EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM and 5:30 PM
Saturday: 4:30 PM
Monday—Friday: 8:30 AM (Chapel)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 3:00 - 4:00 PM or by appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
The first Friday of each month from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Sunday: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Monday—Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Closed for lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 PM

COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Thursday: 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Closed for lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 PM

CHAPEL HOURS
Monday—Thursday: 7:30 AM - 7:30 PM
Friday: 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Saturday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sunday: 7:00 AM - 7:30 PM

CHURCH HOURS
Monday & Tuesday: 12:00 - 7:30 PM
Wednesday & Thursday: 7:30 AM - 7:30 PM
Friday: 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Saturday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sunday: 7:00 AM - 7:30 PM

GIFT SHOP HOURS
Sunday: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Monday—Thursday: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Excerpt from the Lectio Divina for Mass 02/01, 1996, 1970 CCD.
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

**BECOME A REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE PARISH**

In order that we may better serve you, please register with the parish by visiting www.stmlv.org or downloading our St. Thomas More App. Forms are also available in the parish office and in the gathering space of the church.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Call the Parish Office at 702-361-3022 if you need to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at home or in a hospital. The Sacrament is also offered communally within the Mass. Announcements will be made about upcoming Anointing of the Sick Masses.

**HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK**

If you are homebound, please call Patti Sabo at 702-269-3110 and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will visit you. In case of hospitalization, inform the hospital staff that you are Catholic and would like to receive Communion.

**FUNERAL MINISTRY**

In the event of a death of a loved one, please contact Lisa Fairweather at 702-361-3022 ext. 104 before making arrangements with any of the professional services.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Baptisms for infants and children up to 7 years of age are celebrated on Sundays. Parents and Godparents are required to attend the baptism preparation class on the first Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise announced) at 7:00 PM in the church. Please contact the Parish Office at 702-361-3022.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Please contact Pamela Trendell at 702-361-3022 ext. 109 to discuss availability and the preparation requirements.

**VOCATIONS**

Please consult with one of the priests.

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**CLERGY**

Deacon Bill McManus
Deacon Bob Rudloff
Deacon Mike Underwood
Fr. Thomas Hoang, C.Ss.R., Parochial Vicar
Fr. Bede Wevita, Pastor

**PARISH OFFICE STAFF**

Mike Ryan, Parish Business Assistant to the Pastor
702-361-3022, miker@stmlv.org
Pamela Trendell, Executive Assistant to the Pastor
702-361-3022, pamt@stmlv.org
Lisa Fairweather, Director of Music & Liturgy
702-361-3022, lisaf@stmlv.org
Beth Lopez, Director of Finance
702-361-3022, bethl@stmlv.org
Amanda Dwyer, Director of Content and Communication
702-361-3022, amandad@stmlv.org
Joyce Rosania, Parish Office Secretary
702-361-3022, joycer@stmlv.org
Eric Koglin, Information Systems Support Analyst
erick@stmlv.org
Stacey Swiercinsky, Receptionist
702-361-3022, staceys@stmlv.org

**COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE STAFF**

Juliann Dwyer, Director of Faith Formation
702-361-8840, juliannd@stmlv.org
Mary Ashley Galan-Gornal, Faith Formation & Liturgical Assistant
702-361-8840, maryashleyg@stmlv.org
Cheryl Schwarz, Director of More Youth and Outreach Ministry
702-361-8840, cheryls@stmlv.org
Ray Snead, Director of Life Teen
702-361-8840, rays@stmlv.org
Mason Molina, Life Teen Assistant
702-361-8840, masonm@stmlv.org
Deacon Mike Underwood, Director of Adult Faith Formation
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Sheila Rafanello, Receptionist
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Mary Volkmar, Nursery Coordinator
maryv@stmlv.org
Bette Snyder, Gift Shop Coordinator
702-361-8840, bettes@stmlv.org
Dave Sawyer, Building Manager
702-361-8840, daves@stmlv.org
Joseph Galang, Building Maintenance
702-361-8840
Rafael Canizalez, Building Maintenance
702-361-8840

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: WWW.STMLV.ORG
AND CONNECT WITH US ON OUR MOBILE APP AND ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES!

SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2019 — 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to announce that our nursery will reopen very soon. It has met all the Diocesan requirements, the space is being updated and the staff is now CPR trained. Since we do consider the wonderful care that is given to your children a ministry at this parish, we are renaming it to the Little Angels Ministry. We will announce the reopen date as soon as we know it.

Christmas in the Fall; which is our largest outreach ministry program to help nonprofit organizations in the valley, starts next weekend. Paper angels will be posted on large boards outside. Each angel has either a gift request or a prayer request written on it. When you choose an angel that has a gift request, you purchase the item(s) listed, wrap it, attach the angel and bring it back to church by the end of the month. If you choose an angel with a prayer request, we ask that you pray for that organization every day for at least a week. This is a great program and we appreciate all of your support.

This week we have two important programs starting. First, on Wednesday; Welcome Home Catholics with Fr. Thomas and on Thursday; Little Kingdom. I am excited for both of these and hope many of you embrace these faith formation opportunities. There is more information on both programs in this bulletin.

You will not see me this weekend, because I am away in Phoenix, Arizona. I am not on vacation, but instead, I am attending the Western Lieutenancy annual meeting for the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. This is the only lay institution of the Vatican State charged with the task of providing for the needs of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and of all the activities and initiatives to support the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

Their mission is to:

♦ To strengthen in its members the practice of Christian life, in absolute fidelity to the Supreme Pontiff and according to the teachings of the Church, observing as its foundation the principles of charity which make the Order a fundamental means of assistance to the Holy Land;

♦ To sustain and aid the charitable, cultural and social works and institutions of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land, particularly those of and in the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, with which the Order maintains traditional ties;

♦ To support the preservation and propagation of the Faith in those lands, and promote interest in this work not only among Catholics scattered throughout the world, who are united in charity by the symbol of the Order, but also among all other Christians;

♦ To uphold the rights of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land.

Some of our parishioners are also a part of this. Next year’s meeting will be in Las Vegas. To learn more about it, you can visit their website at: http://eohsjwesternusa.org/

I hope you all have a wonderful week!

Yours In Christ,

Fr. Bede Wevita
Pastor

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WELCOME HOME CATHOLICS

Do you know someone who has left the Church? Most of us do not have to look very far to find nonpracticing Catholics in our circle of family and friends. Many of us are concerned about these loved ones, but we don’t know how to help them. Obviously, most of them are searching, but how can we help them find their way home?

As baptized, practicing Catholics, we have a precious gift of faith and love from the Lord that needs to be shared with our nonpracticing brothers and sisters. First, we need to pray for them. Next, we need to extend a personal invitation to them to come home to the Catholic Church. Most nonpracticing Catholics are waiting for an invitation to return. Many mistakenly think they are excommunicated and are not welcome to return for a variety of reasons.

Many nonpracticing Catholics carry with them a tremendous amount of guilt and misinformation about the Church and are afraid of approaching the Church for fear of being rejected. You can make a tremendous difference in someone’s life simply by reaching out to them and telling them that we miss them and would like for them to come back home to our Church family.

Here at St Thomas More we have a special program to help nonpracticing Catholics return to the Church entitled “Welcome Home Catholics.” The next series begins October 2nd at 6:30 PM in the Community Center. Please pass this information on to anyone who might be interested.

For more information, please contact Father Thomas at 702-361-3022 ext. 103 or at frthomas@stmlv.org

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SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2019 — 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

WE CURRENTLY HAVE 6,542 FAMILIES REGISTERED

WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY

RICHARD BURKE
THE CALUGAY FAMILY
ROMEO & EMELITA CLEMENTE
THE DEJESUS FAMILY
DANIELLE DOZIER
NANCY ESPINO
LEE GARDNER
ALAN & MARTHA GURKA
GEORGE & DONNA HUBRICH
MARY KOCH
POLLY MAEZ
THE MCDOWELL/MCSHANE FAMILY
RONALD & RUTH REYES
THE RODOLFO-CASING FAMILY
RELINDIS TAKU

We recently welcomed the following children into the Catholic community of faith...

