

**PRAYER CORNER**

The Lord protects and preserves them—they are counted among the blessed in the land—he does not give them over to the desire of their foes. The Lord sustains them on their sickbed and restores them from their bed of illness.. Amen.

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

Fr. Anthony Robins	Alberee Haynes	Erma Platte
Sonia Munoz	Baby Andrew Carroll & Mom	Evelyn Joseph
Maria Chen	James Will	Albert Johnson, Jr.
Fr. Tom Wigginton	Malinda Walker	
Lorenzo Wilborn	Evadell Ware	<b>And For the Repose of the Souls</b>
Teresa Lamb	Raven Anderson	Mario Najera
Marie Mesker	Julian Elizondo	Ester Wood
Marie & Valley Harrison	Larry Peplinski	Cardinal Pell
Amelia Martinez	Pete Marquez	
Garcia Gomez	Ysleta Franklin	<i>May they rest in peace, through the mercy of God</i>
Sophia Lopez Arango	Amy Novacek	
Paula Vanatta	Catherine Carroll	
Mary Gillespie	Jim McDonald	
Francisco Ledegma	Kevin & Juanita Thornton	
Betty Harris	Ursula Paige	
	Agnes Wilson	
	John & Blanche Malachi	

**Collection Summary: June 25, 2023**

Regular Collection	\$1,300.00
Parish Maintenance	\$47.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$13.00
Mass Intentions	\$20.00
St. Anne's—Candles	\$58.63
Social Outreach	\$
Bulletin Ads	\$
St. Anne's—Religious Articles	\$12.00
	\$
	\$

# OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

July 2, 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

**Pastoral Staff**

Deacon Tom Giovannitti, Pastoral Life Coord  
 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

**Sick/Shut-In Outreach Ministry:**

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**Lector Coordinator:**

Ms. Lanette Martinez Vidaurri  
 817-228-3338/lanettemartinez@ymail.com

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**Pastoral Council:**

Ms. LaWonda Peoples, Chairperson  
 Mr. Fred Bob  
 Ms. Yvonne Yowman Hall  
 Ms. Marie Barks  
 Ms. Dorothea Lea Menefee

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**Financial Council:**

Ms. Romel Clayton  
 Ms. Amanda Flood

\*\*\*

**Religious Education:**

Ms. 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.

**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it” (Matthew 10:37-42).

These verses, where Jesus asks his friends to make tremendous sacrifices to follow him, can seem challenging. And, for many who are deconstructing from harmful and manipulative religious traditions, they may seem to offer a template for spiritual abuse. Many have suffered injustice and pain and found no help from fellow Christians who just told them “Jesus wants you to carry your cross.” Women who are struggling because their doctor told them another pregnancy could kill them, and have been told they have to “take up the cross” of potentially dying, before considering options for preventing pregnancy. People who have been abused by a member of the clergy get abused a second time around when Christians tell them they must forgive and “take up the cross.”

How many people have been cut off by friends or family because they married outside the church, because they divorced, or because they are LGBTQ? I have heard Christians talk about refusing to attend a marriage of a loved one, or not letting a loved one bring their partner to visit. I have seen families ostracize and even expel their LGBTQ children in the name of Jesus—sometimes using these verses to justify this harmful behavior. So, what do we make of this gospel passage? How can we read it in a way that doesn't seem to justify abuse, injustice, and ostracism? The Catholic church has a “preferential option for the poor” in

its social teaching. I think we should also bring a preferential option for the vulnerable, to verses like this. They should not be used to justify harming those already in difficult situations. That's not the gospel Jesus taught. He taught, instead, that to those who have much, much will be required. The rich and privileged have an obligation to share their wealth and to help those most in need—as the wealthy woman of Shunem helps Elisha, in the first reading, this Sunday. When earthly attachments get in the way of this, that's a problem. It's a problem, too, when we let our personal attachments prevent us from working for justice. I think about times in the past when I chose to be silent about injustice, because I didn't want to upset powerful people, or because I craved societal approval. Those are times when I was unwilling to “lose my life” for the sake of Jesus. And Jesus told his followers clearly where we would find him: in the poor, the immigrant, the hungry, the incarcerated. When we decide to prioritize our material possessions over the needs of those vulnerable people, we're not loving Jesus. Jesus is telling us we must not let our fear of rocking the boat or losing our social capital prevent us from helping those in need or speaking out for survivors. It's still not easy. It's still a challenging gospel. But when we look at it this way, we can see it's a gospel worth living by.

