



# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston | Served by Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales

12627 W. BELLFORT AVE., SUGAR LAND, TX 77478 281-240-6721 WWW.STASUGARLAND.COM

## AUGUST 21, 2022

### WELCOME HOME

**PASTOR:**

Rev. Joseph Pottemmel, MSFS  
*frjoseph@stasugarland.com*

**PAROCHIAL VICAR:**

Rev. Joseph Arulraj, MSFS  
*frjoseph@stasugarland.com*

**MASS TIMES**

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sun. 7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

**DAILY MASS**

Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a.m.

Wed. 7:00 p.m.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Mon.-Tue. & Thur.

9:00a.m.. - 8:00 p.m.

Wed. - 9:00 a.m.. - 6:30 p.m.

Fri. - 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chapel

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

By request after Mass,

**Mondays & Tuesdays**

**Saturday:** 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

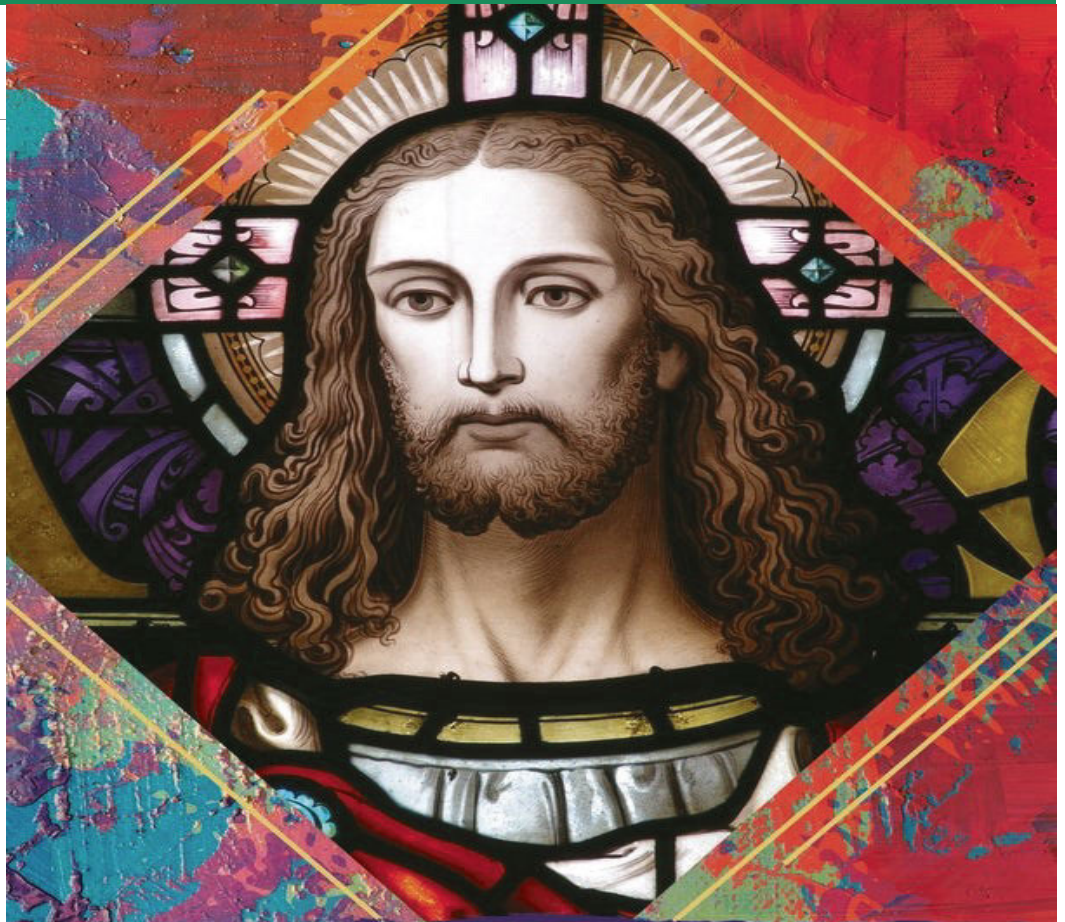
**OFFICE HOURS**

Mon.-Thur. 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. (Lunch)

