Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 16, 2017
Fifteenth Sunday Ordinary Time (A)
Is 55:10–11
Rom 8:18–23
Mt 13:1–23

The Eye of God

The Book of Romans meditates on a truth we sometimes neglect, but that has inspired many artists. Creation longs to share in the freedom of God's kingdom. Sin has affected nature, so salvation will also set it free from corruption. What would a glorified planet look like? Charles Burchfield, a nature painter, tried to imagine just that.

He painted thousands of scenes from his bedroom in Salem, Ohio. He became obsessed with dramatizing landscapes and was known to sketch as he walked to and from school. His love and meditations didn't keep him from entering the army, but given his gifts, he was assigned to the camouflage unit, using his skills to paint tanks and drapery. Some of his designs are still used today.

What Burchfield discovered was that a pristine nature scene was a divine image. The forms, the colors, the patterns were all created by God and guided by his providence. By painting these scenes, one was truly touching the hand of God and entering into his mind. His painting *Eye of God in the Woods* illustrates the eye of God in a sun that pierces through the trees of a snowy forest with a rolling brook.

God speaks in nature motifs. Scripture is full of them. Jesus also used nature as a model for his teachings: seeds sown in different soils, clouds predicting rain, a sparrow, a catch of fish.

Nature is a glorious soil from which inspiration can sprout. This week, meditate and marvel at the beauty of creation and, like Jesus, take lessons from it for your spiritual life.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *Eye of God in the Woods*, 1949
Artist: Charles Burchfield
Location: Collection of the *Monumenti Musei e Gallerie Pontificie*, Vatican City

For Reflection

How often do I spend time outdoors enjoying nature?
What messages from God can I find in the natural world today?

"[Hope] that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God" (Romans 8:21).

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THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ST. MARY AND GOOD SHEPHERD
701 N. Key Ave, Lampasas, TX 76550 512-556-5544 Fax: 512-556-6967
Pastor: Rev. Paul Hudson 512-564-0206 E-Mail: frpaulhudson@gmail.com
Business Manager: Cyndi Cobb E-Mail: smccltx@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Yolanda Salazar E-Mail: smccltx3@gmail.com
Ministries Coordinator: Deacon David Cardon E-Mail: deacon.david@hughes.net
Website URL: https://stmarycatholic.faith

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

/Horas De Oficina **Tuesday-Friday 9:00AM - 2:00PM**

Cyndi in office Tuesday & Friday 10:00am-2:00pm *& by appointments*

Yolanda in office Tue - Friday

Confessions: Saturday 4:00-5:00PM and first Friday at12 noon

Confessions: in GS Lometa Sunday 7:30-7:55AM

Kitchen Hours/ Horas de Cocina: Tue- Fri 6:00 -11:30AM

Food Pantry/ ***Despensa de Comida*****:** Wed & Fri 9:30-11:30AM

Shared Blessing: Wed & Fri 9:30AM-2:00PM

Gift shop: opened during office hr.

Baptismal Class every first Tuesday of the month 7:00pm

Clase de Bautismo cada cuarto jueves del mes a las 6:30pm

For Those Who Serve Our Country

Colton Currier, Luke Argo, Lawrence Olivarez, Jesus Garcia, Trenton Cavness

For Those Who Have Died

Orlando Marez, David Ñuñez, Rose Williams, Rudy Rodriguez Sr, Esther Gonzalez, Teresa M. Lopez,

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday/Martes, July 18
8:00 AM Mike Medina *Health*

Wednesday /Miércoles, July 19
8:00 AM †Earl & Madeline Spencer

Thursday /Jueves, July 20
6:00 PM Special Intention of C.P.T.

Friday /Viernes, July 21
8:00 AM *Special Intention of* Kong Gee Chan & Kim Young Hee

Saturday /Sábado, July 22
5:30 PM Families of the two Parishes

Sunday /Domingo, July 23
8:00 AM *Lometa* †Frank DeLillo
10:00 AM †Gerald Schoeffler
12:15 PM †JoAnn Soto

Our sympathy and prayers to the Family of Baby Avery Sumner Phinney May she rest in peace.

