



# Saint Dominic Catholic Community

*God's Call to Build:  
Our Bridge To The Future  
Dios Nos ha Llamado a Construir:  
Nuestro Puente Hacia  
El Futuro*

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston  
Archbishop: Most Rev. Daniel Cardinal DiNardo  
Auxiliary Bishop Most Rev. George A. Sheltz

8215 Reservoir Street, Houston, TX 77049-1728  
281-458-2910 281-458-5703  
Fax: 281-458-7114  
[www.stdominichouston.org](http://www.stdominichouston.org)

#### **Pastoral Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Roger Estorque  
[rroger@comcast.net](mailto:rroger@comcast.net)  
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Phil Wiles  
DRE: Deandria Gonzalez  
Bookkeeper: Duc Manh Ho  
Office Manager: Irma Galvan  
[igalvan@comcast.net](mailto:igalvan@comcast.net)

Salvador Manzo

Ministerio Hispano

Office Assistant:

Eliseida Pineda

Maria Ramos

Claudia Ramirez

Ivonne Soto

**Housekeeping**

Beatriz Parra

Aurelia Perez

#### **Pastoral Council Members**

Chairman - Juan Hernandez

Secretary - Juanita Hernandez

Esmeralda Ramirez

Ogelio Mendez

Salvador & Maria Manzo

#### **Finance Council Members**

Hector Hernandez,

Deacon Phil Wiles,

Gale Lamanilao

Claudia Garza

Luis Rodriguez

#### **Church Office Hours**

Monday - Friday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

#### **Religious Education**

From the first week of

September through the

last week of May

OEC Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday

Thursday & Friday

Sunday 9:00-3:30



## Mission Statement

We, the parish community of St. Dominic, Houston, TX, a multi-cultural community, joined together by faith in Jesus Christ and the Roman Catholic Church, commit ourselves to help each other grow in the understanding of our faith, celebrate this faith in Liturgy and live it out by using the gifts of each person in the service of others, especially those in need, so that in the end, we may become truly a community of faith: truly the people of God and be of service to all!

### Worship Schedule

#### Weekend Masses:

Saturday -English 8:15 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Sunday - **English** 8:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m.

**Español** 9:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

#### Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 a.m. English

Wednesday 7:00 pm English

#### Liturgy of the Hours:

Morning Prayer: Sunday - Saturday 7:30 a.m.

Evening Prayer: Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

& Saturday 5:30 p.m.

#### Devotions: Rosary of the Virgin Mary:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 a.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m.

**Prayer Meeting:** Spanish - Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

#### Novena to the Sacred Heart:

During the Friday morning Holy Mass

#### Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help:

After Wednesday Mass

#### Eucharistic Adoration: Weekly Holy Hour:

Thursday 8:30 -9:30 a.m.

First Friday -9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

#### Reconciliation Sacrament:

Wednesday 6:00 - 6:45 pm Saturday-5:00-5:45 p.m.

#### Sacrament of Baptism

Parents & Sponsors please register one week in advance.

English Baptism Class: First Tuesday & Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

#### English Baptism Celebration:

Third Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

#### Clase Pre Bautismal:

Primer Martes y Jueves del mes a las 7:00 p.m.

#### Bautismos Español:

Segundo Sábado del mes al las 9:00 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Marriage – Quinceañera Celebrations

Call the Parish office 6 months in advance to schedule appointment with priest.

#### Sacrament of the anointing of the sick

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for communion to be brought to your home or to the hospital.

#### Parish Registration

If you are new to the parish, please register at the office.

Monday –Friday 8:30 a.m. –3:30 p.m.



### Pre -Baptismal Registration

Must register in the parish office,

Monday – Friday, 8:00 am –3:30 pm a week prior to the class.

Bring child's birth certificate; required to register

**Sponsors if married** must be married by the Catholic Church and marriage certificate required.

**If single** they must be at least 16, and bring copy of their Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation

**Parents and godparents** must attend two pre-baptismal classes held 1st Tuesday & Thursday of the month at 7:00 - 9:30 pm.

**Donation** for class is \$75.00

**Baptism celebration** 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:00 am

#### Child being baptized can not be older than 7 yrs. Old.

Children 7 years and older must be prepared through the parish Catechism Program. (Guidelines of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston)

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**Información Pre- Bautismal** - Pase a la oficina parroquial Lunes –Viernes, 8:00 am – 3:30 pm una semana antes de la clase. Es requerido presentar la acta de nacimiento del niño/a quien van a bautizar.

