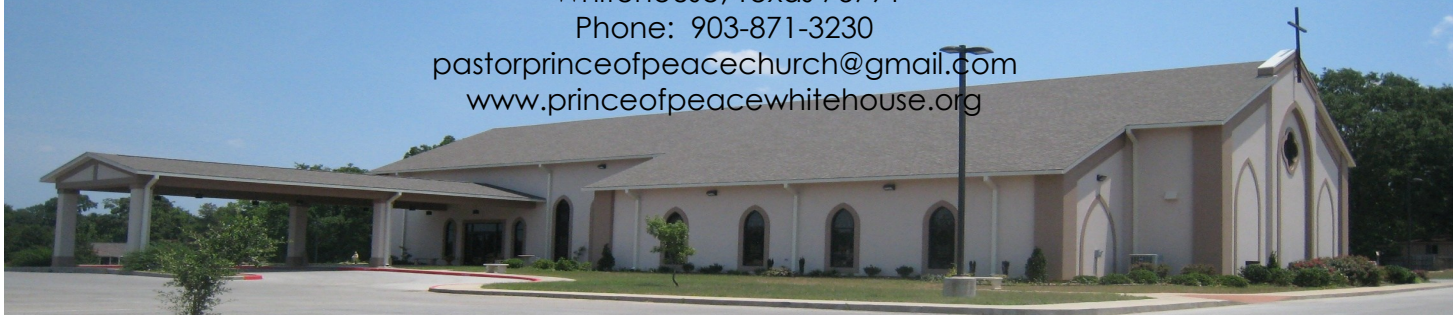


Prince of Peace Catholic Church

903 East Main St.
Whitehouse, Texas 75791
Phone: 903-871-3230
pastorprinceofpeacechurch@gmail.com
www.princeofpeacewhitehouse.org



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 1, 2026

From the Desk of the Pastor:

The "Dear Abby" Column once received a letter from a 15-year-old girl which read as follows: *"Dear Abby: Happiness is: not having your parents scold you if you come home late, having your own bedroom, and getting the telephone call you've been hoping for. Happiness is belonging to a popular group, being dressed as well as anybody, and having a lot of spending money. Happiness is something I don't have. 15 and Unhappy."* Shortly after the letter was published, "Dear Abby" received a reply from 13-year-old girl who wrote: *Dear Abby: "Happiness is being able to walk and talk, to see and hear. Unhappiness is reading a letter from a 15-year-old girl who can do all four things and still says she isn't happy. I can talk, I can see, I can hear. But I can't walk. 13, crippled and Happy."* -- These letters reflect two different points of view on happiness. Today's gospel on the Beatitudes does the same.

Zephaniah, in the first reading, calls the "moral minority" of the Jews of his time "blessed" because they seek justice, humility, truth, and righteousness, thus making a declaration of dependence on God. In the second reading, Paul advises his Corinthian Christians to use their gifts and Heaven-sent blessings for the good of the community because God has chosen to give them life in Jesus, by whom He justified, sanctified and redeemed them. In today's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples in the paradoxical blessedness of poverty, hunger, sorrow, and persecution. In poverty, we recognize God's reign; in hunger, His providence; in sorrow, true happiness; and in persecution, true joy. In other words, the blessed in Jesus' list are poor in spirit, compassionate, meek, merciful, clean of heart, peace-makers and those who are willing even to be insulted and persecuted for their lived Faith in him. Each of the inspired authors of today's readings, Zephaniah, Paul, and Matthew, "makes a motion," that each of us should consider making a personal *Declaration of Dependence* on God, and then work with His grace to lead a holier and happier life.

Life messages: 1) We need to respond to the challenge of the Beatitudes in daily life. The Beatitudes propose to us a way of life inviting us to identify with the poor, those who mourn, the meek, and those who hunger and thirst after justice. They challenge us to be compassionate people, to be men and women who are pure in heart, and to become the peacemakers in our dealings with one another, in our families, and in the society at large, even when this approach to things exposes us to ridicule and persecution. Let us remember that each time we reach out to help the needy, the sick, and the oppressed, we share with them a foretaste of the promises of the Beatitudes here and now. 2) We need to choose the way wisely. "There are two Ways, one of Life and one of Death, and there is a great difference between the two Ways." These are the opening lines of the *Didache*, a first century Christian catechism used to teach new Christians the essence of the Christian Faith. The Way of Life is the WAY Jesus IS, and JESUS IS the only WAY that leads to eternal life. The challenge of the Beatitudes is: "Are you going to be happy in the world's way or in Christ's way?" God wants us to love Him with our entire soul and body, mind and heart, and to love each other selflessly along with everyone else as brothers and sisters of Jesus Whose Father, God, has adopted us into His Family.

