

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF TYLER

This week's Celebration of the Mass

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am
Monday 9:00 am
Communion Service
Tuesday 9:00 am
Wednesday 9:00 am
Thursday 9:00 am
Friday 9:00 am

Adoration

Tuesday
9:45 am - 12:30 pm
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



Reconciliation

Tuesday 9:45 - 10:30 am
Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Sunday Upon request
Weekdays Upon request

Sacrament of the Sick

Offered at first Friday
Mass upon request.

Marriage or Baptism

Contact the parish office
six (6) months prior to the
anticipated date.

1612 S FM 2869
HOLLY LAKE RANCH, TX 75765

Parish Priest:	Fr. Francis O'Dowd PP; VF	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com
Deacon:	Dcn. John Erdag	949-285-5695	jerdag@hotmail.com
Office Manager:	Bridget Rich	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Kim Sine	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 14, 2025

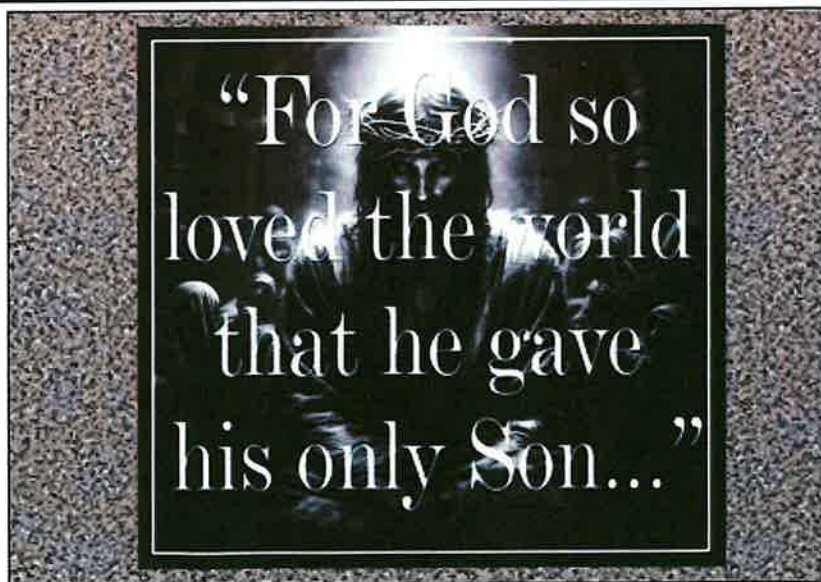
TODAY'S READINGS

1ST READING:
NMB 21 : 4B - 9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
PS 78 : 1B - 2 ; 34 - 38

2ND READING:
PHIL 2 : 6 - 11

GOSPEL:
JN : 3 : 13 - 17



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



Pope Leo's September Intention

For our relationship with all of creation. Let us pray that, inspired by St. Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

Church Organizations

Financial Council	Charlie Clymer
Pastoral Council	John Rigney
Virtus	
Knights of Columbus	Jerry Hauck
4th Degree Knights	Gary Laudt
Legion of Mary	Marge Clymer
	Jane Bidlack
	Bryan Todd
Food Pantry	
Music Ministry	
Rosary Makers/Prayer Blankets	Carol Szczepanski
Cenacle of Life	Vicki Hauck
Welcome	
Funeral Preparations	Deacon John Erdag



Mass Intentions

Sat 9/13	Joseph+ & Barbara+Pericals (Mary Catalano)
Sun 9/14	Hilary Moore (Carolyn Aucoin)
Tues 9/16	Peggy Vancas (Ann Marie Vancas)
Wed 9/17	Michael Jernigan+ (M/M Clymer)
Thur 9/18	Spec. Michael Karr, Jr. + (Kim Sine)
Fri 9/19	Mary+ & David+ McNally (M/M Clymer)



