



St. John of the Cross



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

• August 31, 2025

• **Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

• Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 / Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a / Luke 14:1, 7-14



Good News!

August 31, 2025

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 / Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a / Luke 14:1, 7-14

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

I found myself angry the other day, as we all do, I suppose, whenever we put our foot in our mouth, or forget about an important engagement, or scramble whatever it was we had hoped would be picture-perfect. What I had scrambled was a homily. For some reason, the image came out wrong, or the example did not fit, or it just did not come together the way I had hoped. And I was angry with myself to the point that it caught me off guard. It was an unexpected glimpse of what I didn't want to admit: the fact that the way people might perceive me as a preacher had taken on more importance than preaching God's word. Life had gotten out of focus. A perspective had been lost.

It happens to us all in the course of our lifetimes, and more than once. Grades become more important than learning, or being right more important than the relationship, or the address of where we live more important than the people living together. It happens between parent and child when a parent places greater significance on the son's or daughter's profession than on that son's or daughter's happiness. Like in the parable of Jesus, where we sit at table takes on greater meaning than the people who gather or the meal that is shared. That is what pride does. It distorts what is real and shifts the focus of life to ourselves. The antidote? A prayerful awareness of who we are and who God is. ●

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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.

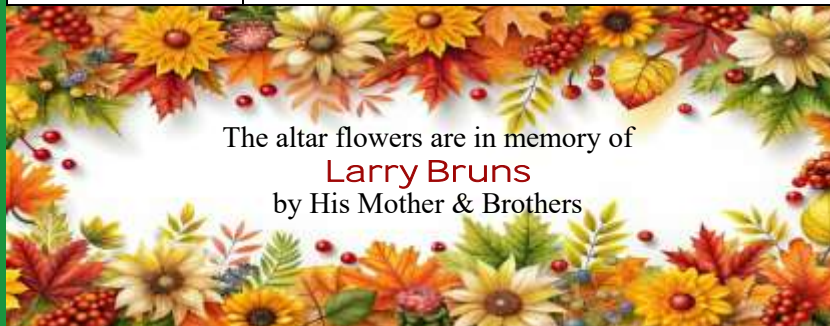
Worship, Prayer, & Ministries

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat.-30	6:00PM	†Margarita O. Guerrero by Bazan, Leal, and Hinojosa Family † Peter Jay by Maria Beltran † Praxesdis and Raquel S. Jimenez Wedding Anniv. by Raquel S. Jimenez and Family † Frank Gene Schumacher, † Harold Frank Schumacher, and † John Christopher Schumacher by Elizabeth, John, and Ethan Acosta
Sun.-31	7:30AM	† Larry Bruns (1st anniv.) by His Mother and Brothers † Gary Graham by Joe and Mary Ortiz † Joe Pena, Sr., by Family
	11:00AM	† Jerry Cross by Mar Cross † Teodoro Gonzalez (Heavenly birthday) by Blanca Gonzalez
	6:00PM	† José Rosario Becerril por Maria Ordoñez Las familias de la parroquia
Mon.-1	8:00AM	For nurses and first responders
Tues.-2	8:00AM	That more families will foster religious vocations
Thurs.-4	6:00PM	† Florencia Cantu por Familia Franco † Ray Garza (cumpleaños) por Familia Bazan
	6:30PM	ADORACIÓN / HORA SANTA
Fri.- 5	8:00AM	† Larry Bruns (1st anniv.) by His family Special intention for Brian and Mary Kiggans on their wedding anniversary by Schneider Family

Masses for September 6 & 7

Sat.- 6	8:00AM	<i>Mass is open and available.</i>
	6:00PM	† Berta Garcia Chapa by Maria Beltran † Maria Jimenez (Heavenly birthday) by Dolores Borrego & Family
Sun.-7	7:30AM	Living and Deceased Members of the St. John of the Cross Altar Society † Larry Bruns (Heavenly birthday) by Family † Allen Migura by Migura Family † Olive Skrobarczyk (Birthday) by Graham Family
	11:00AM	† Arturo Acuna, Jr., (9th anniv.) by Arturo Acuna, Sr., and Family † Yolanda Ochoa by Her Loving Husband
	6:00PM	Las familias de la parroquia



The parish office will be closed on Monday, September 1,
in observance of Labor Day.