Fri: 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Sat & Sun: Closed



### 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Some are last who will be first,  
and some are first who will be last.” - Lk 13:30

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

### OUR MISSION

“We the Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church are a diverse Christ Centered community empowered by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by the Word and the Sacraments to Proclaim the Good News”



# REFLECTION

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is really about a radical trust in God and his guidance. "When you are conducted by a guide who takes you through an unknown country at night across fields where there are no tracks, by his own skill, asking no advice from anyone, giving no inkling of his plans, what choice do you have but to give yourself completely to his guidance? If you are convinced that he is a good guide, you must have faith in him and abandon yourself to his care (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)."

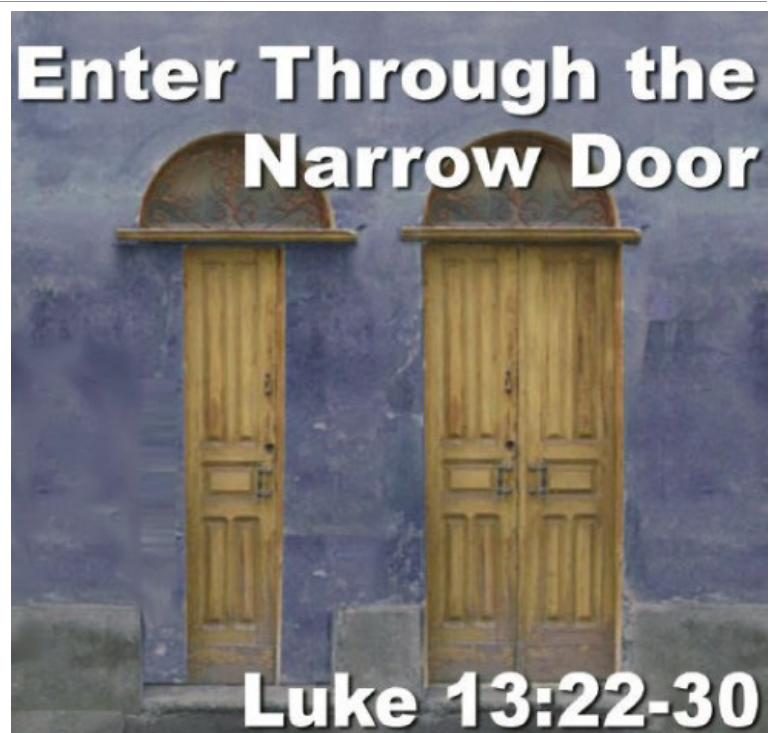
If someone wants to be physically fit, they readily find a competent trainer who sets them on a rigorous schedule. Determined to reach their goals, they sacrifice personal pleasure and trust in his guidance. Why should it be any different with God? In order to remain true to the way Jesus places before us, we have to listen, learn, and be willing to change. Falling in love with God and maintaining that relationship requires an investment of time, energy, and hard work. Putting personal preferences aside in pursuit of the Gospel and giving

proper attention to our spiritual lives is challenging work. At first, "all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it (Hebrews)."

"What God does is essentially good. It does not need to be reformed or controlled...If you would live according to the Gospels, give yourself completely and simply to the action of God (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)." Submission to the holy will of God is not a submission to a set of pre-ordained set of circumstances. Rather, it is an abandonment and trust in God's creative, life-giving, and salvific power. God brings light out of darkness and life out of death. Nurturing this bond of trust and seeking God in all things creates an intimate and particular relationship and bond between our Creator and us. When He comes, there will be no issue with us recognizing Him or Him recognizing us. We will have met before.

