St. James Catholic Church

A living cell of the Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi

605 S. Alta Vista St. Beeville, Texas 78102

Phone: (361) 358-4825 | email: stjamesbeeville@yahoo.com | www.stjamesbeeville.org

September 15, 2019 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Holy Mass

WEEKENDS Saturday 5:00 PM Sunday 7:30 AM - Spanish 10:00 AM - English

> WEEKDAYS Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri 7:30 AM

Major Feast Days (Holy Days): As announced

CONFESSION Half hour before every Mass or by appointment.

A Hearty Welcome

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, No matter what your current family or marital situation, No matter what your past or present religious situation, No matter your personal history, age, background, race, etc., No matter what your own self-image or esteem, You are INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, LOVED and RESPECTED AT St. James.

Contact the Office for any assistance.

OFFICE HOURS Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Closed Wednesday

PAROCHIAL TEAM

Pastor Rev. Jacob

Deacon Juan Vasquez

Parish Secretary Juanita L. Martinez

Director of Religious Education Anna Castillo

> Bookkeeper Cristina Rea

Parish Council Chairman Luis Hernandez

Finance Council Chairman Joe L. Gomez

> Altar Society Juanita Martinez

Eucharist Ministry Coordinator Albert Garces

Altar Servers Coordinator Roxanne Salazar

> Lector Coordinator Salvador Andrade

Knights of Columbus Grand Knight #14064 Albert Garces

Guadalupanas Pres. Juanita Cruz

Cursillistas Vocal Elfida Garcia

Faith Ministry Pres. Yolanda Maldonado

> Spanish Choir Tony De La Rosa

English Choir Margaret Smith

Bulletin and Website R. Anthony Hinojosa

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Catholic community of St. James Church is made up of loving and sensitive members seeking to meet their spiritual needs, strengthen their faith, and affirm their continued existence as the church of Jesus Christ today and tomorrow. In their quest to evangelize, it is their mission to assist everyone toward a more abundant experience of the riches of their liturgy and sacraments, and to convince all of Christ's sheep that the Lord's Day is indeed for all.

ONE IN FAITH Page Number: 1106 XXIVth SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - C

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISASTER RELIEF COLLECTION

Today we will have a second collection for **Disaster Relief.** Your generous contributions are appreciated.

DAILY MASS CHAPEL

This week we will not have daily Mass on account that Fr. is on a pilgrimage. THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The St. James Knights of Columbus would like to thank all those who helped during the Pork Chop Plate Fundraiser last Sunday. Thanks to all those that purchased tickets. Thanks for your support and may God bless you.

BAKE SALE

St. James group organizations will be having a bake sale on September 22nd after Mass to help provide lunch for Coastal Bend College student at the Newman Center.

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is for adults over 18 that would like to join the Catholic Church and receive Sacraments. Classes are held at the Newman Catholic Student Center across from the Coastal Bend College at 3905 Charco Road. The classes will start on September 23rd from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 **p.m.** The applications can be picked up at the Parish office.

Every 3rd Sunday of the month Youth Sunday will be celebrated during the 10:00 a.m. Mass; all St. James Youth are invited to participate. Please contact DRE Mrs. Castillo at 361-542-3562 for more information.

ST. JAMES FALL FESTIVAL

St. James Catholic Church is currently planning their annual fund raiser to be held on November 3, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and are asking Parishioners for help with donations to go towards the Bingo, Drinks, Cake Walk, and Silent Auction. Monetary donations are appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact the office at (361) 358-4825 during office hours or the Chairman, Martha Cuellar at (361) 318-4974 or Co-Chairman, Louis Sanchez at (361) 318-0480.

CHURCH HYMNALS

We still have 17 church hymnals available. If you are interested in sponsoring hymnals, they are available at the cost of \$20 each, please write or type the information as you want it to appear on the hymnal. We have forms available at the back of the church. We would ask you to place the written or typed information with your telephone number and money in a sealed envelope. Please hand the envelope to an Usher or put it in the collection basket.

If any St. James group organizations would like to submit photos of recent events to the website please email to St. James.

