

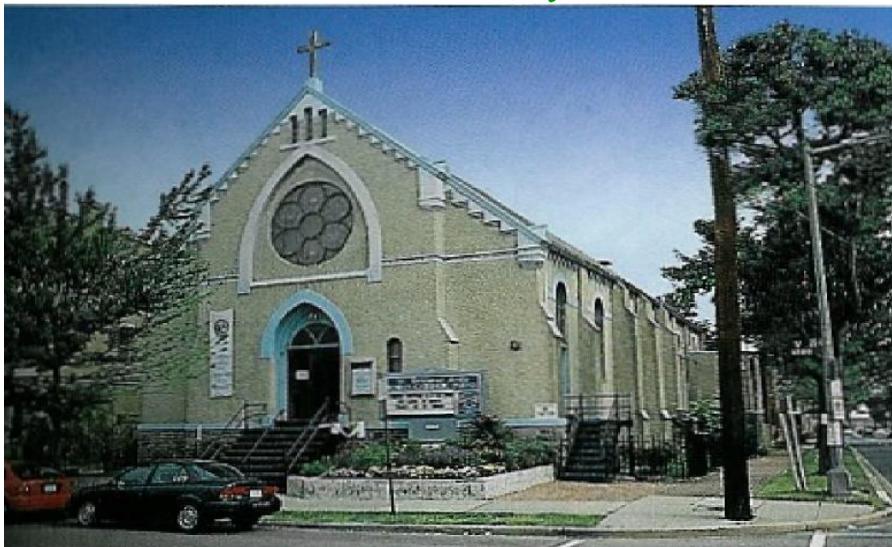
# **21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## **August 23, 2020**

### **Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Church**

1244 V Street SE, Washington, DC 20020-7016 [www.stachurchdc.org](http://www.stachurchdc.org)

*Our 140th Year as an Evangelizing Parish that positively impacts its Members and the Community in which it lives.*



**Reconciliation:** Monsignor East is available for drive-by confessions. Please contact the PLC to schedule a time

**Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday, 10:00am – 3:00pm and Friday, 10am – 1pm

**Contact Us:** 202-678-3709; Fax: 202-678-3325, Website: [www.stachurchdc.org](http://www.stachurchdc.org)

**Mailing Address:** St. Teresa of Avila Parish Life Center  
1401 V Street SE, Washington, DC 20020-4809

**Pastor – Msgr. Raymond G. East** [Easter090@gmail.com](mailto:Easter090@gmail.com); Mobile 202-355-8888

**Deacon – Dr. William A. Hawkins, Jr.** [whawk39564@aol.com](mailto:whawk39564@aol.com)

**Director of Worship & Arts – Shirli Hughes** [shirli.stamusic@gmail.com](mailto:shirli.stamusic@gmail.com)

**Spiritual Direction – Sister Anne Marie Schreiner, DC** (205) 919-0010 or [srannema@stv.org](mailto:srannema@stv.org)

**Parish Manager – Linda Clay Roberson** [lindaroberson.stachurch@gmail.com](mailto:lindaroberson.stachurch@gmail.com)

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**Parish Bookkeeper – Sister Pauline Oduekila** [paulineoduekila@yahoo.fr](mailto:paulineoduekila@yahoo.fr)

# WALK BY FAITH *And Not* BY SIGHT

GENESIS

## SUNDAY REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

*Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" and "But who do you say that I am?"*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 13:16-20*

In today's Gospel reading we see that after spending time with our Lord day in and day out, he puts the test to his disciples, **"Who do you say that I am?"**. We are all familiar with the verse where the disciples responded, **"some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."** But Christ wasn't interested in what others thought, he wanted to hear from them, those who were closest to him. He understood that he was widely recognized throughout the region and thought to be the return of one of the prophets, but he was at a point where he was testing those closest to him, the disciples, to find out where their hearts were.

Peter spoke up, as he did so often, **"the Christ, the Son of the living God."** Jesus knew that no mortal man or anything he had done could have revealed this to him, "only God". Peter wasn't perfect. He denied Christ at his darkest moment, but just as he fell, he got up and became the "Rock" that Jesus anointed him to be.

