



# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

## DIOCESE OF TYLER

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23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time  
September 10, 2023

### Sunday Readings

#### First Reading

*Ez 33:7-9*

Ezekiel, who is to protect the people, receives the call to address the ways of the wicked with challenging words.

#### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 95:1-2, 6-9*

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

#### Second Reading

*Rom 13:8-10*

The command to love in no means replaces the ancient law, but instead, it buffers it and demands more than mere passivity.

#### Gospel Reading

*Mt 18: 15-20*

In our love for one another, we may be called to confront our sister and brother for the wrong they may be doing.

#### Celebration of the Mass

Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 am  
Monday 6:00 pm  
Tuesday 9:00 am  
Wednesday 9:00 am  
Friday 6:00 pm

#### Marriage or Baptism

Contact the parish office six (6)  
Prior to the anticipated date

#### Communion Service

Thursday 9:00 am

#### Adoration

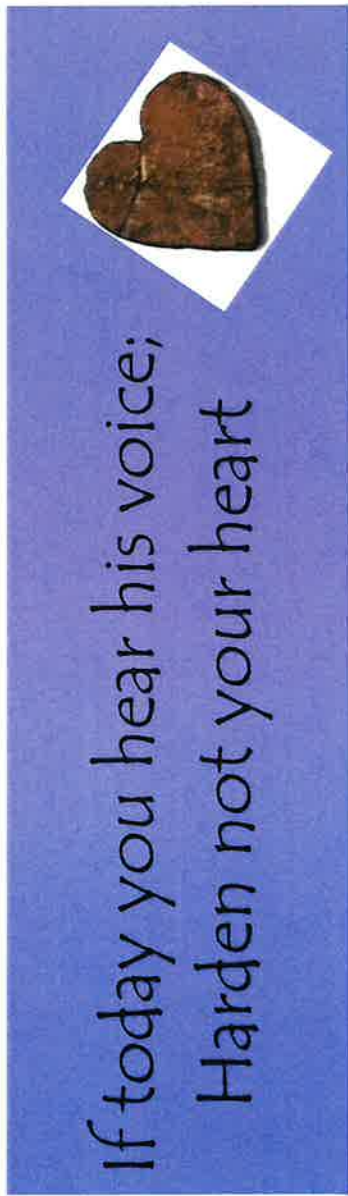
Tuesday 9:45 am - 12:30 pm  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

#### Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm  
Sunday Before Mass  
upon request  
1st Friday 5:00 - 5:45 pm



*"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."*



If today you hear his voice;  
Harden not your heart



**Remember the sick of our parish:**

Dale Boman. Avery Boultinghouse. Fr. Lawrence Love, Bishop Joseph Strickland, Fr. Mark Kusmirek, Roland Schmeier. John Rigney. Julie York. Wanda Burton. Susie Swasso. John Buchanan. Rosemary Seltzer. Elaine March. Maggie Miles. Mike Jernigan. Libby Paladino. Ken Pregeant. Jo & Doris Hoffman. Roy Marchak. Emly Walker. Jim Hickey. David Borel. Verna Sloan. Mike Stephens. Kathy Bowers. John McGrane. David Barber. Msgr. Ron Diegel. Richard & Dottie Schuetz. Tom Fabitz. Jodie Woods. Wanda & George Duke. Jean Hamilton. Kathleen Fleming. Jaye Anderson. Greg Mooney. Karee Haney. Charlie Parker. Jacob Stephens. Elise Sugg. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE TO REMOVE OR ADD A NAME TO THE PRAYERS OF THE SICK.



**Remember the active military of our parish:**

Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike Stephens). 1LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Staff Sergeant, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Lt. Gary Buchanan; Capt. Blake Gaughan; 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 Emma). Petty Officer 2 Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

**Special Observances**

**Tuesday:** The Most Holy Name of Mary (*The Needs of the Church*)  
**Wednesday:** St. John Chrysostom Bishop, Doctor of the Church (*Patron of Preachers and of Istanbul*)  
**Thursday:** The Exaltation of the Cross  
**Friday:** Our Lady of Sorrows  
**Saturday:** St. Cornelius Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyr (*Patron of North Africa and Algeria and all missions to black peoples*)

**Mass Intentions**

**Sat. 9/9 Robert Maushardt+** (Mary Catalano)  
**Sun. 9/10 Deceased members-Legion of Mary+**(Legion of Mary)  
**Mon. 9/11 Bishop Carmody**  
**Tues. 9/12 Bishop Joseph Strickland**  
**Wed. 9/13 Fr. Mark Dunne+** (Betty Bowers)  
**Thurs. 9/14 Bishop Corrada**  
**Fri. 9/15 Attie Evans** (Evans Family)

