



Jesus asked them,
“BUT WHO DO YOU
SAY THAT I AM?”
Peter said to him in reply,
“YOU ARE THE CHRIST.”

Mark 8:29

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 12, 2021

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The Gospel of Mark reaches a turning point in today's passage. About halfway through Mark, Jesus' disciples begin to understand Jesus as the Messiah (or Christ). And Jesus begins to spell out just what is expected of those who follow him. The story then shifts to learning just what being Christ, and following Christ, actually means. Jesus shatters the expectation of a political or military power defeating Israel's oppressors, and reveals a different kind of Messiah. The disciples later come to see that this different Messiah offers a different understanding of power, and of life itself.

We inhabit a world that honors power over others, through wealth or achievement or violence. Jesus invites us into a community and a way of life that honors the power of love and service to others. Lived fully, it is truly a different way of life. It is marked by great suffering and great joy, because it embraces the fundamental pattern of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

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A “LARGE” FAITH

The letter of James is designed to enlarge your faith. James knew that his community faced trials that could lead them to abandon the faith, or perhaps to reduce faith to a comfortable, manageable size. In today's passage, James calls the reader to resist reducing faith to safe, intellectual assent to teachings, and instead to expand one's faith to actively engage in good works, especially in service to the poor.

To have a “large” faith is to move from apathy toward others' sufferings to empathy and to action. A large faith leads to a large heart, where we can take in the enormity of suffering in the world around us, not become overwhelmed by it, and do what we can to relieve it. With a large heart, we can even squarely face our own sufferings, accepting our own tragedies with forgiveness and hope, and walking in empathy with all who share in suffering.

Today's Readings: Is 50:4c-9a; Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9;
Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. “Mike” Snider

Celebration of the Sacraments:

Mass: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

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

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

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Church Phone: 903-769-3235

Fr. Mike Snider
Cell Phone: 903-490-3883

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holy.spirit2@yahoo.com

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Richard Boultinghouse. Michael Allen. Joe Fazzio. Miller Family. Rick Boultinghouse. Rheannon Dahm. Rick & Teri Jackson. Ron Emma. Kate Serres. Belinda Flowers. Dona Jordan. Jaye Anderson. Georgette March. Daniel Corrigan. Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Bollinger Family. Charlie Parker. Molly Dunn. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. 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: Kathryn Allen (mother of Kathy Boman).

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

Dawn Quinn, US Army PVT 2nd Class (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 1LT Joey Chaney, 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). Lt. "JG" Gary Buchanan; 2nd Capt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great 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 & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 9/11 Ryan Kaye (M/M Bonicard)

Sun 9/12 Johnny Collins (M/M Stephens)

Tue 9/14 Hilary Moore (M/M Bonicard)

Wed 9/15 Melinda Miller+ (Jane Bidlack)

Thurs 9/16 Communion Service 9:00AM

Fri. 9/17 LeRoy Martin (M/M Kelly) & **Bob Doan+** (M/M Laudt)

Sat. 9/18 Brandon Bonicard (M/M Bonicard)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts for the month of June, 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,882

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 4,176

Attendance 9/04 Saturday 68 9/05 Sunday 94

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



Pope's Intention for September:

An environmentally sustainable lifestyle. We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our your people who are resolutely committed to this.

THE CROSS TO BEAR

If you bear the cross gladly, it will bear you.

—Thomas à Kempis

A GRANDPARENT RECIPE

A grandparent is a little bit parent, a little bit teacher, and a little bit best friend.—Anonymous

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: The Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong? (Isaiah 50:5-9a).

Psalms: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading: Faith, if it does not have works, is dead (James 2:14-18).

Gospel: Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:27-35).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7-9; Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-6; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-10; Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-10, 17-20; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 8:4-15

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3; Mk 9:30-37

IT'S ALL ABOUT CONTROL

From toddlerhood to old age, we grow in mastery of our own lives, our bodies, and our destiny. This mastery is hard won, and we don't let go of autonomy easily. Much of this self-mastery involves the avoidance of pain or discomfort, so when we hear things like "take up your cross" and "lose your life," we tend to resist the message.

