

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

IGLESIA CATOLICA ROMANA

10970 Bywood Dr. (& East Glen), El Paso, TX 79936 - 915-592-1313
Email: saintthomasa@sbcglobal.net, Website: www.stthomas-el Paso.com

PASTOR

Rev. Ken Ducre

DEACONS

Joe Soto

Frank Segura

Ricardo Corella

MASS SCHEDULE HORARIO DE MISAS

Saturday/Sábado

Vigil/Vigilia

4:00pm, English

Sunday/Domingo

8:30am, English

10:00am, Español

12:00pm, English

Weekdays/Diaria

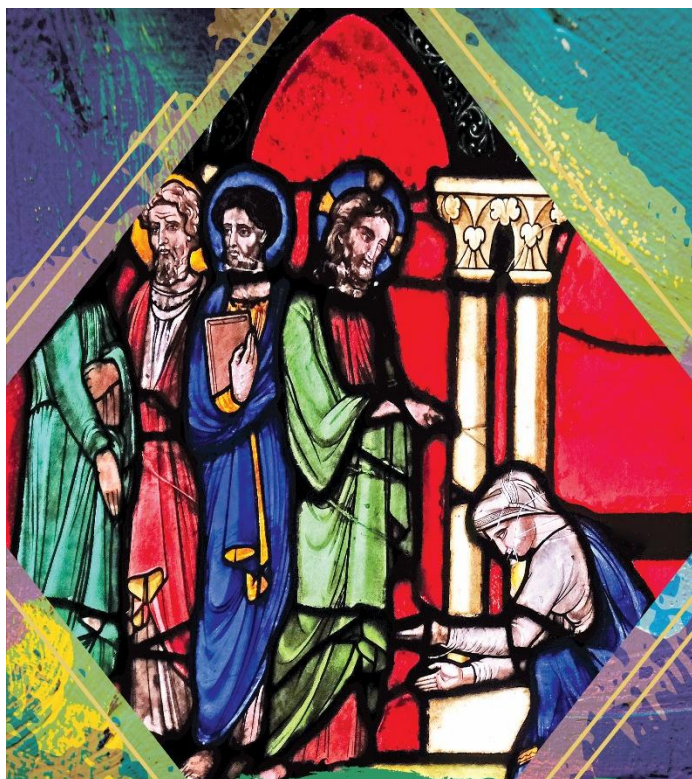
5:30pm

Mon. & Wed. English
Martes y Viernes Español

Thursday/Jueves

Liturgy of the Word &
Adoration

Liturgia de la Palabra y
Adoración



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The woman came and did Jesus homage, saying,
"Lord, help me." - Mt 15:25

20° DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Ella se acercó entonces a Jesús, y postrada ante él,
le dijo: "¡Señor, ayúdame!" - Mt 15, 25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCD. Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano, (CELP)

RECONCILIATION

RECONCILIACIÓN

Wednesday/Miércoles

6:00 - 7:00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday 2:00pm-5:00pm

Sunday 8:30am-1:00pm

Member of the
El Paso Inter-religious
Sponsoring Organization
(EPISO).

Working to end poverty
and injustice
in the Borderland.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

EDUCACION RELIGIOSA

Program for children and
adults to receive
Sacraments of Christian
Initiation.

Programa de preparación
para recibir sacramentos de
iniciación cristiana.
Disponible para niños y
adultos.

WEDDINGS/BODAS

Parishioners, registered or living
within Parish boundaries, please
contact pastor six months before
planned wedding date.

Parroquianos, registrados o residentes
de nuestra área parroquial,
comunicarse con el párroco al menos
seis meses antes de la fecha en que
planean casarse.

BAPTISMS/BAUTISMOS

Celebrated the second
Saturday of the month.
Please call the office for
additional information.

Se celebran el segundo
sábado de cada mes. Favor
de llamar a la oficina para
información adicional.

QUINCEAÑERAS/OS

All boys and girls enrolled in our
Religious Formation program are
welcome to celebrate their 15th
birthday at the parish.

Todos los niños y niñas inscritos en
nuestro programa de Formación
Religiosa son bienvenidos a celebrar
su cumpleaños número 15 en la
parroquia.



Welcome to the community of Saint Thomas Aquinas!
We are Blessed to have you with us.

We want to be living proof to you of the Love and Peace of Jesus Christ our Lord. We pray your time with us is a blessing for you as well! Welcome and God Bless!

