

Gospel Meditation:

Isn't it a bit weird that Catholics call the Pope "papa," father?

This Sunday provides us with essential Scriptural background on the papacy, the petrine office.

Jesus gives Peter the "keys to the kingdom of heaven," after witnessing to the special grace Peter has to know Jesus' true identity. Many have pointed out that the "keys" refer back to the figure of Eliakim, King David's prime minister. True enough.

But notice this is not mere authority or power. It's a family relationship. The Lord says to Eliakim, "He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem" (*Isaiah 22:21*). David's prime minister was a spiritual father to the family of Israel. Peter, and his successors, will be spiritual fathers in the family of the Church.

This means we have a serious obligation to not only recognize the Pope's authority, but also to love him with the affection of children for their papa. We should never speak about him with disrespect or rancor.

We should listen to him with trusting hearts, and ignore the slander thrown at him in various media.

When we show the world we are loving and obedient to our Holy Papa, perhaps they'll see more clearly that the Church is indeed God's beloved family.

— Father John Muir

Meditación del Evangelio:

¿No es un poco extraño que los católicos llamen al Papa "papá", padre?

Este domingo nos proporciona un trasfondo bíblico esencial sobre el papado, el oficio petrino.

Jesús le da a Pedro las "llaves del reino de los cielos", después de dar testimonio de la gracia especial que Pedro tiene para conocer la verdadera identidad de Jesús. Muchos han señalado que las "llaves" se refieren a la figura de Eliaquim, el primer ministro del rey David. Es cierto.

Pero note que esto no es mera autoridad o poder. Es una relación familiar. El Señor le dice a Eliaquim: "Será padre de los habitantes de Jerusalén" (*Isaías 22:21*). El primer ministro de David fue un padre espiritual para la familia de Israel. Pedro y sus sucesores serán padres espirituales en la familia de la Iglesia.

Esto significa que tenemos una seria obligación no solo de reconocer la autoridad del Papa, sino también de amarlo con el afecto de los niños por su papá. Nunca debemos hablar de él con falta de respeto o rencor. Debemos escucharlo con corazones confiados e ignorar la calumnia lanzada contra él en varios medios de comunicación. Cuando le mostremos al mundo que somos amorosos y obedientes a nuestro Santo Papa, tal vez vean más claramente que la Iglesia es realmente la amada familia de Dios.

— Father John Muir

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

August 20, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 6,065.56
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 125.66
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 22.00
Helping Hands.....	\$ 10.00
STM School.....	\$ 694.70
Raffle.....	\$ 7,300.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 105.00
Donations.....	\$ 3,050.00

Second Collection September 2 - 3:

Facilities Improvement Fund



Mark Your Calendars!!

The St. Thomas More Guadalupanos
are sponsoring a

**Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino
Bus Trip**

\$50 per person

Monday, September 4, 2023

We will meet at Carolan Hall Parking Lot

Arrive by 6 am - Bus departs at 6:30 am

For more information contact:

Clem Davila @ (210) 723-7985



Who Do You Say That I Am?

I once knew a very devout woman whose adult godchild had fallen away from the practice of the faith. This godchild still believed in God, and even felt a sense of belonging in the Church. He was a good and kind person. But poor catechesis and a society that confuses pleasure with joy had left him lax in practice, without an appreciation of the sacraments. He was making choices that threatened his soul.

His godmother wanted more for him. She planned to speak with him about his life, hoping to encourage him to return to the practice of the faith. She knew that when she brought this up he would reply that it wasn't important to attend Mass or to receive the Eucharist... that was all just "*extra*."

She told me that she was going to begin their conversation by asking him the question Jesus poses to Peter in Matthew 16:15 - the critical question in all our lives, the question whose answer will define what we become in this world and the next.

Her godson knew the answer. She was confident, unshakably, that he did. He may have forgotten it or ignored it. He may have tried to convince himself he wasn't entirely sure. He may have refused to give an answer. *But he knew it.*

He knew the answer.

There is a reason that, after Peter's response, Jesus gives him the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

"Who do you say that I am?"

Let our whole lives be our answer.

"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." - Mt 16:16

¿Quién Dices que Soy?

Una vez conocí a una mujer muy devota cuyo ahijado adulto se había apartado de la práctica de la fe. Este ahijado todavía creía en Dios, e incluso sentía un sentido de pertenencia en la Iglesia. Era una persona buena y amable. Pero la mala catequesis y una sociedad que confunde el placer con la alegría lo habían dejado laxo en la práctica, sin una apreciación de los sacramentos. Estaba tomando decisiones que amenazaban su alma.

Su madrina quería más para él. Planeaba hablar con él sobre su vida, con la esperanza de animarlo a volver a la práctica de la fe. Sabía que, cuando ella mencionara esto, él respondería que no era importante asistir a Misa o recibir la Eucaristía, que todo era "*extra*."

Me dijo que iba a comenzar su conversación haciéndole la pregunta que Jesús le hace a Pedro en Mateo 16:15 - la pregunta crítica en todas nuestras vidas, la pregunta cuya respuesta definirá lo que seremos en este mundo y en el venidero.