**PARISH SUPPORT**

**Attendance:** 9/2 SAT: 84 9/3 SUN: 108

**Collections from 9/2 & 9/3:**

**Offertory** \$ 2,777.00  
**Building & Maintenance Fund** \$ 694.00

**SEPTEMBER SECOND COLLECTIONS**

2nd & 3rd: "Building & Maintenance Fund"  
 9th & 10th: Catholic University of America



THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

catholic moms summit



**OUR LADY OF SORROWS & MOTHERHOOD**

spirituality

**Our Lady of Sorrows and the Power of Prayer**

Discover the value of redemptive motherhood by tuning in to Anna Mitchell, co-host of EWTN's "The Son Rise Morning Show." Anna shares the story of her five-year-old's serious illness along with the miraculous intercession of a fourth-century martyr.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

Visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



**Cenacle of Life:** Come join us every Wednesday at 3:00 pm.

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:** Food donations are always accepted. Place in plastic bin by Bridget's office. Food Donation Envelopes are marked and in a basket in the Narthex. Envelopes maybe turned in the collection basket or church office. Let us do your shopping for you!

WATCH FOR UPCOMING FOOD DRIVE INFORMATION!

**Interested in volunteering for the Food Ministry.** Call or email Bryan Todd at 972-672-4218 or toddtalk@hotmail.com

**Anyone involved in any Ministry at our Parish, you will need to be compliant on your ethics and integrity training with VIRTUS.**

**Please notify our contact person to get signed up contact person Justin Mahaffey 903-714-3649 or [justin.mahaffey@icloud.com](mailto:justin.mahaffey@icloud.com)**

## SEPTEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sat 9/9:** 5:00 pm Mass

**Sun 9/10:** 9:00 am Mass

**Happy Grandparents' Day!**

**Knights of Columbus Breakfast (following 9:00 am Mass Adults \$5.00 (youth under 18 are free))**

**Mon 9/11:** 10:00 am Welcome Committee Meeting (St. Jude's Hall in the first classroom) All invited!

6:00 pm Mass

**Tues 9/12:** 9:00 Mass

9:45 am–12:30pm Adoration

6:00 –8:00 pm Adoration

6:00 pm Casino Night Meeting

**Wed 9/13:** 9:00 am Mass

**Thurs 9/14:** 9:00 am Communion Serviced

6:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

**Fri 9/15:** 6:00 pm Mass

**Sat 9/16:** 5:00 pm Mass

Casino Night Ticket Sales Begins

**Sun 9/17:** 9:00 am Mass

Casino Night Ticket Sales Begins

**Mon 9/18:** 6:00 pm Mass

**Tues 9/19:** 9:00 am Mass

9:45 am–12:30pm Adoration

6:00—8:00 pm Adoration

6:00 pm Casino Night Meeting

**Wed 9/20:** 9:00 am Mass

**Thurs 9/21:** 9:00 am Communion Service

**Fri 9/22:** 6:00 pm Mass

**Sat 9/23:** **9:30 am Rosary Rally**

5:00 pm Mass

**Sun 9/24:** 9:00 am Mass

**Mon 9/25:** 6:00 pm Mass

**Tues 9/26:** 9:00 am Mass

9:45 am–12:30pm Adoration

6:00 –8:00 pm Adoration

6:00 pm Casino Night Meeting

**Wed 9/27:** 9:00 am Mass

**Thurs 9/28:** 9:00 am Communion Service

**Fri 9/29:** 6:00 pm Mass

**Sat 9/30:** 5:00 pm Mass

Did you know that September is: Childhood, uterine, ovarian, prostate, thyroid Cancer and Leukemia Lymphoma Awareness Month.



## Rosary Rally

Come join our **Rosary Rally!** On Saturday, September 23rd at 9:30 am, we will meet in front of our church and pray the rosary. We are asking Mary to pray for our parish. Come join us!

## We Need Your Help

Looking for people to help us out on the night of our **OKTOBERFEST fundraiser** (Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>) and

Please consider to donate a prize to be given away.

A new item that you would give as a gift. **Gift Certificates** are always a great prize.

If you have a **Time Share** week you can't use, please consider donating that.

**Tickets to a Sporting Event**, or the **Theater**. Nothing is too small. We group gifts together to make a nice gift basket. Please consider gift certificate.

Starting date to collect prizes is **NOW!** For questions please contact Dianne Lautt 903-769-9056



## Pope Francis's Intention For September



We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

**By Rev. Tim Kelly**

When I was a child of ten or eleven, I learned a poem in the primary school which pierced me to the heart even then, and still has the power to make me embarrassed. I think it was written by Auden.

"My parents kept me from children who were rough,

Who threw words like stones."

