



St. John of the Cross

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 3, 2025

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23 / Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 / Luke 12:13-21



Good News!

August 3, 2025

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23 / Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 / Luke 12:13-21

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Remember this: Jesus said, “one’s life does not consist of possessions.” But, if not that, what then?

Think back upon your memories: the first warm day of spring, when the fireworks of new life exploded upon you; laughing so hard that your sides hurt, and you and your friends could not stop laughing even to breathe; walking barefoot in the dewy grass; your best friend telling you you’re best friends; learning to finally ride a bike no-handed and thinking that you moved up a rung on the ladder of awesomeness; the first time you dared to risk reaching for the hand of someone you discovered you liked more than anyone else; the unbelievable wonder at the birth of your child; making googly faces at a burbling baby, and the baby googling back; your child snuggling into bed with you at two in the morning because she’s frightened by the thunderstorm; talking with friends on and on into the night and wishing it could go on for forever; a cold beer, the reward for cutting the grass on a dizzying summer afternoon; being young with an abundance of dreams of what might be; growing old and thinking life was worth it all.

Remember this: there is so much more to life than one’s possessions. We all know this, and yet we forget. Perhaps in forgetting, we might be surprised again and again by the beauty of what cannot be purchased and so recognize the loving touch of our God. ●

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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

Sat.-2	8:00AM	† Gary Graham by Janet Graham
	6:00PM	† Feliciano Borrego, Jr., Heavenly birthday by Dolores Borrego † Freddy Serna, Jr., by Romanos Family
Sun.-3	7:30AM	† Irvan Pierce (Heavenly birthday) by Dwayne and Carla Berry and Family † Freddy Serna, Jr., by Anita Bazan † Charles Skrobarczyk by Joe and Mary Ortiz Living and Deceased Members of the SJoC Altar Society
	11:00AM	† Estella Soliz by Janie Beltran
	6:00PM	† Ignacio Gonzales por Familia Conchas Las familias de la parroquia
Mon.-4 St. John Vianney, Priest	8:00AM	Special Intention for Schneider Family by Schneider Family For all those serving in a religious order
Tues.-5	8:00AM	† Tio Mariano (24 yrs.) & † Tia Maria (2yrs.) DeLaCruz by Anita Bazan Ruben Garcia (4 yrs.) by Anita Bazan
Thurs.-7	6:00PM	Todos los socorristas
	6:30PM	ADORACIÓN / HORA SANTA
Fri.- 8 St. Dominic	8:00AM	† David Gaza by a Family Friend

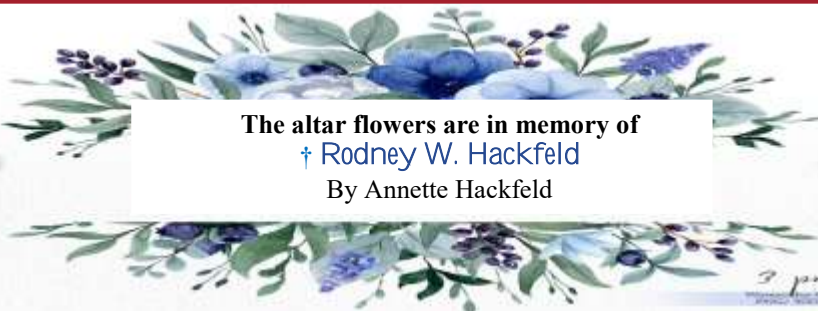
Masses for August 9 & 10

Sat.- 9	6 :00PM	† José Delio Pena (Heavenly birthday) by Romanos Family † Rosario Muniz (Heavenly birthday) by Romanos Family In thanksgiving for my life, blessings, and family by Raquel S. Jimenez
Sun.—10	7:30AM	† Allen Migura by Migura Family † Glen Staley by Joe & Mary Ortiz Augustina Arreguin y Malena Castro por cumpleaños por Maria Castro Living and Deceased Members of the St. John of the Cross Cemetery Association
	11:00AM	People of the parish
	6:00PM	† Carmen E. Franco por Franco Family Jacinto Ordonez cumpleaños por Maria Ordonez



