

**Clergy:** Msgr. Frank H. Rossi, Pastor  
[oloppastor@gmail.com](mailto:oloppastor@gmail.com)  
**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm  
[olopcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olopcc@sbcglobal.net)  
**STAFF:** Lynn Stacy, Director of Liturgy  
 Diane Sanderson, Parish Catechetical Leader  
 Annette Faircloth, Director Youth Ministry  
[www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com](http://www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com)



My dear parishioners:

Tomorrow we celebrate Labor Day, a day set aside to honor the men, women and teens who labor to make our country the wonderful place it is to live and raise a family. We all work hard to do our jobs well and to provide for our families and others of our community. On this Labor Day we need to remind ourselves that we are very dependent on the hard work of others to make our lives more comfortable. We live in homes that others labored to help construct. We go grocery shopping and consume food at restaurants that others harvested, transported and prepared. We wear clothes that others made and drive cars that others built. Each day our lives are made easier by hundreds of nameless people who labored hard for us. Today we thank God for the workers throughout the world who labor each day, and by their labor help to build up the Kingdom of God here on earth and the quality of our lives.

One of the seven fundamental Catholic social justice principles is "the dignity of work and the rights of workers". The Church teaches that work is more than a way to make a living, it is an expression of our very dignity as human persons and a form of our continuing and active participation in God's creation. By human labor we are actually working with God in providing for his people the goods of human life. So, all workers must be held in high regard and respected as "workers in the vineyard of the Lord".

The Catholic Church holds that people have the right to decent and productive work, to decent and fair wages and to workplace safety. Though I do not think anyone would disagree that these are authentic rights, there is tremendous differences of opinion on how to direct efforts to ensure these rights are protected and promoted. Many factors go into play to determine what jobs are available, who is hired for these jobs, what wages and benefits are provided and how workers are cared for and protected.

A large group of workers in this country who are not presently provided what the Catholic Church holds to be basic human labor rights are the undocumented. Literally millions of men and women who labor diligently in our country do so often without the benefit of being paid a just wage or overtime, workers comp or health insurances, and at times safe working conditions. Many of these people work in jobs which tend to be where more injuries occur (e.g. construction, yard maintenance, food service). When injured they very often lose their jobs and thus the ability to provide for their families. These are essential jobs in our country and we need qualified and willing people to do these jobs. They have the right to be respected and protected.

I fully realize that this is a political issue that needs the serious attention of our political leadership. But it is equally a moral issue, which needs the serious attention of our Church leadership and all people of faith. Just because a person entered the United States without legal documentation does not mean that they cease to be a human person or become one who has lost all basic human rights. The vast majority of people who enter our country without permission do so not to cause our country harm but to provide for their families because there are few opportunities to do so in their native land. And they provide a great benefit to the quality of our lives. The U.S. Catholic Bishops strongly support protecting our country's borders, but equally strongly support the care of God's people who are presently in this country and actively

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**September 2—September 9, 2018**  
**Readings and Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, September 1** **4:30pm—Mass**  
**6:30pm—Spanish Mass**  
 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 [12]/Mt 25:14-30  
*Mass intention for Patricia G. Young*

**Sunday, September 2** **9:00am—Mass**  
 Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/  
 Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23  
*Mass intention for the People of the Parish*

**Monday, September 3** **4:30pm—Mass**  
 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102 [97]/Lk 4:16-30

**Tuesday, September 4** **11:30am—First Tuesday Mass**  
 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 [17]/  
 Lk 4:31-37  
*Mass intention for the Ladies of the Altar Society*

**Wednesday, September 5** **4:30pm—Mass**  
 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21 [12]/Lk 4:38-44  
*Mass intention for Patricia G. Young*

**Thursday, September 6** **8:30am—Mass**  
 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [1]/Lk 5:1-11

**Friday, September 7** **9:30am—Communion Service**  
 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/Lk 5:33-39

**Saturday, September 8** **4:30pm—Mass**  
**6:30pm—Spanish Mass**  
 Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/  
 Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

**Sunday, September 9** **9:00am—Mass**  
 Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37  
*Mass intention for the People of the Parish*

**The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord. (Ps 15)**


**Online Giving**  
 If you would like to give electronically, visit our website, [www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com](http://www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com), and click on **DONATE NOW**

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 contributing to the prosperity of our country through their diligent labor. I fear that sometimes we simply label these people as "illegals" due to how they entered our country and then treat them poorly as punishment for their crime. This is contrary to the direct and specific call of the Lord in his "Judgment of the Nations" discourse when he said that those who will enjoy eternal life in heaven are those who ministered to him (Christ) when he "...was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25: 31-41.