## INSPIRATION OF THE WEEK

Discipline is necessary for us to focus our attention and develop and refine our skills. A disciplined person has integrity and can make difficult but necessary choices. Most people do not like discipline, especially children. When we have to rise above our impulses and desires and do something challenging, it can appear as a punishment. The struggles of living a good and effective Christian life, especially when we actively choose virtue over vice, are allowed by God and necessary for reaching spiritual maturity. God invites us to share in His Kingdom. Hearing and accepting that invitation requires an active, conscious decision on our part. Reforming our lives and changing how we do things does not come easily. But it is precisely what is necessary for us to enter through the narrow gate that leads to life. Discipline is essential if we are going to discover our desire for union with our Creator and live in God's house. In this way, we will not risk finding the door locked when we need it to be open.





**RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

**Chancing the Narrow Gate**

From doctors to counselors, anthropologists to schoolteachers, it seems like everyone has their own parenting style to peddle, guaranteeing it will result in a happy and well-adjusted kid.

You've got "gentle parenting," predicated on respect for the child's feelings and needs. You've got "attachment parenting," based on the belief that kids need time to adjust to being outside of the womb. You've got "free-range parenting," where self-sufficiency reigns supreme.

But of all the parenting approaches I've come across, I've never encountered a philosophy that rejects discipline altogether. There are lots of conflicting opinions on how best to administer that discipline, but I've never heard any parent or parenting "expert" worth their salt say that a mother or father should completely ignore misbehavior that threatens the well-being of the child himself.

Discipline is in our human DNA. Consider for a moment what the world would look like if it came to be filled with people who had never been taught to reflect on their life challenges. People who bristled at the suggestion of personal growth.

And yet we become this way with God. Even the most "devout" among us shy away from occasions of divine constructive criticism. We avoid confession and forego daily examinations of conscience. We keep things superficial in our prayer life, avoiding depth of heart and real intimacy with God, afraid of what He will speak to us.

But when we do this, we rob ourselves of an opportunity to rely on God's fatherly strength, to rest in His mercy, to fill ourselves up with His goodness. We're putting up our hands, saying: "No thanks, Father, I'm good. You can keep your discipline. You can keep your grace."

When we do this, we are making a beeline for the "narrow gate," sure of our own strength and ability to pass through it. All I can say is this, proceed at your own peril. Are you so sure of yourself?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**



Is your day filled with work, family, errands, rushing here and there?

Wishing you could have just one peaceful hour? How about one peaceful hour with YOUR LORD? Jesus wishes to SPEND ONE HOUR WITH YOU!

**IF YOU ARE WILLING TO COMMIT TO ONE HOUR EACH WEEK CALL THE OFFICE AT 281-240-6721.**  
**IF YOU CANNOT MAKE YOUR ADORATION HOUR, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT.**  
**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT SHOULD NEVER BE LEFT ALONE.**



**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**  
Baptism preparation classes for Parents and Godparents are held every other month. Please call the parish office for information.



**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**  
Engaged couples need to call, Matt Falleri (281) 240-6721 ext. 107, six to nine months before your wedding to allow time for preparation.



**SACRAMENT OF HEALING**  
In case of illness, please call the Parish Office at 281-240-6721

# PARISH INFORMATION

## PARISH STAFF

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Lee Meister  
lmeister@stasugarland.com

### DIRECTOR

Aquinas Early Childhood Center  
Erum Khan 281-240-7196  
ekhan@stasugarland.com

### MUSIC MINISTER

Russ Martinez  
rmartinez@stasugarland.com

### CCE COORDINATOR

Matt Falleri  
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### YOUTH MINISTER

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### AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATION

Alexandra Pascualdo  
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### BOOKKEEPER

