



1st Reading: Nm 11:25-29
Responsorial: Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14
2nd Reading: Jas 5:1-6
Gospel: Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Recall that last week we heard Jesus chastise his disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. In today's Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark's Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus' words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus' name with others.

Today the demon possession described in the Gospels might be seen as a form of mental illness, but the need for healing these syndromes was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine. Some people had the power to heal the symptoms of possession. One of the strategies used was to invoke the name of a person or figure who was believed to have the power to heal.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus' name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In his reply to his disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He also teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others.

(Retrieved from LoyolaPress.com, *Sunday Connections*)

All in a name...

In ancient times, people believed a name revealed something about a person's character. In other words, if you knew the person's name, you knew what sort of person he was.

So, what does the name of Jesus mean? It means "God saves." In Matthew 1:20-21, Joseph was instructed in his dream to make Mary his wife "because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." In today's gospel, the name of Jesus was invoked by others to heal.

What does your name mean? Search and share the meanings of the names of your family members and how your name can be a source of inspiration for discipleship.

Names of the Archangels

St. Michael means "Who is like God?"
 St. Gabriel means "Strength of God"
 St. Raphael means "God's healing"

The "Little Ways" to Celebrate St. Therese of Lisieux October 1st



Therese is most known for her "Little Way." She spoke not of doing great things, but of small things with great love. She reportedly carried a string of ten beads in her pocket as a means of counting the good deeds that she would perform as a daily devotion to God.

Make your own set of "good deed beads" also known as sacrifice beads. (See the link in resources below)

Here are some small ways to do acts of kindness for others.



bit.ly/goddeedbeads



Where in the world...

FLY around the diocese to find the Traveling Icon and learn more about our diocese!

A GOOGLE EARTH ACTIVITY

September 25 - October 2



Celebrate the Feast of the Archangels on Sept 29th.

Make this triptych and display it in your home.

Familiacatolica-org - Triptych of the Holy Archangels (Site is Spanish & English)

Pray for the intercessions of:
 St Michael - in times of temptation and spiritual battle.
 St Gabriel ...when discerning God's Will.
 St Raphael ...in times of sickness.

Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

- [Vimeo.com](https://www.vimeo.com) - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - B (Adult Faith Builder)
- catholiccuisine.com - Apple Cake for Michaelmas - the feast of the archangels (All Ages Faith Builder)
- teachingcatholickids.com - 7 Ways to Celebrate the Feasts of the Angels (Family Faith Builder)
- [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) - How To Make Sacrifice Beads Like St. Therese (Family Faith Builder)
- [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) - St. Therese of Lisieux whose Feast day is October 1st (Kids Faith Builder)
- catholiccuisine.com - Poor Man's Caviar (St. Vincent de Paul feast day is September 27) (Family Faith Builder)

