



A Heart Slowly Divided from the Lord

When we read the Bible and hear about Solomon, it is both shocking and deeply instructive, because we are not speaking about an ordinary man. We are speaking about the most knowledgeable king who ever lived, the man who built the Temple of the Lord, the man to whom God appeared twice, the man who received extraordinary blessings, wisdom, riches, and honor. However, the Bible tells us a painful truth: When Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart to strange gods, and his heart was not entirely with the Lord. Dear friends how can a man who saw God's blessings so clearly slowly drift away from Him? The bible teaches us a very serious spiritual reality: that is to say no one falls suddenly. A fall always begins slowly, silently, almost invisibly. Solomon did not wake up one morning and say, Today I will worship idols. His fall did not begin with a big decision. It began with small compromises. First, he married foreign wives against the warning of God. Then, to please them, he allowed them to practice their religions. After that, he tolerated idol worship near him. Then he supported it by building shrines. Finally, he himself participated in it. Step by step, his heart slowly moved away from God. Dear friends this is how spiritual decline always happens. No one plans to lose faith. No one plans to drift away from God. It starts with small things we think are harmless. A small sin we excuse. A small prayer we skip. A small truth we ignore. It is like a little termite inside a wooden house. You will not see it from outside. The house may still look strong and beautiful. But slowly, silently, the termite keeps eating the wood from inside. One day, without warning, the structure becomes weak and can collapse. In the same way, small compromises silently eat away our spiritual strength. What looks harmless today can weaken our relationship with God tomorrow. So dear friends Solomon's story is a warning for us. The problem was not that he stopped believing in God suddenly. The problem was that he slowly allowed other things to take God's place in his heart. His heart was no longer entirely with the Lord. That is the danger. We may still come to church, still pray, still call ourselves believers, but our heart may be divided. So we must ask ourselves: What are the small compromises in my life? What are the little things that are quietly pulling my heart away from God? Because spiritual downfall never happens in one day. It happens step by step, choice by choice, compromise by compromise. Let us learn from Solomon. Let us guard our hearts carefully. Let us repair the small cracks before they become a disaster. Let us keep our hearts entirely with the Lord.

Amen.

Fr. Joseph Puthen

Saturday, February 21

5:00 p.m. † J.R. Sanchez (birthday) & Ramiro Sanchez, Jr. (17th anniv) by the family
 † Oscar Ramon (anniv) by the family

Sunday, February 22

8:00 a.m. PARISHIONERS
 9:30 a.m.(E) † Guadalupe R. Vasquez (17th anniv) & Homero Vasquez, Sr. (13th anniv) by the family
 11:15 a.m. † Manuela Lopez by the family
 † David & Esperanza Longoria by Edna Balderas & Martha Ruiz
 † Raymundo Salazar on the 1st anniversary by the family
 † JoAnn Vela (3rd anniv) by the family

Monday, February 23

NO COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday, February 24

7:00 a.m. †
 12:05 p.m. † Pherba Wilson (anniv) by the family

Wednesday, February 25

7:00 a.m. †
 12:05 p.m. † Eliezar G. Saenz, Jr. by Roel Perez

Thursday, February 26

7:00 a.m. †
 12:05 p.m. † Dana Garcia on the 1st anniversary by the family

Friday, February 27

7:00 a.m. All Intentions
 12:05 p.m. † Sofia C. Perez & Victor Perez by the family

Saturday, February 28

5:00 p.m. † Teresa Moreno Lopez (birthday) by the family
 † Dale Yaklin by St. Anne's Altar Society
 † Eliberto Cantu, Maria & Eduardo Garza by the family

Sunday, March 1

8:00 a.m. PARISHIONERS
 9:30 a.m.(E) †
 11:15 a.m. † Victor Perez by the family



Guadalupe Fundraiser

On behalf of the Guadalupe Club, the members would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and thanks to everyone who purchased a baked good. Thank you also to those of you who gave a monetary donation. It was a huge success!