The sanctuary light is offered for
All God's children victims of Kerr County Flooding

By Raquel S. Jimenez



The altar flowers are in memory of

† Rodney W. Hackfeld

By Annette Hackfeld

Ministry Schedule for Mass

Ministry Schedule



Aug. 9— 6:00PM—Lector: Anita Bazan

EM: San Juanita Gaza, Mary Villarreal,
Sharry Stipp, Liza Ochoa

Aug. 10—7:30AM— Lector: Quinton Smithwick

EM: Margie Swetlik, Maria Miller, Luz Paiz,
Annette Rivera

11:00AM-Lector: Philip Polk

EM: Rose Puente Polk, Dee DeLeon,
Don and Kim Rokohl

6:00P-Lector— Maria Albina Ordonez

EM— Albina Resendez, Joachin Ordonez

PRAYER LIST

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

**John Delaney, Art Forbes, Angelica Frees,
Cindy Lopez, Antonio Medrano,
Charlotte Pridgen, Ruben A. Puente,
Diana Sandoval, 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:
MaryRuth Hart, Theresa Laurienti, and

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, Eduardo Enrique Perales,
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!

Usher ministry ~ Our usher ministry
will begin at the August 9 & 10
Masses.

Those interested in helping with this
ministry are asked to attend an
informational meeting & training on
Saturday, August 9, at 9:30AM.



USHERS

A Note From Our Pastor

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Phil 4:13



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

This week's letter begins with a very famously used verse from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians, "I can do all things through Christ." Over the past four weeks I have been sharing the large projects needed for our parish community and the infrastructure of the buildings and grounds. These projects are absolutely necessary to the integrity and safety of the buildings and the parishioners. The preliminary estimates received about eighteen months ago for all of these projects were in the area of \$625,000.00. As we have the funds to do the projects, revised estimates will be needed for the contracts, and we, therefore, estimate a final cost in the area of \$675,000.00 for all of the projects. Before everyone starts saying, "We can't do it!" I would like to take you back down memory lane for our parish church and community. Some of this is known to me from conversations, and it may get some details wrong, but the story is true!

Around 2005, the interior of our church building had cracks in the walls and needed painting, an aged red carpet, and pews in need of replacement. During this time the church was actually closed and the parish had Sunday Mass in the parish hall. According to the records on hand, these major renovations in the church were around \$117,280.00. In today's numbers it would be \$205,598.00 to completely redo the church interior. And this project was paid in full through the parishioners' donations through a capital campaign done at that time.

And there was the repaving and striping of the parish parking lot a few years back, and it was also paid through the Building Fund donations at the time.

The two most recent major constructions for the parish are the Rectory/Office construction and the new Religious Education Building. For those who can remember that far back, the buildings used at that time were purchased and renovated buildings from a military base. The first project was the new Rectory and Office building completed around 2013. I know that as I often see that date in the concrete sidewalk between the church and the rectory. The actual cost in 2013 for the new rectory / office building was around \$365,000.00. Over half of the cost was needed before the construction could begin, and the balance was taken out as a loan. The funds raised to complete this building project came from the Parish Building Campaign that raised the money over a five-year period. That same building cost with inflation in today's numbers would be \$505,392.00. The new Religious Education building replaced three older buildings that were in the final stages of habitable use. The Religious Education Building project began shortly after the Rectory/Office building and was completed in December 2017. The total cost for the new Rel Ed building was \$520,000.00. And that cost adjusted for inflation is \$684,284.00. In accordance with the diocesan building regulations, over half was needed before the construction began, and the balance of \$284,343.94 was taken in a loan from the diocesan D&L fund. That number I remember well as it was the loan balance when I arrived at the parish in July of 2018. The Capital Campaign to pay for the Religious Education Building was well underway as we were collecting the money before construction began. Due to the generosity of the parishioners, the loan amount (with interest) \$319,613.35 was paid in full in December 2021 – 18 months ahead of schedule!

