



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

*Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers
who harvested your fields are crying aloud;
and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.*

James 5:4

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Das Bildmuseen by Jean-François Millet
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A wrestling match of sorts takes place in this section of Mark's Gospel. Jesus tries mightily to describe what it will mean to be his followers, and the disciples try mightily to avoid the subject. They point to an outsider, and the dangers he poses. Jesus turns the tables and asks his disciples to look within themselves: how are *they* a danger to Jesus and his work? Jesus uses graphic language, invoking self-amputation, to underscore his point.

Sometimes our most difficult obstacles lie deep within. Like our hands and feet, some attitudes and habits are deeply a part of us, and their removal would be traumatic for us. Yet we know that some beliefs (such as idolatries based on race, wealth, or gender) or behaviors (such as addictions) seriously harm ourselves and many others. We need a prayerful, non-neurotic watchfulness about our inner life. When necessary, we need a fierce resistance to anything that places us or others in danger.

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UNITY IN CHRIST

Jesus, in today's Gospel from Mark, says "whoever is not against us is for us." Mark was speaking to his own Christian community. From its beginnings, there were tensions in the Church about who speaks for Jesus. Jesus himself always called for unity of heart and a diversity of expression as a sign of the truth of the Gospel. It is no secret that in Christian history and continuing today, divisions have seriously damaged the message and cause of Christ.

In our own time and place, cultural and political divisions have reduced our ability to solve problems and to live together in a just and peaceful society. Perhaps this is a time for Christians to step up, to remember that our unity in Christ is far deeper than the differences that we perceive. We are called to reach out and listen to each other, to honor each other as members of the Body of Christ. Christians can lead the way, and show everyone watching how it's done.

Today's Readings: Num 11:25-29; Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14;
Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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

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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-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Thomas Holzmann. Jim Hickey. Michael Allen. Joe Fazzio. Rick & Teri Jackson. Ron Emma. Kate Serres. Belinda Flowers. Dona Jordan. Jaye Anderson. Georgette March. Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Bollinger Family. Charlie Parker. . 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. 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: Jim O'Neil, long time parishioner.**

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; 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. 9/25 Rita Joyce Aucoin+ (M/M Bonicard)
Sun 9/26 Ed & Diane Stanley+ (M/M Laudt)
Tue 9/28 Vincent Boyd+ (M/M Boyd)
Wed 9/29 Mary Ramones+ (M/M Boyd)
Thurs 9/30 9:00AM Judi Fazzio+ (Joe Fazzio)
6:00PM Mark Boswank+ (Dr/M Boswank)
Fri. 10/01 Bud Laudt+ (M/M Laudt)
Sat. 10/02 5:00PM Mass Ann & Joe Pericak+ (Mary Catalano)
9:00AM Mass/Rosary Kathryn Allen+ (Jane Bidlack)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts for the month of August, 2021
Expenditures \$ 3,882
Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,628

Attendance 9/18 Saturday 44 9/19 Sunday 55

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 PRESENCE OF GOD

In all our thoughts and actions we ought to remember the presence of God, and account all lost in which we think not of God.

—St. Bernard of Clairvaux

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Moses said, "Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets!" (Numbers 11:25-29).

Psalms: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart (Psalm 19).

Second Reading: Come now, you rich. The wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud (James 5:1-6).

Gospel: Whoever is not against us is for us (Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51

Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Sunday: Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-6; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 [2-12]

PROCLAIM THE WONDER OF GOD

The gift of the Spirit is given freely, not according to human expectations, but according to the generosity of God. Joshua wants Moses to stop Eldad and Medad from prophesying in the camp, when they were not with the others as the spirit was bestowed on them. Moses, so close to God's mind in the matter, wishes everyone could possess the spirit of God and proclaim it to the nations.

Psalm 19 celebrates the perfection of God's law, and how it brings joy and delight. It is better than the finest gold or the sweetest honey. Moreover, God gives the wisdom of the prophets to everyone, especially the simple and lowly ones, even to children. It is the "little ones" who proclaim the wonder of God to all.

