

Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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



Third Sunday of Easter, April 14, 2024

From the Desk of the Pastor:

Tolstoy once told a story of a Czar and Czarina who wished to honor the members of their court with a banquet. They sent out invitations and requested that the guests come with the invitations in their hands. When they arrived at the banquet the guests were surprised to discover that the guards did not look at their invitations at all. Instead, they examined their hands. The guests wondered about this, but they were also curious to see who the Czar and Czarina would choose as the guest of honor to sit between them at the banquet. They were flabbergasted to see that it was the old scrubwoman who had worked to keep the palace clean for years. The guards, having examined her hands, declared, *"You have the proper credentials to be the guest of honor. We can see your love and loyalty in your hands."* -- In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges the unbelieving disciples: *"See my hands and my feet..."* They were invited to remove their superstitious doubt that he was a ghost.

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, gives us Peter's second sermon addressing the Jewish assembly at the Portico of Solomon in Jerusalem. Peter forcefully shows how the messianic prophecies have been fulfilled in the crucified and risen Jesus and challenges the Jews to repent and turn toward God so that their sins may be wiped away. In the second reading, John answers doubts raised by the heretics of his time, asserting the fundamental Christian doctrine that Jesus' death was a sacrifice offered as expiation for our sins. Today's Gospel describes Jesus' appearance on the evening of His Resurrection to his apostles who were in the locked Upper Room, the Cenacle. We see Jesus remove the doubts of his apostles about his Resurrection by inviting them to touch him and by eating a piece of cooked fish. Jesus explains how the prophecies have been fulfilled in him. Then he commissions them to bear witness to him and preach *"repentance and forgiveness of sins in his name"* after receiving the Holy Spirit.

Life messages: 1) We need to share the apostles' "Upper Room Experience" in the Holy Mass: The same Jesus who, in the Upper Room, the Cenacle, prepared the disciples for their preaching and witnessing mission, is present with us in the Eucharistic celebration. In the "Liturgy of the Word" of God, Jesus speaks to us. In the "Liturgy of the Eucharist," Jesus becomes our spiritual food and drink. Thus, today's Gospel scene is repeated every Sunday on our parish altars. Like the early disciples, we come together to repent of our sins, express our gratitude for blessings received, listen to God's word, and offer our lives to God along with our petitions and His gifts of consecrated Bread and Wine. We also consume the spiritual food Jesus supplies, thus gaining the strength necessary for sharing Christ's message with the entire world, mainly by living transparent Christian lives. 2) Jesus needs us as witnesses to continue his mission. Jesus needs Spirit-filled followers to be his eyes, ears, hands, and feet, to bear witness to his love, mercy and forgiveness by our interactions with our brother and sisters. 3) Our daily lives are meant to serve as a means for us to experience and share the risen Lord with others. Just as the disciples experienced the risen Lord in their community, let us learn to recognize the presence of Jesus in our own homes, social service centers, nursing facilities, hospitals, workplaces, and schools. Jesus wants us to be a community which shares and cares, a community which knows how to recognize Jesus in the poor, the marginalized, the sick – that is, in everyone.

Fr. Luke



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, 6:45 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.

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.

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

Pray for Lucile Cook, Steve Francis, Natalie Hayes, Mike Jackson, Fr. Joseph Jacobi, Judy LeBlanc, Adam Elliott, Diana & Al Leonhardi, Shirley Long, Kamicia Lunceford, Julieta Marroquin, Marcela Montenegro, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Amalia Saucillo, Shirley Stenklyft, Manuel Yañez, and Dudley McKamie.

Mass Intentions

Sat Apr 13 5:00 p.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory+
Sun Apr 14 10:00 a.m. Members of our Parish
12:30 p.m. Albina Larios+
Tue Apr 16 12:30 p.m. Helene Aim+
Thu Apr 18 *No Mass Poor Souls in Purgatory+
Fri Apr 19 *No Mass George Schmitt+
Sat Apr 20 5:00 p.m. Maria Mendez+

*No Mass at Prince of Peace. Mass Intentions will still be offered on these dates.

