## Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church January 28, 2024



If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts



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#### OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM - 5:00PM

#### MASS SCHEDULE

MON. WED, FRI 7:00AM TUES & THUR 5:30PM SATURDAY 5:30PM

\*1st Saturdays - 8:00am

SUNDAY 8:30AM 10:30AM 12:00PM

#### CONFESSION/ RECONCILIATION

TUES, THURS, SAT 4:45PM- 5:15PM

SUNDAY \*Please see weekly schedule

#### STAFF

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AFTER HOURS ANNOINTING REQUEST 210-239-1322

#### BAPTISMS

Call the office six weeks in advance to prepare registration documents

#### WEDDINGS

Call the office at least six months in advance to reserve date and complete marriage preparation.

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Eugenio B., Neomi Balderas, Marie Black, Mary Blake, Rosa Becnel, Michael Castro, Juliana Cavazos, Maria Chavez de Hernandez, Esther Contreras, Ashley Cuellar, Emiliano Cuellar, David Davis, Kate DeWein, John Ferguson, Vangie Gallardo, Juan Garza, Danny Gusme, Erlinda Hamilton, Eric Hawbecker, Marialice Hayes, Josephine Janczar, Steve Janosek, Markus Klink, Joann Lamb, Joe Mangione, Kathy McCoy, Sally McDuffee, Joseph McKinley, Gracie Miller, John David Navejar, Jim O'Brien, George Perez, Rina Pollack, Jose Sanchez, Jeanie Sanders, Carlos Saucedo, Edward Jacob Sciantarelli, Jim Sciantarelli, Laurie Seligman, Jerry Sesco, Carolyn Smith, Henry Wolff, Stephen Wyrick.



#### MONDAY, 29TH

 Adult Confirmation Class 6:30pm

#### **TUESDAY, 30TH**

- TMIY! 6:15am
- Young Adult Night at St. Peter's - 7:00pm

#### WEDNESDAY, 31ST

- RCIA Matrimony & Holy Orders: Service & Communion - 6:30pm
- Choir Practice 7pm

#### FRIDAY, 2ND FIRST FRIDAY

- First Friday Mass 5:30pm
- Potluck Dinner 6:00pm

#### SATURDAY, 3RD FIRST SATURDAY

- Men's Fellowship Group 8:30am
- First Saturday Mass 8:00am

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 28, 2024 Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. – Psalm 95:6



#### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

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

This weekend's second collection is for the Church in Latin America.

# The Proclamation of the Date of Easter

At one time, calendars were not as available as today. It was necessary to make known the date of Easter since many celebrations of the liturgical year were figured in relation to Easter. Easter falls on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox. The Epiphany Proclamation still has value. It is a reminder of the centrality of the Resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year. Mark these and other key dates and feasts on your 2023 Church Calendar:

#### Ash Wednesday. February 14, 2024

<u>The Easter Triduum</u>: March 29-31, 2024 (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday)

The Ascension of the Lord: May 12, 2024

Pentecost Sunday. May 19, 2024

First Sunday of Advent. December 1, 2024

#### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Moses spoke to all the people, saying: "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you" (Deuteronomy 18:15-20).

**Psalm** — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

**Second Reading** — Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties (1 Corinthians 7:32-35).

**Gospel** — The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching

#### (Mark 1:21-28).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

#### MASS, CONFESSION & INTENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, Jan	iuary 29
	Fr. Jorge
	Joan Schaefer - The Villarreal Family
Tuesday, Jar	nuary 30
	Confessions - Fr. Abe
5:30 PM	Mass - Fr. Abe
	Jesus Villareal (d) - The Villareal Family
Wednesday,	
7:00AM	5
	Jay Mayfield - Cecilio & Becky Rodriguez
Thursday, F	
	Confessions - Fr. Abe
5:30 PM	Mass - Fr. Fr. Abe
	Beth O'Brien (d) - Parish
	ruary 2 - First Friday
7:00 AM	Fr. Jorge
	Sonny & Martha Hauser (d) - The Hauser Family
5:30 PM	
	Amy Nicole Pace (d) - Lou Potter & Elizabeth Hale
J	ebruary 3 - First Saturday
8:00 AM	
	Dcn. Frank Gallardo (d) - Cecilio & Becky Rodriguez
4:45 PM	
5:30 PM	
	Steve McKenna (d) - Cecilio & Becky Rodriguez
Sunday, February 4	
8:30 AM	
	Our Lady of Grace Parishioners
10:30 AM	Fr. Frank Quezada
	Adolfo Valadez (d) - Dora Urrutia
10.0001	Arabbiahan Jaca II Camaz

