

| READINGS FOR THE WEEK | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Sunday Nov. 5 | Mal 1:114b-2:2b, 8-10 Ps 131:1, 2, 3 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13 Mt 23:1-12 |
| Monday Nov. 6 | Rom 11:29-36 Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36 Lk 14:12-14 |
| Tuesday Nov. 7 | Rom 12:5-16b Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3 Lk 14:15-24 |
| Wednesday Nov. 8 | Rom 13:8-10 Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9 Lk 14:25-33 |
| Thursday Nov. 9 | Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 2:13-22 |
| Friday Nov 10 | Rom 15:14-21 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Lk 16:1-8 |
| Saturday Nov. 11 | Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27 Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11 Lk 16:9-15 |

| MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND | |
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| <u>HOSPITALITY</u> | |
| Saturday: | Johnny Riggs, Shirley Allison, Rose Davis & Walter Davis |
| Sunday: | Joseph Fontenot, Rose Bottley, Coretta Ambers & Emmanuel Taylor |
| <u>ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:</u> | |
| Saturday: A: | Gary Mims L: Freda Guillory & Felicia Richard |
| Sunday: A: | Wayne Sparrow L: Phyllis Thibodeaux & Horace Broussard |
| <u>ALTAR SERVER:</u> | |
| Saturday: | Reagan Pitre & William Pitre |
| Sunday: | D'Ana Williams |
| <u>MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:</u> | |
| Saturday | Cecilia Davis & Gail Jefferson |
| Sunday: | Gloria Richard & Lucy Jones |

| Attendance | |
|---|---|
| Saturday 17 | Sunday 49 |
| <u>Weekend Collection</u> | |
| | <u>Deductible</u> <u>Non-Deductible</u> |
| Mail In | \$ 235.00 |
| Loose | \$ 36.00 |
| Mass Stipends | \$ 20.00 |
| Saturday | \$ 140.00 |
| Sunday | \$ 1,103.00 |
| Total Deposit | \$ 1,534.00 |
| Expenses: Sacco- liturgy <\$ 115.50> OCP liturgy <\$ 506.40> spectrum <\$ 82.31> Dioceses of Beaumont loan <\$ 2000.> St. Mary's tuition for St. Therese Students <\$ 1,260.> St. Anthony tuition for St. Therese Student <\$ 200.> Office supplies <\$ 113.49> Offering env. <\$ 283.91> | |

| November Birthday List Happy Birthday to: | | | |
|--|------|----------------------|----|
| Rose Bottley | 6 | Archange Cexar, Jr | 10 |
| Deacon Julian Richard | 12 | Morman Richard | 12 |
| Antoine Warnell | 14 | Pat Roberts | 15 |
| Beverly Stewart | 21 | Gary Mims | 22 |
| Kevin Hebert | 23 | Edmayia Riggs | 24 |
| Phyllis Thibodeaux | 28 | Patricia Blair-Wilks | 29 |
| Happy Anniversary | | | |
| Clifton & Felicia Richards | 12th | | |
| Marvin & Cindy Hampton | 24th | | |

| MASS INTENTIONS | |
|---|---|
| Sunday, Nov. 5th 9:00 a.m. Mass Jacobs & Monroe families Requested by Mary J. Jacobs Monroe | |
| Monday, Nov. 6th NO MASS | |
| Tuesday, Nov. 7th 6:00 p.m. N/A | Wednesday, Nov. 8th 6:00 p.m. N/A |
| Thursday, Nov. 9th 6:00 p.m. N/A | Friday, Nov. 10th 5:00 p.m. Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Saturday, Nov. 11th 3:20 - 3:55 Reconciliation 4:00 p.m. Mass Elizabeth Jackson requested by Mary Crossley | |
| (N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/your love ones, or the deceased.. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule). | |

| COORNATORS OF MINISTRIES | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Hospitality/Ushers - Rose Davis | Lectors - Gary Mims |
| Music - George Alexander | Youth - Felicia Richard |
| Maint. & Plumbing - Joe Fontenot | Finance - Andre' Robertson |
| Life Center - Adam Jacobs | Fund Rising - Walter Davis |
| Stewardship-Wayne Sparrow | |
| Bishop Faith Appeal - Robert Gobert | |
| Extraordinary Minister of Communion - Shirley Ray | |
| Mission & Retreat - Cecilia Davis | |
| Donut Sunday - Freda Guillory* each Sunday in the Education Building | |
| Socials - Knights of Peter Clever & Ladies Auxiliary * donut/coffee in the Life Center 2nd Sunday of each month. | |
| And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose Romans 8:28 | |

| Bishop Faith Appeal/Fundraiser Goal: \$25,000. Pledged: \$15,650. Paid: \$10,880. | |
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| It is the time of year again where we to begin the work on our BFA goal, and for those of us that has not yet pledged please do so and for those of us that has Thank You so much. For any information please contact Robert Gobert at (504) 232-5640 or Shirley Ray (409) 779-9922. We are look forward to the continued growth of our parish | |

