

PRAYER CORNER

Heavenly Father, we pray that you would bring healing and restoration to our family and friends in body, mind, and spirit. Please grant them strength and courage as they face this difficult time. We ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

- |                     |                   |                          |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Iris Reedom         | Guillermo Barrera | Garciela Gomez           |
| Joel Garcia         | Juanita Cruz      | Betty Harris             |
| Mayette Stroughter  | Betty Levine      | Alberree Haynes          |
| Jane Sandoval       | Ursula Paige      | Malinda Walker           |
| Michael Barks       | Wesley Matthews   | Raven Anderson           |
| Frances Martinez    | Barbara Herrera   | Julian Elizondo          |
| Jane Sandoval       | Ben Swanson       | Pete Marquez             |
| Evelyn Rose Barton  | Bastion Joseph    | Ysleta Franklin          |
| Tommy Carroll       | Benny Cervantez   | Kevin & Juanita Thornton |
| Charlie Gallagher   | Lico Cervantez    | Albert Johnson, Jr.      |
| Cassie Parks        | Jamesha Hayward   | <b>Deceased:</b>         |
| Gelov Duenas        | Jack Harrison     | Anna Uranga              |
| Pete Rafferty       | Elizabeth Moreno  | Ruth Hernandez           |
| Winnie Francis      | Hector Huerta     | Alma Alexander           |
| Isaiah & Mylo Salas | Martha Luce       | Tony Cruz                |
| Rocio De Los Santos | Larry Breacher    | Johnny Ruella            |
| Troy Heithecker     | Luis Briseno      | Maryann Rafferty         |
| Kelly Weckherlinz   | Adela Aleman      |                          |
| Ninoska Martinez    | John Daley        |                          |
| Keisha Smith        | Sylvia Sykes      |                          |
| Martin Pecina       | Sonia Munoz       |                          |

Our Mother of Mercy

Collection Received: April 21, 2024

Regular Collection	\$1,559.00
Parish Maintenance	\$
Social Outreach	\$10.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$
Good Shepherd Sunday	\$199.60
St. Anne's—Candles	\$45.50
7 am Weekday Mass	\$235.00
Mass Intentions	\$10.00
Bulletin Ads	\$
	\$

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Thank you for your contributions of financial support to the parish.

# OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

April 28, 2024



Bulletin printed in-house at:  
**Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church**  
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**Financial Council:**

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 Fred Bob  
 Romel Clayton  
 Yvonne Youman-Hall

**Religious Education:**

Shonta Giovannitti, Director

**Office Hours**

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

**Parish Council Meeting—1st Sunday of the month after mass.**

**Finance Council Meeting—1st Wednesday of the month**



This chapter is considered part of what scholars call the “farewell discourses” in the Gospel of John: Jesus’ last words to his disciples before the last supper, and his arrest and passion. Jesus said to his disciples: *“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.”*

What’s interesting about this is that “vine” was a common image for God’s people, going back, for example, to the book of Isaiah in the Hebrew Bible. But here it suggests immediately thoughts of spring. Of planting. Cutting and pruning. Applied to ourselves, as Jesus’s disciples, it sounds painful, destructive, as nature is. But in this case, I think it is the care and attention of God the father that is foremost in Jesus’ message to his disciples: *“You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me.”*

This is fundamentally relational. It’s no longer possible for the individual disciples to be considered in isolation: one must realize they are always directly connected to Jesus, and through him, to his father.

*“I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him*

*will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.”*

We can’t help focusing on the almost apocalyptic nature of the statement. And in another passage of the gospel, we recall when Jesus cursed the fig tree because it offered no fruit. But at its root, this passage in the Gospel of John is about being part of something greater than just yourself.

*“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”*

Here Jesus is describing his relationship both to his father and to his disciples. But the relational view holds when we step further back and remember Jesus and his relation to the Father and the Holy Spirit in the concept of the trinity. It too is fundamentally relational. This is a striking way for Jesus to prompt his disciples to keep the commandments, which he does in the passage immediately after today’s readings. And in the end, it’s in keeping his commandments that our fruit is ultimately born on this vine of Christ.

—By John W. Farrell, [www.uscatholic.org](http://www.uscatholic.org)

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**Larry & Olga Martinez,**  
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**Bulletin Reflections**

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” - 1 JOHN 3:18

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you “walk the talk?” Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good disciple? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs? If not, it’s not too late to start!

“Hijos, no amemos de palabra ni de labios para afuera, sino con hechos y de verdad.” - 1 JUAN 3:18

Con respecto a nuestra fe católica, ¿“predicas con el ejemplo”? ¿Sus acciones reflejan lo que significa ser un buen discípulo? ¿Participa activamente en la Misa Dominical? ¿Está alegre cuando participa en el ministerio parroquial? ¿Da su apoyo financiero agradecida y generosamente a su parroquia y a otras necesidades de la Iglesia? Si no es así, ¡no es tarde para empezar!

