

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

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me.
For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life?
For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct."

Mt 16:24-27

August 23 Collection

Regular:	\$1,998.04
Foundation:	\$160.00
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$10.00
St. Anne's Candles:	\$15.00
Beirut/Lebanon :	\$417.00
Online 8/15-8/19:	\$417.00

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 30, 2020



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**Our Mother of Mercy
Catholic Church**

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Fort Worth, TX 76104

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THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The **Gospel** is from Matt. 16:21-27. From all eternity this was God's plan for mankind. But because sin had entered into the world before the Incarnation took place, the Son of God in his human nature had to suffer the violent death of the cross at the hands of sinners. In this very suffering he became the Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world, as the second-Isaiah had foretold in his "suffering servant" prophecies (Is. 53: 1-7; 42: 1-9 etc). His death, because he was God as well as man, was a sacrifice, an atonement, of infinite value, and therefore obtained forgiveness from the Father for all the sins of the human race.

In foretelling his sufferings and death, which took place some months later, Christ intended to prepare his disciples and other followers for what he knew would be for them a severe crisis of faith. He also took occasion from it to remind his disciples, and all others who would follow him, of what their attitude to suffering and death should be. He told them, and us too, that we must be ever ready to accept sufferings in this life, and even an untimely death if that should be demanded of us, rather than deny our Christian faith.

early Church, and thousands more during persecutions in later centuries, gladly took him at his word and went joyfully to their martyrdom. It is to be hoped that, aided by God's grace, we would all be ready to imitate their example, if called on to prove our fidelity to Christ and our Christian faith. But at the moment what Christ expects and asks of us is that we should bear the sufferings and hardships of daily life cheerfully and gladly for his sake.

This daily carrying of our Christian cross can be, and is for many, a prolonged martyrdom. But, if we were offered health, happiness, peace, wealth and power for the next fifty or seventy years on this earth, in exchange for an eternal heaven after death, what rational one among us would accept that offer?

Christians know that this life is a period of training, which makes us ready hereafter to receive the eternal reward which Christ has won for us. On our Christian graduation day we shall, please God, hear the welcome words : "Well done good and faithful servant; because you have been faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater, come and join in your Master's happiness" (Mt. 25: 21). May God grant that every one of us will hear these words of welcome.

To prove their loyalty to their faith in Christ thousands of Christians in the *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:

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta
"By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus." Small of stature, rocklike in faith, Mother Teresa of Calcutta was entrusted with the mission of proclaiming God's thirsting love for humanity, especially for the poorest of the poor. *"God still loves the world and He sends you and me to be His love and His compassion to the poor."* She was a soul filled with the light of Christ, on fire with love for Him and burning with one desire: *"to quench His thirst for love and for souls."*

The whole of Mother Teresa's life and labour bore witness to the joy of loving, the greatness and dignity of every human person, the value of little things done faithfully and with love, and the surpassing worth of friendship with God. But there was another heroic side of this great woman that was revealed only after her death. Hidden from all eyes, hidden even from those closest to her, was her interior life marked by an experience of a deep, painful and abiding feeling of being separated from God, even rejected by Him, along with an ever-increasing longing for His love. She called her inner experience, *"the darkness."* The "painful night" of her soul, which began around the time she started her work for the poor and continued to the end of her life, led Mother Teresa to an ever more profound union with God. Through the darkness, she mystically participated in the thirst of Jesus, in His painful and burning longing for love, and she shared in the interior desolation of the poor.

With prayers and love,
Fr. Bart, S.V.D

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, August 31

Live Stream on
 our Church Website
 Mass: 7 a.m.
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Tuesday, September 1

Live Stream on
 our Church Website
 Mass: 7 a.m.
 ✠✠✠

Wednesday, September 2

Live Stream on
 our Church Website
 Mass: 7 a.m.
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Thursday, September 3

Live Stream on
 our Church Website
 Mass: 7 a.m.

Friday, September 4

Live Stream on
 our Church Website
 Mass: 7 a.m.