Today, we too fall but Jesus says, "get up" and follow me. We can see him in each other, feel him in the hands of caregivers, front line workers, our sisters and brothers in Christ, and those who we don't even know, but we feel their prayers every day when we need them most. We are enduring more sickness and death than we have known before, but one thing is still constant, **Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God and He is still on the throne and making miracles.**

As we walk through these days ahead in this valley of darkness, remember that the Lord is with us, that his rod and staff, will comfort us, that he is still preparing that table before us and anointing our heads with oil. If we allow ourselves, we can see our cup that we thought was empty, is full and running over.

So, my brothers and sisters, as we meditate on today's Word, **who do you say that He is? What is He in your life? How can you pay forward one thing that He has given you, to another?** These are the questions we leave with you today as you reflect on the goodness and the love of our Savior, Christ Jesus.

\_\_\_\_\_ **LARSK**

## **PHYSICAL MASS PARTICIPATION AT STA**

Although the District of Columbia is still in Phase 2 of reopening the city and businesses, **our Church building remains closed.** For the continued safety of our Parish, **public Masses are NOT being held at this time.** A special task force has been created to assist with the planning, training, and execution for the reopening of the Parish. As we move forward with re-opening plans for the church, we welcome any, and all feedback on how we can do so safely. If you are interested in participating on the special task force, please email the Communications Committee at [stachurchcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:stachurchcommunications@gmail.com). Details on when and how public Masses will begin will be communicated to the parish at least 2-3 weeks prior to the start of re-opening. Any questions or concerns, please contact the PLC. In the meantime, please join us for our Live Stream Mass each Sunday at 9:30am. If you miss the 9:30am Live Stream, the mass can be viewed from the website at any time!

**StreamingLive<sup>®</sup>**

*Join our Livestream Mass on the STA Facebook page and St. Teresa of Avila YouTube channel every Sunday at 9:30am. Visit [www.stachurchdc.org](http://www.stachurchdc.org) for links. We encourage you to get online 10 minutes early for virtual fellowship, praise, and worship time. Visit the Archdiocese website for additional recorded and live-streamed Masses at <https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/>*

*Twining with our sister parish, St. Antoine, Vieux Bourg & with the Diocese of Jeremie in Haiti, West Indies*





**DAILY**  
**MASS READINGS**

***Sunday August 23<sup>rd</sup> Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time***

*Isaiah 22:19-23, Psalms 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8, Romans 11:33-36, Matthew 16:13-20*

***Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time***

*2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12, Psalms 96:1-2A, 2B-3, 4-5, Matthew 23:13-22*

***Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time***

*2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18, Psalms 128:1-2, 4-5, Matthew 23:27-32*

***Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time***

*2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18, Psalms 128:1-2, 4-5, Matthew 23:27-32*

***Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time Memorial of Saint  
Monica***

*1 Corinthians 1:1-9, Psalms 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, Matthew 24:42-51*

***Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time Memorial of Saint  
Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church***

*1 Corinthians 1:17-25, Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11, Matthew 25:1-13*

***Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time Memorial of the  
Passion of Saint John the Baptist***

*Jeremiah 1:17-19, Psalms 17:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17, Mark 6:17-29*

***Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup> Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time***

*Jeremiah 20:7-9, Psalms 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 16:21-27*

# prayer & fasting

**Please Pray for Our Sick, Our Shut-In, and all who are suffering from the scares of this Pandemic.** And Jesus says, *let me fill you with My Love, "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being". – Ephesians 3:16*

*Richie Allison (son of Sandi Allison-Harris), Betty Cook (Aunt of Wanda Smith), Nadine and Earl Day, Helen Desperitt, Clark James Durand, Sylvester Enlow (father of Denise Yorkshire), Ricardo Featherstone, Corey Fowler-Cooke, Patricia Franklin, William Gorham, Mary Greenfield, Grimes and Tolliver families, Renee Gross, Antonio "Big Tony" Haggins, Ethel Hale, Audrey Hawkins, Barbara Hill, Patricia Pickens-James, Reginald Johnson, Sheila Kennedy, Ronald McCants, Paul McCloud (Ralph McCloud's brother), Channing McKinney, Veronica McKinney, Inez Matthews, Dorothy Morgan, Mother Kamana Asteria Mukangango (mother of Fr. Didace), Vivian Parker (Sister Marie Bernadette's sister), Jocelyn Reyes, Bonita Robinson, Barbara Savoy (mother of Liz Hall), Lee Scott (husband of Joanne Scott), Michelle Whatley-Seabrooks, Willa Spruill, Wanda Smith and the entire Smith Family on the loss of Mother Mary Smith, Frieda Stanley, Darian Taylor, Dorothy Taylor (cousin of Pauline Barnes), Yolanda Thomas, Bernadette Trowell, Paulette Vernon, Sharree Walls, and Denise Washington.*