Last Week's Sacrificial Giving

St. Mary

Weekly Collection:	$2,264.04
(Budget Amount:	*$2,699.00*
Building Fund:	$529.52

Good Shepherd

Weekly Collection:	$286.00
Building Fund:	$105.00

July 2nd

Weekly Collection:	$736.00
Peter's Pence:	$166.00

READERS July 15/16

July 15/16

Sat. 5:30pm: Wanda Bunting
Sun. 10:00am: Clay Harrington
Simon Valles
Dom12:15pm: Kelly Ruperto
Eugenia Ruperto

July 22/23

Sat. 5:30pm: Andrea Cardon
Sun. 10:00am: Adam Gamez
Carlea Gamez
Dom 12:15pm: Stella Montiel
Elisa Gonzalez

EOMHC July 15/16

Sat. 5:30pm: Mary Cisneros
Carmen Coonrod
Sun. 10:00am: Berna Buenker
Donna Caughron
Dom12:15pm: Gabriela Ventura
Bernardita Abreu

July 22/23

Sat. 5:30pm: Mary Cisneros
Carmen Coonrod
Sun. 10:00am: Edwin Rivas
Nancy Miranda
Dom12:15pm: Eduardo Arevalo
Rosa Arevalo

For Our Sick/ Por Nuestro Enfermos

Mike Medina, Mary G Cortez, Donna Walker, Tom Rogers, JoseAngel Torrez, Ann Hughes, Adrian Torrez, Arielle Dayrit, Felix Gonzales, Felipe Rodriguez, Mary Tobin, Madisyn Morua, Nancy Hromadka, Adolfo Torrez, Evelyn Ahearn, Ann Wilson, Anita Hyatt, Anna & Daniel Little, Richard Salazar, Melanie Bartek, Barbara Folks, Maggie Lopez, Henry Langford, Sylvia Reber, Truman Crawford, Lilly & Raul Olivarez, Andres Moreno, Jesse Ramirez, Mary S Ramirez, Diana Harlow, Carlos Jasso, Rosa C. Villegas, Arturo Aragon, James Fioroni, Ann Gardner, Joe Buenker Jr., Jesse Moreno, Edward Cuellar, Rosa Rivera, Linda Robison, Alicia Strayley, Terry Clayton, Chabella Castillo, Annabel Salazar, Lisa Cardon, JoseTrapero, Allysa Flores, Jason Moreno, Dennis Murphy, Mathew Eltgroth, Alex Gomez, Brittany Rivera, Maime Lane, Karen Matte, CharlieSierra, Gilbert & Rudy Lozano.

Prayer

All praise and glory are yours, Lord our God. You have called us to serve you and one another in love. Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health. Bless those who have grown old in your service and give them courage and strength in their faith. Lead us all to eternal glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Mother of Perpetual Help pray for us. Three Hail Marys

Next **Faith Formation Committee** meeting is Monday, July 17 at 6pm.

Religious Education

Registration for this year's Religious Education program will begin Sunday August 20, between Masses in the Parish Office. The family MUST be registered in the parish in order to register children for ANY program. Volunteers for the various RE programs are needed, contact the office for POC information if interested.

Ethics Integrity Ministry

will take place here at St. Mary's on Saturday August 12, from 9:00 to 11:00am, and also September 9. You can register on line. Volunteers in all parish ministries are required to take the EIM class every 3 years.

TALLERES DE ORACION Y VIDA

Se estarán dando en el salón de arriba el día 1de Augusto, de 7pm a 9pm. Para mayor información comunicarse con Adrián Frías, al número (254) 702-5505.

We need volunteers to count the weekly collection once a month, please call the office 512-556-5544.

Altar Server Meeting next Tuesday July 18, at 6:30pm.

