

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

Whenever I come to visit my mother on vacation, the most difficult moment has always been the time of parting. After the bags are packed, I take a shower, say a short prayer, kiss the picture of my (*late*) dad which is in the sacred space, then kneel to take my mother's blessing and exchange kisses and say "OK, mom! Until we meet again!" At that moment, invariably I choke, my voice trembles. I feel like there is a lump in my throat and there is a heaviness in my heart. I quietly wipe the tears that well up in my eyes so suddenly. As I reach the door the question that pops up in my mind and lingers on is: "Will I be blessed to see my mom again, and if so when?" And yet I leave, because my mother and I know that ***I have a mission: To serve God and you.***

The readings on this Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time of the Year in cycle "A" speak about OUR MISSION:

In the first reading (*Jer 20:7-9*) Prophet Jeremiah had a mission to announce the impending gloom and doom for the disobedient Israel. It was no pleasant task to be speaking about God's warning to and ultimately God's severe judgment upon the chosen people who had forgotten their identity and mission. ***Try as he may, Jeremiah could not find peace in evading his difficult mission.*** So he surrenders and is remembered.

In the second reading (*Rom 12:1-2*) ***St. Paul urges the Christians in Rome to discern God's Will, that which is good, pleasing and perfect, and offer their bodies as a living, holy, spiritual sacrifice to God.***

In the Responsorial Psalm (*Ps 63*) ***the psalmist states that his soul will be satisfied only when he offers a living sacrifice of himself to God.***

The verse before the gospel (*Eph 1:17-18*) reads: "*May the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.*"

In the gospel (*Mt 16:21-27*) Apostle Simon who was praised by Jesus for his true confession of faith in Him as the Messiah, the Son of the Living God, and was named the Rock on which He would build His Church is now being chided and rebuked by Jesus for dissuading Him from doing His Father's Will which was to go to Jerusalem, suffer and die, and then on the third day be raised from the dead. ***Peter knew Jesus' Identity, but not Jesus' Mission.***

It is important for us as Christians to be aware of both our identity and our mission. We should not only know *who* we are but also *why* we are here. Jesus has made it very simple for us to remember this: We are the **GROWING DISCIPLES of CHRIST** and we are called to be **GROWING DISCIPLES for CHRIST**. As the new scholastic year begins, let us never forget our identity and mission always and in all ways.

I am glad to be back with you! Thanks for your prayers! I am excited that soon we will study the ***10-part series on Catholicism*** by Bishop Robert Barron. ***Sign up for it today!***

God bless and Mary protect you! Let us continue to ***pray for and help those affected by Hurricane Harvey and the flooding!***

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?

Statement of Bishop Joe S. Vásquez and Auxiliary Bishop Daniel E. Garcia of Austin Concerning the Catastrophic Effects of Hurricane Harvey

Together with our brother bishops, we urge all people of good will to be united with those suffering as a result of the catastrophic damage caused by Hurricane Harvey. We are deeply concerned about the parishes, communities and people that have been and will continue to be impacted by the storm. We urge all people to continue to follow the safety directives of the local emergency management officials. Even as the hurricane has been downgraded, some victims will feel the long-term effects of the of the storm system for years to come.

We encourage the faithful of the Diocese of Austin to be spiritually united with the communities affected through prayer and support. Because we believe that "God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress" (Psalm 46:1), our neighbors require our resolve to help them in their time of need. Considering the unprecedented flooding and the disheartening circumstances in which our brothers and sisters find themselves, we are reminded that Jesus requires us to help our neighbors out of mercy and love (cf Luke 10:29-37).

Catholic Charities of Central Texas is coordinating our diocesan relief efforts. We encourage you to visit www.ccctx.org for more information on how to offer help and to provide financial assistance for the victims of the storm.

Building Fund Collection is this weekend. Please be generous.

Picnic Chairpersons: A meeting of the picnic chairpersons will be held on Wednesday, September 6th, in the Centennial Room of the parish hall. Worklists can be turned in, and we'll discuss additional needs or changes you may have.

Picnic Flyers are available in the narthex of Church. Please pick up a few and help advertise our picnic.

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.

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.

Killeen/Temple Deanery CCW will be collecting new socks and tee shirts for homeless men, women, and children. Items should be colored not white; whole socks, not footlets. This campaign will end the second week of November. Drop off area for our parish will be announced soon.

St. Joseph's Marlin Fall Festival September 9th and 10th. Check bulletin board for more details.

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Marak Annual Homecoming and Picnic Sunday, September 10th.

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

<i>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>				<i>September 3, 2017</i>
	September 2nd	September 3rd	September 9th	September 10th
	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
Intentions	Special Intentions - Boeselt Family +Manard Moeller +Margaret Moeller	Parishioners	+Connie Smiser +Charlotte Ann Thornton	Parishioners
Altar Servers	Adam Herwald Mike Lewis Helen Gausemeier James Lorenz	Brenden Doscocil Kasen Ordner Bryce Fikes Logan Kleypas	Brenden Doscocil Kasen Ordner Bryce Fikes Logan Kleypas	Nolan Kahlig Preston Hering Nate Hoelscher Maddie Dach
Lector	Tammy Ryan	Ray Rabroker	Shawna Ranly	Renae Willberg
Gift Bearers	Carl Hubik Family	Jimmy Thornton Family	Calvin Wilde Family	Terry Frenzel Family
Ushers	Walton Hering, Jr. Carl Hubik	Johnny Polach Charles Moeller	Paul Doscocil Randy Lorenz	Chris Hrabal Lynwood Kleypas
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Amanda Moeller	Gary Ketterman	Doris Wright	Connie Petru
Money Counters		Chris & Peggy Hrabal and Georgia Ketterman		Louis & Jerlene Vrana and Horest & Bernice Weaver
Rosary Leaders	Melvin & Helen Ranly	Perry & Connie Petru	Melvin & Helen Ranly	Perry & Connie Petru
Vocations Cross Family		Ed & Debby Meyer		Charles & Cindy Moeller
Church Cleaners	9/9 & 9/16	Jane Meyer, Debby Meyer, Mary Jane Hubik, Angela Grubbs, Donna Hoff, Kally Meyer		
Weekday Mass Intentions	September 5th	September 6th	September 7th	September 8th
	<i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i>	<i>Wednesday, 7:20am</i>	<i>Thursday 8:00am</i>	<i>Friday 8:00am</i>
	+Gilbert Wilde +Pauline Wilde	+Evelyn Lehman Zeig	+Leo Zeig	+Larry R. Hoelscher

Sanctuary Candle – *In memory of Christopher Kahlig and Lt. Col. Raymond Roessler*

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:

Altar Society 9/3 after Mass
Knights of Columbus 9/5 @ 6:30pm
Choir 9/6 @ 7:00pm
Quilt Group 9/6 @ 8:00am
Historical Society 9/6 @ 7:00pm

Offerings:

8/27 \$1,757.00

Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



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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

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 3, 2017

Our Mission is:

TO SEE JESUS & TO BE JESUS
In life and liturgy & In family and community