

Prayer & Reflection

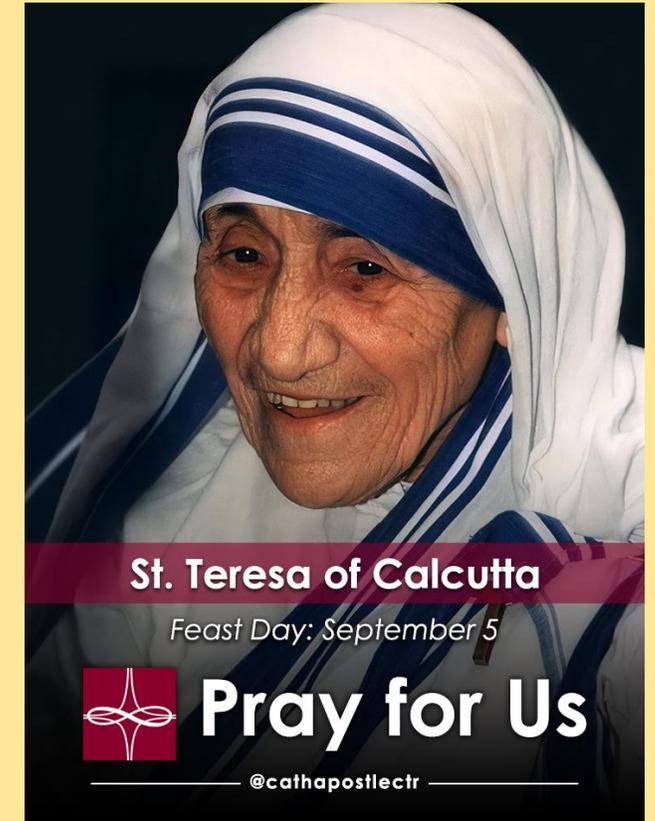


Week beginning: **Wednesday, 3rd September**

***A New School Year Begins -
Feast of St Theresa of Calcutta
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time***

St Teresa of Calcutta = FEAST DAY, 5th September

- Saint Teresa of Calcutta (known as Mother Teresa) was an Albanian-born Indian Roman Catholic missionary and nun who devoted her life to helping those most in need.
- She founded the Missionaries of Charity in India in 1950, and for over 45 years, she ministered to the poor, sick, orphaned and dying. At the time of her death she ran over 500 missions in over 100 countries, including hospices and homes for people with HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis; soup kitchens; family and children's counselling programs; orphanages and schools.
- Mother Teresa served those who were most vulnerable and made many sacrifices in order to help others. She devoted her life to serving those in need without judgment.



CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

**Option for the Poor and
Vulnerable**

REFLECTION ACTIVITY

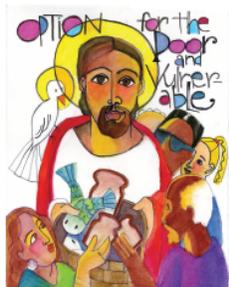
Think about what we have just learned about the life of St Teresa of Calcutta.

- What can you do during this new school year to help other people? -especially the poor and vulnerable in society?

(SERVICE TO OTHERS)

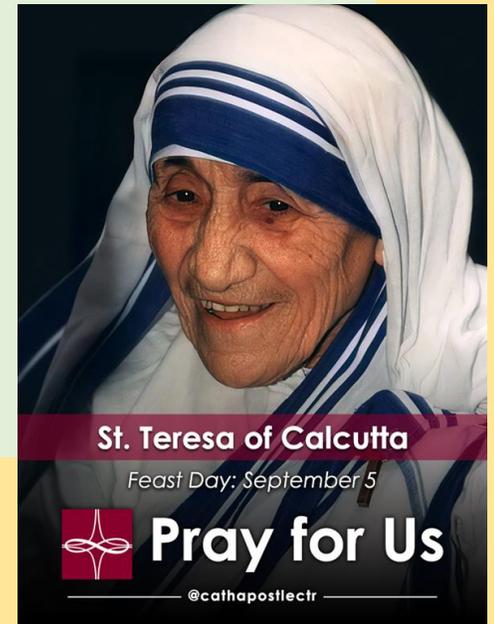
CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable



OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.





**PLEASE
PRAY
FOR ME**

PRAYER – to follow the example of St Teresa

Dearest Heavenly Father,

Our hearts have been torn open by the example of your faithful and humble servant St. Teresa of Calcutta.

This little sister was small in stature but changed the entire world in a big way through her work to care for the poor and homeless.

