

**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:

It feels to me like it has been “open game” on the Catholic Church in the media for the last six months. It has been extremely painful for me to have such a barrage of news stories with the intention of putting the Catholic Church in the most negative light possible. Though there has certainly been a basis of fact in some of their reporting, the media has deliberately enflamed the issue by its sensationalizing of some perspectives and by underreporting facts that would help to keep a balanced perspective. Though even one abusive priest is one too many, it is important to note that the total number of priests/bishops who have had credible allegations made against them represents less than two percent of the number of priests who were in active ministry. This helps us to understand that the overwhelming number of priests are good and holy men, who are dedicated to serving the Church with integrity and holiness.

I have been a priest for over 35 years. I love my ministry and daily I thank God for calling me to the blessed vocation of the ordained priesthood and for allowing me to serve the Church in Texas as a priest. I firmly believe that the priesthood is one of the best professions on the planet and I most certainly encourage young men to be open to the possibility that God may be calling them to joyfully serve the Church as a priest.

Fr. David Toups works for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in the Office of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. He identified 10 things that he believes promote vocations to the priesthood. I would like to share a summary of his reflections with a little seasoning of my own.

- For all Catholic:
1. Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Jesus says in Matthew 9:38 “to beg the master of the harvest to send laborers into the vineyard”. If we want to ensure a future with a sufficiency of good priests, we need to beg God today!
  2. Teach young people to pray. Pope Benedict XVI rightly stated that unless young people know how to pray, they will never hear God calling them to a deeper relationship with him and into the discipleship of the Church.
  3. Invite teens and young adults to consider a vocation as a priest or religious. Don’t underestimate the importance of a sincere comment of encouragement. Think “ICNU”. Tell a young man, “I see in you (ICNU) the qualities that would make a good priest”. It is a non-invasive way to encourage openness to a religious vocation.
  4. Make the ministry sound attractive. When our young people hear adults say things like, “The homily was boring today” or “I didn’t get anything out of Mass”, etc. what is the message our children hear? If parents or trusted adults speak poorly of elements of the Catholic Church or priestly ministry, our young people will not be encouraged to consider the priesthood or religious life. Speaking positively of the Church and the priesthood will make the ministry sound more appealing. Let our young people know you would be proud to have a relative/friend as a priest or religious.
  5. Preach well. We priests must preach the joy of a priestly vocation by our words and our actions. A happy priest is a tremendous witness to the ministry and we priests must demonstrate how joy-filled our lives are by having the privilege of serving the Church as priests.

**February 10, 2019 - February 17, 2019**  
**Readings and Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, February 10** 9:00am—Mass  
 Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 [1c]/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11  
*Mass intention for the People of the Parish*

**Monday, February 11** 4:30pm—Mass  
 Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/  
 Mk 6:53-56  
*Mass intention for Ed Sanderson*

**Tuesday, February 12** No Mass  
 Gn 1:20-2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13

**Wednesday, February 13** 4:30pm—Mass  
 Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23

**Thursday, February 14** 8:30am—Mass  
 Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30

**Friday, February 15** 9:30am—Communion Service  
 Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37

**Saturday, February 16** 4:30pm—Mass  
6:30pm—Spanish Mass  
 Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10

**Sunday, February 17** 9:00am—Mass  
 Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 [40:5a]/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/  
 Lk 6:17, 20-26  
*Mass intention for the People of the Parish*

**In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord. (Ps 138)**

For those considering a vocation:

6. Practice the faith. The whole point of our lives is to grow in a deep, intimate and loving relationship with God. So, we must allow God into our full life.
7. Enter into silence. We can’t easily hear the voice of God if too many other voices block our receptivity. Find some quiet time and space each day for the Lord to speak.
8. Be a good disciple. The joy of priestly ministry finds its seed when we engage in discipleship (ministry). When we are involved in works of charity, God can speak to us through our service and help us to find joy in a life vocation of discipleship.
9. Ask God. Specifically ask God if he is calling you to a vocation in the Church. It is hard to hear an answer when we have not asked the question!
10. Just do it! If you think a vocation to the priesthood is a possibility, don’t delay your response. The seminary is the best place to discern a priestly vocation. Speak to one of us priests and we will help you actively proceed with the discernment process.

Surveys tell us that the two most important influences for a young man to consider a vocation as a priest are a supportive family and the example of a happy priest. I hope that you all can see in me a happy priest. I hope I can see in you a family that encourages young men to consider the priesthood!

Sincerely in Christ,

Msgr. Frank H. Rossi  
 Pastor

Sun. Feb 10	Mon. Feb 11	Tues. Feb 12	Wed. Feb 13	Thurs. Feb 14	Fri. Feb 15	Sat. Feb 16
<b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9:00am—Mass <i>Anointing During Mass</i> Faith Formation following Mass	4:30 pm—Mass 6:30pm—Men’s Club	6:30pm—RCLA	10:00am—Stewardship 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir Practice 6:00pm—CCE 7:00pm—Eucharist Adoration/Confessions	8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet 	9:30am—Communion Service	3:45-4:15pm: Confessions 4:30pm—Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
Sun. Feb 17	Mon. Feb 18	Tues. Feb 19	Wed. Feb 20	Thurs. Feb 21	Fri. Feb 22	Sat. Feb 23
<b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9:00am—Mass <i>Faith Formation following Mass</i>	4:30 pm—Mass	6:30pm—RCLA	4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir Practice NO CCE	8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	9:30am—Communion Service	3:45-4:15pm: Confessions 4:30pm—Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass

**Adult Faith Formation Classes**  
**Sundays after Mass**  
**Family Center Conference Room**

**NEW SERIES**

**The Turning Point**  
**The Gospel of John**

Led by Madeline Arnett

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

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

*Please pray for:* Bobbie Broussard, Bennie Mahaffey, Don Watt; Cathy & Lee Day, Nelda Leathem, Bently Lehman, John Abbott, Callie Abbott, Evelyn Schima; Jamie Richards, Mattison Witt, Bobbie Pesson, Norton Leger, Donna Crookes, Sr. Barbara Osterhaus, CVI, Jean Greaux, Bryan Entreklin

*Repose of the soul:* Matthew Day; James Figley

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>February 2 &amp; 3 Weekly Offering</b>	<b>\$ 4,236.20</b>
<b>Average Weekly Cost</b>	<b>\$ 3,152.00</b>
<b>Excess/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 1,084.20</b>

*Thank you for your generosity.*

**From Lifeshare Blood Center**

Thank you for your efforts in supporting the blood drive. Ten donors came on Sunday, January 20, 2019, to give blood for the community supply. The primary use for donated blood is to help cancer patients.

We look forward to this partnership in continuing to save lives together.

*Netty Giglio*

**CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL**  
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019  
 INFANT JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL

Two presentations on Discipleship: Deacon Bruce Grimes sharing about his call to the Diaconate, Deacon L.D. Keen discussing empowerment by the Holy Spirit leading us to Discipleship.

Music provided by Ted Nelson.

Refreshments, fellowship, worship and individual prayer will follow.

**All are welcome, so bring family and friends.**

**Upcoming Events**

February 16: Charismatic Renewal, Infant Jesus, Lumberton, TX

February 23: Mardi Gras Dance, 9pm-1am, Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Port Arthur, TX

March 7-10: Teen ACTS Retreat, Camp Takula, Chester, TX