

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

“Teacher,* which commandment in the law is the greatest?”
He said to him,* “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your
heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

This is the greatest and the first commandment.

The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

The whole law and the prophets depend on these two
commandments.”

Matthew 22:36-40

October 18 Collection

Regular:	\$1,939.00
Foundation:	\$150.00
Faith Formation:	\$5.00
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$180.00
Mass Intentions:	\$145.00
St. Anne’s Altar Society:	\$100.00
World Mission Sunday:	\$185.00
Online 10/13 –10/18:	\$90.00

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



OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

October 25, 2020



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

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Fort Worth, TX 76104

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**THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

The **Gospel** is from Matthew 22:34-40. The Pharisees may not have had evil intentions when asking Christ the question as to the greatest commandment. But they have done us a good service by getting this crystal clear answer from him. In this answer he tells us that the man who loves God and neighbor fulfills all his obligations, and carries out all the duties that God's self-revelation in "the law and the prophets" imposes on him. God revealed himself to us in the Old Testament as our Creator and divine benefactor. He had no need of us, since he is infinitely perfect in himself, but out of his infinite goodness he wished to share his eternal kingdom of happiness with mankind and so he created us. That we should love such a benefactor and be grateful to him is not asking much of us; such love should surely be the spontaneous reaction of a rational being, and yet there were and there are many who fail to acknowledge any such obligation.

Where Christians can, and too often do fail, is in their true love of neighbor. Yet Christ says that this commandment is like the first. Love of neighbor is an essential part of our obligations toward God. If we fail in this we fail in our love for God, for we refuse to carry out this sacred duty. If we do not recognize our neighbor as our brother, we do not recognize God as our Father and we do not love him. As St. John puts it: "Anyone who says 'I love God' and hates (does not love) his neighbor is a liar" (1 Jn.3: 20).

Let each one of us ask himself today how seriously he takes this law of fraternal charity and how faithfully he carries it out. Not all of us may be able to give material help to a neighbor in need but the poorest of us can spare a kindly word, an encouraging word, for a neighbor weighed down with cares and troubles. All of us can pray for a neighbor who needs spiritual and temporal help. Most of us can deny ourselves some unnecessary luxuries in order to give a needed loaf of bread to a hungry fellowman.

No Christian, worthy of the name, can ever be among such thoughtless and thankless people. We have greater proofs of God's love for us than "the law and the prophets" gave to the Israelites. We have the added proofs of God's infinite interest in us brought to us by the Incarnation. We have been raised to the sublime status of adopted sons of God.

Remember that whatever spiritual or material help is given out of true charity to a neighbor in need, is given to God, and whatever is given to God is soundly invested in heaven, and heaven pays handsome dividends.

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

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.

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

Rev. Jerome Gaston LeDoux

February 26, 1930—January 7, 2019

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FATHER BART'S CORNER

My sisters and brothers:

Saints Simon and Jude

However meagre in details is the history of these glorious apostles, we learn from their brief legend how amply they contributed to this great work of generating sons of God. Without any repose, and even to the shedding of their blood, they "edified the body of Christ"; and the grateful Church thus prays to our Lord today: "O God, through the work of the apostles you have spoken your Word of love, your Son, into our world's deafness. Open our ears to hear; open our hearts to heed; open our will to obey, that we may proclaim the good news with our lives."

St. Simon is represented in art with a saw, the instrument of his martyrdom. St. Jude's square points him out as an architect of the house of God. St. Paul called himself by this name; and St. Jude, by his Catholic Epistle, has also a special right to be reckoned among our Lord's principal workmen. But our apostle had another nobility, far surpassing all earthly titles: being nephew, by his father Cleophas or Alpheus, to St. Joseph, and legal cousin to the Man-God, Jude was one of those called by their compatriots the brethren of the carpenter's Son. We may gather from St. John's Gospel another precious detail concerning him. In the admirable discourse at the close of the last Supper, our Lord said: "He that loveth Me, shall be loved of My Father: and I will love him and will manifest Myself to him." Then Jude asked Him: "Lord, how is it, that Thou wilt manifest Thyself to us, and not to the world?" And he received from Jesus this reply: "If any one love Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and will make Our abode with him. He that loveth Me not keepeth not My word. And the word which you have heard is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me." —Excerpted from *The Liturgical Year*, Abbot Gueranger O.S.B

