

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Sunday August 27	Is 22:19-23 Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 Rom 12:1-2 Mt 16:21-27
Monday August 28	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a, & 9b Mt 23:13-22 or 1 Jn 4:7-16 Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Mt 23:8-12
Tuesday August 29	1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 Mk 6:17-29 or Jer 1:17-19 Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 4-6ab, 15ab & 17 Mk 6:17-29
Wednesday August 30	1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab Mt 23:27-32
Thursday August 31	1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 & 17 Mt 24:42-51
Friday Sept. 1	1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1 & 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 Mt 25:1-13
Saturday Sept. 2	1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Mt 25:14-30

**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  
 Westley Popillion  
 John Richard, Sr.  
 Alma G Thibodeaux  
 Alma C Thibodeaux  
 Sammie Williams

**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
Veronica Warren	11
Walter Davis Sr.	15
Tyler Rodriguez	15
Mary Lazenby	17
Kimverlyn Caldwell	17
Morgan Jackson	19
Patrick Mims	27
John Riggs Sr.	28
Horace Broussard	29

Happy Anniversary

Carroll & Mable Durio	4th
Patrick & Brenda Mims	18th
John & Tammy Richard	12th
Lester & Sanja Popillion	31st

**MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND**  
**HOSPITALITY**  
 Saturday: Richard Scott, Shirley Allison, Rose Davis, & Walter Davis  
 Sunday: Phyllis Thibodeaux, Dorothy Jacobs, Fred Green & Elizabeth Mitchell,  
**ANNOUNCER & LECTORS:**  
 Saturday: A: Gary Mims L: Josie Curtis & Felicia Richard  
 Sunday: A: Dorothy Broussard L: Youth & Eva Platt  
**ALTAR SERVER:**  
 Saturday: Reagan Pitre & William Pitre  
 Sunday: D'Ana Williams  
**MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:**  
 Saturday: Russell Bottley & Freda Guillory  
 Sunday: Lucy Jones & Shirley Ray

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  
 Florence Craig  
 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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday August 27	9:00 a.m.+ Elias Gobert requested by Bryan & Shelia Metoyer
Monday August 28	No Mass
Tuesday August 29	8:00 a.m. +
Wednesday August 30	8:00 a.m.
Thursday August 31	8:00 a.m. + Elias, Magdalen & Cecilia Gobert requested by Angeline & Angela Gobert
Friday Sept. 1	8:00 a.m Adoration & Benediction
Saturday Sept. 2	4:00 p.m. + Elias Gobert requested By Bryan & Sheila Metoyer

(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*

Attendance	
<b>Saturday 42</b>	<b>Sunday 58</b>
Weekend Collection	
Deductible	Non-Deductible
Mail In Donation	\$ 272.00
Loose	\$ 43.00
Saturday	\$ 785.00
Sunday	\$ 1,050.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 79.20
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 2,329.20</b>
<b>Expenses: Entergy &lt;\$1,165.57&gt; ADT security &lt;\$ 48.70&gt; Admin. Supplies &lt;\$ 180.58&gt; spectrum &lt;\$ 215.67&gt; Center point energy &lt;\$ 134.64&gt; direct tv &lt;\$ 124.29&gt;</b>	

## St. Therese Catholic Church

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

1409 6th Street 77630  
 Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com

Phone: (409) 883-3783  
 Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

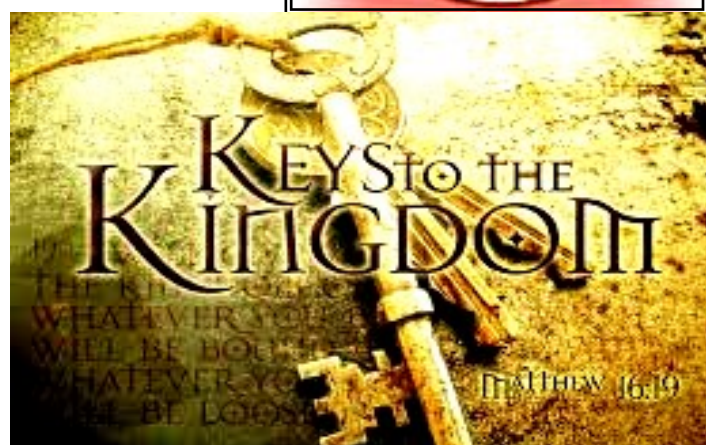
Fax: (409) 883-4918  
 Website: stthereseorangetx.org

