

Our readings today remind us that God is ever-faithful, even when we are not. They challenge us as Christian stewards to show our love for this faithful God through actions, and to lean in to our trust in Him even when it seems He is not answering our prayers.

The First Reading, from Isaiah, teaches that all of humanity is invited to become the Lord's disciples. But we have to actually take Him up on the invitation by the way we live our lives. "Observe what is right, do what is just... All who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain... for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." Our parish is not a country club. It is meant for all and must be a welcome place for all — where we roll up our sleeves together to serve and worship our God.

God knows we will not always get this right. We will choose selfishness and stay in our comfort zones at times, rather than embracing the daily call to discipleship. But God will never withhold His love and His gifts from us.

Our Second Reading, from the letter to the Romans, shows us, "For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." God is patient and merciful with us when we falter in the stewardship way of life. He brings good from even our failures as long as we continue to attempt the challenging path of discipleship. The reading closes with this reminder: "For God delivered all to disobedience that he might have mercy upon all."

And because God is indeed faithful and merciful, He wants to lead us to the joy of heaven to spend eternity with Him. For that, we must be strong in faith and live our lives as an act of love and gratitude to Him. In other words, we must allow Him to transform us into saints. This is what the stewardship way of life is meant to do. Sometimes, that will feel painful to us. Often, it will be challenging.

Jesus certainly challenged the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel passage from Matthew. She called out to Him on behalf of her daughter, who was being tormented by a demon. What did Jesus do in reply to this mother's desperate plea? Nothing. He "did not say a word in answer to her." But she was undeterred and continued to call out to Him — so much so that the disciples asked Him to send her away. Jesus does not send her away, but He does not give her what she asks for immediately either.

Instead, He continues to challenge the woman's faith. And she rises to the challenge to such an impressive degree that Jesus exclaims, "O woman [a term of deep respect in that day], great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." Imagine hearing those words proclaimed over us by God. Truly, there could be no higher honor than hearing our Lord say that to us.

So we must accept the difficulties that come with the stewardship way of life. Some days will be a true challenge to our trust in God. But those are the days when God is making saints of us. Let's embrace the hard days, especially in the face of these challenging times we face today during the pandemic. The deep joy that eventually comes, the eternal reward He promises, will be so worth it.

And He wants us — all of us— to have it.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

August 9, 2020

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,444.51
Vigil Candles	\$ 47.50
OnLine Giving	\$ 530.00
Facilities Improvement	\$ 238.44

Second Collection - August 22 - 23:
No 2nd Collection Next Week



*** WE NOW HAVE ONLINE GIVING! ***

Go to our website - **www.ThomasMoreSAtx.org**Click on the "**DONATE**" option and select:

Online Giving - to make a donation...

or

Prayer Request - submit a prayer request.

You may also go directly to the websites by entering: https://www.GiveCentral.org/location/885 for online giving

or

https://www.GiveCentral.org/Short-Form/885 to submit a prayer request.

Questions? Contact the parish office at (210) 655-5070



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - RCIA -

If you, or someone you know, are a non-Catholic and would like to learn more about the Catholic faith or possibly *become* a Catholic?...

(no pressure)... or -

If you are a Baptized Catholic adult... but have not made your First Holy Communion or been Confirmed... or -

Maybe you are you a practicing Catholic... and just want to learn more about our faith?

— Or maybe you know someone like this —

If so... I would like to invite you / them to our RCIA sessions.

They begin on Thurs, Sept 10th.
We meet in the Rectory Meeting Room...
from 7 - 8:30 pm.

(Depending on the number of attendees... We may have to change location)

Masks will be required and Social Distancing will be observed.

Sessions are very informal...

We learn about Church, it's teachings, sacraments, and so much more!... and answer any questions you have.

For more information - call the parish office or talk to Dcn Tim... or simply come to our first meeting.

Hope to see you there.



DESIGNER-BAG RAFFLE

Because of the Covid Pandemic we can not have our **Designer-Bag BINGO** this year as we would like. So... we are holding a Designer-Bag Raffle instead!

Handbags include: Coach, Michael Kors, Consuela, Dooney and Bourke, Kate Spade, and more!

Tickets for our handbag raffle are on sale for \$10 each.

The drawing will Friday, August 21st @ 6:30pm Via Facebook live

To purchase tickets: Contact a PTC member or email ptc@stmcs62.org or call the school office at (210) 655-2882

All proceeds benefit STM School Thank you in advance for your support...



MAY HE REST IN PEACE:

May God comfort the family and friends of

David Krause

who died this past week

Our sincere sympathy and assurances of prayers are extended to Charlotte and the Krause family.

The Giving of Treasure:

Question: Why are Catholics required to give money to the Church?

Answer: Offering money and other goods to God and the Church is, before all else, a statement of gratitude. We see this when we look at how our spiritual ancestors showed their gratitude to God for the gifts they had received (e.g. Genesis 14:18-20 and Genesis 28:16-22). One of the ways they offered thanks to God was through a practice called "tithing," in which 10 percent of a person's goods (crops, livestock, money, etc.) were given back to God.

Today, the practice of tithing — giving 10 percent — is still common in many Protestant communities, but it is not required for Catholics. Instead, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that, "The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to [their] own abilities" (CCC, no. 2043).

This means that, although we are not bound to practice "tithing" in the traditional sense, we do share a responsibility to share our money or other resources with our parish communities. Like our spiritual ancestors, we give as a sign of our gratitude for the many gifts that God has given to us. Beyond this, we also share our resources with other Catholic organizations to help them finance their ministries, to continue and grow their outreach to the poor and the needy, and to provide just wages for their employees.