Remember the sick of our parish: Claire Sullivan; Kirk Wilder; LC Dodson; Vicki Hauck; David Barber; Deacon Sam; Elaine Arellano; Dale Boman; ; Marissa Cowles; Judy Terry; Randy Munoz; Jess & Eva Corrigan; Elaine March & Rosemary Seltzer; Maureen Tucker; Lou & Ray Masferrer; Patrick Wood; Margaret Smith-Cauley; Elmer Mulhollon, Ram Singh, Pat Schmeier, Barbara Schneider; Helene Kaczowka; Emily Walker; Cindy Sue Erdag; Emeress Aiwohi; Joe Bonneville; Wauneta Winton; Joe Fazzio; Juan & Barbara Delgado; Avery Boullinghouse; Jo & Doris Hoffman; Roy Marchak; David Borel; Verna Sloan; Mike Stephens; Kathy Bowers; Msgr. Ron Diegel; Chris & Dave Paape; Richard Schuetz; Jodie Woods; Jean Hamilton; Kathleen Fleming; Jaye Anderson; Greg Mooney; Karee Haney; Charlie Parker; Jacob Stephens.



Remember the active military of our parish: Senior Chief Petty Officer, James Nichols, (Nephew of Dcn John & Cindy Sue Erdag). Cody Mitchell, LTJG Navy (Son-in-law of Stan & Terrie Evans). Ben Clymer, Sr Airman USAF (Grandson of Charlie & Marge). Captain Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan). Lt. Gary Buchanan; Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno AMT 2nd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Petty Officer 2 Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

Holy Spirit Catholic Church 2025 Life Chain

Holy Spirit will be participating again in the 2025 Life Chain on FM 2869 on Sunday, October 5 at 2:00 - 3:00 pm. This year will be the 11th year that Holy Spirit will take a stand for Pro-Life by being part of this National Life Chain Event.

The National Life Chain is the largest peaceful, prayerful, pro-life, public witness in the world. Nearly 2000 cities across the US and Canada are expected to participate on Sundays in October and November.

For information contact : Richard Boultinghouse, Life Chain Chairman, 903-850-0105 or rbhouse61@aol.com

PARISH SUPPORT

Attendance: 9/7 SAT: 75 9/8 SUN: 81

Collections from 9/7 - 9/8:

Offertory	\$	3,838.00
Votive Candles	\$	65.50
Catholic University of America	\$	5.00
Church in Africa	\$	5.00
Faith Formation	\$	5.00
Pontifical for Peter's Pence	\$	5.00
Building & Maintenance	\$	1,274.00

Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison

	August 2025	August 2024
Income:	\$ 19,191.00	\$ 27,193.00*
Expenses:	17,023.00	18,167.00
Net Income:	\$ 2,168.00	9,026.00

*Income increase in August 2024 due to \$10,000 donation.

SEPTEMBER SECOND COLLECTIONS

9/6 & 9/7: Building and Maintenance Fund
9/13 & 9/14: Catholic University of America

Thank you for your generous contributions.
Please remember Holy Spirit Catholic Church in your Will.

SEPTEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat 9/13:	5:00 pm Mass
Sun 9/14:	8:30 am Mass 
	Donut Sunday
Mon 9/15:	9:00 am Communion Service
Tues 9/16:	9:00 am Mass Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Wed 9/17:	9:00 am Mass 10:30 am Bible Study 3:00 pm Cenacles of Life 5:00 pm Fundraiser Meeting
Thurs 9/18:	9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Legion of Mary
Fri 9/19:	9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Rosary Makers 3:00 pm Divine Mercy and Rosary Hour
Sat 9/20:	5:00 pm Mass
Sun 9/21:	8:30 am Mass
Mon 9/22:	9:00 am Communion Service
Tues 9/23:	9:00 am Mass Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Wed 9/24:	9:00 am Mass 10:30 am Bible Study 3:00 pm Cenacles of Life
Thurs 9/25:	9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Legion of Mary 6:00 pm Knights of Columbus - 4th Degree
Fri 9/26:	9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Rosary Makers



Holy Spirit Food Ministry

Due to increased costs of groceries, the Food Ministry is in need of non-perishable food donations. If you can contribute, place donations in the box outside the church office. Or, for monetary donations, use a Food Ministry Donation Envelope, available in the basket in the narthex. All contributions are greatly appreciated and serve to help people in need at HLR and its surrounding community.

If you know of a resident in need, please obtain their name and phone number. Please provide their information to:

Bob Mailliard (503-559-6022) or
Bryan Todd (972-672-4218).



SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Saturday: St. John Chrysostom Bishop, Doctor of the Church (*Ascetic; became bishop of Constantinople; outstanding preacher (thus surname Xpuooutouoc, meaning "golden mouthed"); defended the poor; sought reform of the clergy; twice exiled due to royal opposition; authored ascetical, apologetic, and polemical treatises as well as letters; one of the four great doctors of the Eastern church; patron of preachers and of Istanbul.*)

Monday: OUR LADY OF SORROWS By the 14th century, the sorrow of Mary numbered 7: the presentation of Jesus in the Temple; the flight into Egypt; Jesus being lost in Jerusalem; the meeting of Mary and Jesus on the way to Calvary; the crucifixion; the taking down of Jesus' body from the cross; and his burial.

Tuesday: St. Cornelius Pope, Martyr (*Exiled in Civitavecchia died 253; opposed Novatian and the rigorists in the "lapsi" controversy; buried in the cemetery of Callistus.*)

St. Cyprian Bishop, Martyr (*Under Valerian was decapitated in September 258; ally of Cornelius, bishop of Carthage; wrote "On the Unity of the Catholic Church" Cyprian disagreed with Pope Stephen I over the question of the rebaptism of heretics and schismatics; first African bishop to be martyred; patron of North Africa and of Algeria.*)

Wednesday: St. Robert Bellarmine Bshp, Doctor of the Church (*Brilliant Jesuit scholar, preacher, writer, and systematic apologist of the Counter Reformation; most noted for his "Catechism" and "Disputationes de Controversiis Christianae Fidei"; involved in the Galileo affair; cardinal archbishop of Capua; patron of catechists and catechumens.*)

St. Hildegard of Bingen Virgin, Doctor of the Church (*aka St. Hildegard and the Sybil of the Rhine, was a German Benedictine abbess, writer, composer, philosopher, poet, Christian mystic, visionary and polymath of the High Middle Ages. Especially known as a composer of sacred monophony and is considered a patron of musicians and writers.*)

Friday: St. Januarius Bishop, Martyr (*According to his "legend", thrown to bears at Pozzuolo under Diocletian; bishop of Benevento; as early as 1389, his blood has liquified on this and other days each year; patron of Naples.*)



Need an extra hand around the house? Call a Knight. We are here to help with small projects around the house.

Call Bruce Becker 214-679-8331.

Anyone involved in any Ministry at our Parish, must be compliant on your Ethics and Integrity training with VIRTUS.

To sign up for training, please notify Holy Spirit's contact person:
Justin Mahaffey 903-714-3649 or email him at:
justin.mahaffey@icloud.com



Special Announcements

- **DONUT SUNDAY RETURNS!!!**
Today, Sunday, September 14th immediately following the 8:30 am Mass, we will resume with coffee and donuts.
- **Our big fundraiser has finally arrived!**
We are going to "Rock Around the Clock" with a dinner and sock hop—music by Dale Cummings. Tickets (\$30 per person) are available starting this weekend after each Mass. Seating is limited. Tickets will also be available during the week in the church office (please call before stopping-by to ensure that someone is in the office). At the end of the evening, we will draw the raffle ticket winners (you do not have to be present to win).

BIG BUCKS RAFFLE

REMINDER: Our goal this year is to raise \$12,000 to support our parish.

Spread the Word: Start by reaching out to the people around you—your neighbors, friends, family members, and colleagues. Share with them the purpose and excitement of the fundraiser and invite them to participate by purchasing tickets. Personal invitations are powerful and help people feel truly included.

Promote Ticket Sales: The more tickets we sell, the closer we come to achieving our fundraising target. Each ticket sold increases the opportunities to be a winner and helps us fulfill our mission.

Prizes: Visa Gift Cards: **1st Prize:** \$1,000; **2nd Prize:** \$750; **3rd Prize:** \$500; **4th Prize:** \$250.

Ticket Purchase Options: **Single ticket is \$5.00 OR Six ticket-bundles are \$20.00.**

Extra tickets are available in the church office.



We're gonna dance 'til we drop!

Join us for food, fun, and a fab 50's (60's and 70's too) sock hop. Our guest DJ will be Dale Cummings.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church will host an old fashioned sock hop on Friday, October 24th. Doors open at 6:30 pm (dinner will be served at 7:00 pm). Tickets are \$30 per person; there is limited seating so get your tickets early. Participants are encouraged to dress in 50's attire.

Tickets will be available today, Sat., Sept. 13th.

Be there or be square!



