

THOUGHTS FROM SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

"To live according to the spirit is to love according to the spirit." - St. Francis de Sales



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PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor

Laura Terpack, Peter Barrett, Co-Chairmen, holyinfantpfcchair@gmail.com

John Martin, Director of Operations and Finance

Norberto Quezada, Bob Dieter, Mike Pearl, Bob Radcliffe

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Kim McAllister	Collin McKiney	Laura Terpack
Bob Dieter	Carol Owen	ex-Officio
Lindsay Glenn	Julio Revueltas	Lynn Sale,
Matt Luedke	Mark Szczesiul	ex-Officio

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor Midge Bowers, Chair, midge2031@gmail.com

FIND IT ON THE WEB

Our parish website is your <u>primary</u> source for the most complete and up-to-date information about the parish. Visit holyinfantchurch.org for details on many topics, including:

- † Mass and Liturgy Times
- **† Office Hours and Contact Information**
- **Calendar of Events**, including event details
- **News** within the parish and around the diocese
- Worship & Sacraments, including sacramental prep information for Baptism, Reconciliation (Confession), Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders; Vocations for men and women; and Funerals
- † Faith & Learning for adults, teens, and children; becoming Catholic; Catholic schools
- Salesian spirituality and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales
- **†** Joining the parish
- **†** Getting Involved
- **†** Ministries & Groups

Safe Environment Victim Assistance Hotline

Call 866-535-SAFE

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

During the General Intercessions at our weekend Masses, we remember all members of our parish and community who are homebound or suffering any illness. Please remember the following in your prayers this week:

Jean Arlotta; Mary Anthony; Jo Agusta; Nancy Balding; Jeff Baker; Colette & Clayton Bean; Jerry DeBenedetto; Jennifer Bland; Margaret Burnett; Marcia Brown; Maria Capone; Alice & Christos Chamis; Albina & Chin Chua; Eva Crowley; Lillian Davids; Bea Davis; Rosemary Donohue; Eileen Dowling; Christine Drap; Irene Dunbar: Jason Ferrigan: Susan Fleming: Adela Florev: Dot & Jack Gregory; Marjorie Goode; Mary Jane Haga; Mary Jane Harvey; Jane Helmer; Denise Herron; Ruth & Kenneth Jones; Aileen Koch; Bill & Donna LaMountain: Alice Lefebvre: Walter Lupa: Rob McAllister: Peggy McIntyre; Terry Mercaldo; Monique Mueller; Nelida Muniz; Kathleen O'Donnell; Chris Ogonowski; Johnathan Palermo; Louise Peloquin; Bill Perkins; Helen Pischak; Rosalind Riggio; Nancy Rizzo; Shelia Rogers; Julia Schmidt; Susan Sheehan; Tom Shreve; Betty Short; Bob Smith; Hugo Sotolongo; Corrine Stavely; Katherine Strubing; Marisa Suarez; Mary Sunderland; Maria Tadipa; Richard Thomas; Angel David Torres

Mass Times & Intentions July 1st to July 7th

Masses are livestreamed & in person unless otherwise stated.

Monday, 9:00 am Tuesday, 9:00 am Wednesday, 9:00 am Thursday, 9 am Friday, 9:00 am Marsik Family (honor) Marion Eberwein † Michael Lomazzo Williams Family (honor)

Michael Marnell †
Stephan Rozniakowski

(birthday)

Saturday, 5:30 pm Sunday, 8:30 am Sunday, 11:30 am

Saturday, 9:00 am

Joe Thomas, Jr. † JoAnne Callahan † Michael Douglas Sick †

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday Is 1:10-17 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 Mt 10:34 – 11:1

Tuesday Is 7:1-9 Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 Mt 11:20-24 **Wednesday** Is 10:5-7, 13b-16 Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 Mt 11:25-27

Thursday Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19 Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21 Mt 11:28-30

Friday Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8 Isaiah 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 Mt 12:1-8

Saturday Mi 2:1-5 Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 Mt 12:14-21 **Sunday** Jer 23:1-6 Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 Eph 2:13-18 Mk 6:30-34



Stewardship of Treasure | July 1 - May 31

	Budgeted	Received	Difference
First Offertory	\$950,150	\$916,831	(\$33,319)
Christmas Offertory	\$25,000	\$26,699	\$1,699
Easter Offertory	\$16,000	\$14,634	(\$1,366)
Holy Day Collections	\$6,000	\$9,315	\$3,315
Maintenance Offertory	\$38,700	\$39,585	\$885
	\$1,035,850	\$1,007,064	(\$28,786)

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9th Justice Garden Ministry, 9 am July 9th Stephen Ministry Meeting, 6:30 pm July 10th Desales Service Works, 8:30 am

July 11th Marian Prayer, 9:30 am

July 11th Playgroup at Pineywoods Park, 9:30 am

July 11th Eucharistic Adoration, 12 pm

July 13th Baptism Preparation Workship, 9 am

July 13th Justice Garden Workday, 9 am

July 13th Daughters of St. Francis DeSales, 10 am

July 13th Servants of God Prayer Group, 3 pm

July 13th Reconciliation, 4 pm

July 14th St. Monica Ministry for Praying Parents, 7 pm

The parish library is open on Sundays from 8 am-4 pm





JYM\TYM Students volunteered at the NC Diaper Bank for June's DSW project.