Vivian Kuoh  
vkuoh@stasugarland.com

### PARISH SECRETARY


Leticia Cordova  
lcordova@stasugarland.com

## STEWARDSHIP

### 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 9-10, 2022

#### 1st Collection

Total.....\$ 12, 818  
STA Cares Collection this weekend.....\$ 820



*Carried by Grace*

*St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Retreat*

*Date: September 30, 2022 - October 2, 2022*

*Place: Mother of Perpetual Help Retreat Center  
3417 W. Little York, Houston, TX 77091*

**REGISTER TODAY** *Deadline is August 29*

*Registration forms are available in the parish office*





# MASS INTENTIONS

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

- 8:00 a.m. Jean Jackson †
- 5:00 p.m. Nieves Paguio & Concordia Torres †

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

- 7:30 a.m. For All Parishioners
- 9:30 a.m. Jose & Cresencia Kwan †
- 11:30 a.m. Lucy Pascual †

## MONDAY, AUGUST 22

- 8:00 a.m. Hera Hermosilla †

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

- 8:00 a.m. Jumarlo Cabatingan –**Birth**day

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

- 8:00 a.m. Agustina Adikakwu –**Birth**day
- 7:00 p.m. Healing for Jane Arinze

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

- 8:00 a.m. Kemi Fidelis–**Birth**day

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

- 8:00 a.m. Special Intention for Sister Lucy Ochilli

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

- 8:00 a.m. Special Intention for Alcie & Milo Chancoco
- 5:00 p.m. Herlinda Garcia †

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

- 7:30 a.m. For All Parishioners
- 9:30 a.m. Agnesa Gemmini †
- 11:30 a.m. Oseremen Ogbeide–**Birth**day



# ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

**FOR THE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 27 – 28**  
 If you have any questions please call  
 Earl Marasigan at 832-687-0455.

### Saturday 5:00 p.m.

### Sunday 7:30 a.m.

- Brandon Amaefule
- Bianca Amaefule
- Kosi Uzoh
- Kamsi Uzoh

### Sunday 9:30 a.m.

### Sunday 11:30 a.m.

- Joachim Panam
- Joseph Panam
- Emily Mayes

- Jesse Isibor
- Nathan Isibor
- Gwen Isibor

"If you cannot make it to your Mass, please contact the Adult Coordinator assigned for the Mass."

## Adult Coordinators

- 5:00 p.m.
- 7:30 a.m.
- 9:30 a.m. Samson Awoh (713) 232-9131 or Jonah Eze (346) 717-8911
- 11:30 a.m. Edmund Warren (832) 926-9595





*We call it learning, they call it fun!*

## Aquinas Early Childhood Center Who We Are

Seeing a need for high quality early childhood education in the community, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Parish rose to the challenge. Licensed by the State of Texas, our degreed teachers, trained in the Reggio Emilia, allow children to flourish.

### About Us

- NCI accepted
- Enrolling from 6 weeks to 6 years old.
- Breakfast, lunch & p.m. snack is included in the tuition.
- 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., weekdays
- Closed circuit cameras and coded security access

### Contact Us

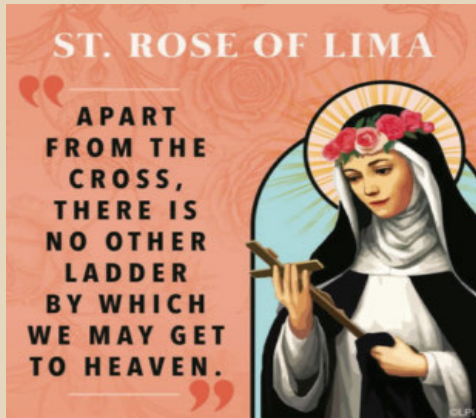
We want to get to know you! Stop by to see us or contact us to schedule a tour.

Parishioner discounts are available.

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**281-240-7196**

**Now Enrolling for 2022**

## St. Rose of Lima | August 23



Born Isabel Flores de Olivia in April 1586 in Lima, Peru to Spanish colonists, Saint Rose of Lima took the name Rose at her confirmation in 1597. Legend holds that she received this nickname as an infant because a servant saw her face transformed into a rose.

