

Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 9, 2026

From the Desk of the Pastor:

In the middle of a dark winter's night in a small Midwest farming community, the two-story home of a young family caught fire. Quickly, parents and children followed their well-practiced emergency plan and made their way through the smoke-filled home out into the front yard. There the father quickly counted heads and realized that their 5-year-old son was not among them. Suddenly he heard a wail and looked up to see the boy at his bedroom window, crying and rubbing his eyes. Knowing the danger of reentering the house to rescue his son, the father called, "Jump, Son! I'll catch you!" Between sobs, the boy responded to the voice he knew so well. "But I can't see you, Daddy!" The father answered with great assurance. "No, Son, you can't see me, but I can see you! Jump!" At that, the boy jumped into the smoky darkness and found himself safely cradled in his father's arms. Our Scripture readings for today are about trusting – about having Faith – about being able to discern the fact that our God is always with us, even in storms of life.

The first reading shows us how Elijah the prophet, who had defeated the 450 false priests of Baal with the help of just such a trusting Faith in the power of Yahweh, fled to the Lord God for help and strength on Mt. Horeb and encountered Him there in His mercy. In the second reading, Paul, addressing the Romans, laments and mourns over the Jews who, having lost their Faith in Yahweh and His prophets, had rejected their promised Messiah, Jesus. Paul tells us later that God's plan allowed the Jews to reject Jesus so that a few believers, like Paul, would be free to carry the Good News outside Judaism, evangelizing the Gentiles. The Gospel episode occurred during an unexpected storm on the Sea of Galilee in the early morning hours. As Jesus approached the apostles, miraculously walking on water, he assured them by telling them, "It is I." The Gospel episode also explains how Peter lost his trusting Faith in Jesus for a few seconds and failed his attempt to walk on water but was rescued when he called on Jesus for help.

Life messages: 1) We all need to call Jesus in the storms facing us in the Church and in our lives. Let us approach Jesus with strong Faith in his ability and willing availability to calm the storms in the life of the Church and in our own lives. Church history shows us how Jesus saved his Church from the storms of persecution in the first three centuries, from the storms of heresies in the 5th and 6th centuries, and from the storms of moral degradation and the Protestant reformation movement (later resulting in hundreds of denominations) in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. We need to realize that it is the presence of Jesus which gives us peace even in the wildest storms of life: the storms of anxiety and worries about the future we suffered during the Corona Virus Pandemic (Covid-19), storms of doubt, tension and uncertainty, storms of anger and despair, storms of temptations, and storms in family relationships. But this peace flows only from a personal relationship with God, with Jesus, and with the Holy Spirit enhanced through prayer, meditative reading of Scripture, and active participation in the Holy Mass.

2) We need to imitate the short prayer of sinking Peter. We are expected to pray to God every day with trusting Faith for strengthening our personal relationship with Him and for acknowledging our dependence on Him. But when we have no time or mental energy for formal prayers, let us use the short prayers in the Gospels like Peter's prayer: "Lord, save me!" or the prayer of the mother of the possessed girl: "Lord, help me!" We can begin every day by offering all our day's activities to God and asking for His grace to do His will; then we can conclude every day before we go to sleep by asking God's pardon and forgiveness for our sins. Keeping a Bible on our table will encourage us to read at least a few words of the Bible and thus listen to what God is telling us to do.

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

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.

Organizations/Groups Monthly Meetings

Altar Society - 1st Tuesday at 6:00 pm (Sept - May)
Knights of Columbus - 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Men's Group - 3rd Thursday at 6:45 p.m.
Women's Group - Last Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group - Every Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

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, Rich Legler, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Lunceford, Julieta Marroquin, Judy LeBlanc, Rich Legler, Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Leslie Payne, Donna Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Danny Smith, Matthew Williams, Manuel Yañez.

Mass Intentions

Sat Aug 08	5:00 p.m.	Chase Barnes+
Sun Aug 09	10:00 a.m.	Members of Our Parish
Sun Aug 09	12:30 p.m.	John Lezama+

Weekday Mass Intentions will be offered by Fr. Luke:
Ciro Garcia Payan (4)+ and Poor Souls in Purgatory+

Sat Aug 15	5:00 p.m.	Jena Estoconing S.I.
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Parish Giving

August 2, 2026

1st Collection	\$4,362.00
2nd Collection	\$ 399.00
3rd Collection	\$ 450.00
Children's Collection	\$ 24.00

Collections

2nd Collection	Aug 09	Helpers in Ministry
2nd Collection	Aug 16	Faith Formation
3rd Collection	Aug 16	Lawn care/Maintenance

Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m.	<u>75</u>
10:00 a.m.	<u>152</u> and 12:30 p.m. <u>107</u>

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

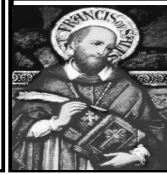
Pastoral Council Chair: Theresa Cheatham
Finance Council Chair: Lou Napolitano
Maintenance Committee Chair: Rick Downey

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 Fransalians 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.



