



## Like the Rings of a Tree

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**F**or some, going to confession can bring a sense of relief—as if the slate has now been wiped clean; as if we have gotten a do-over with life or the past has been left behind as though it never happened. Our past, however, is always with us—the good and the bad, the joys and the sadness, the grace and the sin. There are no do-overs. We carry with us the marks of our lives simply because every experience, every kindness and cruelty, every moment of generosity and selfishness, all have made us into who are. We are much like a tree that adds a ring to its trunk each year. The ring always bears the marks of that year, whether it has been a year of rain or drought, whether insects have attacked, or whether Mother Nature has been kind. The tree always remembers and carries with it forever the rings of what life has been.

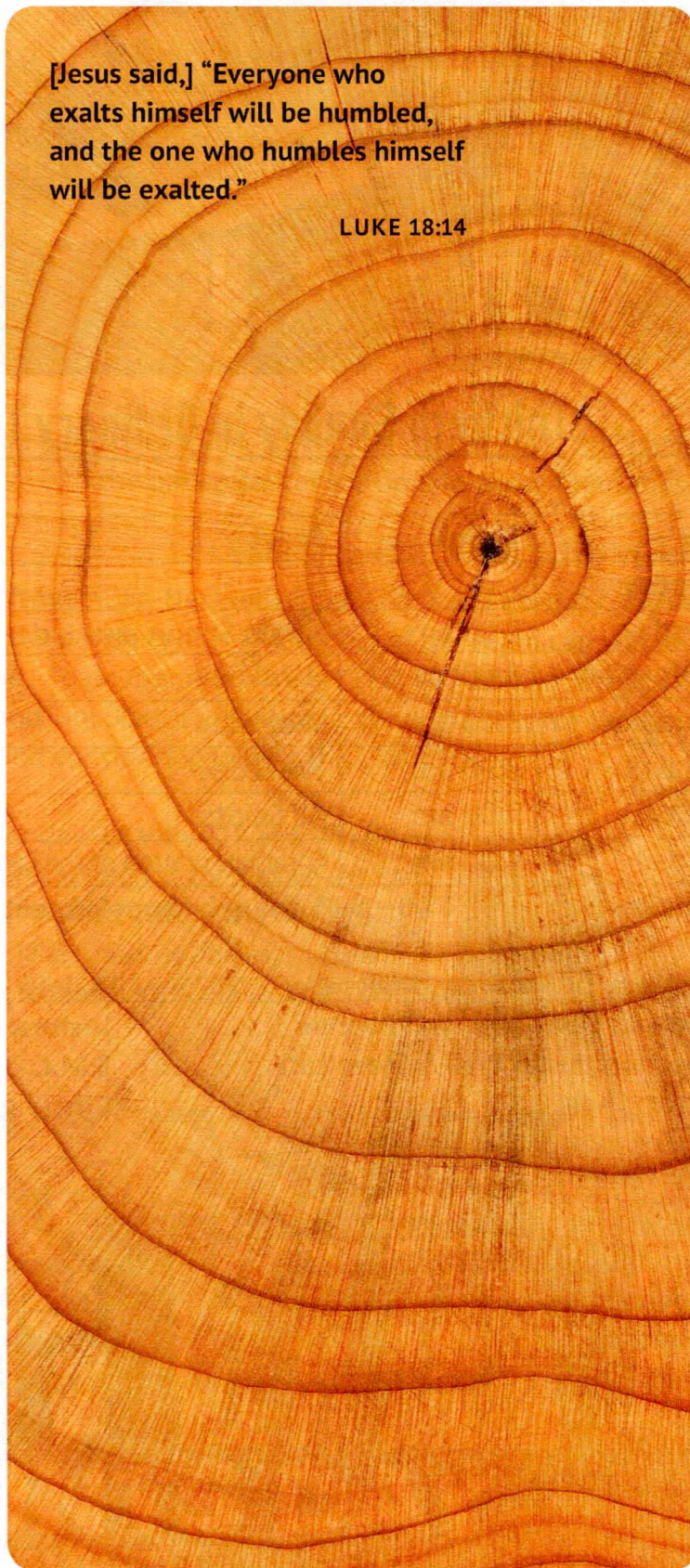
Our lives are the same. The story of the Pharisee and the tax collector tells this tale. Like the Pharisee, we have much good in our lives. We too have prayed and have been generous. We have been kind and honest and cared for the poor. We have tried to be faithful. The Pharisee's downfall was that he forgot about his sinfulness; he forgot he needed God's mercy. The tax collector, on the other hand, remembered his failings. Both were in need of God's love. Only the tax collector seemed to realize it. ●

### Reflect

***How has my life been a mixture  
of sin and grace?***

[Jesus said,] “Everyone who  
exalts himself will be humbled,  
and the one who humbles himself  
will be exalted.”

LUKE 18:14





# St. Andrew Catholic Church

10893 Saint Andrew Road • PO Box 125 • Wright, Kansas 67882



**Pastor:** Fr. Ted Stoecklein  
**Office:** (620) 227-3363  
**Chancery:** (620) 227-1555  
**Email:** vicargeneral@dcdiocese.org

**Webmaster:** Regina Lix  
regina.lix@gmail.com

**To reserve the Parish Center:**  
Call or text Barbara Durler  
(620) 255-1868

## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 26, 2025

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feast</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Monday			
Tuesday	8:00 am	Saints Simon and Jude	Joan Mages
Wednesday	8:00 am	Weekday	Andrew Stoecklein
Thursday	8:00 am	Weekday	Amelia Pinkerton & Family
Friday	8:00 am	Weekday	Dale Vogel
Saturday	9:00 am	All Saints	Berna Mae Stegman
Sunday	9:00 am	Commemoration of the Faithful Departed	Saint Andrew Parishioners