St. Therese Catholic Church

Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000


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Pastoral Team:

Rev. Donatus Mgbеajuo, MSP
 Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com
 Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958
 Rectory: (409) 920-4007
 Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743
 Deacon Hazen Kenney (512) 791-0847

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
 November 5, 2017

“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted”



| Eucharistic Celebration | |
|--|---|
| Weekends: Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. & Sunday: 9:00 a.m. | Weekdays: Tuesday-Friday 6:00 p.m. |
| Reconciliation Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m. | Adoration & Benediction 1st Friday each month 5p.m.-6:30p.m. |
| Infant Baptism: Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance | Marriage: Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date |
| Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Every Friday: 5 p.m. | |

| | |
|--|---|
| SECRETARY Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935 | |
| PARISH COUNCIL Richard Scott, Chairman 779-7587 Rose Davis, Vice Chairman 883-0762 Steven Allison, Secretary 313-0586 Cecilia Davis 920-1136 Rose Bottley 886-1525 Charlis D. Rogers 988-8719 Adam Jacobs 883-9688 Albert Hebert III 746-2627 | MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS Joe Ware 886-5331 DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808 FINANCE COUNCIL Andre Robertson 882-0012 Robert Gobert (504) 232-5640 Sheila Arnold 313-2062 Janice Semien 883-7126 Tina Kindle 238-4447 |

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Long Memory

Each Sunday's readings bring us back to the source of our very soul. Those things we would like to forget, but must not, are set before us. Those things we delight in remembering are also called to mind. These deepest and richest memories are vital to our individual and shared life, for as Yogi Berra once so piquantly reminded us, "Someday it won't hurt to remember stuff like this."

FIRST READING: Wisdom 11:22 — 12:1 RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13, 14
SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 1:11 — 2:2 GOSPEL: Luke 19:1-10

Comment

The Book of Wisdom was written by faithful Hellenized Jews living in Alexandria, Egypt. The original text, written in Greek in the last century B.C., has never been included in the Hebrew canon of Sacred Scripture. Alexandria was the center of culture and learning in the Mediterranean area. Many Jews who fled Israel settled in this vibrant, intellectually stimulating city. Here they rubbed elbows with cosmopolitan, individualistic, skeptical people who were impatient with the old ways. The Book of Wisdom took up the challenge of explaining and defending the history and traditions of Israel. The leaders and scholars of Israel did not think it necessary to jettison their faith for the newest scientific discovery or religious theory. They were not baffled or threatened by new learning; they did not curl up and die or whine or complain.

The first reading today responds to the scientists who were uncovering the mysteries of the physical world and to philosophers who were busily dividing the world into a warring dualism between principles of good and evil. Against this trendy new (but old) dualism, we learn of a transcendent creator God of the whole universe who loves "all things that are" and holds everything in existence.

When Zacchaeus scrambled up the sycamore tree, he had long since given up on a God who kept him in existence. Zacchaeus used all the skill and cunning he possessed not only to keep himself in existence, but to prosper financially. He laughed all the way to the bank and didn't care much about incurring the enmity of the poor, who didn't count for much anyway. Zacchaeus seemed far from God, far from the wisdom of Israel. Not much got by Zacchaeus; all his antennae were out. He was curious to see what this Jesus was like and, ever resourceful, he shinned up the tree, where he could easily see Jesus make his way down the road. And Jesus could easily see him—could see him through and through, in fact, and ripe for the picking. So Jesus invited himself to Zacchaeus' house. Delighted, Zacchaeus rose to his full stature, and suddenly and newly self-conscious, defended himself and Jesus from the murmurs of the crowd, which couldn't decide which was worse, Jesus dining with sinners or Zacchaeus identified as one.

Reflection

Zacchaeus is anxious to balance his accounts and get over to the credit side as quickly as possible. His spirited self-defense is accompanied by a promise of amendment. This draws from Jesus a statement not unlike that from today's first reading. Zacchaeus, who receives Jesus into his house, is himself the recipient of salvation. The God who loves all things, hates nothing, and spares all things is the God of Abraham and of this son of Abraham, who this day is "coming home." Zacchaeus, who long ago had given up searching for God's salvation, receives it from the God who searched for him and comes this day to his house for dinner.

After Zacchaeus has spent the better part of his adult life cheating justice, he learns about mercy. His *modus operandi* is completely reversed this day. For the rest of his life, he will live as a person sought and found and saved by a God who is anxious for his soul.

Important: Once a Catholic has received the Sacrament of the Sick, there is no need to receive the Sacrament again during the same illness, nor is it necessary for a priest to be present at the time of death. If the sick person recovers, that person may (not "must") receive the Sacrament again in the case of another grave illness.

