

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

July 18th will mark the first anniversary of my appointment as your German shepherd! Thanks be to God and to you for all the blessings! One of the many joys of my tenure in my former parish was to have the perpetual adoration chapel. That to me was an oasis of peace and rest! It was my dream to have a waterfall in front of the chapel with the statue of our blessed Lord with open arms welcoming people, with one of my favorite quotes from the gospels prominently displayed: “Come to Me, all who labor and are weary, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon yourself and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourself. My yoke is easy, and my burden light.”(Mt 11:28-30)

Most people I know are carrying heavy burdens in life. Every day I hear from them asking for prayers for themselves or for others who are laboring under burdens of illness, stress at work, financial difficulties, troubled marriages, dysfunctional families, depression and loneliness etc., More often than not, many of us try to carry our burdens by ourselves for whatever reason. Every one may be trying to deal with those burdens in different ways. But quite a few of us struggle so hard that we want to give up or grow bitter.

It has been my practice for some time now to visit people on holidays, especially those in distress. **On July 4th, I visited a few families:** One had just lost the man of the house who was the rock of their life. *But I found a holy peace in that home!* Another was devastated with the breaking news that the lady of the house has been diagnosed with cancer. *But I saw how the family cared and rallied around her!* The third was struggling with one of their son’s potential marriage divorce. *But I sensed the confident faith of the parents!* A fourth had an 85 year old mother going through life all alone. *But I felt the joy of a grateful heart for even the smallest kindness!* A fifth, where the 92 year old father and the 64 year old son had serious health issues to deal with. *But I witnessed the true Christian bond of love between them!* And finally, a family that revolves around taking care of a teenager on wheel chair 24 x 7. *And I experienced the blessing of sacrificial giving there!*

None of us is without burdens. When Jesus bids us to come to Him, He does not promise that our burdens will automatically be gone, but only that He will bear them with us. He wants us to be yoked to Him, so that our burden is light and our yoke is easy. **I saw in all those families I visited, that they all had heavy burdens to carry. But what I also saw was that they were all able to carry their burdens with joy, gratitude, courage, hope and strength because they were yoked with Christ.** That is the meaning of Christian discipleship! We will all have crosses to carry. But we will never walk alone! Loving sweet Jesus will walk with us. Yoked with Him who is meek and humble, we can say what the boy who was carrying his lame brother on his back said: “He ain’t heavy; he is my kid brother!” Because, that is what Jesus does for you and me! That is what the people in the Spirit do: To SEE Jesus & BE Jesus!

What joy I may be forfeiting by not accepting the Lord’s invitation to be yoked with him? What graces I may be missing by not willing to be yoked with my suffering brother or sister? “Sooner or later, *we all rise or fall to the level of our friendships*” says Matthew Kelly in *Resisting Happiness* (pg 155).

God bless and Mary protect you and yours!

Blessed to be your Father in Christ!

Fr. Edwin Kagoo

THY WILL, LORD!

Announcements

(Please submit bulletin announcements 2 weeks in advance of the expected publication date.)

DID YOU KNOW?

8 Modern Errors Every Catholic Should Know and Avoid (contd.)

By Monsignor Charles Pope

1. *Mercy without reference to repentance* :

For too many today, “mercy” has come to mean, “God is fine with what I am doing.” But true mercy does not overlook sin, it presupposes it, sees it as a serious problem, and offers a way out of sin. God’s mercy is his way of extending a hand to draw us out of the mire of sin.

And this is why repentance is the key that unlocks mercy. For, it is by repentance that we reach for and grasp God’s merciful and outstretched hand.

One of the chief errors today is the proclamation of mercy without reference to repentance. Sadly, this is common, even in the Church. It is far too common to hear sermons on mercy with no reference to repentance.

The opening words of Jesus’ ministry were “Repent and believe the Gospel!” The order is important. For how can we experience the good news of God’s mercy if we do not first repent, come to a new mind and know our need for that mercy. If you don’t know the bad news, the good news is no news. Repentance brings us to our senses, makes us accept our need for change, seeks God and unlocks his mercy.

This error of mercy without reference to repentance is widespread in the Church today and leads to the sin of presumption, a sin against hope. **(to be continued).**

Building Fund Collection is this weekend. Please be generous.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on Wednesday, July 12 at 6:00pm.

