



# St. John of the Cross

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## Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 6, 2025

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Isaiah 66:10-14c / Galatians 6:14-18 / Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9



## Good News!

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**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Isaiah 66:10-14c / Galatians 6:14-18 / Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**If you could change one aspect of your life, what would that be?** Financial instability? Arthritis? Addiction? A disruptive family member? Work's daily grind? Finding love? No doubt the answers are as varied as the people who answer the question.

Though the old poster advises us to “bloom where you are planted,” sometimes we can feel as if we’ve been planted among weeds—the people we’ve been given, the problems that continually pop up, the conflicts that all too often shut out the peace we seek. Just as Jesus sends disciples into every place he intends to visit, the reality for us may very well be that he sends us into the very lives we live even though we wish we could change them. Where we are is where we’ve been sent. It is in the lives we have that we work out our salvation, for Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is at hand for you” (Luke 10:9).

St. Paul emphasized how important it is for disciples of Jesus to live out their identity as a new creation. British artist and sculptor Henry Moore made the observation that, in life, it is most important that we give ourselves over to a goal or dream, something so all-consuming that we live it morning, noon, and night. And the most important aspect of it, he said, is that it must be something we cannot possibly accomplish. For the followers of Jesus, it is the lifelong task to bloom where we’ve been planted. ●

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### Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 6:00 PM**

**Sunday:**

7:30 AM & 11:00 AM ~ English

6:00 PM ~ Spanish

**Daily Mass:**

Mon., Tues., & Fri. ~ 8:00 AM

Thurs.(Sp.) ~ 6:00 PM

**1st Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM**

**Adoration**

**Thurs.~ Spanish—6:30PM**

### Reconciliation

**Thursday: 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Saturday: 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

**Sunday: 5:30 PM**

Please contact Fr. Patrick by phone or email if you need to make an appointment for **Confession** or **Anointing of the Sick**.

### Parish Office Hours

**Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs:**

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**CLOSED FOR LUNCH**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

**OFFICE IS CLOSED**

**Fri., Sat., & Sun.**

# Worship, Prayer, & Ministries

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

<b>Sat.-5</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	† Gary Graham by Janet Graham
	<b>6:00PM</b>	† Praxesdis Jimenez by Raquel S. Jimenez † Penny Lynch by Sharry Stipp † John Robinson by Jana Robinson † Cristela Solano and † Vivian Solano by Graciela and Pablo Alaniz
<b>Sun.-6</b>	<b>7:30AM</b>	† Consuelo Gamez (Heavenly birthday) by Family † Fermin Vasquez by Family Special Intention by Jana Robinson Living and Deceased Members of the Altar Society
	<b>11:00AM</b>	† Yolanda Ochoa by Her Loving Husband In memory of the wedding anniversary of † Jose and Eloisa Gonzalez by Eloisa Gonzalez Healing of Sissy Thomas by Family Special intention for our military service members by Friends
	<b>6:00PM</b>	Las familias de la parroquia
<b>Mon.-7</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	† Sister Margaret Mary by Friends † Johnathan Mankin (Heavenly birthday) by Ellie Mankin
<b>Tues.-8</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	† David Gaza by nephews: Ben, Caesar, and Sammy Gaza Kevin and Nikki Herr on their wedding anniversary by Schneider Family
<b>Thurs.-10</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>	† Aurelio Garza por Anita Bazan
	<b>SPA 6:30PM</b>	<b>ADORACIÓN / HORA SANTA</b>
<b>Fri.- 11</b> <b>St. Benedict, Abbot</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	† Margie Leon-Guerrero (Heavenly birthday) by Ellie Mankin Bill Schneider (Birthday) by Schneider Family

## Masses for July 12 & 13

<b>Sat.- 12</b>	<b>6 :00PM</b>	† Feliciano Borrego, Jr. by Dalia and Nina Borrego
<b>Sun.—13</b>	<b>7:30AM</b>	† Tom and † Laura Karkoska by Migura Family † Freddy Serna, Jr., by Murray Family † Fermin Vasquez by Family † Karen Williamson by Gertrude Bruns and Family Living and Deceased Members of the St. John of the Cross Cemetery Association
	<b>11:00AM</b>	† Don McCloskey (3rd anniv.) by Martha McCloskey † Nora Lee Nuñez (3rd anniv.) by Janie Flores Special Intention for Liza Ochoa and Family by Liza Ochoa
	<b>6:00PM</b>	Las familias de la parroquia



The sanctuary light is offered in memory of

**Praxesdis Jimenez**

By Raquel S. Jimenez

**Sanctuary light and altar flowers** ~ You may sponsor the sanctuary light and / or the altar flowers in honor of or for the repose of the soul of a loved one, for special intentions, or in celebration of special occasions like birthdays or wedding anniversaries.

