

Office Hours 8-12 Mon. thru Fri. October 30th Office will be Closed

“We must abandon the future into the hands of God.” St. Therese of Lisieux



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+Mass Intentions+

Sunday • October 26, 2025

Crespin Jaramillo (b.d) by Family

Juan “Pokey” Martinez Jr. by Mickey & Chelo Cantu

Wednesday • October 29, 2025

+Toni Soto (b.d.) by Richie & Toni Rodriguez

Thurs. • October 30, 2025

+Rosa P. Hernandez by The Family

Saturday • November 1, 2025

All Saints Day at Our Lady Of Refuge

Sunday • November 2, 2025

Novena All Souls Day

October 31st St. James will be at the Safe Zone in Refugio handing out candy.

CCD NEWS: Oct. 29th 1st-5th Grade @ St. Jame

Nov. 2nd 6th-8th Grade @St. James, 9th Grade 5-7p.m.

Nov. 9th- Confirmation II @ OLR 5-7pm

Lectors

October 26 • Karla Arriaga

November 2 • Anita Vega

Eucharistic Ministers

October 26• Volunteer, Maria, Angela

November 2• Volunteer, Jamie, Karla

Altar Servers

October 26 • Volunteers

November 2 • Volunteers

Parish Giving

Sunday, October 26 \$

Will be on next weeks Bulletin



🎄 Deck the Halls Toy Drive 🎄

Accepting toys till December 6th

Give a toy and help a child have a Merry Christmas! Please bring an unwrapped toy and put it in the Santa box at the entrance of the church. Every donation helps the Refugio County Dispatch, on their annual program, to help local children in need. Help to make a difference this Christmas season. Blessings.

Diocese of Corpus Christi

Mass Times

St. Therese of the Little Flower

Sunday • 9:00am
Wednesday • 7:30am
Thursday • 7:30am

Our Lady of Refuge

Saturday Vigil • 4:00pm
Sunday • 10:30am
Thursday • 12:05 pm in the Chapel

St. James the Apostle

Sunday • 12:00 Noon
Monday • 7:30am
Friday • 7:30am

CONFESSION

OLR • Saturday 3:30 - 3:50pm
St. Therese • Sunday 8:30 - 8:50am
St. James • Sunday 11:30 - 11:50am
or by appointment.

Holy Rosary

St. Therese • Monday 6:00pm & Sunday 8:30am
St. James • Sunday 11:30am

Divine Mercy Chaplet

St. Therese • Thursday 3:00pm

Adoration

St. Therese • Wednesday 8:00am - 9:00am
St. James • Friday 8:00am - 9:00am

Prayer List for Healing

Jensen Kasperitis, Logan Dennis, Byrd Segura, Helen Jane Spaarks, Joel Icenhour, Kim Freeze, Oscar Cantu, Ray Cantu, Felix Luna, M.Maya, Tilly Yanez, Laura Balderamas, Mike Gibbs, Alex Cisneros, Martin Arriaga. **Repose soul**-Gerald Morgan, Margaret McGuill, Domingo Cantu Jr.

"I am the Lord who heals you." Exodus 15:26



The Comparison Trap

Have you ever felt picked on or put down by someone? Or let's turn this around. Have you ever picked on or put someone else down?

In this short passage, the setting is that Jesus witnesses some individuals who were over confident in their with God and who looked down on others. It's possible they were Pharisees, since Jesus uses one to be in His example, but it's possible they were not, instead were people who looked up to the Pharisees as models for their lives.

I am sure that seeing this scene irritated Jesus and it is what promoted this really short illustration about who God really accepts. Woven through these two prayers is a theme that is vital for us to understand: **Don't compare yourself to others!** Yes, it is a little simplistic, but it is 100% the truth.

In our lives, it is easy to make this comparison, but with only one or two exceptions, this comparison trap never leads anywhere good. By looking at others, we might be inspired to live a better life, or interested on learning how they achieved success, but with these two potential positive comparisons, there still are an uncountable number of differences between our life and the life we are looking at.

It is like comparing a potato with a banana. Both are edible and both have an outer skin, but almost everything else is different between them. This is what it is like when you compare yourself to someone else—way more differences can be found than similarities.

This is even more important in the spiritual areas of life—especially within our own relationship with God. If we look at the Pharisees prayer, he is still about comparing and validating himself. His prayer is a “look-how-good-I-am” prayer.

In the Pharisee's prayer, God doesn't need to justify him—he already justified himself. But the trap is that God looks only at two areas: individuals and large groups of people (i.e. cities and or nations). The personal relationship is important to Him, as well as the corporate, community relationship as well. What we never see God doing in either case though is making comparison between individuals.

Any sin in an individual's life is important—not only because it affects that individual, but also because it affects the community as well.

The tax collector had a different focus—and that on receiving help/mercy from God. The focus of the tax collector's prayer was not on building himself up; it was on admitting where he really was and that he needed God's grace. If he made a comparison it was not between himself and the Pharisee; it was between his current life, and the life he knew God wanted him to have.

We should not compare ourselves to others. If you want to compare yourself to something, compare it to God's ideal life for you— that life where you never make any mistakes. Only with that comparison in mind will you have the right attitude for God to accept your prayer.