**Confessions: Sunday 8:00 – 8:45 am or by appointment any time**

### Ministers for Saturday, November 1, 2025 – All Saints

**Greeters:** David and Lynn Buehne  
**Collection:** Justin Weil & Steve Lutz  
**Cantor:** Choir  
**Servers:** Mati Durler & Amina Khan

**Lectors:** Greg Lix & Logan Lix  
**E.M.C.'s:** Jim Burke, Ray Theis, Greg Lix  
**Gifts:** Jim Groth

### Ministers for Next Sunday, November 2, 2025

**Greeters:** Ruth Morton & Josie Lix  
**Collection:** Justin Weil & Steve Lutz  
**Cantor:** Allen Morton  
**Servers:** James Hamilton & Jessa Hamilton

**Lectors:** Marilyn Burke & Briana Stephenson  
**E.M.C.'s:** Elaine Slattery, Lindsay Durler, Regina Lix  
**Gifts:** Jordan Hamilton  
**Rosary:** Delbert Downey

### Giving Report: 10-19-25

Envelopes: \$1,070.00  
Loose: \$387.05  
Electronic: \$714.60





Alms for Renovation Project: \$36,025.00

Saint Andrew Fall Parish Social will be held **TODAY**, October 26 from 10:00a.m. - noon. Menu will be: Chili, Chicken & Noodle Soup, Mashed Potatoes, & Cinnamon Rolls. There will also be games for the kids.

Parish School of Religion takes place this Wednesday. Meal at 6:30 pm, Classes begin at 7:00 pm. This week, Religious Education Commission provides the meal.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm on Thursday, October 31.

The Knights of Columbus are leading the Rosary before daily Masses starting at 7:40. Pope Leo has asked all Catholics to pray a Rosary daily for Peace during October.

The Knights of Columbus Memorial Service will be Sunday evening, November 2nd at 5:30. We'll begin in church with the prayer service at 5:30 then move to the parish center for time to share memories and a light meal. Everyone is invited to join us.

Inquiry monthly meetings will be suspended for November, December, January, and February. We will resume on the first Tuesday of March at 6:30 in the parish center. Members of our team can still be reached to answer questions or meet one on one. Team members are Fr. Ted, 620 227-3363, Sara Smith, 620 339-3654, Pam Kirkby, Glenn Kerbs and Tim Slattery. Please continue to pray for those who are seeking answers to spiritual questions and considering joining the Catholic Church.

There will be a Fraternal Benefits Webinar on Monday, October 27 at 8 PM titled Maximize your Living Benefits. Life insurance is more than just protection for the future—it can also provide important benefits you can use while you're living. Join this live webinar to discover these often-overlooked financial features and learn how they can help safeguard your family today and tomorrow.

This link should take you to the registration:





# Dear Padre,

***Is it wrong for children to dress up as zombies and devils and other evil creatures for Halloween?***

No. It is perfectly acceptable to choose these kinds of costumes and to participate in the festivities of Halloween. Halloween is primarily a secular celebration. Although it is true that the original celebration is deeply rooted in the Christian tradition, that tradition is more properly celebrated during the great feast days of the Church that follow Halloween: All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

Mythological representations, and the costumes that remind us of these kind of characters, are to be understood with a sense of fun and mischief. There is no difference between a ghost, a goblin, a zombie, Captain America, Superman, or one of the Mario Brothers. They are all fictional characters in the very human stories we share with each other. The meaning we assign to them must be proportional to what they represent. On Halloween, they represent nothing more than a person in costume. It could be an entirely different story under different circumstances in which there might be the possibility of a misunderstanding about the meaning of such a costume. Halloween pretty much blurs that distinction and takes away the misunderstanding. It is meant to be entertaining and fun. That is all. ●

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)**



FAMWELD / SHUTTERSTOCK

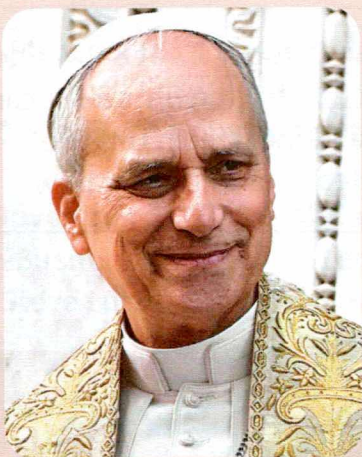
## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*My own story is that of a citizen, the descendant of immigrants, who in turn chose to emigrate. All of us, in the course of our lives, can find ourselves healthy or sick, employed or unemployed, living in our native land or in a foreign country, yet our dignity always remains unchanged: it is the dignity of a creature willed and loved by God.*

AUDIENCE OF THE HOLY FATHER, ROME, MAY 16, 2025



STEFANO SPAZIANI

#### Monday

October 27  
Weekday  
Rom 8:12-17  
Lk 13:10-17

#### Tuesday

October 28  
Sts. Simon and Jude,  
Apostles  
Eph 2:19-22  
Lk 6:12-16

#### Wednesday

October 29  
Weekday  
Rom 8:26-30  
Lk 13:22-30

#### Thursday

October 30  
Weekday  
Rom 8:31b-39  
Lk 13:31-35

#### Friday

October 31  
Weekday  
Rom 9:1-5  
Lk 14:1-6

#### Saturday

November 1  
All Saints  
Rv 7:2-4, 9-14  
1 Jn 3:1-3  
Mt 5:1-12a

#### Sunday

November 2  
The Commemoration of All the  
Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)  
Wis 3:1-9  
Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9  
Jn 6:37-40  
(These readings or any  
from no. 668 or from  
the Masses for the Dead)