

BAPTISMAL CLASSES

The next baptismal classes will be on Saturday, November 7 & 14 at 9:30 AM in the Stafford room. You must attend both classes.

ENGAGED CHURCH—IN MY PARISH MY SPIRITUAL NEEDS ARE MET.

OUR SCHOOL

Our school has something important to celebrate. The Preschool is now licensed by the State. This is a major accomplishment which has taken a great deal of work from many people, particularly Lorri Beshara. This achievement not only strengthens our program but demonstrates the school's on-going commitment to excellence in all things.

ST. FRANCIS FEAST DAY

Please join us on Thursday, Oct. 1, at 8:00 AM for the blessing of the animals.



RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

Thanks to everyone who bought tickets this year to help make our Harvest Festival Raffle a huge success. A special great big thank you to all the sponsors who provided such great prizes. The raffle raised \$2400 for Assumption School and the following lucky folks took home terrific prizes: Keven - \$20 gift certificate to Rocket Donuts. Maria Williams - \$20 Gift certificate to Village Books and a pound of fudge from Paper Dreams. Daisy Puentes - \$40 oil change certificate from Diehl Ford. Nancy - 2 tickets to the Assumption School Silent Auction. Kelly Miller - a coupon book for Bread-For-A-Year from Avenue Bread. Ann McQuade - 2 tickets to the Knights of Columbus Wine Gala. Staci Johnson - \$100 gas card from McEvoy Oil. Father Scott - \$100 in groceries from Trader Joes. Don Treat - \$100 gift card from The Greenhouse. Nora Dela Paz - \$125 in hair and skin care products from Salon Capelli. Lisa Berg - \$150 gift card for carpet cleaning from Swan's Clean Care and Restoration. Courtney Twining - \$200 car detail from Diehl Ford. Lisa Kennedy - \$250 gift card from Hagen. Congratulations!

“SURGE OF THE HEART”

Parish Mission, Oct. 11-13

Mark your calendar for Assumption's Parish Mission, to be held from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Church. Our mission presenter is Jon Leonetti, an international Catholic speaker and author of two books entitled, *Mission of the Family* and *Your God Is Too Boring*. Jon travels extensively helping Catholics understand this greatest story ever told—the story of Jesus Christ and His Church. And you're a part of it! Bring your family and friends! You do not need to be an Assumption parishioner to join us!

**FIRST RECONCILIATION AND
FIRST EUCHARIST CALENDAR
2015 – 2016 for YEAR TWO**
CANDIDATES (Year Two candidates are in grade two and above and were registered in and attending either Faith Formation classes or a Catholic School last year.)
FIRST RECONCILIATION / FALL 2015

**Saturday, October 3 ~ 10:00 AM church:
PARENT ONLY
Meeting/Registration Year 2**

Saturday, October 17 ~ First Reconciliation
Class #1 10:00 AM in the Church
Saturday, October 31 ~ First Reconciliation
Class #2 10:00 AM in the Church
Saturday, November 14 ~ First Reconciliation
Class #3 10:00 AM in the Church
(FYI the Parish Advent Reconciliation Service will be Monday, December 14 @ 7:00 PM)

**Saturday, January 30, 2016 ~ Retreat from
3:00 – 6:00 PM** (group will attend mass from
5:00 – 6:00 PM to end the Retreat)

FIRST EUCHARIST/WINTER AND SPRING 2016

Saturday, February 27, 2016 ~ First Eucharist
Class #1 @ 10:00 AM in the Church
Saturday, March 12 ~ First Eucharist
Class #2 @ 10:00 AM in the Church

Saturday, April 9 ~ Retreat from 3 – 6 pm
(group will attend mass from 5pm – 6pm to end the Retreat)

PRACTICE TIMES FOR FIRST EUCHARIST
For those who will be celebrating First Eucharist at the Saturday 5:00 PM or Sunday 8:30 AM masses,
practice will be on Saturday, May 14 at 3:30 PM.

For those who will be celebrating First Eucharist at the Sunday 10:30 AM or 5:00 PM masses,
practice will be on Sunday, May 15 at 3:30 PM.

Para aquellos que van a celebrar su Primera Comunion el domingo a las 12:30 PM en la misa de Español, su practica será el Domingo 15 de Mayo después de la misa de Español.

