

October 4, 2020

Once again,  
**O Lord of hosts,**  
look down from heaven, and see;  
take care of this vine,  
and protect what your  
right hand has planted.

Psalm 80:15-16

Twenty-Seventh  
**SUNDAY**  
in Ordinary Time

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The Church presents today's Old Testament and Gospel readings together, as a pair. We delight in the symmetry between the two passages. Jesus, who is the Word of God, knows the Hebrew scriptures by heart and intends for his parable to echo Isaiah. As Jesus begins speaking, he summons the words of Isaiah, knowing his learned audience of chief priests and elders will feel comfortable with a familiar scripture passage. These scholars recognize immediately that Jesus is referring to a prophetic passage about sin, about the chosen people's tendency to turn away from God and grow "wild."

### AMAZED BY INNOVATION

What Jesus does next surprises his audience. He adds a new twist to Isaiah's well-known words, adding a new character, the landowner's very own son. Adding this innovation shows that Jesus confirms the prophet's warning—that God longs for "his cherished plant" to grow according to the divine plan. The narrative twist also allows Jesus to reveal the fullness of God's plan in a way

his audience can understand. Like a master teacher, Jesus respects the knowledge and faithfulness of the chief priests and elders, and then builds on what they know. By adding the landowner's son to the parable of the vineyard, Jesus gently expresses his own mission as the Son of God. Matthew's Gospel often depicts the chief priests and elders as oppositional; they worry that Jesus will abolish the law and foment rebellion. As the Lord said earlier in Matthew's Gospel, however, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill" (Matthew 5:17). Jesus' audience is skeptical about him, horrified at the thought of a mere human being claiming that he is the Son of God. Jesus' masterful approach provides an opportunity for his audience to give him the benefit of the doubt. In this way, Jesus proposes—not imposes—his kingship, inviting us all to follow him.

Today's Readings: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider  
**PERMANENT DEACON:**

#### Temporary

Mass Times: Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM

Tues. - Fri. 8:00AM

Confessions: Tues. & Wed. 9:00-10:00AM

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday: 45  
minutes before Mass

#### Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six  
(6) months prior to the  
anticipated date 903-769-3235

## Holy Spirit

## Catholic Church

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Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765

Church Phone: 903-769-3235

Fr. Mike Snider

Cell Phone: 903-490-3883

[www.holyspirthollylake.com](http://www.holyspirthollylake.com)

[holy.spirit2@yahoo.com](mailto:holy.spirit2@yahoo.com)

**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!

## Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Regina Davies. Jo Hoffman. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Jim Hayes. Jess Corrigan. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Randy Epp. Shay Mikalonis. Dwight Nunley. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Carolyn Shannon. Doris Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Frankie Durst. Emly Walker. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Diane Stanley. Chase Larsson. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazzio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Carolyn Edwards. Joshua Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda Stephens. Wanda Thompson. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. **We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: Jim Hayes, spouse of Elayne.**

### 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). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel (Isaiah 5:1-7).

**Psalm:** The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading:** God's peace will guard your hearts and minds (Philippians 4:6-9).

**Gospel:** The kingdom of God will be given to those who will produce its fruit (Matthew 21:33-43).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15; Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-6; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 11:27-28

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10]

### ***Wouldn't you like to pray the Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament?***

Fr. Mike is encouraging Holy Spirit parishioners to pray the Rosary before the Sat., Vigil and Sun., Masses. Join us at 4:30pm on Sat., and 8:30am on Sun., in the sacred space to achieve maximum effect. The promised graces are guaranteed!

**Please join the Rosary Group** every Friday for 8:00am Mass. We would love it if you would like for us to teach you how to make rosaries. This is a way to meet and get to know some of Holy Spirit's sweetest and funniest women. We do wear masks & social distancing. Call Jean Kelley 903-857-9868 for info.

