

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

21st *Sunday in Ordinary Time*

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah.

For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:15-18



Messiah

AUGUST 27, 2023

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Pastor:

Fr. Jorge Campos-Covarrubias frjorge@mailbox.org

Parochial Vicar:

Father Abraham Antony Karukaprambil

Deacon:

Dcn George Wunderlich deacon.george.wunderlich@olgsa.org

Pastoral Council: pastoralcouncil@olgsa.org

Parish Staff:

Business Manager: Diane Wyrick

Director of Liturgy & Pastoral Care: Patricia Pollack

Director of Music: Richard 'Rick' McLaughlin

Coordinator of Religious Education: Ashley Salvador

Youth Ministry & Evangelization Coordinator: Open

Secretary: Hortencia 'Teni' Mehl

Secretary: Marie Eisenhoffer

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Mass Schedule:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 7:00 am

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30 pm

Saturday*: 5:30 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 pm

*1st Saturday of the month 8:00am

Sacrament of Confession/Reconciliation:

Tuesday & Thursday: 4:45 pm - 5:15 pm

Saturday 4:45 pm - 5:15 pm

Sunday: Please see weekly schedule.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Call the parish office at least six weeks in advance.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Call the parish office at least six months in advance.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Eugenio B., Neomi Balderas, Mary Blake, Rosa Becnel, Michael Castro, Juliana Cavazos, Maria Chavez de Hernandez, Maverick Condon, Esther Contreras, Ashley Cuellar, Emiliano Cuellar, David Davis, Kate DeWein Mary Jane Diaz, Angela Fitzner, Deacon Frank Gallardo, Vangie Gallardo, Sadie Garcia, Danny Gusme, Erlinda Hamilton, Eric Hawbecker, Marialice Hayes, Josephine Janczar, Markus Klink, Joe Mangione, Kathy McCoy, Sally McDuffee, Joseph McKinley, George Perez, Rina Pollack, Jeanie Sanders, Carlos Saucedo, Edward Jacob Sciantarelli, Jim Sciantarelli, Laurie Seligman, Jerry SESCO, Carolyn Smith, Henry Wolff, Stephen Wyrick, The Zetter Family.

Prayer list requests can be made by calling the Office at 210-734-7285.

**This weekend's second collection
is for the
Parish Outreach.**



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

All are welcome to the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Exposition begins every Tuesday in the Adoration Chapel after the 5:30pm Mass and ends on Friday at 7 am. For more information please contact Becky Prieto at 210-725-2383.

All are welcome to join the Rosary Prayer Group

Every third Tuesday of the month.

Please join us from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Madonna Room. For more information, contact Greg Clary at 903-714-0232.



MASS, CONFESSION & INTENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, August 28

7:00 AM **Fr. Jorge**

Bill & Dallas Roegelein's Birthdays
- Steve Roegelein

Tuesday, August 29

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Abraham**

5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Abraham**

Jerry SESCO's Birthday - Christine Pytel

Wednesday, August 30

7:00 AM **Fr. Abraham**

Amelia F. Soto - Birthday - Her Children

Thursday, August 31

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Abraham**

5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Abraham**

Celia A. Pytel (d) - Christine Pytel & Jerry SESCO

Friday, September 1

7:00 AM **Fr. Abraham**

Janet & Bruce Zetter - Special Intention

Saturday, September 2 - First Saturday

8:00 am **Fr. Abraham**

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Abraham**

5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Abraham**

Mary Ann Faubion (d)
- Marie & Firmin Hickey

Sunday, September 3

8:30 AM **Fr. Jorge**

Vivienne Rettinger - Rettinger Family

10:30 AM **Fr. Frank Santucci, OMI**

Pedro Urrutia (d) - Dora Urrutia

12:00 PM **Fr. Abraham**

Our Lady of Grace Parishioners

Dear Parishioners,

I hope the week has been good for you. I am writing to introduce myself. Well, you already know me as your new parochial vicar. The almost unison chant of the parishioners, “welcome aboard” has already put me on a strong footing and has cast away all fears of the unknown. Thank you for your hearty welcome and kind words of encouragement.

I was born in the southern tip of the Indian peninsula, in a small State called Kerala, which literally means land of coconut. After my high school, I left my familiar place and language; my kith and kin to become a missionary priest in a far away mission land. I chose a diocese in Odisha, an eastern State in India, near Calcutta. After thirteen years of training and formation, I was ordained a priest in 1995. During those thirteen years I learned a little bit of English and successfully completed three bachelor’s degrees one each in English, Philosophy, and Theology. I got an opportunity to do a Master’s Degree in Pastoral Ministry at Santa Clara University (Go Broncos!), California. Then I began a D. Min program in Practical Theology at Oblate School of Theology. I am almost there but not yet.