Please contact the office for more information.



## Ministry Schedule for Mass

### Ministry Schedule



**July 12— 6:00PM—Lector:** Liza Ochoa  
**EM:** San Juanita Gaza, Sharry Stipp, Mary Villarreal, Laura Adams

**July 13—7:30AM— Lector:** Rick Svetlik  
**EM:** Maria Miller, Margie Svetlik, Luz Paiz, Annette Rivera

**11:00AM-Lector:** Janie Flores  
**EM:** Maria Galvan-Gordon, Dee DeLeon, Rose Puente Polk, Dora Paiz

**6:00PM-Lector—** Jose Isais  
**EM—** Maria Graciella, Esmeralda Castro

## PRAYER LIST

We continue to pray for the needs of those in our parish:

**John Delaney, Art Forbes, Angelica Frees, Cindy Lopez, Lopez Family, Georgina Marsey, Antonio Medrano, Diana Sandoval, Amilia Nicole Smithwick, Sissy Thomas, Diana Villarreal, and Mark Wofford**



*The names of newly added persons will remain for three weeks. Contact the Parish Office if names need to be added to the prayer list.*

*Praying for expecting mothers and their babies:*  
**Grace Hill, Theresa Laurienti, and Laura Perez**



## Praying for our Military

**We remember these service personnel in each 'Mass for the Families of the Parish'**

**Air Force:** Preston Holliday, Christopher Randall Lauer II, Alayah Moore, Audrey Winstead

**Army:** Father Jim Craig, Magdeleena Delaney, Celine De Los Santos, Allen McDonald, Jacob Madrid, Fernando Ramos III, Anthony Rios, Tyree Winstead

**Coast Guard:** Corey Bunton and Joshua Salinas

**Marines:** Aurora Alarcon, Hunter Frees, and Andre Rodriguez

**Navy:** Cory Elyasevich and Noah Vasquez



Please pray for our  
**ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY!**

Please call the parish office or use the online form to submit names & branch of service

1. Go to [www.st-johnog.org](http://www.st-johnog.org)
2. hover mouse on ABOUT tab
3. click on 'Active Military Prayer Request'

# A Note From Our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

This week I start with a story that can be retold about everyone in the parish. It could be a homeowner or the housekeeper or even another person living in the home.

Each time you drive up to the house or survey the interior of the house or that dreaded child's bedroom, we might say, "It is still in good condition, enough for now anyway." There are only a few places where the paint is chipped on the exterior of the house, or "we can still see outside through the smudges on the windows", or "there still is a walkway into the child's room", and "yes" it needs to be taken care of, but it is "okay" for now. And it may go that way for weeks, or for the house, even for years - but eventually comes the day when "the okay for now no longer works." And then comes the major exterior house painting job. Or it is that extra deep "spring" house cleaning for every inch of the house's interior. And it may be calling in the biohazard team to take care of the piles of items in the child's room. The putting off of the job until it is "absolutely necessary" is common for most houses and even for companies. But when that decision comes that we can no longer put it off, we have to set up the plan and the budget to get these major renovations done. Well, that day has come for our parish, and we are embarking on planning and budgeting.

Over the next few weeks, I will be presenting these "cannot put off anymore" projects in an individual manner so everyone can understand the task, the reason it needs to be done now, and the crucial importance it means for our parish.



The stucco on the exterior of the Church is original to the church built in 1951 and has lasted for over 75 years. After that long you can see in these pieces of stucco that have fallen off that the interior fasteners to the wall and the metal stucco mesh have rusted through and are no longer attached to the concrete and cinder block structure of the church. That is also seen in the hole in the stucco next to the handrail at the entrance on the front of the church.

On the north side of the church's portico you can see another total collapse of the stucco. Then above the church portico is the exterior ledge for the choir loft windows, another example of the extensive repair work to be done. These are only the places where you can see the extent of the damage to the stucco over these 75 years. But these places indicate the entire stucco on the exterior of the church is also in the same condition.



On each side of the church are the six exterior support structures for the roof and the walls. Both top and the bottom of the supports show the repair work to be done is for the entire exterior stucco of the church.

