

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Sunday July 9	Zec 9:9-10 Ps 145 Rom 8:9, 11-13 Mt 11:25-30
Monday July 10	Gn 28:10-22a Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday July 11	Gn 32:23-33 Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b & 15 Mt 9:32-38 or Pv.2:1-9 Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 Mt 19:27-29
Wednesday July 12	Gn 41:55-57 Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 Mt 10:1-7
Thursday July 13	Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5 Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 Mt 10:7-15 or Mi 6:6-8 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6 Mt 7:21-27
Friday July 14	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30 Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 Mt 16-23
Saturday July 15	Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7 Mt 10:24-33 or Eph 3:14-19 Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Mt 23:8-12

**PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

John Abram  
Mary Brown  
Mary Crossley  
David Jayce Carey  
Courtney Chavis  
Therese Ferguson  
Hollis Fain  
Joe B. Forward  
Theresa Garrett  
Anna Garrick  
Elias Gobert  
James Mims  
John Richard, Sr.  
Alma G Thibodeaux  
Alma C Thibodeaux  
Sammie Williams

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



**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

James Arceneaux  
Mary Feathers  
Alberta Fontenot  
Frances Freeman  
Debra Glaude  
Margaret Green  
Myrtle Guillory  
Marvin Hampton  
Celestine Johnson  
Calvin Johnson  
Stacy Johnson  
Rose Lee Johnson  
Lakeisha Guidry-Jones  
Leothus Jones  
Raffelitta Jonea Lee  
John Milton  
Ruby Milton  
Mr. & Mrs. Mace  
Bettye Odom  
Clayona Pilette  
Brushelle Scott  
Robert Simmons  
Joe Ware

**July Birthday List**  
**Happy Birthday to::**

Peggy Green	1
Mona Richard	6
George Alexander	6
Stefanie Allison	6
Turquoy Riggs	10
Joise Curtis	10
Brent Hebert	12
Ronald Hebert	12
E'Retrious Gus	13
Lanier Robertson	16
David Riggs	20
Maria Riggs	23
Claude Riggs	29
Lester Popillion	30

Happy Anniversary

Joe & Mary Ware	4th
John & Janice Semien	13th
Mormom & Ann Richard	25th
George & Cecilia Davis	27th
Deacon Julian & Gloria Richard	31st

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday July 9	9:00 a.m.
Monday July 10	No Mass
Tuesday July 11	8:00 a.m. +
Wednesday July 12	8:00 a.m.++
Thursday July 13	8:00 a.m.
Friday July 14	8:00 a.m. & 6:00 pm Adoration
Saturday July 15	4:00 p.m.+ Elfa Feathers request by The Feathers Family

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/ your loves one, or the deceased.. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule).

**Bishop Faith Appeal/Fundraiser**

**Goal : \$25,000.**

**Pledged: \$ 13,350. Paid: \$ 9,175.**

*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*

**MINISTERIES FOR THE WEEKEND**  
**HOSPITALITY**

Saturday: Johnny Riggs, Shirley Allison, Rose Davis, Richard Scott  
Sunday: Staci Powers, Lucy Jones, Phyllis Thibodeaux, Horace Broussard

**ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:**

Saturday: A: Leo Jackson L: Phyllis Thibodeaux & Eve Platt  
Sunday: A: Phyllis Thibodeaux L: Gloria Richard & Youth

**ALTAR SERVER:**

Saturday: Reagan Pitre & William Pitre  
Sunday: D'Ana Williams

**MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:**

Saturday: Cecilia Davis & Russell Bottley  
Sunday: Cecilia Davis & Dorothy Broussard

**Attendance**

Saturday	42	Sunday	36
----------	----	--------	----

**Weekend Collection**

	Deductible	Non-Deductible
Mail In	\$ 257.00	
Blk & Ind Grant	\$1,500.00	
Reimbursement	\$ 374.00	
Loose	\$ 58.00	
Saturday	\$1,232.00	
Sunday	\$ 778.00	

**Total Deposit \$ 4,199.00**  
**Expense: phone <\$ 141.29> lit. supply <\$185.98>**  
**Black Catholic Conference <\$ 200.00>**

# St. Therese Catholic Church

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

1409 6th Street 77630 Phone: (409) 883-3783 Fax: (409) 883-4918  
Email: sttherese1350@att.net Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400 Website: stthereseorangetx.org

**Pastoral Team:**

**Rev. Donatus Mgbajuo, MSP**  
Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com  
Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958  
Rectory: (409) 238-3001  
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.

## 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### July 9, 2017

**“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”**



**Eucharistic Celebration**

<p><b>Weekends:</b> Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 9:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>Reconciliation</b> Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.</p> <p><b>Infant Baptism:</b> Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance</p>	<p><b>Weekdays:</b> Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m. Thursday: Faith Program 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Adoration</b> Fridays: 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b> 1st Friday each month 6p.m.-7p.m.</p> <p><b>Marriage:</b> Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date</p>	
---	--	--

**SECRETARY**  
Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Joe Ware, Chairman	886-5331
Adam Jacobs, Vice Chairman	883-9688
Dayna Smith, Secretary	988-6705
P.R.O., Leo Jackson	886-9692
Horace Broussard	883-7937
Shirley Ray	779-9922
John King	920-2448
Albert Hebert, Jr.	746-2627
Freda Guillory	882-1768
Lanny DeLarue	330-0791

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Andre Robertson	882-0012
Janice Semien	883-7126
Tina Kindle	238-4447
Robert Gobert	504) 232-5640
Sheila Arnold	313-2062

# FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## The Humble

This month, we in the United States celebrate our Independence Day. Perhaps during the celebration one may hear all or part of the poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free ... Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me ..." Interestingly, these words echo those of Jesus in today's Gospel. Both speak of welcoming the humble.

