

Dear Padre,

My daughter is \$30,000 in debt. Last payday, she loaned a friend \$600 for his house payment. She lent the money because she heard at Mass that if you have money and your friend needs it, you should lend it. Is that what Jesus would suggest for my daughter's situation?

If your daughter had \$600 she didn't immediately need and was certain the friend would repay her in a timely fashion, yes, it was good for your daughter to have lent the money. It's a sign of your daughter's generosity and kindness.

But there are many "ifs" in the above scenario. If someone had lent that money to your daughter and, because she then lent it to her friend, the lender



was denied her payment in a timely fashion, your daughter shouldn't have lent the money.

Putting this idea in simpler terms, if I have two chickens and need only one for supper, I can give a hungry person the extra chicken. But I needn't give away all I have to feed the hungry, thus becoming hungry myself. If I have only one chicken, I don't have to give it away.

We're called to be generous, but not at the expense of our own well-being. Lending money is a different

issue because it seems everyone owes money. If your daughter is paying her debts in a timely fashion, she can continue to be generous.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Monday
JUNE 13
St. Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church
1 Kgs 21:1-16
Mt 5:38-42
Tuesday
JUNE 14
Weekday
1 Kgs 21:17-29
Mt 5:43-48
Wednesday
JUNE 15
Weekday
2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday
JUNE 16
Weekday
Sir 48:1-14
Mt 6:7-15
Friday
JUNE 17
Weekday
2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20
Mt 6:19-23
Saturday
JUNE 18
Weekday
2 Chr 24:17-25
Mt 6:24-34
Sunday
JUNE 19
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
Gn 14:18-20
1 Cor 11:23-26
Lk 9:11b-17

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

There are many ways to justify one's actions when not giving alms [to the homeless]. "But why should you? If I give him money, he'll just spend it on a glass of wine." If a glass of wine is his only happiness in life, then so be it... It is always right to give help.

INTERVIEW WITH SCARP DE' TENIS MAGAZINE, APRIL 4, 2017



Do you have a question for the Padre?

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