

July 12, 2026

Pastor Message



When Blessings Make Us Forget God

Every one of us prays for blessings. We ask God for good health, a better job, success in our studies, peace in our families, and financial security. There is nothing wrong with these prayers because God is a loving Father who delights in blessing His children. Yet there is a danger that we rarely think about: sometimes the very blessings we prayed for become the reason we slowly drift away from the One who gave them. When life is difficult, we naturally cling to God. We attend Mass more faithfully, pray with greater sincerity, and place our trust in Him because we know how deeply we need His help. However, when God answers our prayers by giving us a promotion, helping our business grow, restoring our health, or blessing our children with success, something subtle can happen. Without even realizing it, our lives become so full that we begin to make less room for God. We find time for work, entertainment, shopping, vacations, and social media, yet somehow, we convince ourselves that we have little time left for prayer. That is why the Bible repeatedly warns us that success can become a greater test than failure. During difficult times, we recognize our dependence on God, but in times of prosperity we can easily begin to rely on ourselves. Therefore, the real question is not whether God has blessed us; rather, it is whether His blessings have brought us closer to Him or quietly drawn our hearts away from Him. A tree that is loaded with fruit never stops depending on its roots. On the contrary, the more fruit it bears, the deeper and stronger its roots must become in order to support its growth. In the same way, the more God blesses our lives, the more deeply rooted we should become in prayer, humility, and gratitude. Our success should never become greater than our dependence on God because every good thing we possess has its source in Him. For that reason, never forget where you came from. Remember the prayers you once offered with tears. Remember the sleepless nights when you cried out to God for help, guidance, and strength. The God who carried you through your struggles has not changed; He is the same God who now walks beside you in your moments of success. Since He has remained faithful to you, let your heart remain faithful to Him. True gratitude is much more than simply saying, Thank You. It is a way of living that honors the Giver through faith, obedience, and love. Every blessing we receive should become another reason to worship God more faithfully, to serve others more generously, and to walk with greater humility. If today you enjoy good health, thank God. If your family is together, thank God. If you have meaningful work, thank God. If there is food on your table and another day of life before you, thank God, for every one of these gifts comes from His loving hand. Above all, never allow the gifts to become more important than the Giver. Instead, as your success increases, let your faith increase even more. As your income grows, let your generosity grow with it. As your responsibilities become greater, let your prayer life become deeper. In this way, every blessing will become another step toward God instead of another step away from Him. So dear friends let us always remember this simple but life-changing truth: the greatest blessing is not merely what God gives us, but that God Himself is with us. If we never lose sight of Him, then no blessing will ever become a curse, no success will ever lead us astray, and every gift we receive will draw us closer to the One who is the source of every good and perfect gift.

Amen.

Fr. Joseph Puthen

INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK



Mass
Schedule

Saturday, July 11

5:00 p.m. † Lauro Almaraz by the family
† J.W. Jackson by Jesse Howell & family
† Hector R. Garcia (47th anniv) & Mateo Garcia
by Lydia Villa

Sunday, July 12

8:00 a.m. PARISHIONERS
9:30 a.m.(E) † Oscar, Angelita & Nori Ramirez by the family
11:15 a.m. † Maria & Flo Pineda & Glondina Pena by
Ericelda De Leon & family
† Rodolfo R. Gutierrez (birthday) by family
† Judd Went by Jose & Jessica Paredes
† Jazlynn Garza & Lorenzo Munoz by the family

Monday, July 13

NO COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday, July 14

7:00 a.m. † Alfonso Garcia by Estella Anzualda

Wednesday, July 15

7:00 a.m. † Rodolfo Gutierrez by Estella Anzualda

Thursday, July 16

7:00 a.m. † Elva Costley by the family

Friday, July 17

7:00 a.m. † Nora Reyes & Raul Garza by the family

Saturday, July 18

5:00 p.m. † Alberto Byington, Sr. (14th anniv) by the family
† Juventina V. Gonzalez by Roel & Susie Saenz

Sunday, July 19

8:00 a.m. PARISHIONERS
9:30 a.m.(E) †
11:15 a.m. † Lito Mary & Ray De Leon by the family
† Thelma Sylvia Barrera (anniv) by the family

OCIA CLASSES

We will start signing up for anyone (18 and over) who needs 1st Communion, Confirmation or wants to receive all of their Sacraments. Please call the Parish Office to make your appointment or if you have any questions at 361-325-3455.

Parish Tithes and Offerings June 27 & 28

Sacred Heart Parish

Regular Collection: \$2557.89

Online Giving: \$735.94

St. Anne Mission

Regular Collection: \$349.00

Parish Tithes and Offerings July 4 & 5

Sacred Heart Parish

Regular Collection: \$4316.72

Online Giving: \$690.00

St. Anne Mission

Regular Collection: \$688.51



Parish Meetings & Events

- July 15 Adoration from 8:00 am. to 7:00pm Schoenstatt Chapel
 July 21 Knights of Columbus Meeting: 7:00 pm Parish Hall
 July 22 Adoration from 8:00 am. to 7:00pm Schoenstatt Chapel

~Youth News~

Registration for 2026-2027

Religious Ed Classes

It's that time again to register your children for Religious Ed class! Any NEW students ONLY, will register at the Parish Office and you must bring in baptismal certificate if baptized in another parish starting August 1st. Everyone else who is a returning student will start to register on July 27th.

