



ST. JOHN FISHER

Catholic Parish

A FAMILY OF FAMILIAS

MASS MISA

Tuesday/Martes:

Chapel/Capilla @ 8:00 AM

Wednesday/Miércoles:

Chapel/Capilla @ 8:00 AM

Thursday/Jueves:

Chapel/Capilla @ 8:00 AM

Friday/Viernes:

Catholic Charities @ 8:00 AM

Saturday/Sábado:

Church/Iglesia @ 6:00 PM English

Sunday/Domingo:

Church/Iglesia @ 8:00 AM Español,
10:00 AM English, 12:00 PM Español

CONFESSIONS CONFESIONES

Saturday/Sábado:

3:00 PM-5:00 PM

ADORATION ADORACIÓN

Thursdays Blessed Sacrament/ Jueves Exposición del Santísimo

8:00 AM-6:45 PM

OFFICE HOURS HORARIO DE OFICINA

Monday – Thursday/Lunes – Jueves

8:00 AM-5:00 PM

(One hour lunch/Una hora de almuerzo)

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Friday/Viernes:

8:00 AM-NOON

ST. GABRIEL SAN GABRIEL

713-225-5826

JULY 19TH, 2020 | 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.” - Mt 13:43a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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410 CLAY STREET | RICHMOND, TX 77469 | PHONE: 281-342-5092 | FAX: 281-633-9465
WWW.STJOHNFISHER.INFO | OFFICE@STJOHNFISHER.INFO

PRAYER & WORSHIP

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WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 19, 2020

SUN 7/19	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/ Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
MON 7/20	Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/ Mt 12:38-42
TUE 7/21	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8a]/Mt 12:46-50
WED 7/22	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
THR 7/23	Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11 [10a]/Mt 13:10-17
FRI 7/24	Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Mt 13:18-23
SAT 7/25	2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [5]/Mt 20:20-28
SUN 7/26	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 [97a]/ Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 19, 2020

Sunday:	16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr
Tuesday:	St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:	St. Mary Magdalene
Thursday:	St. Bridget, Religious
Friday:	St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest
Saturday:	St. James, Apostle
Next Sunday:	17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Grace and sin are found together. As much as our hearts long for union with God, there is always that part of us that resists. As much as I wholeheartedly believe in God, there is a dimension of disbelief with which I also wrestle. Even though we may seek purity and integrity in all of our thoughts, words, and deeds, there is also the path toward weakness and sin that we find ourselves traversing. Just as weeds can easily overtake the best of gardens, so too can weakness and sin overtake and overwhelm a person. The call is to realize the power the weeds of sin have to choke us off from God's presence. While God allows the wheat and the weeds to exist together, we must keep our eyes fixed on God's mercy and forgiveness and resist the death that comes from giving way to sin and evil. In God's time, the eternal harvest will come, and we will no longer have to worry about the weeds. For now, we must be vigilant and regularly seek the assistance of the Master Gardener.



**SAINT
BRIDGET**
of Sweden
JULY 23



*Pursue
Love*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

For your might is the source of justice;
your mastery over all things makes you
lenient to all. (Wis 12:16)



PSALM

Lord, you are good and forgiving. (Ps 86)



SECOND READING

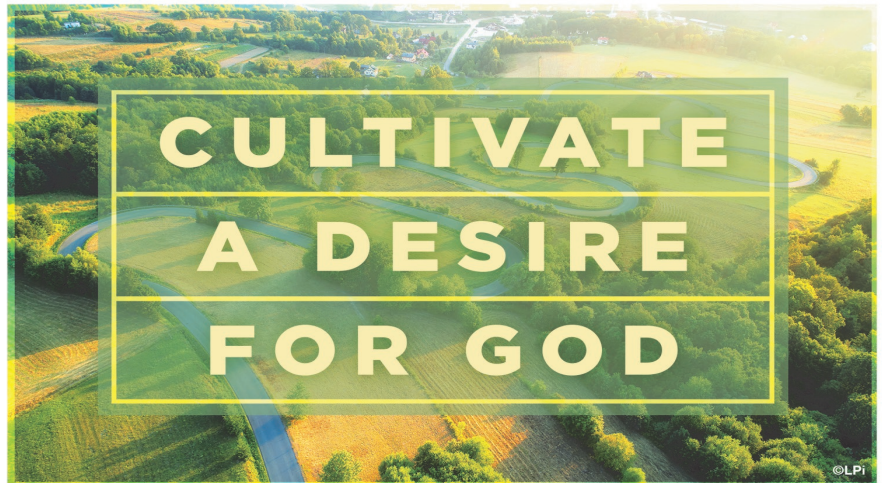
And the one who searches hearts
knows what is the intention of the Spirit,
because it intercedes for the holy ones
according to God's will. (Rom 8:27)



