



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

51 MARKETPLACE IRVINE, CA 92602 · 949-551-8601 · WWW.STMIRVINE.ORG



Saint Thomas More Welcomes All



Welcoming all, we, the Spirit-filled parish of St. Thomas More, value our Roman Catholic faith by celebrating the sacraments, breaking open the Scriptures, and joyfully offering ourselves in service to others. Under the inspiration of our patron saint, we seek to build a caring community that embraces the values he modeled of friendship, integrity and courageous love of God.

Pastor

Parochial Vicar
Pastor Emeritus
Parochial Vicar Emeritus
Weekend Assistants

Deacons

Rev. Eugene J. Lee

Rev. Kiet Ta
Rev. John E. Janze
Rev. William Krekelberg
Rev. Joseph Horn, O Praem
Rev. Joseph Justice
Deacon Tony & Mrs. Mary Patronite
Deacon Tin & Mrs. UyenLan Nguyen
Deacon Leonard & Mrs. Nancy Sun

Office Information:

Office: 949-551-8601
After hours emergency: 949-228-2127
Fax: 949-551-5879
Religious Education: 949-551-8029
Youth Ministry: 949-551-8602

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am-2:00pm



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER

5
2021



Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. - Photos: © PD-Wikimedia, Healing the Blind Man by Victor Manna
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THEN WILL THE EYES OF THE BLIND BE OPENED

the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the mute will sing.

Isaiah 35:5-6



September 5
2021

*Did not God
choose those who
are poor in the world
to be rich in faith
and heirs of the
kingdom that he
promised to those
who love him?*

James 2:5

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God (Isaiah 35:4-7a).

Psalm — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146).

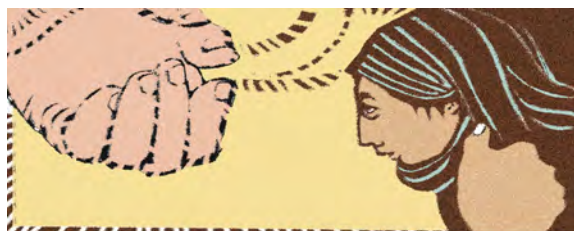
Second Reading — Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ (James 2:1-5).

Gospel — Jesus makes the deaf hear and the mute speak (Mark 7:31-37).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

HAPPY LABOR DAY

**THE PARISH OFFICE
WILL BE
CLOSED ON MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 6TH
FOR EMERGENCIES, CALL
949-228-2127**



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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 9/6	8:00am	†Betty Eadie
Tuesday 9/7	8:00am	Dan Louie
Wednesday 9/8	8:00am	Jim Lozano
Thursday 9/9	8:00am	†Marie Elizabeth Johnson
Friday 9/10	8:00am	†Dan Van Dorpe
Saturday 9/11	8:00am	Baby Johanna Harris Elizabeth Kulas †Jeff Glasgow †Tim Lowe †Lillia Tanchuling †Maria Leonor Cervantez Thansksgiving †Maria Quy Le Carol Fernandez †Rembert Dominguez Dan Louie †Alfredo De Leon †Gerard Danaher †Alodia Bartolome Marsha Welch †Don Brinkerhoff Steve Cory †Christie Dunbar †Hunter Evans †Florencio & Guadalupe Guillen
Saturday 9/11	4:00pm 6:00pm	†Dominico & Maria Vu †Francisco & Maria De Jesus
Sunday 9/12	8:00am 10:00am 12:00pm 5:00pm	Brandon †Michelle Uyan †Juan Jose Nunez Pro Populo

Daily Mass:
Monday – Saturday: 8:00 AM

Vigil Mass Times
4:00 PM Vietnamese/English
6:00 PM English

Sunday Mass Times
8:00 AM English
10:00 AM English
12:00 PM Spanish/English
5:00 PM English

Morning Prayer: Wed & Fri 7:30am to 7:50am

Adoration: Every Friday 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Saturday Confessions: 1:00pm to 3:00pm

**Mass will be available online for the sick and
homebound on Sundays at 10:00am and
Monday-Saturday at 8:00am**

**For spiritual advisement, please contact the priest
to schedule an appointment.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Thomas More Parish,

Today's theme on the readings: THE MESSIAH FORETOLD

Today's story of the cure of a deaf man with a speech impediment is a good example of how much is contained in a simple miracle story. The Greek word *mogilalos* appears only here in all of the New Testament. It is a technical term referring to someone with a stammer. It is also used only once in the entire Jewish scriptures, in the passage that we read today as our first reading from Isaiah. Clearly, by his choice of this precise word Mark wants us to recognize that what Jesus is doing is the fulfillment of what Isaiah had predicted centuries earlier. In fact, Mark wants us to recognize that Jesus is the Messiah foretold by Isaiah and the other Jewish prophets of old.

