

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday August 6 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9  
2 Pt 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9

Monday August 7 Nm 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17  
Mt 14:13-21 or Wis 3:1-9 Ps126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 Mt 10:28-33 or Sir 2:7-11 Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9 Lk 12:32-34

Tuesday August 8 Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14 1 Cor 2:1-10a Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 Lk 9:57-62

Wednesday August 9 Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35 Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 Mt 15:21-28 or Hos 2:16bc, 17cd, 21-22 Ps 45:11-2, 14-15, 16-17 Mt 25:1-13

Thursday August 10 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 Jn 12:24-26

Friday August 11 Dt 4:32-40 Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 & 21 Mt 16:24-28 or Phil 3:8-14 Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11 Mt 19:27-29

Saturday August 12 Dt 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 & 51 Mt 17:14-20 or Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3 Mk 3:31-35

**PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

John Abram  
Mary Brown  
Mary Crossley  
David Jayce Carey  
Courtney Chavis  
Therese Ferguson  
Hollis Fain  
Joe B. Forward  
Theresa Garrett  
Ella Mae Garrett  
Anna Garrick  
Mark Mitchell Jr.  
James Mims  
John Richard, Sr.  
Alma G Thibodeaux  
Alma C Thibodeaux

To all our sick and homebound **THANK YOU** so much for your unwavering commitment and contributions to our parish. To better serve everyone Fr. Donatus is available to visit **ALL** parishioners at the appointed time. However, Fr. Donatus has reserved every other Friday for the homebound.



**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

James Arceneaux  
Mable Durio  
Mary Feathers  
Alberta Fontenot  
Frances Freeman  
Debra Glaude  
Margaret Green  
Myrtle Guillory  
Marvin Hampton  
Celestine Johnson  
Calvin Johnson  
Stacy Johnson  
Rose Lee Johnson  
Lakeisha Guidry-Jones  
Leothus Jones  
John Milton  
Ruby Milton  
Bettye Odom  
Clayona Pilette  
Brushelle Scott  
Robert Simmons  
Joe Ware

**August Birthday List  
Happy Birthday to::**

Jill Mosby 1  
Marina Taylor 1  
Lauren Jackson 2  
Christopher Henry 4  
David Thomas III 6  
Dorothy Jacobs 10  
Gloria Richard 11  
Tyler Rodriguez 15  
Mary Lazenby 17  
Morgan Jackson 19  
Patrick Mims 27  
John Riggs Sr. 28  
Horace Broussard 29

**Happy Anniversary**

Carroll & Mable Durio 5th  
Patrick & Brenda Mims 18th  
John & Tammy Richard 12th  
Lester & Sanja Popillion 31st

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday August 6 9:00 a.m.+ Jacobs & Monroe Families  
Requested by Mary Julia J. Monroe

Monday August 7 No Mass

Tuesday August 8 6:00 p.m. Patricia Wilks requested by Ladies Auxiliary "speedy recovery"

Wednesday August 9 6:00 p.m. Brushelle Scott requested by Ladies Auxiliary "speedy recovery"

Thursday August 10 6:00 p.m. + Elias Gobert requested by Angela & Angeline Gobert

Friday August 11 6:00 p.m. Adoration & Benediction

Saturday August 12 4:00 p.m. +Barbara Feathers requested by Niki Feathers

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you/ your love ones, or the deceased.. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule).

**Bishop Faith Appeal/Fundraiser**

**Goal : \$25,000.**

**Pledged: \$ 13,350. Paid: \$ 9,175.**

*It is the time of year again where we to begin the work on our BFA goal., and for those of us that has not yet pledged please do so and for those of us that has Thank You so much. For any information please contact Robert Gobert at (504) 232-5640 or Shirley Ray (409) 779-9922. We are look forward to the continued growth of our parish*

**MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND  
HOSPITALITY**

Saturday: Richard Scott, Shirley Allison, Rose Davis & Walter Davis  
Sunday: Joseph Fontenot, Rose Bottley, Coretta Ambers Emmanuel Taylor

**ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:**

Saturday: A: Mona Richard L: Freda Guillory & Leo Jackson  
Sunday: A: Horace Broussard L: Wayne Sparrow & Lucy Jones

**ALTAR SERVER:**

Saturday: Reagan Pitre & William Pitre  
Sunday: D'Ana Williams

**MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:**

Saturday Russell Bottley & Gloria Richard  
Sunday: Gloria Richard & Robert Gobert

Attendance  
**Saturday 43 Sunday 60**

**Weekend Collection  
Deductible Non-Deductible**

Mail In \$ 145.00  
Loose \$ 76.05  
Mass Stipends \$ 70.00  
Saturday \$ 495.00  
Sunday \$ 847.00

**Total Deposit \$ 1,633.05**

**St. Therese Catholic Church**

Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000

1409 6th Street 77630 Phone: (409) 883-3783 Fax: (409) 883-4918  
Email: sttherese1350@att.net Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400 Website: stthereseorangetx.org



**Pastoral Team:**

**Rev. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP**

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com  
Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958  
Rectory: (409) 920-4007  
Deacon Julian Richard (409) 221-2743  
Deacon Hazen Kenney (512) 791-0847

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday  
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



**The Transfiguration of the Lord**

August 6, 2017

**"He was transfigured before them"**



**Eucharistic Celebration**

**Weekends:**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

**Reconciliation**

Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.

**Infant Baptism:**

Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance

**Weekdays:**

Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Thursday: Faith Program 5:30 p.m.

**Adoration & Benediction**

1st Friday each month 6p.m.-7p.m.

**Marriage:**

Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date

**SECRETARY**

Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Richard Scott, Chairman 779-7587  
Rose Davis, Vice Chairman 883-0762  
Steven Allison, Secretary 313-0586  
Cecilia Davis 920-1136  
Rose Bottley 886-1525  
Charlis D. Rogers 988-8719  
Adam Jacobs 883-9688  
Albert Hebert III 746-2627

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Sanja Popillion (409) 670-0808

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Andre Robertson 882-0012  
Tina Kindle 238-4447  
Robert Gobert (504) 232-5640  
Sheila Arnold 313-2062  
Janice Semien 883-7126



# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## A Free Lunch

There is no such thing as a free lunch. At least this is the unchanging principle of the commercial world. Somewhere along the chain of buying and selling, someone will have to pay. God's ways are different, of course. Grace is free. God's life is freely given. The readings today reiterate this revelation. We are told this in the poetry of Isaiah, a letter from Paul, and a story from Matthew.

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-3    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18**  
**SECOND READING: Romans 8:35, 37-39    GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21**

## Comment

The book of Isaiah is the work of at least three writers. Today we hear from "Second Isaiah," the prophet and author of the "book of consolation." The first Isaiah, "Isaiah of Jerusalem," had the odious task of warning Israel of impending disaster. Second Isaiah wrote 150 years later. His vocation was easier, if a prophet's vocation ever is. The disaster did indeed come to pass, and Israel was in exile in Babylon. It is from here that Second Isaiah writes his book of consolation, which comprises chapters 40 through 55. The exile was drawing to a close, and Isaiah announces the good news of God's deliverance. The Lord's chosen remnant are the blessed ones, says Isaiah. They are the beginning of a new creation, a new age, a new social order. The Lord promises them refreshing water, ample enriching food for body and spirit, a renewal of the covenant once made with David.

It is not difficult to make the leap from this first reading to the Gospel proclamation. We can easily imagine the view that greeted Jesus. A raggedy assembly who were so hungry for deliverance that they followed Jesus "... on foot." They sought him out; they pleaded for personal deliverance. They hung on his every word. They were heedless of the day, the hour, their distance from home, from food and water. And finally they were hungry for simple physical sustenance. The compassion Jesus felt for the crowds readily translated into his action for their physical well-being. That came first.