Parish Tithes and Offerings Feb 14 & 15

Sacred Heart Parish

Regular Collection: \$3498.25

Online Giving: \$660.00

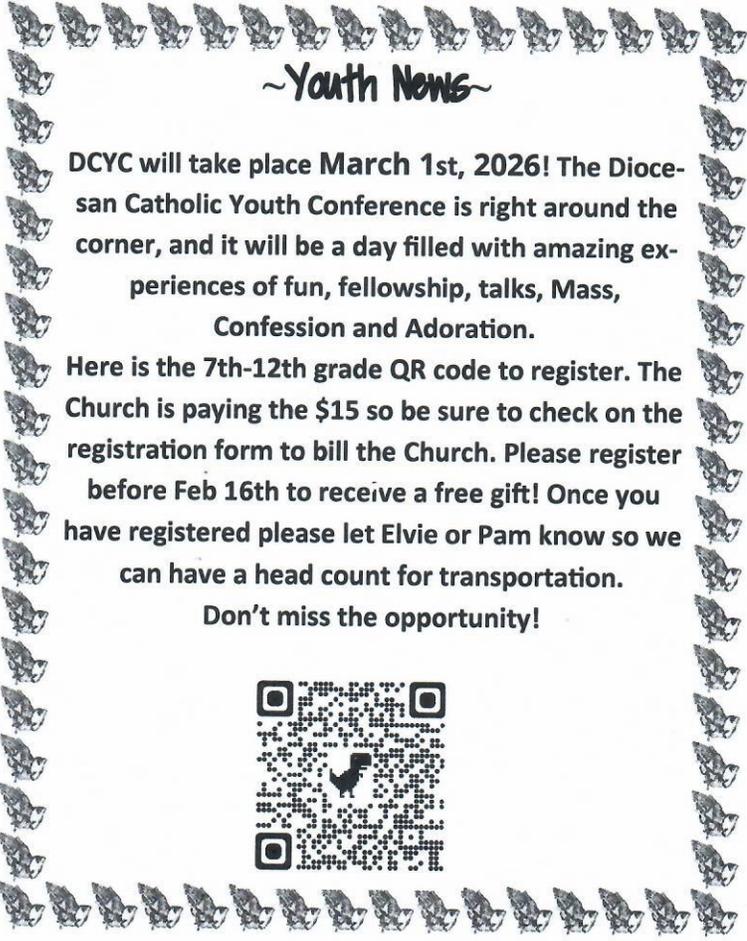
St. Anne Mission

Regular Collection: \$610.00



Parish Meetings & Events

- Feb 25 Lenten Discussion @ 7:00 pm in the OLG Chapel
 Feb 27 Stations of the Cross @ 6:30 pm in the Church
 Mar 4 Lenten Discussion @ 7:00 pm in the OLG Chapel
 Mar 6 Stations of the Cross @ 6:30 pm in the Church
 Mar 8 Daylight Saving time—Fall Forward 1 hour
 Mar 11 Lenten Discussion @ 7:00 pm in the OLG Chapel



~Youth News~

DCYC will take place March 1st, 2026! The Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference is right around the corner, and it will be a day filled with amazing experiences of fun, fellowship, talks, Mass, Confession and Adoration.

Here is the 7th-12th grade QR code to register. The Church is paying the \$15 so be sure to check on the registration form to bill the Church. Please register before Feb 16th to receive a free gift! Once you have registered please let Elvie or Pam know so we can have a head count for transportation. Don't miss the opportunity!



Knights of
Columbus

Family of the Month

Marty and Josie Cabrera




Altar Society Schedule

For the Month of February:

have the privilege of cleaning the sanctuary:

Anna G., Socorro S., Margie T.; Nora H.

Cleaning the side altars:

Inez G.

**Jesus beckons us to silence
as a source of Healing**

By Amy Ekeh

In a world full of brokenness, sometimes healers need healing too. Jesus reminds us that silence can restore our strength.

He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while."

