

# St. Francis of Assisi Mission



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## Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 28, 2025

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Amos 6:1a, 4-7 / 1 Timothy 6:11-16 / Luke 16:19-31



## Good News!

September 28, 2025

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Amos 6:1a, 4-7 / 1 Timothy 6:11-16 / Luke 16:19-31

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**In A Christmas Carol**, Ebenezer Scrooge found himself confronted by the person he had become: someone forced to accept the reality painted by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. Scrooge hadn't realized how he had slowly drifted into becoming an uncaring and greedy person, unable to show compassion because he never really saw someone else's pain. The story of Ebenezer Scrooge is the story of the rich man in this Sunday's gospel who was unmoved by poor Lazarus, sitting at the gate of the rich man's sumptuous life. They are both stories of human beings drifting into emptiness.

St. Thomas Aquinas suggested that our motivations in life can ultimately be reduced to eight different categories. If we're interested in understanding what sort of people we are becoming, we might ask ourselves which of these questions best describes our motivation: Am I making my decisions and choices about life based on wealth? Or am I looking to be admired by others and be praised? Is it lasting glory that I seek? Or power so that I can be noted for "making a difference?" Is what I seek a life of ultimate pleasure and comfort? Is it health that I look for? Or perhaps something related to my inner life—some intangible good, like virtue or knowledge? Or is it to see God already in this life what I truly want? It is always a challenge to know our true selves because all too often we may be adrift, unaware of who we are becoming. ●

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### Mass Schedule

**Sunday: 9:15 AM**  
**St. John of the Cross**

**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 ~

**Adoration ~**

**Thurs. (Sp.) - 6:30 PM**

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

### Reconciliation

**Thursday: 5:30 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

**St. John of the Cross**

**Mon., Tues., Wed., and 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

## MASS INT

<b>Sun.-Sept. 28 9:15 AM</b>	† Louise Kneblick by David & Terrie Silva † Anna Jane Terrell by Elizabeth Hackfeld People of the Parish
<b>Sun.-Oct. 5 9:15 AM</b>	Altar and Rosary Society on their Communion Sunday People of the Parish

## PRAYER LIST

*May He bless all who are in need of His strength, especially:*

**Ana Culpepper, Henry Garrett, Kenton Heider, Paula Heider, Gerald Lindsey, Melba Malik, Cheryl Marshall, Aiden Medrano, Adrian Nunez, Daniel Nunez, Phillip Torres, Paige Trevino, Adolfo Trevino, and Bo Weaver**

*Praying for expecting mothers and their babies:*

**MaryRuth Hart, Theresa Laurienti, and Amanda Smithwick**

*Please contact the parish office for any additions or deletions.*



## 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

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



## Stewardship of Treasure

PREVIOUS WEEK	09/14/2025	CURRENT WEEK	09/21/2025
<b>Collection</b>	\$1010.00	<b>Collection</b>	\$736.00
<b>Catholic University</b>	\$115.00		

## Parish Organizations

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS # 8335**



**NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 7**

Rosary: 6:40 PM at the KOC Building Men 18 yrs. & older are welcome  
**BBQ 1/2 Chicken fundraiser ~ Sunday, October 12—\$12/plate**  
11AM—1PM ! Carry out only



**CASA DE LUCY**

**Case de Lucy Helping Hands Quilting Ministry** sews Prayer Quilts for the terminally / critically ill persons needing prayers.

## Works of Mercy

The next bread and pastries distribution will be at 9AM  
at **SFOA on Saturday, October 11**, and  
at **SJoC on Wednesday, October 8, 22, and 29.**



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions at 9AM at  
**St. John of the Cross on Thursday, October 2**, and  
at **St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday, October 25.**

## Community

**AED training** ~ We have purchased an AED machine and are planning our crisis team who will be trained to use the equipment.

If you are interested in being trained to use the AED equipment, please sign up on the form in the church foyer.  
Once we have a list of interested people, the training will be scheduled; therefore, the date and time and any cost  
of the training will be determined at a later time.

We are simply looking for parishioners interested in being trained to use the AED machine.



### Help needed!

1.) Father is looking for a civil engineer or survey person to do a basic survey mapping of the St. John of the Cross Cemetery. Our current cemetery map is about 50 years old and needs to be updated. If you know of anyone who can do the job for a reasonable price, please have him/her contact Father Patrick in the parish office.



2.) Many tree branches around the parish office, rectory, and Religious Ed Building are hanging low. Some are rubbing the roof and rain gutters on the buildings. If you are able to help trim them, please contact the parish office.



## A Note from our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Last weekend our parish formally began “Our Living Church Building Fund Capital Campaign” for the long-term good of our parish. It is my hope and prayer that every family open their hearts to support this building fund campaign as best they can.



When someone asks you what church you go to, I hope that you say, “I belong to St. John of the Cross Church. That is my parish church.” And then comes, a very touchy and sensitive question from me as your pastor. “When the offertory basket is passed in the pews, what do you put in the collection to support the care and upkeep of ‘your’ church”? With cash, offertory envelopes, or even on-line giving, your contribution, large or small, says, “This is MY church. And I want to support it to keep its walls up, windows clean, keep the lights on, and in the South Texas heat to keep the air-conditioning working.” Whether it is a weekly offering or follows a bi-weekly or monthly payroll period, my contribution says, “This is my Church, and I want to keep it in good condition for me and for the future.”

