

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 3, 2025

#### From the Desk of the Pastor:

The wedding of Princess Diana (Lady Diana Spencer), in 1981, was watched by 750 million people. She died in an accident at age 36 on August 31, 1997. Her funeral in 1997 was viewed by 2.5 billion people. At her funeral, singer Elton John brought tears to the eyes of hundreds of mourners in Westminster Abbey when he sang: "Candle in the Wind." Interestingly, this song – with the line "Goodbye, Norma Rose" – was originally written for an equally glamorous woman, Norma Jeanne, who assumed the stage name 'Marilyn Monroe' and died at age 36 on August 5, 1962, due to an overdose of sleeping pills. Diana and Marilyn share many things in common – both were beautiful and wealthy, photographed by paparazzi worldwide, yet, unhappy in marriage or relationships, and both died tragically in August at a young age – young icons snuffed out like candles in the wind. Ecclesiastes gives bad news to those who base their hopes on the perishable wealth and goods of this world, offering us a stark message: vanity of vanities, all is vanity! All of human life is ultimately meaningless if viewed in itself, apart from God. Five days after Princess Diana died there was another "going home," this one for Mother Teresa (canonized as St. Teresa of Calcutta) who died at age 87 on September 7, 1997. She was a "wise woman," spending her whole life sharing Christ's selfless, caring, agape love with the down-trodden in the streets of Calcutta. God blessed her sharing love by increasing her 12-member Missionaries of Charity congregation to 3000 serving the poor and the discarded in 100 countries.

The first reading, taken from Ecclesiastes, reminds us that the greedy acquisition and hoarding of material wealth is useless because when the hoarder dies, he goes to eternity empty-handed, and his heir gains, and perhaps squanders, his riches. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 90), the Psalmist challenges us to listen to God and allow Him to soften our hearts that we may share our blessings with others. The Psalm Response urges, "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts" (Ps 95:8). In the second reading, Paul directs our attention to lasting, Heavenly treasures and warns that greed (pleonexia) for wealth and influence is idolatry. He advises, "Put to death, your parts that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry" (Col 3:5). In today's Gospel, Jesus, telling the parable of the foolish rich man, warns us against all types of greed, because greed takes our life's focus away from God and away from serving and loving Him in Himself and in other people. Jesus says that God calls the greedy rich man a fool because the man thought he would not die soon and that he was not accountable for the way he used his riches. Besides, the rich man forgot the fact that his wealth had been lent to him by God for sharing with the needy. Jesus also warns us that our eternal life does not consist of earthly possessions (Lk 12:15), which we should share to gain eternal life.

Life messages: 1) We are invited to share our blessings with others. The parable of the rich fool gives us a warning as well as an invitation. It reminds us that our possessions are merely lent to us by God, and that we are accountable for their use. We must be generous in sharing our time, our treasure, and our talents in Christian stewardship. Even if we are poor financially, we may be blessed with intelligence, good will, a sense of humor, or the ability to console, encourage, inspire, support, and help others. God expects us to live out our spoken thanks to Him for all these blessings by sharing them with others for His glory. The Old Testament Scriptures are clear about tithing – giving 10% of our income for God's cause and for helping the needy. Not limiting the gift to a tenth, Paul, writing to the Corinthians in regard to a Church-wide collection for the poor in Jerusalem, declares, "Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7). In any case, experience has shown us that God can never be outdone in generosity! 2) Let us control our greed. Our greed takes different shapes and forms. For some, it may be the desire for the approval and praise of others. For others, it is the uncontrolled desire for power, control, or fame. For still others, greed takes the form of excessive and sinful indulgence in eating, drinking, gambling, drugs, or sexual activities. Greed also turns our life away from God and away from loving and serving Him in Himself and in other people. As greed directs all our energy and attention to fulfilling the self, its objects become our false gods, and they will consume us, unless we curb them, pay attention to those in need around us and, thus, become rich in the sight of God.



### Mass Schedule

#### **Sunday Liturgies**

Saturday Rosary at 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Rosary at 9:30 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
Wednesday - Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Oakbrook Healthcare

#### **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**

6:00 p.m. English 7:00 p.m. Spanish

#### Masses at Wellspring

Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m.; Sunday, 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, Lucile Cook, Adam Elliott, Steve Francis, Andrea Gustafson, Maria Gutierrez, Natalie Hayes, Fr. Joseph Jacobi, Judy LeBlanc, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Lunceford, Julieta Marroquin, Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Marcela Montenegro, Donna Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Danny Smith, Shirley Stenklyft, Matthew Williams, Blanca Villatoro, & Manuel Yañez.