GOSPEL

"Let them grow together until harvest;
then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters,
"First collect the weeds and tie them
in bundles for burning;
but gather the wheat into my barn."" (Mt 13:30b)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Grace and sin, belief and unbelief, good and evil all exist together. While we wrestle with these two dimensions of reality inwardly, they are also witnessed in the actions and words of others. Many, all too often, beat themselves up because of their sin. We are also all too quick to pass judgment on others whom we perceive to be in error and walking down a wrong path. God does not make rash judgments, nor should we. Patience is the order of the day as is an understanding that God is ultimately the caller of the shots.

Our faith tells us that while God allows the wheat and the weeds to coexist, the wheat will always triumph. As long as we can cultivate even a little faith and a small measure of desire for God, He can produce abundant blessings and good things. Even when the weeds seem to have triumphed, there still may be a small measure of faith remaining that can be cultivated and grown. It doesn't take much! Unless a person totally allows the weeds to reign, there is always to be found at least a small measure of faith, good, light, and love. With even this small portion, God can produce abundant growth.

Admittedly, it is easy to give into the weeds, and they grow very quickly. Any gardener knows this to be true. Sometimes, the weeds even seem more attractive and vibrant. Dealing with weeds can quickly become a losing battle, and they can look healthier and grow faster than the very plants we are trying to protect. It's easy to give into them and let them win. While God will deal with all things in due time, we are responsible for keeping things in check in the short term. It is our task to keep our eyes fixed on God's presence and mercy. We are asked to avoid judgment. And, it is not our responsibility to deal with the weeds in someone else's garden, only our own. One garden is enough responsibility for anyone.

Weeds have power. We have to realize this. While they can appear attractive and healthy, they can quickly choke us off from God's presence. Our task is one of maintenance and cultivating a desire for God. Even the smallest kernel of faith can grow into something wonderful. In God's time, the eternal harvest will come, and we will no longer have to worry about the weeds.

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2020 | 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH INFO

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LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Do What Needs to Be Done

A friend recently confided in me that although he prayed frequently each day and was involved heavily in his parish, he did not sense much fruit coming from it all and was left feeling unsatisfied. I assured him he was not alone. I told him of a deceased pastor of mine who had spoken frequently about being in this type of situation. Even as a priest, he knew all too well of how we can feel like we are simply going through the motions. It is precisely at those times that continuing to pray and practicing good stewardship is most important, because it would be easier to simply take a break and risk never coming back. He liked to say, "Do the drill," meaning just do what needs to be done.

We are all called to be mature disciples who answer the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost. We cannot choose when and where the call will come. We cannot schedule our stewardship in a way that is always most convenient for us. Even when the fruits of our faithful efforts seem hidden from us, we hold to the promise that we are never called to give of ourselves for nothing. God is working through us and in us. No matter how dry the land may seem, seeds are being planted to yield a harvest greater than we can ever realize. Stay strong and do the drill!

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Fish on Friday

Question:

Why do Catholics eat fish on Friday?

Answer:

For centuries, meatless Fridays were the norm for Catholics throughout the world. Friday was chosen because that was the day on which Jesus died, and Christians wanted to find a way to honor that day with special prayers and acts of penance and self-denial. The practice of abstaining from meat on Fridays — under pain of sin — grew out of that desire, and it became an official part of Church teaching until the time of the Second Vatican Council.