There is no way to "patch" stucco when the extent of the interior parts of the stucco cannot be seen. All the stucco has to be removed and replaced with new stucco.

The preliminary estimate from two years ago for the stucco job for the entire church exterior was around \$300,000.00. This is a repair to the church that will have to be done for the integrity of the entire church structure. It cannot be ignored but must be done in the near future. That our stucco has lasted for over seventy five years is itself quite a blessing for the church.

This is the first and most important project of six infrastructure repairs for our church. In order to make these repairs, the parish is establishing a Parish's Capital Campaign. The first meeting of this Campaign Committee was held last Thursday. This is a project/campaign that will involve the whole parish. The committee will be seeking more people to help get this done. Over the next few weeks I will be describing the other major projects that are part of this campaign. In total we will need to raise between \$600,000.00 and \$675,000.00. The committee is looking into applications for grants from foundations. To apply for a loan from the diocese, we must have one-half of the money needed for any of the projects in our parish account before we can even sign contracts.

This is not an impossible task as this parish has already held successful Capital Campaigns for the construction of the Office/Rector's Building and the new Religious Education Building. The 2010 Church renovations done to the interior of the church was also successful. This is the first of several bulletin letters to share the basic information. We hope to have everything ready for a September appeal for the campaign. Please begin to consider what you might be able to support this campaign. I am very aware of the hard economic times we are suffering under, but this a sacrifice of your heart for our parish. Please pray for the success of the campaign. There is more to come!

Love and Prayers,

Fr. Patrick



# Stewardship of Treasure

Week #52	COLLECTION	Totals Prior	Goal	Actual	Total Annual	YTD Goal	TOTAL OFFERTORY
6/29/2025	Envelope Collection	\$ (13,986.25)	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,516.00	\$ (13,870.25)	\$ 124,800.00	
	Loose Collection	\$ (8,886.99)	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 869.00	\$ (9,267.99)	\$ 65,000.00	
	On-Line Collection	\$ (3,229.94)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (587.27)	\$ (5,317.21)	\$ 78,000.00	
	TOTAL Collection	\$ (26,103.18)	\$ 5,150.00	\$ 2,797.73	\$ (28,455.45)	\$ 267,800.00	\$ 239,344.55

## Parish Organizations

PARISH COUNCIL

NEXT MEETING: JULY 7 @ 6PM

PARISH MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

NEXT MEETING: JULY 11 @ 2:30PM

ALTAR SOCIETY

July Processional—Bertha Forbes - July 6 @ 11AM

### ALTAR DUTY CLEANING SCHEDULE

July 10-12— Mrs. Sharry Stipp, Dara Jenkins, Danae Foster, Shelly Ortiz

July 17-19— Mrs. Margie Svetlik, Ms. Kathy Mussman, Mrs. Shanna Dunn, Mrs. Kati Pesek, Mrs. Samantha Everett

## SOCIEDAD GUADALUPANA



Corporate Mass—July 20 @ 7:30AM

Rosary @ 7:00AM

Leader: Norma Cornejo

Offertory: Jennifer and Jessica Alejandro

Roses provided to Our Lady of Guadalupe by Gracie Alaniz and Bea Garcia.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS # 8335



NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 5

CASA DE LUCY

MEETS TUESDAYS @ 9AM



Casa de Lucy is taking the month of July off and will resume sewing on August 5.

## Altar Servers



Congratulations to our altar servers who received their purple sash for ten years of service: **Craig Gordon, Vincent Gordon, Logan Rodriguez, Layton Rodriguez, and Linden Rodriguez.**

We extend a special thanks to **Antonio (Tony) Silva** who after having served his ten years and two additional years at the altar is moving to Houston to continue his education and served at Mass for the last time.

## Works of Mercy



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions:

**St. Francis of Assisi** on **Saturday, July 26**, at 9AM

**St. John of the Cross** on **Thursday, August 7**, at 9AM

The next bread and pastries distribution

at **SJoC** will be on **July 9** at 9AM

and at **SFOA** on **Saturday, July 12.**



## Vacation Bible School

Ages kinder thru fifth grade are invited to join us on a Northern excursion filled with fun and faith.

VBS

July 14—18

5:30PM—8:00PM

Registration forms are available at st-john.org, in the church foyer, and the parish office.



# Diocesan News

## PROTECT YOURSELF



Deacon Lee Alvarado, Director of the Office of Information Technology, reminds us that there are three types of social engineering: digital, in-person, and phone attacks. An informative document has been posted on the church bulletin board and is a valuable resource to help avoid these types of attacks. Remember to always STOP, LOOK, AND THINK.