The lion’s share of my priestly ministry has been spent in administration in chancery and in the formation of future priests. I am back to where my heart is at – parish ministry. I am excited to be here. Fr. Jorge and you have already made me to feel that I am in where I wanted to be. I am looking forward to walking together in synodality as a fellow pilgrim with you, to knowing you more and to a real spiritual bond. The dictum that fuels my ministry is “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.”

Blessings!

Fr. Abe.

Holy Hour for Priests
Monthly each second Tuesday
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Rosary, Prayer & Benediction



*The Altar flowers this weekend are
In celebration of
Jerry SESCO’s Birthday
From Christine Pytel*

REGISTER NOW! OLG Men’s ACTS Retreat

Thursday September 28th -
Noon Mass Sunday October 1st

*ACTS is an acronym for **A**doration, **C**ommunity, **T**heology, and **S**ervice. These four themes are the focus of activities during the weekend. The ACTS weekend provides an opportunity for retreatants to develop a deeper relationship with the Lord and fellow parishioners.*

More information contact the following team members or locate the registration flyers in the Church foyer:

Director	Chris Claiborne	(210) 904-4709
Co-Director	Al Zgardowski	(210) 632-2337



OLG
**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

Children can
Meet Their Catechist
this Sunday, Aug. 27th ~ 9:30am

CLASSES BEGIN SUNDAY, SEPT. 10TH!

In observance of Labor Day,
the Parish Office
will be closed
Monday, September 4th.

Monday's Mass will be
celebrated at 8:00am.



SAVE *the* **DATE**

OUR LADY OF GRACE

MINISTRY FAIR

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17, 2023

After all of the Masses!

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RCIA
(Rite of Christian Initiation of
Adults)

is a process where adults can become fully initiated into the Catholic faith. This process is for any adult that has not been baptized, baptized into another Christian faith, or those who were baptized Catholic but have not received the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. There will be a series of inquiry sessions beginning in early September for those who wish to speak with team members about this process. RCIA Sessions will begin September 20th and continue through the Easter season.

If you or someone you know is interested in the RCIA process contact the parish office at office@olgsa.org or 210-734-7285.

OLG
FALL
BIBLE
STUDY

PSALMS: THE SCHOOL OF PRAYER

The Holy Spirit inspired them. Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our Blessed Mother. At the heart of the Bible are the Psalms, prayers from God that help us to pray. In the Psalms Bible Study, discover how these sacred hymns become our heartfelt response to God's loving and wondrous deeds for us.

Join us for an eleven-week Bible study
Psalms: The School of Prayer

which begins Wednesday morning, September 20 at 9:30.
Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

Please pre-register so that workbooks (\$27.95) can be ordered in advance.

For more information contact Shelley Clary
903-714-3889 or shelleyclary@gmail.com



The Foundation Within

Today's Gospel scene takes place about twenty miles north of the Sea of Galilee outside of Herod's jurisdiction and away from the Pharisees' watchful eyes. This is a private conversation between Jesus and His disciples that took place where they could speak freely. For that reason, this conversation is particularly personal in nature in that the disciples felt free to express their personal convictions without fear of retribution. As the conversation unfolds, Jesus asks two consecutive questions. First, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" Second, "But who do you say that I am?" By asking these two questions, Jesus first invites the disciples to identify the different opinions floating around about Him and then gives the disciples an opportunity to speak their own conviction. Peter responds on behalf of them all when he solemnly professes, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." If Jesus were to ask you these two questions, what would you answer? First, what is the general opinion about Jesus that most people have today? When asked, most Christians would give the correct answer. Jesus is God. He is the Savior. He is the Son of the Father. But sometimes those answers are more theoretical than they are personal. Often it is easy to believe things about Jesus rather than believing in Jesus. So if you were to answer the second question, what would you say? Ideally, you would answer that Jesus is your Savior, your God, your Shepherd, your Lord. Faith in Jesus must not only be theoretical, it must be deeply personal, flowing from the depths of your heart. Deep personal faith in Jesus can only come from one source. It comes from the Father speaking to your heart in a real and personal way. After Peter professed His faith in Jesus, Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father." Peter's personal faith in Jesus was not just something he heard from others, it was not just a popularly accepted opinion, it was something that the Father in Heaven personally revealed to him. This is the gift of faith. Peter's personal profession of faith became the rock foundation on which Jesus built His Church. "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." This reveals Jesus' plan to establish Peter as the head of the Church and to give to him the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven for the whole Church. Similarly, our personal profession of faith will become the unshakable foundation within our souls upon which God's Church becomes alive in each one of us. When our faith is based upon a personal revelation from the Father in Heaven, spoken within the secrecy of our souls, then nothing can extinguish this faith. The gates of the netherworld cannot prevail against it. Reflect, today, upon this holy conversation between Jesus and His disciples. As you do, know that Jesus wants to have the same conversation with you. As Jesus took the disciples away to this quiet and safe place, He wants to take you away through prayer to the privacy of your own soul. There, within you, He seeks to elicit a response of personal faith. He wants you to identify Who He is to you. He wants you to profess your faith to Him. This faith is your personal solid foundation, and upon that foundation our Lord will build up His Church in you and through you.

