

READINGS

August 21, 2016

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 66: 18-21

Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13

Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30

STEWARDSHIP

August 14th.....\$1,064

Our Lady of Wisdom relies on Bobcat Catholics like you for more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to their Catholic faith. Contact our Development Director, Daniel Glaze, to join this mission at 512-392-5925.

Earlier in his Gospel, Luke tells another parable of a master who's gone to bed and bolted the door. In that story the persistent neighbor manages to rouse his friend to get the bread he needs. But here, the master denies even knowing those who stand outside desperately knocking. The story here is that the narrow gate that leads to salvation won't remain open forever. God overflows with mercy, but God respects our freedom and won't force mercy upon us. The master's refusal to open the door isn't a metaphor for God's exhausted patience, but of our diminished capacity to accept God's mercy. At some point, we become incapable of asking. We shut our eyes and close our hearts, and the love God still seeks to give us can't find a home in us. No amount of knocking will be of any use because the door we knock on is our own; only we hold the key, but at that point, we're warned, we won't make use of

it. The words "I do not know where you are from" don't imply that God makes an issue of our place of origin; rather, they suggest the choices we make can change us into someone unrecognizable. Some will not find a home in the kingdom because they've already made a home somewhere else. Jesus speaks the truth with great regret that Gentiles who were last to hear the Gospel will enter the Kingdom ahead of those who were invited first (the Jews). It will take effort on our part to make choices that lead to the Kingdom.

from Workbook for Lectors



PLEASE CONSIDER BISHOP VÁSQUEZ' PRAYER

INTENTION FOR TODAY: For all students, teachers and staff as the new school year begins ...

PLEASE CONSIDER POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER

INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: That sports may be an opportunity for friendly encounters between peoples and may contribute to peace in the world ...

AND

That Christians may live the Gospel, giving witness to faith, honesty and love of neighbor ...

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Which is easier to pass through a narrow gate or a stone wall? Perspective is important. We may think of a narrow gate as restrictive. In fact, a narrow opening in an otherwise impervious barrier is wide compared to the alternative of no opening. Jesus is not looking for acquaintances or people who have seen him from a distance. He desires an intimate relationship without barriers. What sort of relationship do you want with the Lord?

ETHICS & INTEGRITY IN MINISTRY (EIM) NEARBY

OPPORTUNITY:

September 24, 2016

Saturday, 1:00pm– 3:15pm

St. John's in San Marcos

Please register at the Diocesan website ahead of time so that adequate material may be available.

austindiocese.org > Quick Links

Then > eAppsDB (for new applicants)

Or > EIM Workshops (to register for a workshop)

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS

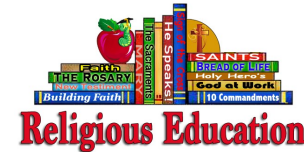
begins Thursday, Sept. 1st at 6:00pm, upstairs.

You can register on the Our Lady of Wisdom website, www.txstatecatholic.org> "Spiritual Growth" tab!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MONTHLY REPORT

July 2016, assisted 84 families with their utility bills, rent, prescriptions, temporary housing and other essentials in the amount of \$9,552. Including 14 homeless families. We continue to be overwhelmed with requests for assistance and we continue to coordinate with other agencies in an attempt to meet the needs of the poor and needy.

TODAY our second collection is for St. Vincent De Paul. Thank you for your continued generosity.



ENROLLMENT

Children from age 5– 18 are welcomed to enroll in our Religious Education program. Enrollment forms are available online at txstatecatholic.org> Spiritual Growth> Religious Education. Costs are 1 child \$30, 2 children \$50, 3+ children \$75. **Mandatory** parent meeting is Sunday August 28th after the 10am Mass in the library. Classes begin Sunday September 11th at 8:45am. More information on our website.

YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS

and the Diocese of Austin Office of Young Adult Ministry invite you to the inaugural YCP Austin Cocktail Reception Benefit. Join special guest Bishop Joe Vásquez on Wednesday, Aug. 31st to hear about how YCP Austin is working towards the goals of the Diocese of Austin Pastoral Plan. Details and a link to RSVP may be found <https://www.picatic.com/>

YCPBenefit2016. Please contact info@ycpaustin.org.

WELCOME BACK DINNER

Next Sunday

August 28th at 6pm!

BOBCAT AWAKENING #48

A 3DAY retreat hosted by college students for college students is now accepting retreat applications! Available at the reception counter or online. Go to txstatecatholic.org/retreatant-app. Retreat dates are Friday– Sunday Sept. 23rd– 25th.

PARKING POLICY

Starting Monday August 29th our parking will be reserved for permit parking only. We would like to invite those coming to daily Mass to park along our back fence line or to find street parking. Please be considerate.



STUDENT BBQ

This Thursday August 25th at 6pm we will have free hamburgers and hot dogs for new and returning students! All are welcomed!