**2025 Catechetical Convocation** ~ Registration is now open for the 2025 Catechetical Convocation, formerly known as the Faith Educators' Workshop. It will be held on Saturday, August 23, at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church.

This annual convocation welcomes all priests, deacons, directors of religious education (DREs), catechists, youth ministers, young adult ministers, OCIA team members, marriage preparation team members, and Catholic school theology teachers.

The event offers a unique opportunity for spiritual renewal, professional development, and communal worship. The registration fee is \$20 per participant, and the deadline to register is Friday, August 8, 2025. Scan the QR code to register.



The latest Young Adult Book Study will focus on *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love in the Family) by Pope Francis, every Thursday through July 31st from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at St. Helena of the True Cross Parish on Wooldridge Rd. Each participant is responsible for their own copy of the book. Come ready to learn, discuss and meet new friends in faith!

To RSVP or for inquiries, contact the Office of Young Adult Ministry: [soconnor@diocesecc.org](mailto:soconnor@diocesecc.org) or Sofia at [ycacctx@gmail.com](mailto:ycacctx@gmail.com).

## Community



Thank you, thank you, thank you, St. John of the Cross and St. Francis community!  
There were 25 units of blood donated last weekend.  
That is equivalent to 75 lives saved!



### Patrice Adams Foundation—Benefit Dinner and Dance \* Live & Silent Auction

Saturday, September 27, 2025 at Orange Grove Rifle Club

Doors open at 6:00PM. Drawing begins at 6:30PM. Dancing from 8:00PM—12:00 midnight.

Donation: \$100 for two people

Website: [patriceadamsfoundation.org](http://patriceadamsfoundation.org)

Live music featuring  
Nashville artist:  
J.R. Castillo & Unwound



St. John of the Cross Catholic Church

**SOCIEDAD GUADALUPANAS**

**BINGO IN JULY FUNDRAISER**

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Parish Hall

Doors open at 12:00pm for Food and Drinks

BINGO starts at 1:00pm

\$20.00 for BINGO book for 10 Games (4 to a page)



# Dear Padre,

***At Mass during the Our Father, should we hold hands, lift our hands up, or keep our hands to ourselves?***

Among many ancient religions, it was common to extend one's hands toward heaven while praying. This practice has continued in the Mass, where the rubrics indicate that the priest should extend his hands at certain points, including during the Our Father. The celebrant represents all the people with this gesture. The deacon is expressly forbidden to hold his hands up in prayer. There is no particular gesture assigned to the rest of the congregation. Some may be holding hands, some lifting their hands, some standing with arms crossed.

The variety of postures is not a problem in itself. The problem is when people become distracted or judgmental of others. As a rule of thumb, I suggest doing what the rest of the congregation does. As stated in the "Order of the Mass," written by the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy in 2003, "The people are called as members of an organic whole, not as disparate individuals. A Christian assembly that worships 'with one heart and mind' (Acts 4:32) naturally moves toward and consciously chooses a common posture as a sign of its unity. Such common posture 'both expresses and fosters the intention and spiritual attitude of the participants'" (28). The gestures at Mass are not as important as the essence of the Mass, and part of that essence is our unity in the body of Christ. ●

**Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)**



ALF HINDEO / SHUTTERSTOCK



RICCARDO DE LUCA - UPDATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***The disciples were sent two by two, not individually....***

***Let us ask ourselves whether we have the capacity to collaborate; whether we know how to make decisions together, sincerely respecting those who are alongside us and taking into account their point of view; whether we do so in community, not by ourselves.***

**ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 3, 2022**

### Monday

July 7

Weekday

Gn 28:10-22a

Mt 9:18-26

### Tuesday

July 8

Weekday

Gn 32:23-33

Mt 9:32-38

### Wednesday

July 9

Weekday

Gn 41:55-57;

42:5-7a, 17-24a

Mt 10:1-7

### Thursday

July 10

Weekday

Gn 44:18-21,

23b-29; 45:1-5

Mt 10:7-15

### Friday

July 11

St. Benedict, Abbot

Gn 46:1-7, 28-30

Mt 10:16-23

### Saturday

July 12

Weekday

Gn 49:29-32;

50:15-26a

Mt 10:24-33

### Sunday

July 13

Fifteenth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Dt 30:10-14

Col 1:15-20

Lk 10:25-37