Fr. Luke



Mass Schedule

Sunday Liturgies

Saturday

Rosary at 4:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

Rosary at 9:25 a.m.

Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Rosary in Spanish at 12:00 noon

12:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Weekday Liturgies

Tuesday and Friday - Mass at 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet
at 5:00 p.m. followed by Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each Month 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. &
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

By appointment other times

Holy Day Masses

6:30 p.m. English

7:30 p.m. Spanish

Masses at Wellspring

Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m.

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.



Thursday Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are prayed every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the church or by telephone conference call. Mass immediately follows. If you wish to join by telephone, call the church office for details.

Children's Rosary

The Rosary will begin at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays when Faith Formation classes are in session.

Location of Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

Two AEDs are on church property: one in the parish hall next to the women's restroom and the other one in the church foyer near the church entrance and bathrooms. Remember their locations, just in case you may need to retrieve one.

Join us in prayer for the needs of our families and community....

Pray for: Nadia Allmon, Jeff Briscoe, Barbara Dean, Adam Elliott, Steve Francis, Maria Gutierrez, Natalie Hayes, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Lunceford, Julieta Marroquin, Judy LeBlanc, Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Leslie Payne, Donna Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Danny Smith, Shirley Stenklyft, Matthew Williams, Blanca Villatoro, Manuel Yañez.

Mass Intentions

| | | |
|------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Sat Jan 31 | 5:00 p.m. | Purificacion Maglasang+ |
| Sun Feb 01 | 10:00 a.m. | Members of our Parish |
| Sun Feb 01 | 12:30 p.m. | Charles Giroux+ |
| Tue Feb 03 | 12:30 p.m. | Amelia Webb+ |
| Thu Feb 05 | 5:00 p.m. | Charles Giroux+ |
| Fri Feb 06 | 12:30 p.m. | George Schmitt+ |
| Sat Feb 07 | 5:00 p.m. | Chase Barnes+ |

Parish Giving

January 25, 2026

1st Collection \$1,187.00

2nd Collection \$ 185.00

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2nd Collection Feb 01 | Diocese of Tyler Catholic Schools |
| 3rd Collection Feb 01 | Lawn Care Maintenance |
| 2nd Collection Feb 08 | Emergency Fund |

Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 62

10:00 a.m. 19 and 12:30 p.m. 2

Pastoral Team

Pastor: Fr. Luke Kalarickal, M.S.F.S.

Deacons: Ruben Natera; Clarence Blalock

Acolytes: Rick Downey; Felipe Segura;
Alberto Robledo

Bookkeeper: Noelia Gonzalez

Office Assistant: Linda Rossler

Committee Chairs

Pastoral Council Chair: Theresa Cheatham

Finance Council Chair: Lou Napolitano

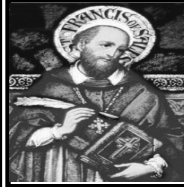
Maintenance Committee Chair: Rick Downey

The administration and pastoral care of Prince of Peace Parish is entrusted to the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales (M.S.F.S.), also known as Fransalian Missionaries, an international religious order with headquarters in Rome and the Provincial House in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, visit www.fransaliansusa.com or www.wellspringcommunity.net.



Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Office closes for lunch between noon and 1:00 p.m.



**“Nothing makes us so prosperous
in this world as to give alms.”**

St. Francis de Sales

News and Notes

First Friday Holy Hour - February 6, 2026

First Friday adoration follows the 12:30 p.m. Mass from 1 to 2 p.m. and again from 6 to 7 p.m.

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday is February 18, 2025, with Masses at 6 p.m. in English and 7:15 p.m. in Spanish. Please bring last year's dried palms to the church next weekend.

