



ST. FRANCIS
CATHOLIC

THE BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 10, 2026

Congratulations to our Confirmation Students!



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Part Two
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Welcome to Saint Francis Catholic

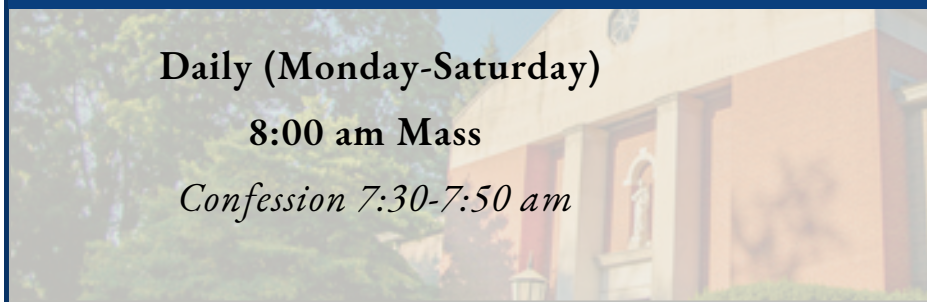
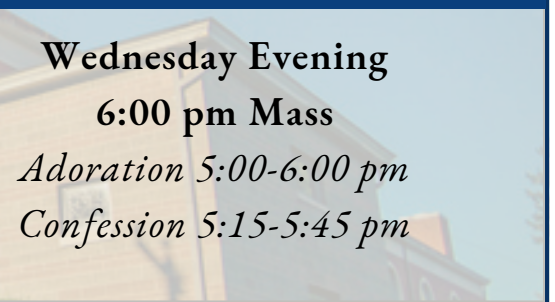
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| 3. Contact Us | 7. Blessing of Animals | 12. Community Snapshots <i>contd.</i> |
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Mass, Confession & Adoration Times

Weekends

 Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm St. Jerome	 Sunday 8:30 am St. Maurice	 Sunday 10:30 am St. Francis
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Weekdays (all at St. Francis)

 Daily (Monday-Saturday) 8:00 am Mass <i>Confession 7:30-7:50 am</i>	 Wednesday Evening 6:00 pm Mass <i>Adoration 5:00-6:00 pm</i> <i>Confession 5:15-5:45 pm</i>
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Our Parish Churches

St. Francis	St. Jerome	St. Maurice	St. Joseph*	St. Peter*
1755 Stanley Street New Britain, CT 06053	1010 Slater Road New Britain, CT 06053	100 Wightman Road New Britain, CT 06052	195 S. Main Street New Britain, CT 06051	98 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

**St. Joseph and St. Peter Churches are no longer used for regular Masses.*

Community - Liturgy - Formation - Holiness

St. Francis Catholic exists to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bring all people into relationship with God, and form the next generation of evangelical Catholics. We do this by means of 4 pillars: welcoming community, engaging liturgical prayer, doctrinal formation, and commitment to growing in personal holiness.

Parish Leadership Contact Information



Rev. Michael Casey
Pastor
fr.casey@stfranciscatholic.org



Rev. Sean Yates
Parochial Vicar
fr.yates@stfranciscatholic.org



Deacon Alan Bielawski
Deacon



Omar Acosta
Facilities Manager
omar@stfranciscatholic.org



Elizabeth Famularo
Music Director
elizabeth@stfranciscatholic.org



Kristyn Figbie
Communications Director
kristyn@stfranciscatholic.org



Katie King
Faith Formation Coordinator
katie@stfranciscatholic.org



Jack Lacey-Giugno
Campus Minister
jack@stfranciscatholic.org



Patti Pavia
Parish Secretary
patti@stfranciscatholic.org



Sofia del Rio
Pastoral Associate
sofia@stfranciscatholic.org



Janet Trainer
Business Manager
janet@stfranciscatholic.org



StFrancisCatholic.org

Address:

1010 Slater Rd., New Britain, CT 06053

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone:

860-224-2411

Fax:

860-224-6838

Email:

parishoffice@stfranciscatholic.org

Chesterton Academy of St. Francis of Assisi



Andrew Blaski
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Phone:

860-348-3455



ChestertonSFA.org

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Collection

September 6, 2026: \$11,702.26

September 13, 2026: \$9,218.96

September 20, 2026: \$10,548.81

HOPES Collection: \$2,008.00

This amount includes the basket, mail in and online donations.

