

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Sunday July 16	Is 55:10-11 Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 Rom 8:18-23 Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday July 17	Ex 1:8-14, 22 Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday July 18	Ex 2:1-15a Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34 Mt 11:20-24 or 1 Jn 3:14-18 Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7b-8, 9 Jn 15:9-17
Wednesday July 19	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12 Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7 Mt 11:25-27
Thursday July 20	Ex 3:13-20 Ps 105:1 & 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27 Mt 11:28-30 or Ez 34:11-16 Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 Jn 10:11-16
Friday July 21	Ex 11:10-12:14 Ps 116:12-13, 15 & 16bc, 17-18 Mt 12:1-8 or 2 Cor 4:1-2, 5-7 Ps 40:2 & 4ab, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11 Mk 4:1- 10, 13-20 or Mk 4:1-9
Saturday July 22	Ex 12:37-42 Ps 136:1 & 23-24, 10-12, 13-15 Jn 20:1-2, 11-18 or 2 Cor 5:14-17 Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

MINISTERIES FOR THE WEEKEND	
<u>HOSPITALITY</u>	
Saturday:	Richard Scoot, Brenda Mims, Rose Davis & Walter Davis
Sunday:	YOUTH SUNDAY
<u>ANNOUNCER &amp; LECTORS:</u>	
Saturday:	A: Freda Guillory L: Felicia Richard & Gary Mims
Sunday:	A: Alexandre Gamble L: Amayah LeBlanc & Candance Brown
<u>ALTAR SERVER:</u>	
Saturday:	D'Ana Williams
Sunday:	Reagan Pitre & William Pitre
<u>MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:</u>	
Saturday	Russell Bottley & Freda Guillory
Sunday:	Mr. & Mrs. Adam Jacobs

Attendance	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>59</b>
Weekend Collection	
Deductible	Non-Deductible
Mail In	\$ 47.00
Donation	\$ 193.00
Mass Stipend	\$ 10.00
Loose	\$ 44.00
Online	\$ 100.00
Saturday	\$ 235.00
Sunday	\$2,095.00
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 2,724.00</b>
<b>Expenses: contract &lt;\$ 34.56&gt; cable &lt;\$185.68&gt;</b>	
<b>Central Admin Off of Diocese &lt;\$2,716.31&gt;</b>	

**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
Earl Rigsby	9
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
Claudine Riggs	29
Lester Popillion	30

Happy Anniversary

Joe & Mary Ware	4th
Earl & Mary Rigsby	12th
John & Janice Semien	13th
Mormom & Ann Richard	25th
George & Cecilia Davis	27th

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday July 16	9:00 a.m. + E'Remious Gus Requested by Marina Taylor
Monday July 17	No Mass
Tuesday July 18	8:00 a.m. +
Wednesday July 19	8:00 a.m.+ Mr. Elias Gobert Requested by Boniface Gobert
Thursday July 20	8:00 a.m. +
Friday July 21	8:00 a.m. & 6:00 pm Adoration
Saturday July 22	4:00 p.m.+ Mr. Elias Gobert Requested by Boniface Gobert

(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.**

*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*

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 Mgbeajuo, 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.

## 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### July 16, 2017

# “A Sower went out to sow...”

**Weekends:**  
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

**Reconciliation**  
Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.

**Infant Baptism:**  
Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance

**Eucharistic Celebration**

**Weekdays:**  
Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Thursday: Faith Program 5:30 p.m.

**Adoration & Benediction**  
1st Friday each month 6p.m.-7p.m.

**Marriage:**  
Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date

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

**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

**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

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## Seeds of a Fruitful Harvest

In a garden shop I looked through packets of seeds. I came across some morning glories. "Morning glories!" I wondered. I didn't know people actually planted them! I thought they just wildly wrapped around my flowers, trees, shrubs, corn stalks, tomato plants, and delicate herbs. Their roots are easy enough to pull from the ground, but you can get dizzy trying to unwrap them from hundreds of stems. They threaten to suffocate and choke out everything that grows.

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-11**    **RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14**  
**SECOND READING: Romans 8:18-23**    **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]**

## Comment

There is an analogy made between the earth and us. Just as God waters the earth to make things grow, we are "watered" by God's Word and grow in living out the Word's meaning. God has a purpose for the words that are sent to us. According to God's plan, we will achieve the purpose of that word. The fruit of God's harvest is divine in human beings—God's everlasting love.

Paul compares the work of the harvest to a mother's labor during childbirth. The work is hard and often painful, but the end result is the joy of holding her new baby. Similarly it takes hard work to make a crop healthy for harvest, but the conclusion is a great yield.