In the 1960s, there was a shift in the Church's thinking, in large part because there was a recognition that differences in cultures and economic realities meant that eating or not eating meat had different meanings for different peoples. For example, in cultures that were largely dependent on seafood or a vegetarian diet, abstaining from meat was no sacrifice at all. While in other places, eating fish and other kinds of seafood was actually something rare and special and not a sacrifice. This was all part of a basic reflection on "why we do what we do" among the Church's pastors.

Today, Catholics throughout the world are still instructed to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent. The bishops of some countries, such as in England and Wales, ask Catholics to abstain from meat every Friday, continuing the older tradition. The Bishops of the United States have taken a slightly different approach, encouraging Catholics to honor Friday as a special day by abstaining from meat every Friday or by taking on some other work of penance or charity for the sake of others.

Regardless of what we choose to do, the real value in all of this is to see a reflection of Good Friday in each Friday, to remember the self-giving love of Jesus, and to honor that love through some sort of sacrifice or act of mercy.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

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**"The Son of Man will send
his angels, and they will
collect out of his kingdom all
who cause others to sin and
all evildoers. They will throw
them into the fiery furnace,
where there will be wailing
and grinding of teeth. Then
the righteous will shine like
the sun in the kingdom
of their Father."**

- Mt 13:41-43a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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LITURGICAL LIFE

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

The Jewish sage speaks of God as master of all who judges us with clemency and governs us with leniency. What are some areas of your life that make you grateful for a merciful God?

Second Reading

Paul teaches the Christians in Rome that the Spirit helps us "to pray as we ought." When do you find yourself most at prayer?

Gospel Reading

We hear today a series of parables describing aspects of the kingdom of heaven: the parable of the weeds among the wheat, the parable of the mustard seed, and the parable of the yeast. What do you think makes Jesus' parables such an effective method for teaching about the mystery of the kingdom of heaven?



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PASTOR'S DESK

PAGE 6

DEAR ST. JOHN FISHER FAMILY,

The readings for this Sunday speak to us about God's kingdom. Jesus brought this kingdom to earth. All of us, through our baptism, have become part of this kingdom.

In the gospels, Jesus tells us: *"Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides"* (Mt. 6:33); and *"Give and you will receive"* (Lk 5:38). Our efforts should go into doing the first part each scripture phrase: seeking God's kingdom and giving; and God himself takes care of the second part, that is, He meets our needs. Material providence has always been one of the most beautifully mysterious aspects of the Christian life because it is part of the particular revelation of God and His Kingdom made by Jesus: God is a father and loves us with all His being – that is where we dwell.

All of us have material needs that become difficult to meet especially during these trying times with the corona virus: families struggle to reach the end of the month; leaders of religious and non-religious organizations try to keep their expenditures within the prescribed budget. Vast changes and upheavals daily disrupt lives in the attempt to find new economic grounding.

Normally in the economic field, it is the "cold law" of competition which rules. In some schools of thought, it is also based on the false premise that human beings seek self-interest above all. On this law and these assumptions and others, economists try to use the same rigors of physics and mathematics, with its own precise, inevitable cycles and patterns, and its forecasts which include unavoidable failures and crises. Economic textbooks are full of formulas and graphs. But another book gives us the true

laws which rule economic events on earth: the laws proclaimed by Jesus: *"Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides"* (Mt. 6:33); and *"Give and you will receive"* (Lk 6:38).

These laws reveal the mystery of the meeting between the human and the divine. Economic laws certainly have their value, but we will never grasp the logic behind the world's great happenings, unless we bear in mind that economic affairs are also governed by divine providence.

Both heaven and earth exist, and heaven has promised to step in and come to our aid if our hearts are first of all centered on heaven, that is, on God and His kingdom. This is not a fairytale. It is the daily experience of many fathers and mothers; the experience of the church, of religious founders and the modern day apostles of material charity. It is my daily experience and that of our parish, St. John Fisher.

God intervenes in our human affairs as often as we yearn for it, placing our lives at His disposition. This should be the experience of every Christian. So let's remember: in everything, God first!

Fr. Jesse Garcia

QUERIDA FAMILIA DE ST. JUAN FISHER,

Las lecturas de este domingo nos hablan sobre el Reino de Dios. Jesús trajo este reino a la tierra. Todos nosotros, a través de nuestro bautismo, hemos sido integrados a este reino.

