

July 16, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Cares of the World Prove Unfruitful

Today's Gospel from St. Matthew gives Christ's description of His audience in Galilee. Unfortunately, it is as true today as it was then. His message of salvation has been preached to a great part of the world's population, but the proportion of those who accept it and live up to it, is about the same today as it was then.

There are millions of men and women today who are like the seed sown on the unplowed path. They refuse to accept the message; they have no thought for their future; they are content to end in the grave after their few years of misery and hardship on this planet.

There are others who see the truth and the consolation of the Christian gospel, but when it comes to making sacrifices for it, they give up. The message did not sink into their hearts and minds. They are like the seed which fell on rocky ground because the faith had no deep roots in their lives. Others again, and they are legion, are like the seed that fell among the briars and thorns. They accepted the faith and it took root in them, but later on, "the cares of the world and the delight in riches chokes the word and it proves unfruitful,"—these are our Lord's own words.

The last class of Christians, are like the seed sown on good soil. They not only accept Christ and his teaching, but they live up to it, and, come what may, they are faithful to it. These will produce fruit and will earn for themselves eternal happiness.

Each one of us can look into his own conscience today and discover to which class he or she belongs. Are some of us, perhaps like the seed that fell on the rocky ground? While Christianity makes no very difficult demand we are all for it, but when it demands mortification, the curbing of passion, real sacrifices for our neighbor, do we forget our Christian calling then and ignore its precepts? And how does our type of Christianity stand up to the temptations of the world—the desire to get all the enjoyment we can out of this life, licit or illicit, breaking God's commandments weekly or maybe daily? Are we chasing after wealth and power, using all our energies to rise in the world to be above our neighbor by fair or foul means? If the above are our aims in life, our Christianity has been or is being choked out of us.

There are millions of saints in heaven today, enjoying eternal happiness, who had some, if not all, of our present failings. We, too, can be with them one day, provided we do what they did. They repented sincerely and remained God's close friends, until he called them to himself. May the merciful God give us the grace to imitate them while we yet have time.

*Excerpt by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, <https://www.catholicculture.org/>

**Welcome to Bishop Konderla
&
Congratulations to the Confirmands**

TLM
Annalina Martino
Samuel Dufour
Clair Dufour
Joachim Martin

English
Isaac Ervin
Kennedy Herndon
Abby Higginbottom
Matthew Higginbottom
Elizabeth Sullivan

*Spirit of God, grant them and us all:
The gift of **wisdom** To see the world
through your eyes,
The gift of **counsel** To make difficult
decisions,
The gifts of **knowledge** and
understanding To use our mind to know
you and to love you,
The gift of **fortitude** To have the courage to
live in the faith despite the difficulties and
disappointments,
The gift of **piety** To be able to express our
special love and commitment to you,
and the right kind of awesome **fear** That
makes us pause to wonder and revere
God's Love. Amen.*

**Parish-Wide
Town Hall/Missions Sunday
This Weekend!
Sunday, July 16th, @ 5 p.m.
Come Be a Part of the Missions of
Your Church —Holy Cross
Pizza and Drinks Provided**

**The Holy Cross Catholic Charities
Mobile Food Pantry
Thursday, July 27th, 10 a.m.—Noon
Food Boxes Available & Distributed While
Supplies Last
using a drive-through format**

New Parishioner Registration

Holy Cross Registration forms are located in the back of the church and will assist with information for communication and Holy Cross ministry efforts.

Please pick up a form, complete, and return to the church secretary. The form can also be found and printed from the church website.

WAGONER AREA NEIGHBORS DONATIONS

Continue to remember our local families in need. A box for your donations is located in the vestibule. Monetary Donations (marked as such in a separate envelope) can be placed in the offering basket. Bottled water is a need during the summer months.

You can also take your donations to
100 NE 8th St.
Mon., Wed., & Fri. — 8:30 to 12:00
Tuesdays & Thursdays — 11:00 to 3:00

**Do You Wish to Volunteer to Serve as a
Mass Minister?**

Please contact Mary Feichtinger — call or text 303-519-0605, if you are able to serve.

July 15 (Vigil)	July 16		July 22 (Vigil)	July 23
Judy Helms Richard Helms	Emily Ledgerwood Brian Ledgerwood	USHERS/GIFT BEARERS	Sherry Ruyle Carolyn Greer	Mike Cucchiara Bill Scrimsher
Luke Zehr, Joey, Aceah, & Wrights	Liam, Makenna, & Larry Chekofsky	ALTAR SERVERS	Larry Chekofsky	Liam, Makenna, & Larry Chekofsky
Charlie M./Sherri M.	Elaine H./Mike H.	EUCCHARISTIC MIN	Kay R./Dorene Mc.	Elaine H./Mike H.
Kay Rodriguez	Paul Stuart	READERS	Charlie Moe	Seth Yoder

Memorial of Bl. Stanley Rother, July 28
O God,
who gave your priest Blessed Stanley the heart of a pastor and
the fidelity of a martyr,
grant, through his intercession,
that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has
gone before. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

***"Pray for us that we may be a sign of the love of Christ for
our people."* — Blessed Stanley Rother**



***BE HOLY: THE ART OF CHRISTIAN LIVING*
AUGUST 18-19, 2023
Tulsa Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center
Registration at <https://dioceseoftulsa.org/faith-formation-conference-registration-1>
Friday ONLY - \$25; Saturday ONLY - \$35,
Both Days - \$50**

**Observance of the World Day of Prayer for
Grandparents & Elderly Persons
Sunday, July 30th**

May the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me: sustain my weakness; breathe into my heart the consolation that I may leave traces of faith among the young, bearing witness to the beauty of life, knowing that life has a limit and that beyond it lies before us our Father's embrace. Amen.