Calendar for Summer Vacation: Please include daily Mass, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, regular confessions, Family Rosary, Scripture readings, and Works of Mercy as part of daily activities during this summer. Remember, we need God at all times!

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU INVITED SOMEONE TO BE A PRIEST OR A RELIGIOUS? DO IT TODAY!

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC RADIO LOCALLY @ 98.3 FM

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time				<i>July 9, 2017</i>
	July 8th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	July 9th <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	July 15th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	July 16th <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
Intentions	+Robert Hoelscher +Charlotte Ann Thornton	Parishioners	+Connie Smiser +Geraldine Frenzel +Anton Hoelscher Special Intentions for the Albert & Augusta Arnold Family	Parishioners
Altar Servers	Kolby Kosel Kelby Kosel Brenden Dorskocil Kasen Ordner	Nolan Kahlig Logan Kleypas Bryce Fikes Maddie Dach	Emma Hering Preston Hering Nate Hoelscher Elizabeth Ordner	Adam Herwald Mile Lewis Helen Gausemeier James Lorenz
Lector	Shawna Ranly	Ray Rabroker	Laurie Hoelscher	Rena Willberg
Gift Bearers	BA Ranly Family	Perry Petru Family	Charles Moeller Family	Gary Frei Family
Ushers	Mike Heise Michael Heise	Chris Hrabal Lynwood Kleypas	Bill Reid Edward Ranly	Allen Frei Randy Frei
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Doris Wright	Cindy Moeller	Kerri Meier	Janet Loden
Money Counters		Calvin & Cheryl Wilde and Craig & Debbie Ordner		Ronnie & Rita Kleypas and Clifford & Susan Neumann
Rosary Leaders	Elmer & Geraldine Hoelscher	James & Jane Kahlig	Elmer & Geraldine Hoelscher	James & Jane Kahlig
Vocations Cross Family		Ken & Jenette Driska		Walton, Jr. & Belinda Hering
Church Cleaners	7/15 & 7/22	Frances Hering, Janet Loden, Joyce Wimberley, Belinda Hering, Kim Hughling, Grace Frei		
	July 11th <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i>	July 12th <i>Wednesday, 8:00am</i>	July 13th <i>Thursday, 8:00am</i>	July 14th <i>Friday</i>
Weekday Mass Intentions	Special Intentions for Holy Souls +Charlotte Ann Thornton	+Larry R. Hoelscher +John Lingnau	+Mildred Bruggman +Cecilia Frenzel	No Mass

Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



144 County Road 3000, Lott, Texas 76656
254-584-4983

www.churchofthevisitation.org
westphaliaparish@gmail.com

Rev. Edwin Kagoo, Pastor
Deacon Bill Smetana
Deacon Charlie Wright
Deacon Julian Tyboroski

Saturday Mass – 6:00pm
Sunday Mass – 8:00am

Reconciliation: Sat. 5:20pm - 5:50pm and Sun. 7:20am – 7:50am

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 9, 2017

Our Mission is:

TO SEE JESUS
In life and liturgy

&

TO BE JESUS
In family and community

Sanctuary Candle – in Memory of Charlotte Ann Thornton, Ervin & Lucy Willberg and Special Intentions for the Albert S. and Augusta Arnold Family.

Please pray for the sick & suffering:

Jeff Bernsen, Carla Welch, Josie Kleypas, Dennis Fuchs, Beatrice Arnold, Steven Pletzke, Sr. Clemence Ribitzki, Pattie Pletzke, Mike Meyer, Kyla Frei, Bobby Bulls, Cathy Didner, Sr. Benedict Zimmerer, Don Drake, Al Buckholt, Gene Kreger, Hudson John Halfmann, George Wright, Charles Ordner, Edwin Green, Craig Thornton, and Grace Hoelscher.

Free Book – Best known author, Matthew Kelly's recent publication – *Resisting Happiness*. If you want a copy, please contact the parish office.

Meetings:

Parish Council: 7/11 @ 7:00pm

Offerings:

July 2nd \$2,279.00

Children's collection \$30.00

Peter's Pence collection \$694.00