



## The Gradual Road to Ruin

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSsR

**A** wise old sage once observed, "When it starts out stupid, it just gets more stupid." The parable in today's gospel illustrates this wisdom.

The son has been sent. The jig is up. The owner is not going to give up the vineyard. The tenants gambled and lost. It's time for them to accept the inevitable and pay the rent. But common sense and wisdom do not prevail. *Kill the son, they think, and all that he would have inherited will be ours!*

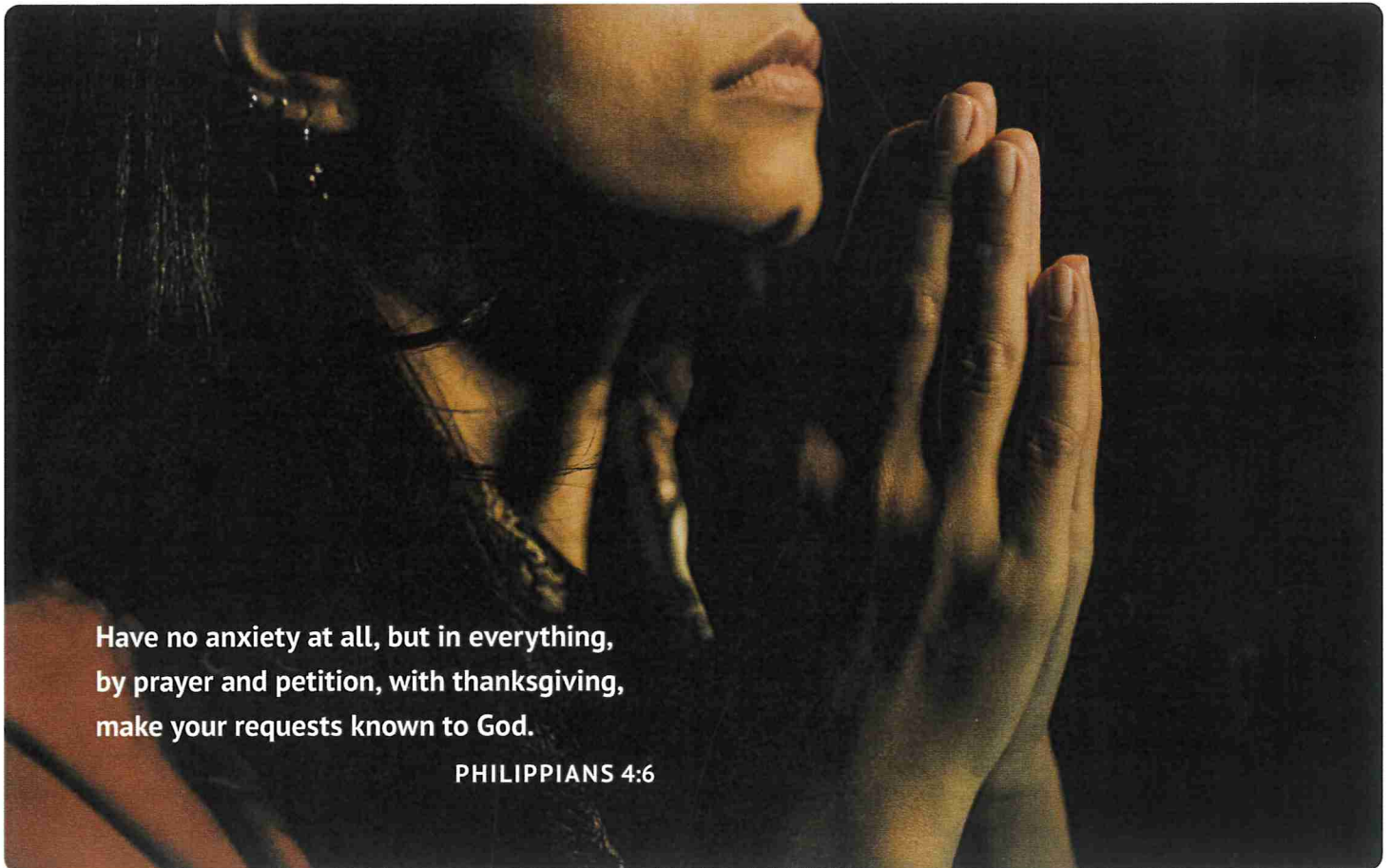
How do you get from "don't pay the rent" to "kill the son"? It is not a straight or smooth path. There are a lot of twists and turns between point A and point B. But it happens. It sneaks in. It demands little compromises and small dishonesties along the way as it becomes easier and easier for you to choose what is destructive. Then, you find you have lost it all—your very self. And the corruption you've embraced convinces you that you're making wise choices. You must be completely cleansed of the seduction that has enabled you to make these choices. You need to start again. ●