Happy Birthday!

Samuel Dufour 7/1
Mike Hickman 7/7
David Atanasio 7/8
Blair Kuehn-Smith 7/9
Carolyn Greer 7/12
Fr. Leo Ord. Anniv. 7/17
Leah Jameson 7/21
Denise Jones 7/30



*"Behold the wood of the Cross on which
hung the Savior of the world."*

Weekend Collections July 8-9

General Collections **\$4,248.10**
Capital Improvement **100.00**
TOTAL \$4,348.10

Daily Mass Readings—July 16-22*

Sunday	Is 55:10-11/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday	Ex 1:8-14, 22/Mt 10:34—11:1
Tuesday	Ex 2:1-15a/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday	Ex 3:13-20/Mt 11:28-30
Friday	Ex 11:10—12:14/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text)
also available on Holy Cross Website:

www.holycross-wagoner.org

To place information in the bulletin or on the
church website, contact Karol Watson,
karol_watson@yahoo.com or 918-640-5819

For issues/help with Flocknotes, contact Kay
Rodriguez, msrod@sbcglobal.net
or 405-659-0507

FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker
Judy Wright, parishioner
Becky Harding, parishioner
Meredith Zehr, parishioner
Hope Watson, parishioner
Sam Sanco, parishioner



WE PRAY TO THE LORD

Holy Cross Mission Statement/Prayer

Almighty God, the mission of Holy Cross
Parish is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to
our community and the world. As your
disciples, help us to touch the hearts of
everyone in a way that enhances human
spirituality and will bring all people into the
fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ,
our Lord, Amen!

	<i>Altar Linens</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>
<i>July</i>	Kay Rodriguez	Karol Watson Carolyn Greer
<i>Aug</i>	Sherry Ruyle	Kathy Hickman

**Stay Connected — Stay Informed
with your Catholic Faith & your Holy Cross
Family**

*Daily Readings, Daily Prayer of the Day, Bulletins,
Catholic & Holy Cross News/Events*

**www.holycross-wagoner.org,
Holy Cross Catholic Church - Wagoner OK (FB) &
[https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/
dashboard](https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/dashboard)**

**Finding solutions for
your financial need.**



Seth A. Yoder
Financial Advisor
114 East Cherokee
Wagoner, OK 74467
918-485-0992

Edward Jones
Member Since 1971
edwardjones.com

Holy Cross Catholic Church



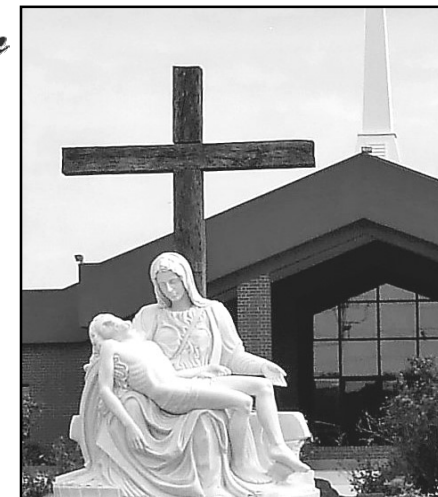
**Holiness - Disciples - Community
Wagoner, Oklahoma**

P.O. Box 710 / 708 SW 15TH ST.
539-209-9988

Email: holycrosswagoner@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.holycross-wagoner.org>

Facebook: Holy Cross Catholic Church—Wagoner, OK



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Pastor	Very Rev. Leo Ahanotu holycrosswagoner@gmail.com 539-209-9988
Visiting Priests	Fr. Gabriel Garcia & Fr. Alessandro Calderoni
Deacons	Dcn James Ruyle (Retired) jandsruyle@gmail.com 918-485-8228
Secretary	Earlyne Hutchens earlynehutchens@gmail.com 918-894-0474
Religious Education	Mary Feichtinger maryfeichtinger@yahoo.com 303-519-0605 Kay Rodriguez (Youth Group) msrod@sbcglobal.net 405-659-0507
Parish Council	Karol Watson karol_watson@yahoo.com 918-640-5819
M&M Society	Sherri Moe smworks@hotmail.com 918-521-9127
Men's Group	Seth Yoder seth.yoder@edwardjones.com 918-869-9129

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 p.m.

Sunday — 8:30 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays (Latin) — 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday & Friday — 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday — 8:30 a.m.

First Sat. of Each Month — 8:30 a.m.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Fridays following 5:00 p.m. Mass

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before weekend Masses

Or by appointment/request

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Breaking Bread Book
Pages 176-178

Vatican II Hymnal
Pages 591-592

