



**Saturday, June 13**

5p Mert and Bernice Hymes (D)  
7p

**Sunday, June 14**

8a Esther Neu (D)  
10:30a People of the Parish

**Monday, June 15**

No Mass

**Tuesday, June 16**

8:30a William "Bill" Poisel (D)

**Wednesday, June 17**

6:30p Kathy Keegan (D)

**Thursday, June 18**

8:30a Martha and John Sedlak(D)

**Friday, June 19**

8:30a Cecilia and John Mazur(D)

**Saturday, June 20**

5 p.m. Walter and Leona Kenney (D)  
7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 21**

8 a.m. Jude Singer (D)  
10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

**BREAK OPEN THE WORD**

**Ez 17:22-24**

**2 Cor 5:6-10**

**Mk 4:26-34**

Today we have the parable of the seed and sower and the parable of the mustard seed. These follow the parable of the lamp — and there are so many other parables. It is as if Jesus is bursting with the reality of the reign of God, and he just has to find every way possible to share that good news. Parables provided a universal language of story, so that the variety of hearers then and through the ages could connect with his message.

For someone who was born on concrete (and who has been comfortable there ever since), it takes very little introspection to realize how little I truly know about plants and the planting thereof. The events of planting, watering, fertilizing, cultivating and harvesting seem like one big mystery. Every season these things are done, something is different. It may be the seeds or shoots, the condition of the soil, the rain or drought. We rely on something to happen, and we hope that it is good. But we never know the outcome until the final day. As Jesus said, "The sower scatters seed ... and the seed sprouts and grows ... but the one who scatters the seed does not know how" (Mark 4:26-27).

"The kingdom of God is like this ..." We are among sowers of seeds in the kingdom. Plentiful seeds are scattered. We sow seeds in gestures of kindness and encouragement. We sow seeds in words of

understanding and solace. We sow seeds of goodwill, love, collaboration and challenge. Will those seeds take root?

We don't know at the time. We must continue to sow these seeds of the reign of God and trust in God for the outcome. The other parable Jesus gives us today is that of the mustard seed. Here we are presented with an image of a large tree that provides habitat for birds without reserve. This tree "grows up and becomes the largest of shrubs and with branches big enough for the birds of the sky to build nests in its shade" (Mark 4:32).



That is an image of welcome, abundant lodging and rest. The reign of God has room for all. There are no prerequisites or limitations. "The birds of the sky" does not indicate preferences. Anyone coming along is welcome into the reign of God to find shade and rest.

You and I are privileged to hear this parable and know that we are unconditionally welcome into God's kingdom. As disciples of Jesus, it is our responsibility to live and to share the meaning of this parable. We do that in our lives of hospitality in the Lord. We do that in working to see that our parishes ministries and the community we inhabit are open and welcoming to all. Thus we promote the coming of the reign of God.

Take care on your vacation trips!  
-Fr. Tom



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10; Ps 98:1, 2b, 3-4; Mt 5:38-42
- Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9; Ps 146:2, 5-9a; Mt 5:43-48
- Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11; Ps 112:1bc-4, 9; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11; Ps 11:1b-4, 7-8; Mt 6:7-15
- Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30; Ps 34:2-7; Mt 6:19-23
- Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10; Ps 34:8-13; Mt 6:24-34
- Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11; Ps 107:23-26, 28-31; 2 Cor 5:14-17; Mk 4:35-41

# ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## ALL IS GRACE

On Sundays in Ordinary Time, the Old Testament reading is selected for the light it sheds on the day's Gospel. Today, Ezekiel sees God lifting up the lowly tree and making the withered tree bloom. So in the second parable of today's Gospel, Jesus encourages us by promising that, as fragile seeds grow into an abundant harvest, and the tiny mustard seed into a hearty plant, so God will grow the kingdom from small beginnings to an instrument of salvation for all. In the first parable, the land yields fruit "of its own accord" (Mark 4:28). Not only is the initiative God's, but the parable teaches that the seed's growth, though invisible at first, is actually unstoppable! To be sure, those who depend on the impressive or dramatic in order to be convinced or encouraged will be disappointed in the slow unfolding of the kingdom that Jesus announces. But for those who do accept the kingdom, all is grace, and that grace is certain.