Mass Attendance

September 6, 2026: 596

September 13, 2026: 573

September 20, 2026: 672

Thank you for your continued generosity in support of our parish!



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR (ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT)

On the weekend of September 27th, the Little Sisters of the Poor will be visiting St. Jerome, St. Maurice & St. Francis. Donations exclusively support the care of the elderly poor who reside with the Sisters at St. Joseph's Residence in Enfield. The Little Sisters of the Poor have been serving the needs of the elderly poor in Connecticut & Western Massachusetts for over 100 years. *Checks should be made to 'Little Sisters of the Poor-St. Joseph's Residence'.* Thank you for your generosity.

Online

Visit www.stfranciscatholic.org

Click Donate to launch the Parish Giving website

Select *Give Now* for a one time donation or create an account to set up recurring contributions

Venmo

@StFrancisCatholicNB

Please Note: Venmo should be

used for donations to the church.

Mass Intentions must be paid cash

or check to St. Francis Church



IN LOVING MEMORY

we pray for:



*May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the Mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Knights of Columbus Chapter 31 presents a

WINTER HOMELESS DRIVE

Drop off locations at the church entrances

Thank you for your generosity!

We need the following items:

Winter gloves (men/women)

Winter hats (men/women)

Scarves (men)

Socks (men/women)

Deodorant (men/women)

Hand warmers

10 ride bus passes (available from Stop N Shop)

Runs until November 1

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

*All weekday Masses are at St. Francis unless otherwise noted
Please Note All Sunday Masses are at St. Jerome on 10/4*

Saturday, September 26

8:00 am: St. Francis: +Nick Selva & +Jacintha Mohanraj

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: +Khoat Nguyen & +Linh Tran

Sunday, September 27 *Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: +Patricia Ambroszewski

10:30 am: St. Francis: +Everett Manning, Jr.

Monday, September 28

8:00 am: Pro Populo

Tuesday, September 29

8:00 am: Special Intention

Wednesday, September 30

8:00 am: +Clare Onorato & +Helen Morrissey

6:00 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, October 1

8:00 am: Special Intention

Friday, October 2

8:00 am: Special Intention

Saturday, October 3

8:00 am: St. Francis: Intention of the Celebrant

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: Intention of the Celebrant

Sunday, October 4 *Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

***8:30 am: St. Jerome:** Intention of the Celebrant

***10:30 am: St. Jerome:** Intention of the Celebrant

Monday, October 5

8:00 am: Pro Populo

Tuesday, October 6

8:00 am: Intention of the Celebrant

Wednesday, October 7

8:00 am: Intention of the Celebrant

6:00 pm: Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, October 8

8:00 am: Intention of the Celebrant

Friday, October 9

8:00 am: Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, October 10

8:00 am: St. Francis: Sanctification of the Bishop &
Priests of the Archdiocese of Hartford

4:00 pm Vigil: St. Jerome: +Tracy Levesque Monniere

Sunday, October 11 *Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 am: St. Maurice: +Tobiasz Cichowlaz

10:30 am: St. Francis: Intention of the Celebrant

Note: The Sunday 10:30 am Masses are ASL interpreted.

EMAIL NOTIFICATION

In the event of inclement weather, schedule changes or cancellations, this will be the primary way to notify parishioners.
To opt in, email your name and email to: notification@stfranciscatholic.org. *We cannot send texts or make phone calls.*



JESUS AT PRAYER: PART TWO

He Spent the Night in Prayer



By Monsignor Frank Matera

In my last column I discussed how prayer undergirded everything Jesus did. His prayer with his Father was the inner power that enabled him to carry out his ministry. And so, very early in the morning, before dawn, Jesus prayed. In this column, I focus on some of the different occasions when he prayed.

Saint Luke is quite insistent that Jesus prayed at the important moments of his life. For example, after he was baptized, Jesus prayed and the Spirit descended upon him (Luke 3:21-22). Before choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus spends the night in prayer (Luke 6:12-13). After praying in solitude, he asks his disciples who do the crowds say he is (Luke 9:18). Before his transfiguration, Jesus ascends a high mountain to pray (Luke 9:28). And before he teaches his disciples how to pray, he prays in solitude (Luke 11:1).