Saturday, May 21 @ 10:00 AM ~ PICTURE DAY (in First Eucharist attire)

FAITH FORMATION, SCHOOL, PARISH EVENTS

ATTENTION SCRIP SUPPORTERS

Please support our school by purchasing Scrip. It is available on the first and third Sunday of each month between 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM masses. Thank you for your support!

PRAY FOR OUR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ MILITARY

Floyd Carpenter
Chris Formichella
Don Veltum
Capt. Mark Bieda
Capt. Trevor Corrigan
Adam Honda
Jason Woolsey
Steve Ploog
Corey McDaniel
Patrick Kelley
Patrick L. Blake
Capt. Paul Cleary
Michael Condit
Gabriel Feely
John Hutson
Gabriel Rodriguez
Steven Faেকে
Lt Col Gregory DeMarco
Keanu Franco
Michael Dahl
Matt Edge
Kurt DeVries
2nd Lt. Garrett Burnham
Bob Iverson
Lt. Michael Bertschinger
Capt. Eric Stein
Caleb Trotter

Please remember Assumption Church and/or Assumption Catholic School in your Will.

ENGAGED CHURCH—IN MY PARISH I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO WHAT I DO BEST.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & LIFE, JUSTICE & PEACE MINISTRY

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chris Craven
Blanca Cruz
Dick Etter
John Getchell
Colleen Jeffrey
Edwin Ordóñez
Dan Parsons
Doris Torres
Bonnie Trenouth
Jean Wilford
Nancy Wopperer

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Faith Formation Commission
John Getchell
Parish Life & Social
Mary & Bill Chambers
Spiritual Life & Worship
Chris Attebery
School Commission
Ross Driscoll
Life, Justice & Peace
Michael DiSpigno
Pastoral Care
Carol Frazey
Building & Grounds
Andrew Krzysiek
Stewardship/Engaged
Church
Anne & Bill Turnbull
Finance Council
Bill Zang
Pastoral Council
Jim Gibson
Bill Attebery
Belen Saturay

DO YOU WORRY ABOUT YOUR ADULT CHILDREN?

Parenting adult children has its own unique challenges. Many of us have grown children who struggle with relationships, addictions, mental illness, etc. If you find yourself in this situation, you are not alone. Come together for confidential sharing and pray with others who share similar concerns and will understand. The **Parents of Troubled Adults** group meets once a month for prayer and confidential sharing. Our next meeting is Monday, Sept 28th, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Stafford Room. "*Come to me all who are labored and are burdened and I will give you rest.*" Call Elaine Kheriaty, MS (676-9885) or talk with Deacon Larry Kheriaty for more information.

AGAPE sings in Whatcom County! Hip Hop Concert for Youth and Young at Heart!

David Scherer will perform his profound Christian lyrics in a free concert. Canned goods for local food banks are encouraged at the door, and a free-will offering will be gathered for ELCA World Hunger. **When:** Monday, November 16, 2015 at 7pm. **Where:** Christ Lutheran, Ferndale--5904 Vista Drive.

SERRA INTERNATIONAL: FOSTER VOCATIONS

How would you like to affirm our priests and religious? Foster vocations in the Catholic family? Pray for vocations? Learn about the paths to the priesthood and religious life and help those on the way? Invite others to consider a religious vocation?

If you have a heart for vocations and a love for our priests and religious, join with fellow parishioners at Serra International's next meeting, Saturday, Oct. 10, following the 5 pm Mass in Shaughnessy Hall at Sacred Heart. Refreshments will be served.

Questions? Call Vince Griego, 360-201-0258.

INTERFAITH COALITION

WINTER COAT DRIVE Now through Oct. 18 This successful annual outreach collects warm outerwear for people of all ages, babies to seniors. Please bring clean, gently used or new winter coats and jackets, gloves, scarves and hats to worship services. Interfaith will distribute these to people in four locations across Whatcom County. Hand-knitted items are especially prized. For many, this means they won't need to spend limited income on a winter coat, or do without. Thank you for sharing the warmth!

INTERFAITH COALITION ANNUAL HOPE

Meeting and Celebration

Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00pm
Bellingham Covenant Church.
1530 E. Bakerview Rd.

