

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

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.”
Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him.
He said to them, “Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Luke 4:18-21

January 16th 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 23, 2022



Bulletin printed in-house at:
Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church
1001 E. Terrell Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76104
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ommftworth1@gmail.com

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Secretary/Safe Environment Coordinator/ Facilitator: Lydia Salas

Bookkeeper: Jennifer Rattliff

Musician:

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Help Line: 817-768-1950/svdopomm@gmail.com

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817-551-1449/bacarter913@gmail.com

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ORDINARY TIME : January 23rd Third Sunday

The **Gospel** is from St. Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21. In the first four verses of St. Luke’s Gospel which have been read to you today, you will find reason to be grateful to him. He went to a lot of trouble in order to put in a permanent form, in a written record, the essential facts concerning Christ, his words and his works, so that we “would understand (like Theophilus) the certainty of the faith in which we have been instructed.”

But while we must be grateful to St. Luke, we owe a bigger debt of gratitude still to the all-good, all-wise God who moved Luke and the other Evangelists to preserve for us in writing the essential truths of the Christian faith that has been handed down to us. The Apostles were companions of Christ. They witnessed his works and his words; they remembered most of his doings and his sayings, and what they might have forgotten the Holy Spirit recalled to their memory on that first Pentecost day in Jerusalem. The first two generations of Christians received the facts of the faith from these eye-witnesses and the miracles so frequent in the infant Church were confirmation of the truth of their teaching.

But God in his wisdom provided for the many generations to come who would not have this evident confirmation of their faith. He established a teaching body in his Church which would safeguard the purity of the Christian truths, for “he himself would be with it all days,” and he gave us a written record of the facts of the faith in the Gospels and the ether writings of the New Testament.

How can we ever thank God sufficiently for his thoughtfulness in our regard? We

Christians of today can be as certain, as assured, of the truth of the faith that we are trying to practice as was St. Luke who was converted by St. Paul. We have a living, teaching Magisterium in the Church, which authentically preserves and interprets for us the true facts of Christ’s teaching and works as written down for us by a first-generation Christian under the impulse and guidance of God’s Holy Spirit. If we needed further proof of the priceless value of our New Testament Books, the virulent attacks on their authenticity, on their objectivity, and on their veracity, by enemies of the faith down to and including our own day, should be sufficient.

But they have stood the test of time and the onslaughts of biased, prejudiced criticism, for they are the word of truth, which is eternal, and comes from God.

We have a priceless gift of God in the inspired Books of the Bible. Let us show true appreciation for that gift by using it to build up a better knowledge of the Christian faith which it teaches us. There should be a Bible, or at least the New Testament, in every Christian home. It should not be an ornament on a shelf, but a fountain and source from which we can draw strength and refreshment in the daily practice of our Christian faith. Almost two thousand years ago, God’s infinite goodness provided this source of strength, the “fountain of living water,” for us Christians of this century. Are we grateful for his thoughtfulness? Are we nourishing our faith at this blessed fountain of his infinite wisdom and love?

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

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In Loving Memory of
Larry & Olga Martinez,
One Day at a Time. ✝

Space Available
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:
St. Paul**

St. Paul was born at Tarsus, Cilicia, of Jewish parents who were descended from the tribe of Benjamin. He was a Roman citizen from birth. As he was "a young man" at the stoning of Stephen and "an old man" when writing to Philemon, about the year 63, he was probably born around the beginning of the Christian era.

To complete his schooling, St. Paul was sent to Jerusalem, where he sat at the feet of the learned Gamaliel and was educated in the strict observance of the ancestral Law. Here he also acquired a good knowledge of exegesis and was trained in the practice of disputation. As a convinced and zealous Pharisee, he returned to Tarsus before the public life of Christ opened in Palestine.

Some time after the death of Our Lord, St. Paul returned to Palestine. His profound conviction made his zeal develop to a religious fanaticism against the infant Church. He took part in the stoning of the first martyr, St. Stephen, and in the fierce persecution of the Christians that followed.

Entrusted with a formal mission from the high priest, he departed for Damascus to arrest the Christians there and bring them bound to Jerusalem. As he was nearing Damascus, about noon, a light from heaven suddenly blazed round him. Jesus with His glorified body appeared to him and addressed him, turning him away from his apparently successful career.