Parish Giving

April 7, 2024

1st Collection \$4,068.00
2nd Collection \$ 373.00
Children's Collection \$ 62.00

2nd Collection Apr 14 Helpers in Ministry
2nd Collection Apr 21 Mission Fund

Mass Attendance

Sat 5:00 p.m. 50
Sun 10 a.m. 152 and 12:30 p.m. 121

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



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 truly patient man neither complains of his hard lot nor desires to be pitied by others. He speaks of his sufferings without complaint or exaggerations.

St. Francis de Sales

News and Notes

House Blessings

Each Easter season, Fr. Luke offers house blessings with the Holy Water blessed during the Easter Vigil. The house blessing schedule is on the table in the church foyer. Please sign up now to choose a date and time that is most convenient for you. Please include your name, physical address, and telephone number.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Today's bulletin insert describes the effects of abuse on children, the warning signs of abuse, steps to prevent abuse, how to report abuse, and how you can become better informed to keep your children safe. Please keep it handy for future reference. Thanks.

No Mass at Prince of Peace April 18 and 19

Father Luke will be away from April 18 through April 22. There will be no Mass at Prince of Peace on Thursday - Friday, April 18-19. Mass intentions will still be offered on these dates. Weekend Masses will be celebrated as usual.

Lawn Care Sign-Up

Thanks, gratitude, and appreciation to all who generously donated their time and talent last year to keep the church grounds looking nice. Spring is upon us again and begins the need for lawn care and weed control now and through October. The sign-up sheet is in the church foyer. If you are able, please sign up.

Helpers of Prince of Peace Food Pantry

Our food pantry is open to anyone in the parish or wider community who needs assistance in stretching their food dollar. If you or someone you know needs help, contact the church office at (903) 871-3230.

Catholic Family Adventure Club



Please join our student Craft Fair at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception's Cathedral Center on May 4th from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., hosted by Catholic Family Adventure Club. All Catholic Homeschooling students ages 5-18 are welcome to register for a table and use the opportunity to learn a bit about business while earning money towards summer fun. Registration is \$7 for CFAC members and \$10 for non-CFAC members. It is free to shop; we invite anyone from the community to come out. Register at: catholicfamilyadventureclub.com.

Men's Group Meeting

This coming Thursday, April 18, 2024, the *Ministry for Men* will meet from 6:45 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Meet for prayer, fellowship, and to learn more about Jesus Christ and his Church so that we can become better examples for our families, friends, and neighbors.

Project Rachael

There is hope and Healing after abortion. Call or text 903-539-2941. For more info, go to: www.sanctityoflifetyler.org/project-rachel.

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 week-end 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.



Saint Bernadette Soubirous (1844 –1879)

From February to July 1858 near Lourdes, France, a “Beautiful Lady” appeared eighteen times to a humble and obedient girl named Bernadette Soubirous. The Beautiful Lady asked for prayers for the conversion of sinners and penance.

Large crowds came to the grotto to hopefully witness some miracle. On February 25, the Beautiful Lady told Bernadette to drink from the fountain and bathe in it, but there was no obvious fountain or spring in the spot shown to her. She began to dig in the moist soil with her hands, and water began to trickle out. Bernadette drank the water and washed her face in it. Within two days, at the site where Bernadette dug in the mud, there was a pool of water overflowing the rocks. Miraculous cures have been attributed to this water.

On February 28 and March 3 the Lady relayed a message to Bernadette to give to the clergy - “Go and tell the priests that a chapel must be built here.” Bernadette told her priest Abbé Peyramale, who replied that he needed the identity of the mysterious lady. It was during the visit on March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, that the Lady revealed, “I am the Immaculate Conception.” A basilica was built at the site of the grotto and was completed in 1876.

Bernadette joined the Sisters of Charity at Nevers in 1866. She died on April 16, 1879. On December 8, 1933, Saint Bernadette was canonized.


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Brent Boltz
Broker Associate
Real Estate
Sales
Property Management

903.253.5328
BoltzOrganization@gmail.com
Whitehouse, TX
TREC # 776302

Classic TOYOTA
Michael Allare
General Manager
581-0600
1717 WSW Loop 323
www.classictoyotatyler.com


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