The word *epiphatha*, "be opened," used to describe the restoration of the man's speech, is another example of a subtle allusion to an earlier prophecy. This time the prophecy in question is from Ezekiel, when he foretells that in the messianic age, "your mouth shall be opened to speak" (24:26). The sophistication of Mark's narrative is further revealed when we realize that there are multiple levels within a single reference. Mark not only draws our attention back to Israel's prophetic past, he also points to the initiatory practice of his contemporaries by his mention of such things as spittle, touching of ears, and the use of the word *epiphatha*, all of which were practices incorporated into the early Church's baptismal ritual. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Sincerely In Christ,
Father Eugene



Rest in the Love of Christ
Ed Baldyga



PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING



- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Sally Acosta | Alice Green | Benjamin Nicanor |
| Stacey Allen | Tina Halberg | Karen Norton |
| Richy Altuna | Baby Johanna Harris | Nam Van Nguyen |
| Mike Anderson | Mike Harvey | Thuy-Lieu Nguyen |
| Renee Andrade | Shirley Hecker | Quy Nguyen |
| Judy Anselmo | John Heffernan | Kyle Osbourne |
| Alicia Arrellano | Robert Henry | Agnes Pamintuam |
| Sam Baniqued | Annette Hills | Benny Parades |
| Zicky Baniqued | Margaret Hills | Regina Park |
| Jesus Barragan | Clara Honea | Norma Jeanne Parrish |
| Terry Beck | Dominador Hontucan | Den Tony & Mary Patronite |
| Blanca Bermudez | Sue House | Gabby Paz |
| Maria Botello | Linda Hughes | Charlie Perrea |
| Michele Bradley | Angela Jack | K. Nga Phan |
| Bill Burk | Elsa Jatwani | Ngocle Phung |
| Mary & Joe Bush | Theresa Johnston | Jerry and Evie Pilkington |
| Baby Zane Cabazon | Sharon Jones | Zachary Quick |
| Linda Carter | Doris Jordan | Norma Quyang |
| Ellen Chang | Quinn Kelly | Fr. Jim Reis |
| Cyrus Charna | Jim Kendall | Paula Reno |
| Marietta Charbonneau | Houman Khaghani | Lorraine Reyes |
| Hui-Mei Chen | Jett Knight | Ponciano Reyes |
| Clara Connor | Ty Vivian Knisely | Robert Arnold Rull |
| Alexandra Conti | Elizabeth Kulas | Sheila Russo |
| Paul Cook | Richard Kulas | Terry Rute |
| Petra Cordova | Deborah Kurilchyk | Anita Ruwaldt |
| Francisco Cortez | Larry Lathrum | Debashish Sarkar |
| Jim Danaher | Glenn Leckie | Jackson & Gerri Scharff |
| Mark Daniel | Damian Ledesma | Stuart Schnieder |
| Rick Denham | Todd Leeds | Michelle Suh |
| Diana & Liberato DeVeyra | Jack Light | Tara Summers |
| Larry Doan | Minerva Lopez | Liz Thomas |
| Chela Echenique | Aida Lopez-Tan | Gail Tierney |
| Linda Emanuel | Gloria MacCormack | Xuan Tran |
| Meynard Encarnacion | Myrna Malazarte | Denise Trujillo |
| Thomas Erhard | Kristin Mann | Jack Troung |
| Richard Erhard | Mercedes Mantilla | Kimberly Truong |
| Jacob Espinoza | Cherry Marinas | Baby Catherine Tseng |
| Lena Fisher | Cavan McGaffney | David Valentine |
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| Jose Gonzales, Jr. | Marie Moya | Mike Winchester |
| Marisela Gonzalez | Susan Navarrete | Jim Wood |
| Lois Gorman | Ramon Navarro, Jr. | Linda Yipp |
| Marnie Gray | Exy Ner | |