An immediate transformation was wrought in the soul of St. Paul. He was suddenly converted to the Christian Faith. He was baptized, changed his name from Saul to Paul, and began travelling and preaching the Faith. He was martyred as an Apostle in Rome around 65 AD.

— Excerpted from *Lives of the Saints*

With prayers and love,

Fr. Bart, S.U.D

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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Monday, January 24

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

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Tuesday, January 25

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

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Wednesday, January 26

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 27

Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.

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Friday, January 28

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 29

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 30

Live Stream Mass: 10:00 a.m.

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Weekday Confessions thirty minutes before morning Mass.

Weekly Readings

1/24—2 SM 5:1-7,10; MK 3:22-30

1/25—ACTS 22:3-16 or ACTS 9:1-22; MK 16:15-18

1/26—2 TM 1:1-8 or TI 1:1-5; MK 4:1-20

1/27—2 SM 7:18-19, 24-29; MK 4:21-25

1/28—2 SM 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; MK 4:26-34

1/29—2 SM 12:1-7a, 10-17; MK 4:35-41

1/30—JER 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 COR 12:31-13:13 or 1 COR 13:4-13; LK 4:21-30

Vocation View

Through the power of the Spirit Jesus proclaimed his mission. How are you carrying on that mission today?

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

PARISH CORNER

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people. —**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. —**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made straight and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together. —**Martin Luther King, Jr.**



--Excerpted January 2022 issue of IN A WORD (A Publication of The Society of the Divine Word, Southern Province)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offertory Envelopes

For the parishioners who still want your 2022 offertory envelopes, please come by the Parish Office between the hours of 10:00am-3:00pm, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. We are asking also to check with your neighbors and friends who can not come to office to be a good "Angel" and pick up for them.

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Tax Statements

Tax statements will soon be going out for those who have so generously contributed to our Parish. Please come by or call the office if you have moved in the past year, in order to update your home address.

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Annual Respect Life Mass

Annual Respect Life Mass on Monday, January 24th at 7:00 pm. This year, Bishop Olson will celebrate the Mass at St. Mark in Argyle—6500 Crawford Rd • Argyle • TX 76226.

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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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"America you are beautiful...and blessed. The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then America, defend life."

-Pope John Paul II

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CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE LIFE OF PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

"OUR FATHER!"

2783 Thus the Lord's Prayer reveals us to ourselves at the same time that it reveals the Father to us.³⁶

O man, you did not dare to raise your face to heaven, you lowered your eyes to the earth, and suddenly you have received the grace of Christ all your sins have been forgiven. From being a wicked servant you have become a good son.... Then raise your eyes to the Father who has begotten you through Baptism, to the Father who has redeemed you through his Son, and say: "Our Father.... " But do not claim any privilege. He is the Father in a special way only of Christ, but he is the common Father of us all, because while he has begotten only Christ, he has created us. Then also say by his grace, "Our Father," so that you may merit being his son.³⁷

2784 The free gift of adoption requires on our part continual conversion and new life. Praying to our Father should develop in us two fundamental dispositions: First, the desire to become like him: though created in his image, we are restored to his likeness by grace; and we must respond to this grace.

We must remember . . . and know that when we call God "our Father" we ought to behave as sons of God.³⁸ You cannot call the God of all kindness your Father if you preserve a cruel and inhuman heart; for in this case you no longer have in you the marks of the heavenly Father's kindness.³⁹

We must contemplate the beauty of the Father without ceasing and adorn our own souls accordingly.⁴⁰

³⁶ Cf. GS 22 # 1.
³⁷ St. Ambrose De Sacr. 5, 4, 19: PL 16:450-451.
³⁸ St. Cyprian, De Dom. orat. 11 PL 4:526B.
³⁹ St. John Chrysostom, De orat Dom. 3: PG 51, 44.
⁴⁰ St. Gregory of Nyssa, De orat. Dom. 2: PG 44, 1148B.

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That we balance our lives by enjoying the gifts we have been given and generously sharing with those in need, without expecting anything in return.

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