



St. John of the Cross

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 5, 2025

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 / 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 / Luke 17:5-10



Good News!

October 5, 2025

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 / 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 / Luke 17:5-10

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Childhood daydreams come peppered with visions of heroes and heroines, movie stars and rock stars, fame and notoriety. Eventually, however, we adjust our visions of what we can become as we are confronted by the reality of who we are. Seldom, however, are our daydreams and visions big enough. They tend to be only about ourselves, barely including others.

The same may be said about becoming people of faith. Too readily we think of faith simply as our personal decision to believe in God. Faith then becomes one-sided—the prayers we say, the Masses we attend, the Church's rules we obey. Like the people of the prophet Habakkuk's day, we may bemoan, "I cry for help and you do not listen.... [I] cry out to you, 'Violence!' and you do not intervene" (Habakkuk 1:2).

Then, too, our faith and its vision for life are not big enough, for we do not allow room for God to slip into our lives and do what God does. Then, faith is only about ourselves—our needs and struggles and pains. Faith needs to be a surrender to God's vision, not simply for ourselves, but for all of life. [The LORD said,] "The vision is a witness for the appointed time...it will not disappoint. If it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late" (Habakkuk 2:3). The difficulty is that we want God to make life perfect for us the way we want it and when we want it. Then, it becomes our vision for life and not God's. ●

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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.-4	8:00AM	† Gary Graham by Janet Graham
	6:00PM	† Pablo Alaniz, Sr., by Lupe & Angie Alejandro † Lalo Orta (14th anniv.) by Anna & Eric Winterbottom † Pilar Sciaraffa (5th anniv.) by Romanos Family † Gogo, † Meme, † Alicia by Maria Beltran
Sun.-5	7:30AM	† Allen Migura by Migura Family
	11:00AM	† Michael Rivera, Sr., Heavenly birthday (9th anniv.) by Lillie Rivera & family Living and Deceased Members of the Altar Society
	6:00PM	† Maria Luisa Apolonio Rojas por Connie Trejo Las familias de la parroquia
Mon.-6	8:00AM	Communion Service
Tues.-7	8:00AM	Communion Service
Thurs.-9	6:00PM	Servicio de Comunión
	6:30PM	ADORACIÓN / HORA SANTA
Fri.-10	8:00AM	NO Communion Service
	6:00PM	Rosary by Knight of Columbus

Masses for October 11 & 12

Sat.-11	6:00PM	† David Gaza by Mr. Pancho Gaza † Lino Martinez (1st anniv.) by Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Chapa In thanksgiving to St. Lucy by Maria Beltran
Sun.-12	7:30AM	† Martina Granados (birthday) by Bazan, Leal, and Hinojosa Family † Ed & † Myrtle Houlihan by Jana Robinson Living and Deceased Members of the St. John of the Cross Cemetery Association
	11:00AM	† Jerry Cross by Mar Cross Special Intention for Liza Ochoa by Liza Ochoa
	6:00PM	† Maria Luisa Apolonio Rojas por Connie Trejo Las familias de la parroquia

2025 Altar Server Recognition Ceremony

Congratulations to our altar servers who were recognized at the Altar Server Recognition Ceremony: Elizabeth Acosta, Jose Becerril, Aubree Forbes, Jose Ordonez received a red sashes.

Craig Gordon, Vincent Gordon, Layton, Linden, and Logan Rodriguez were recognized for their 10 years of service and received a purple sash.

Victor Gordon received Outstanding Server.



Pictured are (top row) Jose Ordonez, Jose Becerril, Craig Gordon, Vincent Gordon, Victor Gordon, (bottom row) Aubree Forbes and Elizabeth Acosta.

Ministry Schedule for Mass

Ministry Schedule

Oct. 11— 6:00PM—Lector: Laura Adams
EM: Anita Bazan, Kim Rokohl,
Luis and Nora Romanos
Head Ushers: Carlos Alanis, Mike Schroedter

Oct. 12—7:30AM— Lector: Lucille Klaevemann
EM: Laura Gwosdz, Luz Paiz, Margie Svetlik,
Annette Rivera
Head Ushers: Bart and Maria Miller
11:00AM-Lector: Jeri Alaniz
EM: Dee DeLeon, Janie Flores, Karol Kocurek,
Diana DeAnda
Head Usher: Lonnie Rodriguez
6:00PM —Lector: Lizbeth Chavez
EM: Maria Graciella, Esmeralda Castro
Head Usher: Jose Isais

If you feel you are being called to serve, please contact the parish office. We are in need of more lectors, eucharistic ministers, and ushers for all Masses.