Over the last twenty-five years, our parish has embarked on many major renovation and construction projects in excess of several hundreds of thousands of dollars, and we have always risen to the challenge! The consistent monthly "building fund" donations from you the parishioners (in whatever amount you could afford) made these projects happen and made our parish strong! And this new Building Fund Campaign is not beyond us – "as all things are possible through Christ." We can do this next campaign and become an even stronger and vibrant parish for the future! Please begin to pray for the success of this upcoming campaign.

Next week, I hope to share some very practical ways that every family can consider as we all prepare to make our pledges for this next Capital Campaign. The Capital Building Campaign Committee is hard at work preparing materials for our parish appeal in September. *"We can do it!"*

Love and Prayers,

Fr. Patrick

Stewardship of Treasure

Week #4	COLLECTION	Totals Prior Week -	Goal	Actual	Total Annual Over / (under)	YTD Goal	TOTAL OFFERTORY
7/27/2025	Envelope Collection	\$ (675.00)	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 1,134.00	\$ (1,641.00)	\$ 8,400.00	
	Loose Collection	\$ (649.00)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,025.00	\$ (824.00)	\$ 4,800.00	
	On-Line Collection	\$ 3,049.09	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 2,334.95	\$ 3,984.04	\$ 5,600.00	
	TOTAL Collection	\$ 1,725.09	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,493.95	\$ 1,519.04	\$ 18,800.00	\$ 20,319.04

Parish Organizations

ALTAR SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 25 @6PM

ALTAR DUTY CLEANING SCHEDULE

August 7-9— Juanita Murray, Mary Sanchez, Flor Vega, Rachel Pena, Betty Posada

August 14-16—Natalie David, Kristin Richter, Mary Lou Phillip, Nicole Raska, Belinda Quintana



SOCIEDAD GUADALUPANA

NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 18 @6PM

Hostesses: Grp #3 Nora Romanos

Corporate Mass—August 17 @ 7:30AM

Rosary @ 7:00AM

Leader: Jana Robinson

Offertory: Diana McBride and Annette Rivera

Roses provided to Our Lady of Guadalupe by Pat Bernal

Carne Guisada Fundraiser ~ Sunday, September 7 - \$12 / plate: carne guisada, rice beans, and dessert

Drive-thru ONLY—11:00AM –1:00PM



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS # 8335



NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 5

CASA DE LUCY

MEETS TUESDAYS @ 9AM



Casa de Lucy resumes sewing on August 5. Casa de Lucy Helping Hand Quilting Ministry sews Prayer Quilts for the terminally / critically ill persons needing prayers. Please contact the office if you know anyone in need of a quilt.

Cemetery Association

There will be a **special meeting** of the St. John of the Cross Cemetery Association on Sunday, August 3, at 2PM, in the parish hall.

Attendance is urgently needed.



Works of Mercy

The next bread and pastries distribution will be at **SFOA on Saturday, August 9 at 9AM** and **SJoC on August 13 and 27** at 9AM.



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions:

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

St. Francis of Assisi on **Saturday, August 23**, at 9AM.



Faith Formation

Faith Formation Registration ~ Sun., August 24, after 11AM Mass, and Wed., August 27, at 6:30PM.

PURPOSE YOUTH GROUP (Students in junior high through high school)

Parents and children in junior high - high school

MUST attend registration and orientation in the parish hall. Student expectations and policies will be reviewed. Parent and student attendance at one of the offered orientation sessions is **MANDATORY** to register or participate in our faith formation program.

Parents with ONLY younger children (grades kinder - fifth)

will complete registration in the faith formation building and do not need to attend an orientation session.

Registration fees = \$40/student with a maximum of \$120/family (Registration scholarships are available.)



Diocesan News

SYNODALITY IN MOTION ~ Explore the importance of listening, accompaniment, and communication with Synodality in Motion. This special monthly series will be presented on ZOOM and will focus on how we can utilize principles of synodality in our everyday lives and grow as the Body of Christ. This is a free seminar.

The first session will take place on Wednesday, August 13.

Sign up at <https://form.jotform.com/communicationsdofcc/synodalitysessions>



Rachel's Vineyard –Healing the pain of abortion—one weekend at a time.

RETREAT SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER ~ This is a weekend retreat for women, men, families, and friends of those who have lost a child through miscarriage or abortion. This retreat is scheduled for the weekend of October 24 through 26, 2025.