We know the story of the loaves and fishes well. The people who gathered around knew the roots of the story well, too. They were people of the book—the Jewish Scriptures. They knew of manna in the desert, first recorded in Exodus. They sang of the abundance of necessary food in the psalms—16, 78, 145, to name a few. Banquets and suppers were everywhere images of the fullness of God. The crowds knew by heart the verses from Isaiah: "You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come ..." (55:1). The words once penned by Isaiah, were a reality in Jesus. The promises had come true.

## Reflection

Paul, who is keenly aware of the helplessness of human beings, rhetorically asks how we will be delivered. His answer, of course, is that the love of Christ is our deliverance. We are not the source of our own deliverance. Paul has enough and more than enough experience of his own failings. His hope is not in the law and certainly not in himself, but in Christ and him crucified. Every now and then as we read Paul's letters, we see his words take flight. He bursts into these ecstatic utterances that are simply stunning. They are eloquent, and we love reading them. Paul's hymn to love found in 1 Corinthians 13 is an example of this. The second reading today is another. Here Paul flowers. He pours out his lyrical exaltation about the love of God in Christ Jesus.

We listen carefully to Paul today, for he knows whereof he speaks. He has endured persecution and hunger and nakedness and the sword. And the love of God has not let go of him. All who have kept faith can sing this song. The exiles in Babylon, who possessed no coinage to pay the ransom, were delivered by God's grace. The hungry in the deserted place in Palestine were healed and fed and sent home full. The angry, raging Pharisee named Paul was given the blinding vision of Jesus, who identified with his faithful. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5). Paul knew as we do that the love of God is fully revealed in Christ, who will not let us go, as God would not. This is quite a revelation! Nor must we let go of God. We are called to rise up from the banquet table this day fully fed and ready to take up their lives. We go on our way nourished by God's Word and by the Bread of Life.

## NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. THERESE—THE LITTLE FLOWER

St. Therese, beloved friend, you promised to spend your time in heaven doing good upon the earth. WE come before you in our need. We believe that you listen to us and approach God for and with us. You are love in the heart of the God. Please accept these petitions, hopes, needs and dreams that I list below (pause).

Please present them to our loving Father so that God may do what is best for us, for our loved ones, and for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom. Continue your shower of roses in our lives. We ask you, dear friend with the bold confidence and loving care. We make this prayerful petition in the name of Jesus and through the power of his Spirit. **AMEN.**



### \*\*\*Annual Back To School Drive\*\*\*

St. Therese is having our annual back to school drive and we are asking for everyone's help. We are accepting any type of donations for ages elementary to junior high. For every success story of a child is a greater success for St. Therese. There is a box at the rear of the church for all supplies and donations. Thank you in advance

## Why Do Catholic Bibles Have Seventy-three Books?

Baruch is one of seven Old Testament books found in Catholic Bibles but not in Protestant ones. Catholics call them the "deuterocanonical" (literally, "second canon") books; Protestants call them the apocryphal (literally, "hidden" — thus "unknown, spurious") books. In addition to Baruch, these books include Tobit, Judith, 1 and 2 Maccabees, Wisdom (or Wisdom of Solomon), and Sirach (or Ecclesiasticus).

These deuterocanonical texts were included in the Septuagint, a third-century B.C. Greek translation of the Old Testament, which served as the Scriptures of the apostles and the generations that followed them. The earliest Greek manuscripts of the Old Testament — such as Codex Sinaiticus (fourth century) and Codex Alexandrinus (c. 450) — include the deuterocanonical books mixed in with the others.

Church councils at Hippo (393) and Carthage (397 and 419) listed these books (and the other sixty-six) as Scripture, endorsing what had become the general belief of the universal Church. The Council of Trent confirmed this canon in the sixteenth century. How did Protestant Christians lose these books from their Bibles? The influential Protestant reformer Martin Luther deleted them. Though he insisted that Scripture must be the sole authority for the Christian faith, when scriptural texts did not support his teaching he tended to deny the authority of the books in which those texts were found.