#### Padrinos Si están casados

deben estar casados por la iglesia Católica es requerido presentar la acta de matrimonio.

**Si son solteros** deben tener por lo menos 16 años y presentar su acta de Bautizo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación.

**Papas y Padrinos** tienen que asistir a dos pláticas pre-bautismales el primer martes y jueves del mes de 7:00-9:30 pm. **Donación** para la platica: \$75.00

**Bautismos** el segundo Sábado del mes a las 9:00 am

#### Niños sin bautizar no deben ser mayores de 7 años de edad.

Niños deben recibir catecismo en el programa de la parroquia. (Guías de Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston)

### Presentación de Tres Años

Cuarto domingo del mes durante la misa de 1:00 p.m.

Pasa a la oficina y presente acta de bautismo para registrase

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Register at least 6 months in advance; drop by the office and fill out form and be ready to meet the pastor; Pick up wedding information check-list.

**Quinceañera Celebrations:** The family must be registered in the parish for a period of three (3) months prior to the date of the first preparation session. The candidate should register for her/his Quince Años ceremony on or before her/his 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. The candidate must have been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church and must have received First Eucharist prior to the time of the ceremony. If the honoree has not received the Sacrament of Communion, she/he should be enrolled to prepare to receive the sacrament before the Quince Años ceremony. The candidate must attend and complete preparation sessions with the coordinator and must join our parish youth program. Pick up Quinceañera information check-list.

## Pray For The Sick

Bobbie Anderson  
Georgia Malonson  
Glice Ligason  
Maria San Juan  
Dorothy Duhe  
Mervin Auzenne  
Joe Lozoya  
Eduardo Castillo  
Eola Corbello

Lynn Doane  
Erica Taylor  
Doreen Whitmeer  
Elma Revelo  
Dorothy Neiderhofer  
Bob Jurek  
Gretchen King  
Laura Rucka  
Noito Valdehueza



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# From The Pastor



Dear Friends in St. Dominic

This Sunday is our parish stewardship ministry fair weekend. Please join us following all masses this weekend as we embrace stewardship as a way of life in our parish. Take a few moments to see the various ministry opportunities that are available at St. Dominic Parish. If anyone would serve me – as Jesus says in the Gospel- let him follow me; where I am, there will my servant be. In what ways is Jesus inviting you to follow Him? What service is He asking of you?

This week's Gospel follows close behind the Gospel read last weekend. It is the last of three questions put to Jesus by Jewish religious leaders who are trying to trick him into saying something that might get him arrested. This reminds us that the context for today's reading is the mounting tension between Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem. The Herodians and the Pharisees asked the first question, which was about taxes. The Sadducees asked the second question, which was about the Resurrection. The third question, considered in today's Gospel, is asked by a Pharisee who asks Jesus about the greatest of the commandments. The question requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional rules, numbering over six hundred. Adherence to the Mosaic Law, for a devout Jew, is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of the Commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus answers the Pharisees' question with a two-fold summary. Jesus says that all of the commandments can be summarized in two commandments: love God and love your neighbor. Both of these were central elements of the religious tradition Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed these continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding.

Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbor.

Sincerely yours in Christ  
Rev. Roger Estorque



Queridos Amigos en San Dominic,

Este domingo es nuestro fin de semana de ministerio de mayordomía parroquial. Por favor, únase a nosotros después de todas las misas este fin de semana a medida que adoptamos la mayordomía como una forma de vida en nuestra parroquia. Tómese unos minutos para ver las diversas oportunidades de ministerio que están disponibles en St. Dominic. Si alguien me sirve, como dice Jesús en el Evangelio, que me siga; donde estoy, allí estará mi siervo. ¿De qué manera Jesús te invita a seguirlo? ¿Qué servicio te está pidiendo?

El Evangelio de esta semana sigue de cerca el Evangelio leer el fin de semana pasado. Es la última de las tres preguntas puestas a Jesús por los líderes religiosos judíos que están tratando de engañarlo para que diga algo que pueda atraparlo detenido. Esto nos recuerda que el contexto para la lectura de hoy es la creciente tensión entre Jesús y los líderes religiosos en Jerusalén. Los herodianos y los fariseos hicieron la primera pregunta, que se refería a los impuestos. Los saduceos hicieron la segunda pregunta, que era sobre la Resurrección. La tercera pregunta, considerada en el Evangelio de hoy, es hecha por un fariseo que le pregunta a Jesús sobre el más grande de los mandamientos. La pregunta requiere que Jesús interprete la Ley de Moisés. La Ley Mosaica consiste de los Diez Mandamientos y muchos reglas adicionales, que suman más de seiscientas. La adhesión a la Ley Mosaica, para un judío devoto, es una expresión de fidelidad al pacto de Dios con Israel. La clasificación de los Mandamientos se debatía regularmente entre los maestros de la Ley.