Mark 6:31

I'd heard the phrase "silence is golden" all my life. But I can't say I really understood it until one stressful day when my daughters were young. Money was tight, my husband was working long hours, and I was neck-deep in the care of young children. As a prolific healer, there's no doubt Jesus of Nazareth knew this healing power of silence very well. And yet it isn't easy to find silence in the pages of the gospels. In fact, the fast-paced, jam-packed daily gospel readings leading up to Lent attest to the fact that, by all accounts, Jesus' day-to-day ministry was quite noisy. In some accounts we see Jesus actively seeking silence as an intentional part of the healing process. Whether he simply desired silence or actually needed it to heal, we can't be sure. But we know he was deliberate about creating it. In several of these stories, Jesus creates silence by physically removing someone from crowds and noise. When a crowd brings Jesus a man who is deaf and has difficulty speaking, Mark writes that Jesus "took him aside in private, away from the crowd" (7:33). Immediately after the healing, Jesus asks for more silence ("Jesus ordered them to tell no one"), but the crowd does not comply ("the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it"). The irony of this disobedience only reinforces why Jesus sometimes leaves the crowds behind: Because they talk too much. Later, when a man who is blind is brought to Jesus, Mark tells us that Jesus "took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village" (8:23). Both of these quiet, secluded healings require extra effort from Jesus. Early in Mark's gospel we're told of times when Jesus retreated to deserted places and countrysides (1:35, 45). Later, when his ministry was in full swing and his disciples had also experienced the demands of mission, he invited them to "come away to a deserted place" by themselves to "rest a while" (6:31). Imagining these quiet scenes is a worthwhile prayer exercise for us, especially if we are new to the practice of silence. First, imagine the reality of Jesus' daily ministry—saturated with crowds, activity, needs, and noise. We can relate to these busy, noisy days. Then imagine Jesus in a deserted place or out in the country, surrounded only by the sounds of night and day—the wind in the trees, a crackling fire, rainfall, birdcall. Imagine Jesus sitting quietly—resting, thinking, and just being. Imagine the restoration of his mind, body, and heart in these quiet times, immersed only in the gentle sounds of the natural world. Jesus knew why silence—even in small pools or fleeting moments—is golden. Silence calms us. It lowers our blood pressure and increases our focus. It allows us to hear the voice within rather than the sounds without. The mind and heart are activated and refreshed. **In a world full of needs and noise, silence heals.**

VOCATIONAL CROSS



5:00 p.m. Mass

Feb 21-Feb 28 Lisa Molina
 Feb 28-Mar 7 Dora Garza
 Mar 7-Mar 14 Anna Grossman

8:00 a.m. Mass

Feb 22-Mar 1 Lucy Flint
 Mar 1-Mar 8 Gloria Richardson
 Mar 8-Mar 15 Oralia & Rosendo Garcia

11:15 a.m. Mass

Feb 22-Mar 1 Rick & Cindy Salinas
 Mar 1-Mar 8 Carlos & Elvie Salinas
 Mar 8-Mar 15 Irene Escalante

St. Anne Misson

9:30 a.m. Mass

Feb 22-Mar 1 Dora Barrera
 Mar 1-Mar 8 Connie Perez
 Mar 8-Mar 15 Laura Gutierrez



Feb 15-28

The Sanctuary Candle in the Church is burning for:

Anne Negri & Shorty Solomon, Jr.

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in the Guadalupe Chapel is burning

for:

Basilio & Florinda Narvaez

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in the Schoenstatt Chapel is burning

for:

Albert Galvan

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in St. Anne Mission is burning

for:

By the family

Prayers Before Mass

Schedule for Saturdays at 4:25 pm

FEB 07
14

STATIONS 21 Mary Costley

STATIONS 28

MAR 07

Lent 1st Week

Lent 2nd Week

Lent 3rd Week STATIONS



Prayer Blanket Ministry



This ministry will be making blankets for people in our parish who are seriously ill. These blankets will be blessed and given to everyone on our list. Prayer is very powerful and we ask everyone in our parish to pray for these individuals on the prayer list:

2-22-26

Lupita Garza
Melba Garcia

2-15-26

Jason Baldez
Sally Arredondo
Mari Villa
Tony Garza, III
Ofelia Agular
Belia Gutierrez
Irma Phelps

2-8-26

Albert Villarreal
Diana Barrera
Yoli & Jesus Longoria
Lily Garcia
Nori Garcia
Jason Alegria
Adrian Reyes

2-1-26

Margaret Solomon Story
Carol Carpenter
Jim Bryant
Imelda Cantu
Agueda A. Garza
Javier Carrizales
Joyce Martinez
Odon Perez

1-25-26

Joel Mora
Bel Rivera
Leona Hill
Albesa Gonzalez
Gloria Guerra

February Devotion: The Holy Family

Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of February has been primarily associated with the holy Family, probably due to the feast of Our Lord's presentation at the temple, celebrated on February 2. At the very outset of Christ's work on earth, God showed the world a family in which, as Pope Leo XIII teaches, "all men might behold a perfect model of domestic life, and of all virtue and holiness." The harmony, unity, and holiness which characterized this holy Family make it the model for all Christian families.

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, help us ever to follow the example of Your holy Family, that in the hour of our death Your glorious Virgin Mother together with Saint Joseph may come to meet us, and we may be worthy to be received by You into the everlasting joys of heaven. You live and reign forever. Amen.