Jesus prays at the important moments of his life. This, of course, makes perfect sense. Before he embarks on a new phase in his ministry, or when he is about to make an important decision, Jesus prays. He enters into deep communion with the Father so that he can discern the Father's will. Prayer affords Jesus time to enter into the silence of God and listen to what the Father says to him.

Praying before important moments in our life, such as

before making a decision, helps us to discern God's will. Many people, however, are too busy to pray. They want to act quickly, and so they do not take the time to pray about what they should do. It is only when their decision proves wrong that they turn to God and pray, "Lord, save me, Lord help me, Lord deliver me!" While these prayers for help and deliverance are not wrong, it would have been better to have prayed before acting.

One of the great lessons about prayer that we learn from Jesus is to pray before the great moments of decision in our lives rather than after them, when the damage has been done. Praying before such moments enables us to discern God's will.

Praying before the important moments of our life is more than a matter of asking God for something; it is a way of seeking to discern God's will. For example, you are seeking a new job or career path in life. At such a moment you can pray that God will help you to get the new job or you can pray for the wisdom and guidance to know if this job is best for you. You can pray, "Lord, grant me this new position." Or you can pray, "grant me the grace to discern what is best for me, what is in accord with your will." This is the kind of prayer Jesus engaged in. Before the great moments of his life, before he made important decisions, he entered into prayer with his Father to discern God's will. So should we. Do not simply pray for something. Pray to discern God's will for your life.

“

PRAYER AFFORDS JESUS

TIME TO ENTER INTO THE

silence of God

AND LISTEN TO WHAT THE

FATHER SAYS TO HIM.

”

September 27 & October 4, 2026

JOIN US FOR THE

FALL
FESTIVAL

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

AFTER THE 10:30 AM MASS

All Masses this weekend will be at the St. Jerome Campus

Join us on the St. Jerome Campus for:

Hotdogs | Hamburgers | Snacks | Lawn Games

Music | Fun | Community | and more!

*Interested in bringing a dessert to share?
Call the office at 860-224-2411 to sign up.*

BLESSING
of ANIMALS

Saturday, October 3 at 9:30am

St. Francis Church

Animals must be safely secured





CHESTERTON ACADEMY

of St. Francis of Assisi

NEWS

OPEN HOUSE DATES

Sunday, October 18 at 1:00 pm

Thursday, November 19 at 6:30 pm

All Open Houses are onsite at 30 Pendleton Road, New Britain

Looking ahead to Fall 2027

While our founding year has just begun, we're continuing to look to the future! Prospective families are welcomed to join us for an Open House, or for a Shadow Day, where their student can spend time on campus for a day attending classes and experiencing the Chesterton difference first-hand. Scan the QR code to learn more!



House Ceremony

Our House System draws from the 1,000 year-old tradition of Christian education, where students are assigned to one of four Houses, each representing one of four saints: Augustine, Ambrose, Athanasius and Chrysostom.



Oath of Fidelity

On the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, our faculty and staff made their Profession of Faith and took the Oath of Fidelity, making a public promise to teach in communion with the Magisterium and to hand on the fullness of the Catholic faith.