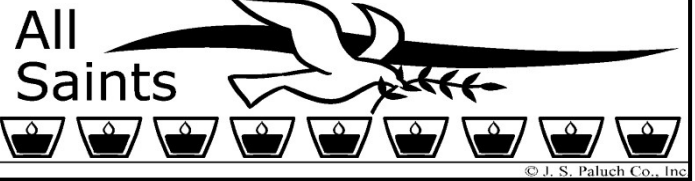
Jesús responde la pregunta de los fariseos con un resumen doble. Jesús dice que todos los mandamientos se pueden resumir en dos mandamientos: amar a Dios y amar a tu prójimo. Ambos fueron elementos centrales de la tradición religiosa que Jesús aprendió de su comunidad judía. De hecho, estos siguen siendo aspectos centrales de la comprensión religiosa judía contemporánea. La respuesta de Jesús a su preguntadores propuestos

una conexión integral entre estos dos aspectos de la ley judía. El amor de Dios encuentra su expresión en nuestro amor por nuestra Vecino.

¡Atentamente suyo en Cristo  
Rev. Roger Estorque



# Misas de la Semana



|                  |                                           |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>October 28th</b>                       |
| 8:00 am          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| 6:00 pm          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>October 29th</b>                       |
| 8:00 am          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| 9:30 am          | † Lupita Ramos/Familia Ramos Correa       |
|                  | † Francisco Lupercio/Familia Lupercio     |
| 11:15 am         | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| 1:00 pm          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>October 30th</b>                       |
| 8:00 am          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>October 31st Halloween</b>             |
| 8:00 am          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>November 1st All Saints</b>            |
| 7:00 pm          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>November 2nd All Souls' Day</b>        |
| 8:00 am          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| 7:00 pm          | <b>Asamblea de Oración</b>                |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>November 3rd St. Martin de Porres</b>  |
| 8:00 am          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| 8:30 am          | All day Adoration/Adoración del Santísimo |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>November 4th St. Charles Borromeo</b>  |
| 8:00 am          | † All Souls/Difuntos                      |
| 6:00 pm          | † Irene Sanchez & Siblings/Clara & Gloria |

ALL SOULS



|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>October 30th</b>             |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>October 31st</b>             |
| 5:30 pm          | Coro Angeles de Dios/Mr. Tello  |
| 5:30 pm          | Legion de Maria-Spanish         |
| 6:45 pm          | RCIC, RCIT –English & Español   |
| 7:00 pm          | RCIA– English & Español         |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>November 1st</b>             |
| 6:45 pm          | Confirmation I & II             |
| 7:00 pm          | Formación de Asamblea           |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>November 2nd</b>             |
| 5:30 pm          | Legion of Mary-English          |
| 7:00 pm          | Youth Group                     |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>November 3rd</b>             |
| 5:45 pm          | 1st Communion English & Español |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>November 4th</b>             |
| 9:00 pm          | Pre-cofirmation Retreat         |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>November 5th</b>             |
| 9:45 am          | Regular -Pre-K –8th English     |
| 11:30 am         | Regular- Pre-K-5th Español      |



|               |                          |                   |
|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Yearly Budget | Christian Giving         | Weekly Budget     |
| \$332,500.00  | © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. | \$6,694.23        |
| 10/22/2017    | 1st                      | 2nd               |
| 6:00 pm       | \$1,035.75               | \$ 190.22         |
| 8:00 am       | \$1,404.00               | \$ 306.00         |
| 9:30 am       | \$1,075.80               | \$ 396.05         |
| 11:15 am      | \$1,649.33               | \$ 297.50         |
| 1:00 pm       | \$1,649.33               | \$ 438.47         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$6,828.43</b>        | <b>\$1,628.24</b> |