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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.

Holly Lake Ranch/Hawkins FM 2869 Life Chain 2021

The National Life Chain is the largest peaceful, prayerful, pro-life, public witness in the world. More than 1500 cities across the US & Canada are expected to participate on Sundays in Oct. & Nov. Christians should attend the local Life Chain to help build a resolute army of Christians who are pro-life in both word and deed. Let us engage the enemy, boldly & unashamed, until the curse of legal abortion is swept from our land and again provide security & freedom for every citizen, born & unborn. Holy Spirit Catholic Church will be participating in the **2021 Life Chain on FM 2869 on Sun., Oct. 10th at 2:00pm—3:30pm.** If you have questions call Richard Boultinghouse, Life Chain Comm. Chairman, 903-769-4257 or rbhouse61@aol.com.

We would like to thank Jerry & Vicki Hauck; Mike & Wanda Stephens for the purchase of the St. Joseph statue. Also, to Richard & Marisela Liske for the beautiful hand made wooden sign above the double doors going into St. Jude's hall. Charlie Clymer built the cabinet that holds our St. Jude's statue in the hall. Your generosity will directly benefit each and everyone of us.

Many blessings.
Fr. Mike Snider

SEPTEMBER NEWS & EVENTS



Thurs., Sept. 30th at 6:00PM

You are cordially invited to attend *Mass & dedication of our new St. Joseph Statue.* And, the *blessing & dedication of "St. Jude's Hall."*

Celebrant: Bishop Joseph Strickland



OCTOBER NEWS & EVENTS

Sat., Oct. 2nd: 9:00am Patriotic Mass & Rosary for Peace in America

Sun., Oct. 3rd: Coffee & donuts resumes after 9:00am Mass. Blessing of the animals 2:00pm

Sat., Oct. 9th & Sun., 10th: Annual K of C Pro-Life Baby Shower

Sun., Oct. 10th: 2:00—3:30pm Life Chain in front of church

Tues., Oct. 12th—Fri., 15th: Fr. Mike attending the Priests Convocation, Tyler

Sat., Oct. 16th & Sun., 17th: Annual K of C Pro-Life Baby Shower

Sun., Oct. 17th: Immediately following 9:00am Mass Jane Bidlack facilitates "The Bible and the Mass Study."

Sun., Oct. 31st: 5:00pm Mass of anticipation of "All Saints Day."

September Second Collections: 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: Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953 or Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749.** 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 peanut butter; canned vegetables; cereal; boxes of pudding & jello.**

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



PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR MASKS

Annual Knights of Columbus Pro-Life Baby Shower

The K of C **sixth baby shower** event will be held for two weekends: **Oct 9 & 10th and Oct. 16th & 17th.** The year the Knights will again be supporting the Building Blocks, Living Alternatives Ministry (<https://livingalternatives.org/building-blocks/>).

The Building Blocks Ministry offers practical help to parents that encourages and renews hope for the future. It's a unique earn-while-you-learns program where moms and dads earn points for going to doctor appts, attending parenting classes, and meeting with parenting mentors.

A portable play pen will be located in the entry to the parish hall for donated items, including: baby wipes, fall & winter clothes, (newborn to 2T), bobby pillows, bedding, car seats, babies & children's toys, and, of course, monetary donations.

Blessing of the Animals

Everyone is invited to the Blessing of the Animals on **Sun., Oct. 3rd at 2pm** in the **Meditation/Prayer Garden.** This ceremony is to honor St. Francis of Assisi. Pets need to be on leashes or in carriers. In case of inclement weather the blessing will take place at the main entrance of the church. Masks & social distancing are requested.

