



# Humilitas

---

Newsletter of Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Church ~August, 2025

## The Camino to Guymon

Dear St Charles' family, it is well known that after Easter I was able to do the Camino of St. James (Santiago) in Spain. This was a beautiful experience of faith, simplicity and cardio! I had this pilgrimage in my mind since 2017, and eight years later I was able to do it.

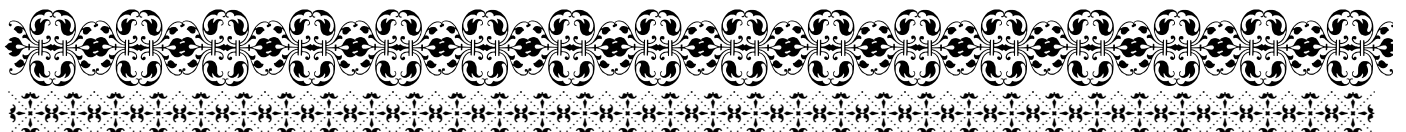
For almost a week we walked around six hours every day until we arrived in Santiago de Compostela. During this time, when we were walking, we would pray the rosary, or we just had the time to meet people around the globe.

As I was walking, I realized that each one of us had an intention and I wondered on the idea of why we chose to walk. During this time, I also realized that you would be told that I was leaving St Charles and I started to think about the new camino I would make. The camino to Guymon.

After this experience, I noticed that we are doing different caminos until we get into the final one. All of us are walking different paths with the same goal, holiness. The way of St. James taught me that no matter where we are, our main destiny is to be with Jesus.

For me now a new chapter in my life will soon start, but no matter if I am here or even in the Panhandle my eyes have to be in Jesus. Thank you so much for teaching me for two years in St. Charles. I will miss you!

Fr. Rodrigo Serna



## The Mystery of Mary's House on Nightingale Mountain

The parking lot was full of tour buses when our own group of 40 persons visited Mary's House in Ephesus, Turkey this past April. The chapel of Mary's stone house was dark and peaceful (see photos online at [www.stcharlesokc.org](http://www.stcharlesokc.org) *Humilitas* newsletter). However, 100 people or more from all over the world were in line behind us and so we could not stop and pray or linger.

We know that Christ on the cross entrusted his beloved disciple, John, with the care of his mother. "... He said to his mother, 'Woman, behold, thy son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Behold thy mother'" (John 19: 26-27). This is the last mention of Mary in the Bible.

It is thought that four to six years after Christ's death John traveled to Ephesus to escape persecution and preach and teach to new listeners in the city of Ephesus. In keeping his word, he also took Mary, who was no longer young. Other followers accompanied the disciple John and Mary on what must have been a grueling journey from Jerusalem to Ephesus.

The backstory of Mary's House involves two nuns, one French and one German, several priests, local people and archaeologists. Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich (1774-1824) was a nun and mystic who suffered stigmata and never left Germany. She had visions of Mary's house on a rocky hillside in a grove of trees in Turkey. Later, a poet, Clemens von Brentano, wrote down her visions when he visited her. He published her visions after her death.

The ruins of Mary's house, consisting of roofless walls, were first discovered in 1881 by Abbot Julien Gouyet who had read of the visions. It generated little interest from official sources. In 1891, search expeditions, led by Fathers Poulin and Jung, who were originally skeptics, further examined the site. The location uncannily matched Sister Emmerich's descriptions.

Enter another nun in 1892, French Sister Marie de Mandat Grancey (1837-1915), from

a wealthy family. She read of the visions and using her family's resources, purchased 343-acre Nightingale Mountain, for 31,000 francs or \$37,840 USD. The Catholic Church administers the site today through the Lazarist Fathers, Capuchin monks and other groups. One million pilgrims visit annually.

Archaeological research indicated that the walls of the stone chapel dated from the 7th century but the foundation below it was from the 1st century. Was it Mary's house?

The Catholic Church officially neither confirms nor denies the possibility that the mother of Jesus lived here after Christ's death. However, Pope Leo XIII declared it a place of pilgrimage in 1895. Pope Paul VI (1967), Pope John Paul II (1979), Pope Benedict (2006) and Pope Francis (2014) have all visited the site.

This sacred place gives us a way to elevate and strengthen our faith and travel back in time in order to draw closer to Mary. Like so many holy sites from millennia ago, there are no 21st century-style documents that undoubtedly prove Mary inhabited this house. Perhaps her holy footsteps trod the ground around the house. Perhaps she did simply enjoy her peace, security and obscurity on Nightingale Mountain, protected by St. John.