Thank you, O Lord, for instilling your love in the heart of St. Teresa of Calcutta, for it is through her heart that thousands of the poorest of the poor have been cared for and loved. Please give us a heart as beautiful, pure, spotless and giving as the heart of St. Teresa.

Her service to the poor is a testament to her faith-filled heart that so lovingly touched the broken bodies of the poor and homeless and in doing so she was touching the body of Christ.

Help me to see and serve the poor as she did. That we may also see Jesus hidden under the distressing disguise of the poor. So that our act of love that is done for the poor and homeless may be done to Jesus himself.



St John the Apostle & Evangelist – pray for us.



inspirati a christo

which means Inspired by Christ



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Be Humble & Serve Others



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL READING – 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke 14: 1, 7-14

On a Sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully.

He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honour at the table.

“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honour. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, ‘Give your place to this man,’ and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place.

Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, ‘My friend, move up to a higher position.’ Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table.

For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

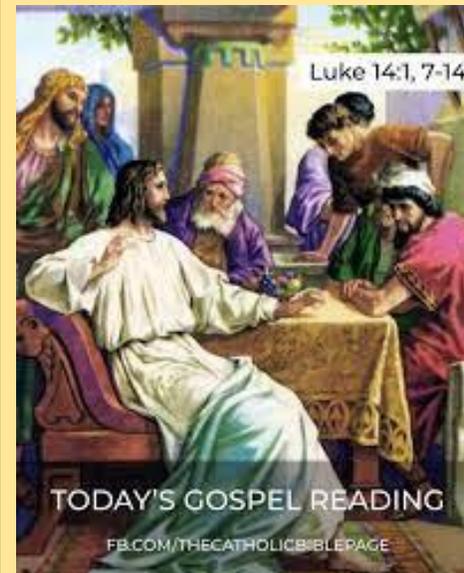
Then he said to the host who invited him, “When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbours, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment.

Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you.

For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Reader = the Gospel of the Lord.

RESPONSE = Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Explanation of this week's Gospel reading



In the gospel this week, Jesus taught about humility, advising guests to take the lowest place and hosts to invite those who cannot repay. He promised that those who humble themselves will be exalted and will be rewarded at the resurrection.

There are THREE key messages for us to consider.

- 1. Knowing our place:** Recognising our smallness helps us see the greatness of God. It reminds us to be humble and grateful.
- 2. Generosity without reward:** Jesus teaches to invite those who cannot repay us, showing true generosity. This selfless giving reflects God's love.
- 3. Serving others:** Helping those in need without expecting anything in return reflects true Christian love. Service is a key aspect of living out our faith.

REFLECTION TASK

The gospel reading this week reminds us that true greatness comes from living by being humble, and seeking to serve others

Reflect on the Word of the Week (next slide) and think about how you can put your Faith into Action – to show humility and to help serve others.

Hopefully we can all be humble and give Service to Others during this new school year.

WORD OF THE WEEK

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and a reflection on the water. Dark tree branches are visible in the upper part of the frame. The text is overlaid on the image.

Everyone who exalts himself
will be humbled, and
he who humbles himself
will be exalted.

Luke 14:11

PRAYER FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Almighty Father, as we begin a new year, may we use the opportunity to make a new start.

Fill our hearts with love for you, increase our faith, and give us the determination to work to become the people you want us to be.

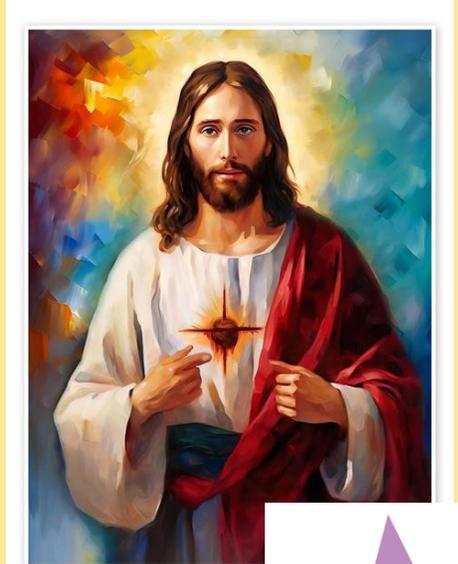
Lord, help us to become the light of the world.

Lord guide us to Be Inspired by Christ,

Lord guide us to be the best person we can be by striving towards Excellence for All,

Lord guide me to be humble, and to seek to give Service to Others.

St John the Apostle & Evangelist – pray for us.



**inspirati a christo
which means
Inspired by Christ**