Back to School Bash

Our Back to School Bash this year will be Saturday August 12th 5-7pm. Anyone wanting to make a donation can contact Sarah Rivera 512-525-4571 or Pat Olivarez 512-525-5992.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Coming soon!—the 16th Annual Catholic Women's Conference scheduled on July 28-29th at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. The Pilgrim Center of Hope invites you to an extraordinary conference – "a spa for the soul" with outstanding speakers, Reconciliation, Eucharistic Healing Service, and much more!

St. Edith Stein - referring to women - once said, "The nation doesn't need what we have. It needs what we are." Our society today needs the feminine gifts of a woman, and women need to know their *true* dignity and femininity as designed by God. Do not miss this transforming event. Register on-line at CWCSanAntonio.com.

GOOD SHEPHERD VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - CELEBRATING THE 100th Anniversary of Fatima - FOR BOTH PARISHES

Good Shepherd will hold a one day VBS on Wednesday, July 26 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm in Lometa at Good Shepherd. This VBS is open to all children grades Pre-K through 5th. We are extending our registration deadline to accommodate both parishes. If your child(ren) are interested in attending you MUST contact Kathy Belyeu (512)734-5203 or (512)752-3799 by Sunday 9/23 to register your child(ren). Kathy may also be reached by text or by email. We need a count of the number of children attending in order to ensure we have ample supplies and snacks for everyone to enjoy VBS celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Blessed Mother appearing to three young children.

We welcome the assistance of all parents, grandparents, and teens to assist as volunteer catechists, helpers, escorts, food help, supply help, and/or donations. Please prayerfully consider supporting this fully volunteer-based ministry for the one day of sharing your love for Jesus Christ and for the children of our parish communities.

Calendar

Monday
July 17
Weekday
Ex 1:8–14, 22
Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday
July 18
Weekday
Ex 2:1–15a
Mt 11:20–24

Wednesday
July 19
Weekday
Ex 3:1–6, 9–12
Mt 11:25–27

Thursday
July 20
Weekday
Ex 3:13–20
Mt 11:28–30

Friday
July 21
Weekday
Ex 11:10—12:14
Mt 12:1–8

Saturday
July 22
St. Mary Magdalene
Sgs 3:1–4b or
2 Cor 5:14–17
Jn 20:1–2, 11–18

Sunday
July 23
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 12:13, 16–19
Rom 8:26–27
Mt 13:24–43
or 13:24–30

Dear Padre,

Why does the Bible have two creation stories?

Scholars believe these stories (Genesis 1—3) were written by two authors during different times and situations in Jewish history. The first story focuses on the creation of the universe; the second emphasizes the creation of man and woman.

The creation account that appears first in the Bible (Genesis 1:1—2:4a) was written six centuries before the birth of Christ by a priest wanting to reaffirm for the Jews that only one God is the all-powerful creator of all that exists. At that time, a belief in several powerful, warring gods was common in the cultures surrounding Judaism.

TAW4/SHUTTERSTOCK

The story that appears later in the Bible (Genesis 2:4b—3:24) was actually written earlier—four centuries earlier—by a sage in the court of King David. It affirmed that human beings have an inherent dignity and a responsibility to live within boundaries. They must obey God, a rule that applies to kings as well.

Both accounts contain the closely held beliefs regarding human dignity (made in God's image and likeness) and responsibility (care for the earth as God would care for it) that are core to the Christian faith. At their heart they teach us through symbol and story about that God who is partially knowable, the source of life and hope amid the chaos and loss that beset every generation.

Source: "Dear Padre," October 2011 *Liguorian*
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A Word From Pope Francis

"Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. 'Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker' (Wisdom 13:5); indeed, 'his eternal power and divinity have been made known through his works since the creation of the world' (Romans 1:20). For this reason, Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty. Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise."

—*Laudato Si'*, May 24, 2015

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A Redemptorist Ministry

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