¡Bienvenido a la comunidad de Santo Tomás de Aquino! Ya sea usted un vecino o un visitante que está de paso, sepa que es una bendición tenerlo con nosotros.

Queremos ser para usted una prueba viva del amor y la paz de Jesucristo nuestro Señor. ¡Oramos que su tiempo con nosotros sea una bendición para usted también! ¡Bienvenidos y Bendiciones!

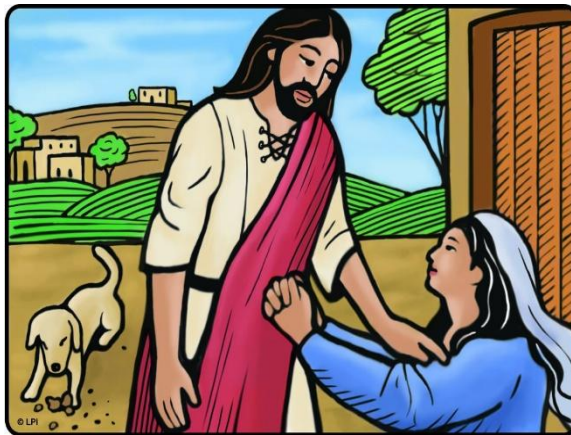
GOSPEL MEDITATION

Matthew 15:21-28

Does God ignore or act a bit rough with you? Jesus crosses the border into the pagan region of Tyre and Sidon, the territory long outside the covenant. There, a Canaanite woman calls out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David." At first, he is silent. Then he rebuffs her. "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." But the Church Fathers saw this not as an insult but as an initiation. Christ draws out of her heart a deeper faith.

She presses on. "Please, Lord, even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Jesus' silence and response solidify her humility and trust. She thus becomes a model for prayer for centuries of Christians. St. Augustine said she shows how sinners come to grace by moving from silence to humility to perseverance.

This woman is the Church. She is you and me. She is every soul who dares to cry out from the margins, who endures divine silence until it turns to compassion. When Jesus says, "O woman, great is your faith," it is the joyful cry of God discovering faith where the world least expects it. Even the smallest crumb of Your mercy, Lord, is enough to heal the soul. Do we have the courage to show faith like that? .John Muir. ©LPI



LIVE THE LITURGY

The Canaanite woman did not take Jesus' initial refusal as rejection, but as an invitation to engage with God, to show him the depth of her faith. When our prayers are not answered as we wish, will we have the courage to do the same? ©LPI

MEDITACIÓN EVANGÉLICA

Mateo 15:21-28

"Los llevaré a mi cerro santo y haré que se sientan felices en mi Casa de oración" (Isaías 56:7). Es decir, Dios acepta a todas las personas, sin distinción de raza o nación. Existen muchas personas que son maltratadas, humilladas o perseguidas, e incluso asesinadas, por su forma de pensar y de actuar en el ámbito social o político. En ocasiones, la persecución se da incluso dentro de la familia, tan solo por pensar diferente. ¿Qué nos pide Dios ante todo esto? ¿Qué opinas del mensaje de Jesús a través de su Palabra?

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VIVIR LA LITURGIA

La mujer cananea no interpretó la negativa inicial de Jesús como un rechazo, sino como una invitación a relacionarse con Dios, para mostrarle la profundidad de su fe. Cuando nuestras oraciones no son respondidas como deseamos, ¿tendremos el valor de hacer lo mismo?

PRACTICING CATHOLIC RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Chess, Not Checkers

There's a saying that good leaders have to play chess, not checkers.

It will surprise no one who knows me well that I am terrible at chess. It's not so much a lack of skill (although that's part of it) as a lack of effort. I find chess exhausting. To succeed at this complex game of strategy, you have to see not just the board in front of you, but the person in front of you — and more than that, you have to consider not just what is, but what could be.

I prefer checkers.

When I read a Gospel passage like today's, I think of what Jesus would be like as a chess player. It's so easy to see this account of the Canaanite woman and her tenacity and take it at face value, as a reminder to pray without ceasing, to never stop asking God for what we need. And certainly, it is that.