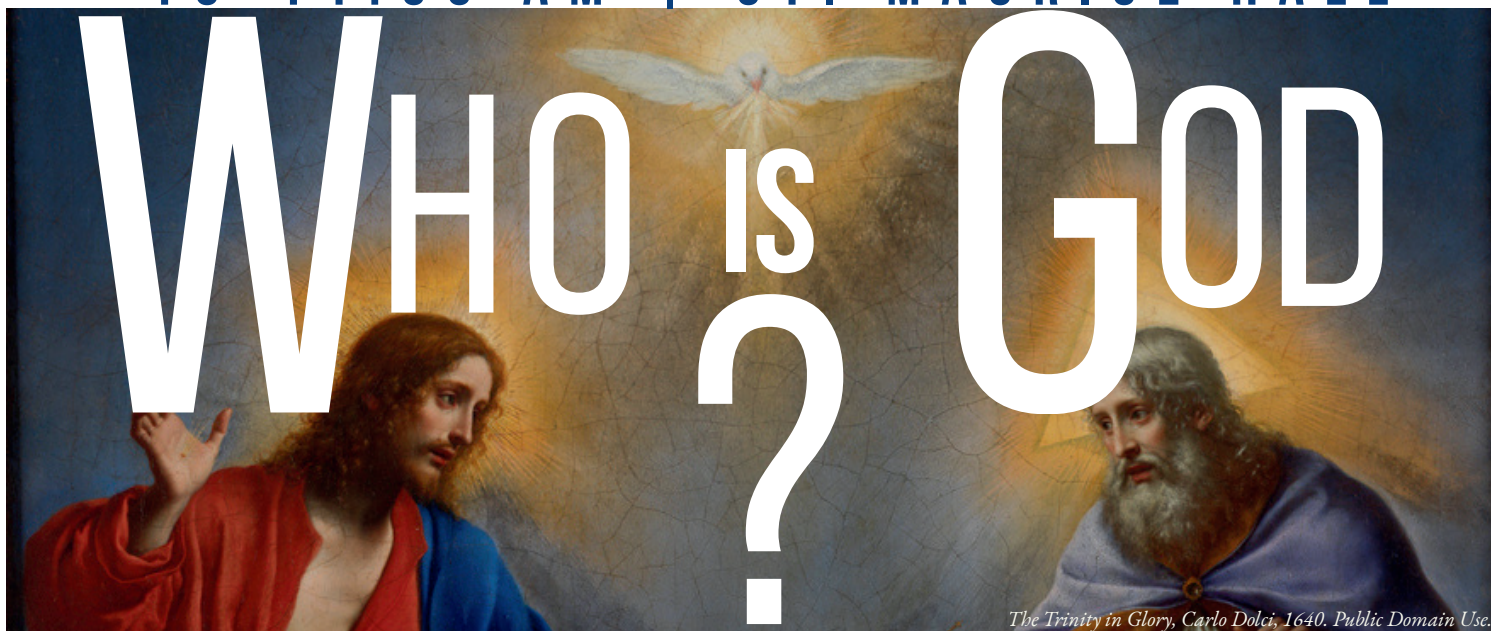
Enrollment is ongoing - Apply Now! Visit us at ChestertonSFA.org

September 27 & October 4, 2026

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

10 - 11:30 AM | ST. MAURICE HALL



The Trinity in Glory, Carlo Dolci, 1640. Public Domain Use.

ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN (NURSERY - HIGH SCHOOL) ARE WELCOME! PRE-REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED

Contact Katie King with questions at katie@stfranciscatholic.org

Faith Formation Check In & Thank you to everyone who joined us in September!



OCTOBER: DEDICATED TO THE ROSARY

If you're not already praying a Rosary as a family, begin praying one daily, or on Sundays, or just one decade each day. Praying a Rosary together earns a plenary indulgence (with all the usual requirements of Confession & Communion fulfilled) and calls to mind the life of Our Lord that we're meant to imitate.

Invite each family member to identify the person or intention they're praying for

Try "round-robin" prayers instead of having one person lead a decade

No time for a whole Rosary? Use car rides, like the trip to and from Mass

Banish discouragement and tune out the complaints: you insist they brush teeth and eat nutritious foods to take care of their bodies, so encourage good prayer habits to take care of their souls. **Challenge:** Learn to sing the Salve Regina like we do at daily Mass. Scan the QR Code to learn the tune and words!



CALLING ALL MEN

Join us for CORE, a new Men's Group!

Saturday Mornings through October

8:30 - 10:00 am at St. Francis Church Hall

Runs for a six-week session



Men of the parish are invited for a morning of fraternity, formation and prayer. Coffee and treats will be served. Come when you can, stay for as long as you can.

