

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 Peter approaching asked him, "Lord if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?"
Jesus answered. "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times."

Matthew 18:21-22

September 6 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 13, 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-FOURTH
SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME**

us?

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 18:21-35. On reading or hearing this story of the merciless servant, each one of us would rightly judge him a mean, low type of man, a heartless man, who puts himself outside the pale of mercy. He throttled his fellow-servant for a paltry debt of ten dollars, and would not listen to the poor man's plea for mercy. When we hear what the king did to this heartless servant we heartily approve and say: "It served him right, he got what he richly deserved."

Yet it happens, and it may be that there are some among us here today who continue to have enmity in their hearts against neighbors who offended them. In their hard-heartedness they cannot get themselves to forgive and forget. Are these not following in the footsteps of the merciless servant? Will they not receive the punishment of the merciless servant — a punishment richly deserved? This will be the fate of all unforgiving Christians; they will meet an unforgiving God when they are called to settle their accounts.

We had better stop and think for a moment today and reflect that we ourselves may be that merciless servant described in the parable. Every time we have sinned mortally we have incurred an unpayable debt to God. Each time we have received absolution we have come out of God's courtroom as free men. A weight greater than a million dollar debt has been lifted from our shoulders. A fate worse than generations of earthly imprisonment — that is, eternal slavery — has been spared us because of God's loving, infinite mercy. How then can it happen that we could be so heartless, mean, and foolish as to refuse to forgive a neighbor for some offense he has committed against

That day has not yet come for us. We still have time to put our affairs in order. We still can forgive all our enemies from our heart. If we do not, we are cutting ourselves off from the possibility of having our own sins and offenses forgiven by God. We have the solemn word of our divine Lord for this in the lesson he draws from the parable "So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you (that is, deliver us up to eternal slavery) if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

*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:

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14th is the feast day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This feast was observed in Rome before the end of the seventh century. It commemorates the recovery of the Holy Cross, which had been placed on Mt. Calvary by St. Helena and preserved in Jerusalem, but then had fallen into the hands of Chosroas, King of the Persians. The precious relic was recovered and returned to Jerusalem by Emperor Heraclius in 629.

This day is also called the Exaltation of the Cross, Elevation of the Cross, Holy Cross Day, Holy Rood Day, or Roodmas. The liturgy of the Cross is a triumphant liturgy. When Moses lifted up the bronze serpent over the people, it was a foreshadowing of the salvation through Jesus when He was lifted up on the Cross. Our Mother Church sings of the triumph of the Cross, the instrument of our redemption. To follow Christ we must take up His cross, follow Him and become obedient until death, even if it means death on the cross. We identify with Christ on the Cross and become co-redeemers, sharing in His cross.

We make the Sign of the Cross before prayer which helps to fix our minds and hearts to God. After prayer we make the Sign of the Cross to keep close to God.

O cross, you are the glorious sign of victory.

Through your power may we share in the triumph of Christ Jesus.

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, September 14

Live Stream on

our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

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Tuesday, September 15

Live Stream on

our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

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Wednesday, September 16

Live Stream on

our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

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Thursday, September 17

Live Stream on

our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

Friday, September 18

Live Stream on

our Church Website

Mass: 7 a.m.

Adoration: 8:00 a.m.—noon

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Saturday, September 19

Live Stream on

our Church Website

Mass: 8 a.m.

Mass: 5 p.m.

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Sunday, September 20

Live Stream on

our Church Website

Mass: 10 a.m.

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Vocation View

For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:8

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

Weekly Readings

09/14— NM 21:4b-9; PHIL 2:6-11; JN 3:13-17

09/15—1 COR 12:12-14, 27-31a; JN 19:25-27 or LK 2:33-35

09/16—1 COR 12:31-13:13; LK 7:31-35

09/17—1 COR 15:1-11; LK 7:36-50

09/18—1 COR 15:12-20; LK 8:1-3

09/19 —1 COR 15:35-37, 42-49; LK 8:4-15

09/20—IS 55:6-9; PHIL 1:20c-24, 27a; MT 20:1-16a

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PARISH CORNER

Our Lady of Sorrows

This feast dates back to the 12th century. It was especially promoted by the Cistercians and the Servites, so much so that in the 14th and 15th centuries it was widely celebrated throughout the Catholic Church. In 1482 the feast was added to the Missal under the title of "Our Lady of Compassion." Pope Benedict XIII added it to the Roman Calendar in 1727 on the Friday before Palm Sunday. In 1913, Pope Pius X fixed the date on September 15. The title "Our Lady of Sorrows" focuses on Mary's intense suffering during the passion and death of Christ. "The Seven Dolours," the title by which it was celebrated in the 17th century, referred to the seven swords that pierced the Heart of Mary. The feast is like an octave for the birthday of Our Lady on September 8th.

—Excerpted from *Our Lady of Sorrows* by Fr. Paul Haffner (*Inside the Vatican*, September 2004)

This feast is dedicated to the spiritual martyrdom of Mary, Mother of God, and her compassion with the sufferings of her Divine Son, Jesus. In her suffering as co-redeemer, she reminds us of the tremendous evil of sin and shows us the way of true repentance. May the numerous tears of the Mother of God be conducive to our salvation; with which tears Thou, O God, art able to wash away the sins of the whole world.

As Mary stood at the foot of the cross on which Jesus hung, the sword of sorrow Simeon had foretold pierced her soul.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

2021 Annual Diocesan Appeal

We are a people of hope – no matter the circumstances and uncertainties of the present hour – we understand and believe that Jesus gives hope to those who are ill, to those who are abandoned, to those who suffer from economic hardships and to those who live in fear and isolation. His love is ever constant, never changing and without limits. We may all take comfort in the surety that He has gone before us to prepare a place with him and our heavenly Father.

In this moment, we are called to share in challenges that now face us. As never before, the world, our country, our state and our Diocese need the healing, teaching and redemptive presence of our divine Savior. As we look back on what we have endured, we must now look forward to what we must do for our brothers and sisters in faith.

Your support of the Annual Diocesan Appeal provides essential operating support for those Diocesan ministries, outreach programs, parishes and schools that bring the light of Christ that dispels the darkness of suffering, pain and ignorance. Never has the need for your support been greater and never will the impact of your generosity be more deeply felt.

Please know that as each of you walk in your own journey of faith, your heavenly Father walks besides you and, as a people of hope, you may be assured of my prayers for your parish, your families and you.

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CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Moses and the prayer of the mediator

2575 Here again the initiative is God's. From the midst of the burning bush he calls Moses.²⁰ This event will remain one of the primordial images of prayer in the spiritual tradition of Jews and Christians alike. When "the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob" calls Moses to be his servant, it is because he is the living God who wants men to live. God reveals himself in order to save them, though he does not do this alone or despite them: he calls Moses to be his messenger, an associate in his compassion, his work of salvation. There is something of a divine plea in this mission, and only after long debate does Moses attune his own will to that of the Savior God. But in the dialogue in which God confides in him, Moses also learns how to pray: he balks, makes excuses, above all questions: and it is in response to his question that the Lord confides his ineffable name, which will be revealed through his mighty deeds.

20 Ex 3:1-10.

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Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death, Amen.

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