#### Mass Intentions

Sat	Aug 02	5:00 p.m.	Chase Barnes+
Sun	Aug 03	10:00 a.m.	Our Children & Youth
		12:30 p.m.	Janet Bayos+
Tue	Aug 05	12:30 p.m.	Poor Souls in Purgatory+
	Aug 07	5:00 p.m.	Andrea Gustafson S.I.
	Aug 08	12:30 p.m.	Andre Meyer+
Sat	Aug 09	5:00 p.m.	Chase Barnes+



#### July 27, 2025

1st Collection \$3,804.50 2nd Collection \$814.50 Children's Collection \$89.00

2nd Collection Aug 03 Emergency Fund
3rd Collection Aug 03 Lawn Care / Maintenance
2nd Collection Aug 10 Helpers in Ministry

#### **Mass Attendance**

5:00 p.m. <u>74</u> 10:00 a.m. <u>121</u> and 12:30 p.m. <u>91</u>

#### **Pastoral Team**

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

Deacons: Ruben Natera; Clarence Blalock
Acolytes: Rick Downey; Michael Morris
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 <a href="https://www.fransaliansusa.com">www.wellspringcommunity.net</a>.



#### **Church Office Hours**

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



The manner of correcting a person should be gradual and gentle and with much compassion, prudence, and discretion.

St. Francis de Sales

#### **News and Notes**

#### **Faith Formation**

Faith Formation begins on Wednesday, September 3, 2025. Registration for the next session began on July 1. The Family Registration fee is \$20, with a materials fee of \$10 per child. Late registration begins on August 16, with a registration fee of \$40 and a \$10 materials fee per child. For new students not baptized at Prince of Peace, bring a copy of the child's baptismal certificate or birth certificate, if the child has not yet been baptized. Register at the church office.

Catechists and catechist helpers are needed.

Please contact the church office for more information.

#### **CPC Recertification In-Person Training at Prince of Peace**

Prince of Peace will have a recertification in-person training in English next Friday, August 8, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This training is not for those who have never been certified through VIRTUS. Anyone who obtained a CPC (Church Personnel Certification) through VIRTUS in/around August 2022 will have to become recertified, which includes a re-commitment to the Code of Conduct, a background check, and inperson training. An email from VIRTUS will be sent to all those who need to update. Contact Linda Rossler at the church office for more information.

#### **Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)**

DCYC will be on *Oct. 4, 2025* at the W.T. Brookshire Conference Center in Tyler. For more information and instructions on how to register go to: <a href="https://www.dioceseoftyler.org/dcyc/">https://www.dioceseoftyler.org/dcyc/</a>. DCYC is for high school teens (9-12 grades). For questions contact Sonia Escobedo at <a href="mailto:sonia.escobedo@catholicflint.org">sonia.escobedo@catholicflint.org</a> or (903) 894-7647, ext. 104.

#### **Homeschool Blessing Mass at St. Mary Magdalene**

Bishop Gregory Kelly will be celebrating a Homeschool Blessing Mass for all homeschooling families in the Diocese of Tyler. The Mass will be at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Flint on Sept. 5, 2025 at 12:30 p.m. This event is hosted in collaboration with the Catholic Family Adventure Club. A light reception will follow in the parish hall. Please register here: <a href="https://www.catholicfamilyadventureclub.com/iform/127949">https://www.catholicfamilyadventureclub.com/iform/127949</a>

#### **Diocese of Tyler Tribunal Advocates Training**

Are you willing to help couples return to the Sacraments? Our training will empower you to guide parishioners seeking annulments through the application process and procedural acts. Be a beacon of support as they prepare to encounter Jesus in the Sacrament of Matrimony. This is your chance to make a lasting difference in another's spiritual journey. This is a two-day training at the Chancery, 1015, ESE Loop 323, Tyler from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm on Sept. 13 & 27, 2025. A \$20 fee will cover materials and lunch\* Please send checks to the Tribunal: payable to Diocese of Tyler, or register online. RSVP by: August 31, 2025.

#### 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.



St. Marianne Cope responded to God's call to serve Him by serving others. In 1839, the Cope family emigrated from Germany to the Utica, New York with one-year old Barbara. As she grew, she was called to religious life. That would have to wait, as her father became ill when she was 14 years old and made it necessary for her to work in a factory to support her family. Ten vears later, she followed her call to serve God and entered the order of the Sisters of St. Francis. At the completion of her formation, she professed her vows as Sister Marianne Cope. Though she wanted to be a teacher, she was called to use her gifts of kindness, compassion, wisdom, and people skills as an administrator and leader. Sr. Marianne soon became Mother Marianne and in 1883, she became Superior General of her order. She and her sisters established schools and hospitals in New York, improving the lives of people in the communities they served. In 1883, Mother Marianne did not hesitate leave New York when her help was needed to help care for leprosy patients in Hawaii. She worked tirelessly in Hawaii for 35 years establishing schools and managing hospitals. She spent much of her time at the hospital on the remote peninsula of Molokai where the leprosy victims were isolated. She and her sisters cared for the children of leprosy patients, as well as the leprosy patients themselves. Mother Marianne passed away on August 9, 1918. On October 21, 2012, she became the first American Franciscan saint. St. Marianne Cope is the patron of lepers, outcasts, and those with HIV/AIDS.







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