

Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 27, 2026

From the Desk of the Pastor:

Scripture lessons summarized: In the first reading, Ezekiel corrects two incorrect Jewish beliefs: i) Children inherit the guilt of their ancestors and are punished for their ancestors' sins and ii) God is more strict than merciful. Jesus explains through the Gospel parable that God will punish us only for our own sins and that God's mercy overrules strict justice. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 25) appeals to God's compassion and mercy, begging Him to wipe away our sins and to extend mercy to us. In the second reading: Our final choice for God, made by perfect obedience to Him, will be rewarded. Example: It is because of Christ's perfect obedience to God's will in "*emptying himself, taking human form*" and humbling himself by accepting "*even death, death on a cross*," that God the Father "*exalted Christ, bestowed on him the Name above every other name*," and made Jesus the recipient of universal adoration. In today's Gospel parable, a man with two sons tells both to go out to work in the vineyard. The first son says he will not go, but later he regrets his refusal and goes to work. He represents tax collectors and public sinners who refused to obey God's commandments, but, after listening to John the Baptist and Jesus, repented and became eligible for eternal reward. The second son says that he will go but does not. He represents the chief priests and the elders, the Scribes, and the Pharisees. By their pride, and their refusal to obey God's call to repentance through John the Baptist and Jesus, these so-called "religious" people excluded themselves from eternal reward. The lesson taught: Jesus was teaching them, and us, that it is necessary that we continue to respond to God's saving actions on our behalf with an unchanging "*YES, Lord!*" in word and in deed. Even when we say no, God gives us many chances to change our minds and our hearts and gratefully accept His Mercy of conversion, repentance, and obedience to His will. Who are these two sons at present? The first son: 1) A repentant alcoholic, drug addict, chronic gambler, sexual deviant; 2) Members of a poor village parish who reach out to the needy in the community; 3) A Pastor who calls parishioners to true repentance; 4) A Church member who decides to tithe or young people who decides to remain abstinent until marriage. All these choose to obey Christ sacrificially. The second son: 1) A regular Church goer who refuses Christ's entry into his or her heart and life and lives a pagan life on weekdays; 2) A Christian who refuses to obey Christ in the sensitive areas of sex, money, and power; 3) A priest whose sermon is designed to please people rather than to please God; 4) A Church that ignores issues of justice and mercy; 5) A Sunday School that neglects to teach children the great Biblical stories -- in short, all people who appear to be faithful but, deep down in their hearts, are not.

Life messages: (1) We need to do God's will every day: Each one of us is responsible to God for every action, and the just God will punish or reward one according to one's actions. Since we are not sure about the moment of our death, our only guarantee of dying in God's friendship is to live in that friendship always, saying "Yes," to God by cheerfully doing His Will daily. (2) It is never too late for us to repent, be converted, and allow the Holy Spirit to renew our life: If we have been disobedient to God in our past life, we need to knock at the door of God's Mercy. God can and will do for us what, in His Mercy, He did for the repentant tax-collectors and harlots Jesus encountered. Hence, every morning we must pray for the strengthening power of the Holy Spirit to do God's will and every night we need to repent of our sins and ask God's pardon and forgiveness. May the huge number of COVID deaths serve us as a strong warning that we may not get a chance to be anointed before our death. If we are in serious sin we need to get reconciled with God, the Church and our brothers and sisters through the Sacrament of Reconciliation as soon as possible. Let us remember that it is never too late for us to turn back to God, ready to do His will.

Fr. Luke



Mass Schedule

Sunday Liturgies

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

Sunday
Rosary at 9:25 a.m.
Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Rosary in Spanish at 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. in English
7:30 p.m. in 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, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Rich Legler,
Kamica Luncford, Julieta Marroquin, Judy LeBlanc,
Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Leslie Payne, Donna
Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez,
Danny Smith, Matthew Williams, Manuel Yañez.

Mass Intentions

Sat	Sep 26	5:00 p.m.	Jeffrey Marcon S.I.
Sun	Sep 27	10:00 a.m.	Members of our Parish
Sun	Sep 27	12:30 p.m.	Maria Dimaculangan+
Tue	Sep 29	12:30 p.m.	Maria Dimaculangan+
Thu	Oct 01	5:00 p.m.	Evelyn Burlingame+
Fri	Oct 02	12:30 p.m.	Poor Souls in Purgatory+
Sat	Oct 03	5:00 p.m.	Amelia Wong+

Parish Giving

September 20, 2026

1st Collection	\$3,006.11
2nd Collection	\$ 455.00
3rd Collection	\$ 410.00
Children's Collection	\$ 64.00

Collections

2nd Collection	Sep 27	Scholarship Fund
2nd Collection	Oct 04	Emergency Fund
3rd Collection	Oct 04	Lawn care/Maintenance

Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 75
10:00 a.m. 141 and 12:30 p.m. 129

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 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!

