

Gospel Meditation:

The suffering of a child symbolizes uniquely terrible evil as well as despair about the future.

This week's Gospel gives a "limit" case in which Jesus encounters this evil in the form of a mother with a suffering daughter. What he does is stunning and massively helpful for us if we bravely ponder the details.

The Canaanite woman comes to Jesus and begs his mercy. "My daughter is tormented by a demon," she declares to him. Shockingly, he responds first with silence, then with a dismissive comment, and only then finally accedes to her third request. Is this simply a lesson in perseverance in our petitions to God, who is like a genie in a bottle? Does that justify the humiliation and pain this woman suffers? Is the Lord cruel?

I don't think so. Notice how the encounter ends. She compares herself to a dog at the table of a master.

Jesus responds by praising her great faith and fulfills her deep desire. Somehow this non-Israelite woman intuits that this harrowing situation is not dumb suffering. She senses that the door of God's family is, in Jesus, being opened to her and her loved ones. She trusts she is at the Lord's table, and her desires will be fulfilled and that all her sufferings — and her daughter's, too — will lead a great banquet. In our sufferings this week, the Lord wants us to treat him less like a genie in a bottle and more like the Master who has taken us — lost little dogs that we are — into his home forever. Trust that and keep praying in the face of evil.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

El sufrimiento de un niño simboliza un mal excepcionalmente terrible, así como la desesperación por el futuro.

El Evangelio de esta semana da un caso "límite" en el que Jesús se encuentra con este mal en la forma de una madre con una hija que sufre. Lo que hace es impresionante y enormemente útil para nosotros si reflexionamos valientemente sobre los detalles.

La mujer cananea se acerca a Jesús y le ruega su misericordia. "Mi hija está atormentada por un demonio", le declara. Sorprendentemente, él responde primero con silencio, luego con un comentario despectivo, y solo entonces finalmente accede a su tercera solicitud. ¿Es esto simplemente una lección de perseverancia en nuestras peticiones a Dios, que es como un genio en una botella? ¿Eso justifica la humillación y el dolor que sufre esta mujer? ¿Es cruel el Señor?

No creo. Observa cómo termina el encuentro. Se compara con un perro en la mesa de un amo Jesús responde alabando su gran fe y satisface su profundo deseo. De alguna manera, esta mujer no israelita intuye que esta situación desgarradora no es un sufrimiento tonto. Ella siente que la puerta de la familia de Dios, en Jesús, se está abriendo a ella y a sus seres queridos. Ella confía en que está a la mesa del Señor, y que sus deseos se cumplirán y que todos sus sufrimientos, y también los de su hija, conducirán a un gran banquete. En nuestros sufrimientos de esta semana, el Señor quiere que lo tratemos menos como un genio en una botella y más como el Maestro que nos ha llevado a su hogar para siempre. Confíe en eso y siga orando frente al mal.

— Father John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

August 13, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,339.99
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 159.00
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 35.44
STM School.....	\$ 85.00
Raffle.....	\$ 15,108.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 185.00
Helping Hands.....	\$ 2.00
Donations.....	\$ 200.00

Second Collection August 26 - 27:

Missionary Appeal



SEMINARIO de vida en el Espíritu

**Sábado 26 de Agosto y Domingo 27 de Agosto
8:00am - 6:00pm 8:00am - 4:00pm**

**“Mira que estoy a la puerta y llamo”
(Ap. 3,20)**

**Grupo de Oración te Invita
Todos son bienvenidos!!**

**Inf: Isabel Hernandez
Tel: (210) 843-9756**

**Iglesia: St. Thomas More
4411 Moana Drive
San Antonio, TX 78218**

Senior Appreciation Afternoon

Join Us in Carolan Hall
Sunday September 17th
Doors Open at 2:00pm
No Cover Charge!

*Come Enjoy Live Music, Refreshments,
Door Prizes, Fellowship, & FUN!*

RSVP by September 15th!

To RSVP Contact: #

Olga Weich (210) 219-9639

Frances Botello (210) 650-0252

Maria Elena Cantu (210) 218-3039

St. Thomas More Catholic School Where "EXCELLENCE IS AFFORDABLE."

St. Thomas More Child Development Center has space available for children 18 months and up and St. Thomas More School is now enrolling children 3 years old through 8th grade.

If you are looking for a school where Christ is present and prayer is important, where your child is challenged academically and spiritually, come take a tour of what our parish school and child development center has to offer.