Glorious Lord, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. I believe this with all my heart. Please continue to deepen my faith in You by revealing to me Who You are. As You do, I pray that this gift of faith will become a rock foundation upon which You form me more fully in the life of holy virtue and grace. Jesus, I trust in You.



Our Lady of Grace "That Man Is You" 2023-24

"Life isn't about doing or having. It's about becoming. Who you become is infinitely more important than what you do or what you have." (The Rocking Chair Prophet)
If you want to find more meaning in your life and become the-best-version-of-yourself, then please join us for our Fall semester of "That Man Is You" (TMIIY)

Beginning Sept. 12th, we will meet on Tuesdays from 6:15-7:30 a.m. in the OLG Madonna Room.

This year's program is entitled "Thy Kingdom Come" and it features 10 dynamic speakers. Come join a community of dedicated Catholic men striving to find meaning in our lives and to actively build up the kingdom of God. Each week will include an educational thought-provoking video and small group discussions. Speakers will help us discover that the kingdom of God is not of this world yet within our midst and our hearts. Sessions will focus on how we can overthrow the power of sin and usher in a new way of living. Come learn how we can become authentic Catholic leaders that our families, our church and our world so desperately need.

Marriage Preparation Weekend Retreat

September 15 - 17, 2023

Our Lady of Grace Church
223 East Summit San Antonio, Tx 78212
Madonna Room

Cost: \$40

Friday 7 - 9pm
Saturday 9am - 12pm
Sunday 4 - 6:30pm

All engaged couples are welcome to join this opportunity to focus on their new life together. Each discussion helps to ensure you will be on the same page as a couple, and ready to face the exciting adventure together, as one.

For registration information visit olgsa.org/events



THE NEWS Bulletin Advertisers Needed!!

- Due to the change in publishers, our current number of advertisers does not fully support the cost of the weekly bulletin.
- If you, or someone you know, has a business that would benefit from bringing your services to the attention of our parish community through our printed and digital bulletin, please contact the office and we'll put you in touch with the publisher.

Call: 210-734-7285

Thank you for your support in reducing costs to the parish.

THANK YOU

to all the business people who advertise in our Sunday bulletin. Your advertising helps to provide our bulletin free of charge each week. We are very grateful for this continuous support and hope everyone will patronize these businesses.



Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Liturgy of the Eucharist is the highpoint of the Mass. It's also the summit of our entire faith and worship. There is no more perfect way to worship God than to enter into the celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice, adore His divine presence and receive Him in Holy Communion.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: PART 2

The Eucharistic Prayers make clear that these prayers are offered, not to Christ, but to the Father. It is worship offered to the Father by Christ as it was at the moment of his passion, death and resurrection, but now it is offered through the priest acting in the person of Christ, and it is offered as well by all of the baptized, who are part of Christ's Body, the Church. This is the action of Christ's Body, the Church at Mass. The priest offers the Eucharistic Prayer in the first person plural, for example, "Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you..." This "we" signifies that all the baptized present at the Eucharistic celebration make the sacrificial offering in union with Christ, and pray the Eucharistic Prayer in union with him. And what is most important, we do not offer Christ alone; we are called to offer ourselves, our lives, our individual efforts to grow more like Christ and our efforts as a community of believers to spread God's Word and to serve God's people, to the Father in union with Christ through the hands of the priest. Most wonderful of all, although our offering is in itself imperfect, joined with the offering of Christ it becomes perfect praise and thanksgiving to the Father

The Eucharistic Prayer can be broken up into ten different parts.

Let's briefly look at the next three parts so as to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning and effect of this prayer.

Words of Consecration: The priest then enters into the heart and center of the Eucharistic Prayer by repeating the very words of Jesus as He instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper. He says, "This is my Body...this is my Blood." With the proclamation of these words, the bread and wine are transformed into the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ Jesus. **Mysterium Fidei:** The priest states, "The Mystery of Faith." This acknowledges the sacramental presence of Christ on the altar, the fruit of the Consecration. It's a statement of faith, and the people respond with an acclamation of faith, expressing profound wonder and awe at the incredible mystery before us, such as "Save us Savior of the world, for by Your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free." **Anamnesis:** In this prayer, the priest expresses our need to tell God what we participate in—the offering of His Son to Him! For example, "Therefore, O Lord, we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion of Your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven..." In this prayer, we recall that we now celebrate the memorial of His suffering and death so as to share in the Resurrection. We also thank Him for the joy of being able to participate in this precious gift.

Next Week: The Eucharistic Prayer: Part 3