

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Sunday Sept. 24	Is 55:6-9 Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 Phil 1:20c-24, 27a Mt 20:1-16a
Monday Sept. 25	Ezr 1:1-6 Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday Sept. 26	Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 Lk 8:19-21 or Wis 3:1-9 Ps 1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 Mt 10:28-33
Wednesday Sept. 27	Ezr 9:5-9 (Ps) Tobit 13:2, 3-4a, 4bcdefghn, 7 8 Lk 9:1-6 or 1 Cor 1:26-31 Ps 112:1bc-2, 3 4, 5-7, 7-8, 9 Mt 9:35-38
Thursday Sept. 28	Hg 1:1-8 Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a, & 9b Lk 9:7-9 or 1 Pt 3:14-17 Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 Mt 10:34-39
Friday Sept. 29	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 Jn 1:47-51
Saturday Sept. 30	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a (Ps) Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 Lk 9:43b-45 or 2 Tm 3:14-17 Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Mt 13:47-52

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
Mark Mitchell Jr.
James Mims
Westley Popillion
John Richard, Sr.
Alma G Thibodeaux

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 every other Friday for the homebound.



PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Arceneaux
Mable Durio
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
John Milton
Ruby Milton
Bettie Odom
Clayona Pilette
Brushelle Scott
Robert Simmons
Joe Ware

September Birthday List
Happy Birthday to::

Ryaisha Daughtery	2
Ursula Gray	3
Sammie Williams	5
Fabian Green	5
Debra Hawkins	5
Deborah Crosson	8
Monic Guillory	14
Jermaine Mitchell	15
Cindy Hampton	16
Darius Mitchell	18
Elizabeth Mitchell	18
Wayne Sparrow	19
Rose Davis	22
George Davis	22
Justin Sparrow	22
Doris Gans	25
Jalen Jefferson	27
Chris Popillion	28

Happy Anniversary

Lee & Deborah Henderson	25th
John & Claudine Riggs	30th

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday Sept. 24	9:00 a.m.+ Cecilia Gobert requested by Angela & Angelin Gobert
Monday Sept. 25	No Mass
Tuesday Sept. 26	8:00 a.m. +
Wednesday Sept. 27	8:00 a.m.
Thursday Sept. 28	8:00 a.m.
Friday Sept. 29	8:00 a.m. Adoration & Benediction
Saturday Sept. 30	4:00 p.m. +Cecilia Gobert requested by Angela & Angelin Gobert

(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).

Bishop Faith Appeal/Fundraiser
Goal : \$25,000.
Pledged: \$ 15,650. Paid: \$ 10,880.

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

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND
HOSPITALITY

Saturday: Johnny Riggs, Shirley Allison, Rose Davis & Walter Davis
Sunday: Phyllis Thibodeaux, Dorothy Jacobs, Fred Green & Elizabeth Mitchell,

ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:
Saturday: A: Mona Richard L: Gary Mims & Leo Jackson
Sunday: A: Freda Guillory L: Amahya Leblanc & Tina Kindle

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

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:
Saturday: Russell Bottley & Freda Guillory
Sunday: Shirley Ray & Dorothy Broussard

Attendance

Saturday	34	Sunday	43
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Weekend Collection

<u>Deductible</u>	<u>Non-Deductible</u>
Mail In	\$ 277.00
Loose	\$ 69.00
Infirm Priest	\$ 98.00
Saturday	\$1,365.00
Sunday	\$ 990.00
Total Deposit	\$ 2,799.00
Expenses ADT <\$ 44.99> Center Point <\$ 154.98>	

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@yahoo.com 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) 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.

The 25th Sunday in Ordinary
Time

September 24, 2017

“The last will be first, and the first will be last”



Eucharistic Celebration

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

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

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Equality

My sister keeps careful track of what she does for each of my children. If she takes one out to the movies, she has to work it in her schedule to take the others on an outing, too. If she spends ten dollars on one gift, she will not spend nine or eleven dollars on anyone else. They all have a price limit of ten dollars. I admire her sense of fairness, but mostly I admire her ability to keep track of what she's done over the course of the year!

I have learned a phrase that my children will complain I use all too often. When things just don't seem to be working out evenly, I tell them, "The world is not divided into five equal pieces." I must admit, none of my kids would have been very happy working in the vineyard all day and watching someone who worked half the time get the same amount of pay.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:6-9 **RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18**
SECOND READING: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a **GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16a**

Comment

The readings from Isaiah, the psalm and Philippians focus on a merciful and just God—a God who is near, who is loving, who pardons. The people of Isaiah had lost their faith and hope in God. They were in exile and did not live the way God wanted them to. Their ways were not God's ways, and their thoughts were not the thoughts of God. But rather than abandon these people or punish them, God called them to return. Paul knew God to be kind and loving. He told the Philippians not to despair but to live good lives according to the gospel message. God's loving generosity became clear in the parable when Jesus suggested that it is all right, even admirable, for a vineyard owner to pay some of his workers generously. The parable causes us to look inward and discover what it is that makes the other apostles and us jealous of the workers who did little, and got paid the same amount we did.