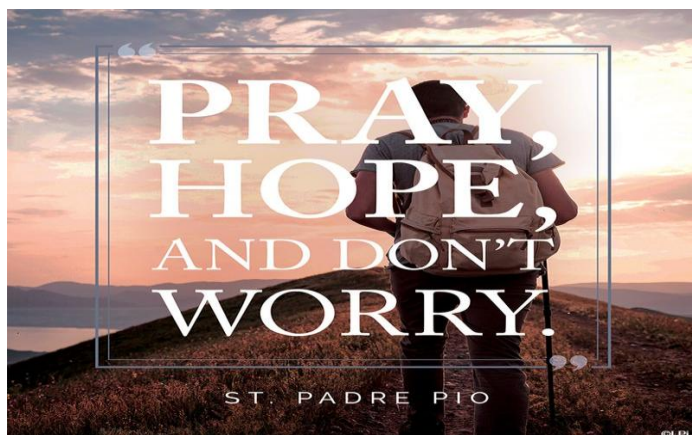
But it's not only that.

We see a woman begging God for help, and we see God refuse — at first. We see her persist, and we see him capitulate. At least, that's what it looks like to us.

What does it look like to Jesus?

Jesus sees this woman's face and hears her words, just as his disciples do — but he also sees her heart. He sees her whole life. He sees every moment that leads up to this one. He sees her belief, but he also sees her unbelief. He sees her wounds. He sees her daughter.

He sees the game board not just for what it is, but for what it could be. ©LPI



PRACTICANDO CATOLICISMO RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Ajedrez, no Damas

Hay un dicho que dice que los buenos líderes tienen que jugar al ajedrez, no a las damas.

No sorprenderá a nadie que me conozca bien que soy terrible en el ajedrez. No es tanto falta de habilidad (aunque eso es parte de ello) sino una falta de esfuerzo. Encuentro el ajedrez agotador. Para tener éxito en este complejo juego de estrategia, tienes que ver no solo el tablero que tienes delante de ti, sino también a la persona que tienes delante de ti— y más que eso, tienes que considerar no solo lo que es, sino lo que podría ser.

Yo prefiero las damas.

Cuando leo un pasaje del Evangelio como el de hoy, pienso en cómo sería Jesús como jugador de ajedrez. Es tan fácil ver este relato de la mujer cananea y su tenacidad y tomarlo al pie de la letra, como un recordatorio para rezar sin cesar, para no dejar de pedir a Dios lo que necesitamos. Y desde luego, es eso.

Pero no es solo eso.

Vemos a una mujer suplicando ayuda a Dios, y vemos a Dios negarse — al principio. La vemos persistir, y vemos cómo él capitula. Al menos, eso es lo que nos parece a nosotros.

¿Cómo se ve para Jesús?

Jesús ve el rostro de esta mujer y escucha sus palabras, igual que sus discípulos — pero también ve su corazón. Él ve toda su vida. Ve cada momento que conduce a este. Él ve su creencia, pero también su incredulidad. Ve sus heridas. Ve a su hija.

Ve el tablero no solo por lo que es, sino por lo que podría ser. ©LPI



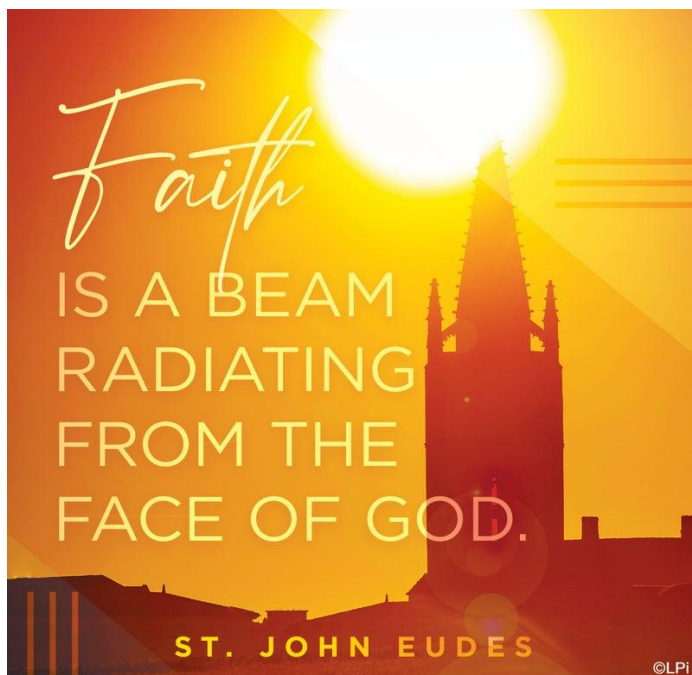
WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Strengthening Faith

Our prayer group is discussing ways we can change and strengthen our faith. What one thing could we change that would have the greatest impact on our faith?