That poem hurt because it was too close to my own reality. The words of teasing and taunting that I endured at school from "children who were rough" were sharp as flint and cutting as any dagger. I learned early on in life that words have power. I learned also that if I were a master-weaver of words, I would be able to wound more deeply than any assassin, and be able to comfort more profoundly than any doctor. I became, in turn, a teacher, a politician, and then a priest. But do not judge me too harshly. God does have strange ways.

As we take on the mantle of responsibility, as we become the front line in the fight to make society meaningfully inhabitable, as we assume the office of protector, paterfamilias, educator, comforter and creator, we grow more and more familiar with the symbolic use of words. By words and by symbol, we signify the bands of responsibility that tie us to our family, community or nation. We establish covenant. We bind ourselves to another human being by bands of gold, promising with emotion-laden words "to love honor and obey till death do us part." I accepted the Gospels of the Lord from the bishop, his words ringing still in my ears, "Receive the Gospel whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, preach what you believe, practice what you preach." The rite of baptism charges parents to teach their children the truths of the Gospel, sine they are the first and the best of teachers. "Do you reject Satan ? And all his empty promises? " Men and women make promises with powerful words every day; "I swear by God Almighty that I will fulfill the office of President of the United States... etc." " I promise to pay the bearer on demand the amount of ten thousand dollars." "I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

It would be easy to become cynical at the ease with which people appear to disregard the mighty words of their commitments. Husbands desert their wives, wives forget the love that they owe to husbands; politicians forget their promise to be servants of the people. We priests forget that we cannot sacrifice if we are not also willing to be victims. Bishops forget that they are pontiffs, builders of bridges. Perhaps it is easy to forget that bridges are only useful if they are walked on. Our power-filled words on the day of commitment are forgotten. Our belief in the sacramental power of words to create, to summon and to recall can easily be undermined if we forget that those words and actions have to be followed by the actions which they signified.

How did the Church apparently forget or ignore the dynamic of the Eucharistic prayer in its theologizing about Eucharist? How could the words and the structure of the prayer itself be sidelined in any explication of the whole sacrament? Perhaps the answer to that lies in the failure to allow vernacular usage of the original Eucharistic prayers. That certainly reduced the power of the words to effect understanding and appreciation in the speaker. Perhaps the answer is that though the words of deepest commitment carry power and dynamis to create and to transform, they are not magical formulae. Celebration in words and in symbolic acts is empty if there is not present the reality which is symbolized. A marriage vow is mere confetti if the partners do not intend to be faithful. The power-hungry politician can swear to serve the nation, but the lack of sincerity of intention makes his symbolic words and actions null and void.

Perhaps the prayers of the Fathers could not be understood as they were originally intended because the Church had moved too far away from the obedience and the poverty of those early Christians.

Whatever the reason why the Church lost its ability to appreciate the Patristic Eucharistic prayers, we know that the Church's failure did not destroy the reality of the presence of Christ among His Holy people. It is certainly true that if the priest of the sacrifice is not absolutely sincere in his love and in his obedience, then the sacrifice is nothing, the words are meaningless and the symbols empty and vacant. But our priest is Christ himself, always full of integrity and obedience. "But we have a great high priest, Jesus the Son of God, who has gone into the very presence of God." Hebrews 4; 14. Our assuredness in the power of the words of the Eucharistic prayer and our assuredness about our acts of worship does not arise from the virtue of the presider, or the sincerity of the people gathered at the altar. Rather, it comes from the knowledge that Jesus Christ is our priest. Our celebration is always sacramental reality. Christ not only says the words, and does the rite, but He lives and dies the covenant of which he speaks. His words are spirit and they are life.

## We Are The Church

By Deacon John

***“Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.” – Romans 13:10***

There’s a fad right now called “going off the grid”. People are looking to get away from our wacky society, so they head out to the wilderness, plop down a log cabin, and live out the rest of their lives without another soul in sight. Getting back to our nation’s roots – the early settlers dealing with nature and life on their own. I have to admit, one of the attractions of my move to Texas was to get away from overcrowded SoCal.

But the true reality for the vast majority of us humans is that we are communal. We need each other. We depend on each other for support. We help each other. We protect each other. We find strength in each other.

We also rely on each other for our spiritual lives. And that is very important to God. Jesus didn’t simply instill His Spirit on individuals; He created a Church. A Church established to unite us as one body. His body. The Church is the Body of Christ. We are not only individual disciples on our personal journeys to God. We are also a part of a much bigger picture.

Today’s readings have a very strong message for us as the Church. The Gospel shares that where two or three are gathered in Jesus’ name, there He is in the midst of them. He is always with us in His community, the Church. This means that as individuals we are not only accountable to God. As members within our parish community, we’re also accountable to each other as the holy Body of Christ. I think we often miss this point.

