



Today’s readings challenge the modern-day disciple to imitate more fully both the actions and attitudes of Christ. This is, after all, the point of our stewardship way of life.

St. Paul encapsulates the actions and attitudes we must strive for in the Second Reading, from the Letter to the Philippians. “Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others.” In other words, Paul continues, “Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus.” Whether we are at work or school or within our own homes, our actions should be focused on others first in imitation of Christ, Who is always perfectly focused on others.

But there is another reason for seeing others as more important than ourselves, a reason that will help us to become better stewards. It is the recognition that the “others” in my life — whether my spouse and children, my next-door neighbor, or even the co-worker that gets on my last nerve — all these others are gifts from God, to be treasured and nurtured for God’s glory.

And just in case this seems like a bit too much to ask of us, St. Paul gives us another reminder about the Savior we are imitating as we embrace this attitude towards others. “Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave... he humbled Himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” Unimaginable humility.

We should not be overwhelmed by this high bar, however. Our God is a loving and patient Father. He embraces every faltering step we take in imitation of His Son. Jesus demonstrates this comforting truth through the parable He tells in today’s Gospel from Matthew. It is the story of two sons whose father instructs them to go out and work in his vineyard that day. The second son gives the right answer, right away: “Yes, sir.” But he does not follow through. Despite the lip service, he has failed to follow his father’s will.

The first son just can’t seem to get on board with his father’s command. He responds, “I will not.” At least he is honest! And this honest, less-than-perfect response should be consoling to us Christian stewards. Haven’t we all felt this way at times when God’s will for us seems to be just too hard? We can be honest with God at these times. He knows already, after all. But when we stayed engaged in a real relationship with Him, even if it’s just to say, “I don’t think I can, Lord,” He will supply us with just the grace we need to change our minds and do what He is asking us to do.

We are called to a high and holy standard — living as Christ’s disciples every day and with every person the Lord places in our path. But we can move towards this goal in “baby steps.” We can even take a step backward from time to time because our Father is merciful and kind. What matters is that we keep baby-stepping along, assured of the grace we need to more closely imitate the actions and attitudes of Christ. This is the beauty of the stewardship way of life.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

September 20, 2020

Sunday Collection	\$	3,171.89
OnLine Giving	\$	830.00
Vigil Candles.....	\$	222.36
Helping Hands.....	\$	33.44
Facilities Improvement.....	\$	10.00

**Second Collection - October 3 - 4:
No Second Collection Next Week**



Please Note: We are so grateful to those who have continued to give through this pandemic crisis...

We depend on our parishioners weekly contributions.

We kindly ask that you continue to contribute via our usual Sunday Mass collection or by Mailing or dropping off your donations at the church office.

You may also go to our website (www.ThomasMoreSATx.org) to donate online through Online Giving or to submit your prayer request(s).



**40 DAYS for LIFE
Through - November 1**

HELP SAVE LIVES IN SAN ANTONIO!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

*17,226 babies saved from abortion
206 abortion workers converted
107 abortion centers closed*

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

Vigil Location: Outside the Planned Parenthood Abortion clinic located at 2140 Babcock Rd.

Vigil Hours: 7 am to 7 pm, Mon - Sat

Local Contact: Kathy Nix - info@sacfl.org

Get Involved - Sign up for prayer times.

Visit: 40DaysForLife.com/SanAntonio
or
www.sacfl.org

St. Thomas More Fall Raffle

October 11, 2020

Drawing will be held at 2:45 pm
(Need not be present to win).

Tickets are \$5.00 each

Raffle tickets can be picked up in the Rectorry Office

Over \$7000 in prizes!!!



CALLING ALL PRAYER WARRIORS

November 3rd is fast approaching.

We need to take this election day seriously!
The fate of our country is at stake!

Let us pray the rosary everyday for guidance and help!
Pray for the leaders of our country.

Thank you... and...

God Bless-

46 ROSARIOS de la VIRGEN de GUADALUPE

Estamos haciendo una lista para los 46 Rosarios de la Virgen de Guadalupe.

Este año los Rosarios seran diferente.

Si gusta separar su fecha o obtener mas información- Favor de comunicarse con:

Edna Marshall - (210) 505-0285
Rosie Borrego - (210) 376-9899

Todos estan cordialmente invitados a participar.

46 ROSARIES of the VIRGIN of GUADALUPE

We are making a list for the 46 Rosaries of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This year the Rosaries will be different.

If you like to save your date or get more information- Please contact:

Edna Marshall - (210) 505-0285
Rosie Borrego - (210) 376-9899

All are cordially invited to participate.