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

|                   |                                                         |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday:</b>    | Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2, 4, 6-7ab, 20-21;                  |
| October 30th      | <b>Gospel:</b> Lk 13:10-17                              |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-6;                               |
| October 31st      | <b>Gospel:</b> Lk 13:18-21                              |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3;                  |
| November 1st      | <b>Gospel:</b> Mt 5:1-12a                               |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9;              |
| November 2nd      | <b>Gospel:</b> Jn 6:37-40,                              |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;                         |
| November 3rd      | <b>Gospel:</b> Lk 14:1-6                                |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18;  |
| November 4th      | <b>Gospel:</b> Lk 14:1, 7-11                            |
| <b>Sunday:</b>    | Mal 1:14b -- 2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; |
| November 5th      | <b>Gospel:</b> Mt 23:1-12                               |

## Eucharistic ADORATION 1st Friday

### Holy Hour for Vocations:

on Thursdays: 8:30 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.

**Next Full Day Adoration :** November 3, 2017  
8:30am–9:00 p.m. **Jesus asks us, “Can you not spend an hour with me?”** For further information, call Mrs. Gloria Casey @ 713-453-4968

## DSF GOAL

**\$34,000.00**

|  |               |               |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | Paid          | \$27,999.74   |
|  | Pledged       | \$33,487.34   |
|  | Participant   | 242           |
|  | Paid Under    | (\$ 6,000.26) |
|  | Pledged under | (\$ 512.66)   |

# ST. DOMINIC

**PLEASE LET US KNOW...** If you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like to be added to the prayer list, have a visit, homebound, and receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing. Call the Parish office - 281-458-2910

## INTENCIONES DE MISAS

Favor de pasar al la oficina por lo menos un semana antes de fecha de intención. No le de su intención a ultima hora al lector. El nombre de intención debe aparecer en el boletín. El boletín es enviado a imprenta en lunes para edición del próximo domingo. La donación por intención son \$10.00

## MASS INTENTIONS

Please come by the office at least a week prior to date that you want intention mentioned. Please do not give name to lector last minute before intentions are mentioned. Names will appear in the bulletin. Bulletin is sent to press on Monday of the week before Sunday edition. Donation per intention is \$10.00

## LA ASAMBLEA DE ORACIÓN

Se reúne cada Jueves a las 7:00 pm en la iglesia. Venga a las alabanzas y charlas de diferentes predicadores



The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Mt 22:37-39

## MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS Leaders & Time

**Altar Servers:** Mercedes Flores -Spanish  
Clem & Cecile Monta **English** 3rd Saturday 9:00 am.  
**E. M. of Holy Communion:-** Mary LeBlanc -English  
**E. M. de Eucaristia:** Uriel & Lucila Duran  
**Lectors English:** Gale Lamanilao  
**Lectores Spanish:** Rogelio Mendez  
**Liturgy English Music:** Melner Calvo, Sundays 5 :00 pm  
**Liturgia Musica Espanol:** Valentin Cobos, Jesus Puente, Elias Tello  
**Ushers/Greeters English :** Parish Youth Group  
**Acomodadores Español:** Miguel Rodriguez  
**Offertory Collection Counters:** Gloria Casey  
**Parish Pastoral Council-** Juan Hernandez, 1<sup>st</sup>. Monday 7:00 pm  
**Parish Finance Council:** Hector Hernandez quarterly & as necessary  
**Baptismal classes- English** Melner Calvo, Alex Bozon, Clem Monta  
**Clases Pre -Bautismales Español** Lauro y Veronica Leal, Rogelio y Reyna Mendez , Valentin y Araceli Cobos  
**Catholic Daughters** Juanita Hernandez, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 6:30 pm  
**Family Ministry-**Melner Calvo  
**Knights of Columbus:** Robert Baccigalopi, 1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday 9: 30 am  
**Legion of Mary-** Esmeralda Ramirez, Saturday 9:00 a.m. English  
**Legion de Maria -**Angelita Gonzalez, Martes 7:00 p.m. Español  
**Facilities Maintenance:** Daron Monteilh & Raymond Helfrich  
**Asamblea De Oración,** Jesus & Ma. Dolores Velasquez Jueves 7:00 pm  
**MFCC St. Dominic:** Gerardo y Esmeralda Marroquin  
**Hispanic Ministry Coordinator:** Salvador Manzo  
**Parish Youth Ministry:** Deandria Gonzalez Thursday 7:00 pm  
**Clase Pre-Nupcial :** Jose y Silvia Cervantes  
**Pre-Nuptial Class:** English Melner Calvo, Clem Monta, Alex Bozon  
**Nullity Sponsors:** Clem Monta & Alex Bozon  
**Virtus Facilitator Español:** Salvador Manzo  
**Virtus Facilitator English:** Deandria Gonzalez  
**Pro-Life:** Juan Hernandez  
**Vocation:** Juan Picon  
**Evangelization:** Dee Gonzalez & Salvador Manzo

## ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

**Luis Garcia**  
**Law offices**  
**13364 Woodforest Blvd.**  
**Houston, TX 77015**  
**832-212-8302**

**Tu abogado Hispano en el este de Houston**

Thirtieth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

"You shall love the Lord, your  
God, with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
and with all your mind."

-- Matthew 22:37



Trigésimo Domingo del  
Tiempo Ordinario  
"Amarás al Señor, tu Dios,  
con todo tu corazón,  
con toda tu alma  
y con toda tu mente".

-- Mateo 22:37

### Former Priest

Carlos Rodolfo Alvarado Escobar Zenon

Please be advised that a former priest by the name of Carlos Rodolfo Alvarado Escobar Zenon has been present in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, offering to celebrate Masses and exorcism in private homes, despite his dismissal for the clerical state (priesthood) by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome in 2013. He is **Not** authorized to engage in priestly ministry or present himself as a priest. Please note that he may be using any one of the following or combination of names listed below to identify himself.

Carlos Alvarado  
Rodolfo Alvarado  
Carlos Escobar

Rodolfo Escobar  
Carlos Zeron  
Rodolfo Zeron

If you have any information regarding Carlos Rodolfo Alvarado Escobar Zenon or his whereabouts please contact the Chancellor's Office at the Archdiocese: 713-652-8203

## ANUNCIO - EX SACERDOTE CARLOS RODOLFO ALVARADO ESCOBAR ZERON

Se le avisa que un ex sacerdote llamado Carlos Rodolfo Alvarado Escobar Zeron ha estado presente en la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston, ofreciéndose a celebrar Misas y exorcismos en hogares privados, a pesar de haber sido suspendido del estado clerical (sacerdocio) por parte de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe en Roma en 2013. Él **no** está autorizado para participar en el ministerio sacerdotal ni presentarse como sacerdote. Tenga en cuenta que para identificarse puede estar usando cualquiera de los siguientes o una combinación de los nombres que figuran a continuación:

Carlos Alvarado  
Rodolfo Alvarado  
Carlos Escobar

Rodolfo Escobar  
Carlos Zeron  
Rodolfo Zeron

Si tiene alguna información sobre Carlos Rodolfo Alvarado Escobar Zeron o su paradero, comuníquese con la Oficina del Canciller en la Arquidiócesis: 713-652-8203.

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** -- You shall not oppress an alien, for you yourselves were once aliens in Egypt (Exodus 22:20-26).

**Psalm** -- I love you, Lord, my strength (Psalm 18).

**Second Reading** -- You became imitators of the Lord, so that you became a model for all believers (1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10).

**Gospel** -- You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:34-40).

### LECTURAS DE HOY

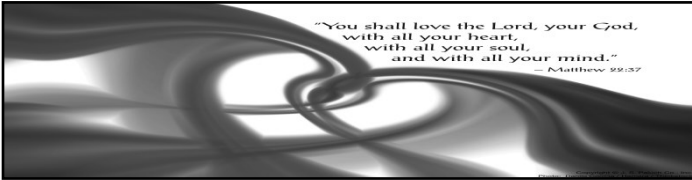
**Primera lectura** -- Dios escucha el llanto de los oprimidos (Exodo 22:20-26).

**Salmo** -- Te amo, oh Señor, mi fuerza (Salmo 18 [17]).

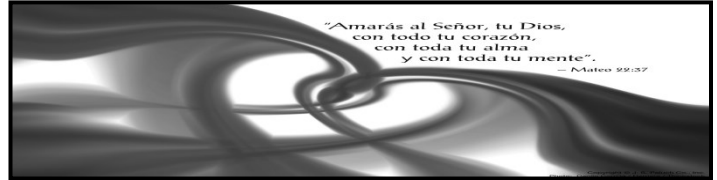
**Segunda lectura** -- El pueblo de Dios es conocido por su conversión y amor de Dios (1 Tesalonicenses 1:5c-10).