**How can we pray for you and your family? You can send your request directly to [stachurchcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:stachurchcommunications@gmail.com) or contact the PLC.**



## HIGHWAY TO HEAVEN



### IN MEMORIAM

*Please keep the families of our beloved parishioners who have gone home this month lifted in prayers.*

#### Mary Smith

*She has made her way to this **Highway to Heaven**. She will be missed dearly, but we know that she goes before us, and we will see her someday soon.*

### Jesus Awaits Us in the Eucharist

**Selection from Homilies by Pope Benedict XVI**  
Because of the coronavirus pandemic, many of us have had to go weeks or months without receiving the Eucharist.

This has been difficult for all of us, but it has also helped us to grow more in appreciation for this life-giving sacrament.

These homilies by Pope Benedict XVI can help us reflect on the amazing gift of Jesus in the Eucharist.

#### Do We Desire to Receive Jesus?

“I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer” (Luke 22:15). With these words, Jesus began the celebration of his final meal and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. Jesus approached that hour with eager desire. In his heart he awaited the moment when he would give himself to his own under the appearance of bread and wine. He awaited that moment, which would in some sense be the true messianic wedding feast: when he would transform the gifts of this world and become one with his own, so as to transform them and thus inaugurate the transformation of the world. In this eager desire of Jesus, we can recognize the desire of God himself—his expectant love for mankind, for his creation. A love that awaits the moment of union, a love that wants to draw mankind to itself and thereby fulfill the desire of all creation, for creation eagerly awaits the revelation of the children of God (cf. Romans 8:19). Jesus desires us, he awaits us.

But what about ourselves? Do we really desire him? Are we anxious to meet him? Do we desire to encounter him, to become one with him, to receive the gifts he offers us in the Holy Eucharist? Or are we indifferent, distracted, busy with other things? From Jesus’ banquet parables, we realize that he knows all about empty places at table, invitations refused, lack of interest in him and his closeness.

For us, the empty places at the table of the Lord's wedding feast, whether excusable or not, are no longer a parable but a reality in those very countries to which he had revealed his closeness in a special way. Jesus also knew about guests who come to the banquet without being robed in the wedding garment—they come not to rejoice in his presence but merely out of habit, since their hearts are elsewhere.

In one of his homilies, St. Gregory the Great asks: Who are these people who enter without the wedding garment? What is this garment and how does one acquire it? He replies that those who are invited and enter do in some way have faith. It is faith that opens the door to them. But they lack the wedding garment of love.

Those who do not live their faith as love are not ready for the banquet and are cast out. Eucharistic communion requires faith, but faith requires love; otherwise, even as faith, it is dead. . .

***“I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you.” Lord, you desire us, you desire me. You eagerly desire to share yourself with us in the Holy Eucharist, to be one with us. Lord, awaken in us the desire for you. Strengthen us in unity with you and with one another. Grant unity to your Church, so that the world may believe. Amen.***

—Homily, Holy Thursday  
St. Peter's Basilica, April 21, 2011

## How to Make a Spiritual Communion

*Below are recommendations for how to make a 'spiritual communion' when unable to participate in **the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**. The recommendations can be adapted based upon personal and family needs.*

- Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
- Take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. You can find the readings in this Sunday Bulletin or at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org) and a Sunday Gospel reflection on our [YouTube channel](#). In addition to the STA Live Stream Mass at 9:30 AM every Sunday, a weekly televised Sunday Mass is available to watch at [adw.org/tvmass](http://adw.org/tvmass).
- Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
- Pray the Lord's Prayer.
- Pray **“Prayer to the Most Holy Redeemer (Anima Christi)”** or **“Prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ Crucified”**
- Close with the sign of the cross.



