



The Debt We Have in Common

THOMAS M. SANTA, CSsR

As we hear today's Gospel of the servant whose enormous debt is forgiven, yet who refuses mercy to a fellow servant owing far less, we cannot help but ask: how can this be? This is the first question that comes to mind. How could a person be forgiven so much and then, just a few minutes later, refuse to forgive something inconsequential in comparison? Selfishness doesn't really explain it. Being so full of oneself doesn't explain it. Being completely dense and obtuse is perhaps closer to the truth, but even that explanation comes up short.

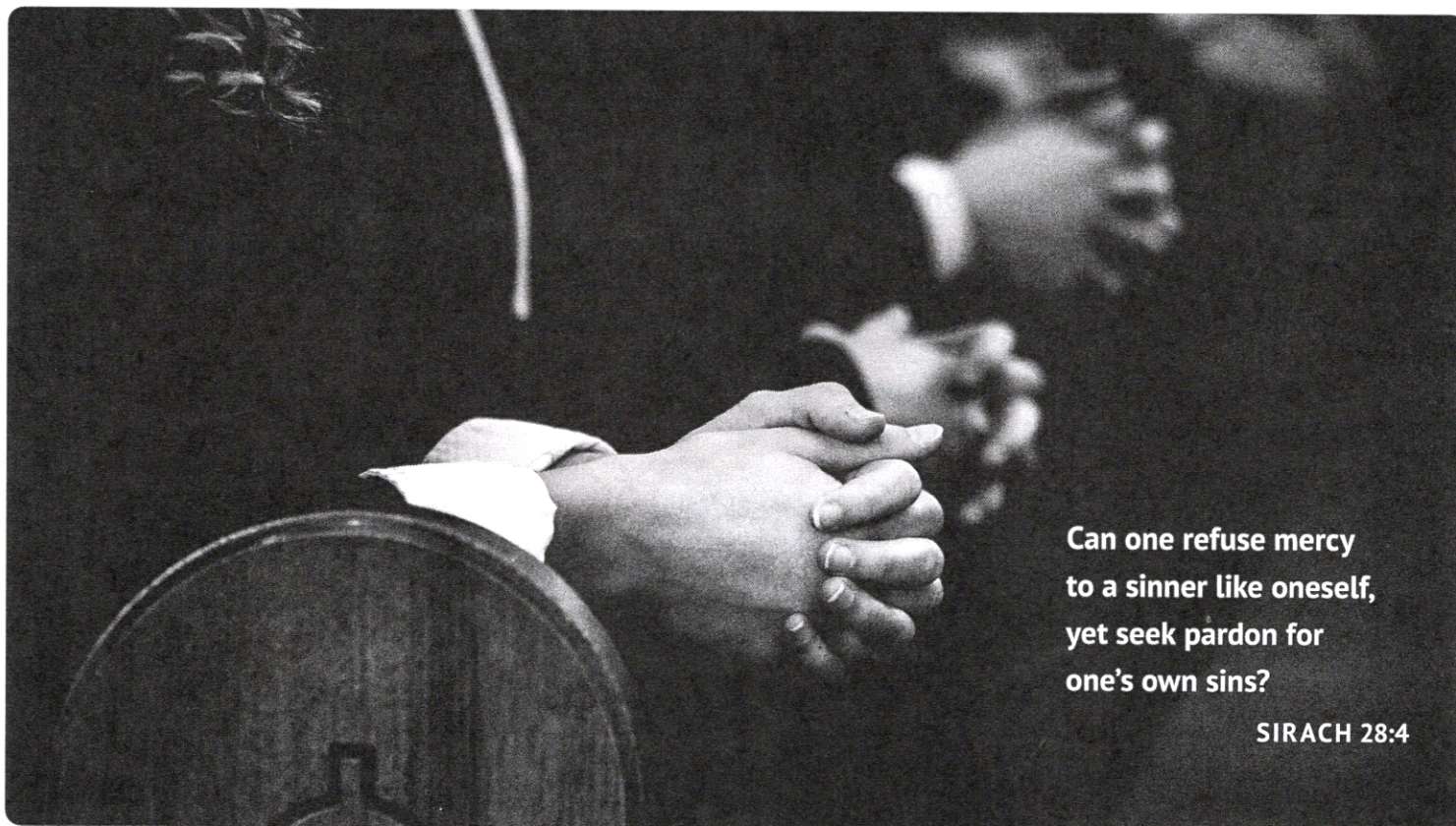
The truth is that the exaggeration of the debt is secondary to the story. What is essential to the story is the invitation to reflect on what it means to be a human being. It is to acknowledge that, when all is said and done, everyone owes a huge debt. No one is exempt from gratitude. An honest acceptance of who we are—completely and totally dependent on God who created us—is the core truth. To be so disconnected from this truth as to not recognize one's own dependence and be completely unaware of the need to be grateful—that is the real challenge the story considers. ●



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

How am I at forgiveness—with others and with myself?



Can one refuse mercy
to a sinner like oneself,
yet seek pardon for
one's own sins?