On this Labor Day let us take a quiet moment of prayer to thank the Lord for the many men, women and teens (our brothers and sisters in Christ) who work so hard so that our lives may be better. And let us beg the Lord to enlighten the minds and hearts of those we elect to public office that they will ensure that all members of our family of faith who labor in this country for the good of all may one day soon enjoy the same basic human rights.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
  
 Msgr. Frank H. Rossi  
 Pastor

Sun. Sep 2 <i>Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Mon. Sep 3 <b>LABOR DAY</b>	Tues. Sep 4 10:0am—Senior Social 11:30am—First Tuesday Mass Noon—Lunch 1:00pm—Altar Society Meeting 6:30pm—ACTS Team Family Center	Wed. Sep 5 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE	Thurs. Sep 6 8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. Sep 7 9:30am—Communion Service	Sat. Sep 8 3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
Sun. Sep 9 <i>Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Mon. Sep 10	Tues. Sep 11	Wed. Sep 12 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE	Thurs. Sep 13 8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. Sep 14 9:30am—Communion Service	Sat. Sep 15 3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass



## Blood Drive

Lifeshare Blood Centers  
 Sunday  
 September 9, 2018  
 10:00am—1:00pm

Our Lady of the Pines Family Center  
 Signup sheet on bulletin board in foyer of church

**All are invited to celebrate A Mass of Thanksgiving-Retirement for Bishop Curtis Guillory, SVD,DD**

**Tuesday, September 11, 2018**  
**Mass 7:00pm, Reception to follow**  
**St. Joseph Church**  
**2590 US 190 W**  
**Livingston, TX**

**Other Locations:** Sept. 4, 6:00 pm, St. Louis Church, Winnie  
 Sept. 6, 6:00pm, Our Mother of Mercy Church, Beaumont  
 Sept. 7, 6:30pm, St. Mary Church, Orange  
 Sept. 10, 6:30pm, St. James Church, Port Arthur

**Religious Articles**

Come and see new items for sale.

Rosaries	Prayer books	Prayer cards
Bibles	Art for your walls	Figurines

Many other items available  
 Browse on Saturday after Mass or while having coffee on Sunday mornings.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please pray for: Nelda Leathem, Maureen Peltier, Rosemary Urban, Ed Sanderson; Penny Foxworth, Julie Axland, Pam Hall, Nan Rollins, Frances Martin, Ricky Vining; David Cavanaugh, LeAnn Ruggles, Jerry Smith, Henrietta Oakley, Mark Lunsford, Phyllis Perkins, Sophie Thibodeaux, Tina Self

Repose of the soul: Don Martin, Ray Conner

Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You may list names in the Prayer book in the vestibule of the Church and your intention will be offered at daily Mass.

**Weekly Stewardship**

<b>August 25 &amp; 26 Weekly Offering</b>	<b>\$ 2,508.28</b>
<b>Average Weekly Cost</b>	<b>\$ 3,152.00</b>
<b>Excess/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ -643.72</b>

*Thank you for your generosity.*

**Attention Married Couples** who will be celebrating 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> or 50+ wedding anniversary in 2018: Bishop Curtis J. Guillory and the Office of Family Life Ministry invite you to attend the annual diocesan ceremony honoring your commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage on **Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 2:30 pm** at St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica. The ceremony will include Mass, Renewal of Marriage Vows and Presentation of Certificates. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Center.

Please **RSVP** to your pastor or parish secretary no later than **Monday, September 17, 2018.**

**Upcoming Events**

September 4: Senior Social, First Tuesday Mass, Lunch, Altar Society Meeting; ACTS Team Meeting  
 September 9: BLOOD DRIVE, Family Center after Mass  
 September 10: Pastoral Council, Conference Room  
 September 11: Stewardship, Conference Room  
**September 11: Retirement Mass & Reception for Bishop Guillory, St. Joseph, Livingston, TX**  
 September 21-22: Women's Conference, St. Francis of Assisi, Orange, TX  
 October 21: 25th, 50th, 50+ Anniversary Mass, St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica, Beaumont, TX