AUDITORS

Team III, Sunday, September 15

Rosalinda Orozco, Maria Servantes, & Margaret R. Mesquita

Team IV, Sunday, September 22

Teodora Galvan, Virginia Quintanilla, & Chris Silvas

Team V, Sunday, September 29

Elfida Garcia, Juanita Cruz, & Angie Garcia

Team I, Sunday, October 6

Janie Maldonado, Alice Sanchez & Kimberly Cuéllar

Team II, Sunday, October 13

Amy Gonzales & Diana Barrera

WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 8, 2019

Envelope Collection \$1,656.80 Loose Collection 657.12 Children's Fund 13.00 Total \$2,326,92

Second Collection

The Catholic University of America

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 14

5:00 PM Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Domingo Ganceras by Lupe

Johnny Ramirez, Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Henry Alaniz

\$317.87

Eliza G. Vidaurri by Trino and Lillie Martinez

Sunday, September 15

† Anita and Boy Garcia by Sue and Benito Zuniga 7:30 AM

Delfina Huerta by Daughters

Mr. and Mrs. Rosenda and David Garcia, Sr.

By Anna Castillo

Danny Garces in Memory of his Birthday by his Aunts

10:00 AM For the people of the Parish

Enrique R. Ramirez by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Henry Alaniz

Jesus S. and Anita T. Perez by Children

DIOCESE OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Be Aware of Text & Email Phishing Scams

On Tuesday, the Diocese of Corpus Christi was made aware by the St. Martin Catholic Church parish office in Kingsville that a phishing scam is being perpetrated by text to parishioners of the church. In this text, parishioners are being asked to buy gift cards for cancer patients. This in no way has been promoted or supported by the St. Martin Catholic Church or any of its staff, or any other parish in the Diocese of Corpus Christi.

Speaker from The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, PA to give two talks

Father Tad Pacholczyk, Ph.D. from The National Catholic Bioethics Center, in Philadelphia, P.A. will give the Priest Convocation Monday, October 14 - Wednesday, October 16th in Rockport, Texas.

On Wednesday evening, October 16th, Father Tad will give a presentation from 7p.m. to 9 p.m. at Most Precious Blood Parish, CCTX, in the St. Juliana Family Center for Permanent Deacons and their wives, Religious, those involved in Catholic Education, RCIA, Catechetical or Youth Ministry, or any other parish staff members who might be interested. Father Tad will give two talks:

Body Image, Self-Acceptance, the Human need for Affirmation, and the Pressures from a Culture of Death

- Reflection on the June 2019 Letter from the Congregation for Catholic Education entitled "Male and Female He Created Them".

BAPTISM CLASS – October 8, 2019

Baptism classes for parents and sponsors are held every second Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 p.m. in the CCE Building. All application information MUST be completed before that date. Items needed are: Copy of the child's Birth Certificate and sponsor's proof of all Sacraments if single and, if married, a copy of the marriage license by a Catholic Church. Baptisms will take place after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

LECTORS

Saturday, September 14 5:00 PM Salvador Andrade

Sunday, September 15 7:30 AM Angie Garcia

10:00 AM CYO

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, September 14 5:00 PM Adam Duran San Juanita Duran Sunday, September 15 7:30 AM Domingo Castillo Juanita Cruz

10:00 AM Joe Gomez

Albert Garces

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, September 14 5:00 PM Krislynn Cuellar

Sunday, September 15 7:30 AM Daniel Hinojosa

10:00 AM Brandon Guerrero Theresa Hernandez

Twenty Fourth Sunday September 15, 2019

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14; 1Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32

In today's Gospel we are presented with an overwhelming picture of God. He is a God who is all loving and all forgiving. We might feel more comfortable with the God depicted in the First Reading, which is from the book of Exodus. This is a God who seems to be more like us while reacting to the infidelity of the people. He is angry with his chosen people and only by a kind of blackmail on Moses' part that God is moved. How can God, asks Moses, wipe out a people he has chosen and go back on his solemn promise. But the Gospel beside the stories of lost sheep and lost coin gives us the family story of the Prodigal Son, generally understood as the greatest short story in the world. The context of today's parable is very important. The Scribes and Pharisees, who considered themselves as followers of the law and self righteous, grumble that Jesus is the friend of sinners and eats with them. So Jesus tells the story about a father who is generous and forgiving. The central focus of the Parable, however, remains on the Father from the beginning to the end. The liturgy reminds us in so many ways that the reconciliation and repentance are a communal responsibility and a personal one. What unites the story and makes it powerful is the abundance of love the father shows towards both his sons. In the second reading Paul expresses his gratitude to God's mercy. He recounts the forgiveness received from God and in spite of his actions against Jesus and his followers, receives forgiveness from him.

