

Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 8, 2026

From the Desk of the Pastor:

"If the house is dark when nightfall comes, there is no sense in blaming the house; that is what happens when the sun goes down." The question to ask is, *"Where is the light?"* Similarly, if the meat goes bad and becomes inedible, there is no sense in blaming the meat; this is what happens when bacteria are left alone to breed. The question to ask is, *"Where is the salt?"* Similarly, if a society deteriorates, and its standards decline until it becomes like a dark night or a stinking fish, there is no sense in blaming society; that is what happens when fallen men and women are left to themselves, and human selfishness goes unchecked. The question to ask here is, *"Where is the Church? Why are the salt and light of Jesus Christ not permeating and changing our society?"*

In our first reading, the Lord God through His prophet Isaiah gives us examples of how we are to allow the light of God to shine through us. *"Share your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own. Then light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday"* (58:7,10). The refrain for today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps.112), reminds us, *"The just man is a light in the darkness to the upright."* St. Paul, in the second reading, tells us that our proclamation of Faith will carry the Spirit and His power when we rely on the power and wisdom of God. Using two simple metaphors of salt and the light of a city on a mountaintop in today's Gospel, Jesus outlines the role of Christians in this world. As a symbol of purity, **salt** was the common ingredient in sacrifices offered to God by Jews and pagans. In the ancient world, salt was the commonest of all the preservatives used to prevent the putrefaction of meat, fish, and fruits in pickles. Since salt lends flavor to food items, it was also used to season and preserve food. A **light** has always been something which is meant to be seen. A lamp or light is a guide to make clear the way. A light serves also as a warning (e.g., red traffic lights which tell us to halt when there is danger ahead. Finally, light, particularly the sun's, gives warmth and heat.

Life messages: 1) **We need to be the salt of the earth:** a) As salt is a symbol of purity, used in sacrifices, the Christian must be an example of purity in speech, in conduct, and even in thought. b) As salt is an antiseptic and healing agent, the Christian must have a certain antiseptic influence on life and society, defeating corruption, fighting against injustice and making it easier for others to avoid sin. c) As salt preserves foods, we need to preserve the religious Faith, Christian cultural values, and moral principles which Jesus has given us, and to work at reconciling quarreling factions in families and communities. d) As salt is a food-flavoring agent, we need to add flavor to the lives of desperate people through outreach programs, which give meaning to their lives, boost their morale, offer them occasions to help others, and provide hope where there is none. 2) **We need to be the light of the world:** The second role of Christians is to receive the light of Christ and radiate it to everyone as love, kindness, mercy, forgiveness, humble service, and respect for those with different ethnic backgrounds, different lifestyles, other faiths -- or no faith at all. As a guiding light in darkness, our duty as Christians is to show the correct and safe way and to shine through the darkness with Christ's Light, thus removing the darkness caused by hatred, prejudice, spite, and jealousy. As a warning light, as Christians, our duty is to give timely and loving warning of physical and moral danger to those we encounter. As a warming light, our duty as Christians is to warm the cold hearts of others with warm, affectionate words and deeds.

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, Manuel Yañez.

Mass Intentions

Sat Feb 07	5:00 p.m.	Chase Barnes+
Sun Feb 08	10:00 a.m.	Children & Youth of our Parish
Sun Feb 08	12:30 p.m.	Dee Ann & Chris Ratcliff+
Tue Feb 10	12:30 p.m.	Jean Claude Libolt+
Thu Feb 12	5:00 p.m.	Dee Ann & Chris Ratcliff+
Fri Feb 13	12:30 p.m.	Fr. Mario Puluguiju+
Sat Feb 14	5:00 p.m.	Felix Wong+

Parish Giving

February 1, 2026

1st Collection	\$3,967.00
2nd Collection	\$ 285.00
3rd Collection	\$ 539.00
Children's Collection	\$ 77.00

2nd Collection	Feb 08	Emergency Fund
2nd Collection	Feb 15	Helpers in Ministry
3rd Collection	Feb 15	Lawn Care/Maintenance

Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 57
10:00 a.m. 170 and 12:30 p.m. 117

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

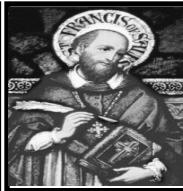
Maintenance Committee Chair: Rick Downey

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.fransalianusa.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 come before the Lord, talk to Him if you can; if you can't, just stay there, let yourself be seen, and don't try too hard to do anything else!

St. Francis de Sales

News and Notes

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.

Altar Society Bake Sale

The Altar Society's St. Valentine's Day Bake Sale is next weekend, February 14/15. Drop by and pick up some sweet treats for gifts, desserts, and snacks. Donations of baked goods are always appreciated.

All goods must be covered and do not require refrigeration.

Parishioner Input Form on Expanding the Parish Hall and Classrooms

Please drop your completed Parishioner Input 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. This is the last chance give your input. The form will be removed 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

The weekend of February 7/8 is follow-up weekend for the 2026 Bishop's Appeal. If you have not yet turned in your pledge, please prayerfully consider making a pledge or a one-time contribution. Appeal envelopes are in the pews. You may place your pledge envelope in the basket in the church, mail it directly to the diocese, or complete your pledge online at the Diocese of Tyler's website. 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 this coming 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 was distributed on Wednesday, February 4th. Parents, contact the church office if you did not receive the parent handout or if have questions about the training prior to February 11.

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 this weekend to make a brief announcement about what screenings are offered and to pre-register those interested in their services.

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 January 18

Kids: a. 4

b. Acacia wood

Answered by [Vicky Gutierrez](#).

Adults: a. Unblemished

b. 7 days

Answered by [Andrea Gustafson, Leo Rossler, Linda Rossler, Neri Gutierrez, and Mimi Plumb](#).

Congratulations to Linda Rossler for securing the prize for 3rd time.

Questions for February 8, 2026 (Exodus 36-40)

Kids: a. How many sheets of goat hair were made for the tent over the Dwelling?

b. When Moses saw that the Israelites carried out all the works the Lord had commanded them, what did he do?

Adults: a. What were the colors of the yarn the curtain of the entrance of the tent was made of?

b. For what did the Lord tell Moses to anoint and consecrate the Dwelling and all its furnishings?