GIVE THANKS  
TO THE LORD  
FOR HE IS GOOD

His LOVE endures FOREVER!!!

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

You can contribute your **tithes**  
and **love offerings** three ways:

- eGiving: Text staChurch to 77977, click the link and follow the prompts
- [www.stachurchdc.org](http://www.stachurchdc.org) and click on "Tithes and Love Offerings"
- The PLC secure lockbox at 1401 V Street, SE, Washington DC 20020

### Prayer to the Most Holy Redeemer (Anima Christi)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, embolden me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash  
me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me.

Within thy wounds hide me.

Never permit me to be parted from  
you.

From the evil Enemy defend me.

In the hour of my death call me.

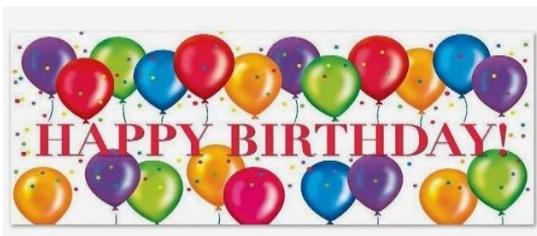
and bid me come to thee,

that with your saints I may praise thee  
for age upon age. Amen.

### COMING SOON! STA Newsletter!

Name the **STA NEWSLETTER!** **Name submissions are being accepted until August 30<sup>th</sup>.** Each of us has a vested interest in this publication. What do you think it should be called? Send your submission to:

[stachurchcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:stachurchcommunications@gmail.com)



While we cannot personally wish you a “Happy Birthday”, we wanted you to know that we did not forget! Below is the list of ***birthdays for last week of August.*** **If we have not listed your birthday, we don’t have it! PLEASE CONTACT THE PLC IMMEDIATELY!**

We thank God for the life that he has given us in you!

**(8/24) Ashlee Parker**

**(8/27) Robin Willis-Wilson**

**(8/29) Janice Smith**

**(8/30) Iman Ashaka, Viola Washington**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Thank You STA Family**

The Toliver-Grimes family thanks STA and Msgr. East for their loving concern and many expressions of sympathy on the passing of my Mother Phyllis Toliver. Your outpouring of love is a great comfort to us.

\_\_\_\_\_ Grimes and Toliver Families

### **Stay Connected**

As we continue different phases of re-opening our cities, we must take care of our mental health. Take time for yourself and visit the ***Health Awareness*** page on the STA website at [www.stachurchdc.org](http://www.stachurchdc.org) under the ***Ministries Tab*** for some articles on mental and behavioral health.



### **The Sodality invites you to join them**

in reciting the Rosary **each Sunday at 10:45 am** via free conference. The dial in **number is 1-602-580-9273**. The **access code is 5360845**. **Please remember**, when you call-in prior to 10:45 am, and after announcing your name, **please mute your phone**. If you call-in after 10:45 am, the Rosary has started, please **DO NOT announce your name and kindly mute your phone**. You may use \*6 to mute landline phones. ***All phones must be on mute unless you are speaking.*** Thank you for your cooperation. Be safe and continue to pray for one another. God’s peace and blessings to each of you.



## 2020 SODALITY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS – FINAL CALL!

The Sodality 2020 Scholarship Application is available on the website—[www.stachurchdc.org](http://www.stachurchdc.org). **Final submission deadline is August 30, 2020.** The committee contact information is listed on the application.



## KEEP UP TO DATE WITH FLOCK NOTE

Missing important STA communications? Stay connected with the parish by signing up to receive email and text messages through our Flock Note communications tool. Sign up at [www.stachurchdc.org](http://www.stachurchdc.org).

## AUGUST PARISH CHALLENGE – “Guess the Gardener”

Are you a gardener (vegetable, floral or fruit)? or have you received your “gift of the green thumb” during this time of social distancing and started your own garden, inside or outside? Showcase your unique gardening skills in the “**Guess the Gardener Challenge!**”



**Send us a photo of your beautiful garden and another photo of you in or beside your garden,** with a few details on what you enjoy growing the most. Each week in the month of August we will share a new group of photos showcasing our parish family gardening skills. Send photos to: [stachurchcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:stachurchcommunications@gmail.com).