### Mass—Intentions

**Sat 10/03** Deacon Lent+ Eloise Sanchez (Bridget Rich)

**Sun 10/04** Jim+ & Elayne Hayes (M/M Charlie Clymer)

**Tue 10/06** Jim+ & Elayne Hayes (Marie Hansen)

**Wed 10/07** Ellis Family (M/M Charlie Clymer)

**Thurs 10/08** Jim+ & Elayne Hayes

**Fri. 10/09** Jim+ & Elayne Hayes (M/M Charlie Clymer)

**Sat. 10/10** Rita Joyce Aucoint+ (Carolyn Bonicard)

### PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through August 31, 2020:

Expenditures (excluding parking lot repairs) \$ 3,633

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,698

**Attendance** 9/26 Sat. 41 & 9/27 Sun. 40

### POPE'S UNIVERSAL INTENTION FOR OCTOBER:

**The Laity's Mission in the Church.** That by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.



### Election Day Adoration

7am - 7pm, Tues., Nov. 3rd

We need adorers! Our nation needs prayer during these tumultuous times now more than ever. God chastises those He loves, but He is merciful too. We can plead for Him to keep destruction from us just as He did for Abraham with Lot in Sodom. Just as He did for Hezekiah by granting him 15 more years of life. We can ask our Blessed Mother to intercede for us on election day just as she did at the Battle of Lepanto and the Wedding Feast of Cana.

We need to pray that legal voting is upheld and preserved and that the polls are places of peace. We can pray that people are motivated to get out and vote and that candidates show civility no matter the outcome. We must pray that God blesses America.

Can you give an hour to pray for our nation? **Father is offering Mass at 6:30am** and then each adoration slot is on the half hour for example 7:00a-7:30a, 7:30a-8:00a and so forth. **You can sign up on the holy spirit website, [holyspirthollylake.com](http://holyspirthollylake.com) or you can email Cathy Ellis at [cathy.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.ellis@gmail.com)**



Let us pray unceasingly  
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

**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.

**Food donations:** *Blessings to all of our givers!* We could use cans of soups; jams and jellies; pasta & pasta sauce. Plastic container is located in the **parish hall** for now. 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.

**CONFESSION** *Tues., Oct. 6th & Wed., Oct. 7th only from 9:00—10:00AM. If you have an emergency and need Fr. Mike call him on his cell # 903-490-3883.*

**RESULTS OF OUR 2020 RAFFLE**

Thanks to all those who donated towards our fundraiser

NET PROFIT \$9, 770.00.

*Fundraising Committee*

**WE ARE IN NEED OF PARISHIONERS THAT HAVE THE FOLLOWING SKILLS:**

Quick Books, Parish Data System (PDS), Publisher, Excel and Word

Would you be available under 20 hours a month to pay bills, keep track of finances, and reconcile bank statements?

Would you be interested in working on our bulletin?

If you have these talents and your interested, please email the church office at holy.spirit2@yahoo.com.

**Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Oct. 3rd at 5:00pm and Sun., Oct. 4th 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. Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.
4. **Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**

**Life Chain** is scheduled for **Sun., Nov., 8th** early afternoon in front of church and along 2869. Hopefully, this year we will have more than enough people to extend our chain from Hwy 49 to Hwy 14. Also, Baby Shower weekend!!!

*Watch the bulletin for more information in the near future*

**Cenacle of Life:** 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**

Fr. Mike is offering a **men's bible study** and a **women's bible study.** If interested please call/text Fr. Mike on his cell 903-490-3883. Leave your name and contact number.

**Coming soon, "The Way of Christ" and going deeper (mystagogy)** virtual study course. If your interested please email holy.spirit2@yahoo.com your name & contact number. Or you can register with Wanda Stephens @ . This course is for 16 years and above. Please watch the bulletin for further information.