PRAYER LIST

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

Nikki Bunch, Israel Cavazos, Jr.,
Fr. Jose Gutierrez, Janie Flores, Art Forbes,
Angelica Frees, Cindy Lopez, Aiden Medrano,
Antonio Medrano, and Eva Soliz



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 Amanda Smithwick



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!

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

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 opens their hearts and support this building fund campaign as best they can.

In Luke’s Gospel we read about the Widow’s gift. “And Jesus [He] looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury. And He saw a poor widow putting in two small copper coins. And He said, “Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all *of them*; for they all out of their surplus put into the offering; but she out of her poverty put in all that she had to live on.” (Luke 21:1-4) One of the first things to notice is that she felt herself as part of the Temple. She might be poor and with little resources, but she wanted to participate in keeping “her” Temple in the best shape possible. And from her poverty she gave “two” small coins. If she is that poor, would it not be more common sense to give only one coin, and her to keep the other coin for herself? But she gives two coins – “all that she had to live on” – to the Temple as she felt the need to support, even if it were just a few pennies, to her faith community. And she gave her “small” gift trusting that the Lord would continue to watch over her and protect her. Widows were without any rights to own property or houses or to work, and they had to depend on the generosity and donations of others to just survive. If the widow had a son, he would bring her into his house to live and protect her. There are some 30+ passages in the Bible that refer to the desperate state of the “widows and orphans” that must call on God for protection and safety. And the sign of loving God was in one’s sign of caring for the widows and orphans. Her two small coins are her act of trust that the Lord will look after her and protect her. And Jesus’ statement that “this poor widow put in more than all of them” is the Son of God’s recognition of her sacrifice and dedication, and don’t you think that Jesus would have rewarded her generosity?

Everyone has a place that they call “their home”. You might own it (or own it with the bank mortgage), rent it, or live with someone who provides that “home” space to you. But it is that space where you enter, close the door, and take the deep breath, “I’m home”. And each of us must care for that home, keeping it clean and livable. Whether it be a large home with many rooms or just a small place of only four walls, it is “my” home that I must care for. And from your payroll or resources, you dedicate a portion for those mundane living expenses – laundry soap for the clothes, money for the water bill and the light bill, and some funds to keep the walls and floors clean and in good condition, etc. And we do this because this is “my home”.

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, 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”. And you in the truest sense, like the widow, can say, “this is my Church (my Temple)”.

If you have been giving to the Building Fund over the years, just complete your “Living Church Pledge Card” with that amount and turn it in so your former Building Fund pledge will become your “Our Living Church Building Fund” pledge. If you haven’t made your pledge yet, please be sure to take a pledge card and support your parish church. And like 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”.

Love and Prayers,
Fr. Patrick

Deacon's Corner

Today is the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time. We're getting close to Advent, and the new liturgical year. I look forward to it. Today's readings are from Habakkuk 1:1-3, 2:2-4; [Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9](#); [2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14](#); and [Luke 17:5-10](#). I want to talk about faith and prayer today, to see if I can relate the readings today to these two topics that should be part of our everyday lives. One of the themes I see in the readings today is the idea that my faith entitles me to protection from God. That is a faith that may lead me to question whether God is listening to me or not because I normally don't get any results from my prayers. We all struggle with faith because we are all called to do something about our relationship with the Lord, and sometimes we fall short. Prayer is important in working on that relationship. We pretty much must always be in a state of prayer. Our faith calls us to be constantly aware of the presence of God in our lives, and when we feel like our minds are straying, we must force ourselves back on track. Our faith carries with it certain obligations, and we cannot be satisfied when we have accomplished for a day what we set out to do. Have we prayed enough? Have we kept the Lord in our minds and hearts constantly? A sure sign that we have not is that we panic a little when we realize that our minds and hearts are wandering away from him. I think that is what Habakkuk is expressing in the first reading: "How long, O Lord? I cry for help but you do not listen!" The reading ends with "(t)he rash one has no integrity; but the just one, because of his faith, shall live." What does integrity mean? That which makes us whole. And what is that?