LEARN ABOUT  
THE AUTHORS  
OF OUR PARISH  
COMMUNITY

### Reflect

***Am I aware of a sin that has become easy to commit?***



Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,  
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,  
make your requests known to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6

St. Anselm  
Anselmo, NE

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Sargent, NE

St. Joseph  
Broken Bow, NE

1407 South E St. PO Box 405  
Broken Bow, NE 68822

Parish Office: 308-872-5809

Rectory: 308-872-5716

Website: [www.stjoecatholic.org](http://www.stjoecatholic.org)

Email: [stjoescatholic@msn.com](mailto:stjoescatholic@msn.com)

Office Hours:

Monday- Friday 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM

**Parish Staff**

Fr. Joe Hannappel, Pastor  
Keegan Clark, Office Manager  
Alena Tierney, Financial Secretary  
Kate Morse, Parish Nurse

**Directors or Religious Education**

Linly Schmidt - Anselmo  
Jill Thompson - Anselmo  
Laura Kipp - Sargent  
Molly Ryan - Broken Bow

**Weekend Schedule**

**Saturday**

3:00-3:30 pm *Reconciliation*  
*Broken Bow or by appointment*

4:00 pm Broken Bow

6:00 pm Sargent

**Sunday**

8:30 am Anselmo

10:30 am Broken Bow

**Mass Schedule: Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> - Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>**

Mon. No Mass

Tues. No Mass

Wed. No Mass

Thur. No Mass

Fri. No Mass

Sat. 3:00-3:30 pm Reconciliation  
at Broken Bow

4:00 pm Mass at Broken Bow

*Servers: Ryker W. & Kaleb B.*

6:00 pm Mass at Sargent

Refreshments after Mass

Sun. 8:30 am Mass at Anselmo

*Servers: Bryce C. & Jackson C.*

Bible Study after Mass

10:30 am Mass at Broken Bow

*Servers: Paislee O. & Vannia M.*

**Mass Intentions**

This week Fr. Joe  
will be at a family  
wedding next week  
he will be on retreat

People of the Parishes

Rigoberto Lopez †

Richard "Dick" Clark †

Brody McMillan

**Events This Week**

**October 5<sup>th</sup>**

1:30pm Divine Mercy  
Cenacle Prayer Group  
at St. Joseph P. Ctr.

**October 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Religious Education**

6:30pm Anselmo

6:30pm Sargent

7:00pm Broken Bow

**October 8<sup>th</sup>**

6:30am Broken Bow

Men's Bible Study in  
P. Ctr.

**September 26/27**

**Collection**

**St. Joseph**

Regular: \$3,474.23

Parking Lot/Concrete:  
\$150.00

**St. Anselm**

Regular: \$633.00

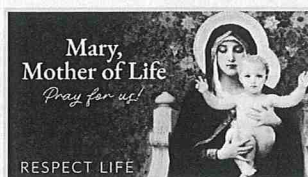
Utilities: \$100.00

**Assumption of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary.**

Regular: \$412.00

Thank you very much  
for your generosity!