Ministry Schedule for Mass

Ministry Schedule

Sep. 6— 6:00PM—Lector: Liza Ochoa
EM: San Juanita Gaza, Sharry Stipp,
Mary Villarreal, Laura Adams

Sep. 7—7:30AM— Lector: Annette Rivera
EM: Margie Svetlik, Luz Paiz, Maria Miller,
Quinton Smithwick

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

6:00PM —Lector: Manuel Rodriguez
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, Antonio Medrano, Charlotte Pridgen,
Ruben A. Puente, Sissy Thomas, and George Vela**

*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,
Laura Perez, and Amanda Smithwick**



And we pray in a special way for the repose of the soul of
Jesus (Kingston) Godines and the consolation of his family.

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,
Robert Ponce, 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, Diane Martinez,
and Noah Vasquez



LEGAL COUNSELING ~ Dcn. Armando Cavada will
offer legal guidance in the parish hall on **Saturday,
September 27, at 9AM** on the following topics:

Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders,
Power of attorney,
Wills,
Life estate deeds,
Guardianship

All interested parties are welcome to
attend this informative session.



A Note From Our Pastor

With Father Patrick still on vacation, the following is a repeat of his letter from August 10.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

“Yes, we can!” That was the message in last week’s bulletin, and I said this week I would give more personal and practical ways of supporting the upcoming Capital Campaign. The first thing is to not look at the immensity of the Campaign, but to center in on who “I am in this campaign?” and “What does this pledge do for me and mean to me?”

“Who am I in this campaign?” and “What does this pledge do for me and mean to me?” reminds us that it is not for something outside of myself that I will not receive and participate in. This campaign is for me and for my church! The money raised does not go to Father Patrick or to the Diocese but stays right here in your parish to improve your church buildings for yourself and for your fellow parishioners. “I am a member of this parish and so it falls to me to help my parish achieve this goal. And whether my monthly pledge is large, modest, or small, it proclaims, “This is my parish, and I love my parish now and into the future!” In fact, any donation to the Church – regular offertory collection, special collection, or even a major Capital Campaign, all say, “This is my parish, and I support Jesus and the proclamation of Jesus’ message in my parish as best I am able to help!”. This is an investment into your future good and happiness – both in this world and if you think of it – even my eternal happiness in heaven. If you truly consider yourself a member of this parish, then making a pledge to the Capital Campaign becomes your statement, “This is my parish!”

Just as you sacrificed some temporary good for a long-term greater good in your personal life, I am asking you to reflect and to make that same small sacrifice for yourself and for your parish church. “This is my parish, and I want to love and support it for the future!” Take time to reflect on this now, so you are ready to make a pledge when the time comes.

Love and Prayers,

Fr. Patrick



Tomb of Saint Brother Andre at
The Saint Joseph Oratory of Mount Royal



Saint Brother Andre



The Saint Joseph Oratory
of Mount Royal.

Fifth Annual

SJC Altar Server Ministry Recognitions

Next weekend, September 6th & 7th, our parish will celebrate the youth volunteers who make up our Altar Server Ministry! Our Servers will receive recognition for their dedication to serving at the Altar at each Mass. We will also have our annual Altar Server Fund appeal at that time...

Our Servers need your help!!

Our Ministry has been blessed to continue to thrive as SJC has **39** active Altar Servers! This growth requires that we also continue to grow our Altar Server Fund—that is where our generous parishioners come in!

Your support has allowed us to rectify the issue of old worn-out vestments (and our Servers are grateful!), but now we are focusing on building our fund for the main reason it was established—our scholarship awards.

Every graduating Altar Server is awarded a scholarship based on years of service at St. John of the Cross. We have awarded a total of **\$6,050** in scholarships to graduating & continuing education servers since the Funds' inception in 2019, thanks to parishioner generosity! ***We are projected to award well over \$15,000 over the next ten years.*** Our Servers need your support to ensure the continued success of our fund and our scholarship awards. You can donate by using the attached envelope or through the parish's online giving page.

On behalf of the SJC Altar Server Ministry, I sincerely thank you for your support!

María Galván-Gordon
Server Coordinator



"Train up a child in the way they should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6

The main ways your donations help

Vestments

(what the Servers wear at Mass):

From time to time, we don't have the right size for a Server, or we need to replace an item that has gotten **many** years of use. Much like everything else, the prices of our vestments have increased...