Adoration: 8:00 a.m.—noon
 ✠✠✠

Saturday, September 5

Live Stream on
 our Church Website
 Mass: 8 a.m.

Mass: 5 p.m.
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Sunday, September 6

Live Stream on
 our Church Website
 Mass: 10 a.m.
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Weekly Readings

- 08/31— 1 COR 2:1-5; LK 4:16-30
- 09/01—1 COR 2:10B-16; LK 4:31-37
- 09/02—1 COR 3:1-9; LK 4:38-44
- 09/03—1 COR 3:18-23; LK 5:1-11
- 09/04—1 COR 4:1-5; LK 5:33-39
- 09/05 —1 COR 4:6b-15; LK 6:1-5
- 09/06—EZ 33:7-9; ROM 13:8-10; MT 18:15-20

Vocation View

"O God, you are my God whom I seek." As St. Augustine recognized, our hearts are restless until they rest in the Lord; eliminate that which blocks your seeking for God.

Psalms 63:2

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

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PARISH CORNER

My Dear Parishioners,

I would like to take this time to thank all of you for your continuous support of Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church. Whether you are a long-time member or you are joining us as a new member, I am so humbled and thankful that you chose Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church as your parish home. Since April, many new renovation projects have been completed and have been paid for in full. However, we do have a few more things which are needed and I am seeking your help in getting this done. The list is noted below:

- Garage Door with automated opener \$1,329.00
- Parish Life Center Entrance Front Door \$2,500.00
- A/C upgrade at Parish Life Center \$2,000.00
- Combination Votive Candle Stand (19X02016) \$1,430.00

My dear brothers and sisters, I understand that some of us may struggle financially and others may not. I do not want to put pressure or obligate or to force anyone to donate. I also recognize that we all will be called to support different causes; however, we must take care of our valued treasure, our Mother of Mercy Parish.

I ask to those who can, please make a general donation or to donate one of the items from the list.

Thank you all and please continue to stay safe until we are able to meet again as a parish family in our upgraded facilities.

May God Bless

Father Bart, S.V.D.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
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.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA SPECIAL COLLECITON

The Diocese of Fort Worth will take up a special collection on September 5-6, 2020 to benefit The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. The Catholic University is unique among universities in the United States—even among Catholic universities. Established by Pope Leo XIII and the US bishops in 1887, it is the national university of the Catholic Church. As the national university of the Catholic Church, it is charged with educating the future leaders of the Church, our nation and the world. Currently, seven of our seminarians attend Theological College on the campus of the University of America.

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 Don't treat people as bad as they are, treat them as good as you are.

Saint Mother Teresa

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CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

God's Promise and the prayer of Faith

2571 Because Abraham believed in God and walked in his presence and in covenant with him,¹⁰ the patriarch is ready to welcome a mysterious Guest into his tent. Abraham's remarkable hospitality at Mamre foreshadows the annunciation of the true Son of the promise.¹¹ After that, once God had confided his plan, Abraham's heart is attuned to his Lord's compassion for men and he dares to intercede for them with bold confidence.¹²

2572 As a final stage in the purification of his faith, Abraham, "who had received the promises,"¹³ is asked to sacrifice the son God had given him. Abraham's faith does not weaken ("God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering."), for he "considered that God was able to raise men even from the dead."¹⁴ And so the father of believers is conformed to the likeness of the Father who will not spare his own Son but will deliver him up for us all.¹⁵ Prayer restores man to God's likeness and enables him to share in the power of God's love that saves the multitude.¹⁶

- 10 Cf. *Gen* 15:6; 17:1 f.
- 11 Cf. *Gen* 18:1-15; *Lk* 1:26-38.
- 12 Cf. *Gen* 18:16-33.
- 13 *Heb* 11:17.
- 14 *Gen* 22:8; *Heb* 11:19
- 15 *Rom* 8:32.
- 16 Cf. *Rom* 8:16-21.

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 "Abandon yourself into the hands of Mary. She will take care of you."
 St. Padre Pio