A famous coach once said that when the team is in trouble and things aren't going well, go back to the basics; when the team is winning and things are going well, go back to the basics! Any renewal program, faith development, or spiritual growth effort has to start with the basic core of what it means to believe. If the foundation is not strong, the house will not stand.

So, if you work on one thing, begin with the idea that God is love, who loves us and calls us to love one another. If we really take that belief to heart, it changes how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It would change how we pray, how we treat others, and how we understand and live our own lives. Our sense of mission and purpose will be more focused on God's plan and our role in it. Love is the core of faith, the goal of life, and the hope of heaven. Whatever we do to strengthen and deepen our faith will begin and end with love. ©LPI



¿POR QUÉ HACEMOS ESO? VIDA CATÓLICA EXPLICADA

Fortalecimiento de la Fe

Nuestro grupo de oración está debatiendo formas en que podemos cambiar y fortalecer nuestra fe. ¿Qué cosa podríamos cambiar que tenga el mayor impacto en nuestra fe?

Un entrenador famoso dijo una vez que cuando el equipo está en problemas y las cosas no van bien, hay que volver a lo básico; Cuando el equipo va ganando y las cosas van bien, ¡vuelve a lo básico! Cualquier programa de renovación, desarrollo de la fe o esfuerzo de crecimiento espiritual debe comenzar por el núcleo básico de lo que significa creer. Si la base no es sólida, la casa no se mantendrá.

Así que, si trabajas en una cosa, empieza con la idea de que Dios es amor, que nos ama y nos llama a amarnos unos a otros. Si realmente tomamos esa creencia en serio, cambia la forma en que vemos a Dios, a nosotros mismos y a los demás. Cambiaría la forma en que oramos, cómo tratamos a los demás y cómo entendemos y vivimos nuestra propia vida. Nuestro sentido de misión y propósito estará más centrado en el plan de Dios y en nuestro papel en él. El amor es el núcleo de la fe, el objetivo de la vida y la esperanza del cielo. Todo lo que hagamos para fortalecer y profundizar nuestra fe comenzará y terminará con amor. ©LPI



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - INVITE PARISHIONERS TO REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

1st Reading

The Lord reveals to Isaiah that He desires a house of prayer for all peoples. Do you see your faith community being open to outsiders?

2nd Reading

Paul sees how God used Israel's unbelief in Jesus as an opportunity to extend His mercy to the Gentiles. Have you ever shown mercy to someone in an unexpected way?

Gospel Reading

The Canaanite woman is persistent with Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter, and so he does. When have you felt heard by Jesus? ©L.Pi

PREGUNTAS DE LA SEMANA - INVITAR A PARROQUIANOS A REFLEXIONAR Y RESPONDER

Pregunta de la 1ª Lectura

Elías encuentra al Señor no en el viento, el terremoto o el fuego, sino en un sonido ligero y silencioso. ¿Cuándo o dónde oyes la voz de Dios?

Pregunta de la 2ª Lectura

Pablo lamenta la incredulidad de sus compañeros judíos. ¿Cómo puedes ayudar a familiares o amigos que no creen en Jesús?

Pregunta del Evangelio

Pedro reúne el valor para salir al agua cuando Jesús le llama. ¿Cuáles son algunos temores que el Señor podría ayudarte a enfrentar?

SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection for August 23 of 2026 will be for our brothers and sisters from. Venezuela Thank you for your support!!

SEGUNDA COLLECTA

La Segunda collecta del día 23 de agosto del 2026 será para nuestros hermanos en Venezuela¡¡Gracias por su apoyo!!

PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY

Prayer for Conversion in Our Communities

Dear God, Move in our community:

Bring Your light to the darkness, Your justice to the oppressed, Your hope to those in despair, Your healing to those in pain. Work in us, Lord, and change our hearts, making us more loving, more merciful, and more compassionate. Amen. ©L.Pi

ORACIÓN – PARA TODOS LOS DÍAS Y PARA TODOS

Oración por la Conversión en Nuestras Comunidades

Querido Dios,

Muévete en nuestra comunidad:

trae tu luz a la oscuridad,

tu justicia a los oprimidos,

tu esperanza a los que están en desesperación,

tu sanación a los que sufren.