Faith Development

Director of Catechetical Leadership
Michalene Sutton
919-973-0013
Msutton@holyinfantchurch.org

Assistant Director
Anna Lee
919-973-0012
Alee@holyinfantchurch.org

Fostering a Servant's Heart: DESALES SERVICE WORKS

Research has shown that adults and teens who engage in volunteer activities tend to experience increased happiness and emotional well-being compared to those who don't. Most people will agree that they feel good about themselves when they're doing good to and for others. For young people, it goes beyond just how they feel about themselves; it actually can improve teens' mental health for the long term. Here's why:

- Volunteering reduces stress by focusing on something beyond their own worries. And incidentally, the more satisfying the volunteer experience, the greater the mood improvement and reduction in stress.
- Volunteering combats depression by distracting teens from negative thinking and self-criticism. It fosters a sense of accomplishment and motivation, encouraging them to explore their potential.
- Volunteering prevents feelings of isolation when teens expand their social network and make new friends. Engaging in activities they enjoy increases the likelihood of connecting with like-minded individuals and forming lasting friendships.
- Volunteering increases confidence as teens gain new skills, often learning these skills in an unfamiliar environment.

- Volunteering gives a sense of purpose and meaning as well as a sense of fulfillment. It offers a different source of meaning, separate from their school or personal life, and broadens their perspective.
- Volunteering ignites passion, allowing teens to explore various interests and learn from experts in fields such as social work, sustainability, heath care and more, which can even turn into a career direction.
- Volunteering makes you feel happy by triggering the release of "feel-good" hormones and increases brain activity, leading to happiness. Encouraging teens to give back and serve their community contributes to their well-being and overall joy.

During the Summer at Holy Infant, JYM & TYM students are invited to participate in DeSales Service Works, which allows teens to foster relationships with each other and their leaders while serving the greater community. There are two opportunities this month:

July 10th at the Durham Community Food Pantry and July 18th at Welcome Baby.

Learn more using the QR code.



FD REGISTRATION OPENS THIS MONTH

Registration for Faith Development will open **July 15th**. Our lifelong faith formation process aims to foster in our minds and hearts the experience of God's reign in our midst as we form communities of faith, proclaim God's Word, celebrate the Sacraments, and build a just and compassionate society, in which all people share God's gifts.

We are committed to whole community catechesis and faith formation that brings people of all ages together to explore some aspect of our Catholic faith through prayer, service activities, learning sessions, and community building. Faith Development is available to children from age 3 to 12th grade.

Ministries

Pastoral Associate

Lynn Saie lynns@holyinfantchurch.org



NOURISHING HOPE

Imagine the transformative power of a warm meal shared in a welcoming environment. For individuals experiencing homelessness, it can mean more than just satisfying their physical hunger. It can provide hope, restore dignity, and remind them they are not forgotten. Urban Ministries of Durham serves as a beacon of support for those in need, offering meals and vital services and resources to the Durham community.

Holy Infant is proud to sponsor 10 meals each year for Urban Ministries. Through this simple act of kindness, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of those facing homelessness. These meals not only nourish the body but also nurture the spirit, showing that a little support can go a long way in restoring faith and dignity.

Please consider donating or supporting the upcoming UMD shelter dinner on **July 21st**. The menu will feature sub sandwiches, side dishes, and desserts. Use the QR code for more information and to register.

FYM BINGO NIGHT

Join the Forever Young Ministry on **July 19th** for an evening of BINGO at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the DeSales Center. Friends are welcome!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

On Tuesday, **July 16th** from 6-7 pm, our Knights of Columbus Blessed Louis Brisson Council 17125 will hold its annual Installation of Officers ceremony. The ceremony will be held in the Chapel.

We invite all of our congregation to celebrate the amazing work by our Knights and to welcome the newest members.



JULY IS DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH

Disability Pride Month is celebrated every July and is an opportunity to honor the history, achievements, experiences, and struggles of the disability community. Why July? It marks the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which broke down inclusion barriers in our society.