We have scholarships and financial aid available too. Call the school or stop in, see the bulletin for the website and phone number or just Google us! We look forward to showing off our school and welcoming your child.

An affordable tuition and GREAT Education are within your reach! **CALL TODAY 210-655-2882 or APPLY AT**
WWW.ST-THOMAS-MORE-SCHOOL.ORG

Scholarships are still available up to \$1500 off tuition.

Question: *I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?*

Answer: If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not.

In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back. This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there.

Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

A Woman's Haven™
Pregnancy Crisis Center

**"Are you passionately Pro-Life"
and looking for a job with GREAT meaning?**

AWoman's Haven Pregnancy Crisis Center is hiring again!
Counselor, Nurse, & Receptionist positions are available.
We provide all training.

For more information, Email me at: Susan.perez@awomanshaven.org
"Be the change you wish to see in the world and light up the darkness."



Registration for our Religious Education Classes is Here!!



Registration will continue through August 31, 2023
at the parish office,
Monday-Friday 9am to 3pm.

Classes Begin as follows:

English – September 10th
Spanish – September 16th
Confirmation – September 24th

For more information, required documentation, or
general questions, please contact
Martha Guerra, DRE,
at the parish office at (210) 655-5070

Note: Masks in the classroom will be optional, however, for the safety
of your children temperature checks will still be required at the door.

¡La inscripción para nuestras clases de educación religiosa está aquí!

La inscripción continuará hasta el 31 de agosto de 2023
en la oficina parroquial,
de lunes a viernes de 9 am a 3 pm

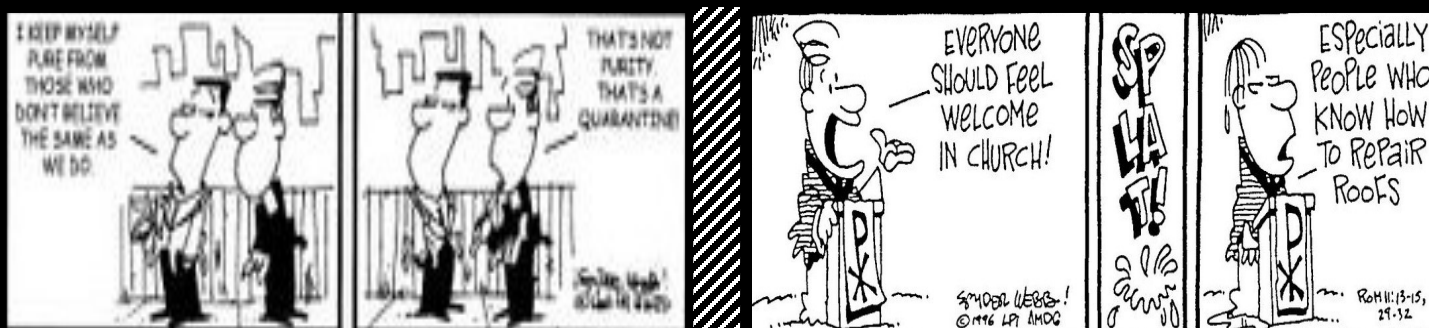
Las clases empiezan de la siguiente manera:

Inglés – 10^{de} septiembre
Español – 16^{de} septiembre
Confirmación – 24^{de} septiembre

Para más información, documentación requerida,
o preguntas generales, por favor contacte a
Martha Guerra, DRE,
en la oficina parroquial al (210) 655-5070



Nota: Las máscaras faciales en el salón serán opcionales. Sin embargo, para la seguridad
de sus hijos, Todavía se requerirán verificaciones de temperatura en la entrada



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)



Are you, or someone you know, interested in joining the Catholic Faith?
Are you a Baptized Catholic and interested in completing your Sacraments of Initiation
(Holy Communion and / or Confirmation)?

Are you a Catholic? And, just knowing more about Our Faith?

I invite you to join us on Thursday evenings beginning Sept 7th at 7 pm (mark your calendar)

All you need to bring... is yourself!