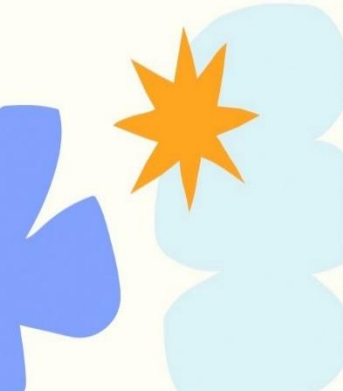
Trabaja en nosotros, Señor, y cambia nuestros corazones,

haciéndonos más amorosos, más misericordiosos y más compasivos.

Amén.

YOUTH GROUP

is back!




Wednesday, August 19th
@6:30
VATICAN II

Join us for an afternoon of music, games, and fellowship. All students in high school are invited!

ESPERE MINISTRY

Escuelas de Perdon y Reconciliacion – invites you to participate in the next **ESPERE** workshop series at Saint Thomas Aquinas on **Wednesdays, from August 26 to November 18, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm**, in the Guadalupe Room. This workshop will be in English.

This workshop offers wisdom, teachings, and practices to help you to grow in the ability to forgive yourself and others, as well as to be able to seek reconciliation for broken bonds.

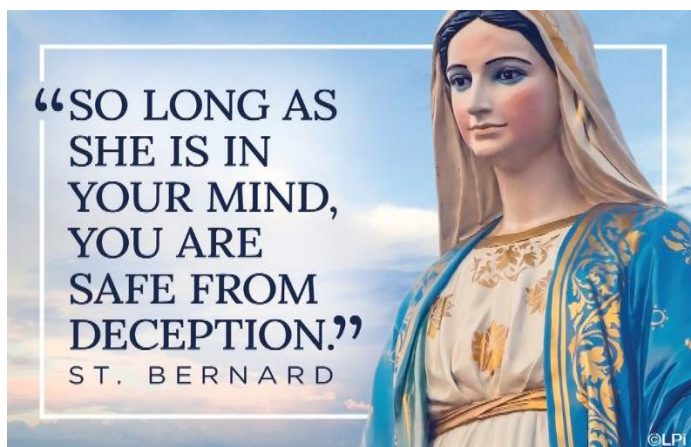
Workshops in Spanish will be offered in Spring 2027. To register, call the office of Peace and Justice at 915-872-8422 please leave your name and phone number to be placed on the attendance list.

BLESSED SACRAMENT CANDLE VELA DEL SANTISIMO SACRAMENT

This week the Blessed Sacrament perpetual candle is lit to honor:

Esta semana la vela perpetua al Santísimo estará encendida para honrar:

THE HOLY SPIRIT/ AL ESPIRITU SANTO



MINISTERIO ESPERE

Escuelas de Perdón y Reconciliación te invita a participar en el próximo ciclo de talleres ESPERE en Santo Tomás de Aquino, los miércoles, del 26 de agosto al 18 de noviembre, de 6:00 a 9:00 pm, en el Salón Guadalupe. **Este taller se impartirá en inglés.**

Este taller ofrece sabiduría, enseñanzas y prácticas para ayudarte a crecer en la capacidad de perdonarte a ti mismo y a los demás, así como para buscar la reconciliación tras relaciones rotas.

Se ofrecerán talleres en español en la primavera de 2027. Para inscribirte, llama a la Oficina de Paz y Justicia al 915-872-8422 y deja tu nombre y número de teléfono para que te incluyamos en la lista de asistentes.

Public Notice – Action Required

Sexual Abuse Claims in the Diocese of El Paso Bankruptcy

Regardless of how old you are today or when the sexual abuse occurred, you need to file your claim so that it is received by September 11, 2026.

The Diocese of El Paso (“Diocese”) has filed bankruptcy to restructure its nonprofit organization and pay Putative Abuse Survivors. Please read this notice carefully as it may impact your rights against the Diocese and provides information about the case, *In re: Diocese of El Paso* (Bankr. W.D. Tx.). This notice is a short summary. For more detail, go to <https://cases.stretto.com/diocesefelpaso> or call (833) 345-0351.

Who Should File a Claim?

Anyone who alleges they were abused and believes the Diocese, or persons affiliated with the Diocese, may be responsible for the abuse must file a claim. This includes abuse in connection with any entity or activity associated with the Diocese, including schools, orphanages, parishes, or Catholic Charities. A list of such entities associated with the Diocese is available on the website or by calling the toll-free number listed below.¹ If you have an abuse claim against any entity on that list, you may have a claim against the Diocese. Only the Diocese is in bankruptcy. If you have a claim against any entity on that list, you must take additional legal action to preserve and pursue your rights.