Wheelchair access is available in the narthex and several areas within the church can accommodate a wheelchair. Assistive listening devices can be obtained from one of the greeters. If you need to receive Holy Communion at your seat, please let a greeter know and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will bring it to you. If you need a gluten-free host, please let the sacristan know before mass. Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion also bring the Eucharist to the sick and homebound.

Arrangements can be made by contacting Lynn Sale at the contact information above.



CHECK OUT OUR PARISH CALENDAR FOR MORE UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOLY INFANT



Liturgy & Music

Director of Liturgy & MusicJeff Rice
JeffR@holyinfantchurch.org

MODELING SERVANTHOOD

Repeatedly, Jesus had compassion for men and women who were made in God's image yet suffering from broken bodies. In contrast, systems today seem to have become self-seeking. Christians should be different, with the spirit of Christ's compassion at their core.

Jesus never exploited people with disability. There was no media show around those who were healed. Jesus never used people with disability to gain credibility. How different to the attitude I sometimes cherish - to obtain fame and recognition for my work with the marginalized, even in Christian circles. True Christlike service seeks no recognition or reward at the expense of those suffering from a disability.

Restoring autonomy and control to those who had lost it was central to his ministry. How many times did he ask the person with obvious rehabilitation needs 'What do you want me to do?' Jesus models servanthood. He takes away the power gradient, making no assumptions about perceived needs. The person is central.

Jesus was, and is, the ultimate advocate. Blind Bartimaeus is being silenced as an embarrassment until Jesus asks that he be brought to him. Ultimately that spirit of advocacy takes Jesus to the cross. The spirit of Jesus's advocacy drives Christians to push the boundaries for access to services and vocation.

It is remarkable that the Gospels give us so much information about how Jesus dealt with people with disability. Surely this is there for a reason? Despite all our best efforts, secular human beings still struggle with disability in themselves and others. Jesus models a different way, in which he invested his body and blood. As disciples, we should follow him.

-Steve Sturman, Christian Medical Fellowship



REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 2:2–5 They are a rebellious house but shall know that a prophet has been among them.

Psalm 123 "Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy."

2 Corinthians 12:7–10 I will boast in my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

Mark 6:1–6a A prophet is not without honor except in his native place.

Ezekiel recounts his calling in today's first reading, relating that God told him bluntly that a prophet's audience is obstinate and rebellious. Paul tells of hardships of his own but insists that they provide opportunities for Christ's power to strengthen him. The people of Nazareth take offense at Jesus, unwilling to accept that this local carpenter could teach them about God. Let us be attentive to God's voice, both here and wherever we hear it.

How do I react when someone criticizes or challenges me? Do I dismiss their words immediately without consideration? How can I prayerfully consider their criticism or advice?

Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

A FEW THOUGHTS ON FRIENDSHIP

C.S. Lewis wrote: "Friendship is the greatest of worldly goods, and the chief happiness of life. C.S. Lewis went so far as to say this when giving a piece of advice to a young man about a place to live: "Sacrifice almost everything to live where you can be near your friends."

Winnie the Pooh, that deep-thinking animal psychologist agreed when he said, "A day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside."

St. Francis de Sales loved to talk about friendship. Here are some of his remarks: "For friendship is mutual,

reciprocal, and if it is not reciprocated, it is not friendship." That certainly makes sense!



Secondly, St. Francis adds: "...because it is not enough that it be reciprocal; it is also essential that those who love each other recognize their mutual love. If they are not aware of it, it is not friendship!"

Someone once told me this fact which has proven so true and so real in my lifetime: "Some friends are for a reason. Other friends are for a season and still others are for a lifetime." Categories that soon make their presence felt on our journey.

The thing that separates a friend from others is their investment in you as a person. If they care about you, it means they are honest with you, even when what they have to say hurts.

St. Francis encouraged us not only to have faithful friends but hailed them as precious treasures that nourish us for the task of life itself. He writes: "Those who live in the world need friendships in order to secure and assist one another amid the many dangerous passages through which they have need to pass in this life."

Friends should always offer constructive feedback. If you're not doing what you need to be doing, a friend who is caring will tell you. He or she does this in a caring and loving voice so that you can hear and understand it even if you don't like what you're hearing!

But sometimes it can be hard to tell when you've crossed the line from "acquaintance" to "friend." Learn to recognize who's a friend in your life by searching for some key elements.

Look for these qualities: loyal and dependable, spending time with you, wanting to hang out with you, and showing that they care about you. Sometimes, people act as if they are your friend, but don't always show it. This attitude can make you feel left out and not want to bring other people closer to you.

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter the one who has found one has found a treasure. There is nothing so precious as a faithful friend and no one can measure his or her goodness and worth. (Sirah 6:14)

I leave you with these words from St. Francis: "It's consoling to know that the friendships begun on this earth will continue in heaven."

-Fr. Richard DeLillio, OSFS