SIRACH 28:4

St. Andrew Catholic Church

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To reserve the Parish Center:

Call or text Barbara Durler

(620) 255-1868

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 13, 2026

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feast</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Monday			
Tuesday	8:00 am	Our Lady of Sorrows	Wilfred Helfrich
Wednesday	8:00 am	Saints Cornelius and Cyprian	Anthony & Juliana Durler
Thursday	8:00 am	Weekday Mass	Frank & Mollie Birzer
Friday	9:00 am	Weekday Mass (at Fort Dodge)	Joan Mages
Saturday	8:00 am	Weekday Mass	W. Michael Davis
Sunday	9:00 am	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Andrew Parishioners

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

Ministers for next Sunday, September 20, 2026

Greeters: Lola, Paige, Evan & Cayson

Collection: Phillip Sobba & Robert Askew

Cantor: Allen Morton

Servers: Maggie Cornitius & Sadie Davis

Lectors: Quinlan Simon & Levi Stephenson

E.M.C.'s: Lindsay Durler, Mary Beth Helfrich, Lynn Buehne

Gifts: Tucker, Avery & Henry

Rosary: Maurice Bleumer

Giving Report: 9-6-26

Envelopes: \$2,110.00

Loose: \$105.25

Electronic: \$1,883.71

Alms for Renovation Project: \$75,032.69



PSR is on Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m. Property Commission will provide the meal.

Knights of Columbus meeting Monday evening at 7:45.



Jesus in Our Midst

Pastoral Plan 2026-2031

**"Where two or three are gathered in my name,
there I am in their midst"**

(Matthew 18:20)

Our Vision

As children of the heavenly
Father, we aspire to be
united with God, family,
and neighbor,
so that we may all be one
(cf. John 17:21).



Our Priorities

Reflect the person of Jesus
through prayer, fruitful reception
of the sacraments of the Church,
and love for the poor.

**"Be holy, for I, the Lord your God,
am holy" (Leviticus 19:2).**

Our Mission

Inspired by the Holy Spirit,
we will, through *acts of
kindness, prayer, fasting,
and almsgiving*,
intentionally accompany all
to make disciples of Jesus
(cf. Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18;
28:19).

Assist families to pursue Christ-
centered lives and to faithfully
serve as missionary disciples.



**"As for me and my household, we
will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).**

For more information



Imitate Christ by building
hopeful, loving, and forgiving
personal relationships with
others.

**"Encourage one another and build up
one another" (1 Thessalonians 5:11).**



Catholic Diocese of Dodge City

Hospitality + Prayer + Service + Formation + Evangelization

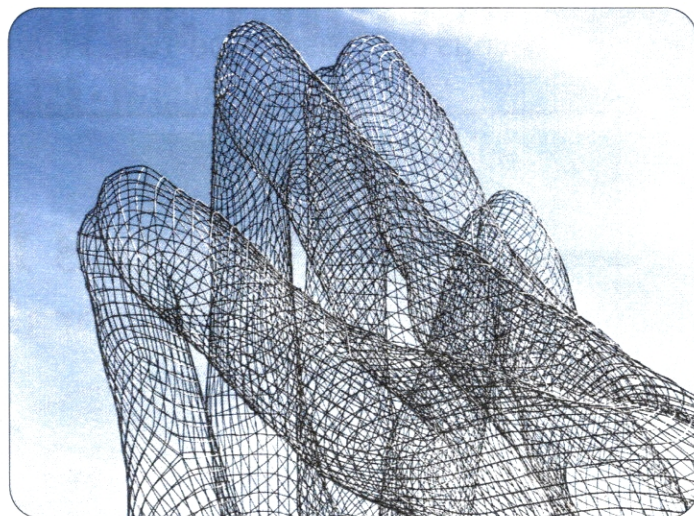
Dear Padre,

If Catholics say the Confiteor at Mass, then why do we still need to go to confession?

Recall when Jesus told Simon and his fishing companions to lower their nets after they had caught nothing. (See Luke 5:1–11.) When their boats began to sink with so many fish, Simon fell at Jesus' feet and said, "Leave me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." Likewise, at Mass, we're so filled with awe upon entering the presence of God that we become aware of our own sinfulness.

The penitential act prepares the assembly to enter the celebration in a proper spirit of humility. The priest and the faithful observe a period of silence to acknowledge their sinfulness and confess their awe of Christ's love and mercy. This is expressed in different forms, one of which is the Confiteor, a general confession that invokes the support of the communion of saints and the specific community gathered at Mass. It includes the instruction to strike one's breast, an ancient gesture of humility and penitence. (See Luke 18:13; 23:48.) The rite concludes with the priest's absolution, but it "lacks the efficacy of the sacrament of penance" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 51). Thus, the penitential act isn't a substitute for absolution from sins confessed in the sacrament of penance, particularly serious, mortal sins. Rather, it prepares the faithful as a unified community to properly listen to God's word and celebrate the Eucharist worthily (*GIRM* 46). ●

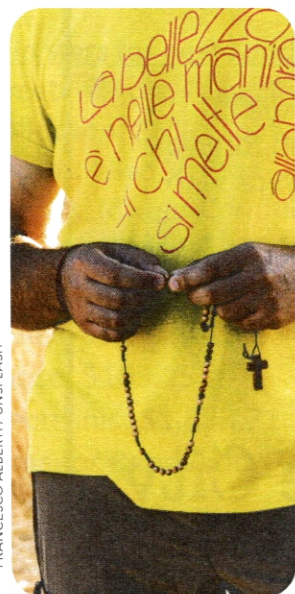
Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



ZULFUGAR KARIMOV / UNSPLASH

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

In the Church there is...a place for everyone, and... every Christian is called to proclaim the gospel and bear witness in every environment.... Thus,



FRANCESCO ALBERTI / UNSPLASH

this people shows its catholicity, welcoming the wealth and resources of different cultures and, at the same time, offering them the newness of the gospel to purify them and to raise them up.

**GENERAL AUDIENCE,
ROME, MARCH 11, 2026**

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Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

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