Hope to see you there! DT

This Week at Our Parish

*** Grupo de Oracion Chicharrones Fundraiser - after all Masses ***

Sunday, August 20, 2023
8:00 am Guadalupanos Mass / Meeting - Church / Carolan Hall**Monday, August 21, 2023****Tuesday, August 22, 2023**
5:30 pm Divine Mercy - Rectory Mtg Room
6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - Rectory Mtg Room
7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Choir Practice - Church**Wednesday, August 23, 2023**
1:00 pm Porter Loring Grief Seminar - Rectory Mtg Room
6:00 pm KC 4th Degree Business Mtg - Carolan Hall**Thursday, August 24, 2023**
6:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Grp - Church
7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Retreat Prep - Rectory Mtg Room**Friday, August 25, 2023**
6:00 pm LEM Lector Mtg - Church
7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion Fellowship - Carolan Hall*** **Missionary Appeal / All Masses** ***
*** **Sisters of Mary Immaculate** *****Saturday, August 26, 2023**
7:00 am Grupo de Oracion (Vida en el Espiritu) - Carolan Hall*** **CDA Bake Sale - after all Masses** ***
Sunday, August 27, 2023
7:00 am Grupo de Oracion (Vida en el Espiritu) - Carolan Hall
10:00 am CDA Mass - Church**Lecturas de la Semana del 21 - 27 agosto****Lunes:** Jue 2:11-19; Sal 105:34-37,39-40,43,44;
Mt 19:16-22
Martes: Jue 6:11-24; Sal 84:9,11-14; Mt 19:23-30
Miércoles: Jue 9:6-15; Sal 20:2-7; Mt 20:1-16
Jueves: Ap 21:9-14; Sal 144:10-13,17-18;
Jn 1:45-51
Viernes: Rut 1:1,3-8,14-16,22; Sal 145:5-10;
Mt 22:34-40
Sábado: Rut 2:1-3,8-11; 4:13-17; Sal 127:1-5;
Mt 23:1-12
Domingo: Is 22:19-23; Sal 137:1-3,6,8;
Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20**Readings for the week of August 21 - 27****Monday:** Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-37,39-40,43,44;
Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9,11-14; Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-7; Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13,17-18;
Jn 1:45-51
Friday: Ru 1:1,3-6,14b-16,22; Ps 146:5-10;
Mt 22:34-40
Saturday: Ru 2:1-3,8-11; 4:13-17; Ps 128:1b-5;
Mt 23:1-12
Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3,6,8;
Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20**Mass Intentions****Saturday, August 19, 2023**8:00 am †Horace Cardenas
5:00 pm †Joseph J. Weich by Pat Weinert
Birthday—Richard T. Perez by Richard & Dorothy Perez**Sunday, August 20, 2023**8:00 am †Pilar Aguillon by Diana Ramirez
†Ralph W. Garcia by Elda T. Garcia
10:00 am †Juan Urbano & Mike Urbano by Urbano Family
STM Parishioners - Living and †Deceased
12:00 pm †Kathryn Maria Sweet by Maria T. Sweet
†Ana Maria and Isidro Martinez by Family**Monday, August 21, 2023**8:00 am †Tony Lemus by Maria T. Sweet
†Matthew St.Laurent by Grandma**Tuesday, August 22, 2023**

8:00 am †Ramon Mata Sr.

Wednesday, August 23, 20238:00 am †Maria Bustamante
†Andres and Olivia Flores by Jose and Stella Lopez**Thursday, August 24, 2023 (Communion Service)**8:00 am **Ordained Clergy and Religious****Friday, August 25, 2023**8:00 am †Edward and Josie Richter by Daughter
†Antoinette Flores**Saturday, August 26, 2023**8:00 am †Souls in Purgatory
5:00 pm †Joe and Adelfa Ramirez by Edward Ramirez
STM Parishioners - Living and †Deceased**Sunday, August 27, 2023**8:00 am †Stevie and Gilda Flores by brothers and sisters
†Souls in Purgatory by Volpenhein Family
10:00 am †Joseph J. Weich by Pat Weinert
†Charles and Genevieve Oswald by Oswald Family
12:00 pm **Health—Deacon Rolando R. Guerra** by Theresa Garza**Sanctuary Light Intention:****Estella Esquivel**
by Hector & Diana Herrera**Liturgical Roles****Saturday, August 26, 2023**5 pm Altar Servers - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, R.Saldiva, E.Guerrero, T.G.Garza,
(+1 Vol)
Lector - T.Guerrero**Sunday, August 27, 2023**8 am Altar Servers - (None)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, P.Klar, R.Davila, (+2 vol)
Lector - S.McCarthy
10 am Altar Servers - ,L.McCaffrey, A.Mata, (Vol)
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, (+6 CDA Vol)
Lector - CDA
12 pm Altar Servers - S.Obregon, A.Gomez, Volunteer
Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, M.Pina, E.Obregon, T.Sweet,
F.Hernandez, I.Hernandez, H.Gomez
Lector - R.Borrego / A.Chavez