**Blessing of the Animals**

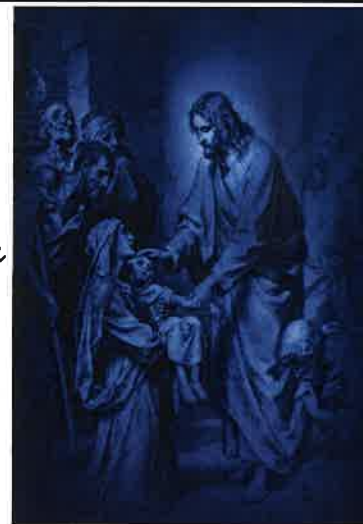
Remember the Blessing of the Animals this **Sun., Oct. 4th at 2pm in the Prayer/Meditation Garden.** Please have pets on leashes or in carriers. In case of inclement weather the blessing will take place at the main entrance of the church. Masks and Social Distancing will be mandatory.

Live the Gospel of **Life**

"to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps"

*The Gospel of Life*

**RESPECT LIFE  
SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 4, 2020**



**Oct. Second Collections:** 3rd & 4th "Building & Maintenance Fund." 17th & 18th "World Mission Sunday."

**Temporary Weekday Mass Times held in church: Tues. — Fri. at 8:00am.**

**Protocols for weekday Masses:**

1. **Wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
2. **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.
3. **In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
4. **Limited seating maximum 31.** In order for the households to maintain at least 6 feet separation.

# The Pre-eminent Moral Mandate: The Right to Life

by [Bishop Joseph Strickland](#) | Sep 5, 2020 | [Essays](#)

The most important foundational teaching and principle of Catholic Social Teaching is that every human life is sacred from conception to natural death, because every man and woman is created in the Image of God. Further, there is a fundamental Right to Life, which is confirmed in the Natural Moral Law, the Sacred Scripture, and the unbroken Tradition of the Catholic Church. Every Civil Law must respect that fundamental Human Right to Life, or such a law is an unjust law.

Every human person is created in the Image of God. Because of that, they have an inherent dignity – at every age and stage of their lives. This truth is what informs our respect for every human life whether that life is found in the first home of the womb, a wheelchair, a jail cell, a hospital room, a hospice, a senior center, a soup kitchen or on a refugee boat. And, in future installments, we will touch on many of these matters.

However, the Right to Life position is, in one sense, not about an “issue” at all. Nor are those who hold it “single issue voters”. It is the Preeminent moral mandate. The Pro-Life position is also worldview, a lens through which we should view every political, cultural, social, and economic issue. It should inform every aspect of our participation in society, especially the exercise of our citizenship. As we approach this election season, it therefore must inform the way we vote. The Right to Life is the foundation for every human right. The language often used in the political discussion surrounding legal abortion reveals an Orwellian newspeak which is polluting our public discourse. We should never use phrases such as “Abortion rights”. Abortions do not have rights; only human persons have rights. The first Right is the Right to Life.

Every procured abortion is the taking of innocent human life and is always and everywhere intrinsically immoral. Without the Right to Life there are no other rights and the infrastructure of rights is thrown into jeopardy. Human rights are goods of human persons. When there is no human person to exercise them, all the rhetoric extolling them is nothing but empty air and sloganeering.

Every procured abortion is intrinsically immoral – always and everywhere wrong. Thus, our absolute opposition to legalized abortion must be the first of the pre-eminent issues we consider in voting. Any candidate or political party which promotes abortion is precluded from any further consideration for a Catholic voter.

That individual or party may embrace other policies that seem supportive of other related issues arising out of our respect for the sanctity of life, but if their stance is that abortion is *ever* acceptable and should be promoted, any other positive life values become moot. If one promotes the idea that an unborn person has no Right to Life, then what other right is of any consequence? That person’s life has been terminated.

I urge the faithful in this diocese to realize that anyone who directly promotes abortion is not acceptable for leadership in our society. I realize that eliminates a vast number of potential leaders from our consideration as faithful Catholics, but we must hold firm and do all we can to only support political leaders who respect and protect the fundamental Right to life of the unborn. And, they must listen to our voice.



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