From: Rebecca Bratten Weiss  
<https://uscatholic.org/articles>



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<p><b>BULLETIN AD PRICES (MONTHLY)</b>                  B&amp;W 1" X 2" is \$10 in color \$15                  B&amp;W 2" X 1" is \$10 in color \$15                  B&amp;W 2" X 2" is \$20 in color \$25                  B&amp;W 4" X 1" is \$30 in color \$35                  B&amp;W 4" X 2" is \$40 in color \$45</p>		<p><b>Bulletin Space Available</b>  <b>Contact Lydia Salas -</b>  <b>(817) 335-1695</b></p>	

**Safe and Sacred Certification**

Renew safe and sacred certification or to start the safe and sacred training, log in to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and select a time, date, and location. Training for employees & adult volunteers are required prior to serving in ministry and renewed every two years. If you need assistance, call Lydia at the church office, 817.335.1695 or email [ommftworth1@gmail.com](mailto:ommftworth1@gmail.com).

**Bulletin Reflections:**

“... whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” *Matthew 10:38*

Pope Benedict XVI said “The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness”. “Comfort” puts me first. “Picking up your cross and following Jesus” puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!

“...y el que no toma su cruz y me sigue no es digno de mí.” - *Mateo 10:38*

El papa Benedicto XVI dijo: “El mundo ofrece su comodidad, pero no fuimos hechos para la comodidad, sino fuimos hechos para la grandeza”. La “comodidad” me pone a mi primero. “Tomar tu cruz y seguir a Jesús” pone a Dios y a los demás primero. ¡Por qué conformarse con la comodidad cuando podemos alcanzar la grandeza! ¡Tome su cruz, pídale a Jesús que lo guíe para utilizar sus dones y viva la vida que Dios tiene dispuesta para usted!

*With Prayers and Love*



**Weekly Mass Schedule**

Dates	Times
<b>Monday, July 3</b>	<b>Mass 7:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, July 4</b>	<b>Mass 7:00a.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday, July 5</b>	<b>Mass 7:00 a. m.</b> <b>Adoration 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Friday, July 7</b>	<b>Mass 7:00 a.m.</b> <b>Adoration 8 a. m.—Noon</b>
<b>Saturday, July 8</b>	<b>Adoration 4:00-5:00 p.m.</b> <b>Mass 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday, July 9</b>	<b>Mass 10:00 a.m. (Livestream)</b>

Rosary is Sunday 9:20 a.m. and MTWF @ 6:20 a.m.



Warriors of the Yarn meets Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. in the parish life center. All are invited to attend and create. Just show up with yarn and needles.



Give to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Please use the commitment envelopes in the pews or donate online at : [bit.ly/DiocesaAppeal](https://bit.ly/DiocesaAppeal).



**Liturgical Ministry Schedule**

Lectors		
7/1-2	Charlotte Mitchell	E. Rodriguez Carolyn Yusuf
7/8-9	Lanette M.-Vidaurre	

Live Stream Support	
10:00 am Mass	Sunday
7/2/2023	Brenda Rodriguez
7/9/2023	Howard Rattliff
7/16/2023	Debra Savage
7/23/2023	Lisa Jones
7/30/2023	Vanessa Nava

**Weekly Readings**

7/03—Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29  
 7/04—Gn:15-29; Mt 8:23-27  
 7/05—Gn 21:5, 8-20a;Mt 8:28-34  
 7/06—Gn 22:1b-19; Mt 9:1-8  
 7/07—Gn 23:1-4,19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Mt 9:9-13  
 7/08—Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Mt 9:14-17  
 7/09—Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30



**Announcements**



Mark your calendars! It's Food Truck Party Vacation Bible School and we are on a roll with God, July 24-28, 2023 from 5-7 p.m. in Parish Life Center. Every child in our community, ages 4-10, is invited to come and grow in faith through games, arts & crafts, music, and Bible stories. Dinner and snacks will be served daily and it is all free. Contact church office to register. Or email the church at [our-mother@omomftworth.org](mailto:our-mother@omomftworth.org). or Our Mother of Mercy facebook page **Registration ends July 15.**

**Special Collections for Month of July**  
 July 2—Parish Maintenance  
 July 2—Peter's Pence  
 July 9—St. Vincent De Paul

**Pick up your envelopes from the Church Parish Office.**

**St. Peter's Pence**

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. Support the collection today at <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections> (case sensitive).