The First Reading from the Book of Exodus we hear Moses on Mount Sinai talking to God. He was preparing to be with the people in a special way. But even as he spoke with Moses on the mountain the people encamped at the base violated the first commandment. They could no longer wait for Moses to return. They demanded Aaron to fashion an image to go before them on the journey. Their request was granted in the making of the golden calf. The Lord was upset because His chosen people were acting perversely. They had casted for themselves an image of a calf, worshipped it and sacrificed to it. Greatly offended, the God was prepared to destroy them all, indicating to Moses that He would make a great nation out of him alone. Hearing this, Moses implored God to have mercy on the sinful people, reminding Him of His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Israel. If the people were destroyed, God would have broken His promises to their forefathers. Moses did not accept this opportunity for glory and fame. Instead he interceded with God for the people. He reminded the divinity that Israel belongs to God and he alone brought them out of Egypt. God changed his mind and decided not to destroy the people as He had originally planned. This shows the extent of the mercy that God shows on his people.

In the parable of the Prodigal Son we are given a most beautiful description of our heavenly Father. It is the Father who seems to be wasteful or prodigal as he is ready to give his property to his son. He is now outside the house eagerly waiting for the younger son to return. And when he does return his father runs to him, clasps him in his arms and kisses him tenderly and he brings him into the house and throws a party for him. When we return to God he throws a party for us too. Not only does he come out of the house once when he sees his older son angry, but he comes out a second time to try to persuade him to come into the house. In the same way our heavenly Father comes out to welcome each of us to his party. The most beautiful line in the parable is what the father says to the elder son, "all I have is yours". Our heavenly Father says also to us, "All I have is yours". This is a most beautiful promise and stunning invitation. We are not told at the end of the parable whether or not the elder son went in to the party. After reading this parable we also have a choice to make, whether to stay outside or to go in to enjoy the Father's party. But the best offer of happiness is from God our Father, "all I have is yours".

But by the end of the story we see that both of them in different ways prove themselves to be obstacles to the family unity and harmony which the father desired more than anything. That younger son reminds us of the struggle that takes place in the society at this time to be successful. He convinces his father to give him his share of the inheritance and squanders the whole thing in a totally irresponsible way of living. He shames his father and the family name. He degrades himself by living in a gentile country and working for a gentile employer. This son is not dumb and he knows that if he has to survive he must do something to change his life. Therefore he makes a plan to return to the father not as a son but as an employee, hoping for some work, food and shelter. This is the interior change and the repentance. He is also aware that such plan may not work since he has disgraced the family and the father may disown him. But on his return there is a surprise for him when the Father receives him back and restores him back to his former dignity of a son.

Continued next column .

Continued ...

Perhaps in the present day situation when we look for a change and new life we visualise ourselves to be like the younger son living with the pigs in need of returning to our Father. There in such situation we have someone waiting for us with open arms to welcome us and receive us. There is always the hope and restoration of the dignity of man.

The elder son despises his younger brother for leaving and his father for accepting him back. He is now seen as an angry and hostile person. However, again the father breaks the social custom and pleads with the elder son to come in and join the celebration. This is not just being polite. The father truly wants his elder son there because he truly loves him. The elder son is not able to understand this and the story does not tell us whether he really went to the celebration. But the story tells us that the father loved both the sons beyond every possible human level and broke all cultural boundaries. He does not care what the society will say of him. He just goes out to love and accept his sons. This is the love proclaimed by God for us in Jesus.

In fact the entire problem began with the younger son. Without waiting for his father to die he asks for his share of the inheritance. Normally the property was divided only after the death of the father. Then he abandons his duties and responsibilities in the family estate and goes abroad to live a life of fun. His reckless lifestyle drains his fortunes and he finds himself reduced to abject poverty and misery. That a Jewish prince like him should condescend to feeding pigs, which Jews regard as unclean animals, shows the depths of degradation in which he finds himself. A life away from the divine quickly enough leads people to a situation where they lose all sense of shame and decency. But no matter how far sinners move away from the father's house, the loving heart of the father always follows them, gently whispering in their hearts, "Come home. I want you. I am waiting for you." The Prodigal son decides exactly that when all is lost and chooses to go back to the Father.

