

Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 16, 2025

From the Desk of the Pastor:

Dr. Harold Treffert is the director of the Winnebago Mental Health Institute in Wisconsin. In an article entitled "*The American Fairy Tale*," he discusses five dangerous ideas we have about the meaning of happiness. **First**, happiness is *things*. The more you accumulate and have, the happier you will be. **Second**, happiness is *what you do*. The more you produce and earn, the happier you will be. **Third**, happiness is being the *same as others*. The more you are fashionable and conform with the times, the happier you will be. **Fourth**, happiness is *mental health*. The fewer problems you have and the more carefree you are, the happier you will be. **Fifth**, happiness is *communicating with electronic gadgets*. The more you can communicate with a television set, a satellite, a phone, or a computer, the happier you will be. According to Dr. Treffert, these five myths about happiness are the cause of many mental health problems today. -- If happiness cannot be found through these five myths of "*The American Fairy Tale*," then where do we find it? Today's readings answer it.

In the first reading, Jeremiah tells us that true happiness consists in our placing our trust in God and in putting our trust in His promises. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 1) finds beatitude in keeping God's Law. In the second reading, St. Paul warns us that true beatitude is obtainable only in Heaven and that Christ's Resurrection gives us our assurance of reaching Heaven for an everlasting life of happiness. In today's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples in the paradoxical blessedness of poverty, hunger, sorrow, and persecution. "*Blessed are those who are poor, hungry, weeping, hated, excluded, insulted and denounced,*" because in poverty, we recognize our dependence on God; in hunger, God's providence; in sorrow for sins, reconciliation with God; and in persecution, the true joy of standing for the Faith with heroic convictions. What makes one blessed is not simply poverty or hunger or sadness or suffering for the Faith but living these in the context of one's commitment to Jesus and his spirit of sharing. The Beatitudes consist in humble selflessness and compassionate, generous sharing of our blessings with the needy. The beatitudes must be understood as eschatological statements which see and evaluate the present in terms of the future glory and everlasting happiness.

Life Messages: 1) We need to respond to the challenge of the Beatitudes in our daily life. Millions are starving, persecuted, homeless, and leading hopeless lives. The only way the promises of the Beatitudes can become a reality for them is through the efforts of people like us. Hence, let us remember that each time we reach out to help the needy, the sick, or the oppressed, we share with them a foretaste of the promises of the Beatitudes here and now. 2) Let us light a candle instead of blaming the political set-up. God knows that 50% of His children are hungry, 80% live in substandard housing and 70% have no education. If over half our children were hungry, cold and uneducated, how would we respond to their suffering? God wants us to live as brothers and sisters who care for one another. 3) We must take care to choose our way wisely. "*There are two Ways, one of Life and one of Death, and there is a great difference between the two Ways.*" These are the opening lines of the "*Didache*" a first century Christian catechism used to teach new Christians the essence of the Christian Faith. The way of life and true happiness is the way of Jesus, the way of the beatitudes, the way of rendering loving service to God by serving our brothers and sisters.

Fr. Luke



Mass Schedule

Sunday Liturgies

Saturday
Rosary at 4:30 p.m.
Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

Rosary at 9:30 a.m.
Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Rosary in Spanish at 12:00 noon
12:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Weekday Liturgies

Tuesday and Friday - Mass at 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet
at 5:00 p.m. followed by Mass
Wednesday - Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Oakbrook Healthcare

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each Month 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. &
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
By appointment other times

Holy Day Masses

6:00 p.m. English
7:00 p.m. Spanish

Masses at Wellspring

Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m.; Sunday, 5:00 p.m.



Thursday Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are prayed every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the church or by telephone conference call. Mass immediately follows. If you wish to join by telephone, call the church office for details.

Children's Rosary

The Rosary will begin at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays when Faith Formation classes are in session.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers this weekend were donated by the family of Dora Benavidez in celebration of her birthday.

Happy Birthday, Dora!

Join us in prayer for the needs of our families and community....

Pray for:

Jeff Briscoe, Lucile Cook, Adam Elliott, Steve Francis, Natalie Hayes, Fr. Joseph Jacobi, Judy LeBlanc, Diana Leonhardi, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Luncford, Orbelina Maradiaga, Julieta Marroquin, Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Marcela Montenegro, Donna Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Amalia Saucillo, Danny Smith, Shirley Stenklyft, and Blanca Villatoro.

Mass Intentions

Sat Feb 15	5:00 p.m.	Felix Wong+
Sun Feb 16	10:00 a.m.	Members of Our Parish
	12:30 p.m.	Julie Becker S.I.
Tue Feb 18	12:30 p.m.	Julie Becker S.I.
Thu Feb 20	5:00 p.m.	Jim Plumb+
Fri Feb 21	12:30 p.m.	Earlis & Shirly Vidrine & Family +
Sat Feb 22	5:00 p.m.	Felisa Brillantes+

Parish Giving

February 9, 2025

1st Collection	\$4,373.50
2nd Collection	\$ 505.50
Children's Collection	\$ 83.00

2nd Collection Feb 16	Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales
2nd Collection Feb 23	Helpers in Ministry

Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 62
10:00 a.m. 133 and 12:30 p.m. 154

Pastoral Team

Pastor: Fr. Luke Kalarickal, M.S.F.S.
Deacons: Ruben Natera; Clarence Blalock
Acolytes: Rick Downey; Michael Morris
Felipe Segura; Alberto Robledo
Bookkeeper: Noelia Gonzalez
Office Assistant: Linda Rossler

Committee Chairs

Pastoral Council Chair: Theresa Cheatham
Finance Council Chair: Lou Napolitano
Maintenance Committee Chair: Rick Downey

The administration and pastoral care of Prince of Peace Parish is entrusted to the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales (M.S.F.S.), also known as Fransalian Missionaries, an international religious order with headquarters in Rome and the Provincial House in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, visit www.fransaliansusa.com or www.wellspringcommunity.net.



Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Office closes for lunch between noon and 1:00 p.m.



Gentle, loving rebuke has far greater power to correct than rage and passion.

St. Francis de Sales

News and Notes

2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal

If you have not yet submitted your Appeal pledge envelope, please prayerfully consider what you can contribute to help meet our parish goal of \$40,000. You may mail it directly to the Diocese of Tyler or bring it to the church. Thank you.

Thanks and Gratitude

The Altar Society's is thankful for everyone who made their bake sale last weekend a success.

Commissioning of Altar Servers

The new Altar servers who had their trainings and the existing Altar servers will be commissioned during next Sunday's 10 a.m. & 12.30 Masses.

New Church Directory Review

As we received some new members' information & some corrections/changes, the updated directory information is displayed at the church foyer. Everyone, please go through them and see if your information is correct or not. Also, if your picture or information is missing, contact Melissa Briscoe at (903) 954-0003, Linda Rossler at (903) 570-3288, or the church office at (903) 871-3230. This is your last chance to review. If you haven't given your picture, please send one either to Linda or Melissa as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

Faith Formation Safe Environment Training

The Faith Formation Program will have its annual Mandatory Safe Environment, "Teaching Safety," classes next Wednesday, February 19, during the regular class time. If you have questions, contact the church office.

Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry meets on the third Thursday of each month. The February meeting is this coming Thursday, February 20, from 6:45 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

Prince of Peace Youth Group - Pasta/Salad Bar Fundraiser

The Prince of Peace Youth Group invites you to our pasta and salad bar dinner/lunch! We will be serving a buffet style pasta bar after all Masses on Saturday and Sunday, March 1-2. The cost is \$15 per plate or \$25 for two plates. We would really appreciate seeing you there, and thank you in advance for supporting the Youth Group. Pre-sale tickets are available to purchase in the church foyer.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets after each Mass for the next several weekends for the upcoming Fish Fry's on Friday, March 14th and March 28th from 5-7 pm in the Parish Hall. Tickets will be \$15 each and will include fish, coleslaw, corn, French fries or hush puppies and dessert. You may Dine-in or Take-out your meal(s). Proceeds from the Fish Fry are used for Faith, Family, Community and Pro-Life projects at Prince of Peace



The 40 Days for Life prayer vigil for Tyler will begin on Wednesday, March 5th thru April 13th. During these 40 days, we need prayer warriors to come out to Planned Parenthood in Tyler, located at 601 Turtle Creek Drive, and pray for (1) hour each week during these 40 days. Bring a Rosary and a friend. Praying does make a difference and saves babies! For more information and to signup to pray, please go to 40DaysForLife.com/Tyler or contact Lars Gustafson at 281-782-6292.

Safe Environment

Parental supervision of children keeps them safe, including when they are in church or on church grounds. If need be during Mass, escort your children to the restroom, wait for them, and return to your seat with them.

If you know or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult is currently being abused or is in danger, immediately report it to state/local law enforcement or the TX Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or txabusehotline.org. The Diocese of Tyler is committed to respecting the dignity of all persons and to helping anyone who may have been hurt or abused by a priest, deacon, religious, or anyone working in the name of the Church. Any current or past cases of abuse involving Church Personnel should be reported to civil authorities and also to the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 266-2159 or vac@dioceseoftyler.org.

The Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before each week-end Mass. Please be mindful of the need for silent reflection, both in the nave and in the church foyer, out of respect for the Rosary and in preparation for the Holy Mass. Everyone is advised to come and join the Rosary and receive its priceless benefits and graces.

Saints Jacinta and Francisco Marto, Feast Day – February 20

Jacinta and Francisco Marto and their cousin Lúcia dos Santos were farm children living near Fatima, Portugal.

In 1916, while they were tending the sheep, an angel of the Lord appeared to eight-year-old Francisco, six-year-old Jacinta and 10 year – old Lucia to prepare them for meeting the Blessed Virgin Mary. The angel appeared to them three times, taught them how to pray and asked them to offer sacrifices in reparation of the sins committed by many. During the third apparition, the angel gave them the Holy Eucharist brought to them from Heaven.

Then, on May 13, 1917, Our Lady first appeared to them at the Cova da Iria, a pasture owned by Lucia's family. She asked the children to return to the same spot on the thirteenth of each month for the next six months. Our Lady asked them to pray the rosary to obtain peace for the world. They were to pray for sinners and for the conversion of Russia. Our Lady also allowed them to see visions of hell.

The children lived lives of prayer, penance, and sacrifice for the conversion of sinners. Francisco spent hours every day in prayer. Jacinta offered prayers, penance, and sacrifices. Francisco and Jacinta both died of influenza, Francisco in April 1919 and Jacinta in February 1920.

Pope John Paul II beatified the children on May 13, 2000, and Pope Francis canonized the children on May 13, 2017.





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