ARIANNA MIA MCCAULEY
ANTHONY YARZAR DELACRUZ SOE

May our community embrace them and may our word and example be a reflection of God’s love for them.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 2019
JOSEPH R. DUCO III (4:30 PM)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH, 2019
TIM AND FRAN GOODELL & FAMILY (8:00 AM)
JOHN ELY (10:00 AM)
ERIC WILLIAM YUTUC (12:00 PM)
MEMBERS OF THE PARISH (5:30 PM)

Mass Intentions

Please Pray For...

Cindy Dreesen
John Razza
Fred & Bea Guidry
Lisa Francisco
Connie Ditomaso
Rosa Brizeno
Marguerite Petroff
Mina Lingan
Judy Commissio
Dante Dalan
Gary Ostrander
Fran Sled
Marily Calbert
Liz A. Delsignore
Jon Robert Jaramillo
Vicki Rosser
Jeanne Amlund
Diwane Reagan
Irene B
Athena Gam Lake
Michael David Gam
Michele Gam Longhini
Bob Terry
Lucy DeLuna
Jouita Mendoza
The Paulino Family
MaryLou Villalovos
Theresa Noyes
Ray Krum
Michael Goulet
Jeffrey Goulet
Cory Nicothodes
Migalros P. Cerna
Ralph Marshall
Helen Marshall
Gloria Coleman
Simona Dye
Nubia Alavarez
John Meehan
Christopher Cabrera
Dr. Bradley Ditsworth
Lourdes Lui DeLeon
Adel R. Salcedo
JoAnn Lapiccolo
Regina Certexe
Carolann DeMatos
Jennie Schuman
Luke Kohut
Rosemary Thiele
Ashur Toma
Mary Walsh
Noriko Yasuda
Anchal Kumar
Emerenciana D. Ocampo
Robin Barry
Janine Gutstein
Lilia Ysmael
Nelida Bedetancourp
Simon Rojas
Richard Hutton
Margaret McGrath
Barbara Krakowski
Justin Dougherty & Family
Mario Monaco
Nancy Janush
Marilin Galati
Margaret Watson
LaMonte Family
CarolAnne Kardash
Wendy Dwyer
Linda Steward
LuAnn Ferron
George Carque
Linda McDonell
Martha Jackson
Michael Crisci
Elizabeth Martano
Ruth Ochoa
Lenny Tanchala Jr.
Roberta Watkins

Newly Baptized

We recently welcomed the following children into the Catholic community of faith...

ARIANNA MIA MCCAULEY
ANTHONY YARZAR DELACRUZ SOE

May our community embrace them and may our word and example be a reflection of God’s love for them.

Celebration of Marriage

JIMMIE DROWNS AND MARGIE TOVES

Our parish community offers our sincere congratulations to those celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony.

In Remembrance

JEFFREY LICATA
VICTORINO VILLAMOR

Let us all keep them in our thoughts & prayers.
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2019
4:30 PM Mass ............................................................$4,775.00

SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2019
8:00 AM Mass ...........................................................$7,076.00
10:00 AM Mass ...........................................................$5,237.00
12:00 PM Mass ...........................................................$4,577.00
5:30 PM Mass .............................................................$3,802.00
Online Donations .........................................................$6,337.27

Weekly 1st Collection Goal ...........................................$35,657.00
1st Collection Actual ......................................................$31,804.27
Over/(Under) Weekly Goal .........................................($3,852.73)

Year to Date 1st Collection Goal ...............................$463,551.00
Year to Date 1st Collection Actual ............................$385,408.90
Over/(Under) Year to Date Goal ...............................($78,142.10)

Second Collection.........................................................$6,834.00

Thank you for your continued generosity and stewardship! Please consider St. Thomas More in your estate planning.

CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

The overall goal of CSA this year remains at $2,700,000.00. Each parish shares in that goal, and once the individual parish goal has been reached, 100% of the funds beyond that goal are rebated back to the parish. Here is the breakdown of CSA funds: Faith Formation (18%), Vocations and Education & Care of the Priests (51%), Campus Ministry at UNLV (10%), Pastoral Outreach (15%), and Leadership and Oversight of Catholic Education (6%).

Please join us in realizing “in your light we see light,” by helping to fund these many ways in which the light of Christ is shared. To contribute, use your mailed instructions, the information in the church or visit our website to donate online. Thank you for your generosity. You enable care for and ministry to people all over the Diocese of Las Vegas.

GIVE PLUS
A VANCO COMPANY

ST. THOMAS MORE GIVING

We are happy to offer these electronic giving options:

ONLINE GIVING is easy to set up and allows you to schedule recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have internet access. Simply follow these easy steps:

1) Visit our website at www.stmlv.org
2) Click “Online Giving”
3) Click on the Create Profile button
4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions. If you give by credit card and have recently received a new credit card, please be sure to update your account information. Thank you!

GIVE BY TEXT is a quick way to make a donation by using your smart phone to send a text message to 702-903-2248 with the amount you would like to give. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount and within seconds you’ll receive a text with a link to register.

SCAN OUR QR (QUICK RESPONSE) CODE which was created specifically for our community. When you scan this image with a Smartphone’s QR decoder, it will instantly connect you to the mobile version of our web page. These QR Code Signs are also being installed in our church foyer for your convenience.

NOVENAS

Our Perpetual Mass Cards are now a 9 month Novena, which are said the last Friday at our morning Mass for nine consecutive months. A novena is a form of a traditional Catholic prayer that is prayed over nine days. A novena may be prayed nine days in a row, on the same day of the week for nine weeks, or on the same day of the month for nine months (for example, the First Friday). A novena may consist of prayers, intercessions, hymns, and readings from Scripture.

These are for the living and deceased and the suggested donation is $20.00. If you’re interested, please visit our Parish Office.
Dear Parishioners

Each year I like to update our community on what is going on in Faith Formation. More than 100 catechists (teachers) are giving of their time and talent to share their faith with the youth of our community. Without these dedicated individuals there would be NO Faith Formation Program at all. I can not thank them enough. Every year we lose about 1/3 of our catechists. We advertise these openings in the bulletin and on social media and by the grace of God, every year all the positions get filled... except for this year; we still have three openings. I work hard during the summer months recruiting, training, and empowering these dedicated individuals. Every year we see the fruits of our labor in the wonderful things these people do in their classes. There are many rewards that you experience from teaching and that is the reason so many of these dedicated individuals return to teach another year. There are also some frustrations, for example...

In the Catechism of the Catholic church (no.2223) it states, “Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children.” Through their words, guidance and example, parents form the child’s first experience of faith and continue to be the child’s most important faith teacher. Unfortunately, in many instances, the only exposure the child has to the church and teachings is the one hour per week they spend in class here. There are approximately 24 classes each year, totaling 24 hours of teaching. This is why it is so important to spend time as a family in prayer, to pay attention to the example you provide for faithful Christian living and know what your children are learning in religious education so you can reinforce these lessons at home.

Because the Mass is the central celebration of God’s family and is the primary place where we gather to worship God, be sure to make family attendance at Mass a weekly priority. Faith Formation Classes complement but do not replace the family experience of worship in the Mass.

What I have learned over the past 26 years as DRE at St. Thomas More is the absolute need for teamwork on the part of parents and parish staff. Let’s respect each other. Parishes struggle with the same kind of gossip and bickering that St. Paul wrote about in his letters to the Corinthians. Respect also needs to reign in a classroom so catechists can teach, and students can hear. Parents need to respect the program so that chronic lateness, leaving early for sports practice and games, or absenteeism doesn’t hinder learning.

As a parent, it is easy to see Faith Formation Classes as an inconvenience to a hectic family schedule, but if you look at the number you can see that your kids spend far more time at sports practices and other activities, despite our firm commitment to the church. My own children were involved in baseball. I did not expect them to become baseball stars, but I did hope they would grow up trusting in the support of their faith. I know that when my children face hardships or heartache, their relationship with Jesus and their church will be there to support them.

