

Dear Padre,

We knew a beloved priest whose death was self-inflicted. What is the Church's stance on suicide?

I offer my heartfelt sympathy to you and the faith community for this tragic loss. "We are stewards, not owners, of the life God has entrusted to us. It is not ours to dispose of" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2280). Those who take their own life to end personal suffering assume a decision-making that belongs to God alone. However, the Church also acknowledges that "grave psychological disturbances, anguish, or grave fear of hardship, suffering, or torture can diminish the responsibility of the one committing suicide" (CCC 2282).

At the same time, the Church relies on the compassion of God, who fully knows the intensity of suffering that triggers suicide. Therefore, the Church pastorally states: "We should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives" (CCC 2283).

How, then, does the Church specifically pray for those who've committed suicide? Generally they're not deprived of full burial rites in the Church, which consoles the living and commends all of the dead "to God's merciful love and pleads for the forgiveness of their sins" (*Order of Christian Funerals*, 6). Nor are they deprived of burial in a Catholic cemetery—a sacred place that helps bring peace to those confronted by the sudden death of a suicide.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



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A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The increase in the rates of suicide in your cities, as well as bullying and various kinds of neediness, are creating new forms of alienation....I ask you to pay special attention to [the young] and their needs. Try to create spaces...of generous and selfless love...to everyone, and not only to those who have "made it."

—MEETING WITH BISHOPS, TOKYO, NOVEMBER 23, 2019

Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Nm 21:4b–9
Phil 2:6–11
Jn 3:13–17

Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 15
Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Cor 12:12–14, 27–31a
Jn 19:25–27 or
Lk 2:33–35

Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 16
Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
1 Cor 12:31—13:13
Lk 7:31–35

Thursday

SEPTEMBER 17
Weekday
1 Cor 15:1–11
Lk 7:36–50

Friday

SEPTEMBER 18
Weekday
1 Cor 15:12–20
Lk 8:1–3

Saturday

SEPTEMBER 19
Weekday
1 Cor 15:35–37, 42–49
Lk 8:4–15

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 20
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:6–9
Phil 1:20c–24, 27a
Mt 20:1–16a



**TWENTY – FOURTH
SUNDAY
SEP 13, 2020.**



St. Ann Catholic Church & Our Lady of Chartres Mission

Pastor: Reverend Fr. David Milton

Office phone: 228-832-2560,

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-3pm.

Web: www.stannparishlizana.org — Email: stanngulfport@hotmail.com



St. Ann Mass Schedule &

Intentions.

Sat: 5.00pm. Robin Shamplo &
Julia Perronn

Sun: 9:00am. Parish

Sun: 6.00pm. Paul Irby

Mon 8.00am. MaryJo Nunez

Tues 8. 00am. Donor

Wed 6.00 pm. Donor

Thu 8. 00am. Donor

Fri 8:00am. Donor

Sept 19th 5pm Paul Irby

9.00 Robin Shamplo & Julia
Perronn

6.00pm. Parish

From Father David's Desk...

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Limitless Forgiveness

What makes seven such an important number? It's the symbolism. It signifies wholeness, completeness, and totality. So, seventy-seven (or seventy times seven in some Bible translations) suggests infinity. Peter was exaggerating when he suggested that he might forgive his brother seven times. He presumed that if he acted in this way, his behavior would demonstrate the immeasurable extent of his personal graciousness. Jesus' response implied that there should be no end to our forgiving another. To underscore the significance of this magnanimity, Jesus offered God (in the guise of the king who forgave a huge debt) as the exemplar of forgiving. Forgiving another's offense against us could well be one of the most difficult things we are asked to do. To ask for forgiveness does not seem as difficult. After all, when we bump into a perfect stranger in an elevator, we say, "Forgive me." But to forgive someone who has

deliberately offended us, who has dishonored our sense of personal dignity, as slight as that offense might be, is neither as easy nor as casual a gesture. And yet, we must. We all carry debts to others. Both the first reading and the Gospel passage remind us that the debts owed to us by others in no way compare with the debt we owe God, and yet God shows us compassion and forgives us. If we are grateful children of a compassionate God, we will want to be like God and we will forgive others.

FOR Reflection *

Say the Lord's Prayer slowly, reflecting on "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." * Do you carry resentment in your heart? Does clinging to it lessen its burden in any way?

With prayers and blessings
Fr. David

ST. ANN STEWARDSHIP: * 27

Identifiable: \$813.00; Loose: \$564.00;
Total: \$1377.00; ACH: \$5.00. Our Lady
of CHARTRES STEWARDSHIP: \$00

Diocese Announcement: Men, could God be calling you to the diaconate? If so, the

Biloxi Diocese plans to begin a new Formation Class for the diaconate in 2021. Pre-selection information sessions will be conducted from 8:30-noon on the following days: Sept 19th at St. Clare, Waveland; Sept 26th at Sacred Heart, Hattiesburg; and Oct 3rd at St. Mary, Gautier. For interested men who think you may have a calling, attendance at one of these sessions is mandatory with your wife. Please see your pastor, or call Deacon Mike Saxer, (228) 216-8060 or Deacon Mike Harris, (228) 342-1536.

Lectors for weekend: For 5pm: Mike West; at 9 Am.: Kim Wood and at 6pm: Kathleen

Using Masks: For the benefit of all, please use masks during services as advised by our state governor and our Bishop.

Pew Cleaning: Please clean pews with wipes as you leave the Church after the service. Thanks

This weekend Second Collection: At the request of Pope Francis the 2020 Pontifical Good Friday Collection is to be taken up September 13, 2020. This will go to the Holy Land. Thanks for your generosity.

Garage Sale: The first weekend in October. If you have any donations or questions, please call Beverly Saucier: 228-234-1919

Hurricane Relief: If you can help please send a donation to the Biloxi Diocese or St. Thomas Parish, Long Beach. .

Altar Society Meeting:

After 6pm Saturday Mass. Please join us for this meeting.

Volunteers Need: Please sign up to clean church! Only 2 days out of the entire year and pick the date that is right for you!

Duties include:

- 1) Vacuuming (Have 3)
 - 2) Dusting (windowsills, pews, chair etc.)
 - 3) Sweeping front walkway/rugs
 - 4) Cleaning holy water bowls and adding To unlock the church, call Fr. David.
- Anyone interested in serving parish in this way please contact Ellen at 2283410279

PRAYER REQUESTS Those who are ill
Leslie Cuevas, Lee James, Jerry Malley, Ezekiel Rutherford, Dalwin Cuevas, Colby Cagle, Andrew Fillengame; Breanna Ladner, Andrew, Sharon Somora, Nancy Ladner, Chris (Dube) McGill, Paul Ladner, Dianne Dearman, Marie Cuevas, Sharon Smith, Kathy, Marlene Moran, Teresa McAllister, Kendra Necaie, John &, Susan Parish, Courtney Stewart, Kathy Robison, and, Joseph and Megan Colbi Capuano, Bill & Brenda Peterson, Christine Constantine, Anthony Moran, Jill Ladner, Stephany Bass, and Brandi Moran, Verda Crabtree, Lynn & Linda Bangs, John O'Neal, Terri, Loretta Ladner, and Matt Dubission; Addie Threadgill; Cindy Ladner; Amanda Mayberry; Robin Cuevas Emmie Tubbs, and kathy Squillate Wally Clifford, Dorris, and Robin Shamplo