Submission to God in prayer, more or less, constantly. Today's Psalm is Psalm 95, which we read in the liturgy of the hours almost every day before we start the daily prayers of the Divine Office. I like the final stanza for today's reading: "Oh, that today you would hear his voice: 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works.'" The next stanza which is not included in the reading today is: "Forty years I endured that generation. They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not know my ways, so I swore in my anger they shall not enter into my rest." That describes our hard-heartedness when we neglect our faith in the Lord and stop praying.

According to Luke today, the servant who does what he is obliged to do has no faith. Faith requires us to go beyond what we must do. What is that? We have to tend to our daily obligations--not waste time, not hate, not seek revenge but forgive, remain faithful to our piety, study (St. Jerome said, *ignorance of the scripture is ignorance of Christ*) and action for the betterment of those around us (Love God and Love Neighbor), and submit to the Lord in every way. This is how Luke puts it: "When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'" Help us Lord to go beyond ourselves to increase our prayer lives and to serve your people, especially those most in need of your mercy.

God love you.

Deacon Cavada

Stewardship of Treasure

Week #12	COLLECTION	Totals Prior Week -	Goal	Actual	Total Annual Over / (under)	YTD Goal	TOTAL OFFERTORY
9/28/2025	Envelope Collection	\$ (3,313.33)	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 1,480.00	\$ (3,933.33)	\$ 27,300.00	
	Loose Collection	\$ 2,495.54	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,763.00	\$ 3,058.54	\$ 15,600.00	
	On-Line Collection	\$ 5,652.62	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,929.95	\$ 6,182.57	\$ 18,200.00	
	TOTAL Collection	\$ 4,834.83	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 5,172.95	\$ 5,307.78	\$ 61,100.00	\$ 66,407.78



There is a **SECOND** collection this weekend to support **Our Living Church Building Fund Capital Campaign**. Please use a pledge card to make your gift today! Or visit st-johnog.org or scan the QR code. Envelopes are available in the church foyer.

Please make all checks payable to "St. John of the Cross—Our Living Church Capital Campaign".



Parish Organizations

PARISH COUNCIL

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 3 @ 6PM

ALTAR SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 24 @6PM

Monthly processional ~ Dianna Schneider - October 5

ALTAR DUTY CLEANING SCHEDULE

October 9-11— Maria Galvan-Gordon, Valeria Pousson, Kendra Cawyer, Vanesa Almeida, Blanca Nieto

October 16-18—Dora Paiz, Juana Vega, Ashley Sosa, Ana Arreguin, Maria Castro



SOCIEDAD GUADALUPANA

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 17 6PM



Corporate Mass—October 19 @ 7:30AM

Rosary @ 7:00AM

Leader: Anita Bazan

Offertory: Gloria Contreras & Mary Ortiz

Roses provided to Our Lady of Guadalupe by Angie Alejandro & Elaine Lopez

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

1/2 chicken, potato salad, and beans

11AM—1PM ~ Carry out only



CASA DE LUCY

MEETS TUESDAYS @ 9AM

Works of Mercy

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



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions at 9AM at
St. John of the Cross on **Thursday, November 6**, and
St. Francis of Assisi on **Saturday, October 25**.

Diocesan News

IT'S OFFICIAL! PARENTAL CHOICE IS NOW LAW IN TEXAS ~ Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) will provide participating families with state funds to help pay for private school tuition and related educational expenses, including textbooks, uniforms, and school meals. The ESA application portal will open in January 2026. Families who apply and are approved will begin receiving ESA funds in July 2026, allowing them to prepare for expenses in the 2026–2027 school year.

We encourage parents to stay informed by visiting www.diocesecc.org/esa for updates on eligibility, application procedures, and important deadlines. Take the first step toward a Catholic education—where your child will believe, belong, and become!



STATE OF THE DIOCESE ~
Thursday, October 30,
6:00PM—8:00PM at

Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds
\$15/ \$7 for children (Meal included).
Buy your tickets now at
diocesecc.org/stateof.



