

**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:

Over the last two weekends (two weekends ago in English and last weekend in Spanish) I read at Masses the letter written by Bishop Guillory concerning the issue of the sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults committed by clergy (deacons, priests and bishops). In his letter, Bishop Guillory reminded us of the need to pray fervently for all victims of sexual abuse that they may find healing and peace. He also assured us that the Diocese of Beaumont takes very seriously its responsibility to provide a safe and holy environment for all parishioners, but especially our children.

As your pastor, I want to assure you that this same vigilance is a priority at the level of the parish. Over the years pastors and parishioners of Our Lady of the Pines Church have done a very good job providing a safe and secure environment for all who come on our campus, but especially our children. I would like to remind you of some of the things being done to ensure our parish is a safe place for our youth to experience the loving presence of Christ.

All of the catechists who teach our children are long-term and well-known parishioners. Most have been in the catechetical ministry in the parish for many years. Every volunteer who has contact with minors undergoes a state and national criminal background check administered through the diocese. No adult is allowed to be engaged in ministry with minors until they have successfully undergone the back-ground checks and have attended the three-hour *Protecting God's Children Safe Environment Program*, also administered through the diocese. Every 3-5 years all volunteers must redo the background checks and participate in a Safe Environment Program renewal training session. Additionally, each year at the beginning of the religious education program all students watch a video on the elements of a safe environment for themselves and all youth. They did so this past Wednesday. A brochure on this topic, from an adult's perspective, is included in this weekend's bulletin.

In addition to our training program for people, we have done our best to ensure a safe physical environment on campus. We have added extra outdoor lights, especially at doors, that are on sensors to ensure they are lit once the sun sets. Outside doors lock when closed, so that no one can enter the classroom area when religious education is in session. All our classrooms have a 20 X 30-inch window so that classes can be monitored from the hallway. Parents are required to come into the Family Center to pick up their children after class so that no child should be walking the parish campus without an adult. And catechists remain with the children after class until all are picked up by their parents.

All of these safeguards are extremely important, but none of them are meant to replace vigilance. It is the responsibility of each of us to be attentive to what is taking place around us to ensure the safest possible environment for ourselves and all

**Continued . . .**

**September 15—September 23, 2018**  
**Readings and Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, September 15** **4:30pm—Mass**  
**6:30pm—Spanish Mass**  
 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 [17]/Jn 19:25-27 or  
 Lk 2:33-35

**Sunday, September 16** **9:00am—Mass**  
 Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35  
*Mass intention for the People of the Parish*

**Monday, September 17** **4:30pm—Communion Service**  
 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1 Cor 11:26b]/  
 Lk 7:1-10

**Tuesday, September 18** **No Mass**  
 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [3]/Lk 7:11-17

**Wednesday, September 19** **4:30pm—Communion Service**  
 1 Cor 12:31--13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22 [12]/Lk 7:31-35

**Thursday, September 20** **8:30am—Communion Service**  
 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28 [1]/Lk 7:36-50

**Friday, September 21** **9:30am—Communion Service**  
 Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13

**Saturday, September 22** **4:30pm—Mass**  
**6:30pm—Spanish Mass**  
 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 [14]/Lk 8:4-15  
*Mass intention for Bobby Cotton & Kenneth Harrison*

**Sunday, September 23** **9:00am—Mass**  
 Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16--4:3/Mk 9:30-37  
*Mass intention for the People of the Parish*

**I will walk before the Lord,  
 in the land of the living. (Ps 114)**


**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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 others, especially our young people. The adage is correct, "If you see something, say something." To report the possible abuse of a minor please contact local law enforcement or Child Protective Services. If you were abused by a Church representative when you were a minor, or know someone who was, and seek support, please contact the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mrs. Becky Richard, M.S., L.P.C. at 409-924-4433. This information is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church.

We ought not rest until every church, every school, every sport facility, every home and every community is a safe environment for our children. They have the right to grow up in safe places where they experience only that which is healthy and holy. Let us do our part, now and always.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Msgr. Frank H. Rossi  
 Pastor

Sun. Sep 16 <i>Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Mon. Sep 17	Tues. Sep 18	Wed. Sep 19	Thurs. Sep 20	Fri. Sep 21	Sat. Sep 22
9:00am—Mass <i>Adult Faith Formation following Mass</i>	4:30pm— Communion Service		4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Communion Service 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE	8:30am—Communion Service 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	9:30am— Communion Service	3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
<b>Father will not be available.</b>						
Sun. Sep 23 <i>Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Mon. Sep 24	Tues. Sep 25	Wed. Sep 26	Thurs. Sep 27	Fri. Sep 28	Sat. Sep 29
9:00am—Mass <i>Adult Faith Formation following Mass</i>	4:30pm—Mass		4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE	8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	9:30am— Communion Service	3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass

**DO YOU LIKE TO COOK?  
 CAN YOU MAKE A MEAL FOR THE CHILDREN?**

Every Wednesday at 6:00pm the church provides a meal for the children attending CCE classes. Contact Twyla Darder, 409-384-0819, to volunteer to prepare a meal or make a donation.

Two or more can join  
 together to make the meal  
 more fun to prepare!



**Religious Articles**

Come and see new items for sale.

Browse on Saturday after Mass or  
 while having coffee on Sunday mornings.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please pray for: Nelda Leathem, Rosemary Urban, Ed Sanderson; Cindy Thompson, Don Watt, Iralene Ventrello; Mark Lunsford, Carol Moore, Amy Crossette, Jerry Dean, Bobbie Broussard, Cecil Schriver

Repose of the soul: Ricky Vining, Leslie Fourniquet

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**

September 8 & 9 Weekly Offering	<b>\$ 3,834.00</b>
Average Weekly Cost	<b>\$ 3,152.00</b>
Excess/Deficit	<b>\$ 682.00</b>

*Thank you for your generosity.*

We received a nice thank you note from Wheat Elementary's school nurse concerning the Helping Hands donations. It is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Be sure to stop and read it.

**Becoming an Authentic Catholic Woman**

2018 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, ORANGE, TX  
 ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC COMMUNITY,  
 SEPTEMBER 21 & 22, 2018

GUEST SPEAKER: LISA COTTER

Register for the **FREE** event at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com)  
 "St. Francis Women's Conference"

[www.stfranciswomensconference.wordpress.com](http://www.stfranciswomensconference.wordpress.com)

**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 21-22: Women's Conference, St. Francis of Assisi, Orange, TX  
 October 21: 25th, 50th, 50+ Anniversary Mass,  
 St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica, Beaumont, TX  
 October 27: Halloween Party after Mass