How much we give depends on our individual circumstances, but since we share a responsibility for the programs, outreach, and health of our parish communities and Catholic organizations, this question gives us a wonderful opportunity to ask some important questions about the quality of our giving and what our priorities are. Remember, we are only stewards of our time, talents, and treasures and as the First Letter of Peter reminds us, "As each one of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied graces" (4:10).

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME









School News

(A Message from the Principal - Mrs. "G")

We are enrolling for the 2020-2021 school Year! (Ages 18 Months through 8th Grade)

we encourage you to email us with any questions regarding our school.

Leticia Brown, our Admissions/Office Manager can be reached at lbrown@stmcs62.org or myself, at kgutierrez@stmcs62.org

Visit us on our web site: st-thomas-more-school.org
Hope for the Future Tuition Assistance applications are also still available through the following link:

www.archsa.org/hope/

Blessings,

Mrs. Kimberly A. Gutierrez, Principal

Faith Formation News Faith Formation Registration

Registration has begun! You may register your child / children for next school year (2020-2021) at the church office Monday - Friday between 9 am and 3 pm. The last day to register is Aug 31st.

When you register there will be an explanation of the new procedure(s).

Starting Dates / Times: Sept 6, 2020; Confirmation 1 & 2: Nov 8, 2020 / Sunday: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Note: *Please make sure you have a zero balance before registering for the new cycle.*

Noticias de Formación de Fe Inscripciones de Catecismo

¡Las inscripciones han comenzado! Pueden inscribir a sus hijos para el siguiente ciclo (2020-2021), los lunes a viernes de 9 a.m. a 3 p.m. en la oficina parroquial. El ultimo día para registrar es el 31 de agosto. Cuando usted inscriba a su hijo/a les vamos a explicar el procedimiento cuando empiezan las clases.

Fechas de las Clases / Horario: 03 de oct del 2020 / sabado: 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Nota: Favor de asegurare que no tenga ningún balance antes de registrar a su hijo/hija.

Office Hours / Horas de la Oficina: 8:30 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm



St. Thomas More English Prayer Group





Grupo de Oración Familias compartiendo la palabra



The English Prayer Group is not meeting every week..

The next meeting (August) will be announced.

In the mean time... continue praying for the end of the Corona Virus, for our church and our country

Contacts: Olga Guerrero: (210) 657-1610 or Stella Lopez: (210) 618-6977 El grupo de oración se reúne los viernes a las 7 pm. Para mas informacion contacte Maria Isabel Hernandez.

This Week at our Parish

Sunday, August 16, 2020 Monday, August 17, 2020 Tuesday, August 18, 2020 Wednesday, August 19, 2020 Thursday, August 20, 2020 Friday, August 21, 2020 Saturday, August 22, 2020

4:00 pm Reconciliation - Rectory Court Yard

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Lecturas de la Semana del Agosto 17 - 23

Lunes: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22 **Martes**: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28,30,35-36;

Mt 19:23-30

Miércoles: Ez 34:1-11; Sal 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Jueves: Ez 36:23-28; Sal 51:12-15,18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Viernes: Ez 37:1-14; Sal 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40 **Sábado**: Ez 43:1-7; Sal 85:9-14; Mt 23:1-12

Domingo: Is 22:19-23; Sal 138:1-3,6,8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-2





Sanctuary Light Intention: †John (TV) Duong

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, August 22, 2020

5 pm Altar Servers - (None)

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim

Lector - S.McCarthy

Sunday, August 23 2020

8 am Altar Servers - (None)

Eucharistic Ministers - Den Tim

Lector - T.Garza

10 am Altar Servers - (None)

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando

Lector - M.Torres

12 pm Altar Servers - (None)

Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando

Lector - L+E.Leon

5 pm Altar Servers - (None) Eucharistic Ministers -

Lector - Volunteer

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 15, 2020 8:00 am STM Parishioners

5:00 pm †Thomas Harris by Oswald Family †Raul Gonzales by Joe & Annabelle Garza

†Pual Nguyen by Family

†David Krause

Sunday, August 16, 2020

8:00 am †John (TV) Duong by Wife

†Mary Theresa Vazquez by Guadalupanos 10:00 am †Betty Jane LaCombe by Hirchak Family

†Sonia Hernandez by Family

†William Shields by Doc & Eileen Adams

†Mardonio M. Serratos by Family

12:00 pm †Herlinda Alvarado by Josefina Pacheco

†Jose Luna by Joe & Annabelle Garza †Maria Dulce by Irene & Pablo Negrete

5:00 pm **STM Parishioners**

Monday, August 17, 2020

†Ed McCarthy

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Friend

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes

Thursday, August 20, 2020 8:00 am †Kevin McCarthy

Friday, August 21, 2020

Saturday, August 22, 2020 8:00 am STM Parishioners

5:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family

Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:00 am STM Parishioners

10:00 am †Betty Jane LaCombe by Hirchak Family

†Leo Blea by Juanita Blea †Max Pena by Joe & Annabelle Garza

†Mardonio M. Serratos by Family 12:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family

†Ercilia Mompaz by Joe & Annabelle Garza

†Jose Luna & Daniel Antuna

by Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol

5:00 pm STM Parishioners



Readings for the week of Aug 17 - 23

Monday: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28,30,35-36; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15,18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40 Saturday: Ez 43:1-7; Ps 85:9-14; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3,6,8; Rom 11:33-36;

Mt 16:13-20