When you encounter difficulties and contradictions, do not try to break them, but bend them with gentleness and time.

St. Francis de Sales

News and Notes

Fr. Luke Away

Fr. Luke is in India until September 11. Please keep him in your prayers. During his absence we will have Mass on weekends but not on weekdays. For any emergency our office will contact the cathedral. Bible questions/answers will be paused until Fr. Luke's return.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation will begin on Wednesday, September 2, 2026. Register your child(ren) for Faith Formation in the church office. Baptismal certificates are needed at the time of registration for new students who were not baptized at Prince of Peace. Fees are due at the time of registration. Until August 14, the family fee is \$20, & \$10 per child. After August 14 the family fee is \$40 & \$10 per child.

Safe Environment

As a reminder to parents with young children through school age, your child must be in your line of sight in church or on church grounds. A parent must accompany their children to the restroom, wait, and return to the pew with them.

Prince of Peace Knights of Columbus Council Received Top Award

The Prince of Peace Knights of Columbus Council in Whitehouse, TX has received the distinction of Star Council, the international organization's top award for local councils. The Star Council Award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership, sponsorship of faith formation programs, pro-life activities and service-oriented programs. The Knights sponsor the Monthly Parish Men's Spiritual Reflection hour, Citizenship Essay contest, Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest, Parish SpringFest, Bishop's Dinner for youth Confirmation and 1st Communion, Lenten Fish Frys, Pork Loin sales, Gabriel Project, Special Olympics, 40 Days for Life prayer vigil, Seminarian financial support and many other programs. For information on joining the Knights of Columbus, contact Membership Director Robert Rosa at (903) 714-6481.

Catholic Family Adventure Club

Home School Blessing Mass at St. Mary Magdalene, Flint, on August 28 at 11 a.m. - Bishop Gregory Kelly, Celebrant.
Register: <https://www.catholicfamilyadventureclub.com/iform/127949>

Ethics and Integrity - Church Personnel Certification / Recertification (CPC)

All clergy, employees, and volunteers who work with minors up to age 18 and vulnerable adults must have a CPC - Church Personnel Certification (Ethics and Integrity). If you currently have a CPC, remember that this certification lasts for three years, at which time you must recertify through VIRTUS. VIRTUS will notify you in advance of your expiration date so that you may recertify in a timely manner. The Code of Conduct and Criminal Background checks are completed online; however, you must attend an "in-person" recertification training. **If any of these modules has expired, you will not be allowed to participate in any ministry in which certification is mandatory.** You may check your certification status by logging in to your dashboard in VIRTUS. If you are new to VIRTUS, you may create an account at VIRTUS Online as a first time registrant, at which time you will create your user name and password and then follow instructions to access the code of conduct, background check, and schedule the initial training class. If you have any questions, contact Linda Rossler, church office.

Building Expansion

Based on the survey received from our parishioners in which most of our members felt the need of and were in favor of expanding our current community hall and adding a few classrooms, Fr. Luke had several discussions with parish councils, those experienced in construction, and the previous contractor. A final but a preliminary plan and estimates were given by the contractor. Fr. Luke is also in contact with the diocese as part of the process. Once more information with detailed plans and actual costs are available, they will be communicated to you eventually. Thank you in advance for your support and prayers for the successful completion of this important project of ours.

St. John Paul II Catholic Campus Ministry (JP2)

St. John Paul II Catholic Ministry is a campus ministry for college age persons, recent high school graduates, current college students of UT Tyler, TJC, or other local schools. You'll find Sunday Mass, free dinners, Bible Studies, Adoration, fun events, friendships, and a community that will help you grow closer to Christ while navigating college life. JP2 is located at 2603 Old Omen Rd., Tyler. Email: campusminister@tylercatholic.org.

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 of July 26

Kids: a. Benjaminites
b. Danites

Correctly answered by Vicky Gutierrez.

Adults: a. Benjaminites
b. Timnah-serah

Correctly answered by Andrea Gustafson, Linda & Leo Rossler, Theresa Cheatham, Mimi Plumb, and George Kirkpatrick.