Hoy es la Colecta Peter's Pence, una colecta a nivel mundial que apoya la labor de la Iglesia universal, incluyendo la labor de la Santa Sede y las obras de caridad del papa Francisco. Tomen esta oportunidad para unirse al papa Francisco y sean un signo de misericordia para nuestros hermanos y hermanas que sufren. Por favor, sean generosos hoy. Para más información, visiten <https://bit.ly/ColectasEspeciales> (distingue entre mayúsculas y minúsculas).

**Eucharist Ministers are needed!**

The parish is in need of volunteers to visit the sick/shut-in parishioners to share the Eucharist. Please prayerfully consider this ministry. Contact Parish office for details.

*O Father, I pray for them, that*

*they may be one in us, that the world may believe that you have sent me, says the Lord.*

**Aging with Grace**

Science may explain physical aging, but life experience and faith can teach us far more about how to cope with it. As we age or care for aging parents, we often wonder what the Church teaches about ethical medical decisions, the sanctity of life, and preparing documents, such as advance directives or a will. The FW Diocese along with Advancement Foundation will hold a workshop on Tuesday, July 18 10-2 p.m. for empty nesters, retirees, caregivers and their loved ones. This event will help answer those questions and provide guidance and inspiration for the journey ahead! The location will be at Holy Family Catholic Parish, 6150 Pershing Ave., FW 76107. The cost is \$15 per person and \$25 per couple. Register at :<https://www.advancementfoundation.org/aging:with-grace>.

**OMM A/C Repairs Announcement and Update**

**UPDATE!!**

The A/C unit is now working in the Parish Life Center. For the church, we are obtaining three bids on two new commercial size A/C units. Funds are needed to pay for them. Thank you for your consideration.

**Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa**

Next week our parish will take up a collection to support the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. Although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care. The solidarity fund supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation in a continent often marked by division and tension. Text SPECIAL to 817-402-3525 African Church. Online donations at: <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections>

La próxima semana, nuestra parroquia realizará la colecta para apoyar al Fondo de Solidaridad para la Iglesia en África. A pesar que la Iglesia en África está creciendo, muchos aún carecen de acceso a los recursos básicos

y a un cuidado pastoral. El Fondo de Solidaridad financia proyectos pastorales para incrementar la capacidad de la Iglesia y fomentar una paz y reconciliación duraderas en un continente que a menudo está marcado por divisiones y tensiones. Para hacer su donativo visite [bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections](https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections) or mensaje de texto

SPECIAL a 817-402-3525

**Collection for Our Mother of Mercy**

Below are the funds collected for May, 2023. The church is struggling to meet expenses. We are thankful for what has been received.

May 2023	
Total Collected Revenue	\$16,002.00
Total Expenses	\$18,665.00
Surplus/Deficit	\$(2,663.00)

**Volunteers Needed for Food Truck Party-VBS**

Join us as we get on a roll with God! Your assistance is needed as follows:

1. We need donations for our Vacation Bible School, if your ministry could sponsor one day of the meals/snacks and beverages during the week of July 24-28, please contact Shontae Giovannetti or Carolyn Yusuf.
2. Individual donations of fresh fruits, water, drinks, cookies, puddings, and cash donations are appreciated. Please see Shontae Giovannetti or Carolyn Yusuf after mass.
3. We need you to serve as recruiters, group leaders, worship leaders, dancers, food servers, decorators, publicity personnel, and technical support. You must have completed the diocesan "Keeping Children Safe" training to work directly with the children.
4. As part of our mission, our VBS will do a can food drive for the Tarrant County Food Bank during the month of July. Please bring your donations and place them in the VBS box in the Parish Life Center garage. Thank you for all you do. For all inquiries contact Carolyn Yusuf at 817-726-6726 or sign on the Facebook page for OMOM.