Collections and Expenses

8-23-2021 to 8-29-21

	Collection	E-Giving	Total
Sunday Collection	\$11,091	\$7,413	\$18,504
Believe & Grow	\$700	\$475	\$1,175
BGT- Phase 2	\$650	\$1,912	\$2,562
Building Fund	\$2,605	\$1,404	\$4,009
Other income	\$1,245	\$1,168	\$2,413

Regular Expenses \$3,114

We appreciate your continued financial support of the parish during these challenging times. If you would like to give, please click on the e-giving link in the top corner of the STM website to set up or update your e-giving. If you have questions, please call the office. All donations to the *Believe & Grow Together Campaign* will be used exclusively to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church. Moreover, Building Fund donations can be used to pay for the construction costs to build the new Parish church and for the maintenance and repairs of the existing Parish buildings and property. **Thank you for your generosity!**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessing of Human Labor," nos. 907-911

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6 Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

Thursday: Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-7; Lk 6:43-49

Sunday: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

Please call the office when it is time to remove a name.

LIFE TEEN

Now

The Summit

Want to grow deeper in the study of Scripture? We meet on Mondays at 7pm in the Youth Ministry Office and study the following Sunday's Mass readings. Hope to see you there!

LIFE TEEN

Thu 7:00 PM

Thank You!

We had over 40 freshmen from all the neighboring high schools join us for a Life Teen preview night. We are happy announce that our LT Fall Kick Off will be Sunday, Sept 26.

CONFIRMATION

WED 6:00 PM

Registration For Confirmation Is Now Open!

If you would like to register your teenager for the 2021-2022 Confirmation year, Please visit STMIRVINEYM.ORG to register.

R.E.P. CORNER



REP Registration News

We are so excited that REP is returning to in person classes this Fall, and registration is **NOW OPEN!!**

Please visit: rep.stmirvine.org to register your students in Grades K-8. Please contact the REP Office with any questions.



Volunteers Needed for 2021/2022

We are recruiting teachers, substitute teachers and parent volunteers for the upcoming school year. For more info on sharing the love of our faith with the young people of our parish, please contact the REP office at (949) 551-8029.



For any questions, call the REP Office at (949) 551-8029.



The Library Corner

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



The St Thomas More Parish Library staff would like to wish all our parishioners a Happy 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Parish Library will not be open today.

I would like to strongly recommend a book today that will give you a compelling sense to defend your Catholic faith from real life situations. The book is, 'Nothing But the Truth', by author Karl Keating. Karl explores the conflict of truth in a series of essays, including history, theology and apologetics as he shares accounts of our faith on trial and how he and others respond to each challenge. The author has provided us with something that is as informative as it is inspiring. This book may help you to be ready to defend and explain your Catholic faith to others.





Considering whether to join the Catholic Community?
Just want to know what it is about from an adult perspective?
Baptized Catholic but not yet Confirmed even though you are an adult?

The parish will offer a series of gatherings to explore our Catholic faith in an adult perspective.

These gatherings focus on the needs of the following groups of people:

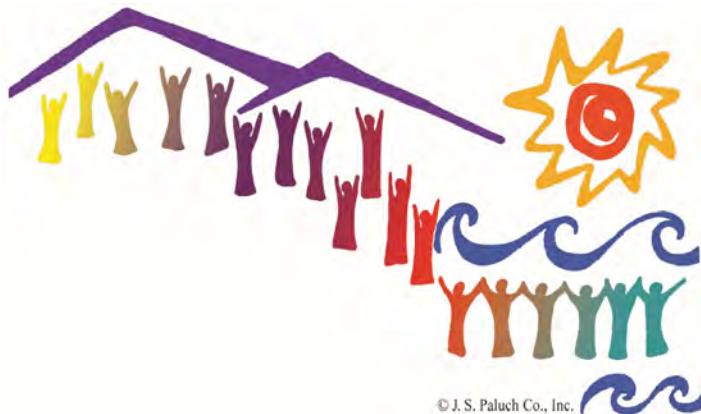
- Those wishing to prepare themselves to make an adult choice whether to become a Catholic Christian via Baptism.
- Those who have been baptized as a Catholic or baptized as a member of another denomination and wish to prepare themselves for complete initiation into the Catholic Church through Confirmation and/or First Communion.
- Those Baptized and/or Confirmed as a child but not educated as an adult in Catholic Christianity.
- Those wishing to just find out more about Catholicism from an adult perspective, whether one is already a Catholic or not.