12:00PM Archbishop Jose H. Gomez Sevie Castro (d) - Family



## HE COMMANDS EVEN THE UNCLEAN SPIRITS & THEY OBEY HIM

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. *Mark 1:23–26* 

It's interesting to note that this unclean spirit immediately knows Who Jesus is. This is because each of two opposites emphasizes the other very clearly. For example, the color black is most clearly seen when it is placed in front of something white. Or something hot is most noticeable after experiencing something very cold. And a loud noise is most jarring when someone is sitting in silence. And so it is with Jesus and evil. Jesus, the Holy One of God, is most clearly seen when He comes in contact with an unclean spirit.

This fact gives us some wonderful insights into our journey toward the heights of holiness. Oftentimes, when one experiences a profound and transforming conversion, it is because they were first living a life of sin. When one who is living in sin encounters the saving grace of God, it is quite noticeable. And that is good.

But there is also another spiritual insight we can take from this. To further the analogy, it is also true that when the color black is put next to something dark blue, or something hot is touched after holding something quite warm, there is less notice taken. So it is with the spiritual life. When we are striving to obtain true holiness of life, and when we are already living the many virtues to which we are called, the next step closer to God might not be nearly as noticeable. Instead, growth in perfection for one who is already striving for perfection will be very subtle. And that is also good.

This is important to understand because sometimes, when a person has gone through a powerful conversion earlier in life, they want to return to the experience they had when they initially converted. But that should not be our goal. Instead, we should continually strive to experience these more subtle changes that take us from a life of holiness to one of even greater holiness. In this case, if you do not sense a powerful contrast of spiritual experiences within you, that may be simply because there are no serious sins you are trying to overcome. Thus, the ideal for every Christian is to eventually experience less contrasting spiritual experiences and more that are gentle and subtle as our Lord continues to gently perfect you in many ways.

Reflect, today, upon your own spiritual journey toward holiness. If you do see serious sin in your life, know that God wants to profoundly free you and draw you through a major conversion. If you do not see serious sin in your life and if you already strive daily to become holy, then rejoice if your spiritual consolations and communications from God are much more subtle and, at times, undetectable. Keep working at perfection and rejoice that you are on the correct path.

Lord of all holiness, please continue to draw me into the life of perfection. Help me to grow in every virtue and to continually be aware of every gift of grace I am given. Please help me, especially, to be attentive to every small and subtle grace and to respond to those graces with a truly open and grateful heart. Jesus, I trust in You!



All men are invited to join the Spring semester of **That Man Is You!** The program starts at 6:30 am and we adjourn promptly at 7:30 am. The theme of this year's program is "Thy Kingdom Come" which focuses on the fact that "The kingdom of God is among us. Indeed, it is here now. For where the King is there is His Kingdom. Let us live with

an eternal perspective." Come join men gathering to learn more about our faith and to support each other We strive to be better holier men for our families and communities.

**The Men's Fellowship Group** (formerly Bishop Sheen group) continues to meet on Saturday mornings from 8:30-9:30 am in the Madonna Lower Level. Currently, the focus of our discussions, after completing the Sheen series, is now the weekly readings and sermons by Bishop Barron. All men are invited to join us as we prepare for Sunday Mass with scripture, spiritual discussion and fellowship. Coffee is provided.

#### TRUE PROPHETS

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice. The whole history of our church is filled with both true and false prophets. Some false prophets were extremely popular and guite well-versed in scripture, and even held positions of authority. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. Elsewhere, we also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. Today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



### Bishop Barron's This Is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival

(This book was gifted to all parishioners in the Summer of 2023)

Wednesdays, February 28 - March 27 ~ 9:30am

Bishop Barron wrote this book to "Help understand the Sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood more thoroughly, precisely so that you might fall in love with the Lord more completely." Please call or email Shelley Clary (903-714-3889; <u>shelleyclary@gmail.com</u>) to register and receive the reading guide.

Week 1 will discuss pages V-26 so come prepared!!



