

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

On this Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time of the year "A" you and I may be ten thousand miles apart physically and yet are together in spirit in our striving to **SEE Jesus** in Life & Liturgy and to **BE Jesus** in Family and Community.

This Sunday's readings show us that Jesus is not only our Savior but also our Helper. We saw last week that sometimes we don't realize that Jesus is all we need until Jesus is all we have. Thus we saw that Elijah, the prophet and Peter, the apostle who were lost in fear of men and of nature had none to save them save God Himself. And true to Himself, the God they looked up to never failed them. The very name "*Jesus*" means "*God saves*". But this week we see that the same God is not only our Savior but a helper in need.

In the first reading (*Is 56:1,6-7*) the Lord says that he will help not only the Israelites but all peoples who ask Him for help. In the gospel (Mt 15:21-28) a Canaanite woman from the foreign territory of Tyre and Sidon is being helped by the Lord Jesus, the Son of David. Just as we saw Him stretch His hand to the sinking St. Peter who cried out, "*Lord, save me!*", **today we see Jesus healing the daughter of this woman whose plea was: "Lord, help me!"**. We saw Him admonish Peter for his lack of faith, but today we see Him praise this pagan woman saying, "*O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.*"

This past week, I was privileged to celebrate Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on the 70th Independence Day of India, in the Church I was baptized on this very day sixty three years ago. August 15th was also the 131st anniversary of the dedication of this church in the parish which was established in 1549. I was impressed to see the large crowds of people for each of the three Masses in the large beautiful church. On the next day, I also had the joy of celebrating Mass at another church in the neighborhood which has a nationally well known shrine / grotto of the Sacred Heart. I had the honor of hoisting the flag at the beginning of the novena for the celebration of the feast on the last Friday of August annually. My grand uncle priest was very instrumental in promoting this great devotion here that began in France in the early 1600s through the missionary efforts of St. John Eudes (Feast day: Aug 19) who said, "*The power and strength of my mission is in the love and devotion to the Sacred Heart*". **In the thousands of pilgrims who thronged the shrine on its 90th anniversary were so many non-Christians who had seen Jesus as a helper, healer and friend in their lives. I myself have experienced in my life Jesus not only as my Savior and Lord, but also as my friend and helper. I am sure, you have as well. Haven't you?**

As we SEE Jesus as a friend, we learn that to BE Jesus is also to be a friend. There are so many people who like all of us are broken, weak, and in need of help looking for our friendship and aid. **The woman in the gospel teaches us that as good and generous as we may be with our material and physical assistance to those in need, we will soon come to realize that all that we are and all that we have may not be sufficient to heal or help those in need. Like that Canaanite woman we must bring our daughters, sons, sisters, brothers and all to Jesus, the divine healer, helper and friend. Sometimes, that alone is what we can do as a friend and just that alone may be needed. I am taking all of you to the Sacred Heart of Jesus this week!**

God bless and Mary protect you and yours!

I am blessed to be your father in Christ,

Rev. Edwin Kagoo

THY WILL, LORD!

Announcements

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

DID YOU KNOW?

8-20-17

8 Modern Error every Catholic should know and avoid (contd.)

By

Msgr. Charles Pope

7. Anthropocentrism – This term refers to the modern tendency to have man at the center and not God. It has been a long tendency in the world ever since the Renaissance. Sadly, though it has deeply infected the Church in recent decades.

This is especially evident in the Liturgy, not intrinsically, but as practically and widely celebrated. Our architecture, songs and gestures, incessant announcements, and congratulatory rituals are self-referential and inwardly focused. The liturgy, as commonly celebrated seems more about us than God. Even the Eucharistic prayer which is directed entirely to God is usually celebrated facing the people.

It is never good, especially in the Church, to consign God to the margins. This marginalization of God is evident not only in the liturgy, but in parish life which is often top-heavy with activism rooted in the corporal works of mercy, but little attention to the spiritual works of mercy. Social organizations predominate, but it hard to find interest in Bible Study, traditional novenas and other spiritual works devoted to God.