Though the second reading is not coordinated with either the first reading or Gospel on these Sundays, today's is thematically appropriate. Saint Paul argues that our experience of God's trustworthiness thus far should make us a people of undaunted courage and unshakeable faith. But at the same time Paul warns that faith should also make us aware of our responsibility to do good. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

A wedding celebrated in the Eastern Church has a form that was fixed a thousand years ago. In the West, our story is more complicated by constant change and variation. As the world's structures tottered in the ninth century, bishops and priests stepped into the void left by collapsing civil structures. For the first time, marriage was referred to as a sacrament, and wedding ceremonies were to be in public (assuring the free consent of the bride) after an investigation of the couple by a priest. The custom of the blessing of the bridal room diminished, and was finally forbidden in 1012 by the Council of Rouen, although it continued for centuries. In the diocese of Perigueux in France, a ritual from 1827 had the parish priest clad in surplice and stole sprinkling the bridal couple as they stood modestly in their pajamas by the wedding bed. Next the bed and all those present were sprinkled, too! That's a tradition that few Americans, either the betrothed or the clergy, are ready to revive!—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch



## Decimosegundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

### EL VIENTO Y EL MAR

Los que conocen bien el Lago Superior le tienen un saludable respeto, y siempre están alerta sobre sus caprichosos cambios de ánimo. Muchos barcos hundidos y muchos botes hechos astillas son testigos de lo que el lago puede hacer cuando está de mal humor.

Las lecturas de este domingo nos evocan memorias de ese lago, del poderoso río Mississippi o del océano mismo. ¿Quién, fuera de Dios, podrá controlar esas aguas poderosas, o imponerles límites, diciendo "Hasta aquí llegarás"? El lago que describe el Evangelio de hoy era un lago en el que se levantaban súbitas tormentas, en las que los vientos huracanados agitaban olas enormes.

Pero estas fuerzas tan poderosas se someten a la voluntad de Dios. Los marineros y los scadores le tienen un saludable respeto al poder de las aguas. Pero más todavía respetan el poder del Creador del viento y del mar. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Jesús promete a sus discípulos una vida en abundancia (Juan 10:10). Él desea lo mejor para nosotros y quiere que estemos bien en todos los aspectos de nuestra vida: familia y amistades, trabajo, economía, salud, etcétera. Sin embargo, Jesús también nos promete la persecución y el maltrato (Marcos 10:29; Mateo 5:11; Lucas 6:22; Juan 15:18).

La vida abundante es bella pero nunca fácil. La vida cristiana es como toda vida humana; tiene momentos de tranquilidad y de tempestad. Así como un día nos brilla el sol, otro día nos sacuden los vientos y nuestras pequeñas lanchas parecen inundarse.

No hay que desanimarse o asustarse cuando lleguen estas tormentas. Más bien, hay que recordar el Evangelio (Marcos 4:35-41) donde Jesús duerme en la barca de sus discípulos. Es interesante el detalle de Jesús quien, cansado y tranquilo, duerme mientras el mar sacude a la barca y a los discípulos. Menos mal que se les ocurrió recurrir al Señor. Y tú, ¿qué haces cuando el viento sopla y la vida te estremece? No temas, despierta a Cristo a quien llevas en tu corazón. Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

August 15, 2015, Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, falls on a SATURDAY in 2015, and **IS NOT A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION**. The feast of the Assumption **IS** a day of obligation when it falls on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday and **NOT** a day of obligation when it falls on Monday or Saturday.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

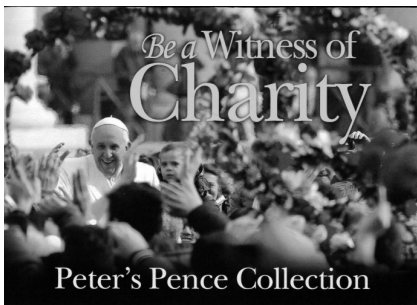


**MONDAY, JULY 13-  
FRIDAY, JULY 17**

For ages 3yrs thru 4th grade  
\*3 year olds must be potty trained

Cost- \$10 per child  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

We are still accepting registrations until July 6 or until we reach our limit.



During weekend of June 27-28, our diocese will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Join our Holy Father as a witness of charity to those who are suffering.



**Fortnight for Religious Freedom**

The Fourth Annual United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Fortnight for Religious Freedom is June 21 through July 4.

In support for the Fortnight for Religious Freedom, the St. Francis of Assisi Knights of Columbus, Council 13825 and St Francis Altar Society is sponsoring an evening Rosary each evening at :

St. Francis of Assisi, 4300 Meeks

**Rosary begins Sunday June 21 and will be Sundays thru Friday at 7 pm. Saturdays at 6:15 p.m.**

For more information check out the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops at: Religious Liberty.

**WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT**

Registration is underway for the August 20-23 retreat at The Holy Family Center. The cost is \$170, but financial need should not prevent you from registering. Scholarships are available. A \$50 deposit with your registration form holds a place for you. If God is calling you to make this retreat, registration forms are available at the church office. Contact one of the individuals below for more information.

