

READINGS

July 20, 2014

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

STEWARDSHIP

July 13th Collection.....\$1,474

Our Lady of Wisdom relies on Bobcat Catholics like you for more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to the their Catholic faith. Contact our Development Director, Zane Stehling, to join this mission at 512-392-5925.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Rosary every Sunday 9:30am in the Lounge
- All other activities will resume in the fall*

SUMMER SCHEDULE CHANGES

- Until the Fall Semester, there will be **one Sunday Mass at 10:00am**.
- Daily Masses Mon - Fri. During the summer will vary according to Fr. Will's schedule. You may call the office for a specific Mass.
- Office closes at 5:00pm Mon – Thu, and at 3:00pm on Fridays.

NFP CLASSES



Cost is \$140/ per couple for books and a thermometer. Fulfills the diocese.

NFP requirement for marriage preparation. Tuesdays 7-9:30pm The next series is at Santa Cruz Catholic Church 1100 Main St, Buda, TX 78610 – July 22nd, August 26th and September 23rd. Register www.register.ccli.org. For more information or questions contact Randy and Grace-Marie Kolb at rkolb@austin.rr.com or (512) 891-5341

NFP AWARENESS WEEK

JULY 20-26 is important because it reminds us of the sacredness of marriage, of life and of sexuality. All of these things are the foundation of healthy family life. Healthy families are the domestic church. Having strong families is what builds up the church. Natural family planning, or NFP, is an umbrella term for certain methods used to achieve and avoid pregnancy. In the past, women have held the burden of family planning. NFP is a shared method between the couple, which fosters communication and strengthens marriages. NFP Introduction Seminars are held throughout the year and throughout the diocese. For more information about all of the activities of the Pro-Life Activities and Chaste Living Office, including NFP classes contact Yvonne Saldana at (512) 949-2486 or yvonne-saldana@austindiocese.org

COUPLES STRUGGLING WITH INFERTILITY A special prayer service will be celebrated by Bishop Joe Vásquez on Wednesday July 23rd at 7pm at St. Mary Cathedral Parish. All are invited to attend and join with these couples in prayer. A reception will be held immediately following. Contact SarahsHope@RabboniInstitute.org or call (512) 736-7334 for more info and RSVP.



Kristen Arnold!

Our new Religious Education program director. We thank Mary Beth Joy for a wonderful two years of service and are excited to have Kristen part of our team.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION We are a parent-taught co-op program that depends on the active participation of parents to be successful. If you plan to enroll your children for 2014-15, please consider volunteering as a teacher or substitute.

NOTE: Basic Ethics and Integrity (EIM) training is required.

Contact Kristen Arnold, Program Director 512-665-3113 kristena78@yahoo.com



Hosted by our Pastoral Council will be held here in the lobby Thursday, July

24th after the 5:15pm Mass. All are welcomed! Please bring any snacks and your favorite game!



SUMMER SAINT STUDY a student led study by

Thomas Castelluccio on the lives of the Saints who have inspired us to live our faith radically. We will continue our study on the Saints today after the 10 am Mass upstairs! All students are welcomed!



PLEASE CONSIDER POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY:

That sports may always be occasions of human fraternity and growth ...

AND

That the Holy Spirit may support the work of the laity who proclaim the Gospel in the poorest countries ...

ALSO

PLEASE CONSIDER BISHOP VÁSQUEZ' PRAYER INTENTION FOR TODAY:

For all farmers and ranchers ...

REMINDER

N. LBJ will be under city construction for another few weeks.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The weeds invade the wheat in today's parable. The "good" and the "bad" must grow together and then be separated at the end of the age. What can you do to influence the "bad" to change their ways?

Recently I've been spending a lot of time pulling weeds and thinking about ways to prevent new weeds from taking over the landscape. Weeds are prominently featured in a parable Jesus shares with the crowd in Matthew's gospel today. I have always appreciated the parables Jesus shares and although I believe the intent is to help an abstract concept be more concrete, the parables do not necessarily make concepts simpler for me. The farmer in the parable is clear that the weeds will be gathered and burned while the wheat will be taken into the barn. At first glance this is so straightforward that sinners burn in hell and true believers go to heaven. Yet I know that the delineation is not so clear. In Romans we are reminded that we are not alone and the Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness. And the book of Wisdom describes God's loving engagement of power "but though

you are the master of might, you judge with clemency and with much lenience you govern us." My prayer around the phrase "those who are just must be kind" brings me to reflect upon restorative justice which engages the paradox of accountability and compassion. The US Catholic Bishops in 2000 issued a document - *Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice*. A restorative approach to justice attends to the needs of the victim of the crime, the offender and also the community. The Catholic bishops conclude their document on restorative justice with these words: "We are guided by the paradoxical Catholic teaching on crime and punishment: We will not tolerate the crime and violence that threatens the lives and dignity of our sisters and brothers, and we will not give up on those who have lost their way. We seek both justice and mercy. Working together, we believe our faith calls us to protect public safety, promote the common good, and restore community. We believe a Catholic ethic of responsibility, rehabilitation, and restoration can become the foundation for the necessary reform of our broken criminal justice system."

Adapted from Mary Lee Brock Werner Institute creighton.edu