

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Leviticus 19:1–2, 17–18](#)

[Psalm 103:1–4, 8, 10, 12–13](#)

[1 Corinthians 3:16–23](#)

[Matthew 5:38–48](#)

We are called to the holiness of God. That is the extraordinary claim made in both the First Reading and Gospel this Sunday. Yet how is it possible that we can be perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect?

Jesus explains that we must be imitators of God as His beloved children ([Ephesians 5:1–2](#)).

As God does, we must love without limit—with a love that does not distinguish between friend and foe, overcoming evil with good (see [Romans 12:21](#)).

Jesus Himself, in His Passion and death, gave us the perfect example of the love that we are called to.

He offered no resistance to the evil—even though He could have commanded twelve legions of angels to fight alongside Him. He offered His face to be struck and spit upon. He allowed His garments to be stripped from Him. He marched as His enemies compelled Him to the Place of the Skull. On the cross He prayed for those who persecuted Him (see [Matthew 26:53–54, 67; 27:28, 32; Luke 23:34](#)).

In all this He showed Himself to be the perfect Son of God. By His grace, and through our imitation of Him, He promises that we too can become children of our heavenly Father.

God does not deal with us as we deserve, as we sing in this week's Psalm. He loves us with a Father's love. He saves us from ruin. He forgives our transgressions.

He loved us even when we had made ourselves His enemies through our sinfulness. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (see [Romans 5:8](#)).

We have been bought with the price of the blood of God's only Son (see [1 Corinthians 6:20](#)). We belong to Christ now, as St. Paul says in this week's Epistle. By our baptism, we have been made temples of His Holy Spirit.

And we have been saved to share in His holiness and perfection. So let us glorify Him by our lives lived in His service, loving as He loves.

**The Church of The Visitation Religious Education Program is in need of Catechists.**

*There are several ways one can help; teaching a class, substituting, or as a Catechist Aid. Helping our children become good Catholic Christians is very rewarding work. Being a Catechist is doing God's work, and because of this I am assured that our Lord has called our people to carry out His mission. Please, I ask you to pray and when you feel called, or would like to discern your call, please contact Fr. Darrell or I will be available at the RE Bldg after Mass or just call my cell.*

*Thank you in advance for your prayers,*

*Linda Lorenz, DRE*

*Church of The Visitation*

*Religious Education Program*

*254-715-0573*

**Ash Wednesday services will be 7:00 am in the Religious Education Building and 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall**

**Friday's during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm in the Religion Building followed by Mass beginning this Friday the 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**Westphalia Knights of Columbus Scholarship** applications are being accepted until April 13, 2020. Two \$500 Scholarships will be awarded to two Seniors from the Church of the Visitation Parish. Please contact Mark Hoelscher at 254-584-5102 for additional information.

**Westphalia Knights of Columbus** will be selling Shrimp and Fish plates with beans, slaw and fries at the Parish Hall Pit during Lent each Friday beginning February 28, thru April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3:30 pm till 7:15 pm (or until sold out) cost is \$10.00 per plate.

**Collection Envelopes** As you know the printed collection envelopes are delayed. Please write your name or Parishioner number on the outside of the Envelope if you are giving cash so that you may get credit for the amount given. Thanks Father Darrell

**Beginning of Lent** - The weekend of Saturday, February 29 & Sunday, March 1 small crosses will be handed out to each family of our parish. These crosses have been made from the square nails found in the rubble from our past church & are also blessed. If your family does not receive one, please contact Tina Locklin 254-644-8934 or Peggy Hrabal 254-721-7302