Mary, supreme example of faith and trust, pray for us.  
— Monica Knudsen

---

### Mercy is the Space . . .

Heavenly God, Your glory stretches  
like the blue sky between the clouds  
and reverberates  
like the brightness after lightning and the echo of the thunder.

Your Divine mercy is a generous, continuous ocean tide and  
as perfect as each marigold petal in a tight circular bloom.

How grateful are we, God, for beauty.  
How grateful, for Your beautiful Mercy  
an offering of the space to stretch beyond our failings,  
the expanse to shine empowered as Your child  
Your mercy, that space  
to breathe and bloom in the tight circle of each life.

mkj





Back of Mary's House



Prayer petitions on a fence near Mary's house.



Front of Mary's House



## Totus Tuus

In one of St. Louis de Montfort's prayers of consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he writes, "*Totus Tuus ego sum, et omnia mea tua sunt*" (Section 216, *True Devotion to Mary*). The phrase translates: "I am all yours, and all that I have is yours." St. Louis wrote these words of entrustment to illustrate how entirely our Mother desires for us to devote our lives to her. About 250 years later, Pope St. John Paul II took the phrase *Totus Tuus* (often interpreted as totally yours) as his episcopal motto, embodying Mary's wish for our abandonment to her motherly care.

In the 1980s, Fr. Bernard Gorges X, then a seminarian in Wichita, Kansas, began teaching the Catholic faith to elementary students in the parish during the summer. Gorges hired college students to assist him in the endeavor that would eventually become the Totus Tuus program we know today.

On the last Saturday of May, eight missionaries came here to stay for the first week of June, teaching the kids in our parish about the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, the Holy Sacraments, and Vocations. There were around eighty children in the day program (grades one through six) and twenty youth (grades seven through twelve) in the evening.

The missionaries delved deep into the sacraments, patiently guiding the kids in learning the why behind them and what happens in each one. For the Holy Rosary, they were teaching the children about the people, events, and context of each mystery, and what that means for the way we ought to live.

Even then, Totus Tuus was much more than what the kids learned in the classrooms. There was daily Mass, saint skits, singing, dancing, and last but not least, the infamous and beloved Infinity Tag. (A spin-off on tag that they loved to play.) There was something so pure in seeing the kids attempting to learn ancient Latin hymns and be as reverent as they could during Adoration and Confession, occasionally shushing each other if they got too noisy.

One day in the third-grade class, the students were asking questions about the creation of the

world. It never got old to see their looks of amazement and even incredulity at something that many of us don't think twice about. After many reassurances that yes, God **did** create **everything**, one of the kids said simply and reverently, "No wonder he's the King of Kings!" I can't help but think that similar moments are what got the missionaries through fifteen-hour days of constant energy output and vigilance over the kids. God's grace was alive in the missionaries. What else could help you teach sugar-fueled children the mysteries of God when you only slept for six hours the night before? The missionaries' infectious joy and passion for the Lord were desirable to all who witnessed their work.

Some of my favorite moments, as a participant, were in small groups during the evening program. Talking with other people my age about our different encounters of God's intimacy and presence within the sacraments gave me hope for the future of the Church. These talks allowed us to relate to each other on a spiritual level that is difficult to experience in other places. Sharing with them fulfilled a craving for fellowship in my heart.

Taking the example of the children in Totus Tuus, I hope we are always able to carry within us the spirit of wonder of our God and simple trust in our Mother. Like the missionaries, I hope we are able to hold nothing back from Mary, entrusting to her all of our abilities. She sees us as tenderly as she saw the couple at Cana and their needs. With confidence then, let us ask her to point us to her son and increase our desire to be totally His.

Franny Santos.

sophomore student at Bishop McGuinness

---

\* Alcohol and calculus don't mix so remember

Never drink and derive.