Su ahijado sabía la respuesta. Ella estaba segura, inquebrantablemente, de que él sí lo sabía. Puede que lo haya olvidado o lo haya ignorado. Es posible que haya tratado de convencerse a sí mismo de que no estaba completamente seguro. Es posible que se haya negado a dar una respuesta. ***Pero él lo sabía. Sabía la respuesta.***

Hay una ranzone por la cual, después de la respuesta de Pedro, Jesús le da las llaves del reino de los cielos.

"¿Quién dices que soy yo?"

Que toda nuestra vida sea nuestra respuesta.

"Tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo del Dios vivo." - Mateo 16:16

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.

A Woman's Haven™

Pregnancy Crisis Center

"Are you passionately Pro-Life"
and

looking for a job with GREAT meaning?

A Woman'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.

UPDATE: Call office for current class availability

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

Modificación: Llame a la oficina para disponibilidad actual de clases

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

*** *Missionary Appeal / All Masses* ***
 *** *Sisters of Mary Immaculate* ***

Sunday, August 27, 2023
 7:00 am Grupo de Oracion (Vida en el Espiritu) - *Carolán Hall*
 8:00 am CDA Bake Sale - *Ourside Church / Playground Area*
 10:00 am CDA Mass - *Church*

Monday, August 28, 2023

Tuesday, August 29, 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 30, 2023
 1:00 pm Porter Loring Grief Seminar - *Rectory Mtg Room*

Thursday, August 31, 2023
 6:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Grp - *Church*

Friday, September 1, 2023
 6:30 pm Guitar / Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 7:00 pm la Hora Santa / Grupo de Oracion - *Church*

Saturday, September 2, 2023
 4:00 pm Cenaculo de la Divina Misericordia - *Rectory Mtg Room*

Sunday, September 3, 2023
 10:00 am KoC Mass - *Church*

la Hora Santa

Viernes, el 1 de septiembre a las 7 pm.

Ven... Pasa un rato tranquilo 'uno-a-uno' tiempo
 con Nuestro Senor - Jesu Cristo!

Espero verte alli.

**Lecturas de la Semana del 28 agosto - 3 septiembre**

Lunes: 1Tes 1:1-5,8-10; Sal 149:1-6,9;
 Mt 23:13-22

Martes: 1Tes 2:1-8; Sal 138:1-3,4-6; Mc 6:17-29

Miércoles: 1Tes 2:9-13; Sal 138:7-12; Mt 23:27-32

Jueves: 1Tes 3:7-13; Sal 89:3-5,12-14,17;
 Mt 24:42-51

Viernes: 1Tes 4:1-8; Sal 96:1,2,5-6,10,11-12;
 Mt 25:1-13

Sábado: 1Tes 4:9-11; Sal 97:1,7-9; Mt 25:14-30

Domingo: Jr 20:7-9; Sal 62:2,3-6,8-9; Rom 12:1-2;
 Mt 16:21-27

Readings for the week of Aug 28 - Sept 3

Monday: 1Thes 1:1-5,8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a,9b;
 Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-3,4-6; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday: 1Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a,12-14,17;
 Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1,2b,5-6,10-12;
 Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1,7-9; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2-6,8-9; Rom 12:1-2;
 Mt 16:21-27

Mass Intentions**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 †Candelaria Villacana by Isela Bazan
Health - Deacon Rolando R. Guerra by Theresa Garza

Monday, August 28, 2023

8:00 am †Valdemar Gutierrez by Isela Bazan

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

8:00 am †Alfredo Garza by Villegas Family
 †Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, August 30, 2023

8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes

Thursday, August 31, 2023 (Communion Service)

8:00 am **Ordained Clergy and Religious**

Friday, September 1, 2023

8:00 am †Richard Pansza, Jr by Norberto & Jeanette Pansza
 †Jesse Rodriguez, Jr

Saturday, September 2, 2023

8:00 am †Joaquin Bazan by Isela Bazan
Birthday - Tony Saldiva by Rosa Saldiva
 5:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez by Dominguez Family
Special Intention - Olga Weich by Pat Weinert

Sunday, September 3, 2023

8:00 am †Fr. Gil Pansza by Norberto & Jeanette Pansza
STM Parishioners - Living and †Deceased
 10:00 am †Connie Polanco by Martha Arredondo
 †Medardo E. Morales & Evangelina G. Morales by Morales & Brisenio Famies
 12:00 pm †Kathryn Marie Sweet by Maria T. Sweet
 †Florentina Gutierrez by Isela Bazan

**Sanctuary Light Intention:**

Estella Esquivel
 by Hector & Diana Herrera

Liturgical Roles**Saturday, September 2, 2023**

5 pm Altar Servers - (None)
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, T.Sweet, R.Saldiva, (+3 Vol)
 Lector - R.Alvarado

Sunday, September 3, 2023

8 am Altar Servers - (None)
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, M.Nguyen, T.S.Garza, (+2 vol)
 Lector - T.S.Garza

10 am Altar Servers - ,J.Cantu, Z.Ramirez, (Vol)
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Tim, E.Garcia, T.G.Garza,
 V+L.Gifford, E+M.Cantu
 Lector - M.Briseno

12 pm Altar Servers - A.Gomez, S.Obregon, Volunteer
 Eucharistic Ministers - Dcn Rolando, D+F.Malacara, R.Borrogo,
 A.Chavez, R.Gomez, M.Pina
 Lector - M.Cisneros / I.Hernandez