FIRST READING: *Zechariah 9:9-10*    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalms 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14*  
SECOND READING: *Romans 8:9, 11-13*    GOSPEL: *Matthew 11:25-30*

## Comment

People of Jesus' day expected to see leaders as a notch or two above the common folk. They were accustomed to thinking of military leaders as people who wore stately uniforms with jewels and medals of precious value, rode the best horses, and drove the shiniest chariots. But Jesus, known for his use of opposites in order to convey a message, denied the norm and rode the colt of a donkey. This move pointed to the peacefulness of the kingdom he promised to rule. Throughout time, it has been hard for people to understand a different view from the norm, but eventually we will come to know that the reign Jesus promises is nothing like what we've experienced on earth.

It is difficult for people to shift their thinking. It's especially tough for those who know too much—those who have been educated in a belief system filled with rules, idiosyncracies, and misconceptions. Brainwashed and stubborn, set in their ways, there were people of Jesus' time who refused to reshape their thinking. They were not open to any news of a kingdom they could not understand. Their closed-mindedness caused the truth to be hidden from them.

On the other hand, Jesus tells of those who, like a child, have not learned so much. Their minds are open and able to be shaped by the truth. It is these people who accept Jesus' teachings. They are open and welcoming enough to understand the good news.

Paul tells us more about that kingdom. Even though it remains a mystery to us, it is clear that we must die first in order to live with Christ in his kingdom. The death we must undergo is a death that will relieve us of our burdens and labor-filled lives.

Jesus himself promises us rest from those burdens. Further along in today's Gospel, Jesus tells us his yoke is easy and his burden light.

## Reflection

Sometimes it seems that the more material possessions we have the more we are a slave to them. Think of your car. If it's an old beater, it takes just enough maintenance to keep it running. It requires minimal insurance, not much soap and polish, and theft protection is unnecessary. But, if you just purchased a car that cost more than your first house, you can bet it will be in a garage, insured extensively, equipped with anti-theft devices, and cleaned and polished often. Easier than any of this would be to ride a horse ... or a donkey colt.

Zechariah shows us that the king will come victoriously in peace riding humbly on a donkey colt. He has no need to flaunt his greatness. As a matter of fact, this king will do away with all that the world has come to know as greatness. He will do away with chariots and war horses.

So what does it mean for us to serve this king? He demands one thing of us: love. We must love God, our neighbors, and our enemies. This is not a crushingly heavy load for those with humble hearts. Jesus gives us a yoke of constraint, but also gives us the grace to carry it. We are never alone with the burden of Jesus.

## Why Are Catholics Required to Attend Mass?

The people of ancient Judah were conquered by the powerful Babylonian Empire, and nearly all of them were exiled from their land. The city of Jerusalem and the great temple within its gates were ruined. No longer able to worship there as their ancestors had done, the Jews were forced to live in a faraway pagan culture that knew nothing of their God.

Only many years later were the surviving exiles and their children allowed to return home at last. The books of Ezra and Nehemiah report what happened upon their arrival in Judah.

Not surprisingly, those who were serious about their faith made it their priority to rebuild the temple so they could worship there again. They wept and shouted with joy at its restoration. Having been deprived so long of the freedom to worship God as he had instructed them, they had learned to treasure their sacred assemblies in the house of the Lord (see Ezr 3:1-13).

These ancient events illustrate why the Catholic Church requires attendance at Mass on Sundays and certain annual holy days. Worship is a primary duty owed to God by his creatures, who receive from him not only their very existence, but every other good gift as well. Worship is also a privilege, a precious opportunity to encounter the great King of the universe who loves his people beyond all telling.

The ancient Jews who recognized this awesome duty and privilege made every effort to come to the temple to offer their sacrifice of grain and animals. How much more, then, should Catholics be eager to attend Mass, where the glorious sacrifice of the Lamb of God himself is offered on the altar (see Heb 9:13-14)!

In the time of Moses, God had commanded his people to *keep holy the (weekly) sabbath day* by setting apart for worship and rest (see Ex 20:8-11). The Church now applies what we might call the "Sabbath principle" to Sundays and holy days of obligation, when Mass attendance is an obligation. Just as under the Old Covenant God required proper observance of the Sabbath, under the New Covenant the Church requires proper observance of Sunday, "the Lord's day" (Rv 1:10), the day of Resurrection. In fact, among the formal "precepts" (rules) of the Church, this one is the very first. (See also "What Does the Church Teach About Work on Sundays?" G-3)

RELATED SCRIPTURE—Texts cited: Ex 20:8-11 \* Ez 3:1-13 \* Neh 1:13 \* Heb 9:13-14 \* Rv 1:10.  
General: Dt 5:12-15 \* 2 Chr 36:21 \* Ps 27:4; 69:10; 84:1-13; 122:1-9 \* Mt 28:1 \* Mk 1:21; 2:27-28  
\* Jn 20:19 \* Acta 2:42-46 \* 1 Cor 11:17 \* Heb 10:1-25; 12:22-23  
CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH—2042-2043 \* 2168-2195.

## Hurricane Prayer

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude; you are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control. The Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land and spread chaos and disaster. During this hurricane season, we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our Beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us.

## 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.**

### \*\*\*Pastoral Council Installation\*\*\*

Sunday, July 16, 2017, will be installation of the new Pastoral Council at the 9 am Mass.

### \*\*\*Meeting\*\*\*

There will be a Pastoral Council Meeting Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 6 pm in the Education Building, every member please be in attendance.

*The Will of God will never take you where the  
Grace of God will not protect you.*