Hospitalization: If entering a Catholic hospital, please register as a Catholic and notify the Spiritual Care Department. At a commercial or denominational hospital, please register as a Catholic and ask the Pastoral Care Department to notify the Catholic chaplain.

Hospice: Hospice patients frequently die within a short period of time after they are placed on hospice care. If the patient has not already received the Sacrament of the Sick (either at a hospital, a nursing home, or the parish), the patient or a family member should contact their parish priest immediately to request the Sacrament before the patient is near death.

PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

John Abram
Mary Brown
Mary Crossley
David Jayce Carey
Courtney Chavis
Therese Ferguson
Hollis Fain
Joe B. Forward
Theresa Garrett
Ella Mae Garrett
Anna Garrick
Beatrice Guillory
Mark Mitchell Jr.
James Mims
Westley Popillion
John Richard, Sr.
Alma G Thibodeaux
Alma C Thibodeaux



PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Arceneaux
Mable Durio
Alberta Fontenot
Frances Freeman
Debra Glaude
Margaret Green
Peggy Green
Myrtle Guillory
Marvin Hampton
Rena Mae Jenkins
Celestine Johnson
Calvin Johnson
Stacy Johnson
Rose Lee Johnson
Lakeisha Guidry-Jones
Leothus Jones
John Milton
Ruby Milton
Bettye Odom
Clayona Pilette
Doris Robertson
Brushelle Scott
Robert Simmons
Joe Ware

To all our sick and homebound **THANK YOU** so much for your unwavering commitment and contributions to our parish. To better serve everyone Fr. Donatus is available to visit **ALL** parishioners at the appointed time. However, Fr. Donatus has reserved 2nd and 4th Friday for the homebound.

Are Catholics 'Born Again'?

The First Letter of Peter addresses Christians as those who "have been born anew" (1 :23). This language echoes the words of Jesus, who tells Nicodemus: No one can see the kingdom without being born from above" (or "born again"; the Greek in this passage — Jn 3:3 — allows for either translation).

Nicodemus is puzzled. "How," he asks, "can a person once grown old be born again? Surely he cannot reenter his mother's womb and be born again, can he?" (Jn 3:4).

Jesus' reply to Nicodemus is critical for understanding what it means to be "born again I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit" (Jn 3:5; emphasis added). The event described here is not, as some Christians insist, an initial profession of faith in Christ. Rather, it refers to the sacrament of Baptism, when the person is washed with water and receives the Spirit. Later, preaching on Pentecost, St. Peter confirms that those who are baptized receive the Spirit (see Acts 2:38).

The new birth, which is the beginning of the new life in Christ, must come about after the death of the "old self" (Rom 6:6) — that is, the unredeemed nature burdened by original sin (see "What Is Original Sin?" A-4 and "Why Does the Church Baptize Infants?" S-3). The person who thus "dies," says St. Paul, is 'absolved from sin" (Rom 6:7).

How does this death, leading to new life, come about? Through the absolution (remission) of sins in Baptism. "Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life" (Rom 6:3-4).

To be "born again" or "born anew," then, is to be baptized. In this sacrament, through Uwater and Spirit," the soul is washed clean, the "old self" is buried, and the new life in Christ begins. Since every Catholic has been baptized, every Catholic has indeed been "born again" — and is called to grow in grace with the

RELATED SCRIPTURE — Texts cited: Lk 3:21-22 • Jn 3:3-5 • Rom 6:3-4, 6-7
Acts 2:38 1 Pt 1:23. **General:** Mt 3:13-17 • Mk 1:9-11 • Lk 3:21-22 • Jn 1 :29-34 •
1 cor 12:13 • Col 2:12-13. **CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH — 1213-1284 • 14251429 • 2813.**

IMPORTANT

With the flu season underway and for the health of the community, at Holy Communion please refrain from drinking from the chalice if you have a cold, cough or other contagious symptoms.

A sacramental reminder: A person who receive the Eucharist in the form of bread or wine is receiving the complete body, blood, soul and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal

A Catholic Charismatic Renewal will be held 7-9 PM, Friday, November 17, 2017 at Mother of Mercy Catholic Church Hall, Beaumont TX. Refreshments, fellowship and individual prayer will follow. All are invited.

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. THERESE—THE LITTLE FLOWER

St. Therese, beloved friend, you promised to spend your time in heaven doing good upon the earth. WE come before you in our need. We believe that you listen to us and approach God for and with us. You are love in the heart of the God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I list below (pause).

Please present them to our loving Father so that God may do what is best for us, for our loved ones, and for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom. Continue your shower of roses in our lives. We ask you, dear friend with the bold confidence and loving care. We make this prayerful petition in the name of Jesus and through the power of his Spirit. **AMEN.**