Francis De Sales

News and Notes

First Friday - October 2, 2026

Next Friday, October 2nd, is First Friday. Holy Hour follows the 12:30 p.m. Mass from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and again from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Altar Society News

2026 Advent and Christmas Fund Raiser

The Altar Society's Advent and Christmas Fund Raiser will be held on the weekends of November 28/29 and December 5/6 after each Mass. Please help by donating good quality Christmas items and other items that would make nice Christmas gifts for the sale. Drop off your donations from October 1 through November 20: weekdays at the church office and weekends at the Gift Shop in the church. Include a suggested price for each donated item. If you have any questions, contact Mimi Plumb at 903 316-3744 or Glenda Means at 903 830-0926. We are grateful and thankful for your generosity.

Fall Gift Shop Hours

The Reflections Counter/Gift Shop will open after all Saturday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday Masses. For the 12:30 p.m. Masses, the gift shop will open on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. Please stop by and visit our shop. We have many items to meet your Catholic personal devotional needs. Thank you for your patronage and support.

Nominations Needed

Each year Prince of Peace has a Christmas gift-giving project in which parishioners purchase Christmas gifts for families who struggle financially. "Christmas Wishes" tags will be ready the weekend before Thanksgiving for parishioners to select one or more gifts to purchase. If you or a family you know would like to participate, please contact the church office no later than October 12. Families themselves will be responsible for picking up the gifts at the church office. Only a few families can be selected.

2026 Prince of Peace KofC Citizenship Essay Contest Information

The Knights of Columbus at Prince of Peace are sponsoring the 6th Annual Citizenship Essay Contest for students in grades 8 – 12 who attend Prince of Peace Catholic Church. The essay theme this year is: **"The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God."** Students are asked to write an essay, between 500-750 words, explaining what this quote from former U.S. President and Knights of Columbus member John F. Kennedy's 1961 Inaugural address means and its importance for the flourishing of a nation. Essays must be typed and submitted to the Knights of Columbus at Prince of Peace by October 15, 2026. Parents, please encourage your children in grades 8 – 12 to enter this worthy contest. Contact Knights Lars Gustafson at 281-782-6292 or Steve King at 903-312-2879 with questions.

SERENITY RETREAT at Wellspring

You are invited to join Fr. Gus as he guides the continued study of Serenity on Saturday, October 10, 2026, from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm at Wellspring, Fransalian Center for Spirituality, 16828 FM 2964, Whitehouse. Register at retreatsatwellspring@gmail.com

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. He will be meeting with the diocesan building committee soon and will get back with us with the result of the meeting. Thank you in advance for your support and prayers for the successful completion of this important project of ours.

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 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.

Kids, Youth/Adult Bible Corner

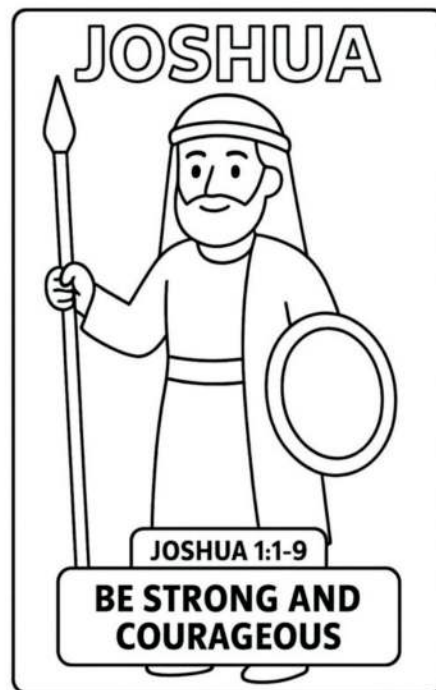
Questions for September 27 (Joshua 21-24)

Kids: a. How many were the total number of cities within the territory of Israelites which, with their pasture lands, belonged to the Levites?

b. At what age did Joshua die?

Adults: a. How did the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh rebel against God?

b. When they answered to the Western tribe, did the answer reveal that they were not rebelling against God?



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