

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Sunday Oct.1	Ez 18:25-28 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5 Mt 21:28-32
Monday Oct. 2	Zec 8:1-8 Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 & 22-23 Mt 18:1-5, 10 or Ex 23:20-23 Ps 91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 10-11 Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday Oct.3	Zec 8:20-23 Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday Oct.4	Neh 1:1-8 Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 Lk 9:57-62
Thursday Oct.5	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 Lk 10:1-12
Friday Oct.6	Bar 1:15-22 Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 Lk 10:13-16 or Phil 3:8-14 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6 Lk 9:57-62
Saturday Oct.7	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29 Ps 69:33-35, 36-37 Lk 10:17-24

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

October Birthday List
Happy Birthday to::

Andre Robertson	2
Clayona Pillette	3
John Judge	4
Ann Richard	5
Fredrick Green	6
Janice Semien	8
Rick Orebo	10
Rachel Gobert	16
Justin Jackson	16
Jaquez Turner	18
Johnathan Hampton	18
Shelia James	23
Troy Hayes	23
Craig Orebo	26
Mary Ware	26

Happy Anniversary

George & Mary Alexander	30th
Paul & Zena Thibodeaux	

St. Therese Catholic Church

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

1409 6th Street 77630
Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com

Phone: (409) 883-3783
Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

Fax: (409) 883-4918
Website: stthereseorangetx.org



Pastoral Team:
Rev. Donatus Mgbajuo, 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.

MINISTERIES FOR THE WEEKEND
HOSPITALITY

Saturday: Richard Scott, Shirley Allison, Rose Davis & Walter Davis
Sunday: Joseph Fontenot, Rose Bottley, Coretta Ambers & Emmanuel Taylor,

ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:

Saturday: A: Felicia Richard L: Josie Curtis & Gary Mims
Sunday: A: Horace Broussard L: Lucy Jones & Wayne Sparrow

ALTAR SERVER:

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

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

Saturday: Cecilia Davis & Freda Guillory
Sunday: Gloria Richard & Shirley Ray

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
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
Bettye Odom
Clayona Pilette
Brushelle Scott
Robert Simmons
Joe Ware

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday
Oct. 1 9:00 a.m.+ Jacobs & Monroe families
Requested by Mary J. Jacobs Monroe

Monday
Oct 2 No Mass

Tuesday
Oct. 3 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday
Oct. 4 8:00 a.m.

Thursday
Oct.5 8:00 a.m.

Friday
Oct. 6 8:00 a.m Adoration & Benediction

Saturday
Oct. 7 4:00 p.m. +Cecilia Gobert requested
By Angela & Angelyn 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).

Attendance	
Saturday 20	Sunday 58
Weekend Collection	
Deductible	Non-Deductible
Mail In \$ 37.00	
Loose \$ 119.00	
Donation \$ 500.00	
Saturday \$ 1,235.00	
Sunday \$ 1,921.00	
Total Deposit \$ 3,814.00	
Expenses: admin supplies <\$2,190.70>	
City of Orange <\$ 379.82> phone & internet <\$ 82.31>	
Direct TV <\$ 124.29>	

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 1, 2017

“Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you”



Eucharistic Celebration

Weekends: Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 9:00 a.m.	Reconciliation Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.	Adoration Fridays: 6 p.m.	Weekdays: Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m. Thursday: Faith Program 5:30 p.m.
Infant Baptism: Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance	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

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Freedom of Choice

Miss Havisham in Dickens' *Great Expectations* could not change the past, so she made the choice to live in it. She sat at a long banquet table covered with cobwebs, nibbling mice, and rotted food, waiting for her husband-to-be. She wore a yellowed wedding dress as tarnished and torn as her view of life. While she held desperately to the past, the present was not negotiable. Living in the past with regrets and mistakes causes us to despair and lose hope. All the readings today encourage us to change from the harmful ways of the past and live in good emotional and spiritual health during the present.

FIRST READING: *Ezekiel 18:25-28* RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9*
SECOND READING: *Philippians 2:1-11 [1-5]* GOSPEL: *Matthew 21:28-32*

Comment

During the Babylonian exile, the prophet Ezekiel told God's people that they were responsible for their own actions. They did not accept their responsibility for their own behavior and blamed their separation from God on their ancestors. They made excuses for their behavior and blamed their problems on the sinfulness of the generations before them. Ezekiel challenged them to get in the present and take responsibility for their own actions, to do what they knew was right regardless of past events.

Paul's message to the Philippians also encouraged them to live obediently in the present. For the Philippians, they had the advantage of having Jesus as an example. They saw how fullness came to Jesus because he was humble and obedient before God. Jesus gave us the example of living God's law of love—to love one another more than ourselves.