**Evangelio** -- La ley principal es la ley del amor (Mateo 22:34-40).





"You shall love the Lord, your God,  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
and with all your mind."  
— Matthew 22:37



"Amarás al Señor, tu Dios,  
con todo tu corazón,  
con toda tu alma,  
y con toda tu mente".  
— Mateo 22:37

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This week we have in All Souls' Day a commemoration that is linked to the Halloween customs. The big-spending sugar shock holiday is a long way removed from Thursday's grateful remembrance of the souls who are hidden from our sight, but alive to Christ. Old pagan superstitions might find us holding our breath when going by the graveyard, whereas others might actually go to the cemetery to tend the family graves, to share good food, and remember dear ones. Nowhere does a culture embrace this day as fully as in Mexico. The "Day of the Dead" is a national holiday that unfolds over three full days.

For three thousand years, the indigenous people of Mexico have been mocking death in an annual festival, and the invading Spaniards were shocked at the spectacle. To the Aztecs, life was a dream, and death was the entry into full life. Skulls were thus a symbol of joy and release from life's sorrows. The missionaries found all this a bit creepy, but they moved the three-day feast from August to synchronize it with the Christian calendar. So today, graves are decorated, altars are built in the home to honor the family dead, children feast on candy skulls, and people dress up in elaborate skeleton outfits. The devout spend hours in the cemetery, and there is a lively sense of the communion of saints, the living and the dead.

### TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Cuando era niño tuve problemas con inaguantables dolores de cabeza. Después de casi tres meses batallando con esta enfermedad una señora me regaló una estampita de san Martín de Porres que contenía un pedacito de su hábito. Dormí con esta estampita debajo de mi almohada y al tercer día sané de mi dolor. Fue así como conocí por primera vez a este santo negrito y a sus animalitos.

Martín fue un religioso dominico de nacionalidad peruana que vivió de 1579 a 1639 y fue canonizado en 1962. Sin lugar a dudas, es uno de los santos más populares de América Latina. En él encontramos una persona con la cual nos podemos identificar ya que muchas veces a nosotros nos limitan las oportunidades debido a nuestro origen y el color de nuestra piel. Por su origen (era hijo de un español y de una africana) ilegítimo y su color mulato, Martín tuvo problemas para ingresar a la Orden de los Predicadores. Eventualmente la santidad de sus obras y la fama de sus milagros le abrieron camino para incorporarse plenamente a los dominicos. Normalmente es representado con una escoba y unos animalitos, recordando la humildad de su servicio pastoral.

### NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> – ALL SAINTS' DAY

One of the great gifts of our Catholic tradition is remembrance of and prayer with the saints. The Church offers us an official canon, or list, of saints. On All Saints Day, we recall and pray with these saints. It is important to continue to tell these stories of saints and saintly people to our children so that they have ample models of people of faith for their own lives.

Together as a family, name and tell the story of favorite saints. Together prepare a list of some of the traits that these people have in common (generosity, courage, prayerfulness, and so on) After preparing this list, read together today's Gospel, Matthew 5:1-12. Identify how the attitudes described in the Beatitudes are reflected in the lives of the saints and people you named.

Pray together as a family a Litany of the Saints. (For example, the leader prays, "St. Elizabeth," and the children are invited to reply, "Pray for us.") Include in your list the saints and holy people you named in your discussion. Conclude by praying that your family will follow the example of these people as disciples of Jesus

### NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> – ALL SOULS' DAY

In Jesus' conversation with Martha, we learn that we can face death with hope because Jesus promises eternal life for all those who believe in him. In his death and Resurrection, Jesus has conquered death once and for all. In the Communion of the Saints, we continue to share a relationship with all those who have died. The saints in heaven intercede for us before God. We pray for the souls of the faithful departed. Our prayers for them help speed their journey to full communion with the saints in heaven. We praise God for this tremendous gift of our faith.

As you gather as a family, remember the names of family members or friends who have died. Talk about these people, sharing memories of their lives and their influence on your family. Recall that today is All Souls Day. On this day we remember all those who have died, and we pray for them. Read today's Gospel, John 11:17-27, in which we hear Jesus console his friend Martha after her brother's death. Talk about Jesus' promise of eternal life and our hope of eternal life for all those who have died. Conclude by praying for all those who have died, naming in particular family members and friends. After each person is named, pray together "Lord, have mercy." Pray together the Act of Hope.

St. Dominic Catholic Church  
Houston, TX

THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
October 29, 2017

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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**