The prodigal son did not get the full opportunity to fully express to his father that he would become a paid servant. The Father immediately readmits him as the part of the family and gives the order to bring the robe, the ring, and the sandals and to kill the fatted calf for a celebration. The younger son in reality had a warped notion of his father's forgiveness. He had no understanding of what mercy really means. But now he had just learnt the depth of the love of the Father. The elder son also did not know what forgiveness and love meant. He did not and could not forgive his younger brother for his misdeeds. In this parable Jesus teaches us the depth of the generosity of God and his mercy. God our heavenly Father is always waiting at the door waiting for us to come to him. At every Mass we receive the same invitation from Jesus, to share his body and blood and hence his forgiveness. The younger son needed to turn back from his frivolous lifestyle and return to the father's house and be a responsible and obedient son. In our life we often regret that the other is more privileged and gets more benefits than us. Often we are hurt and indignant like the elder brother in the parable. We indeed have missed the point. It is not about who is more or less deserving in a given situation. It is our ability to love unconditionally and to believe in the basic dignity and equality of all people.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

With care and compassion, we pray for:

Jewelia Beth Gonzalez, Christopher Cardenas, Anthony Angel Cardenas, Guadalupe Benavides, Albert Cardenas, Jr., Jim Nelson, Joe Adrian Moya, Catherine McKeowm, Kristina Elena Garcia, Eva Dominguez, Chris Ulmer, Roxann Gleason, Frank Riojas, Jessie Riojas, Joe Anthony Martinez, Armando B. Perez, Lino Garcia, Katy Rendon, Denice Hadwin, Patty Stone, Ascension Carrizales, Lupe Abrigo, Lulu Martinez Watson, Tabitha Rendon, Mary Longoria, Jessie Martinez, Jr., Roman Flores, Santos Lopez, Caroline James Ries, Edward Silva, Adrian Sampayo, Aurelio Guajardo, Tonya Sciba, Kenneth Sciba, Nieves Moreno, Jr., Jessica Arrisola, Mary Carrizales, Norma Delgado, Juanita Maldonado, Dora Lopez Bernal, Richard Espinosa, Emo Aleman, Robert Hernandez, Nieves Cardenas, Laurie Lawrence, Anselmo Garcia, Jr., Josefa Aleman, Crystal Arciba, Francisco Trevino, Patricia Servantes, Mary Guerrero, Jose Salazar, Genevieve S. Trevino, Viola Rangel, Oralia Aleman, Ricardo Trevino, Sandy Rios, Nieves Moreno, Dawn Bieber, Lori Baldillez, Cristobal Servantes, Jose Nahom Lugo, Timmy Lopez, Juanita Alvarado, Deacon Juan Vasquez, Viola Maldonado, Madison Pena, Ricardo Trevino, Jr., Daniel Loya, Sandra Urquizo, Jesse Contrerras, Nell Jamison, Charles Hartwright, Stella Riojas, Ben Wilson, Mary Kay, Eloy Garcia, Tony Coronado, Sr., Irma Estela Rodriguez, Owen Rodriguez, Adan Martinez and to all at Christus Spohn.

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO ADD OR TO REMOVE NAMES FROM THE PRAYER LIST.



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In Memory of All Deceased Family Members of Frank Sr. & Jesusa Trevino From Robert & Arcilia Trevino & Family

In Memory of Yolanda G. Castillo 7-17-55 - 11-03-14 By Domingo Castillo and family

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In Loving Memory of

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By: Minnie Arredondo

Children Andy & Rose

and Grandchildren

CARLOS SALAZAR, JR.

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By: David P. Mendoza

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In Loving Memory of Virginia M. Guajardo and Nieves Moreno, Sr.

Love Your Daughter, Gloria Martinez Son-in-Law, Ernesto Martinez, Jr.

In Loving Memory of Jesse R. Ramirez, Jr. 5/5/47 - 9/7/86

Love His Daughter, Brenda Ann Ramirez Son, Javier M. Ramirez



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In Loving Memory

Garolina Garza and Manuel Villarreal

Mary Eloa Villarreal

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In Loving Memory of Garlos "Ghale" Salazar Sr. by his wife Valentina L. Salazar his children Viola, Connie, Susanna, Garlos, Jr. & Eddie and his grand children

In Loving Memory of The Longoria Family and Salazar Family By Valentina Salazar and Family



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