Matthew asked the question about who would inherit the promises of God. Last week we discovered that we would inherit the Kingdom because of God's generosity. This week, the parable shows us how we will live with God because of choices we make and actions we take. When a father wanted his two sons to work in the field, one said "no," but later changed his mind and went to the field to work. The other son said he would go, but never did. The parable shows us how God calls us to change our lives from saying "no" to saying "yes" by our actions of repentance. It is far worse to be like the son who said "yes" but did nothing. To act this way would be like telling people that we are Christian and love God but not having our actions fit our words.

Reflection

God gives us free will to choose. We can choose to say "yes," or we can choose to say "no." The most saintly among us will say "yes" right away and go to work in the field at once. Others of us say "no," but change our minds and hearts and try to live God's command to love one another. Still others of us say "yes" but do nothing. We are lazy, stubborn, or have a well-worked list of excuses for not showing our love.

By giving us free will, God shows us unconditional love. We are responsible for ourselves and our own actions, but with unconditional love God embraces us and our mistakes with mercy and pardon.

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 advice that we have cleaning supplies to help with some of your needs. To better serve you, the next step would be updating the parish office personal files information. Please contact anyone from the pastoral council, your ushers or contact the Parish Office to update your new information, phone numbers, address, email etc.

Yours in Christ.
Rev. Fr. Donatus Mgbeajuo

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.**

IMPORTANT

A Time comes in the life of every institution, organization, Church, family when a serious life changing decision is made. St. Therese family have come to that time, not just to make the day to day decision to remain open and afloat, but a decision for the future sustainability and survival of our Parish. Your voice is important and need to be heard. It is critical that you join us after mass Sunday, October 8, 2017, for a general meeting/lunch to discuss the life and future sustenance of our Parish. Generous Parishioners are paying for the lunch and **ALL** of us are required to participate. God bless!
Rev. Fr. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP

Where Is Penance Found in the Bible?

Through the prophet Nathan, God confronts King David over grave sins: adultery and murder. The guilty sovereign responds by confessing his sin to the prophet and to God. Then he humbles himself by exchanging his royal raiment for humble sackcloth, and for a week he lies on the ground and refuses all food (see 2 sm 12:13-17).

David is performing penance in his deep grief for his wrongdoing. His attitudes and behavior illustrate how genuine penance includes both an interior and an exterior aspect.

Interior penance is a conversion of the heart, a turning away from sin and toward God (see Dt 4:29; Jos 24:23). It involves the penitent's intention to change his life because he hopes in God's mercy. We see David's change of heart reflected in his prayer of repentance on this occasion, recorded in Psalm 51.

External acts of penance, as David demonstrates, include such actions as fasting, prayer, and giving to those in need. These behaviors can have several purposes: demonstrating the penitent's intention to change; detaching him from the things he loves too much; drawing him closer to God; repairing some of the damage caused by his sin; and participating in the reparation to God (satisfaction) for sin made by Christ through his death on the cross.

David's acts of penance are self-imposed, but Scripture shows us that sometimes God himself imposes penances on the guilty — some sort of labor or adversity, often connected to the natural consequences of the sin, that can serve a redemptive purpose if the sinner responds in the right way. For example, the disobedient Israelite people are forced to wander in the desert for forty years (see Nm 14:26-35). St. John the Baptist's father, Zechariah, is temporarily struck mute when he won't believe God's message to him through an angel (see Lk 1:20, 62-64).

Voluntary penance is at the heart of the seasons of Lent and Advent, when Catholics traditionally make at least small sacrifices in the hope of becoming more like our Lord. In the sacrament of Reconciliation, the priest assigns a penance on God's behalf to help the penitent grow in holiness.

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 usamsp@yahoo.com Please RSVP by October 20, 2017 using the card and envelope provided.

SBA Disaster Loans officers will be at locations listed below for your convenience These loans are available to businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renters to repair or replace uninsured/underinsured disaster damaged property.

St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica – Sunday, October 1 at 1:30PM
700 Jefferson, Beaumont, TX

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church – Saturday, October 7 at 6:15PM
4300 Meeks Drive, Orange, TX

St. James Catholic Church – Sunday October 8 at 12:30PM 3617
Gulfway Drive, Port Arthur, TX

Liturgical Formation Day's

The Office Worship through of the Diocese of Beaumont has sent the new schedule for Liturgical Ministry which includes extraordinary ministers of holy communion and lectors. If you or anyone you know need a schedule, please contact a parish member or call the parish office for a copy and we will provide on to you. All registrations must be made through the office of worship only, mailed or e-mail.