

PRAYER CORNER

Almighty God, as we ask your help
for our brothers and sisters who are ill,
we ask you to help us to be healing people in our time and place.
May your love touch others through us,
and may I help all people to live in peace.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Frances of Assisi

JESUS SPEAKS TO US

“Do you not realize that everything that enters the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled in the latrine? But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile.
For from the heart evil thoughts, murder, adultery, unchastity, theft, false witness, blasphemy. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

Matthew 15:17-20

August 9 Collection

Regular:	\$2,291.30
Faith Formation:	\$230.00
Foundation	\$100.00
Mass Intentions:	\$15.00
St. Vincent:	\$10.00
Candle Sales:	\$660.25
St. Anne:	\$50.00
Assumption:	\$65.00
Priest Care Fund:	\$20.00
Online 8/3-8/9:	\$268.50

Thank you so much
for your generosity
and support of our Parish.



OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

August 16, 2020



Bulletin printed in-house at:
**Our Mother of Mercy
Catholic Church**

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Fort Worth, TX 76104

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THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 15:21-28. There is a lesson, a very necessary one, for all of us in this episode of Christ's public life. It is the necessity of perseverance in our prayers of petition. Prayer is an essential part of our Christian life, and the essential part of prayer is that of adoration and thanksgiving, but prayer of petition has a big part in our daily prayers. We have so many spiritual and temporal needs, needs which we cannot provide by ourselves. Christ himself has told us to ask Him for these needs: "ask and you shall receive."

Do we ask with the fervor and perseverance which prove that we have "great faith"? That faith is the proof which Christ needs before He grants our requests. The Canaanite woman of whom we have just heard is for us an example of that deep-seated faith and trust in Christ's power and Christ's goodness. Even though He ignored her she continued to beseech Him, and when He answered with what seemed a direct refusal, her faith and trust did not waver. She answered His reason for refusal with another statement which showed that the granting of her petition would not in any way interfere with or impede His primary task, His

mission to His father's chosen people. This was the proof of great faith which He required. He granted her request.

We must imitate and learn from this pagan mother. Her love for her child made her ready to undergo every hardship or suffering for the restoration to health of her loved one. When we turn to Christ in our needs is our faith in Him as sincere and unwavering as was this woman's? No doubt it often is, and yet we do not get the desired answer. As Christians we know that our particular request may not always be for our good, or for the final good of the person for whom we are praying. In that case, the good God will not grant what would be to our eternal disadvantage. But if our prayer is sincere and persevering, we shall always get an answer, and one which is better than what we asked for.

But who are we to question God's mercy? It is only when we get to heaven - and getting to heaven is our purpose in life - that we shall see how our prayers, sincere and persevering, were answered by God.

*Excerpted from The Sunday Readings
by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.*

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Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday — 7 a.m.

Saturday — 8 a.m.

Saturday — 5 p.m.

Sunday — 10 a.m.

Holy Day—see bulletin

Reconciliation (Confession):

Friday & Saturday Confessions
9:00 a.m. noon

Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, & Fri
10 a.m.—3 p.m.

FATHER BART'S CORNER

My sisters and brothers:

Under the pretext of providing his personal automobile, so that the children could travel safely through the crowds pressing around their homes, the civil Administrator or Mayor of the district in which Fátima was located, arrived in Aljustrel on the morning of August 13th. A previous attempt on August 11th to obtain the "truth" from the children having been unsuccessful, Artur Santos, an apostate Catholic and high Mason, had devised a scheme by which he would take them into custody and force them to reveal all. With a show of good will he now offered to take the three and their parents to see the parish priest, whom he claimed wished to see them, and then to the Cova. At the parish house he abandoned this ruse, and the parents, taking the children alone from there to the district headquarters in Vila Nova de Ourem, some 9 miles away. Here he tried bribes, threats of death and locking them in a cell with other "criminals" in order to get them to recant their story. It was to no avail. Despite their ages, their belief in the Lady and their courage was unshakeable.