Let’s get involved enough to gain a firsthand perspective! You and your child should see Jesus everywhere in the parish’s formation programs, because Jesus is the center of our Catholic faith. Through faith formation in the parish, children learn that Jesus is both King of Glory and a close personal friend. They grow closer to Christ as they learn about His word and actions, connect with Him in prayer and become involved in the church community. Talk to your child about what he or she is learning about when it comes to Jesus and how we follow the example of Jesus in everyday life, especially at home and school.

The role of parents in faith formation is so important. It is necessary that we all communicate by attending start up meetings each year, sacrament meetings and classes, touch safety programs, and reading flyers, memos, emails and letters from the catechist or the Faith Formation Office. Communicating with your child’s catechist is so important as well. Get to know him or her. I can not tell you how many catechists say they have never met the parents of some of the students in their class. Show your child you are interested in their faith formation by working with them to complete the chapter before they come to class each week. They will follow what you do. There is a country song by Rodney Atkins called “Watching You” that says it all. In the song, the little boy learns from his dad and in the chorus it says: “I’ve been watching you dad, ain’t that cool, I’m your buckaroo, I wanna be like you and eat all my food and grow as tall as you are. I wanna do everything you do, so I’ve been watching you.”

Let’s remember your children will model what you do!

Peace and Love in Christ,
Juliann Dwyer
LIFE TEEN FALL RETREAT  
**OCTOBER 18-20, 2019**  
**CAMP LEE CANYON**  
It costs $100.00 per person.  
A $25.00 deposit and a completed permission form are required for a spot on the list. Spots are limited.  
For more information, please contact the Life Teen Office at 702-361-8840 ext. 207.

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**IN GOD’S IMAGE**  
A Male and Female Human Sexuality Program  
This program is open to all 6th through 8th grade students and their parents. The program consists of 6 sessions on Tuesday evenings in January and February of 2020. The calendar is available on our website.

This program is presented as a Catholic Vision of Human Sexuality and is a very important subject. It is in response to the wishes of the Catholic Church, the Pope, our bishops, doctors, counselors and others who work with youth, that our children be taught a reverence for the precious gift from God. The program is very special in that it concentrates on the partnership of parent and teacher to present the various parts of the program in a well informed and supported framework. Your participation is an essential part of the program. We ask you be conscious of all the secular elements of our society that so strongly influence our children’s views of sexuality, relationships, commitment, etc. This program will counteract the negative elements and nurture a positive and discerning self-concept in all of our students.

We are taking sign-ups until 12/15/19 (there is no cost). Please contact Cheryl Schwarz; Director of More Youth, at cheryls@stmlv.org or call her direct line at 725-205-0606.

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**MORE Festivities**  
Our parish festival  
**DATE:**  
Saturday, October 12th, 2019  
**TIME:**  
We will begin with Mass at 4:30 PM  
**LOCATION:**  
On our STM property  
**WHAT TO EXPECT:**  
Food, Games, Music, Contests, Raffles and MORE  
**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**  
We are currently accepting raffle prize donations (new items please) and monetary donations. We are also looking for new and appealing high-ticketed items, such as TVs, Apple products, Disney or Airline Gift Cards, Game Consoles, etc. Letters will be given to those who donate.

We would also like to recruit some volunteers to help the day of. If you are interested in helping or would like to donate, please contact Lisa in the Parish Office at 702-361-3022.
PROSPECTIVE STUDENT OPEN HOUSE

Join us for the Bishop Gorman High School annual Open House on Sunday, October 20th from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Interested Prospective Parents and Students are welcome to:
- Take a tour of our State-of-the-Art Campus
- Meet our outstanding faculty as you explore offerings in STEM and Medicine, Business and Law, Visual and Performing Arts
- Discover all Bishop Gorman has to offer – Clubs, Organizations and Athletic Teams
- Learn about our Tuition Assistance program and our Admissions process

We encourage all interested families to attend our OPEN HOUSE to learn more about our values: God, Accountability, Excellence, Leadership, and Stewardship and to find out what it means to be a member of the Bishop Gorman community.

