

# Precious Blood Homily Theme Suggestions

## September 2023

### **Sept 2/3 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in OT**

“If I say, ‘I will not mention him or speak any more of his name, then within me, there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.’ ”  
Jeremiah 20:9

We’ve all been there. Faithfully preaching God’s Word and receiving in return, only criticism, harsh words, or even persecution. Yet, that’s our charism! Our courageous and bold proclamation and preaching of the Word of God cannot be held within us! We’ve been graced to speak God’s Word and to bring all persons near through the Blood of Christ. As CPPS, we must immerse ourselves in the Word and allow it to act according to God’s will in the hearts of every hearer. Our parishioners can be encouraged to delve more deeply in the Word and to join us in being proclaimers of that Word as we seek to announce the Good News to a new generation.

### **Sept 9/10 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in OT**

“Owe to no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.” (Rom 13: 8)

A lot of people find themselves in debt financially and such debt can weigh us down and hinder what we’d like to do with our lives. The only kind of debt God wants us to have, is the continuing debt to love one another. Parishioners can be encouraged to reflect on the following: How do we express our love for one another, especially those on the margins and those whom others have labelled as unlovable? How do we express our love of the Lord by our conscious and deliberate choice to forgive one another for the harms done to us? How do we make reconciling love a hallmark of our ministry?

### **Sept 16/17 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT**

Reconciliation (God’s and our reaching out to fix that which is broken), Forgiveness from the heart, Honest Assessment of ourselves. These are the Precious Blood themes that appear in our Gospel story today. Parishioners can be encouraged to reach out to at least one person with whom they harbor resentments, ill-will or continued unforgiveness and to seek to heal that wound. They can be encouraged to leave their lack of forgiveness at the foot of the cross in our church and allow Jesus’ Precious Blood to wash it away.

### **Sept 23/24 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT**

Grumbling about others, especially leaders. Making ourselves angry with how others are treated. Wanting our own system of justice to be God’s value system. We’ve all felt this way at one point or another. Our parishioners and ourselves can relate to those laborers who worked all day and receive the same pay as those who did not. These ways of relating and reacting can be counteracted with the Precious Blood values of striving to be in solidarity with others, rejoicing

in conversion of heart that may happen in another's life at any moment, exercising kindness, mercy, and humility instead of anger toward other laborers for the Kingdom, and allowing God to be God in his generosity of spirit and bestowal of grace upon any whom He chooses.

**Sept 30/Oct 1 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT**

Good intentions. Laziness in living our vocations. Thinking that we can coast on past laurels or achievements instead of continuing to grow closer to the Lord and serving God's people with love and generosity every day. Our Parishioners can be encouraged to reflect on how the Lord didn't turn away from Jerusalem, even though he knew he'd suffer crucifixion and death for the forgiveness of our sins. God's blood lifted up at every mass reminds us to have the courage and the generosity to give our lives in loving service of the Master without excuse or resistance.