With Prayers & Love

**Liturgical Ministry Schedule**

Live Stream Support	
10:00 am Mass	Sunday
April 28	Debra Savage

APRIL	Lectors	
27/28	Lanette M Vidaurri	Mary Battle Lydia Salas

**Weekly Mass Schedule**

Dates	Times	Mass Intention
<b>Sunday</b> , April 28 Fr. Dan Pattee, TOR	Mass 10:00 am (Livestream)	Repose Soul of Eloise Gouthia
<b>Monday</b> , April 29	Mass 7:00 am Confession after Mass	Happy Birthday Micheal Ussin
<b>Tuesday</b> , April 30	Confession –6:30 am Mass 7:00 am	
<b>Wednesday</b> , May 1	Mass: 7:00 am Confession after Mass Adoration 5:00 -7:00 pm	
<b>Thursday</b> , May 2	Confession—6:30 am Mass: 7:00 am	
<b>Friday</b> , May 3	Mass: 7:00 am Confession after Mass Adoration: 8 am– noon	
<b>Saturday</b> , May 4 Fr. Richard Flores	Adoration 4-4:50 pm Confession 4-4:50 pm Mass: 5:00 pm	Repose Soul of Kellie Moore
<b>Rosary:</b> Sunday 8:30 am; Mon-Fri 6:20 am		



Prayer for Religious Vocations

Father, you call all who believe in you to grow perfect in love by following in the footsteps of Christ your Son. May those whom you have chosen to serve you as religious provide by their way of life a convincing sign of your kingdom for the Church and the whole world.

Amen.

**Weekly Readings**

- 4/28—Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8
- 4/29—Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26
- 4/30—Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a
- 5/1—Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8 or Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Mt 13:54-58
- 5/2—Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11—USA National Day of Prayer
- 5/3—1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14
- 5/4—Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21

**Announcements**

**Part-Time Job Opportunity**

OMM is searching for a Director of Evangelization & Outreach. The Parish Director of Evangelization is a member of the parish staff who gives direction to evangelization efforts in the parish community. Goals of the position include fostering conversion and growth in discipleship among the faithful, develop a welcoming community, animate and equip parishioners to evangelize by witness, word, and action, and enhance communication within and beyond the parish community. You may apply at the Fort Worth Diocese website: <https://fwdioc.org/employment>. Look under Catholic Center and Parish employment.

**Food Pantry Needs**  
Your donations are needed to help St. Vincent de Paul restock the pantry shelves at Our Mother of Mercy. Donations may be brought to the parish life center or leave in the back of the church. Thank you so much for your help with food donations.

**Adult Safe Environment Are Awareness Sessions**

Are you endanger of being excluded from volunteering in church activities?

Safe Environment Certification for Employees and Adult Volunteers is **REQUIRED PRIOR TO SERVING in Ministry AND MUST BE RENEWED EVERY TWO YEARS.**

Initial OR Renewal Safe Environment Certification currently **REQUIRES ATTENDANCE AT A LIVE AND IN PERSON (“FACE-TO-FACE”)** Safe Environment Awareness Session (“PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN FOR ADULTS”) and **REQUIRES A VIRTUS PROFILE.** Go to [fwdioc.org/training-sessions](http://fwdioc.org/training-sessions) to sign up and look for face to face classes.



Early voting has started and will end April 30. Election day is **Saturday, May 4.**



OMOM will have the Crowning of Mary on Sunday, May 5. The crowning is symbolic of Mary as Queen of Heaven and of our lives. We entrust all our intentions to her, and she takes them to her Son, who is the

King. When she appeared to Adele Brise [in 1859] at the opening of the apparitions, she said, “I am the Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners.” Our Blessed Mother is our Queen and our intercessor, and we symbolize that with a May crowning. Mary’s queenship in the shrine is represented in the crowning of the statue.”



“Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own

unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me.” Learn how your marriage can bear fruit on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend are May 3-5 and June 21-23, 2024. To apply go to [www.wme.org](http://www.wme.org). Questions – email [applications@dfwme.org](mailto:applications@dfwme.org). Para mas informacion de Encuentro Matrimonial en Espanol, escriba a [mdgallegos06@gmail.com](mailto:mdgallegos06@gmail.com) 214-497-0188.

**OMM Historical Fact**

During the 1980’s OMM’s very active Men’s Club sponsored the annual parish picnic, maintained the church grounds, and provided invaluable support to OMM School, especially during the annual Diocesan Marathon for Catholic Education where they won wide acclaim for their famous “*Mercy Burgers*”

**Mother’s Day Gift**

Give Mama, Big Mama, or Auntie the Great Adventure Catholic Bible for Mother’s Day. This bible makes the complexity of reading the bible simple. The narrative approach gives the big picture of salvation history and shows how everything ties together. The cost is \$30. See Lydia at parish office.



**Experience Authentic Creole Cooking The Heart of Acadiana!**

OMM Hospitality Ministry will be selling BBQ dinners after Mass on **May 19 from 11:00 am– 1:30pm.** Dinner includes BBQ chicken, Louisiana Rice Dressing, Baked Beans, Potato Salad & Roll. **RESERVE NOW: Text 682-365-6375.** This fundraiser will help fund the coffee & donuts.



Magnificat, A Ministry to Catholic Women, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Grapevine TX Chapter invites the Ladies of Our Mother of Mercy Parish to a Prayer Meal on May 11, 2024. It will be held at Hilton Garden Inn-Lewisville. Prayer Meal is \$30.00. Contact Mary Trevino at 214-868-5559 for reservations. Or email: <https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/tx-grapevine/>

**The Florida Johnson Scholarship Fund**

The Knights & Ladies of St. Peter Claver Court 89 is accepting applications for the Florida Johnson Scholarship Fund. Applications are available at the rear of the church or from the organization by writing to Knights of Peter Claver-Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Committee, St. Veronica’s Court #89 c/o floridajohnsonscholarship18@gmail.com.

**High School & College Graduates**

OMM would like to honor 2024 graduates of the church on Sunday, May 19 at 10:00 Mass. HS and College Graduates please sign up on the sheet located in the rear of church.