As it was the Lady's plans were delayed slightly. On Sunday the 19th Lucia, her brother John, & Francisco, were grazing the sheep at a place known as Valinhos. It was located on the side of the same hillock opposite Aljustrel where the angel appeared twice, though a little farther north. At about 4 o'clock, sensing that Our Lady was about to appear, Lucia tried unsuccessfully to get John to fetch Jacinta, until she offered him a couple pennies for the errand. As she and Francisco waited they saw the characteristic light. The moment Jacinta arrived the Lady appeared.

We will have a prayer meeting on August 19th at 7 PM in the Church instead of the traditional one on the 13th of the month to follow the date of the 4th apparition.

**With prayers and love,
Fr. Bart, S.U.D**

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, August 17

Live Stream on
our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

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Tuesday, August 18

Live Stream on
our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

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Wednesday, August 19

Live Stream on
our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

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Thursday, August 20

Live Stream on
our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

Friday, August 21

Live Stream on
our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

Adoration: 8:00 a.m. — noon

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Saturday, August 22

Live Stream on
our Church Website

Mass: 8 a.m.

Mass: 5 p.m.

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Sunday, August 23

Live Stream on
our Church Website

Mass: 10 a.m.

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Weekly Readings

08/17— EZ 24:15-23; MAT 19:16-22

08/18—EZ 28:1-10; MAT 19:23-30

08/19—EZ 34:1-11; MAT 20:1-16

08/20—EZ 36:23-28; MAT 22:1-14

08/21—EZ 37:1-14; MAT 22:34-40

08/22 —EZ 43:1-7ab; MAT 23:1-12

8/23—IS 22:19-23; ROM 11:33-36;

MT 16:13-20

Vocation View

"The gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." Use the gifts that God has given you to stir into flame the gift of faith.

Romans 11:29

**Divine Word Vocation Office
1-800-553-3321
www.svdvocations.org**

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PARISH CORNER



Congratulations to Council and Court #89, Knights of St. Peter Claver-Fort Worth.

Effective July 31, 2020, Knights of St. Peter Claver, Council #89 and St. Veronica Court #89 purchase of the school annex building located at 965 E. Terrell was completed. The Knights and Ladies of Council #89 are now sole owners! May Almighty God bless your ministries in your new facilities.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEIRUT EXPLOSION SPECIAL COLLECTION

In response to the recent explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, Most Reverend Michael F. Olsen has announced an emergency collection in the Diocese of Fort Worth on August 22-23, 2020. Funds collected will be directed to support work of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in conjunction with Caritas Lebanon.

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OMM PRAYER CARDS AVAILABLE

We have prepared prayer cards for everyone. However, due to COVID 19 restrictions, we are not allowed to issue them in the church. You may view the card on our website at www.omomftworth.org. If you would like a copy for you or your family, please call the church office or email us with your correct mailing address and we will send a copy to you.

Phone: 817-335-1695

Email: ommftworth1@gmail.com.

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5th ANNUAL HEALTHY LIVES MATTER VIRTUAL ALZHEIMER'S EDUCATION SEMINAR

Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks cordially invites you to attend the 5th Annual Healthy Lives Matter Virtual Alzheimer's Education Seminar on **Saturday, August 22, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. To 12:30 p.m.**

This is a **FREE** event but registration is required at www.tarrantcounty.com/alzevent to access the Healthy Lives Matter registration page. An event link will be sent to you as the date approaches.

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CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

The Universal Call to Prayer

2567 *God calls man first.* Man may forget his Creator or hide far from his face; he may run after idols or accuse the deity of having abandoned him; yet the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response. As God gradually reveals himself and reveals man to himself, prayer appears as a reciprocal call, a covenant drama. Through words and actions, this drama engages the heart. It unfolds throughout the whole history of salvation.

2568 In the Old Testament, the revelation of prayer comes between the fall and the restoration of man, that is, between God's sorrowful call to his first children: "Where are you? . . . What is this that you have done?"³ and the response of God's only Son on coming into the world: "Lo, I have come to do your will, O God."⁴ Prayer is bound up with human history, for it is the relationship with God in historical events.

³ Gen 3:9, 13.
⁴ Heb 10:5-7.

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"Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, exalted on the earth."

Psalms 46:11

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