**Our first gathering will be on
Sunday, September 12th at 7:30 PM
In the Parish Hall**

The first meeting will be focused on organization determining our future meeting days and times.

For more information, please call **Mike Michalek at 949-551-2304.**

If you cannot make the organization meeting, please call or email Mike at michalekm@sprintmail.com to let him know when you are available to attend the sessions.



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Thinking of becoming an altar server?



We will be having Altar Server Training
on **Saturday Sept 11th at 9:30am.**

We invite all children 4th grade and up
(who have already received first communion)
to join our dynamic ministry.

Don't just attend Mass, be a part of it!

Please register online, call the office, or
call 714-356-7607 for more information.



When Women Pray
11th Annual
Prayer Breakfast

faith
— OVER —
fear

October 16, 2021
8am - 1pm
St. Thomas More Parish

www.whenwomenpraystm.org

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October 16, 2021

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This summit will be historic for the Church in this year under Saint Joseph's cloak dedicated by our Holy Father.

- Deacon Steve Greco
President, Spirit Filled Hearts Ministry




"Ephphatha!"

-that is, "Be opened!"



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FEAST OF FAITH Remembering

When Jesus broke the bread on the night before he died, he told his disciples, "do this in memory of me" (Luke 22:19). Christians have been faithful to that solemn command. Our eucharistic remembering is not nostalgia, nor is it merely historical, recalling events and facts of long ago. In the liturgy, remembering is action. "Do this," Jesus said. In the Eucharist, we remember by doing. And as we remember, the sacrifice of Jesus is renewed, truly made present, no longer then, but now. After the consecration, each of the Eucharistic Prayers includes a section called the anamnesis, a Greek word that means "remembering." In this part of the prayer, "the Church, fulfilling the command that she received from Christ the Lord through the Apostles, keeps the memorial of Christ, recalling especially his blessed Passion, glorious Resurrection, and Ascension into heaven" (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 79e). We pause and call to mind the whole paschal mystery, Christ's dying and rising. "We celebrate the memory of his death and resurrection" (Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation II). Obeying Christ's command, we remember.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Labor Day; Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year 5782) begins at sunset
Wednesday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday: St. Peter Claver
Saturday: Patriot Day; Blessed Virgin Mary

Ways to Give to STM:

- Secure e-giving on our website: www.stmirvine.org
- In basket at Mass 
- Mail your check or drop it off in our parish lobby 
- Use your smartphone via GivePlus app (Vanco) 
- Donate stock, life insurance or retirement plans 
- Employer Matching Gifts 
- Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of the eligible purchases to STM!


Thank you for your continued support!

saint snippets

"You did it for me."
—Matthew 25:40

St. Teresa of Calcutta
Albanian nun who founded the Missionaries of Charity and devoted her life to serving the poorest of the poor in Calcutta, India

September 5



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20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

MEMORIAL MASS AND CEREMONY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

8:00 AM

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH



REMEMBERING ALL THOSE WE LOST
HONORING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS



**Our Refuge in
our Time of Need**

*Lord my God,
in you I take refuge;
rescue me.
-Psalm 7:2*



Eucharistic Adoration

EVERY FRIDAY

6:00PM TO 7:00PM

24 HOUR ADORATION ON
THE 22ND OF THE MONTH



The Blessed Sacrament Chapel

open for individual, private prayer

Monday-Friday

7:00am to 5:00pm

Saturday & Sunday

7:00am to 6:00pm

ST. THOMAS MORE MINISTRIES

Liturgy Support

Altar Servers	Tina Le	(7) 356-7607
Eucharist to the Homebound	Fran Necikowski	(7) 505-4816
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Jerry Donaldson	(9) 552-5485
Lectors	Tara Reynaud	(7) 925-9992
Music Director, Including Wedding Music	Keith Rattay	(9) 551-8601
Ushers	Steve Luchetta	(9) 733-1192

Sacraments

Baptism Coordinator	Windy Lozano	(9) 551-8601
Confirmation	Abraham Villela	(9) 551-8602
First Communion	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
First Reconciliation	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)	Michael Michalek	(9) 551-2304
Marriage Case Support	Michael Michalek	(9) 551-2304
	Mary Patronite	(9) 551-8601
Marriage Encounter	Jim & Cheryl Skudlarski	(9) 551-9156
Marriage In The Lord	Meredith & Keith Rattay	(9) 559-6464
Wedding Coordinator		