The Cross of Christ

Today is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross where we reflect upon the importance of Christ's sacrifice and His triumphant defeat of death. We Catholics are always grateful for the infinite love that our Lord holds for us to make His sacrifice that reunited us with our Father. This is a key foundation of our salvation story, and our Catholic faith that we celebrate each year on Good Friday. So why do we have another feast day just for the cross?

The reason for that is because we as humans are sensory creatures. We were created in physical matter and most of our driving beliefs and perceptions are strongly influenced by things we can physically see, smell, taste, hear and touch. It's one of the biggest reasons why Christ comes to us as Eucharist in appearance of bread and wine, so that we can have an intimate physical experience with Him through taste, sight, touch and smell. Physically seeing and touching the wood of His actual cross also invokes very, very strong emotions within us. Hence, we celebrate this day.

A little history of this feast day. Although its primary intention has always been to celebrate the extreme impact of Christ's crucifixion upon all of creation, this day also commemorates three events: the discovery of the True Cross in 326AD, its initial exaltation for public veneration in 335, and the recovery of the Cross from the Persians in 628.

In 313AD, the Roman Emperor Constantine, who had converted to Christianity, granted religious freedom to Christians across the Roman Empire. Before this edict, Christians had endured persecutions all the way back to Christ's death. For a decade after the edict, Constantine had to fight his way to obtain full control of the entire Roman Empire, but by 324AD, he became the sole ruler of the empire which included Jerusalem.

Constantine's mother, Saint Helena, was a devout Christian, and in 326AD, she embarked on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Her mission was to identify significant sites from Christ's life and establish churches at those locations. In Jerusalem, she began the effort to find the True Cross. Now understand, this was only a few centuries after Christ's crucifixion, so the sites of these events and their traditions would still be fairly viable.

Upon identifying Mount Calvary and the empty tomb, Saint Helena discovered three discarded and buried crosses. After an investigation, the local bishop confirmed they were the crosses used to crucify Jesus and the two thieves. Since Helena did not know which cross was Christ's, she arranged for a sick woman to touch all three. The woman was immediately healed upon touching one of them, showing that it was the True Cross. Helena divided that cross into three pieces, sending one piece to Rome, one to Constantinople and keeping the third piece in Jerusalem.

Following the discovery of the True Cross, Mount Calvary, and Christ's tomb in Jerusalem, Emperor Constantine ordered the construction of a church to encompass these sites and house the True Cross. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was erected and dedicated on September 13, 335. The following day, Christ's cross was brought outside the newly built church for the faithful to venerate; and the feast day was born. Over the next three centuries, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was celebrated annually in Jerusalem.

In 614, the Persians invaded Jerusalem and took the True Cross as a trophy. The Persians, primarily followers of the ancient religion of Zoroastrianism, were not Christians and their takeover of Jerusalem and the cross was seen as sacrilegious. In 622, the Roman Emperor Heraclius was dedicated to recapture Jerusalem and the True Cross. Finally, in 628, he triumphed, and in 629, he re-entered Jerusalem with the True Cross, restoring it to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. After that, the Feast of the Holy Cross became a universal celebration within the Church, starting in Rome and subsequently spreading throughout the entire empire, and has been celebrated annually on September 14 ever since.

That's the history of this feast day and how we come to venerate the cross. But we should never forget its intention to reveal how a symbol of death was transformed into a symbol of triumph, love and salvation through Christ's sacrifice. And how we should take up our own crosses and, through our trials and sufferings, embrace our trust and hope in redemption to our eternal life in Christ.

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

S	Z	D	G	M	H	Y	H	S	N	C
O	W	W	V	H	E	K	K	H	Y	G
N	R	S	T	X	A	W	F	K	P	K
H	D	A	R	U	V	O	Q	S	Y	Y
W	E	V	T	D	E	R	H	A	L	I
L	S	E	W	G	N	L	Z	N	X	X
D	E	D	Y	X	A	D	O	I	V	D
S	R	C	Y	A	M	O	S	E	S	O
M	T	V	X	P	U	R	C	G	X	W
S	E	R	P	E	N	T	W	V	F	N
Y	W	F	C	L	I	F	T	E	D	M

- Heaven
- Down
- Moses
- Serpent
- Desert
- Lifted
- World
- Only
- Son
- Saved



SUNDAYKIDZ