Question: *Why do Catholics genuflect?*

Answer: Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means "to bend the knee." For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of "bending the knee" is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians, who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (*whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration*). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel that we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

In addition to genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament, we are also instructed to genuflect before the cross used for veneration on Good Friday (*during the solemn celebrations of the Lord's Passion*) and any time a relic of the True Cross is displayed for veneration. This long-standing tradition is a way of honoring the cross as the great sign of our salvation and of showing devotion to the passion of Jesus.



OK... You've seen it in the bulletin... you've heard Fr. Tomy and myself "*plugging*" it... This will be my last "*plug*" for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) (*promises... promises...*)

You know that we, as Catholics, are *obliged* to '*spread and defend the faith by word and deed.*' Strong words... but that's what the Catechism and Vatican II documents (*Lumen Gentium*) say!

Our Baptism is our call to participate in the Evangelization process of the Church!

We need to share our faith. We need to Evangelize! Pope John Paul II summed it up this way saying, "*Faith is strengthened when it is given to others!*"

When we step out on a limb and begin to share our faith (*whether at work, the gym, or where-ever*) we will get questions! "I used to be Catholic... why do I need a priest coming between me and God"... "Why do you Catholics worship Mary?"... etc. Sometimes you'll know the answers... other times you won't. One of two things usually happens then... You either stop talking about your faith, or you go find the answers.

If (*hopefully*) you choose the latter... you don't return to the conversation the same.

You come back knowing and understanding more... you come back with a fuller realization of who Christ is and what the Church teaches. In the process of explaining the faith you learn more about the faith.

That's true when teaching about anything! When you have to explain an idea to others...

you come to know it better yourself. You focus on the essentials... on what matters most and go from there.

For example: If explaining the American Revolution to someone, you don't waste time talking about uniform designs or battle tactics used at small skirmishes... You talk about the fundamental principles for which the colonists fought and the major figures and turning points that led to the defeat of the British.

You talk about freedom and self-determination! You talk about George Washington, John Adams, Valley Forge, etc.

Similarly, when sharing the Gospel we focus on the basic Christian message, the core of the Good News... Christ! Who he is, what he offers and why we need what he offers.

We talk about the Church he created and how it embodies his teachings.

That's what the RCIA attempts to do!

You have questions? We have answers... or we'll get them!

Our faith is rich... so rich... so all-encompassing... you can - and will - literally spend a lifetime learning about it!

But, through the RCIA, you will have a good, solid foundation on which to build.

So... whether you are Catholic or not... if you want to learn more about the Catholic Faith...

I invite you to join us as we begin our journey.

We meet on Thursday evenings in the Rectory Meeting Room from 7 - 8:30 pm... (*use the 'court yard' entrance*).

Hope to see you there...

There... That's it! My final plug.

God Bless- DT

America Needs Fatima (ANF) is a campaign to spread the message of Fatima in the United States. Its goal is to win the heart and soul of America for promoting devotion to Her Immaculate Heart. Mary by spreading Our Lady's Fatima message and

America urgently needs the prophetic messages of Our Lady at Fatima. America needs a clear direction, a great purpose, and the means to achieve it. The admonitions, requests, and warnings of Mary Most Holy can be called a heaven-sent survival guide.

During the apparitions, Mary told the children to pray the Rosary each day to bring peace to the world. She asked them to pray for the conversion of Russia, to do penance, and told them that God wanted the world to have a devotion to Her Immaculate Heart.

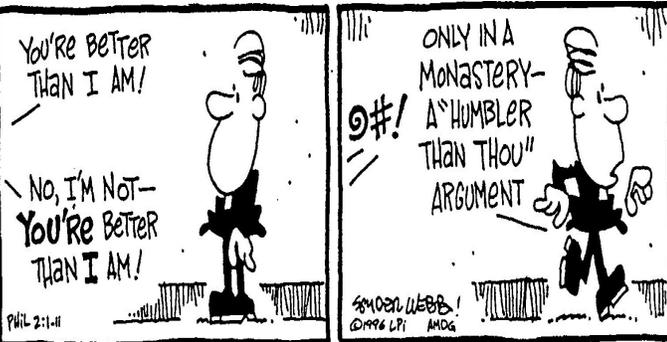
The Fatima message emphasizes central truths and devotions of the Catholic faith: The Blessed Trinity, the Eucharist, Penance, the Rosary, and Sacrifices for the conversion of sinners.