You might ask, “With rising inflation and higher prices for most everything how can I make a pledge towards the building fund?” You must prioritize to meet your essential necessities for your home life – food, light, gas, rent or mortgage etc. But then there are those wonderful things that we do for ourselves that really are not essential necessities: movies, a daily Starbucks coffee, the daily run to the taqueria, new pairs of shoes or some new fashion clothes. All of these are nice, but you could do without them and still have a cheerful home life. Everyone is being asked to make a small sacrifice of some non-essential item or activity, and to donate that money toward the building fund. Your family of four might go out every week for dinner at a restaurant spending \$120.00 each time. Sacrifice one of the dinners in a month and make a pledge toward the Living Church Campaign. Or at that weekly dinner, giving up the cocktails or the desserts would also be a good sacrifice of non-essentials. Or not going to the movies once a month – tickets, drinks, and popcorn for four runs about \$50.00 - \$75.00 – and making that your pledge. New clothes and new shoes always bring smiles to one’s face, but only two new clothing items in a month rather than the usual four or five. That savings would make a nice regular monthly donation to Our Living Church Building Fund. Everyone has to make their financial budget meet your essential basic living needs, but there are some nice but non-essential things in each budget. Take some time to reflect “Do I really need this or that item? And could I do without it and make a pledge to support my church’s building fund?”

Please be aware that your current regular ongoing donations to the church need to be maintained to keep the regular work of our church going. And if you have been giving regularly to the Building Fund over the years, just complete your “Living Church Pledge Card” with that same amount and turn it in so your former Building Fund pledge will become your “Our Living Church Building Fund” pledge. If you have not made your pledge yet, please be sure to take a pledge card and support your parish church. And like the Jesus’ parable of the widow with her two small coins, trust that the Lord will watch over you for your generosity to your church. Whether your pledge is small or large, make it from your heart and God will bless “Our Living Church.” Thank you for your regular weekly support of our church and for considering this special “Our Living Church Building Fund Capital Campaign” building fund appeal.

Love and Prayers,  
Fr. Patrick

We recently learned of a correction to our pledge card. Please make any checks payable to: St. John of the Cross Our Living Church Capital Building Campaign” or “St. John of the Cross Church” with the memo line – Capital Building Fund. Ever evolving banking regulations need to be observed to protect your church donations.

Thank You,  
Fr. Patrick



# Dear Padre,

## Why does my parish priest preach about love practically every Sunday?

"Through the course of the liturgical year, the homily sets forth the mysteries of faith and the standards of the Christian life on the basis of the sacred text" (*Lectionary*, 24). A translation of the English word "love" appears in the Bible more than 500 times; by comparison, "sin" appears approximately 400 times. Thus, insofar as the homily "should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from sacred Scripture" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 65), God's word on "love" is far too prevalent to overlook.

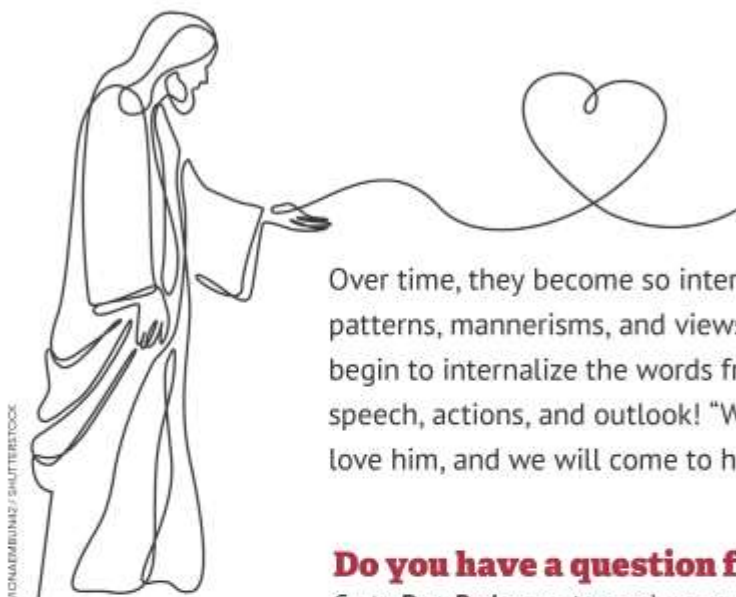
Pope Francis called God's word "a love letter, written to us by the One who knows us best." In the Bible, this God who desires to bestow his love on us (See 1 John 3:1), is essentially telling us, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." How we love God in return may be likened to two partners in a committed relationship.

Over time, they become so intertwined that they can even assume each other's speech patterns, mannerisms, and views. Likewise, for those who love God, over the years we can begin to internalize the words from God's "love letter" and reflect them in our Christian speech, actions, and outlook! "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him" (John 14:23). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



WIMARBUNZ / SHUTTERSTOCK



LEONARD ZHUKOVSKY / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*In our day, there is a widespread thirst for justice, a desire for authentic fatherhood and motherhood, a profound longing for spirituality, especially among young people and the marginalized, who do not always find effective means of making their needs known. There is a growing demand for the Church's social doctrine, to which we need to respond.*

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025

### Monday

September 29  
*Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels*  
Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 or  
Rv 12:7–12ab  
Jn 1:47–51

### Tuesday

September 30  
*St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church*  
Zec 8:20–23  
Lk 9:51–56

### Wednesday

October 1  
*St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church*  
Neh 2:1–8  
Lk 9:57–62

### Thursday

October 2  
*The Holy Guardian Angels*  
Neh 8:1–4a, 5–6, 7b–12  
Mt 18:1–5, 10

### Friday

October 3  
*Weekday*  
Bar 1:15–22  
Lk 10:13–16

### Saturday

October 4  
*St. Francis of Assisi*  
Bar 4:5–12, 27–29  
Lk 10:17–24

### Sunday

October 5  
*Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Hb 1:2–3; 2:2–4  
2 Tm 1:6–8, 13–14  
Lk 17:5–10