Reflection

We expect God to be near, loving, and to pardon us. We find no contention in this description and have probably used these words to describe God ourselves.

So why then do we find ourselves in league with the grumbling workers of the Gospel? Those guys didn't show up till almost quitting time. "It's not fair that they receive the same amount of money as the workers who came early," many people would complain. Haven't we complained in the same way ourselves?

The parable, on closer examination, is not so much about people getting more than they deserve as it is about God's generosity. And God continues to be generous to us. Ours is a loving, forgiving God who is quietly involved in our lives.

Brothers and Sisters,

During Hurricane Harvey many of our families have been displaced and it has become difficult to reach some members. The devastation has left uncertainty and great concern for everyone. Please be advised that we have cleaning supplies to help with some of your needs. The next step is updating personal information to be able to contact everyone. Please call or contact the Parish Office to update your new information, a lot of phone numbers are no longer working due to Harvey.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Fr. Donatus Mgbeajuo

"Acts"

The ACTS Core Team is looking for a representative from St Theresa to serve on the ACTS Core Team. You must have made a retreat to be eligible. We need one woman. The term is 3 years. Meetings are second Thursday of the month, 630 at St Frances. Please contact Sherry Hommel at 409-779-9129

Dear Volunteers,

Catholic Charities is working hard to continue the much needed relief to Beaumont and its surrounding areas that have been devastated by Harvey. As time goes on we understand that people have to get back to work and normal life. Therefore, if you are available and able we are in great need of volunteers and are asking for your help.

The missionary Society of St Paul 40th Anniversary Celebration and Appreciation Day

Please save the date for the 40th Anniversary Celebration and Appreciation Day of the Missionary Society of Paul coming up on the 28th of October 2017.

Mass of thanksgiving will begin at 10:00am at St Mary Magdalene Church, 527 S. Houston Ave., Humble, Texas 77338. The mass will be presided by the Most Reverend Joe Vásquez, Bishop of Austin. Reception and Silent Auction will follow immediately after the mass at the parish hall.

For More information on reservation or how to support the Missionaries of St Paul, please contact The Mission Development Office at 713 747-1722 or usamp@yahoo.com Please RSVP by October 20, 2017 using the card and envelope provided.

Does the Church Teach Salvation by Works?

"The LORD is just and loves just deeds," the psalmist says, and "the upright shall see his face" (Ps 11:7). These words summarize the Catholic view (which is also the biblical view) of salvation: Because God is just and loves justice, if we hope to "see his face" — that is, to live with him in friendship forever — then we ourselves must become "upright," as he is. The First Letter of Peter puts it this way: "Be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, for it is written, 'Be holy because I [am] holy' " (1:15-16).

How do we become holy? Catholics agree with other Christians that we cannot save ourselves, and we cannot earn heaven on our own. Rather, we are saved by grace — God's merciful aid, given to enable us to become holy as he is holy. It's an absolutely unmerited, free gift of God, made possible through our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and his atoning death on the cross for us.

Certainly, our faith in Christ's power to transform us is essential to our salvation by God's grace. But a mere intellectual assent to the truths of the gospel is not enough. Scripture insists that faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead (see Jas 2:14-26).

When we are justified (literally, "made just") by God, he doesn't just declare us righteous as a kind of legal fiction so that we can escape eternal punishment. Divine justification actually wipes out sin and provides a supernatural, renewing infusion of his power. By cooperating with grace, we become like God, fit to live with him forever.

In this way, good works, and the transformation of character they contribute to and reflect, are indeed necessary for salvation. God rewards the good works we do, works that he himself has made possible (see Mt 16:27; 25:31-46). "To the obedient," he promises, "I will show the salvation of God" (Ps 50:23)

My Dear Brother Priests and Deacons:

I extend an invitation to you and the members of your parish who are in the legal profession (judges, lawyers and legal secretaries) to attend the Red Mass (Mass of the Holy Spirit) on Friday, October 13, 2017 at 11 a.m. at St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica. After Mass in the Cathedral Center, Justice Douglas S. Lang of the 5th District Court of Appeals in Dallas, TX. will be the luncheon speaker. Please note that those attending will receive 1 CLE credit hour for Ethics. At the luncheon, the Thomas More Award will be presented to a person who exemplifies the values of the Catholic Faith and keeps the ideals of the legal profession,

The Red Mass takes place at the beginning of the Supreme Court Session, calling on the Holy Spirit to share His wisdom, counsel, fortitude and understanding with those in the legal profession.

Please RSVP your attendance to my Secretary, Amy Meaux at 9244310 or ameaux@dioceseofbmt.org by October 6, 2017.

Thank you for collaborating with me to make Christ present to His people,
Sincerely in Christ,
Most Reverend Curtis J. Guillory SVD, DD Bishop of Beaumont

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.