Mary McDuffie  
(409) 883-4810  
[fmcduffie@gt.rr.com](mailto:fmcduffie@gt.rr.com)

Jan Childress  
(409) 886-1348  
[mchild@gt.rr.com](mailto:mchild@gt.rr.com)

Angela Hebert  
(409) 474-2171  
[amhgig58@gmail.com](mailto:amhgig58@gmail.com)



**Farewell**



**FATHER'S TOMS GOING AWAY RECEPTION DINNER**

Father Tom's going away reception dinner will be June 19 at 6 pm. It is being hosted by Knights of Columbus and St. Francis Altar Society. All parishioners are invited. We are asking that you sign up so that planning and adequate arrangements can be made for the meal.

Sign up sheets are at the entrances of the church or call church office at 883-9153.



Why Give Blood? Every two seconds, someone somewhere needs blood. One of every seven people who enter the hospital will need blood. The blood that helps patients comes only from caring people who volunteer to help others by donating their life-saving blood.

**Save the Date**  
**August 16**  
**8 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**San Damiano Center**



**Dementia Care Givers Support Group**

If you are presently giving care to someone with dementia, have a loved one with dementia, have previously been a dementia caregiver, or just curious about dementia, please join us. We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. and the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jerry Ehrman at 882-9650.

# ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Married Outside the Church?** If you cannot receive the sacraments due to marriage outside the Church, and you wish to return to the Eucharist, please make an appointment with a priest or deacon of the parish to determine what canonical process may be possible to remedy your situation.

**Anointing of the Sick.** If you are ill or planning to enter the hospital and wish to be anointed, please call the parish office and make an appointment for anointing before you enter the hospital. Parishioners with chronic illness or in advanced age are urged to attend the communal anointing services when announced in the bulletin. Remember: Once you have been anointed, you do not need to be anointed again during the same illness unless several months have passed.

**Hospitalization.** If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Communion (1) At Catholic hospitals, please register as a Catholic and notify the Spiritual Care Department; (2) At Commercial Hospitals, please register as a Catholic (so the Catholic chaplain will know you are there); (3) At Denominational Hospitals, please register as a Catholic and ask the Pastoral Care Department to notify the Catholic chaplain.



**Saturday, June 13**

Reconciliation 4-4:45 p.m.  
Mass 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 14**

Mass 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Sonlight Choir- 6:30 p.m.

**Monday, June 15**

No Mass  
Women's ACTS Mtg 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 16**

Mass 8:30 a.m.  
Men's faith sharing 5:45 a.m.  
Women's faith sharing 6:15 a.m.

**Wednesday, June 17**

Mass 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, June 18**

Mass 8:30 a.m.  
Book Club 7 p.m.

**Friday, June 19**

Mass 8:30 a.m.  
Father Tom's Going Away Reception 6 p.m.

**Saturday, June 20**

Reconciliation 4-4:45 p.m.  
Mass 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

**Sunday, June 21**

Mass 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Sonlight Choir 6:30 p.m.

Philadelphia, PA September 22-28, 2015

**Diocese of Beaumont**  
Pilgrimage to Participate in the World Meeting of Families, Papal Visit & Mass

**WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES**

For more information, see the Diocesan website at: <http://dioceseofbmt.org>



Altar flowers for June 13,14 were donated by:  
Lon and Diana Craft  
in memory of:  
Mary Jo Craft  
and  
Daniel and Candice Trahan  
In memory of:  
Christopher Joseph Trahan and honor of Trahan and Richard Family

Blessed Mother flowers were donated by  
Lanston and Cristi Fall  
In memory of:  
Misty Morgan

*Adventures in Art*  
For Children

St. Francis Church  
July 20-23, 2015



Art Lessons by:  
Mrs. Cindy Claybar

Cost- \$60

Children  
Session I  
8:30-11:30a

Children  
Session II  
12:30-3:30p

Adults 6-9p

Please register in the church office



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT June 7, 2015	
Amount needed each week	\$11,873.00
Weekend regular collection (including building fund)	\$ 12,717.00
<b>Over Goal-</b>	<b>\$ 844</b>
<b>Year to date totals, 2015</b>	
Amount needed (\$11,873. x 46 fiscal weeks)	\$569,904
Total Sunday collections to date	\$550,321
<b>Year to date shortage</b>	<b>\$ 19,583</b>
<b>Upcoming Special Collections June 28-Peter's Pence-</b>	

Online giving is an excellent way to fulfill your obligation to support St. Francis parish. Go to [www.stfrancisorangetx.org](http://www.stfrancisorangetx.org) and click the Online Giving link.



Scan for Online Giving