

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

And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

After this, he and his mother, [his] brothers, and his disciples went down to Capernaum and stayed there only a few days.

John 2:9-12

January 9th Collection

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



OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

January 16, 2022



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

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Fort Worth, TX 76104

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**ORDINARY TIME : January 16th
Second Sunday**

The **Gospel** is from John 2:1-12. There are many lessons we can learn from this incident in Christ's life: for example, Christ's approval of marriage—there were some heretical sects later who said marriage was sinful, unfit for a Christian. Or we could see in it the intercessory power of our blessed Mother. Christ anticipated his "hour" for working miracles in order to grant her request. But the theme of today's readings is the goodness 'and kindness of God and we surely have a convincing proof of that loving kindness in today's gospel story.

Christ worked his first miracle in order to grant a temporal favor, an earthly gift, to save the newly-married groom from embarrassment. It had the other effects of convincing his very recent disciples of their belief that he was the expected Messiah, and also it convinces all Christians of the efficacy of our Lady's intercession for us, but its primary purpose was to confer a temporal benefit on the groom.

By this kind act he has shown us that he is interested in our earthly affairs also. He became man in order that we could become sons of God, he came on earth so that we could go to heaven, but this miracle at Cana proves that he has a deep interest in our many and varied activities during the course of our journey to heaven.

He told us "ask and you shall receive." That "shall" is very definite, our prayers will be answered, and what we should ask for is not only spiritual gifts, but the

temporal aids also which we need. The "shall" applies to them too, as the miracle of Cana proves. We shall get our temporal requests, provided of course that they won't impede us on our journey to heaven. No kind father would give his child a gift that would injure him—God is the kindest of fathers and he sees what will or will not impede or endanger our eternal happiness. We can and should therefore make our temporal needs known to God in our prayers, confident that he will give us what we ask if it is for our real good.

But, someone may object: how often have I asked God for temporal favors I needed so badly, and my prayer was unanswered? Was it unanswered really? Perhaps you did not get the exact thing you asked for but you got something more useful, more necessary, something you never thought of asking for, but the good God saw your need of it. We have a father in heaven who really loves us, and cares for us, let us make our temporal, as well as our spiritual needs, known to him in confident prayer. Our requests will not go unanswered.

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



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Space Available

In Loving Memory of
Larry & Olga Martinez,

One Day at a Time. ✝

Please contact Lydia at the Church

Office (817) 335-1695

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday — 7:00 a.m.

Saturday — 8:00 a.m.

Saturday — 5:00 p.m.

Sunday — 10:00 a.m.

Holy Day -- see bulletin

Confessions:

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. — 6:50 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. — noon

Saturday 4:00 p.m. — 4:50 p.m.

Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, & Fri

10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

FATHER BART'S CORNER

My sisters and brothers:

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer.

*Pope Saint John Paul II
Evangelium Vitae*

The over 60 million abortions since the 1973 decisions of *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* reflect with heartbreaking magnitude what Pope Francis means by a "throwaway culture." However, we have great trust in God's providence. We are reminded time and again in Scripture to seek the Lord's help, and as people of faith, we believe that our prayers are heard.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children": "In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."

As individuals, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or giving alms.

Heavenly Father, and Mother Mary, today we storm heaven with our prayers, fasting, and almsgiving in the hope that all unborn children will be protected in law so that they can grow into the men and women you planned them to be.

With prayers and love,

Fr. Bart, S..U.D

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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Monday, January 17

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

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Tuesday, January 18

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

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Wednesday, January 19

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

Adoration 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Confessions 6:00 p.m.—6:50 p.m.

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Thursday, January 20

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

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Vocation View

God's Spirit is given to each person for the common good. What are your gifts? Be willing to share them for the good of others.

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

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Friday, January 21

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

Adoration 8:00 a.m.—noon

Confessions 9:00 a.m.—noon

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Saturday, January 22

Live Stream Mass: 8:00 a.m.

Adoration 4:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Confessions 4:00 p.m.—4:50 p.m.

Mass: 5:00 p.m.

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Sunday, January 23

Live Stream Mass: 10:00 a.m.

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Weekday Confessions thirty minutes before morning Mass.

