

**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 people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him.  
He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue;  
then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him,  
"Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!")  
And [immediately] the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.

Mark 7:32-35

**August 29<sup>th</sup> 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!

September 5, 2021



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

1001 E. Terrell Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX 76104

**(817) 335-1695**  
ommftworth1@gmail.com

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**Pastor:** Fr. Bartłomiej "Bart" Jasilek, SVD

\*\*\*

**Parish Secretary:** Lydia Salas

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\*\*\*

**Musician:** Zenobia Collins

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**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

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**ORDINARY TIME : September 5<sup>th</sup> TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY**

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 7:31-37. During his discussion with the Samaritan woman at the well of Jacob, our Lord told her that "salvation was to come from the Jews" (Jn. 4 : 22). This was in accordance with God's plan when he took Abraham from his pagan family and surroundings, and elected him to be the father of a Chosen People from whom God's blessing would come for all nations (Gn. 12: 1-4). This was the historic beginning of "salvation" for men. It was, as yet, a vague generic promise but down through the following eighteen-century history of the Chosen People (Abraham's descendants) this blessing eventually became crystallized in the Messiah — the anointed and holy one of God. It was He who would introduce the messianic age of which the prophets so often had spoken, and it was in Him that all peoples, Jews and Gentiles, would find their true "blessing."

It was right and fitting, therefore, that Christ should proclaim his kingdom and his Gospel among the Jews and in their promised land. This is what happened. His Apostles, including St. Paul, and the faithful disciples having done their best for their fellow-Jews, left Palestine and carried the great news of the incarnation — a blessing greater than any man could have imagined — to the pagan peoples of the then-known world. It was surely from the Jews that salvation came to us Gentiles.

While Christ reserved his preaching to the Jews according to God's plan, he visited some of the Gentile lands bordering on Palestine — Tyre, Sidon, Phoenicia, the Decapolis — and worked some miracles there. However, he did not preach to them. This exception — going into pagan lands — was evidently important to St. Mark, for he goes into details in describing the faith of the people of the place who asked for a miracle, and their enthusiastic reaction to Christ's power when he did what they

requested. Mark himself knew very well that Christ was fulfilling the divine plan when he restricted his preaching to the Jews, and that he had given a command to his Apostles to bring his Gospel to all nations (Mk. 16: 16). Possibly, however, some of his Gentile converts were questioning why Christ had not come to the Gentiles. In this short episode, Mark shows that Christ was interested indeed in Gentiles and showed his compassion for them by working miracles for them.

We have much for which to thank God the Father, Christ and the good Jews who preached the Gospel to our ancestors. We should not think of questioning why Jesus spent his short public life trying to convert his fellow-Jews. God thought of us from all eternity — the incarnation was his way of giving a truly satisfying meaning to the life of man — the masterpiece and master of all his creation. It has given us a new status in life, a new purpose and an end worth every effort we can muster to gain. Life, with its trials and troubles and its brevity, has a meaning, a profound meaning, for Christians — it is a short period of preparation for the future which awaits us after death if we use it properly.

Christ who carried out his Father's will even unto the death on the cross, deserves our unending gratitude. Eternity will not be long enough for us to thank and praise him. If ever we are tempted to be in any way anti-semitic let us first remember those of God's Chosen People who preserved the knowledge of God and trust in his promises until the time of their fulfillment had come. Secondly, we must never forget the Apostles and disciples of Christ who devoted and gave their lives in order to bring the Christian faith to us. The best way to show appreciation of a gift is to use it fully and gratefully. Let us make full use of the divine gift of salvation by living according to its teaching all the days of our lives.

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

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Please contact Lydia at the Church Office (817) 335-1695

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



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zenobiacollins@sbcglobal.net 682.365.4156  
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**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:**

**Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

On Our Lady's birthday the Church celebrates the first dawning of redemption with the appearance in the world of the Savior's mother, Mary. The Blessed Virgin occupies a unique place in the history of salvation, and she has the highest mission ever commended to any creature. We rejoice that the Mother of God is our Mother, too. Let us often call upon the Blessed Virgin as "Cause of our joy", one of the most beautiful titles in her litany.

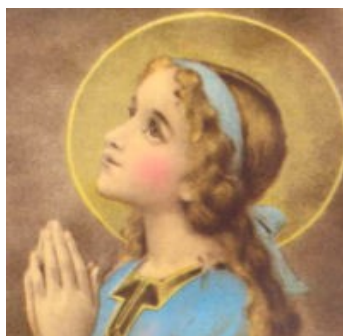
Since September 8 marks the end of summer and beginning of fall, this day has many thanksgiving celebrations and customs attached to it. In the older form of the *Roman Ritual* there is a blessing of the summer harvest and fall planting seeds for this day.

The winegrowers in France called this feast "Our Lady of the Grape Harvest." The best grapes are brought to the local church to be blessed and then some bunches are attached to hands of the statue of Mary. A festive meal which includes the new grapes is part of this day.

In the Alps section of Austria this day is "Drive-Down Day" during which the cattle and sheep are led from their summer pastures in the slopes and brought to their winter quarters in the valleys. This was usually a large caravan, with all the finery, decorations, and festivity. In some parts of Austria, milk from this day and all the leftover food are given to the poor in honor of Our Lady's Nativity.

**With prayers and love,**

*Fr. Bart, S.V.D*



WEEKLY SCHEDULE	
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<b>Monday, September 6</b> Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.	<b>Friday, September 10</b> Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.
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<b>Tuesday, September 7</b> Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.	<b>Adoration 8:00 a.m. — noon</b>
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<b>Wednesday, September 8</b> Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.	<b>Confessions 9:00 a.m. — noon</b>
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<b>Adoration 6:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Saturday, September 11</b> Live Stream Mass: 8:00 a.m.
<b>Confessions 6:00 p.m. — 6:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Adoration 4:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.</b>
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<b>Thursday, September 9</b> Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.	<b>Confessions 4:00 p.m. — 4:50 p.m.</b>
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<b>Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass: 5:00 p.m.</b>
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<b>Friday, September 10</b> Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.	<b>Sunday, September 12</b> Live Stream Mass: 10:00 a.m.
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<b>Adoration 8:00 a.m. — noon</b>	✠✠✠
<b>Confessions 9:00 a.m. — noon</b>	✠✠✠
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<b>Adoration 8:00 a.m. — noon</b>	✠✠✠
<b>Confessions 9:00 a.m. — noon</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Mass: 5:00 p.m.</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Adoration 6:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.</b>	✠✠✠
<b>Confessions 6:00 p.m. — 6:50 p.m.</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Adoration 8:00 a.m. — noon</b>	✠✠✠
<b>Confessions 9:00 a.m. — noon</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Mass: 5:00 p.m.</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Live Stream Mass: 7:00 a.m.</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠
<b>Adoration 6:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.</b>	✠✠✠
<b>Confessions 6:00 p.m. — 6:50 p.m.</b>	✠✠✠
✠✠✠	✠✠✠