

**PRAYER CORNER**

Jesus, thank you that you will never leave or forsake me. You have promised that you are watching over me and that you will heal me. You have said that you will bring guidance and restore comfort to those in anguish. Bring peace and healing to me Lord. Thank you for always being near. Amen.

**Pray for the needs of Sick/ Shut-In**

- |                      |                           |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Steve Stephens       | Ben Swanson               | Ursula Paige        |
| Ayrton Mateo Salas   | Tommy Carroll             | Blanche Malachi     |
| Jack Harrison        | Sonia Munoz               | Erma Platte         |
| Elizabeth Moreno     | Amelia Martinez           | Albert Johnson, Jr. |
| Hector Huerta        | Garciela Gomez            | Trino Sanchez       |
| Agnes Wilson         | Paula Vanatta             |                     |
| Martha Luce          | Mary Gillespie            |                     |
| Marcus Rattliff, Jr. | Francisco Ledegma         |                     |
| Larry Breacher       | Betty Harris              |                     |
| Fr. Tom Wiggington   | Alberee Haynes            |                     |
| Susan McDonald       | Baby Andrew Carroll & Mom |                     |
| Luis Briseno         | Malinda Walker            |                     |
| Adela Aleman         | Raven Anderson            |                     |
| John Daley           | Julian Elizondo           |                     |
| Sylvia Sykes         | Pete Marquez              |                     |
|                      | Ysleta Franklin           |                     |
|                      | Amy Novacek               |                     |
|                      | Kevin & Juanita Thornton  |                     |

**And For the Repose of the Souls**

- Shirley Cesar  
Judith Munoz Cortez

**Collection Received: Sept. 24, 2023**

Regular Collection	\$980.00
Parish Maintenance	\$
St. Vincent de Paul	\$20.00
Mass Intentions	\$50.00
St. Anne's—Candles	\$34.55
7 am Weekday Mass	\$270.00
Social Outreach	\$
Catholic University of America	\$133.03
Bulletin Ads	\$
Initial Offering	\$15.00

# OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

October 1, 2023



Bulletin printed in-house at:

**Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church**

1001 E. Terrell Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX 76104

(817) 335-1695  
ommftworth1@gmail.com

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Lydia Salas, Sec/Safe& Sacred Coordinator  
Jennifer Rattliff, Bookkeeper  
Michael Ussin, Maintenance/Custodial  
Charlotte Mitchell, Bulletin

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**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Help Line: 817-768-1950/svdpommm@gmail.com

**St. Anne's Society: Marie Guidry**

marieguidry@sbcgloabal.net

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**Knight St. Peter Claver:** Michael Barks  
817-845-1125

**Hospitality Ministry:** Ianthe Youman

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Shonta Giovannitti  
Emma Umaniyigena

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**Financial Council:**

Amanda Flood  
Fred Bob

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**Religious Education:**

Shonta Giovannitti, Director

**Office Hours**

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
Thursday 11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
Friday: 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

**Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Our journey through life is filled with ups and downs, successes and failures. We stumble, we falter, and at times, we hurt those we love most. We strive to live by Christian principles, which call us to love unconditionally as Christ did, yet we fall short. In moments of reflection, we may find ourselves humbled by our human frailty, realizing how deeply we depend on God's grace.

This Sunday's readings offer us a profound opportunity to contemplate the gift of repentance, a divine gift extended to each of us. It's a message of hope, reminding us that regardless of our past actions, the door to God's mercy is always open. To access this gift, we must embrace God's call to repentance. The Bible poignantly illustrates repentance through metaphors, each conveying its depth and significance.

Repentance is likened to washing or cleansing, as we find in Psalm 50 (51): 2, "Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin." In the same way that dirt and grime can cling to our bodies, sin can stain our souls. Repentance represents the spiritual purification that eliminates the impurities of sin from our hearts.

Imagine a pristine white garment tarnished by mud. To restore its purity, it must undergo a thorough cleansing. Similarly, when our souls bear the marks of sin and human frailty, we can turn to God in repentance. God's mercy acts as a purifying agent, washing away our transgressions, and re-






storing the innocence of our souls. This metaphor underscores that repentance is not a punitive act but a process of revival and renewal.

In Matthew 21:28-32, Jesus employs the metaphor of bearing fruit to convey the essence of repentance. He narrates the parable of two sons—one initially refusing his father's request but later experiencing a change of heart and obeying, and another promising obedience but ultimately failing to follow through. The first son, despite his initial disobedience, bears the fruit of obedience through repentance. Imagine a fruit tree in a neglected garden. At first glance, it may seem barren and lifeless. However, with care and attention, it gradually blossoms, yielding vibrant and abundant fruit. Similarly, when we turn away from sin through repentance, our lives bear the fruit of righteousness and obedience to God's will. This metaphor emphasizes that repentance leads to transformation, evident through our actions.

The gift of repentance is a divine offering, extending to us the opportunity to turn, to be cleansed, and to bear the fruits of righteousness. Let us wholeheartedly embrace this gift, acknowledging our need for God's forgiveness and guidance. Just as God's mercy knows no bounds, our repentance opens the door to restoration, renewal, and a deeper relationship with our heavenly father.

—Excerpt of article written by Sister Maria Ukamaka Okele, I.H.M.—  
www.U.S. Catholic.org

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**Bulletin Reflections**

“Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves...” *Philippians 2:3*

Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put in our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life: your family, your friends and those who make you angry.