Join Interfaith for a meaningful evening of fellowship, inspiration and opportunity. Hear from volunteers who share stories of compassion and hope. Learn about our new forum for congregations working with homeless visitors. Catch up with friends old and new. Be part of an active community of individuals and congregations dedicated to our brothers and sisters in need. We'll have music, refreshments and appreciation for being our partners in change.

SUNLIGHT OF THE SPIRIT

Join us on the path to the sunlight of the Spirit through Twelve-Step Spirituality. **Carol A. Wilson, MATS**, is a Spiritual Director, a Veriditas Certified Facilitator, and a Retreat Leader. She works primarily with Twelve-Step Spirituality, facilitating retreats, small groups, as well as individual spiritual direction.

Place: Stillpoint at Becksides Spirituality Center, 1625 Huntley Road, Bellingham

Time & Date: Saturday, Oct. 17, 9am-3pm

Fee: Sliding scale: \$45.00 to \$55.00. Tea and coffee provided; please bring a lunch.

Checks made out to: "Stillpoint."

Send payment to: Stillpoint, 1625 Huntley Road, Bellingham, WA 98226

Contact: Linda Conroy,
lnd.conroy@gmail.com

ST. MARY, ANACORTES PLANS FALL RUMMAGE SALE

St. Mary Catholic Church has scheduled its Fall Rummage Sale for Thursday, Friday & Saturday, October 1-3 (3 Big Days).

Time Schedule:

Thursday 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Come and shop late after work.

Friday & Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Something for everyone. Bargains galore!!!!!!

Saturday most all items will be half price and

clothing WILL sell for \$5/bag. That is a tall

paper grocery bag stuffed as FULL as you

can get it! What a Bargain!!!!!!

Information: Call 425-591-6738 or

369-982-2828 or 360-293-2904

Please consider supporting the vendors listed on the back of the bulletin.

Their advertising allows us to have the cover page of the bulletin printed free.

WEEK Monday, September 28th

St. Lorenzo Ruiz

10:30 AM	Mass	Church
3:00 AM	Tennis Practice	Gym
6:00 PM	Servants of the Lord Prayer Group	St. Cecilia
6:30 PM	Bible-based Weight Loss	PCLR
6:30 PM	Parents of Troubled Adults	Stafford
7:00 PM	Edge	Gym
7:00 PM	Confirmation Classes (Year 2)	LMC

Tuesday, September 29th

1:00 PM	Bible Study	Stafford
3:00 PM	Tennis Practice	Gym
6:30 PM	Adoration	Church
7:00 PM	Bible Study	Stafford
7:00 PM	Frassati Young Adult Group	PCLR
7:00 PM	Boy Scout Troop 16 Mtg.	Gym

Wednesday, September 30th

12:00 AM	Adoration	Church
10:00 AM	Women Scripture Study	Stafford
5:45 PM	Benediction	Church
6:00 PM	Mass	Church
6:30 PM	Bilingual School Committee	LMC
6:45 PM	Prayer Ministry	Church

Thursday, October 1st

8:00 AM	St. Francis Blessing of Animals	School grounds
10:30 AM	Mass	Church
11:30 AM	Rosary Prayer Group	Church
1:00 PM	Purple Readers Group	Stafford
3:00 PM	Tennis Practice	Gym
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Church
7:00 PM	Cub Scouts OPEN HOUSE	Gym
7:00 PM	Edge Core Team	3rd Floor PC
7:00 PM	RCIA	LMC

Friday, October 2nd

10:30 AM	Anointing Mass	Church
12:00 PM	Anointing Luncheon	Gym
1:30 PM	Grief Support Group	Stafford
7:00 PM	Grupo de Oración	LMC

Saturday, October 3rd

Priest Pension Collection

10:00 AM	First Reconciliation Classes	Church
12:00 PM	MFCC Temas	LMC
1:00 PM	Art & Environment Comm.	PCLR
1:00 PM	Rosary Makers	Stafford
3:30 PM	Reconciliation	Church
4:00 PM	Cantor Rehearsal	St. Cecilia
5:00 PM	Mass	Church
6:00 PM	Esperanza Dinner	Gym