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, October 26

Live Stream on
our Church Website
Mass: 7 a.m.
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Tuesday, October 27

Live Stream on
our Church Website
Mass: 7 a.m.
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Wednesday, October 28

Live Stream on
our Church Website
Mass: 7 a.m.
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Thursday, October 29

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

Friday, October 30

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

Adoration: 8:00 a.m. — noon
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Saturday, October 31

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

Mass: 5 p.m.
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Sunday, November 1

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

- 10/26— EPH 4:32-5:8; LK 13:10-17
- 10/27—EPH 5:21-33; LK 13:18-21
- 10/28—EPH 2:19-22; LK 6:12-16
- 10/29—EPH 6:10-20; LK 13:31-35
- 10/30—PHIL 1:1-11; LK 14:1-6
- 10/31—PHIL 1:18B-26;
LK 14:1,7-11
- 11/01—RV 7:2-4, 9-14;
1JN 3:1-3; MT 5:1-12A

Vocation View

"You turned from idols to serve the living and true God." Destroy the false gods in your life which prevent you from serving the one true God.

1 Thessalonians 1:9

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

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PARISH CORNER

The Confirmation classes who received the Sacrament of Confirmation recently and last year, as an act of gratitude and thanksgiving for the glorious Sacrament they received donated to the Church a wonderful candle stand for the Tabernacle.

The new candle stand will be blessed and used Sunday, November 1st for the All Saints Day Feast. We are happy and grateful for the younger generation to support the Church with this beautiful gift.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS
National Vocations Awareness Week

National Vocation Awareness Week, celebrated November 1-7, 2020, is an annual week-long observance of the Catholic Church in the United States. It is dedicated to foster vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are discerning one of these vocations. The Diocese of Fort Worth is blessed to have 33 seminarians in various stages of the thorough discernment and formation journey. The Diocese is committed to paying for all of the costs associated with their formation and education so that these men can commit to prayer and formation during their time in seminary, a period which can be between seven and nine years and cost \$50,000 annually. To conclude National Vocations Week, we are asking you to contribute at Mass next weekend to a special collection for our Diocesan Seminarian Education Fund. Please respond generously through your parish or donate online by entering

bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections in your web browser.

Please prayerfully consider your gift to next weekend's special collection. Even more so, I ask you to include these men in your prayers and to encourage other young people to consider the reality that Christ is calling them to follow Him as a priest, deacon, or consecrated religious. Just as our seminarians have responded to God's call to discernment, we too can respond in prayer and generosity.

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CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

The Psalms, the prayer of the assembly

2586 The Psalms both nourished and expressed the prayer of the People of God gathered during the great feasts at Jerusalem and each Sabbath in the synagogues. Their prayer is inseparably personal and communal; it concerns both those who are praying and all men. The Psalms arose from the communities of the Holy Land and the Diaspora, but embrace all creation. Their prayer recalls the saving events of the past, yet extends into the future, even to the end of history; it commemorates the promises God has already kept, and awaits the Messiah who will fulfill them definitively. Prayed by Christ and fulfilled in him, the Psalms remain essential to the prayer of the Church.³⁸

2587 The Psalter is the book in which The Word of God becomes man's prayer. In other books of the Old Testament, "the words proclaim [God's] works and bring to light the mystery they contain."³⁹ The words of the Psalmist, sung for God, both express and acclaim the Lord's saving works; the same Spirit inspires both God's work and man's response. Christ will unite the two. In him, the psalms continue to teach us how to pray.

³⁸ Cf. *GILH*, nn. 100-109.
³⁹ *DV* 2.

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"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind."
— *MATTHEW* 22:37