“No hagan nada por rivalidad ni orgullo. Sean humildes y cada uno considere a los demás como más importantes que sí mismo...” - *FILIPENSES 2:3*

El orgullo y el ego son difíciles de controlar. Vemos como se visten o actúan los demás y pensamos que somos superiores a ellos. Idealizamos nuestra propia imagen. Sin embargo, si realmente creemos que todas las cosas son dones de Dios, reconoceremos como regalos a todas las personas que Dios ha puesto en nuestras vidas. Estamos agradecidos por la forma en la que enriquecen nuestras vidas. Ore cada día por las personas de su vida: su familia, sus amigos y por aquellos que lo hacen enojar.

*With Prayers and Love*

**Liturgical Ministry Schedule**

Live Stream Support	
10:00 am Mass	Sunday
9/24/2023	Debra Savage
10/1/2023	Lisa Jones
10/8/2023	Howard Rattliff
10/15/2023	Vanessa Nava
10/22/2023	Isabell Garza

**Weekly Mass Schedule**

**Dates**

**Monday, October 2**

**Tuesday, October 3**

**Wednesday, October 4**

**Thursday, October 5**

**Friday, October 6**

**Saturday, October 7**

**Sunday, October 8**

**Times**

**Mass 7:00 a.m.**  
**Confession After Mass**  
*Fr. Richard Flores*

**Confession—6:30 a.m.**  
**Mass 7:00 a.m.**  
*Fr. Bob Strittmatter*

**Mass 7:00 a.m.**  
**Confession after Mass**  
**Adoration 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**  
*Fr. Richard Flores*

**Confession—6:30 a.m.**  
**Mass 7:00 a.m.**  
*Fr. Bob Strittmatter*

**Mass 7:00 a.m.**  
**Confession after Mass**  
**Adoration 8 a.m.—Noon**  
*Fr. Richard Flores*

**Adoration 4:00-5:00 p.m.**  
**Confession—4:30 p.m.**  
**Mass 5:00 p.m.**  
*Fr. Richard Flores*

**Mass 10:00 a.m. (Livestream)**  
**OMM Gospel Choir**  
*Fr.*

Rosary is Sunday 9:20 a.m. & M-F @ 6:20 a.m.

**Weekly Readings**

10/2—Zec 8:1-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10  
10/3—Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56  
10/4—Neh 2:1-8; Lk 9:57-62  
10/5—Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Lk 10:1-12  
10/6—Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16  
10/7—Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Lk 10:17-24  
10/8—Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-41



**Announcements**



**Food Pantry Needs**  
We need your help stocking the OMM food pantry, which is maintained by St. Vincent de Paul. Please bring donations to the parish life center.



*Love one another as I have love you.*

**Diocesan Marriage Retreats**

The Office of Marriage and Family Life has organized a series of marriage retreats in English and Spanish beginning October 2023. Three of the retreats are in English with guest speaker Dana Nygaard, and three are in Spanish with guest speakers Maria de Carmen Uceda and Jesus Gras. More details about the retreats and registration is provided on the diocesan website on the following links: 1) Cana Commandments Marriage Retreat - <https://fwdioc.org/> 2) Sean Uno Retiro de Matrimonios - <https://fwdioc.org/retiros-de-sean-uno>



**Desayuno de Magnificat Fort worth en español**

Día: 21 de Octubre del 2023  
Dónde: DOUBLE TREE HOTEL (By Holiday Inn)  
100 E. ALTAMESA BLVD.  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76134  
Hora: 9:00 – 12:00pm  
Costo: \$35.00  
Conferencista invitada: Carolina Figueroa  
Para boletos comunicate a los teléfonos: 817-500-3937 Carmen Berrios-Peralta 817-938-9590 Martha Hernández  
Reserva con anticipación no se venderán boletos en la entrada.



“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.” Accept God’s ways for your marriage. Strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage sacrament by attending an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is Oct. 27-29, 2023. To apply go to [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org). Questions – email applications@dfwme.org. Para mas informacion de Encuentro Matrimonial en Espanol, escriba a [mdgallegos06@gmail.com](mailto:mdgallegos06@gmail.com) 214-497-0188.

**Catholic Charities Special Collection**

St. Therese of Lisieux modelled for us that in little acts of holiness, we can make a difference in the world. She showed us the little way. On the weekend of **October 14-15, OMOM** will take up a special collection in support of Catholic Charities Fort Worth, little acts turns into a big impact and to affirm their right to a life of dignity and fulfillment.

**Come and See Weekend**

The next vocations weekend retreat is November 3-5, 2023. This no-cost weekend is for men in high school and college ages 16 and older. Transportation is provided to and from seminary at St. Joseph Seminary College, Covington, LA. Please register no later than October 27, 2023. For those who are or will be 18 years of age at the time of the event, you will be required to register and complete the Safe Environment training. For more information, please email or call the vocations office at 817-945-9321 or [vocations@fwdioc.org](mailto:vocations@fwdioc.org).

**RICA**

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, or RICA, is a process through which non-baptized men and women enter the Catholic Church. It includes several stages marked by study, prayer and rites at Mass. OMOM is offering classes Sunday morning at 8:30am, for those who want to be a part of the Catholic faith.



**St. Andrew’s Breakfast**

Holy mass, breakfast, prayer and discussion. This event is for high school and college men in the Ft Worth Diocese. It will be held on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1206

Throckmorton St., Ft. Worth. Please reserve your spot by October 12, 2023 through email at [Vocations@fwdioc.org](mailto:Vocations@fwdioc.org).

**Special Collections for October**

October 1—Parish Maintenance  
October 8—St. Vincent DePaul  
October 15—Catholic Charities  
October 22—Propagatin of Faith-World Mission Sunday



**Extraordinary Ministers Needed**

Please consider becoming a Eucharist Minister for our church. Training will be provided by Deacon Tom. We need people to distribute the eucharist to our homebound parishioners also. Contact parish office to sign-up.



O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