If we hurt another through gossip, through criticism, through judgement, through negative actions, or by ignoring them, we are not only hurting that person and God. We’re also offending the holiness of the entire parish community. Divisiveness is the trap of the evil one. He wants nothing more than to separate us from each other; especially at the parish level where he can destroy that holiness of our parish community. We must always be on the lookout for that trap and not fall into it.

We have the responsibility to our neighbor to always behave as the Body of Christ as we are accountable to each other, as well as to God. And we become much better people when we accept this responsibility. Sure, doing God’s will to please Him can be a motivator. But too often that simply means having a spiritual connection with God without the tangible connection with His Body, the Church. Acting to others in love for them, and not just because we know God wants us to, is the spiritual maturation that we’re called to achieve. This is what strengthens the Church.

In our second reading from St Paul to the Romans, Paul reminds us of the commandment to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. When we love each other as the Body of Christ, we see our community as Christ Himself. Which it is. We see the totality of ourselves within Jesus Christ, whom we serve. Then identifying that love of Christ in the community, we become more loving brethren to all. Jesus came to fulfill the law and, as Paul says, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Our parish has a beautiful stained-glass window behind the altar. I didn’t count each piece, but I estimate that it’s made up of more than 5,000 tiles. Individually, these tiles are simply colored pieces of glass. But put together, those 5,000 tiles depict an image of the Holy Spirit shining the glory of God’s Church to the world.

I love looking at that window and pondering how each individual tile represents each individual one of us. And how it’s us together, with the Holy Spirit inside us, who forms that picture in the window. His Church reflecting the glory of God.

We are the reason for Christ’s mystery, and the result of it. We need each other, and we need Jesus. We have each other, and we have Jesus. We are the Body of Christ. We are the Church.

## Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 6 September 2023 Edition

(Submission date: 1 Sept 2023) Submitted by Randy Munoz

Holy Spirit Catholic Church (1612 S. FM 2869). Masses: weekdays – 9:00; Saturday – 5:00 pm. Sunday – 9:00 am

The unexpected humor of St. Teresa of Avila Philip Kosloski - published on 10/15/17

<https://aleteia.org/2017/10/15/the-unexpected-humor-of-st-teresa-of-avila/>

Medieval nuns weren't usually this funny.

If we were to picture a medieval cloistered nun, we'd probably think of a woman kneeling in a church, head bowed and hands folded in prayer. Someone with a great sense of humor wouldn't quickly come to mind.

That's why it is delightfully refreshing to hear about the good humor of the 16th-century saint and Doctor of the Church Teresa of Avila.

A famous story perfectly sums up her spirited character: As St. Teresa ... made her way to her convent during a fierce rainstorm, she slipped down an embankment and fell squarely into the mud. The irrepressible nun looked up to heaven and admonished her Maker, "If this is how You treat Your friends, no wonder You have so few of them!"

When teaching her nuns what it meant to be a faithful religious, Teresa put an emphasis on having a good sense of humor. She wrote, "A sad nun is a bad nun ... I am more afraid of one unhappy sister than a crowd of evil spirits ... What would happen if we hid what little sense of humor we had? Let each of us humbly use this to cheer others."

Her sense of humor also allowed her to recognize her own faults and need for grace. She writes at the beginning of her autobiography, "Having virtuous and God-fearing parents would have been enough for me to be good if I were not so wicked."

But Teresa wasn't just a good jokester. She also was a fierce reformer, who didn't have any time for false piety. She once said, "From silly devotions and sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!"

Teresa reminds us that sometimes laughter really is the "best medicine." A healthy sense of humor will keep our head on straight, and make us able to see the beauty of the world. God never said we need to be "sour-faced" to be holy. So if you want to become a saint, maybe the first step is to lighten up!

Her writings, especially the Way of Perfection and The Interior Castle, have helped generations of believers. Some of her more memorable quotes include:

1. "Let nothing perturb you, nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything."
2. "May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us."
3. "The closer one approaches to God, the simpler one becomes."
4. "Reflect upon the providence and wisdom of God in all created things and praise Him in them all."
5. "Truth suffers, but never dies."
6. "In this distress, — for then I had never had a single vision, — these Thy words alone were enough to remove it, and give me perfect peace: 'Be not afraid, my daughter: it is I; and I will not abandon thee. Fear not.'"
7. "To have courage for whatever comes in life — everything lies in that."
8. "The tree that is beside the running water is fresher and gives more fruit."
9. "We need no wings to go in search of Him, but have only to look upon Him present within us."
10. "The feeling remains that God is on the journey, too."
11. "Pain is never permanent."
12. "Christ has no body now, but yours. No hands, no feet on earth, but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks compassion into the world. Yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which Christ blesses the world."
13. "Accustom yourself continually to make many acts of love, for they enkindle and melt the soul."
14. "You pay God a compliment by asking great things of Him."