James says that faith without works is dead. Ouch! That is really a direct message! One way to look at this, as well as the part about losing our life to find it, is that faith is a process of more and more openness to God's direction of our lives. It is very hard for us to give up control, but perhaps what we are being asked to do is not to become passive and babyish, but to allow God to direct where our self-mastery will lead and what it will accomplish. We are asked to relinquish the need to control the results of our efforts; to risk, as Jesus did, the loss of everything we are working to achieve. We are asked to let God take the lead and to control the results, even though we may never see those results.

Would you be interested in spending an hour with our Lord in adoration?



Please contact Cathy Ellis at cathy.ellis@gmail.com. Cathy will need your name, and a one hour time slot on Tuesdays that you would be willing to come to the church and adore our Lord.



Patriotic Rosary for Peace in America
RESUMES SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 2nd at 9:00 a.m.



The Pines Catholic Camp - - NOW HIRING!!! Kitchen Assistants.

Job Requirements: This position would require you to be on your feet for several hours, being able to lift 40 lbs and to keep a super positive attitude to share our mission with the hundreds of kids who visit camp for retreats and summer camp. It's a fun-fast packed environment where you'll learn food service skills from an experienced team in our beautiful new dining hall. Call the Food & Beverage Director, Daphne Guthrie @ 903-845-1132

Join the Diocese of Tyler for the Sixth Annual East Texas Sanctity of Life Banquet with featured speaker Ashley Bratcher. The Banquet will take place October 11, at (Holiday Inn Conference Center) in Tyler, Tx from 6 pm to 8 pm. **Fr. Mike would like to put together a Holy Spirit table of eight to attend, cost \$50.00 per person. If interested please call office 903-769-3235 or email holy.spirit2@yahoo.com the church office to let Fr. Mike or Bridget know you are interested.**



After I made the announcement last weekend there will be no coffee and donuts due to the lack of participation of volunteers.

Numerous parishioners approached me, regarding the cancellation of coffee and donuts, they feel that we need this program for evangelizing.

I listened, so we need more parishioners to step up and sign up for the 1st, 4th and 5th Sunday of each month in the kitchen, in order to start the first Sunday in Oct. 3rd. Thank you to the volunteers that have stepped up. Please notify Bridget for info 903-769-3235.

Speaking of Bridget, she needs someone to chair the coffee and donuts, give her a call for details.

Sincerely, Fr. Mike



September Second Collections:

11th & 12th "Catholic University of America."
25th & 26th: "Aid to the Church in Central/Eastern Europe."

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 Hauck 817-637-9382**

Legion of Mary— Pilgrim Statue: Our Lady of Fatima Statue is now ready to visit your home. **There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749 or Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953.** The Statue will be delivered to your home on the day of your choice and picked up at the end of one week. If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

The Holy Spirit Food Ministry would like to thank all our parishioners for their food donations. The large plastic bin is located by in the hallway by Bridget's office. **We are in the need of pasta; canned vegetables and sauce.**

Looking for volunteers to get involved with the Food Ministry. Call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or theduckdude@att.net



Thank you,
*Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd;
Stan & Terry Evans; Al & Evelyn Murfin
Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team*

HELP NEEDED — CALL FR. MIKE 903-769-3235

1. **We are in need of an organist, do you know of anyone that would be interested?**
2. **Help needed in maintaining our meditation garden?**
3. **Fr. Mike needs someone that can climb a ladder to change light bulbs.**

Did you know that our **Rosary Group** repairs broken rosaries? Also, if you have **old jewelry** that you don't want any longer, they will be glad to take it off your hands. They use old jewelry to make rosaries. What a precious gift to have from your mother's or grandmother's jewelry made into a rosary. Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868

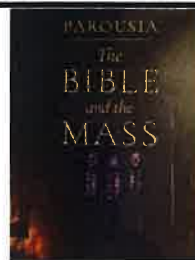
CHOIR PRACTICE is held in our church every Thursday at Noon, come and join us.

PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR MASKS

Have you ever wondered where the Mass is mentioned in the Bible? You are invited to enjoy the latest video Bible study called **Parousia: The Bible and the Mass** featuring the excellent speaker and renowned theologian Dr. Scott Hahn.

Jane Bidlack will facilitate this study on the third Sunday of each month after Mass, beginning September 19th for ten months of beautifully produced lessons and group discussion.

Please call Jane @ 903-569-7749 to register or sign up on the table outside the Secretary's office for the next few weeks. I look forward to sharing this time together with you - one hour, one time each month.



Jane

Holy Spirit is hosting a **Blessing of the Animals** in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, on **Sunday, October 3rd at 2:00pm** in the Meditation/Prayer Garden. All animals need to be on a leash or in a pet carrier for everyone's safety. If, for whatever reason, your pet cannot attend bring an item such as a collar or a favorite toy to be blessed. The blessing will be moved to the main entrance of the church in case of inclement weather. Masks and Social Distancing are encouraged. See you then.

SEPTEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

Sunday, Sept. 12th at 1:00PM: Graveside service will be held at Holly Tree Cemetery for Claudia Hardenburg. In 2015 Claudia moved from the Holy Spirit Community to be closer to her daughters in Ft. Worth. She will join her husband, Barry, who passed away in February of 2010.

Thursday, Sept. 16th: Fr. Mike is attending the priest study day in Tyler.

Saturday & Sunday Sept. 18th & 19th Children's Faith Formation Registration Begins

Sunday, Sept. 19th Catechetical Sunday. *All Catechist of Holy Spirit please attend the 9:00AM Mass.* Immediately following 9:00AM Mass Jane Bidlack will facilitate the Parousia: The Bible and the Mass Study in the parish hall.



Thursday, Sept. 30th at 6:00PM

Bishop Joseph Strickland will celebrate Mass with the blessing and dedication of our new St. Joseph Statue. He will also, bless and dedicate our parish hall as "*St. Jude's Hall.*"

Everyone is welcome to attend.



Claudia Viragh Hardenburg



9/1/1935 - 4/16/2020

In loving memory of My Mom, Claudia Viragh Hardenburg. Claudia was a true spirit of her own. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and Gigi. She was the most unselfish person I have known. She was funny, caring and humble. A devout Catholic, God was a big part of her strength.

She had such artistic talent and vision. She would do anything for everyone and want nothing in return.

She enjoyed life. Mom and Dad were both Pharmacists and loved helping people. They enjoyed golfing and traveling together.

Mom loved gardening. We always had beautiful gardens full of flowers. Mom loved painting and was quite a talent. In later years, beading and making beaded jewelry became a fun hobby. She loved her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She always smiled even when you knew she was not feeling well.

We miss you Mom and love you!

Today marks the 20th anniversary of The September 11th Attacks.

We remember the 2,977 men, women, and children who lost their lives in New York City, Washington, DC, and Shanksville, PA on that tragic day.

Lord of Mercy, Prince of Peace,

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

This day does not pass in the calendar without our remembering. We remember images of death and destruction. Images that human eyes were never meant to see. We remember words our ears were never meant to hear, the tender last words of husbands and wives who would never embrace again.

We imagine the feeling of emptiness in the arms of children who at the end of the day could not find mom or dad for their welcome home hug. We remember our own feelings of emptiness as our sense of security, as our own confidence in the predictable order of life and work was radically shaken.

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

We remember the heroism of the many that lost their lives in saving others. We remember all those who suffered and died, we grieve for them still, friends and strangers alike, along with their families and friends.

This date, 9-11, carries a heavy burden of memory.

And it is right that it should not pass from our memory. But today and in this prayer, along with our remembrance of profound loss, it also seems right that we give voice to our deep longing for peace, and with this prayer, commit ourselves to those actions that will draw us closer to our most ancient and most holy desire, peace among all God's children.

Dona nobis pacem.

Lord, grant us peace. Amen.



Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 8 September 2021 Edition

(Submission date: 3 September 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz.