Rachel's Vineyard retreats allow you to experience God's forgiveness, mercy, and compassion. The retreats offer a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem broken hearts.



COMPASS ~ Creating and Maintaining a Safe Environment is changing. The new Safe Environment platform is now **COMPASS**. All individuals volunteering in the Diocese of Corpus Christi **MUST** be safe environment compliant.

In-person trainings will no longer be offered; all training must be completed through the online platform. The diocese will send an email with a link and instructions to complete the training through the COMPASS platform.

No action is required until you receive an email from the diocese. If you need help navigating this new platform, feel free to call or come by the parish office. We'll be happy to help!

JOURNEY TO DAMASCUS MEN'S RETREAT ~ Corpus Christi, September 18—21 at Our Lady of Corpus Christi Retreat Center, 1200 Lantana, Corpus Christi needs pilgrims.



DAMASCUS

The mission of the **Journey to Damascus** is to inspire, challenge and equip the Christian Laity to witness for Christ on a daily basis. This will be accomplished in ecumenical fashion through the Journey to Damascus Weekend.

Please contact the parish office if you need more information or would like to register to attend this faith-filled weekend retreat.

Community

COASTAL BEND BLOOD CENTER BOOD DRIVE ~ Sunday, August 24 at St. John of the Cross from 8:00AM—1:00PM.



Appointments are recommended and walk-ins are welcome!

Scan the QR code or visit our website at coasalbendbloodcenter.org.

Donors will receive a t-shirt.

While supplies last. Photo ID needed.



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

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

 **Jim Wells County
Transit Pricing**
(Monday-Fridays One Way)



Away Trips 5 AM to 8 PM
For best results, schedule
in advance (24-48 hours)

Call to Schedule:
(361) 668-3158

Orange Grove to:

Mathis - \$6
Alice - \$7

Corpus Christi - \$10
Kingsville - \$14

**EXTENDED SERVICE
HOURS**

**MONDAY - FRIDAY
5 AM - 8 PM**

• ARANSAS • BEE • BROOKS
• DUVAL • JIM HOGG • JIM WELLS • LIVE OAK
• SAN PATRICIO • REFUGIO

Dear Padre,

Sometimes after Mass, I go to the late service at a “Bible church” with the rest of my family. Once a month, this church serves communion, but they make it clear that it is only as a memory of Jesus and the Last Supper, and that Jesus is not present at communion. Is it OK to receive this communion?



DROR GUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Catholic understanding of Holy Communion includes not only the understanding of Communion as the Body and Blood of Christ, but it includes something more. Communion is a statement of belief and a statement of belonging. When Catholics participate in the sacrament, they are identifying with divinity as well as with the community of believers who are joined together in “one mind and in one spirit.” It is an act of unity, a real “communion.” Even though the Bible church clearly teaches a different theology of communion, it would seem to me that, for a Catholic, the fullest meaning and understanding of Communion is important and worth witnessing to. For this reason, I would refrain from participating in communion at the Bible church. Do so quietly and respectfully, because what is being celebrated is important; it just does not have the full meaning that you understand is necessary. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 4	August 5	August 6	August 7	August 8	August 9	August 10
St. John Vianney, Priest	Weekday	Transfiguration of the Lord	Weekday	St. Dominic, Priest	Weekday	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nm 11:4b–15 Mt 14:13–21	Nm 12:1–13 Mt 14:22–36 or Mt 15:1–2, 10–14	Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 2 Pt 1:16–19 Lk 9:28b–36	Nm 20:1–13 Mt 16:13–23	Dt 4:32–40 Mt 16:24–28	Dt 6:4–13 Mt 17:14–20	Wis 18:6–9 Heb 11:1–2, 8–19 or 11:1–2, 8–12 Lk 12:32–48 or Lk 12:35–40



DANIEL IBAÑEZ / CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Covetousness of goods, the desire to have goods, does not satisfy the heart, but rather causes more hunger!... Be careful! Love...is the source of true happiness, whereas the exaggerated search for material goods and wealth is often a source of anxiety, adversity, abuse of power, war. Many wars begin from covetousness.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 4, 2019