Female Servers' Alb -- **\$125+**

Male Servers' cassock & surplice -- **\$105-\$150+**

Awards

(parish recognitions & Diocese Level Awards):

Every year SJC acknowledges our Servers for their dedication. Servers may advance to a new level, and with that advancement they are awarded a pin or crucifix to wear while serving. Servers meeting the requirements for Diocese of Corpus Christi Eucharistic Cross Bearer are presented with a red sash, red cord, and large crucifix. Ten Year Service award recipients receive a purple sash, purple cord, and crucifix. Outstanding Server is awarded to one male and one female server "who has given outstanding service over the past year."

Parish level pins, crucifixes, certificates -- **\$2-\$7**

Senior/Ten Year Server Sash, crucifix, tassels -- **\$78**

Outstanding Server Plaque -- **\$25**

Scholarships

We award scholarships to every Server when graduating high school and every Server who continues to serve during college. The scholarships vary based on years of service at St. John of the Cross.

Scholarships range from **\$150 to \$500 each**.

Every donation helps, and we are truly very grateful for all the support we continue to receive!

Stewardship of Treasure

Week #8	COLLECTION	Totals Prior Week -	Goal	Actual	Total Annual Over / (under)	YTD Goal	TOTAL OFFERTORY
8/24/2025	Envelope Collection	\$ (773.00)	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 1,220.00	\$ (1,653.00)	\$ 16,800.00	
	Loose Collection	\$ 404.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,118.00	\$ 322.00	\$ 9,600.00	
	On-Line Collection	\$ 3,491.87	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 2,320.95	\$ 4,412.82	\$ 11,200.00	
	TOTAL Collection	\$ 3,122.87	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,658.95	\$ 3,081.82	\$ 37,600.00	\$ 40,681.82

Bishop Michael Mulvey has called for a **SPECIAL** collection to occur **NEXT weekend, Sept. 6-7**, to contribute to the efforts of the Church to offer humanitarian relief and pastoral support to the people in Gaza. All funds will be forwarded to both the Catholic Near East Welfare Association and Catholic Relief Services, which have been and remain on the ground offering assistance as they can.

Parish Organizations

ALTAR SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 29 @6PM

ALTAR DUTY CLEANING SCHEDULE

September 4-6—Paid Professional

September 11-13—Dee Deleon, Gloria Contreras, Anna Marie Saenz, Angela Facundo, Beatriz Jimenez



SOCIEDAD GUADALUPANA

NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 22 @6PM

Hostesses: Grp #4 Isabel Alanis

Corporate Mass—September 21 @ 7:30AM

Rosary @ 7:00AM

Leader: Isabel Alanis

Offertory: Beatriz Diaz & Bea Garcia

Roses provided to Our Lady of Guadalupe by Annette Rivera and Angie Alejandro

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

Drive-thru ONLY—11:00AM –1:00PM

Tickets are on sale now! Find a Guadalupe member or get yours from the parish office.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS # 8335



NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 2

*Rosary: 6:40 PM at the KOC Building
Men 18 yrs. & older are welcome*

CASA DE LUCY

MEETS TUESDAYS @ 9AM



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.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Registration ~ **Wed., August 27**, at 6:00PM.

Junior high - high school students and their parent(s) MUST attend registration and orientation in the parish hall. Parent and student attendance at an orientation is **MANDATORY** to register or participate in our faith formation program.

Parents with ONLY elementary-aged children (grades kinder - fifth grade) 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.)

*Classes begin **Wednesday, September 3.***

Elementary grades meet at 5:30 in the RE bldg.; jr. high—high school meet @ 6:30 in the parish hall.

Works of Mercy

The next bread and pastries distribution will be at **SFOA on Saturday, September 13 at 9AM** and at **SJoC on September 10 at 9AM.**



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions at 9AM at **St. John of the Cross on Thursday, September 4**, and **St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday, September 27.**

Diocesan News



CLIMBING TO HOLINESS ~ Join us in the celebration of the canonization of two new saints:

CARLO ACUTIS & PIER GIORGIO GRASSATI

Sunday, September 7, @ 6PM

Bluntzer Spirit Center, 5528 FM 30388, Robstown



CANONIZATION WATCH PARTY ~ All young adults are invited to a special Canonization Watch Party on **Sunday, September 7th from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the TAMUCC Newman Center on Ocean Drive**. We will gather for the historic Jubilee year canonization of two young men: Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. There will be food, drinks, and inspiration from the Church's newest saints! All are welcome to join us for 1:30 p.m. Mass at the Chapel before the Watch Party begins.