En los evangelios, Jesús nos dice: *"...busquen primero su reino y su justicia, y se les darán también todas esas cosas"* (Mt. 6:33); y *"Den, y se les dará"* (Lc 6:38). Nuestros esfuerzos deberían enfocarse en hacer la primera parte de cada una de esas escrituras, es decir, buscar el reino de Dios y dar; y Dios mismo se encarga de la segunda parte, es decir, satisface nuestras necesidades. La providencia material siempre ha sido uno de los aspectos más bellos y misteriosos de la vida cristiana porque es parte de la revelación particular de Dios y Su reino hecha por Jesús: Dios es un Padre y nos ama con todo Su Ser – esa es nuestra morada.

Todos tenemos necesidades materiales que se vuelven difíciles de satisfacer, especialmente durante estos tiempos del coronavirus: las familias luchan por llegar al fin del mes; los líderes de organizaciones religiosas y no religiosas intentan mantener sus gastos dentro del presupuesto prescrito. Grandes cambios y perturbaciones diarias interrumpen la vida en el intento de encontrar nuevas bases económicas.

Normalmente en el campo económico, lo que rige es la *"ley fría"* de la competencia. También algunas escuelas del pensamiento económico se basan en la falsa premisa de que los seres humanos buscan el interés propio sobre todo. Sobre esta ley y estos supuestos y otros, los economistas intentan usar los mismos rigores de la física y la matemática, con sus propios ciclos y patrones precisos e

inevitables, y sus pronósticos que incluyen fallas y crisis inevitables.

Los libros académicos sobre la economía están llenos de fórmulas y gráficos. Pero otro libro nos da las verdaderas leyes que gobierna los eventos económicos en la tierra: las leyes proclamadas por Jesús: *"... busquen primero su reino y su justicia, y se les darán también todas esas cosas"* (Mt. 6:33); y *"Den, y se les dará"* (Lc 6:38).

Estas leyes revelan el misterio del encuentro entre lo humano y lo divino. Las leyes económicas ciertamente tienen su valor, pero nunca entenderemos la lógica detrás de los grandes acontecimientos del mundo, a menos que tengamos en cuenta que los asuntos económicos también se rigen por la providencia divina.

Tanto el cielo como la tierra existen, y el cielo ha prometido intervenir y ayudarnos si nuestros corazones se centran en primer lugar en el cielo, es decir, en Dios y su reino, y en dar gratuitamente. Este no es un cuento de hadas. Es la experiencia diaria de muchos padres y madres; la experiencia de la iglesia, de los fundadores religiosos y los apóstoles modernos de la caridad material. Si, también es mi experiencia diaria y la de nuestra parroquia San Juan Fisher.

Dios interviene en nuestros asuntos humanos en cuanto lo anhelamos, poniendo nuestras vidas a su disposición, buscando Su reino y dando de lo que tenemos. Esta debería ser la experiencia de cada cristiano. Así que recordemos: ¡en todo, Dios primero!



P. Jesse Garcia

CALENDAR & EVENTS

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Alfred Arredondo, Maria Alejandra Chavarria, Miguel De La Torre, Antonia Flores, Lupe Garcia, Pedro Granados, Cecilia Gonzalez, Mark Lester, Ofelia Gonzalez Morales, Leonard Martinez, Jessica Martinez, Melissa Baca, Felix Perez, Jesse Perez, Bryan Ramirez, Josefina Ramirez, Ramona Rosales, Joe Rosilez Sr., Aurora Sanchez, John Sanchez, Esteban Treviño, Joe Wiley,

Call the office with the names of those who need our prayers and also call to inform us when to remove the name from the list.

Llame a la oficina para informar sobre quienes están enfermos y podemos orar por ellos. Llámenos también cuando consideren que debemos sacarlos de la lista.



LITURGICAL LIFE

3 EASY STEPS To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



Wash Your Hands

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.



Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.



Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



BE A GIFT OF LOVE
AND COMPASSION
FOR ONE ANOTHER.

ST. MARY MACKILLOP



“He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, “First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ ”

- Mt 13:29-30

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