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 22 September 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 17 September 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

Hey, so what's the deal with **Friday the 13th**? An article from the History Channel provides us with a few insights (<https://www.history.com/topics/folklore/friday-the-13th>). Long considered a harbinger of bad luck, Friday the 13th has inspired a late 19th century secret society, an early 20th century novel, a horror film franchise and two unwieldy terms—paraskavedekatriaphobia and friggatriskaidekaphobia – which describe fear of this supposedly unlucky day.

The Fear of 13 -- Just like walking under a ladder, crossing paths with a black cat or breaking a mirror, many people hold fast to the belief that Friday the 13th brings bad luck. Though it's uncertain exactly when this tradition began, negative superstitions have swirled around the number 13 for centuries. While Western cultures have historically associated the number 12 with completeness (12 days of Christmas; 12 months, zodiac signs, labors of Hercules, gods of Olympus as, tribes of Israel, just to name a few examples), its successor 13 has a long history as a sign of bad luck. The ancient Code of Hammurabi reportedly omitted a 13th law from its list of legal rules. Though this was probably a clerical error, superstitious people sometimes point to this as proof of 13's longstanding negative associations. Fear of the number 13 has even earned a psychological term: triskaidekaphobia.

Why is Friday the 13th Unlucky? According to **biblical tradition**, 13 guests attended the Last Supper, held on Maundy Thursday, Jesus and his 12 apostles (one of whom, Judas, betrayed him). The next day was Good Friday, the day of Jesus' crucifixion. The seating arrangement at the Last Supper is believed to have given rise to a enduring Christian superstition that having 13 guests at a table was a bad omen – specifically, that it was courting death. Though Friday's negative associations are weaker, some have suggested they also have roots in Christian tradition: Just as Jesus was crucified on a Friday, Friday was also said to be the day Eve gave Adam the fapple from the Tree of Knowledge, as well as the day Cain killed his brother, Abel.

The Thirteen Club In the late 19th century, a New Yorker named William Fowler (1827-1897) sought to remove the enduring stigma surrounding the number 13 – and particularly the unwritten rule about not having 13 guests at a dinner table – by founding an exclusive society called the Thirteen Club which dined regularly on the 13th day of the month in room 13 of the Knickerbocker Cottage, a popular watering hole Fowler owned. Before sitting down for a 13-course dinner, members would pass beneath a ladder and a banner reading "Morituri te Salutamus," Latin for "Those of us who are about to die salute you." 4 U.S. presidents (Arthur, Cleveland, Harrison and T. Roosevelt) joined the Thirteen Club's ranks at one time or another.

Friday the 13th in Pop Culture An important milestone in the history of the Friday the 13th legend in particular (not just the number 13) occurred in 1907, with the publication of the novel *Friday the Thirteenth* written by Thomas William Lawson. The book told the story of a New York City stockbroker who plays on superstitions about the date to create chaos on Wall Street and makes a killing on the market. The horror movie *Friday the 13th* (1980), introduced the world to a hockey mask-wearing killer named Jason, and is perhaps the best-known example of this famous superstition. The movie spawned multiple sequels, as well as comic books, novellas, video games, related merchandise and countless terrifying Halloween costumes.

What Bad Things Happened on Friday 13th? On Friday, October 13, 1307, officers of King Philip IV of France arrested hundreds of the Knights Templar, a powerful religious and military order formed in the 12th century for the defense of the Holy Land. Imprisoned on charges of various illegal behaviors (the king wanted access to their financial resources), many Templars were executed. Some cite the link with the Templars as the origin of the Friday the 13th superstition, but like many legends involving the Templars and their history, the truth remains murky. In more recent times, a number of traumatic events have occurred on Friday the 13th, including the German bombing of Buckingham Palace (September 1940); the murder of Kitty Genovese in Queens, New York (March 1964); a cyclone that killed more than 300,000 people in Bangladesh (November 1970); the disappearance of a Chilean Air Force plane in the Andes (October 1972); the death of rapper Tupac Shakur (September 1996 Gospel) and the crash of the Costa Concordia cruise ship off the coast of Italy, which killed 30 people (January 2012).



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