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Jesus our Light and salvation is here. He brings with him cleansing, consoling, and communing. He also compels a choice. Choose him now, run to him, he is here and he is calling! FIRST FRIDAY MASS - February 2nd Please join us for the 5:30pm Mass and Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.





First Friday Potluck will be held this Friday, February 2nd. Please join us after the 5:30pm Mass and Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Bring a side dish, salad or dessert to accompany Stuffed Bell Peppers.



SERVICE

PARISH LENTEN

6:30 -8:30PM

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2024 Mass w/ Distribution of Ashes 7:00AM

> 12:10PM 5:30PM Liturgy of the Word

w/ Distribution of Ashes 7:00PM



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If you have moved, recently married, or had any change in your contact information, please call the office at 210-734-7285 so that we can update our records.

OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

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.





Holy Hour for Priests Every Second Tuesday of the Month 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Rosary, Prayer & Benediction



Are you interested in a convenient and secure way to make your Offertory gift? E-giving is available for our parish through the Faith Direct program. Click on the QR Code to register for monthly, one-time or catch up giving.

## **ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

GOD BLESS THE MEN AND WOMEN

If you are an adult aged 18 or older, have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion and are ready to take the next step in your Faith Journey, you are invited to attend Our Lady of Grace's Adult Confirmation Classes.

> The eight class series will begin on Monday, January 29, 2024 from 6:30pm- 8:00pm in the OLG Church Family Room. Confirmation will take place on April 12, 2024 at St. Peter, Prince of Apostles Church.

## **UPCOMING** FEBRUARY YOUTH NIGHTS

FAITH OVER FEAR YOUTH NIGHT 7PM -8:30PM AT OUR LADY OF GRACE LOWER MADONNA ROOM

> "LOVE ME LIKE I AM" BIBLE STUDY YOUTH NIGHT 3PM - 4:30 PM AT ST. PETER PRINCE OF THE APOSTELS PARISH HALL

WHAT IS LENT YOUTH NIGHT 3PM - 4:30PM AT ST. PETER PRINCE OF THE APOSTELS PARISH HALL

> DESERT VISIO DIVINA YOUTH NIGHT 7PM - 8:30 PM AT OUR LADY OF GRACE LOWER MADONNA ROOM



"For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you: it is a gift from God" Eph 2:8

<u>All youth 13 and up</u> are invited to join us at Youth Explosion 24. This year's youth explosion will be held Saturday, March 9th at St. Paul's Community Center. The fee is \$20 and will include lunch, dinner, and a T-shirt.

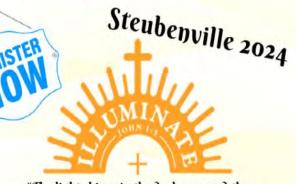
> Scan the QR to put your name on the list Deadline to register

> > **February 21st**



Contact Kim Morrison @ kim.morrison@olgsa.org for more information or if interested in chaperoning





"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." - John 1:5

Calling all high schoolers (and interested chaperons)! In our ever-changing world, Jesus is the answer to the longing of our hearts for meaning, fulfillment, security, and love. Join hundreds of Catholic teens at Steubenville Lonestar in Irving, TX on June 21-23 to be illuminated in the light of Christ. A deposit of \$100 dollars will secure your spot.

All incoming freshmen in high school (current 8th graders) through incoming freshmen in college (current high school seniors) are invited to attend this life changing convergence with our group. Scan the QR Code to sign up!!



Contact Kim Morrison at kim.morrison@olgsa.org for more information

## Young Adult Events

8 February	Young Adult Night
7:00 pm- 8:30 pm	At Our Lady of Grace in the Lower Madonna Room
13 February	Young Adult Night
	At St. Peter Prince of the Apostles Mark and Luke room
18 February	Young Adult Night
5:30 pm	5:30 pm Mass at St. Peter Prince of the Apostles followed by fellowship at a near by restaurant
22 February	Young Adult Night
7:00 pm- 8:30 pm	At Our Lady of Grace in the Lower Madonna Room
27 February	Young Adult Night
7:00 pm- 8:30 pm	At So Peter Prince of the Apostles Parish Hall
	8:30 pm 13 February 7:00 pm- 8:30 pm 18 February 5:30 pm 22 February 7:00 pm- 8:30 pm 27 February 7:00 pm-

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