# St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church—August, 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div> Confessions every Saturday at 3 pm Adoration every Wednesday at 9:30 am - 7:00 pm </div>					1	2
3	4 6:30 PM Youth Group	5 6:00 PM Talleres de Oracion in AB  7:00 pm - 9:00 pm English OCIA - BH	6 7:00 AM Mass	7 4:00 PM Newsletter Meeting (Borromeo)	8	9
10 3:00 PM WSC Meeting in C	11 9:00 AM-9:30 AM Food Bank Delivery  6:30 PM Youth Group  School Office Closed for Inservice	12 6:00 PM Talleres de Oracion in AB  7:00 pm - 9:00 pm English OCIA - BH  School Office Closed for Inservice	13 7:00 AM Mass  <i>First Day of School</i>	14	15 8:30 AM School Mass <i>Assumption of Mary</i>  Holy Day 7am EN 8:30am EN 6 pm EN 7:30 pm SP	16 9:00 AM Catholic Worker Delivery  6:00 PM Baptisms English
17	18 6:30 PM Youth Group	19 5:30 Finance Board  6:00 PM Talleres de Oracion in AB  7:00 pm - 9:00 pm English OCIA - BH	20 8:30 AM Mass	21	22 Spanish OICA - BH	23 9:00 AM Catholic Worker Delivery  11:00 AM SP Baptismos  <u>Sign Up WOSC Weekend!</u>
24  <u>Sign Up WOSC Weekend!</u>	25 6:30 PM Youth Group	26 6:00 PM Talleres de Oracion in AB  7:00 pm - 9:00 pm English OCIA - BH	27 8:30 AM Mass	28	29 No School - Archdiocese Inservice  Spanish OICA - BH	30

31



July 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCIA/Order of Christian Initiation for Adults was formerly known as RCIA here at St. Charles. OICA begins Aug 19

WOSC = Is for all women of the Parish

# Parish Life

## News from the Saint Charles Community. Organic Garden

The plentiful, spring rains have nourished the tomatoes, peppers, flowers, basil, Swiss chard, radishes, and other veggies of the Saint Charles Community Organic Gardens, located next to the Dorothy Day Center on State Street and in front of the rectory, facing 50th St. Our bounty provides garden fresh foods to people who do not have transportation to their local food pantry through the Dorothy Day Center and patients of the Catherine MacAuley Health Clinic.

This is our 18th growing season. The garden was built in 2007 as an Eagle Scout project. Next year we will be needing a new garden coordinator and garden plots will be available. If interested, please contact the Parish Office at 405-789-2595.

Our gardens are also a place to meditate, pray and relax. Stop by and visit and enjoy the gifts God gives us of sunshine, warmth and rain to grow our food.

---

## Weddings- June

Alano Jacian Garcia & Laura Saucedo  
Elias Esparza & Maria Teresa Gutierrez

## Deaths

Margaret Bernice Ely  
Jessie Guadalupe Banda Ramirez  
Richard Chesley

## Baptisms-June & July

Camille V  
Eliana L  
Caeli E  
Santiago C  
Alison E  
Tadeo C  
Andrea V

## Anniversaries-June

09 Felix & Felecia Igbeka 24  
10 Jason & Jennifer Edds 8  
16 Richard & Charlene Smith 35  
16 Terry & Peggy Flinton 41  
22 Christopher Hardy & Gretel Gomez 1  
23 Santos & Geneva Guerra 59  
24 Mike & Carol Bertels 36  
24 Oscar & Maricela Hernandez 11  
27 Benny & Angela Meier 57  
30 Horacio & Gabriela Avila 25

## Anniversaries-July

02 John & Marilyn Smalley 37  
05 Albert & Mary McCutcheon 51  
05 Steve & Sally Nash 40  
05 Cesar & Jenny Cano 40  
16 Tim & Stacie Guerra 31  
18 Victor Morales & Mayan Sanchez 5  
26 Joe & Mary Ann Brueggen 51  
26 Oliver & Karen Douglas 45  
26 Sabino & Martha Calderon 12  
31 Roger & Andrea McCoy 43

## New Parishioners- June-July 15

Kate Macias  
Larris & Tenneshia Harris  
Eduardo Figueroa & Leonor Pompa  
Cesar Villalobos & Fatima Miranda  
Raul Vargas  
Xochitl Delgado  
Mitzy Muñoz  
Erick Escobar & Karla Perez  
Jose Alfredo Macias & Isabel Loera  
Roderico & Yuri De Leon  
Juan Cardona & Maria Oropeza  
Christopher Michael O'Lague  
Jose Gonzalez & Viviana Ramirez  
Gilberto Gutierrez & Karen Martinez  
Jonathan Rodas De Leon

# Humilitas

We submit this issue with thanks to God and humility, your Newsletter Team:  
Michael Carpenter, Kathy Judge, Monica Knudsen, Margaret Phipps, and Franny Santos,  
print shop: Marilu Romo, Jennifer Hernandez