Even as a child Saint Rose was dedicated to Christ. Growing up she made many secret penances. And when she was old enough to be married, deterred suitors by cutting off her hair and rubbing pepper on face to make it blister. She took a vow of chastity even though her parents wished her to marry. She fasted many times a week and permanently abstained from meat.

Eventually her parents gave in and allowed her to join the Third Order of St. Dominic, although she was not permitted to live in a convent. Saint Rose undertook severe penances, allowing

herself only two hours of sleep a night in order to have more time to pray, wearing a heavy silver crown with spikes on the inside imitating Christ's crown of thorns, and even burning her own hands. However, she also cared for the sick and hungry, and sold her beautiful embroidery and fine lace, as well as flowers she grew to help raise funds for the poor.

She died at the age of 31 on August 24, 1617. Pope Clement X canonized her in 1671, she was the first saint of the New World, born in the Americas. Saint Rose of Lima is the patron saint of Latin America and the Philippines.



## WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

### Gratitude

**Question:** How can I practice gratitude in my everyday life?

**Answer:**

God has given each of us many blessings. Fostering an "attitude of gratitude" might be easier than you think. Simple, concrete practices can help us to be more thankful more often. Incorporate it into your dinner with your spouse, or as you tuck the kids into bed at night. "What are three things you're thankful for today?" Make a habit of writing one note a week to someone special in your life, thanking them for how they've impacted you. This is also a good practice in the workplace. Consider opening your weekly meetings with a quick round of gratitude sharing. "I'm grateful John helped me with that last-minute change to my presentation last week. I wouldn't have finished it in time for the meeting without him."

Another way is to designate a few minutes to thank God. This could be the first bit of your daily prayer time or after you receive communion on Sundays. You can also integrate it into your daily routine. How about while brushing your teeth? There's probably nothing so important it can't wait two minutes. Brush your teeth, quiet your mind, and thank God from your heart for His blessings throughout the day. Get creative! Any moment is an opportunity to praise and thank God.

## CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

**Question:** What is another name for monastery?

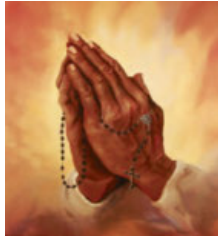
**Answer:** Abbey.



# PASTORAL ASSISTANT

## LORD, WE LIFT UP PETITIONS OF HEALING FOR OUR SICK, ESPECIALLY:

Jane Arinze, Fr. John Bosco, Elizabeth and Courtney Brown, Donna Buczo, Alan Cordova, Maria Elena Cordova, Fr. Vince Dulock, Wendy Fernandez, Pat Gerecci, Doris Giron, Elizabeth Jackson, Amanda Jackson, Dana Bryan Lee, Lee Meister, Ronald Murphy, Roberto Paredes, Martha Swift, Millie Thibodaux, Cecilia Williams, Fr. Louis Zee and our Catholic Residents at The Hampton Meadows Place Assisted Living Facility, Bedford Place, Home Sweet Home, First Smile and Catholic Patients at Atrium Medical Center.



## PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

THERESA OGIAMIEN, mother of Helen Ogiamien (AECC Staff )



MAY SHE REST IN PEACE  
Our Condolences !