To view the complete Open House program, please visit the Admissions section of our website: WWW.BISHOPGORMAN.ORG
Foundational Faith Formation

Do you want to learn more about our Catholic faith?

The Diocese of Las Vegas is providing ongoing formation for a solid foundation in Catholic teaching. The topics offered are important to all adult Catholics, particularly those who volunteer in parish ministries and especially classroom catechists. This formation will help us better articulate Catholic teaching in the areas of scripture, spirituality, sacraments and the mission of the church.

These workshops also apply for maintenance of certification and those newly seeking Ministry Certification.

This year's courses include Spirituality, Christology I, Introduction to Scripture, and Catholic Beliefs & Traditions.

Formación de Fe Fundamental

¿Quiéres aprender más sobre la fe Católica?

La Diócesis de Las Vegas estará proporcionando Formación continua con un fundamento sólido en las enseñanzas Católicas. Los temas que se ofrecen son importantes para todos los Católicos adultos, especialmente si son ministros voluntarios y catequistas. La formación nos ayudará a mejor articular las enseñanzas Católicas como las sagradas escrituras, espiritualidad, sacramentos, y la misión de la iglesia.

Los talleres aplicarán hacia el mantenimiento de certificación y también personas nuevas buscando la Certificación de Ministerios.

Los cursos de este año incluyen Espiritualidad, Cristología I, Introducción a las Sagradas Escrituras, y Creencias y Tradiciones Católicas.

Classes take place from 6:30—8:30 pm on:

Tuesdays, St Thomas More (English)  
Wednesdays, St Joseph, Husband of Mary (English)
Thursdays, Christ the King (English)  
Saturdays/Sábado, Prince of Peace in English 10 am—12 noon & Español 1 pm—3 pm

Spirituality and Introduction to Scripture begin the week of October 1st and continue through November 14.

Christology I and Catholic Beliefs and Traditions begin the week of January 7 and continue through February 29.

For more information or to register, contact Zaydeé P. Castor at zcastor@dolv.org (702) 735 - 6044
SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2019
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY’S READINGS:

FIRST READING:
Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with. (Am 6:7)

PSALM:
Praise the Lord, my soul! (Ps 146) or Alleluia

SECOND READING:
But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. (1 Tm 6:11)

GOSPEL:
"Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'" (Lk 16:31)

GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE
If you saw someone dead come to life tomorrow, what would you change about your life? Would you say "nothing"? That’s what Jesus seems to hope. After all, we already know what to do. In this Sunday’s Gospel, a rich man and a poor man pass away, the former to damnation and the latter to peaceful rest alongside the Jewish patriarchs. The rich man asks if the poor man can appear to his brothers and advise them to live a more virtuous life. The parable offers a strong rebuke: "They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them." In other words, they should already know what to do.

We, too, know what to do. More than Moses, Jesus Christ himself has spoken, and continues to speak through his Church. The rich man did not heed the wise words, despite knowing them. If we are convicted against certain Christian teachings in our heart, how much good will miraculous "proofs" do? We know more than the law and the prophets - we know the prophetic law of love proclaimed by Jesus Christ. Are we living like we believe it?

Where in our lives are we like the rich man? Do we know how to treat the poor but still we ignore them in our excess? Do we know the third commandment, but the Sunday liturgy feels "optional" when other weekend commitments arise? Have we heard Christ’s teachings on sexuality, but consider them out of reach for us? We have received a great many truths as Christian people. We are blessed by God with the sacraments and the abundance of His graces. We have what we need - in Him - to begin to live a virtuous life now.

LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK
People often think that if they witness something miraculous, it would bring them to a greater faith and motivate them for greater involvement. Such is not necessarily true, as coming to a real and authentic faith still requires that we struggle with ourselves a bit and change our approach to living. Authentic faith is acquired when we see wisdom and life in the words of the prophets and in the teachings of Jesus Christ. All of these point us to a God who has a particular set of priorities for how life is meant to be lived. We have to avoid the trap of complacency that is rooted in preserving our own self-interests and living lives that pursue "righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness." (1 Tm 6:11) Complacency keeps us stuck in the status quo and prevents us from working toward respect for life, equality, and justice, and from advocating on behalf of the needs of the poor, the homeless, and the alien. Are you complacent?
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP  
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Called to Compassion
What does a homeless person need? That may seem like an odd question since being homeless would indicate they certainly need a home. Beyond that though, what does a homeless person need? Most would guess the person needs food, money, clothing, medical care, and toiletries. Many parishes put together drives for those items. Is that all the person needs? It is easy to get caught up in all the things that easily come to mind so that we miss a key thing needed by someone homeless as well as all human beings: to be seen.

How many of us pass by homeless people and pretend they are not even there. We don’t have money in our pocket, we don’t have food to give, and we don’t have material items that they need, so we offer them nothing. We don’t even offer ourselves.

Welcoming someone with a kind word is free. Amazingly, we act like it costs us more than anything else. It is easier to hand someone $5 than it is to engage in a 15-second exchange of words. We talk about being generous, but we need to remember that sometimes the greatest gift we have to give is simply ourselves. The Jesus in me meets the Jesus in you. One day, you or I may find ourselves in a tough spot, and we will be looking for compassion. Let’s hope that all those who profess to know Jesus don’t simply pass on by pretending not to see us.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK  
REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING
The prophet Amos warns of the dangers of complacency. When do you find yourself falling into this trap?

SECOND READING
Paul encourages Timothy to “compete well for the faith.” What or who do you see as the main competitors today with our Christian faith?

GOSPEL READING
In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, Jesus teaches the Pharisees of the great reversal of fortunes in the afterlife. Do you find comfort or distress in this parable?

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH
8:30 AM Mass
4:00 PM Faith Formation Classes
5:30 PM Sandwiches (MoMS)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST
8:30 AM Mass
9:30 AM Bible Study (AM Session)
9:30 AM MoMs: St. Teresa of Avila
9:30 AM MoMs: St. Teresa of Calcutta
10:00 AM 55+ Single Seniors Gathering
4:00 PM Faith Formation Classes
6:00 PM Parish Festival Planning Meeting
6:30 PM Bible Study (PM Session)
6:30 PM Ministry Certification
6:30 PM MoMs: New Group

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND
8:30 AM Mass
10:00 AM MoMs: St. Katharine Drexel
4:00 PM Faith Formation Classes
5:00 PM Children’s Choir Rehearsal
5:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM Welcome Home Catholics
6:30 PM Boy Scouts
6:30 PM Small Church Communities

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3RD
8:30 AM Mass
9:30 AM Little Kingdom
9:30 AM MoMs: St. Joan of Arc
9:30 AM Small Church Communities
7:00 PM Home Catechesis

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
8:30 AM Mass

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH
3:00 PM Reconciliation
4:30 PM Mass

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH
8:00 AM Mass
8:30 AM RCIA
9:00 AM Faith Formation Classes
10:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM RCIC
11:00 AM Faith Formation Classes
11:00 AM Teen Choir
12:00 PM Mass
2:00 PM More Youth
3:30 PM Life Teen Young Disciples
4:15 PM Life Teen Core Team
5:30 PM Mass
6:45 PM Life Night

PLEASE NOTE: THERE MAY BE CHANGES THAT DO OCCUR TO THIS SCHEDULE. WE SUGGEST ALWAYS CHECKING WITH THE HEAD OF YOUR MINISTRY/ORGANIZATION.
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THURSDAY MORNINGS FROM 9:30 - 11:00 AM IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER

WE WILL GATHER ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
NOVEMBER 7, 14, 21
JANUARY 9, 16, 23, 30
FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27
MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26
APRIL 2, 23, 30

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT GERALDINE MONTANO MUGUIRA AT 702-236-4332.