

Jesus said,
"Where two or three
are gathered together
in my name,
there am I
in the midst of them."

MATTHEW 18:20

TWENTY-THIRD
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 6
2020



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The truth is, love is sometimes wonderfully charged with light and life, but it also often requires us to confront wrongdoing and injustice, to be patient and forgiving, and to work for peace and reconciliation. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to reflect the love of God which desires the best for every person and for all of humanity. Jesus was so committed to this mission of God's love that he gave himself as an offering of pure sacrifice. This is not easy love. It is compelling love, the sort of love that transforms and draws us toward the light and life that in our hearts we know we seek, and which we are called to share.

IF TODAY YOU HEAR HIS VOICE

Where does this leave us when we experience conflict with others? As in all times and seasons, the best place to begin is in prayer. Listen for the voice of God in personal prayer, at Mass, in sacred scripture and other

devotional reading, with trusted faithful and faith-filled friends. Listen with the compassion of the Lord in mind. And when you hear God's voice, pay attention! This sounds self-evident, yet how many of us hear God's voice but ask that we not be called to the challenge and discomfort of the situation, desiring instead to hope that things will simply get better? Perhaps they will, but perhaps you are called to bring the light and life of Christ to the situation, in love, for love, and through love, just as Jesus did. "If today you hear [God's] voice, harden not your hearts," says today's psalm. We often know the depth of love to which we are called. Today's readings invite us to listen and to act, to love our neighbor as our-selves, to desire the best for every person as God desires, and to be assured that God is in our midst.

Today's Readings: Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider
PERMANENT DEACON:
Rev. Mr. Leonard "Len" Sanchez

Reconciliation:
Saturday & Sunday: 45
minutes before Mass

Celebration of Mass:
Temporary
Mass Times: Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM
Tues. - Fri. 8:00AM
Confessions: Tues. & Wed. 9:00-10:00AM

Marriage or Baptism:
contact the parish office six
months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

**Holy Spirit
Catholic Church**

1612 S. FM 2869
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765
Church Phone: 903-769-3235

Fr. Mike Snider
Cell Phone: 903-490-3883
www.holyspirthollylake.com
holy.spirit2@yahoo.com

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Jess Corrigan. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Randy Epp. Shay Mikalonis. Dwight Nunley. Wendy Melton. Wanda & George Duke. John Ott. Fleming Family. Carolyn Shannon. Doris Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Patricia Guy. Jacob Stephens. Randy Burris. Albert Hernandez. Karina Hawkins. Frankie Durst. Susie Strickland. Doug Lawson. Dana Moffatt. Emly Walker. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Diane Stanley. Chase Larsson. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Rose Kennedy. Judy Fazzio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Carolyn Edwards. Joshua Larsson. Avery Boullinghouse. Wanda Stephens. Wanda Thompson. Kathryn Allen. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

New active recruit, Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). E-3R James Morgan (SonInLaw of Kathy & Dale Boman) Paul Moreno USCG (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (brother of Jeff & Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

A MESSAGE OF LOVE

In the final verses of today's Gospel reading Jesus says that when two or three are gathered in his name, "there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). So we understand that fraternal correction is always undertaken with Jesus present to us. Likewise, encouraging the good in others is not only the right thing for us to do, it is a necessity. The Lord tells the prophet Ezekiel that if he "does not speak out" to dissuade a person from evil, then he too will be held responsible. We live in a "do your own thing" age when moral objectivity is often ignored. Clearly when the message we share with others is one of love, our motives cannot ever be misinterpreted. As St. Paul writes, "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10).

POPE'S UNIVERSAL INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

Respect for the Planet's Resources

That the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

LABOR: A truly American sentiment recognizes the dignity of labor and the fact that honor lies in honest toil.—Grover Cleveland

NEIGHBORLY LOVE

We can never love our neighbor too much. —St. Francis de Sales

Mass—Intentions

Sat 9/05 Carlos Gallardo+ (Pat Gallardo)
Sun 9/06 Marie Mailliard+ & Lee Marsh+ (Bob Mailliard)
Tue 9/08 NO MASS. Communion Service followed by Adoration.
Wed 9/09 Most Rev. Charles E. Herzig+
Thurs 9/10 Rev. John Culpepper+
Fri. 9/11 Rev. Benjamin G. Smylie+
Sat. 9/12 Joseph & Ann Pericak+ (Mary Catalano)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through July 31, 2020:

Expenditures (excluding parking lot repairs)	\$ 3,684
Regular and debt & maintenance collections	\$ 3,840

Attendance 8/29 Sat. 0 & 8/30 Sun. 0 No Weekend Masses

One can Give without Loving...
But one cannot Love without Giving.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Warn the wicked and try to turn them from their ways (Ezekiel 33:7-9).

Psalms: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading: Owe nothing to anyone, except mutual love (Romans 13:8-10).

Gospel: If two agree about anything for which they pray, it shall be granted to them (Matthew 18:15-20).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7, 12; Lk 6:6-11, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessings of Human Labor," nos. 907-911

Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24; Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Ps 84:3-6, 12; Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18; Lk 6:43-49

Sunday: Sir 27:30 — 28:7; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35



Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Sept. 5th at 5:00pm and Sun., Sept. 6th at 9:00am.

Protocols for weekend Masses:

1. **Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
2. **Wear a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the parish hall. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed.
4. **Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**
5. **Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.** Do not enter through Narthex.

Temporary Weekday Mass Times held in church: Tues. — Fri. at 8:00am. Tues. 9/8 NO MASS. Communion Serv. Followed by Adoration only.