Sunday, October 4th

St. Francis & Priest Collection

7:00 AM	MFCC	Teachers' Lounge
7:45 AM	Choir Rehearsal	Church
8:30 AM	Mass	Church
9:00 AM	Health Fair	Gym
9:30 AM	Coffee Hour	Gym
9:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal	Church
9:30 AM	RCIA/C	Stafford
10:30 AM	Mass	Church
10:30 AM	Children's Liturgy of the Word	LMC
11:00 AM	Ensayo de Mariachis	St. Cecilia
11:30 AM	K-5 Faith Formation	School
11:30 AM	Coffee Hour	Gym
12:30 PM	Misa	Iglesia
12:30 PM	Liturgia de la Palabra para niños	Biblioteca
3:45 PM	Lifeteen Choir Rehearsal	Church
5:00 PM	Youth Mass	Church
6:00 PM	Lifeteen	Gym



I wish I could magically let you hear the conversations that take place in our waiting room on any given day—children playing and laughing, moms chatting and networking and everyone teasing each other about football loyalties (we do have one client who is a Bears fan—we tolerate him!). The gift we did not expect to find at Hope House when we opened 15 years ago was the gift of community this place has become. I love greeting familiar faces and watching children grow and babies appear after months of watching a dear client go through a happy pregnancy. Monday morning football discussion is often loud and intense, but is always entertaining! Stop by and visit sometime.

After the long, hot, sunny summer we had, it is hard to believe I am saying this; but here we go. It's cold outside, particularly at night, and even those of our clients who are in housing are trying not to run up heating bills any sooner than they have to. So everyone is COLD!!!! I know we just had a blanket drive at Harvest Festival, but we are already out of blankets—please check your closets and shelves for any you could spare for someone less fortunate than you. Thank you!

Needs: blankets, maternity clothing, men's clothing.
Bless you all,
Cheri Woolsey
FB:bellinghamhopehouse

ANOINTING MASS

We invite all of our parishioners who would like to receive the anointing of the sick to come to Mass on Oct. 2, at 10:30. We will have the anointing during Mass and afterwards everyone is invited to a luncheon in your honor in the gym. Please come and enjoy each other's company.

October

2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Please remove this calendar from the bulletin and post. Check the weekly bulletin for location of October events and all the other activities taking place at Assumption.

<p>4 St. Francis of Assisi Health Fair 9AM</p> 	<p>5 Bldg & Grounds 7PM</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Our Lady of the Rosary St. Joseph Hospital Mass 2PM</p> <p>Parish Life & Socials</p>	<p>1 St. Francis Blessing of the Animals 8AM</p> 	<p>2 Anointing Mass 10:30AM Luncheon 12:00PM</p>	<p>3 1st Reconciliation Class (Parent Only) 10AM</p> <p>Art & Environment 1PM</p>
<p>11</p>  <p>Parish Mission 7PM</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>Parish Mission 7PM</p>	<p>13</p>  <p>Parish Mission 7PM</p>	<p>14 Stewardship/Engaged Church 7PM</p> <p>PTC General Meeting 7PM</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 Mass with School 10:30AM</p>	<p>17 1st Reconciliation Class 10AM</p> <p>Girls Scouts Songfest 12:30PM</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Mass at St. Francis Nursing Home 2PM</p> <p>School Commission 7PM</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Bilingual Mass with School 10:30AM</p>	<p>24 Interfaith Coat Drive 11AM</p> 
<p>25 Interfaith Coat Drive 10:30AM</p> <p>Community Meal 1PM</p>	<p>26 Word & Communion Service 10:30AM</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Ss. Simon & Jude Life, Justice & Peace 12PM</p> <p>Events Planning 7PM</p> <p>Spiritual Life & Worship 7PM</p>	<p>29 Mass with School 10:30AM</p>	<p>30 Girl Scout Halloween Party 6PM</p>	<p>31 1st Reconciliation Class 10AM</p>

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

	Wk(09/20/2015)	Month	YTD
Contributions needed:	\$18,077	\$ 54,231	\$ 216,924
Contributions received:	\$20,480	\$ 56,765	\$ 200,479
Over/under for wk/mo/yr	\$ 2,403	\$ 2,534	-\$ 16,445

Thank you for sharing God's blessings with our parish community.