**Calling all writers!** Has God been calling you to share your gifts and talents more during this time of social distancing? The STA Communications Committee is looking for writers to submit meditations for publishing in our weekly bulletin. **Share your gifts of the Holy Spirit with our parish family by submitting a meditation on the Sunday Gospel.** Each week the bulletin will feature a new meditation based on the current week’s readings. **If you are interested, please submit your name and email contact information to:** [stachurchcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:stachurchcommunications@gmail.com).

## **Word Among Us Notice**

September will be the last month for the printed version of the Word Among Us. The church will no longer purchase them. You may subscribe online by downloading Word Among Us in the app store, purchase online at <https://wau.org/subscribe/>, or by phone at 1-800-775-WORD(9673). Final printed copies of the August and September issues will be available for pick up from the PLC on Mondays and Wednesday between 10am-3pm.



## **Fall Call for Volunteers: Say YES!**

*Contribute to the needs of the saints;  
extend hospitality to strangers.*

\_\_\_\_\_Romans 12:13

### **Say YES! to Volunteering**

Catholic Charities is recruiting 50 volunteers to take on a weekly, year-long commitment to service.

**General Volunteer Roles:** Are you friendly, dependable, culturally sensitive, and able to encourage a person going through a big change – for example, returning to the community after incarceration or learning to speak English or finding a job? Become a virtual mentor or instructor.

**Pro Bono Volunteer Roles:** Are you a doctor, nurse, lawyer or financial professional? Contribute your expertise pro bono to our most marginalized neighbors. All roles require an application, dialogue with program staff about expectations, and at least a 75-hour commitment including orientation and training. Except for medical professionals, volunteering is done remotely via video chat, phone calls, email, and regular mail.

**Want more information?** Attend our Volunteer Open House on **October 1**. **Register here** (<http://bttr.im/z03q8>) Have questions? Send us an email to [Volunteer@CC-DC.org](mailto:Volunteer@CC-DC.org). **Ready to commit?** Complete an application for the role of your choice. Apply by **October 14!**

**SHARE Monthly Food Package Distribution** Calling energetic early-risers who can do some moderately heavy lifting to join us at the SHARE Warehouse on a Friday or Saturday for the monthly food-package assembly and distribution. We start early! **Get information and sign up here:** **SHARE Food Package Distribution** (<http://bttr.im/iuidn>)

### **Sew Face Coverings:**

Thank you to the many people who have already made and donated thousands of face covers to Catholic Charities for our clients and staff who work in the shelters and the community. As the pandemic continues, we need even more face covers. Here's how to help with this effort. <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Face-Covering-Instructions-for-Catholic-Charities.pdf>.

### **Food Distribution Events:**

Volunteers distribute Catholic Charities food packages to over 1000 families each week.

***Distribution events last a 2-4 hours***, occur 4 days a week, and at 3 different locations: ***Columbia Heights, Wheaton and one location that changes weekly.***

Food packages are ~9lbs of frozen meats + ~10lbs of fresh produce + a homemade frozen meal for 4, that often includes ***produce from our Mona Farm*** (see below). **Food packages are assembled weekdays at the SHARE warehouse**, volunteers welcome! To learn more and to sign up **visit our COVID-19 Volunteer Opportunities Page.**

Catholic Charities is taking many steps to keep volunteers, clients, and staff safe at in-person volunteer activities, including health screening questions, social distancing at the site, and requiring all staff and volunteers to wear a mask.

### **Mona Center Farm:**

Join us on Monday or Saturday morning to tend the Mona Center Farm. Volunteers do not need any gardening experience, but it is welcome! Come ready to get your hands in the dirt and with an eager attitude. The vegetables harvested will go to Catholic Charities' KitchenWork, a program that provides food for St. Maria's Meals and the weekly community food distribution events. Get information and sign up here: Volunteer for Mona Center Farm

### **MARK YOU CALENDAR**

#### **Angel Tree**

Provide gifts to a family so parents can create a Merry Christmas for their children.

**Signup will be in mid-November at [www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org).**

#### **Coat Drive**

Donate new and gently used coats, especially sized XL and larger, starting in November. Keep an eye on the website for details.