Protocols for weekday Masses:

1. **Call Fr. Mike on his cell phone 903-490-3883 (do not text). Limited to 20 people.**
2. **Strongly consider wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the Narthex. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
4. **In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
5. **Enter & exit** double glass doors into the church through the overhang.

CONFESSION on Wed., Sept. 9th only from 9:00—10:00AM. If you have an emergency and need Fr. Mike call him on his cell # 903-490-3883.

Only two weeks left to purchase raffle tickets!

Although the Dinner and Casino Night event was canceled, the raffle, consisting of **four \$500.00 Visa gift cards**, with the possibility of winning \$2,000.00, will still be conducted on **Saturday, September 19th after 5:00pm Mass.** You do not have to be present to win. **Raffle tickets are still available**, and, to increase the chances of winning, you may want to purchase additional raffle tickets.

Last year, on **April 27, 2019 our Net Income-Profit** from the Dinner/Casino Night excluding the raffle was **\$ 10,333.00.** Each and everyone of us still has time to get out and sell more raffle tickets to make up the loss of the dinner & casino night. Call the church office 903-769-3235 for more tickets. If I'm not available please leave a message and I'll return your call.

Bridget Rich

Dispensation: The entire diocese of Tyler remains dispensed from the Sunday and holy day Mass obligation until further notice.

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An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Cenacle of Life: Fr. Mike gave us his permission to resume the Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm.** Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

Food donations: Thank you so very much for the grocery bags of food. Still in need of **sundries (i.e. shampoo, deodorant, soap bar & liquid, etc.). Blessings to all of our givers.** Plastic container is located in the **parish hall** for now. We have been feeding 70—90 people per week. Please call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or theduckdude@att.net if you know someone that needs help or if you have questions for Bob.

EM's we would appreciate your help:

If you're an **Eucharist Minister** and your not ministering that day, please help by taking the vessels to the Sacristy.

Thank you, Fr. Mike

Don't forget: Saturday, Sept. 5th is the First Saturday of the month. **Mass begins at 8:00am**, followed with the Patriotic Rosary. Please join us!

Has the COVID-19 Pandemic changed your life?

Have you **sheltered in place and developed new habits or cut out one bad habit for another? Changes in routines? Any quarantine dreams? Behavioral changes...like stockpiling toilet paper, Dr Peppers, disinfecting wipes, paper towels, etc. I'm sure everyone has a story or two to share with others.**

If you are interested in sharing your experiences, just email Bridget: **holy.spirit2@yahoo.com** You can remain anonymous, all you have to do is let me know in your email. If you don't have internet, no problem leave me something hand written in my folder on my office door.

Sept. Second Collections: 5th & 6th "Building & Maintenance Fund"; 12th & 13th "Catholic University of America & Catholic Communications Campaign".



DIOCESE
of
TYLER

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Joseph E. Strickland
Concluding the Year of the Eucharist

Dear Faithful of the Diocese of Tyler,

Our 2020 liturgical year has been more challenging than most in recent history. Recall that, in our diocese, we began the year with my decree establishing the Year of the Eucharist which includes a robust challenge of fostering reverence for the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Little did we know just how important His real presence would become a few short months after promulgating my decree.

As we approach the conclusion of the Year of the Eucharist, I want our focus to remain on deepening our personal faith and understanding of the tremendous gift of the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, but I want to challenge all of us to intentionally and daily invite His spiritual presence in the Holy Spirit into our lives as we face the challenges of voting with a well-formed Catholic conscience in the upcoming national, state and local elections, of facing the coronavirus pandemic without fear and of making special reparation for the sins we have committed as individuals, as a society, and as a Church.

For many centuries, the Church has dedicated October as the Month of the Rosary and November as the Month of the Souls in Purgatory, and it is during these two months that I ask the diocese to embrace an attitude of prayer. The Diocese of Tyler will offer a Diocesan Rosary Congress, Friday, October 2, 2020 through Friday, October 9, 2020. This will be a week of Eucharistic Adoration and Praying the Rosary throughout the diocese with each of our seven deaneries sponsoring one day of the week inviting all of God's people of East Texas to prayer.

Additionally, I encourage everyone in the diocese to participate in a *40 Day Devotion to conclude the Year of the Eucharist* beginning on October 13, 2020, the anniversary of the final apparition of the Virgin Mary, and ending on November 22, 2020, the Feast of Christ the King. Throughout this *40 Day Devotion* I ask all in the diocese to make an effort to pray the Rosary, attend a Holy Hour with their local parish, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 PM each day or offer a *40 Days'* fast from a favorite food or beverage. Local parishes will be encouraged to provide prayer opportunities to the faithful, as they are able to, with due regard to social distancing and other guidelines and protocols for mitigating the spread of Covid-19.

The St. Philip Institute of Catechesis and Evangelization will assist me with this call to prayer by sponsoring livestreamed prayer which will provide opportunities for everyone to join in prayer from their homes in the event they cannot or choose not to participate in person.

As your bishop, it is my hope that these efforts will help us all focus on our life in Jesus Christ in the Catholic Tradition and the joy which He brings. We can all become disheartened as we witness public blasphemy against God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, against the Immaculate Virgin Mary and against the Holy Catholic Church, the Bride of Christ, but let us never forget that Jesus Christ is our sure hope and in Him we should place our trust.

Most Reverend Joseph E. Strickland
Bishop of Tyler

Given this August 15, 2020
Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary



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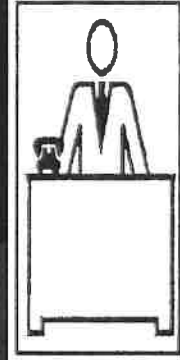
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