## NEW JERUSALEM CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

### ‘THE ‘WORLD’ AND THE ‘CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY’

The word of God says **“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, love of the Father [God] is not in him” [1John 2:15].**

Is God condemning the world? NO! God approves of all that He has created. In fact, the word of God says, **“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good” (Gen 1:31).** Also, in **1Timothy 4:4-5** we read, **“For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving; for then it is consecrated by the word of God”.** However, the physical ‘world’ is subject to bondage of decay because of man’s sin, but it is not evil itself. *The ‘world’* therefore, is a system of relationships, ideas, and values opposed to the kingdom of God. The ‘world’ is the Christians enemy because the king of this ‘world’ is Satan! The

*‘world’* is a society and culture separated from God and locked into patterns controlled by the kingdom of darkness. Christ says, **“As thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world” [John17:18].** Christ says in **Mt 5:14** to all believers, **“You are the light of the world. A city set on the hill cannot be hidden”.**

**Thus, a Christian community does not stand isolated from the world; instead, it stands in the world as a visible tangible witness to the love of God [see Gal 2:20].**

One big obstacle in being the light is **our selfish desires and wants** that are contrary to the will of God. In Romans 8:34, St. Paul tells us **“... He (God) condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit”.** Through the Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ and subsequent outpouring of the Holy Spirit, man can **“... become partakers of the divine nature” (2Pt 1:4).** We all do need the transforming

power of the Holy Spirit to overcome the “flesh” and be a light in the world. Christ tells us in **Mathew 6:24**, **“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other; or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon”.**

PRAYER MEETING EVERY SATURDAY, FROM 6:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M. IN AQUINAS CENTER ROOMS B & C.

All are invited!!

For any questions, please call Emmanuel OFILI at: 832-247-5226.





# 1<sup>st</sup> Sacrament and Confirmation

## **2022-2023 REGISTRATION**

**Late Registration – August 8th - August 31st**  
**All Faith Formation (CCE, Edge & Life Teen) \$110 each**  
**(Family Plan 3 or more children) \$85 each**  
**Confirmation \$120 each - First Sacraments \$110 each**

**NO REGISTRATION AFTER AUGUST 31st**

PARENT MEETING FOR ALL CLASSES WILL BE AFTER THE  
11:30 AM MASS ON SEP. 11TH

CCE & EDGE CLASSES WILL START SEP. 21ST

LIFE TEEN & CONFIRMATION CLASS WILL START ON SEP. 25TH

**SEE YOU SOON!**

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022

Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

- 7:30 a.m. 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary
- 8:30 a.m. Knights of Columbus Breakfast, ALD Kit
- 9:30 a.m. 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. RCIA - Adult, TH 202-204
- 11:30 a.m. 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary

## MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022

Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/  
Lk 1:39-56

- 7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
- 8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
- 9a.m.-8p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study, TH-Youth

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2022

Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/  
Mt 19:23-30

- 7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
- 8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
- 9a.m.-8p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2022

Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16

- 7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
- 8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
- 9a.m.-6:30p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. OLPH Mass & Novena, Sanctuary

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022

Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14

- 7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
- 8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
- 9a.m.-8p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2022

Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40

- 7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
- 8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
- 9a.m.-6:00p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2022

Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 23:1-12

- 7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
- 8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Legion of Mary, AQ-C
- 4:00 p.m. Reconciliation
- 5:00 p.m. 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. New Jerusalem Charismatic Prayer Group, AQ B-C
- 6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus, ALD Hall

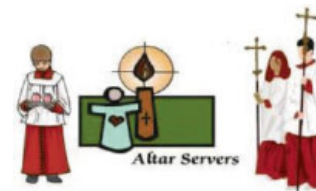
## SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2022

Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

- 7:30 a.m. 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. RCIA - Adult, TH 202-204
- 11:30 a.m. 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary

All altar servers are required to attend the annual training on **Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022** starting with the Mass at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 12:00 p.m.

**There will be games, prizes and snacks.**



"You are all invited to the Solemn Investiture to the Ministry of Altar Serving for the following altar servers." \* Jessie Isibor, \*Arinze, Nmadin, \*Joseph, Panam and \*Ella Warren on Sunday, September 25, during the 11:30 a.m. Mass.

**Congratulations!**

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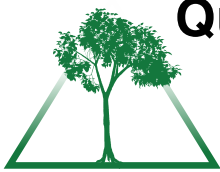
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