The deuterocanonical books include passages that support the practice of offering prayers and sacrifices for the dead — and by extension, the doctrine of purgatory as well (see 2 Mc 12:39-46). Luther rejected this ancient teaching and practice of the Church, so he denied these books a place in the Protestant canon.

The books of the "second canon" are similar in style to other Old Testament books. Wisdom and Sirach are much like Proverbs. Tobit is in somewhat the same literary category as the Book of Job. Judith is comparable to Esther (two heroic Hebrew women who helped save their people). First and Second Maccabees are historical narratives like the Books of Kings and Chronicles. And Baruch is prophetic literature, akin to Jeremiah.

The New Testament closely reflects the thought of the deuterocanonical books in many passages. For example, Revelation 1:4 and 8:3-4 appear to make reference to Tobit 12:15. St. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 15:29, seems to have 2 Maccabees 12:44 in mind, and Hebrews 11:35 mirrors the thought of 2 Maccabees 7:29. (See also "Why Don't Catholics Believe in the Bible Only?" N-2.)

**NEXT NCYC MEETING: AUGUST 14th 6pm |**  
Catholic Pastoral Center (710 Archie St.)

NOTE: Please bring your best estimate as to what your total number of attendees will be; this will help the diocesan office with logistical planning.

### \*\*\*Meeting\*\*\*

There will be a Pastoral Council Meeting Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 6 pm in the Education Building, every member is asked to please be in attendance.

### Silent Retreat for Women

Holy Family Retreat Center  
9920 North Major Drive  
Beaumont, TX 77706  
409-924-4366  
Sr. Carol Perry, S.U.  
Jesus of Nazareth Is Passing By  
Thursday - Sunday,  
September 21-24, 2017

Registration begins at 4:00 pm on Thursday, opens with a light supper at 5:00 pm and ends with lunch on Sunday.

Cost: \$295/person \$75 deposit  
Pre-register by August 24

### Bishop's Faith Appeal Intentions Mass

6:30 pm ~ August 24, 2017

St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica,  
Come and pray with  
Bishop Curtis Guillory, S.V.D., D.D.,  
for the special intentions  
of the faithful of Southeast Texas.

Reception to follow in Cathedral Center. RSVP by August 7 to (409) 924.4302 or [bfa@dioceseofbmt.org](mailto:bfa@dioceseofbmt.org) so that we may plan properly for food. Light supper.

### Taste of Blessed Sacrament Tickets \$10.00

When: AUGUST 13, 2017  
2:00 to 5:00 PM

Where: OMOM HALL 3390  
SARAH ST, BMT, TX

Bring: YOUR TASTE BUDS

Presented By: CULINARY CHEFS  
OF THE CHURCH

Featuring: FR PAUL OFOHA, MSP,  
BLESSED SACRAMENT  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

### \*\*\*Prayer\*\*\*

All in Southeast Texas are invited to join in prayer August 12 as Bishop Curtis Guillory, SVD, ordains 10 men as permanent deacons. The Catholic faithful of the Diocese of Beaumont are encouraged to welcome these new deacons as they begin their ministry in the Church of Southeast Texas. Include them in your prayers as they go out into the communities to minister. We celebrate the ordinations of

Fulgencio (Flint) Barboza	David Bonneaux
Randal (Randy) Cashiola	Bruce Grimes
Michael (Keith) Hebert	Andrew (Clay) Kuykendall
Frank Maida	Steve McGaha

### \*\*\*Hello Youth Ministers\*\*\*

I wanted to let all of you know NOT TO PANIC. We are extending the DYLT application deadline until August 31. It has been brought to my attention that so many of you have not been in contact with your kiddos much since convention and that many of your priests are on vacation. This extension will give you a little more time to get those applications signed by your pastors. Please make sure that those you are recommending are 11th and 12th graders and that they are committed to the mandatory leadership training scheduled for Sept. 9-10th at Lake Tomahawk. Please let us know if you have any questions by contacting our office. Hope you are all having a GREAT summer.