For more information and to RSVP, contact the Office of Young Adult Ministry: soconnor@diocesecc.org



Mother—Daughter Tea with the Sisters

For girls in the 4th—6th grades and their mothers

September 13, 2025, 2PM—4PM at the Incarnate Word Convent

Register for the event by email—mhynes@iwbsec.org or call 361-882-5413 ext. 513



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.

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.

Please join us for **Radiate**, a mini youth conference that will be held on Sunday, September 21st at

St.

Theresa's Catholic Church in Premont, TX. All teens are invited. It will be a great day of activities and opportunities to grow together in our Catholic faith.



Please register at <https://form.jotform.com/communicationsdofcc/radiate> or by scanning the QR code by September 14 for this free event.



MAGNIFICAT NIGHT WITH THE SOLT SISTERS ~ The SOLT Sisters are having a "Magnificat Night," at our SOLT Sisters Mother House on **Friday, October 3rd**. This is open to young ladies who want to learn more about the life of a SOLT sister. This special gathering is for women ages 16-30 and includes Vespers, dinner and reflection.

Register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfol6gp5tBO4KJLLCbZXHqEmpPqmMERVwwYkmHI4Uh034h2Gg/viewform>

GLOBAL CELEBRATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE ~ The Diocesan Offices of Youth Ministry and Young Adult ministry is hosting the upcoming Global Celebration of Young People. This is an international event in which each respective Diocese plans a celebration with the Church to highlight young people. This year, the event will be on **October 12th** (The Feast Day of soon to be Saint Carlos Acutis) at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church, 3502 Saratoga Boulevard in Corpus Christi.

The event takes place from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person. Contact Sr. Caritas at srcaritas@diocesecc.org with questions. Registration link is coming soon.



STATE OF THE DIOCESE -

Thursday, October 30, 2025, 6:00PM—8:00PM at Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds

\$15/ \$7 for children (Meal included)

Buy your tickets now at diocesecc.org/stateof



Community

Thank you St. John of the Cross and Orange Grove Community!

The Coastal Bend Blood Bank Mobile had a goal of collecting 25 units last weekend and collected 28!!

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**

Dear Padre,

Is it sacrilegious to throw away a sacramental?

"Sacramentals do not confer the grace of the Holy Spirit in the way that the sacraments do, but by the Church's prayer, they prepare us to receive and dispose us to cooperate with it" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1670). Therefore, sacramentals confer grace through the Church's power of prayer and, if blessed, should not be thrown away but burned and/or buried. If the object has not been blessed, it can be discarded; however, it could also be donated to a Catholic ministry (school, prison, hospital, etc.) that would benefit from its distribution. (If a religious object was included in an unsolicited appeal letter from a charitable organization, it is safe to assume that it was not blessed.)

If the object is worn or broken, it should be substantially altered so that it loses its form as a sacramental and then returned to the earthly elements. For example, a worn scapular should be burned and the ashes buried; a damaged statue should be further broken into smaller fragments and buried. A European tradition on the Vigil of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 23) is to burn old sacramentals in bonfires and bury the ashes. Burning and/or burial respects the sacred nature once held by these items and prevents their adaptation for trivial use. Reverence and discretion are proper for whatever method of disposal. ●



TACIO PHILIP SANSONOVSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

To follow [Jesus]...means "carrying one's cross": shouldering, like him, one's own burdens and those of others, making one's life a gift, not a possession, spending it in imitation of his own generous and merciful love for us. These are decisions that engage the totality of our lives.

HOMILY, ROME,
SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

GOOGLE GEMINI



Monday

September 1
Weekday
1 Thes 4:13–18
Lk 4:16–30

Tuesday

September 2
Weekday
1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11
Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday

September 3
St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
Col 1:1–8
Lk 4:38–44

Thursday

September 4
Weekday
Col 1:9–14
Lk 5:1–11

Friday

September 5
Weekday
Col 1:15–20
Lk 5:33–39

Saturday

September 6
Weekday
Col 1:21–23
Lk 6:1–5

Sunday

September 7
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 9:13–18b
Phlm 9–10, 12–17
Lk 14:25–33