Weekly Readings

1/17—1 SM 15:16-23; MK 2:18-22

1/18—1 SM 16:1-13; MK 2:23-28

1/19—1 SM 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; MK 3:1-6

1/20—1 SM 18:6-9, 19:1-7; MK 3:7-12

1/21—1 SM 24:3-21; MK 3:13-19

1/22—2 SM 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; MK 3:20-21

1/23—NEH 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 COR 12:12-30 or 1 COR 12:12-14, 27; LK 1:1-4, 4:14-21

PARISH CORNER

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one." (cf. *John 17:21*)

In this fragile and uncertain world, we look for a light, a ray of hope from afar. In the midst of evil, we long for goodness. Our confidence rests in the God we worship. God, in wisdom, enabled us to hope for divine intervention; but we had not anticipated that God's intervention would be a person, and that the Lord himself would be the light in our midst. This exceeded all our expectations. God's gift to us is a "spirit of power, and love."

In the midst of humanity's darkness, the star from the East shone. The star's light was not only an illumination at a particular historical moment but it continues to shine and change the face of human history. Despite the vicissitudes of history and the changing of circumstances, the Risen One continues to shine, moving within the flow of history like a beacon guiding all into this perfect light and overcoming the darkness which separates us from one another.

The desire to overcome the darkness that separates us compels us to pray and work for Christian unity.

Prayer

Lord God, illumine our path by the light of Christ who moves us and leads us. Guide us to discover a small manger in our hearts where a great light still sleeps. Creator of light, we thank you for the gift of that unfading Star, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Heal our divisions and draw us closer to the Light that we may find our unity in him. Amen.

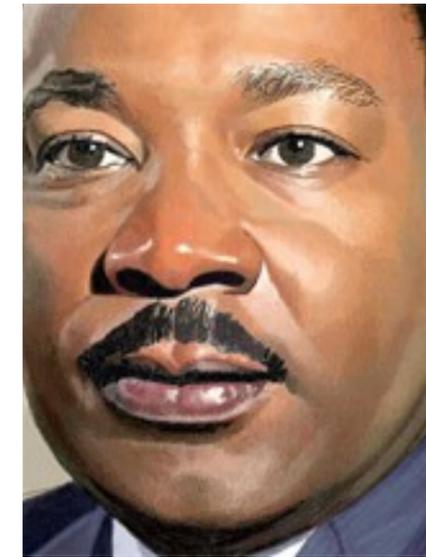
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Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depths of our hearts.

-Mother Teresa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Mass



**January 22, 2022
St. Vincent de Paul Parish,
Arlington
Starting at 5:30 PM**

The 36th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Arlington at 5:30 PM. The celebrant will be Most Rev. Michael F. Olson, STD, MA, and the homilist will be Most Rev. Curtis J. Guillory, SVD, DD, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Beaumont, Texas. All are encouraged to attend.

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Everyone involved in any ministry at any Catholic Church or school is required to attend a Safe and Sacred/Environment class every 2 years. Please create a profile under Virtus.org. and then it will prompt you to sign up for a class. You can pick a location, time and date convenient to your schedule.

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CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE LIFE OF PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

"OUR FATHER!"

2780 We can invoke God as "Father" because he is revealed to us by his Son become man and because his Spirit makes him known to us. the personal relation of the Son to the Father is something that man cannot conceive of nor the angelic powers even dimly see: and yet, the Spirit of the Son grants a participation in that very relation to us who believe that Jesus is the Christ and that we are born of God.³²

2781 When we pray to the Father, we are in communion with him and with his Son, Jesus Christ.³³ Then we know and recognize him with an ever new sense of wonder. the first phrase of the Our Father is a blessing of adoration before it is a supplication. For it is the glory of God that we should recognize him as "Father," the true God. We give him thanks for having revealed his name to us, for the gift of believing in it, and for the indwelling of his Presence in us.

2782 We can adore the Father because he has caused us to be reborn to his life by adopting us as his children in his only Son: by Baptism, he incorporates us into the Body of his Christ; through the anointing of his Spirit who flows from the head to the members, he makes us other "Christs."³⁴

God, indeed, who has predestined us to adoption as his sons, has conformed us to the glorious Body of Christ. So then you who have become sharers in Christ are appropriately called "Christs."³⁴ The new man, reborn and restored to his God by grace, says first of all, "Father!" because he has now begun to be a son.³⁵

³² Cf. Jn 1:1; 1 Jn 5:1.

³³ Cf. 1 Jn 1:3.

³⁴ St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Catech. myst. 3, 1: PG 33, 1088A.

³⁵ St. Cyprian, De Dom. orat. 9: PL 4, 525A.

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