**Pastoral Team:**

**Rev. Donatus Mgbеajuo, 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.

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**August 21, 2017**  
**“You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.”**



**Eucharistic Celebration**

<p><b>Weekends:</b>        Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.        Sunday: 9:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>Reconciliation</b>        Saturdays: 3:20 p.m. 3:55 p.m.</p> <p><b>Infant Baptism:</b>        Please contact the pastor two (2) months in advance</p>	<p><b>Adoration</b>        Fridays: 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>        1st Friday each month 6p.m.-7p.m.</p> <p><b>Marriage:</b>        Please call Rectory six (6) months prior to proposed date</p>	<p><b>Weekdays:</b>        Tuesday-Friday 8:00 a.m.        Thursday: Faith Program 5:30 p.m.</p>
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**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

# TWENTY–FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## Keys

The holder of the keys to a palace or to the city portals holds great power. One did not lightly hand over the keys to one's domain. The old skeleton key has been retired or reduced to ornament. Now we have access codes and combinations. But they all do what the clunky keys once did. They control access. How are the keys to be used? What are they to protect? What to unlock? Who gains admittance? And to what?

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 22:19–23* RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalms 138:1–2, 2–3, 6, 8*  
SECOND READING: *Romans 11:33–36* GOSPEL: *Matthew 16:13–20*

## Comment

The first reading and the Gospel for today both speak of the role of one who holds the keys. In the first reading, it goes poorly for Shebna, the holder of the palace keys at the capital. Isaiah has to deliver the bad news that Shebna is not a trustworthy holder of the keys. Isaiah informs him that he will be thrust down and a new one will replace him. Shebna's error was that he went along with the king's decision to form military alliances with other nations. This military policy was expressly counter to the will of the Lord. The merging of nations meant the dilution of the religion of Israel, the introduction of other gods, the betrayal of the covenant established on Mount Sinai and renewed with David. No ambassadorial niceties here: The symbols of the office—the robe and sash and key—would be placed on another's shoulders.

The key of the House of David recalls the Davidic covenant, which would last forever. The words of this oracle, "when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open" (Isaiah 22:22), remind us of the "O" Antiphon on December 20: "O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven: come break down the walls of death." This antiphon looks forward to the Messiah, the fulfillment of God's promise.

In today's Gospel, we see a small gathering in a kind of quiet, reflective time. Jesus and his disciples are on the road again, but they are not among the crowds, for a change. They seem at ease. There is interior work to be done.

With no introduction, Jesus turns to these men and asks what others say of him. The disciples report that Jesus seems to be a continuation of the Jewish tradition and Scriptures—he is a prophet, perhaps. It's hard telling. When Jesus pointedly asks what they think, it is Peter who speaks for himself and for the rest. He seems to have the undisputed role as leader, as Jesus' right-hand man. Peter does not merely say what they had said only recently, in the becalmed boat after the storm at sea had subsided: "Truly you are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:33). Peter's confession is broader in its reach, deeper in its expression: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). The other evangelists also wrote of this incident, but Matthew alone gives us the story of Peter's commissioning. His given name, Simon, is formally changed. This renaming is charged with meaning. Simon is called Peter, a word that means "rock" in Greek and in Latin. Then he is given the keys; he is given the authority to loose and to bind.

## Reflection

Before Jesus hands over his authority to Peter, he makes it clear that Peter is chosen because he is obedient to God's revelation. He is not the recipient because he is cool and clever or tough. For he is none of these. Indeed, he seems to stumble, and frequently.

Jesus has taken the measure of this man. He has seen his stride while taking into account his stumble. The Gospel reading only two Sundays ago told us of Peter's doubt about his vision of Jesus on the waters, of Peter's own faltering steps, of his reaching out to be saved by Jesus. He was drawn up out of the waters then. Now Jesus reminds him, the Church he leads will face troubled waters—the very gates of the nether world—in case one would doubt the forces of opposition he and his small assembly would have to face. It is to faithful, fallible Peter that the leadership goes.

### Liturgy Training Publications; Liturgical Press; Paulist Press

Lector Workbooks for Cycle B which begins December 3, 2017 will be order through the parish office by August 31, 2017, please contact Gary Mims or Rose Bottley to place your orders. Orders must be paid in full before picking up any books.

Parish orders from *Liturgy Training Publications* will be drop-shipped to parishes. FEE: \$4.00. Books are \$9.50

**Parishes will be billed** through Financial Services of the Diocese of Beaumont; the charge will be included in your monthly bill. PLEASE DO NOT SEND PAYMENT TO THE OFFICE OF WORSHIP.