Service

Bereavement	Rosie Muñoz	(9) 551-8601
Children's Homeless Lunch Ministry	Kim Le	(9) 551-8601
Chinese Community	Deacon Leonard Sun	(7) 932-1689
Corazon	Norma Jean Womack	(9) 559-5639
Filipino Community	Charlie Torres	(9) 551-8601
Hispanic Ministry	Frank Ornelas (9) 857-9044	Patty Trujillo (7) 270-5073
Homeless Lunch Ministry	Margaret Cunningham	(7) 552-8711
Knights of Columbus Council #13111	Ed Francis	(858) 229-2490
Respect Life	Chris Gonzales	(9) 551-8601
STM Veterans	Sgt. Bob Kohler	(9) 552-1895
St. Vincent de Paul	Bill Chacon	(9) 331-1020
Vietnamese Ministry	Huan Le	(7) 261-9893
Young Ladies Institute	Mary O'Leary	(9) 305-6810

Parish

Believe and Grow Together Campaign	Lisa VanDorpe	(7) 357-3080
Bulletin Editor	Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Building Committee	Keith Rattay	(9) 551-8601
Deacons	Tony Patronite, Tin Nguyen & Leonard Sun	(9) 551-8601
Parish Business Manager	Stephanie Miller	(9) 551-8601
Parish Office Manager	Lisa Bergler	(9) 551-8601
Welcoming Committee	Vince Salico	(7) 389-7726

Spiritual Development

Adult Faith Formation / Bible Study	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Life Teen – High School & Young Adults	Abraham Villela	(9) 551-8602
Religious Education	Barbara Catiller	(9) 551-8029
Christ Renews His Parish	Tony Patronite	(9) 307-6215
Cursillo and When Women Pray	Susan Navarrete	(9) 551-8601
Legion of Mary	Linda Hughes	(9) 559-1124
Library	Sam & Diana Adams	(7) 321-2405
Spanish Bible Study	Teresa LeMire	(7) 832-1770

If you are feeling called to serve in one or more of our ministries, please send an email with your contact information to: serve@stmirvine.org

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THEN WILL THE EYES OF THE BLIND BE OPENED

the ears of the deaf be cleared;
then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the mute will sing.

Isaiah 35:5-6

GOD LIFTS US UP

Our readings this Sunday describe God's work of liberation for those who are vulnerable. Isaiah portrays the coming of God in terms of the healing of the blind, the deaf, and the lame. James notes that God chooses the poor to be rich in faith. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus heals a deaf person who has a speech impediment. The readings remind us of the acute struggles of the disabled, the excluded, and the poor. In the last year and a half, the pandemic has reminded us that we are all vulnerable, that illness and death are near us always. Today we hear that God's presence is revealed when God lifts us up, and when we join God to lift each other up. Our care for others, especially those in greatest need, can be our grateful response to God's healing of us in our own vulnerability.

BLESSING FOR ALL

The story of the deaf man related in today's Gospel is one of several descriptions of extraordinary healings in this part of Mark's Gospel. Mark leads readers to understand that in Jesus, God is fulfilling the divine promises prophesied by Isaiah: "the ears of the deaf (will) be cleared . . . the tongue of the mute will sing." When the deaf can hear and the mute can sing, this sign of the coming of God means that the gifts of sight and hearing are now available, not only for the individuals involved, but for their families and the whole community around them.

There is a "ripple effect" of blessing extending well beyond individual healing. Those isolated by deafness and speech impediments could now fully participate in common life. With their inclusion, the community itself receives healing. In the Gospels, salvation is always inclusive and wholistic. God brings blessing to one small part of creation, so to extend blessing to all of creation.

BOTH LOVE AND CRITIQUE

For those who first heard today's passage from the letter of James, it probably struck a nerve. James challenged the local church's treatment of the poor as compared to the rich. It might strike a nerve for us too, because we live in a society where the wealthy are very much privileged, and the honoring of wealth is deeply ingrained in our cultural value system. James warns the church not to imitate the class distinctions made in the broader society. The Gospel proclaims that we are all equally God's children.

The church typically lives in a particular place and within a dominant culture. The church is always called upon to reflect upon its faithfulness to the Gospel, discerning whether it absorbs cultural values and attitudes that conflict with the Gospel. The church is called to love and nourish the culture, and at the same time to speak in critique of its idolatries. These challenges continue in our own parish communities, here and now.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

SEPTEMBER

5
2021

Twenty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time