	Wk(09/20/2015)	Month	YTD
Debt Reduction			
Contributions needed:	\$ 1,058	\$ 3,174	\$ 12,696
Contributions received:	\$ 1,375	\$ 2,213	\$ 7,957
Over/Under for wk/mo/yr	\$ 317	-\$ 961	-\$ 4,739

GIFTS FROM THE OTHER HALF OF OUR STEWARDSHIP GIVING

Hope House	\$	168
Campaign for Human Development	\$	371

Thank you for sharing God's blessings with the larger community.

EUCARIST & HOSPITALITY TRAINING

Eucharist & Hospitality Ministers

Saturday, October 10 @ 10am in the Church.

ENTRENAMIENTO DE EUCARISTÍA Y HOSPITALIDAD

Ministros de Eucaristía y hospitalidad

Sábado, 10 de octubre @ 10 a.m. en la iglesia.

ALTAR SERVING TRAINING

Altar Servers ~ Saturday, October 10 @ 11:00 a.m. in the Church.

This is for NEW and VETERAN servers. One must have received First

Eucharist and be in at least in fourth grade to be an altar server.

MONAGUILLOS ENTRENAMIENTO

Monaguillos ~ Sábado, 10 de octubre a las 11 a.m. en la Iglesia. Esto es para nuevos y veteranos servidores. Para poder ser monaguillos necesitan haber recibido la Primera Comunión y por lo menos estar en el 4 grado.

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2015

Thank you to all of the parishioners and others who volunteered last weekend; to those who showed up asking how to help; and to those who stayed on shifts longer than originally planned. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus who work so hard to set up the booths and mini-golf, then return on Sunday to take it all down. Your support and commitment helped us to beat the rain and have a fun, successful Festival. Thank you to everyone who braved the wind and rain to attend and supported the Festival by buying wristbands, a meal, baked goods, arts & crafts, used books, and maybe even a beer or glass of wine. Thank you to those who stuck around Saturday night to play trivia (team St. Hilaire & friends are the ones to beat!) Your continuing care and effort make a real difference not only to the Parish, but to our School, which is the direct beneficiary of the Festival. And finally, thank you to the following individuals who gave so much time and energy to the planning process:

Rafeeka Kloke (Chair); Natalie Milligan (Sponsorship); Sara Byron (Volunteer Coordinator); Rob Viggers (Food Booth); Angelica & Maurilio Hernandez (Grill); Veronica Best (Children's Games); Aey Angeli & Candice Balogh (Spaghetti Dinner); Barb Zender (Spaghetti Dinner Tickets & Decorations); Jeannette Butcher, Anne Seeger & Susan Shuhler (Used Books); Jeanie Bergholz (Bake Sale); Matt & Teri Treat (Raffle); John Shuhler (Car Show); Greg Malo (Parish Pub); Chris Craven (Graphics); Emily Dalvit (Marketing and Arts & Crafts); Marie Gonzalez (Arts & Crafts); Bob Grasher (Knights Liaison); Jim Sofka (Flood Lights) and the money counting crew that worked with Karen Zuther!

A Stewardship Moment

St. James warns in today's second reading that those who hoard their wealth and live only for themselves will be condemned. But in the Gospel, Jesus assures us that all who give of themselves for His sake will be rewarded.

Un Momento De Corresponsabilidad

San Santiago advierte en la segunda lectura de hoy que serán condenados aquellos que acumulan riquezas y viven sólo para sí mismos. Pero en el Evangelio, Jesús nos asegura que todos los que dan de sí mismos en Su nombre serán recompensados.



Lord Jesus, you have challenged us with your holy words in sacred scripture:

That the one who "seeks to save his life will lose it;"

That the one who "loses his life for your sake will save it for all eternity;"

That the "greatest among us is the one who serves the rest;"

That it is "harder for a rich man to enter heaven than for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle;"

That our "true treasure is in heaven."

Lord, you have given us your generous promises:

That you treasure greatly the sacrificial spirit of the widow's mite;

That you will reward with hundredfold harvest those who sow in the rich soil of faith;

That you will not be outdone in generosity;

That you will not give us burdens that we cannot bear.

We thank you, above all, for the joy-filled gift of faith and the inspirational witness of generous saints of ages past.

Lord, give us the strength and the faith to respond to your challenging words.

We ask you to help us to be responsible stewards of your gifts.

We ask you to bless us with the courage, generosity, and selflessness to help us multiply your gifts among us for the glory of your name.

Amen