Contact Fr. Yates (fr.yates@stfranciscatholic.org) with any questions.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Join us
Friday, October 2
St. Francis Church
5:00-10:00pm

SAINT FRANCIS LADIES GUILD

invites you to a

BOOK SWAP

And an Afternoon with Guest Speaker

RACHEL SZOSTEK

Adult Programming Librarian

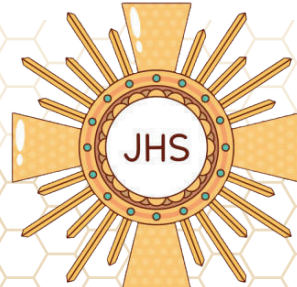
at the New Britain Public Library

A light lunch & dessert will be served

» Please bring a donation of non-perishable food for the St. Joseph Food Pantry

For questions call the Parish Office or an active Ladies Guild member: Maria Lazicki, Donna Domizio, or Mary LeBel

Tuesday, October 14, from 1:00-3:00pm
St. Francis Church Hall
Bring a book to share!



Family Adoration
AND SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

17

OCTOBER

ST. FRANCIS

CHURCH

9 AM

TO 11 AM

CALLING ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN! CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE & RESERVE YOUR SPOT WITH THE QR CODE (RSVP IS REQUIRED):



September 27 & October 4, 2026

COMMUNITY *Snapshots*



Veneration of a relic the True Cross during Mass on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



CCSU Campus Ministry at the campus club fair and on an afternoon retreat



Our first ever Senior Fellowship afternoon meets for a movie and lunch at St. Jerome

CAPTURING *the heart* OF PARISH LIFE



Baptism of Gabriel Pleckaitis



10th Anniversary Marriage Blessing of Brad & Elizabeth Famularo

A NOTE FROM SEMINARIAN BRENDAN FINNEGAN

Dear Parishioners,

Many of you may remember me from the summer of 2022, which I spent as a summer seminarian assigned to Saint Francis of Assisi. I have many wonderful memories of that summer because of the people I met along the way in New Britain.

I am now in my final year of priestly formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. On Thursday, October 1st, I will be ordained a transitional deacon, along with 17 other young men from the United States, at Saint Peter's Basilica. I am asking that you keep my classmates and me in your prayers as we approach the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

If you are interested, the Mass of Ordination will be broadcast on EWTN at 12:00 PM EST on October 1st. Additionally, the Mass will be available for free, live and on demand, via EWTN's YouTube channel.

Faithfully,

Seminarian Brendan Finnegan



September 27 & October 4, 2026

THIS WEEK IN SAINTS

"All you holy men and women pray for us"

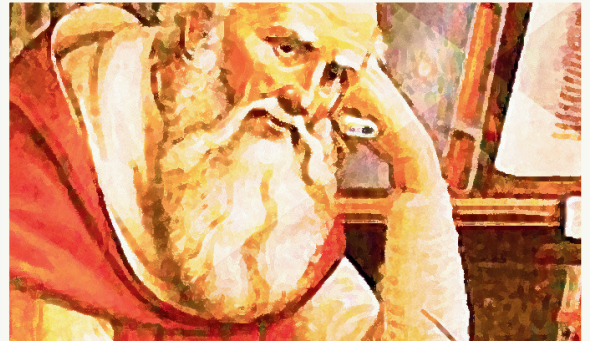


Feast of SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS

Celebrated on: Tuesday, September 29

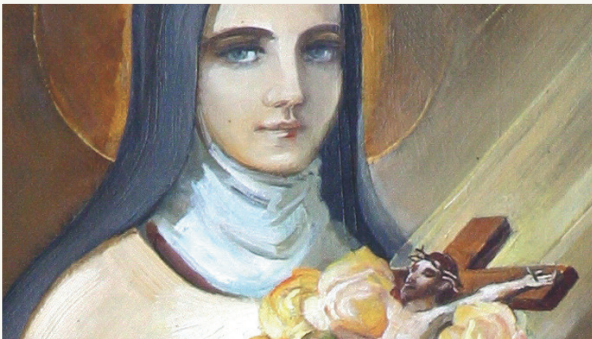
Memorial of SAINT JEROME

Celebrated on: Wednesday, September 30



Memorial of SAINT THERÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS

Celebrated on: Thursday, October 1



Memorial of the HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS

Celebrated on: Friday, October 2



Feast Day of SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Celebrated on: Sunday, October 4



The Bulletin ONGOING MINISTRIES

AA MEETINGS

Wednesdays 7pm: St. Francis Church basement (young adults)
Fridays 7pm: St. Joseph School (in Spanish)

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Classes meet Mondays at 6:00pm at St. Francis Hall. Deacon Al will teach Catholic Apologetics and how to defend the faith.