**PRAYER FOR OUR NEW PARISH CHURCH**

Heavenly Father, author and inspirer of all things holy, hear our prayers for our new church. Send forth Your Spirit that we may humbly be guided by Your Divine Will. Touch our hearts with true generosity to raise up a house of God for the inspiration and renewal of all Your faithful. May it be a home where all are welcomed, nourished, and empowered to be Christ to others. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS & LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK				
Weekend Mass Intentions	Sat, 2-22 - 6:00 pm RE Bldg	Sun, 2-23- 9:00am	Sat, 2-29 6:00pm RE Bldg	Sun, 3-1 9:00am
	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent
	+ Laurie Hoelscher	Parishioners	+Ben & Zita Kahlig +Respect Life / Pro-Life	Parishioners
Altar Server	Carter Kleypas Tamryn Stock Easton Green	Colton Ranly Grant Meyer Maverick Cannon Jr	Colton Ranly Grant Meyer Maverick Cannon Jr	Carson Kahlig Addison Wilde Mason Wilde
Lector	Catherine Kahlig	Ray Rabroker	Jerry Loden	Shawna Ranly
Psalmist		Katie Wilde		Margaret Arney
Gift Bearer		Steven Wilde Family		Charles Willberg Family
Ushers	Walter Carson Edward Ranly	Randy Frei & Hagen Hoelscher	Walter Carson Edward Ranly	Brian Wilde & Joseph Dorskocil
EMHC to sick	Kerri Meyer	David Alexander	Doris Wright	Mark Bartek
Rosary Leader	Patricia Simecek	Bradley & Marilyn Rudloff	Patricia Simecek	Edna Spivey & Dorothy Smith
Money Counter	David & Mandy Alexander; Paula Niemeyer; Marilyn Rudloff		Neal & Tammy Ryan ; Charles & Cindy Moeller	
Vocation Cross	Carl & Mary Jane Hubik		Randy & Linda Lorenz	
Church Cleaner	2/22 & 2/29 Jean Herzog, Kay Rabroker, Sylvia Heise, Shawna Ranly, Audra Schneider March 7 & 14 Bernadette Hurta, Ruth Dorskocil, Connie Petru, Kathy Hoelscher, Debra Colon, Margaret Arney			
Weekday Mass Intentions	Tue 2/25 8:00 am	Ash Wed 2/26 7:00 am 6:30 pm	Thurs. 2/27 8:00am	Fri 2/28 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass
	+Don Merryfield	+Louise Lange	+Charlotte Ann Thornton +Anita Book +Gilbert Lehman	Living and deceased members of Catholic Life Insurance

**The Sick and the Suffering requesting our prayers:** Gary Locklin, John Macha, Eva-Ann Greger, Rachel Rudloff, Charles Thornton, Annette Hoelscher, Layla Grace Evetts, JoeAnn Kalmbach, Pattie Kalmbach, Jeff Bernsen, Josie Kleypas, Dennis Fuchs, Beatrice Arnold, Mike Meyer, Bobby Bulls, Charles Ordner, Don Drake, Al Buckholt, Gene Kreger, Edwin Green, Craig Thornton, Fran Greger, Gary Herzog, Barron Shoemaker, Skylar (Savage) Wolfe & Amy Drake

Daily Prayer Service begins 6:00 pm R E Building	<b>2-16 OFFERINGS:</b>
<b>UPCOMING EVENTS:</b>	Regular 2,038
Sun 2-23- HS Religious Education after Mass	
Sun 2-23- First Communion Parents meeting after Mass	
Wed 2-26 - Ash Wed no Youth Meeting	
Wed 2-26 -Choir Practice after Mass 7:30 pm	

# Church of the Visitation

Westphalia, Texas  
Diocese of Austin



144 County Road 3000, Lott, Texas 76656

[westphaliaparish@gmail.com](mailto:westphaliaparish@gmail.com)

254-584-4983

**Rev. Darrell Kostiha, Pastor**

Deacon Bill Smetana (Retired)

Deacon Charlie Wright

Deacon Julian Tyboroski (Retired)

MASSSES: Saturday – 6:00 pm, Sunday – 9:00 am  
Tues 8:00am, Wed 7:20am, Thurs 8:00am, Fri 8:00am

RECONCILIATION: Prior to Weekend Mass

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**FEBRUARY 23, 2020**