The latest issue of "Growing  
in Faith" is now available on  
the parish website!



**Adult Journey in the Catholic Faith**

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you know someone that might be interested in joining our Church? If so, please invite them or share their name with Fr. Joe. Are you baptized in the Catholic Faith and in need of other sacraments? Would you like to refresh your knowledge of the Bible & Catholic Teaching? If so, please contact Fr. Joe about Christian Initiation and Adult Faith Formation or call the parish office at (308) 872-5809.

**Happy Birthday!**

Iris Spanel turns 101 and JoAnn Meyer turns 90  
on Sunday, October 11.



**PCCW College Care Packages**

It's that time of year again! The PCCW is preparing and sending care packages to our 2026 graduates. If you would like to assist in this ministry, please donate 10 of an item appropriate for a new college student. Examples may include school supplies, snacks, drinks, toiletries, etc. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office by Monday, Oct 12.

Packages will be sent on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

**STEWARDSHIP:**

A simple definition of stewardship. We must use the gifts God has given us for the benefit of others.

"Be generous, sharing what you have" (1 Tim 6:18).

**October 3-4, 2026**  
**RESPECT LIFE MONTH AND RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY**

Dear friends in Christ,

Every October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, with the first Sunday of October designated as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to welcome, care for, and protect God's gift of human life, with special concern for those who are most vulnerable. Respect Life Sunday and Respect Life Month offer opportunities to highlight this precious gift through prayer, reflection, advocacy, and service.

This year's theme, "Mary, Mother of Life," reflects on Our Lady's distinguished role as mother of all the living. The life of the Blessed Mother teaches us to respect each human life in every stage and circumstance. We ask her intercession in helping us to recognize the gift of human life, even when that gift is unexpected or calls us to make sacrifices.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops also has many other materials to help you build a culture of life in your parish throughout the year, such as other parish action guides ([respectlife.org/action-guides](http://respectlife.org/action-guides)) and Walking with Moms in Need ([walkingwithmoms.com](http://walkingwithmoms.com)).

Offering my deep gratitude to all who have committed themselves to the cause of life, I pray that together we may faithfully contribute to a culture of life through selfless and sacrificial Christ-like love.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,  
Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas  
Bishop of Toledo -  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

Help women in your  
community choose *life*.

[walkingwithmoms.com](http://walkingwithmoms.com)

Walking with  
Moms in Need



**PRAYER FOR LIFE**

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

(Prayer taken from the Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers, Revised Edition)

**Respect Life Sunday**

Inserts from last weeks bulletin are available in the entrances of our churches:

**Mary, Mother of Life**

**St. Francis: Visionary of Life**

**St. Francis' "Prayer before the Crucifix"**

"Most High, glorious God,  
enlighten the darkness of my heart  
and give me true faith, certain, hope,  
and perfect charity, sense and knowledge,

Lord, that I may carry out  
Your holy and true commands."

**Saint Francis: Visionary of Life**

Read the full version at  
[respectlife.org/francis-visionary-of-life](http://respectlife.org/francis-visionary-of-life).

Saint Francis proclaims that the created world reveals the glory of God himself.

This is particularly true for the human person, created in the image of God, whose life from conception to natural death is to be honored and protected. Among all creation, the human person has the unique capacity to praise God, highlighting the distinctive dignity of human life.

During this Year of Saint Francis, may we seek his intercession for the protection of human life and the courage to defend it.



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**Custer County Life Chain invites  
you to join our Life Chain:**

**Sunday, October 4th,  
2:30 to 3:30 pm**

Pick up signs at St. Joseph's  
Catholic Church Parking Lot in  
Broken Bow. Join us in prayer for  
an end to abortion.

**Fall Meeting of the North Platte  
DCCW**

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic  
Church

204 Main Street, Thedford, NE  
Saturday, October 10

Registration is \$20 and begins at  
9:30am CT. Dcn. Michael Davis  
presents about mental illness. Mass,  
lunch, a meeting, and installation of  
Officers will follow.