In the parable, Jesus describes the soil onto which the seed may fall. If it falls on the hardened path, birds may come and eat it because it is not embedded in the soil. Or it may land on rock, which has very little soil and roots cannot go deep enough. Thorns and weeds (I'm sure they were morning glories!) may come and choke out the seed's growth. Only if the seed falls on good soil can it take hold and mature into a fruitful harvest.

## Reflection

We are the soil in which God plants the seeds. Are we fertile soil or does our sinfulness or righteousness make us thorny? Are we filled with weeds of distraction and busy-ness? Paul points us in the direction of hope. His letters to the early Church tell us that our great hope and salvation rests in Christ who died for us. It is Christ who removed the thorns of sin for us.

We need to be attentive to the care of our soil. Sometimes we can do our own gardening. Other times we need the help of a gardener. And still other times, we offer nutrients to others trying to maintain a fertile soil. We are a community of believers. We all need one another's help to ensure good soil.

Like the rain mentioned in Isaiah, which will not return to God until it has watered the earth, God's word will not return to God void. This means it falls on fertile soil. We already know about the thorns of sin and the weeds of distraction. How will we prepare the soil today for God's word? What action have we put off that we now must do in order for God's word to land gently on us and move us to action?

Bishop's Faith Appeal  
**Intentions Mass**  
6:30 pm ~ August 24, 2017

St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica, Beaumont  
Come and pray with Bishop Curtis Guillory, S.V.D., D.D., for the special intentions  
of the faithful of Southeast Texas.

***"I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me  
in your prayers to God on my behalf." ~ Romans 13:30***

Reception to follow in Cathedral Center. RSVP by August 7 to (409) 924.4302  
or [bfa@dioceseofbmt.org](mailto:bfa@dioceseofbmt.org) so that we may plan properly for food. Light supper.

## Why Is Mary Called 'Mother of God'?

When early Christians read biblical passages about the Incarnation (see "Why Does the Church Teach That Jesus Is God?" M-1) — such as Isaiah's words about the Child who would be called God (see Is 9:5) — they wondered: How exactly was Christ both human and divine? Was he simply God, only appearing to be human? Was he a human to whom God attached himself in a special way, dwelling inside him? Was he partly human and partly divine?

Ultimately, in the light of Scripture and Tradition, the Church concluded that none of the above answers is correct. An ecumenical Church council that helped to resolve the issue (Ephesus, 431) was provoked by a controversy over one particular question: Can we call Mary the "Mother of God"?

One prominent archbishop, Nestorius, rejected the title. He claimed that Christ was two persons — one human, one divine — joined together in Christ. Though Mary was the mother of the human person in Christ, she was not the mother of the divine Person (God the Son). So she could not rightly be called the Mother of God.

After examining this teaching, however, the Church concluded that Nestorius was mistaken. Christ was not a combination of two persons, one human and one divine. That would be close to saying that he was simply a man to whom God was joined in a uniquely intimate way — a man specially indwelt by God, like one of the biblical prophets.

Instead, the Church declared, Christ is only one divine Person — the Person of the Trinity. This single Person took human nature and joined it to his own divine nature, so that he possesses two natures (Jn 1:1-3, 14). But these natures don't constitute two different persons. They belong to one and the same Person, the divine Son of God. And these two natures, though not to be confused, cannot be separated.

In this light, the Church concluded that not only is it correct to call Mary the Mother of God, but it is important to do so. Mary is the mother of the one Person, Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God in the flesh. If we deny that she is the Mother of God, then we are denying that Christ himself is God, come down from heaven. Truly, as St. Paul declared, "God sent his Son, born of a woman" (Gal 4:4)

**RELATED SCRIPTURE** — Texts cited: Is 9:5 • Jn 1:1-3, 14 • Gal 4:4. **General:** Lk 1:43  
• Jn 5:17-18; 8:58; 10:30-33; 20:28 • Phil 2:5-8 • Col 1:15-19; 2:9-10 • 2 Pt 1:1 • Rv 21:6.  
**CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH** — 464-483 • 495 • 509.

### 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.

### \*\*\*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.

### \*\*\*Exciting News\*\*\*

*St. Therese now has Online-Giving and Online Bishop Faith Appeal*

For your convenience you can make your pledges and pay your thits online. Simply go to our website at [stthereseorangetx.org](http://stthereseorangetx.org) click on the option you need, create you on profile and start giving today!

### **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.**