

## Calendar

**Monday**

SEPTEMBER 9

*St. Peter Claver, Priest*

Col 1:24–2:3

Lk 6:6–11

**Tuesday**

SEPTEMBER 10

*Weekday*

Col 2:6–15

Lk 6:12–19

**Wednesday**

SEPTEMBER 11

*Weekday*

Col 3:1–11

Lk 6:20–26

**Thursday**

SEPTEMBER 12

*Weekday*

Col 3:12–17

Lk 6:27–38

**Friday**

SEPTEMBER 13

*St. John Chrysostom,  
Bishop and Doctor  
of the Church*

1 Tm 1:1–2, 12–14

Lk 6:39–42

**Saturday**

SEPTEMBER 14

*Exaltation  
of the Holy Cross*

Nm 21:4b–9

Phil 2:6–11

Jn 3:13–17

**Sunday**

SEPTEMBER 15

*Twenty-fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

Ex 32:7–11, 13–14

1 Tm 1:12–17

Lk 15:1–32

# Dear Padre,

## We talk about turning away from sin. When do we cross the line between temptation and sin?

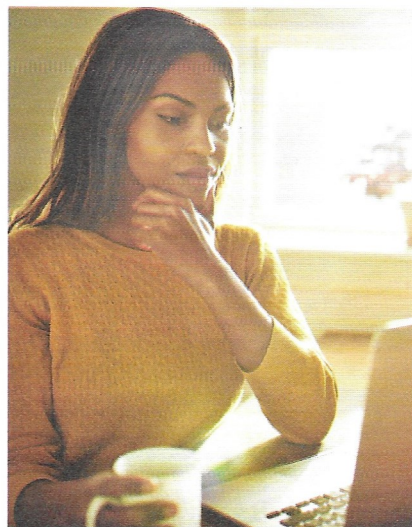
The temptations of Jesus, as recorded in the Gospels (Mark 1:12, Luke 4:1, and Matthew 4:1), give us the proper direction with regard to sin and temptation. Jesus was tempted three times, but he did not sin. More than that, Jesus put his trust in God during the temptations. Jesus' message is clear: if you feel tempted, call out to God!

Temptation is a suggestion or impulse to sin, not a sin itself. To experience temptation is natural, not sinful. When tempted, remember there is always a choice to sin or not. Temptations become sins only when we act on them. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* suggests a “silver lining” to temptation: “There is a certain usefulness to temptation. No one but God knows what our soul has received from him, not even we ourselves. But temptation reveals it in order to teach us to know ourselves, and in this way we discover our evil inclinations” (CCC 2847).

If you worry about temptation and sin, why not take part in your parish's sacrament of reconciliation? Like Jesus in the Gospels, you would then be choosing God over evil. You would be asking God to strengthen your weakness, especially in the face of temptation. Like the Lord, you can then proclaim: “Worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve” (Luke 4:8).

—Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

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### A Word from Pope Francis

*I would like to reflect on nonviolence as a style of politics for peace....May charity and nonviolence govern how we treat each other as individuals, within society and in international life. When victims of violence are able to resist the temptation to retaliate, they become the most credible promoters of nonviolent peacemaking.*

—Fiftieth World Day of Peace, January 1, 2017