Welcome to  
**Lanay Christen**  
who was received into full  
communion with the  
Church  
at St. Anselm on  
October 4, 2026.

**2026-2027 DIOCESAN APPEAL  
COMMITMENT WEEKEND**

Everyone registered in our parishes was mailed a letter from Bishop Hanefeldt in the past week. If you have not received a letter please contact us so we can update your parish registration.

This year's diocesan appeal theme is  
*Blessed & Grateful:  
Trusting in God's Promises*

# Dear Padre,

*My friend is deeply involved in her faith, but I struggle with our friendship because I don't like how she treats her pets. I don't understand how someone who values religion so highly can show so little care for animals. What should I do?*



HEB RAHOISHA / PEXELS-

Franciscan Friar Kevin Mackin writes, “The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye to eye are two creatures of love” (“Why We Bless Animals,” *Catholic Update*). Because of this strong bond between humans and sentient creatures, it’s especially difficult to witness their mistreatment, either through neglect (such as failing to provide sufficient food, water, shelter, or veterinary care) or direct physical abuse (a violation of anti-cruelty laws and a criminal offense in all fifty states). Studies show that owning pets offers us companionship and emotional support; in turn, these qualities can foster in us greater empathy and compassion toward others. Yet, while pets may greatly benefit our health and well-being, owning them comes with a serious obligation and moral responsibility. Vulnerable pets depend on humans for adequate care and protection. At times, some pet owners can be overwhelmed by their responsibility to provide proper care; others may even be unaware that they are treating their pets inappropriately. Out of concern for both your friend and her pets, consider a non-critical, non-confrontational approach to discuss your observations and to offer assistance. ●

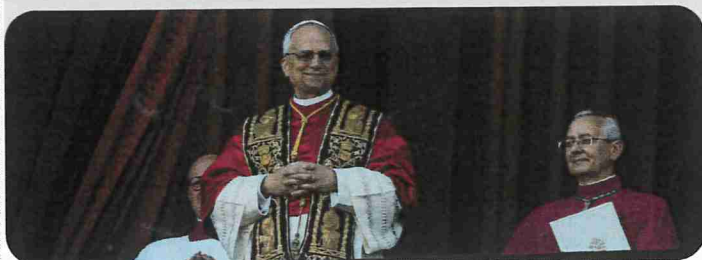
**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org**

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*Today we lift up our prayer for peace in the world, asking that nations renounce weapons and choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy. Disarm our hearts of hatred, resentment, and indifference, so we may become instruments of reconciliation. Help us understand that true security does not come from control fueled by fear, but from trust, justice, and solidarity among peoples.*

**“PRAY WITH THE POPE” VIDEO MESSAGE, MARCH 2026**

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MARCO IACOBucci EPP - SHUTTERSTOCK

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about **Dear Padre**.

|                                                                                                |                                                                               |                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b><br>October 5<br><i>Weekday</i><br>Gal 1:6-12<br>Lk 10:25-37                      | <b>Thursday</b><br>October 8<br><i>Weekday</i><br>Gal 3:1-5<br>Lk 11:5-13     | <b>Sunday</b><br>October 11<br><i>Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i><br>Is 25:6-10a<br>Phil 4:12-14, 19-20<br>Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10 |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br>October 6<br><i>Weekday</i><br>Gal 1:13-24<br>Lk 10:38-42                    | <b>Friday</b><br>October 9<br><i>Weekday</i><br>Gal 3:7-14<br>Lk 11:15-26     |                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br>October 7<br><i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i><br>Gal 2:1-2, 7-14<br>Lk 11:1-4 | <b>Saturday</b><br>October 10<br><i>Weekday</i><br>Gal 3:22-29<br>Lk 11:27-28 |                                                                                                                                            |