When and How Should I File a Claim?

You should file a claim using either Official Bankruptcy Form No. 410 (or a form substantially similar thereto) or the Abuse Proof of Claim Supplement Claim so that it is received by September 11, 2026. If you do not file a timely claim, you may lose rights against the Diocese, including any right to compensation.

Your information will be kept private. You can download and file a claim at the website or call the toll-free number listed below for help on how to file a claim by mail.

Your information will be kept private

<https://cases.stretto.com/diocesefelpaso> and (833) 345-0351

This Week

Sunday, August 6

10:00am Religious Formation Classes Begin
Orientation & Parent Virtus (Parish Hall)

Monday; August 17

10:00am Renacer Preparation Meeting
6:30pm First- Aid Mental Health (Hall)

Tuesday; August 18

12:00pm Funeral Mass for Macaria M Lujan
5:30pm RF Orientation & Parent Spa. Virtus Class (Hall)
5:30pm Women's Retreat Leadership Meeting (Guadalupe)
6:30pm Asamblea De Oracion

Wednesday; August 19

6:00pm EPISO Accountability Launch (Hall)
6:00pm RF Orientation & Parent Spa Virtus (Guadalupe)
6:30pm Youth Group (Vatican II room)

Thursday; August 20

5:30pm RF Orientation & Parent Eng. Virtus

OBSERVANCES/ CONMEMORACIONES

Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wednesday: St. John Eudes, Priest

Thursday: St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Friday: St. Pius X, Pope

Saturday: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

SUNDAY READINGS LECTURAS DOMINICALES

First Reading (Is 56:1)

Thus says the LORD:

Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed.

Esto dice el Señor: Velen por los derechos de los demás, practiquen la justicia, porque mi salvación esta a punto de llegar y mi justicia a punto de manifestarse.

Psalms (Ps 67)

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Que te alaben, Señor, todos los pueblos.

Second Reading (Rom 11:32)

For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

Dios ha permitido que todos cayéramos en la rebeldia, para manifestarnos a todos su misericordia.

Gospel: (Mt 15:28)

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

Entonces Jesús le respondió: "¡Mujer, que grande es tu fe! Que se cumpla lo que deseas'. Y en aquel mismo instante quedo curada su hija.

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 16 2026
READINGS/ LECTURAS

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

Monday: Ez 24:15-23/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 23:1-12



Saturday, August 15

4:00pm For the Parishioners

Sunday, August 16

8:30am +John R. Batoon, 8yr Anniv, by Laura Batoon by Sons
+Stella Martinez by Richard Martinez
+Maggie Enriquez, by Irene Martinez
Advento Barrera Cruz, Health
Salome Barrera Cruz, Health

10:00am +Esperanza Moreno by Sons
+Anastasio Flores by Sons
+Aniceto y Guadalupe Flores, by Hinojosa Fam.
+Margie Ann Chavez, by Husband

12:00pm +Victor & +Joaquina Rubio by Tina Morales
+Carlos Kocoseris
+Lupe Perez by Family
Joey Castro, 15th Birthday, by Family

Monday, August 17

5:30pm +Margie Ann Chavez by Husband
+Julio Enrique Payan by Velma Arbizzani

Tuesday, August 18

5:30pm +Julio Enrique Payan by Velma Arbizzani

Wednesday, August 19

5:30pm +Maggie Enriquez (Bday) by daughters
+Julio Enrique Payan by Velma Arbizzani
Gina Facios Bday

Thursday, August 20

5:30pm Liturgy of the Word with Deacon Frank Segura

Friday; August 21

5:30pm +Julio Enrique Payan by Velma Arbizzani



REMEMBER
in your prayers

STA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Installation of Officers 2026-2027



ONE HEART, ONE SOUL

COUPLES RETREAT

SATURDAY
19TH
OF
SEPTEMBER

*"So they are no longer
two, but one flesh.
Therefore what God has
joined together, let no
one separate."*

Matthew 19: 6"

- Activities
- Teaching
- Prayer

Schedule

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

\$40 Per Couple

Lunch Included

Registration Now Open

915 - 592 - 1313



For More Information

Location

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
10970 Bywood Dr.
El Paso, TX 79936



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