Parishioner Input Form on Expanding the Parish Hall and Class Rooms

Parishioner Input Forms were distributed on Sunday, January 18, with a requested return date of January 24. The return date has been extended to this weekend, due to the ice storm that prevented many of our parishioners from being at Mass on January 23/24. Please drop your completed form in the designated basket. Forms are still available in the church foyer. Take the time after Mass to complete the form and turn it in before you leave today.

Springfest 2026

We thank Paul Bibeau for accepting to take leadership for this year's Springfest. This year we are planning to get the Whitehouse community involved in the Festival. Paul will be contacting you for volunteers for various committees, besides the fact that everyone in the parish will be invited to participate in it as a parish wide event. Please show your cooperation and support. Thank you.

2026 Bishop's Appeal for Ministries

Commitment Weekend is this weekend, and pledge envelopes are in the pews. Please prayerfully consider your 2026 pledge. Completed pledge envelopes may be dropped in the basket in the back of the church or you may mail your pledge to the Diocese of Tyler. Our parish goals are 100% participation and \$42,000. Thank you.

St. Gregory's Early Learning Center

St. Gregory's Early Learning Center provides faith-based care and education for infants and children through 3 years of age. Registration is now open. Flyers are available in the church foyer.

Faith Formation

Our catechists will be teaching the diocese's annual mandatory Safe Environment training on Wednesday, February 11, during the regular Faith Formation class time. Your child(ren) will be in one of the following training modules: grades K-2, 3-5, or 6-8. The Parent Overview handout will be distributed on Wednesday, February 4th. Parents, contact the church office if you have questions about the training prior to February 11.

Knights of Columbus Pork Loin Sales

This is the last weekend to purchase your tickets for smoked pork loins from the Knights of Columbus. The cost for the 3 lb. pork loin is \$20. The pork loins will be ready for pickup on Saturday, February 7th, at 4 p.m.

Stroke Scan at Prince of Peace

Stroke Scan will be coming to Prince of Peace on Saturday, February 21, to provide health screenings. A Stroke Scan representative will be at the Masses the weekend of February 7/8 to make a brief announcement about what screenings are offered and to pre-register those interested in their services.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, February 14, at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Bishop Kelly will be celebrating this Mass. All couples in the Diocese of Tyler who are celebrating anniversaries ending in 0 or 5, or 50th+ anniversaries in the year 2026 are invited. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Center. Registration forms are in the church foyer or you may register online at the dioceseoftyler.org/events. The deadline to register is February 6.

Safe Environment

Parental supervision of children keeps them safe, including when they are in church or on church grounds. If need be during Mass, escort your children to the restroom, wait for them, and return to your seat with them.

If you know or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult is currently being abused or is in danger, immediately report it to state/local law enforcement or the TX Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or txabusehotline.org. The Diocese of Tyler is committed to respecting the dignity of all persons and to helping anyone who may have been hurt or abused by a priest, deacon, religious, or anyone working in the name of the Church. Any current or past cases of abuse involving Church Personnel should be reported to civil authorities and also to the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 266-2159 or vac@dioceseoftyler.org.

The Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before each weekend Mass. Please be mindful of the need for silent reflection, both in the nave and in the church foyer, out of respect for the Rosary and in preparation for the Holy Mass. Everyone is advised to come and join the Rosary and receive its priceless benefits and graces.

Kids, Youth/Adult Bible Corner

Answers for January 11, 2026

Kids: a. Death
b. 3 times

Answered correctly by David Gutierrez, Vicky Gutierrez, and Elijah Rivera.

Adults: a. Because the slave is the master's own property
b. "We will do everything that the Lord has told us."

Answered correctly by Andrea Gustafson, Leo Rossler, Linda Rossler, Neri Gutierrez and Mimi Plumb.

Congratulations to Vicky Gutierrez, Andrea Gustafson, Leo Rossler, and Mimi Plumb for answering the five consecutive weeks!

Questions for February 1, 2026 (Exodus 31-35) Repeat from January 25th

Kids: a. Which tribe did Bezalel belong to?
b. Who engraved the inscriptions on the tablets that Moses was carrying down from Mt. Sinai?

Adults: a. Whose assistant Oholiab was appointed as by the Lord?
b. Why did the Lord tell Moses that He will not go with the people to the Promised Land?