It's **Respect Life Month**! Every October, the Church in the U.S. celebrates **Respect Life Month**. We reflect on the gift of every human life and how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. Join thousands of Catholics praying a **Respect Life Month** novena October 22 – October 30. Get daily prayers, reflections, and more. Sign up at respectlife.org/celebrate.

In honor of **Respect Life Month**, we are hosting a diaper drive. Please leave infant diapers in the wicker baskets in the church foyer.



Dear Padre,

Is envy a sin? I find myself becoming very envious of people who have more than I do. I find it difficult to be content with what my family and I have now.

We live in a climate that encourages discontent with what we have. Advertising plays on our feelings of envy and our desire for possessions. In this almost universal rush to possess more and better material objects, Christians are called to a counter-witness. We are called to embrace a freedom and a poverty of spirit that actually rejoices in the blessings of others.

The Tenth Commandment alerts us to the danger of undisciplined envy: "You shall not covet...anything that belongs to your neighbor" (Exodus 20:17). In the New Testament, Jesus says that where our treasure is, there also will be our heart. (See Matthew 6:21.) The real antidote to envy, then, is prayers of thanks for all God has given to us and others. To feel envious, to desire or covet someone else's possessions, is not in itself a mortal sin. But to let that feeling invade your mind, to indulge it and rationalize it, is to let that feeling harden into an envious frame of mind. Then you are flirting with real sin. The grave sin is to allow these envious thoughts to drive you to any injustice or evil. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* sums it up well: "Would you like to see God glorified by you? Then rejoice in your brother's [and sister's] progress, and you will immediately give glory to God" (2540). ●

Fr. Paul J. Coury, 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*.

Monday

October 6

Weekday

Jon 1:1-2:2, 11

Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday

October 7

Our Lady of the

Rosary

Jon 3:1-10

Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday

October 8

Weekday

Jon 4:1-11

Lk 11:1-4

Thursday

October 9

Weekday

Mal 3:13-20b

Lk 11:5-13

Friday

October 10

Weekday

Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2

Lk 11:15-26

Saturday

October 11

Weekday

Jl 4:12-21

Lk 11:27-28

Sunday

October 12

Twenty-eighth

Sunday in

Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 5:14-17

2 Tm 2:8-13

Lk 17:11-19



PEOPLEIMAGES.COM - YURI A. SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

There is so little dialogue around us; shouting often replaces it, not infrequently in the form of fake news and irrational arguments proposed by a few loud voices. Deeper reflection and study are essential, as well as a commitment to encounter and listen to the poor.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025

All are invited as the Diocese of Corpus Christi celebrates the tradition of **Red Mass** ~ MASS FOR THOSE IN THE LEGAL AND JUDICIAL COMMUNITY

Bishop Michael Mulvey will celebrate the Red Mass on **Wednesday, October 8th** at 6:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 3350 South Alameda in Corpus Christi. The Red Mass invites all the faithful to come together to pray for God's guidance and blessings on those in the legal and judicial community as they pursue justice. This year, Most Reverend William Michael Mulvey, Bishop of Corpus Christi, will be the keynote speaker.

The Red Mass will be followed by a reception. For more information and to RSVP for the reception by September 30th at <https://www.diocesecc.org/redmass>



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. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/communicationsdofcc/cglobal-celebration-YA>.

The Diocese of Corpus Christi invites you to **WHITE MASS**—a Holy Mass honoring the healthcare professionals of the Diocese of Corpus Christi - ON **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16** at Most Precious Blood Church in Corpus Christi.

All healthcare professionals are welcome to join for an evening to honor physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, therapists, researchers, medical assistants, receptionists, dietary staff, lab workers, chaplains, administrators, and all others who work in alliance with the healthcare field.

Medical professionals who attend are welcome to wear their lab coat or uniform.

Community

Flocknote

Keep in touch with us via email & text!

Text **SJCOG** to **84576**

Or Connect with us online at:
www.stjohnog.flocknote.com

Social Media



Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/Stjohnogtx)

[Stjohnogtx](https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnogtx)

Live Streaming

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHEDRAL:

Sunday 9:30AM (ENG)

and 11:00 AM (SPA)

Available at: KDF-TV Ch 47 (9:30AM only).