BINGO

Sunday Afternoons at St. Joseph School, 29 Edson St., New Britain.
Doors open at 11:30am, Games begin at 2:00pm

CROSSROADS 4 CHRIST

Meetings Tuesdays 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm at St. Francis
Adoration & Confession 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
All young adults are welcome!

DEAF MINISTRY

Join us for a virtual Bible study every Thursday at 7:00 pm on Zoom
Contact Fr. Yates at fr.yates@stfranciscatholic.org for more information.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Meetings are monthly on the second Tuesday of the month,
from 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Joseph School

LADIES GUILD

Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm at St. Francis Church Hall, and include a speaker, social time and snacks.

MINGLE

The Mingle is looking for volunteers Tuesdays 5:00-6:30 pm at St. Joseph School to help with feeding the less fortunate. Volunteers will help with setup, serving, and cleanup. Please call the Parish Office at 860-224-2411 with questions or to sign up.

NA MEETINGS

Narcotics Anonymous meets Tuesdays at 6:00 pm in the St. Francis Church basement

ST. JOSEPH FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry opens Tuesdays at St. Joseph School from 9:30 -10:30 am. Please see the shopping list below for our most needed items. Monetary donations or gift cards also appreciated. Donations may be brought to any of our open churches.

SHOPPING LIST

in support of the St. Joseph Food Pantry

The items most needed this week are:

- ☐ Pasta Sauce
- ☐ Peanut Butter
- ☐ Cereal

thank you

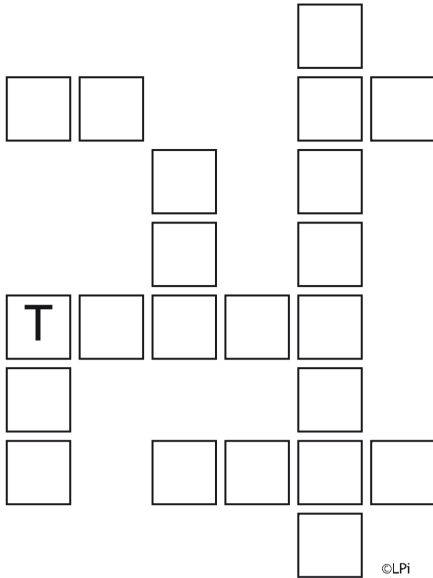
- ☐ Cereal
- ☐ Pasta/Pasta Sauce
- ☐ Canned Soup
- ☐ Instant Oatmeal
- ☐ Canned Fruit &
- ☐ Vegetables
- ☐ Peanut Butter & Jelly

- ☐ Canned Meat/Tuna
- ☐ Instant Potato and Rice
- ☐ Mixes
- ☐ Ramen Noodles
- ☐ Mac and Cheese
- ☐ Snack Items:
- ☐ Cookies, Crackers, etc.



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:
Go and work today in the vineyard.

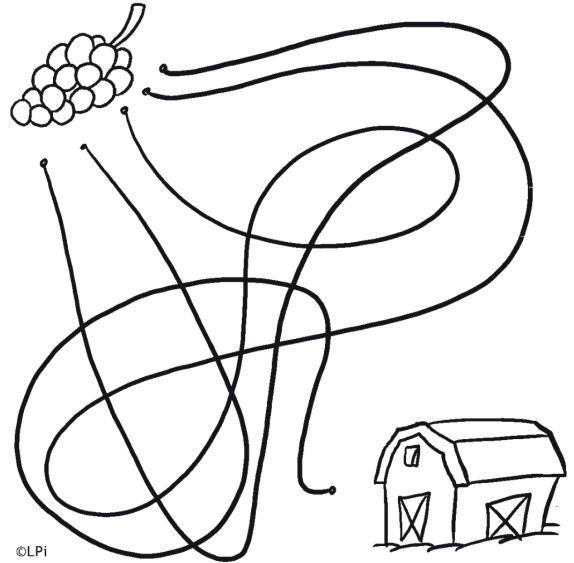


©LPi



PUZZLE

Help the grapes find their way home.



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 21:28-32

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 21:33-43