Any questions please call 361-325-3455.

Registration is \$20 per family.



**Knights of
Columbus**

Family of the Month

Ramiro Olivarez



DRESS MODESTLY in God's House

Our attire for Holy Mass reflects our reverence for God, the sacred space, and one another.

☒ INAPPROPRIATE ATTIRE

- No Shorts
- No Revealing Clothing
- No Short Trousers

☒ APPROPRIATE ATTIRE

- Long Trousers & Polo Shirt
- Modest Dresses or Skirts
- Blouse with Long Skirt

Respecting the sacred space begins with the way we dress.

RESPECTING THE SUMMER HEAT.
Please choose light, breathable, yet modest clothing that covers the body with dignity.



Spread the Word

By Judith Valente

Today's readings are filled with references to the earth and the natural cycle of growth. It seems appropriate for the halfway mark of summer. Where I live in the Midwest, this is a bountiful time when the corn is growing taller, tomatoes are ripening on the vines, and the hydrangeas and other summer flowers are in glorious full bloom.

Like this time in summer, today's readings are a feast of both wisdom and metaphor. The Gospel compares the teachings of Jesus to seeds cast on the wind. The soil that the seeds fall upon resembles the heart. Sometimes anger or resentment hardens the soil of the heart, and it cannot nurture the Word of God. Sometimes worry and fear fill us with distraction, and we neglect to give God's Word the attention it deserves. And sometimes we just aren't listening, we're too occupied with the other business of life to help anything worthwhile grow.

And what about the Sower? The parable is not only about how well we receive the Word, but how well we spread it. How well are we living a life centered on service, mercy, and compassion that Jesus modeled? As the old saying goes: Preach the Gospel always, use words if necessary.

There is still more food for thought in this long parable. It is a warning to all of us who listen to the Scriptures read at Mass, who might even read holy texts regularly, but who *look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand*. We are meant not only to see, listen, and understand, but also to *live* the life to which Jesus is calling us. In these ongoing days of summer, when we hear or read the words of Jesus, may we pray to truly listen and understand them. May we let them sink into the soil of our heart and take root there. May our hearts be changed. May we find healing in the words.



~Flowers on the Altar~



Maria & Flo Pineda &
Glondina Pena
By the family

Needing 7th & 8th Grade

Religious Ed Teachers

Can be couples or teams

Please call the Parish Office if interested or
for more information! 361-325-3455

VOCATIONAL CROSS



5:00 p.m. Mass

July 11-July 18 Edna Balderas
July 18-July 25 Claudia Cantu
July 25-Aug 1 Mary Costley

8:00 a.m. Mass

July 12-July 19 Oralia & Rosendo Garcia
July 19-July 26 Connie & Arturo Garcia
July 26-Aug 2 Grace Charles

11:15 a.m. Mass

July 12-July 19 Pam Cabrera
July 19-July 26 Gilbert & Dominique Alegria
July 26-Aug 2 Rick & Cindy Salinas

St. Anne Misson

9:30 a.m. Mass

July 12-July 19 Alicia Cantu
July 19-July 26 Beltrando & Nora Soliz
July 26-Aug 2 Diana Martinez

Devotion for July

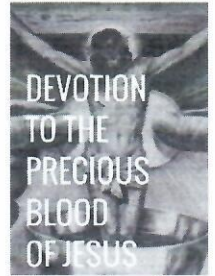
Prayer of Protection by the Precious Blood of Jesus

Lord JESUS, by faith in your merits, I now take your Precious Blood and sprinkle it over myself and my family right from the crown of my head to the very soles of my feet. I claim total and complete protection for my life and my family.

Lord JESUS, keep me free today from evil, sin, temptation, Satan's attacks and afflictions, fear of darkness, fear of man, sickness, diseases, doubts, anger, all calamities and from all that is not of thy Kingdom.

Fill me Lord JESUS with gift of your Holy Spirit and grant me the gift of wisdom, knowledge, understanding and discernment so that I will live today in your glory by doing that which is right.

Amen.



JULY 5-18



The Sanctuary Candle in the **Church** is burning for:

Gustavo Barrera

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in the **Guadalupe Chapel** is burning for:

Eliezar & Estella Saenz, Sr. & Ida Saenz

By Enedelia Saenz

The Sanctuary Candle in the **Schoenstatt Chapel** is burning for:

Jose Homero, Homer & Orlando Villarreal, Jr.

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in **St. Anne Mission** is burning for:

By



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:

7-12-26

Carlos Garcia, Jr.
Sylvia Lopez
Prissy Aguilar
Agueda A. Garza

6-28-26

Carrie Garcia
Jillian Cantu
Marshal Ramirez
Norma Villarreal
Albert Villarreal
Diana Barrera
Yoli & Jesus Longoria
Lily Garcia
Nori Garcia

6-21-26

Janie Garcia
Frankie Tijerina
Fred Lopez
Francisco Montalvo
Mary Ellen Bonner
Anna Grossman
Diana G. Cantu
Ronie Guerra
Neri Almendarez