Announcing God through vigorous evangelization work is also rare and the parish seems more a clubhouse than a lighthouse.

Human beings are important, Christian humanism is a virtue, but anthropocentrism is a common modern error rooted in excess. The worship of God and the spread of his kingdom is too little in evidence in many parishes. Parents too seem more focused on the temporal wellbeing of children, on their academic standing and so forth, but less concerned overall with the spiritual knowledge or wellbeing of them.

God must be central if man is to be truly elevated.

RCIA classes will start Sept 3, call Gary Ketterman for information. 985 2533.

10 WEEK SERIES ON CATHOLICISM: Look forward in September to an awesome series on different aspects of our Catholic Faith taught by the well-known author and evangelist Bishop Robert Barron in our parish as part of our spiritual growth as disciples.

Altar Servers party will be today, August 20th from 2:45 to 6:00pm at Spare Time, 5434 208 Loop Temple. Pizza will be served. If you have questions call Louis Vrana at 254-721-8962.

Westphalia Volunteer Fire Department Fund Raising Raffle & Hamburger supper will be held September 30th at 7:00pm at Celebration Park. Tickets \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Don't have to be present to win.

NCCW Convention Sept 6-9, 2017, Hilton Anatole, Dallas, TX. If any member wishes to attend register at www.nccw.org by Aug 15.

St. Monica's in Cameron will be hosting their annual Homecoming Festival today, August 20th on the parish grounds.

<i>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>				<i>August 20, 2017</i>
	August 19th	August 20th	August 26th	August 27th
	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
Intentions	+Charlotte Ann Thornton +Margaret Moeller +Doug Landry +Alois Ketterman	Parishioners	+Larry R. Hoelscher +Leonard Wilde +Erwin Kahlig +Gladys Kahlig	Parishioners
Altar Servers	Kolby Kosel Kelby Kosel Brenden Daskocil Kasen Ordner	Nolan Kahlig Logan Kleypas Bryce Fikes Maddie Dach	Emma Hering Preston Hering Nate Hoelscher Elizabeth Ordner	Adam Herwald Mike Lewis Helen Gausemeier James Loren z
Lector	Shawna Ranly	Tammie Frenzel	Laurie Hoelscher	Susan Neumann
Gift Bearers	Charles Ordner Family	A.T. Voltin Family	Mike Heise Family	Jerry Loden Family
Ushers	Bill Reid & Edward Ranly	Jerry Loden & Daniel Meyer	Red Carson & Joey Hoelscher	Todd Daskocil & Todd Daskocil
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Kerri Meier	Janet Loden	Greneta Ordner	Geraldine Kahlig
Money Counters		Ronnie & Rita Kleypas and Clifford & Susan Neumann		Lonnie Ranly & Bill & Kitty Reid
Rosary Leaders	Charles & Greneta Ordner	Johnnie Thornton & Gary Ketterman	Charles & Greneta Ordner	Johnnie Thornton & Gary Ketterman
Vocations Cross Family		Scott & Laurie Hoelscher		Perry & Connie Petru
Church Cleaners	8/26 & 9/2	Valerie Gausemeier, Patriia Simecek, MaryAnn Crowell, Lou Buckholt, Rosey Carter, Dorothy Dewey Smith		
Weekday Mass Intentions	August 22nd <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i>	August 23rd <i>Wednesday, 7:20am</i>	August 24th <i>Thursday</i>	August 25th <i>Friday</i>
	+George Lange 1special Intentions for Poor Souls	+Kenneth Lehman +Charlotte Ann Thornton	NO MASS	NO MASS

Sanctuary Candle – in Memory of Wilbert & Mildred Bruggman

Please pray for the sick & suffering:

JoeAnn Kalmbach, 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.

Meetings:

Choir 8/23 @ 7:00pm

Offerings:

8/13

\$1,767.00

Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



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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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 20, 2017

Our Mission is:

TO SEE JESUS
In life and liturgy

&

TO BE JESUS
In family and community