### The National Black Catholic Men's Conference

Miami, Florida, from Thursday through Sunday, October 5-8, 2017.

The theme of this year's conference is: **"The Challenge is to Silence the Mind."**

This Conference is **OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS** and the main **"FOCUS"** is on men.

Register at: [www.bowmanfrancismistry.com](http://www.bowmanfrancismistry.com).  
The cost is: \$150.00 for adults / \$50.00 for youth ages 8-13  
\$75.00 for College and High School Students

More information is available by contacting Fr. Chester Smith at [www.Gamba10333@aol.com](mailto:www.Gamba10333@aol.com) or 317-259-0144.

## Why Do Catholics Genuflect?

Solomon was the most glorious and powerful king the nation of Israel ever knew. Not only his subjects, but foreign visitors as well would have knelt whenever they came into his presence. In the ancient world, that was the universally recognized posture of reverence and submission.

According to 2 Chronicles, however, when

Solomon entered the temple he had built, this great king himself knelt down before God's altar (see 6:12-13). He recognized that he was in the presence of the King of kings, the all-powerful, all-glorious Ruler of the universe.

Today our culture tends to scoff at the notion that anyone should ever kneel. To many, the gesture is a quaint leftover from medieval times, an act that is somehow beneath our modern dignity. But Catholics recognize that God is still God, and that every knee should bend, / of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, / and every tongue confess that / Jesus Christ is Lord" (Phil 2:10-11). So Catholics count it a privilege to kneel before him, because he is worthy of our reverence and submission.

Jesus is present in his Body and Blood, soul and divinity, in the Eucharist (see "Is the Eucharist Truly the Body and Body of Christ?" T-1). So when Catholics come before the tabernacle in a church, where the Eucharist is reserved, they genuflect — that is, they bend the right knee to the floor and rise again. In this way they imitate the faith of the holy women when they encountered Jesus at the empty tomb and "did him homage" by falling at his feet (Mt 28:9). Their gesture gives glory, not only to God the Son, but to God the Father as well (see Phil 2:11).

RELATED SCRIPTURE —Texts cited: 2 Chr 6:12-13 • Mt 28:9 Phil 2:10-11 .

General: Ps 95:6-7 • Mt 2:11; 8:2; 9:18; 15:25; 20:20 • Lk 24:52 • Jn 9:38 • Rv 5:8. CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH — 1378.

The ACTS Core Team is looking for a representative from St Theresa to serve on the ACTS Core Team. You must have made a retreat to be eligible. We need one women.

The term is 3 years. Meetings are second Thursday of the month, 630 at St Frances.  
Please contact Sherry Hommel at 409-779-9129  
ACTS Team Core Facilitator

### \*\*\*Positions Available\*\*\*

**St. Mary Catholic School has the following positions available:  
Part time After School Care worker and Substitute Teachers**

**If you are interested in either position, please contact the school.**

**St. Mary Catholic School 2600 Bob Hall Road Orange, TX 77630  
409 883-8913**

### Silent Retreat for Women

Holy Family Retreat Center 9920 North Major Drive  
Beaumont, TX 409-924-4366 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

### \*\*SPECIAL MEETING OF PASTORAL COUNCIL\*\*

There will be a special Pastoral Council meeting to discuss the use of the Life Center on Wednesday, AUGUST 30, 2017 at 6:00 pm. For those Parishioners with ideas, suggestions, questions or concerns in this matter please give them to any Pastoral Council member. The first 30 minutes will be open to everyone and the Council will submit your information then. There after the meeting will be closed for discussion. ALL members of the Pastoral Council must be present. Thanks in advance

### \*\*\*Day of Reflection\*\*\*

Where: St. Francis of Assisi, Meeks Drive, Orange  
When: Sunday, September 10, 2017 Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Everyone is invited to a "Day of Reflection guest speaker Doman West followed by refreshments and fellowship. For more information please contact Sherri at St. Francis 883-9153

### RETREAT WEEKEND FOR MARRIED COUPLES

The Office of Family Life Ministry is hosting another "I Do Again" marriage enrichment event to help revive, strengthen and celebrate marriages. Facilitators are Anthony and Tami Landry  
September 8-10, 2017 Friday – Sunday Holiday Inn Beaumont Plaza  
3950 I-10 South Walden Road Beaumont TX

Sandra Hall at 409-924-4325 shall@dioceseofbmt.org  
The cost of the "I Do Again" Marriage Retreat is \$100.00 per couple.

### 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.**