An article (<https://www.scripturecatholic.com/top-10-patron-saints-list/>) offers a perspective on the top 10 saints. (Continued from last week.)

St. Gertrude the Great (1221-1292) from the age of four, was educated at the monastery of St. Mary in Helfta. It is not clear if she was offered to the church as a child oblate by devout parents, or if she was in fact an orphan, as implied in her writings. [It] remains debatable among many scholars even to this day. An avid lover of the written word, Gertrude penned many books in her lifetime. Sadly only a few remain today with many being lost throughout the ages. Up until 1281, she was heavily focused on studying and writing on topics of secular knowledge. At the age of 25, she experienced her first vision – a vision that fundamentally changed her life, and passions. Studying scripture and theology became her priority, as she devoted herself to personal prayer and meditation. With the shift in her studies, came a change in not only what she wrote about, but also the way in which she would write. Gertrude began writing spiritual treatises and became one of the great mystics of the 13th century. As her visions continued throughout her life, she began to practice nuptial mysticism. A form of devotion that allowed her to become a bride of Christ. In one of her visions, St. Gertrude the Great communicated directly with Christ. In it, he promised that 1,000 souls in purgatory, would be released each time that she would pray for him to do so. Today, St. Gertrude is the patron saint of the west Indies. Catholics invoke St. Gertrude the Great to release the souls stuck in purgatory....

St. Joan of Arc (1412-1431) was born to peasant parents in the French village of Domrémy. She grew up a simple farm girl, was illiterate; yet deeply loyal to King and Country, while remaining a devout Catholic. It is said that at about the age of 13, she had a vision in which St. Michael, St. Catherine and St. Margaret, told her to drive the English out of France. These visions were to become more frequent, and more vivid as Joan got older. When she was 16 years of age, she approached the local garrison in Vaucouleurs, where she delivered a prediction of defeat at the Battle of Rouvry. Several days later, the messengers arrived to deliver the report of the military's reversal. Claiming that she had received visions that told her that the army would fall without her aid, they had Joan disguised as a pageboy, and escorted to the French Royal Court at Chinon. Joan was only 17 when she first meet the uncrowned King Charles VII. Moved by her assertions of victory, Charles sent Joan to the siege of Orléans as part of a relief mission. ... nine days later her efforts in Orléans saw victory. She gained prominence when she returned to the front lines after taking an arrow to the shoulder. Joan of Arc may never have taken a life herself, but she was instrumental in devising the strategies that saw victory. She flew the banner, inspired the men to push on, and saved the lives of many when she foresaw canon fire. At just 19 years of age, Joan of Arc would die a martyr ... tied to a stake and set aflame with accusations of heresy and cross-dressing as a man. One year prior, she was ambushed by pro-English French nobles, who were paid to hand her over to the English. The English could not accept the idea that God would have sided with the French during their conflict and decided that she must have been gaining influence from the Devil. During a rigged and unfair trial, she was sentenced to death for heresy and witchcraft. Her body was burned an additional two more times, in an effort to reduce it to ash, with her remains being cast into the Seine River. Her death was not in vain however; as the tactics used during the siege of Orléans, would go on to influence the battle tactics used by the French army in later skirmishers. Though it may have taken another 20 years for the French to win the war, they would have surely lost, if not for the influence and guidance that they received from Joan of Arc. The false chargers of heresy and witchcraft, were later overturned when Pope Callixtus III, authorized a nullification trial in 1452. In this trial it was discovered that the accusation of cross-dressing was falsified, as she only wore military garb for protection, both on the battlefield and while in prison. Her actions and visions were also found to have been from divine intervention, and not as a result of witchcraft. Joan of Arc was canonized in 1920, and is the patron saint of: soldiers, prisoners, captives, the Woman's Army Corps and France. Today, her integrity, courage, and strength of character, not only inspires us, it also reminds us that anyone with the right convictions, can make a difference. (To be continued.)

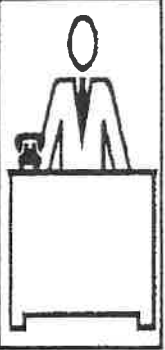
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