Join us for the **2020 Public Square Rosary Crusade** at Noon on **Saturday, October 10th** -

LOCATION(s): *A group will be meeting outside the Planned Parenthood clinic located at 2140 Babcock Rd. For those who can't make that location... we will meet here (STM) in front of the Rectory.*

This Week at our Parish

Sunday, September 27, 2020
Monday, September 28, 2020
Tuesday, September 29, 2020
Wednesday, September 30, 2020
Thursday, October 1, 2020
 7:00 pm RCIA - Rectory Mtg. Room
Friday, October 2, 2020
Saturday, October 3, 2020
 4:00 pm Reconciliation - Rectory Court Yard
Sunday, October 4, 2020



Lecturas de la Semana de sept 28 - oct 4

Lunes: Job 1:6-22; Sal 17:1-3,6-7; Lc 9:46-50
Martes: Dn 7:9-10,13-14; Sal 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
Miércoles: Job 9:1-12,14-16; Sal 88:10-15; Lc 9:57-62
Jueves: Job 19:21-27; Sal 27:7-9,13-14; Lc 10:1-12
Viernes: Job 38:1,12-21; 40:3-5; Sal 91:1-6,10-11; Mt 18:1-5,10
Sábado: Job 42:1-3,5-6,12-17; Sal 119:66,71,75,91, 125,130; Lc 10:17-24
Domingo: Is 5:1-7; Sal 80:9,12-16,19-20; Flp 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

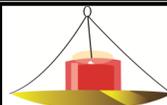


Liturgical Roles

Saturday, October 3, 2020
 5 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim
Lector - M.Fisher
Sunday, October 4, 2020
 8 am **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim
Lector - O.Weich
 10 am **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando
Lector - M.Torres
 12 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando
Lector - J+M.Rodriguez
 5 pm **Altar Servers** - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers -
Lector - Volunteer

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 26, 2020
 8:00 am †Christopher Kret
In Thanksgiving
 5:00 pm †Luis Miguel Perez by Family
 †Max Pena by Maryann Garcia & Amelia Pena Silvas
 †Mary Nguyen by Family
 †Lucia Salinas Chapa by Joe & Annabelle Garza
 †William Garcia-Rivera by Family
 †David Krause by Wife
Sunday, September 27, 2020
 8:00 am †Benito Canales
 10:00 am †Willard & Margaret O'Connor by Oswald Family
 †Joe Garcia by Knights of Columbus
 †Juan Cruz Castillo, Lupe Santana, Carlos Santana by Family
 12:00 pm †Jose Luna & †Daniel Antuna by Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol
 †Luis Miguel Perez by Family
 5:00 pm †All Who Have Died
Monday, September 28, 2020
 8:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Family
Tuesday, September 29, 2020
 8:00 am †Edgar Richardson by Family
 †Mary Garcia by Ralph & Elda Garcia
Wednesday, September 30, 2020
 8:00 am †John TV Duong by Irene
 †Rosie Reyes & †Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes
Thursday, October 1, 2020
 8:00 am †Pual Nguyen by Family
 †Vincente & Teresa Hoi by Kim Nguyen
In Thanksgiving
Friday, October 2, 2020
 8:00 am †Msgr George Adams by Doc & Eileen Adams
Saturday, October 3, 2020
 8:00 am †Deceased Members of the Tate Family
 5:00 pm †Christina Dominguez by Family
 †Andres & Susie Garza by Joe & Annabelle Garza
 †David Krause by Wife
Sunday, October 4, 2020
 8:00 am †Deceased Members of the Stensland Family
 10:00 am †Mary Nguyen by Family
 †Joe Garcia by Knights of Columbus
 †Patricia Burris by Pastoral Council
 12:00 pm †Ulises Francisco Cortez by Family
 †Jose Luna & †Daniel Antuna by Deacon Rolando, Martha & Marisol
 5:00 pm †All Who Have Died



Sanctuary Light Intention:
†John (TV) Duong

Readings for the week of Sept 28 - Oct 4

Monday: Jb 1:6-22; Ps 17:1-3,6-7; Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10,13-14; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12,14-16; Ps 88:10b-15; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday: Jb 19:21-27; Ps 27:7-9,13-14; Lk 10:1-12
Friday: Jb 38:1,12-21; 40:3-5; Ps 91:1-6,10-11; Mt 18:1-5,10
Saturday: Jb 42:1-3,5-6,12-17; Ps 119:66,71,75,91,125, 130; Lk 10:17-24
Sunday: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9,12-16,19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43