

Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 23, 2026

From the Desk of the Pastor:

A teacher was giving her students a lesson in logic. "Here is the situation," she said. "A man is standing up in a boat in the middle of a river, fishing. He loses his balance, falls in, and begins splashing and yelling for help. His wife in her riverside house hears the commotion, knows he can't swim, and runs down to the bank. Why do you think she ran to the bank instead of calling for help?" A girl raised her hand and asked, "To draw out all his savings?" In today's Gospel, the disciples are faced with a similar situation – like being in class when the teacher asks a very important question. We want to seem intelligent so we blurt out an answer – not always the right one – but an answer nonetheless. In today's Gospel lesson Peter blurts out an answer that is theologically correct, inspired, and amazing.

The first reading, taken from Isaiah, tells us how God hates unfaithful and selfish officials. He removed the proud "master of the royal palace" from his office, taking from Shebna the power and responsibility of which he had proven unworthy, and gave both to the humble and faithful Eliakim. The *robe*, the *sash*, and the *keys* are the insignia of this office. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 138), David thanks God for having raised him from lowly origins and given him authority as king over the people of Israel. In the second reading, St. Paul praises God for the depth of His wisdom, knowledge, and correct judgments, asserting that He is the Source of all authority on earth and in Heaven. Today's Gospel passage shows us how Peter confesses Jesus as his *Lord and Savior* and how Jesus, in turn, approves Peter's words and gives him teaching and ruling authority in his Church. Thus, Jesus establishes a "Magisterium" in his Church to serve the spiritual and physical needs of the Church members. By Jesus' statement, "*I will give you the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven*," he gives Peter and his successors the power to bind and to loose (make laws; exercise authority) in the Church, and the assurance that their decisions will be ratified in Heaven.

Life messages: 1) We need to accept and experience Jesus as our Lord and personal Savior. First, we should accept Jesus as the Son of God and our personal Savior. This means that we are accepting Jesus as our Good Shepherd, our Divine Savior, and our Redeemer. Next, Jesus should become a living experience for us – as our God protecting us and providing for us in our life's journey, loving us, forgiving us, helping us, and transforming our lives and outlook. This is made possible by our listening to Jesus through the daily, meditative reading of the Bible, by talking to Jesus through daily, personal, communal and liturgical prayers, by offering our lives on the altar with Jesus whenever we participate in the Holy Mass, by receiving him in holy Communion, and by leading exemplary lives as we cooperate with His grace. Our personal experience of Jesus will also lead us to praise and thank God in all the events of our lives, both good, pleasant and painful, realizing that God's loving hands are behind everything.

2) We need to surrender our lives to Jesus, our Lord and Savior. That surrender requires that we freely give all areas of our lives to Jesus and radiate to all around us Jesus' sacrificial *agape* love, unconditional forgiveness, overflowing mercy, and committed service. The joy, the love, and the peace that we find in Jesus need to be reflected in the way we live our whole lives. We also surrender our lives to Jesus by rendering humble, loving service to others with the strong conviction that Jesus is present in every person.

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, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Luncford, 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 22	5:00 p.m.	Chase Barnes+
Sun	Aug 23	10:00 a.m.	Members of Our Parish
Sun	Aug 23	12:30 p.m.	Angelina Lezama S.I.

Weekday Mass Intentions will be offered by Fr. Luke:
Ciro Garcia Payan+(5)

Sat	Aug 29	5:00 p.m.	Marcon Family S.I.
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Parish Giving

August 16, 2026

1st Collection	\$2,679.00
2nd Collection	\$ 422.00
3rd Collection	\$ 491.00
Children's Collection	\$ 39.00

Collections

2nd Collection	Aug 23	Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales
2nd Collection	Aug 30	Mission Fund

Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 86
10:00 a.m. 126 and 12:30 p.m. 121

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.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 charity grows to perfection, it makes us not only to do good but rather moves us to do it carefully, frequently, promptly and devoutly.

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 Registration

Faith Formation will begin on Wednesday, September 2, 2026. Registration continues in the church office. Fees are due at the time of registration. The family registration fee (late fee) is now \$40 with \$10 materials fee per child. Baptismal certificates are needed at the time of registration for new students who were not baptized at Prince of Peace.

Parent Meeting

There will be a brief parent meeting prior to the start of Faith Formation classes on September 2. Children and their parents will meet in the church at 5:45 p.m. The basics of attendance, as well as parent involvement and responsibilities, will be presented. Catechists will be introduced. After this meeting and prayer, the catechists and children will go to their respective classrooms until 7:30 p.m.

Prince of Peace Youth Group Burger Bash on September 13

Support our amazing youth group as they kick off the school year with faith, fun, and fellowship! On Sunday, September 13, join us for our Back-to-School Burger Bash. Burgers will be ready for pickup from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$10 per plate that includes a juicy burger, chips, drink, and dessert! Tickets will be available for purchase after Mass on August 29-30 and September 5-6. All proceeds go directly to supporting youth retreats, service projects, and other faith-based events throughout the year!

Catholic Family Adventure Club

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

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.

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, but 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 at the 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.

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.



Saint Jeanne Jugan (1792-1879) founded the religious order, the Little Sisters of the Poor, exemplifying a life of holiness through selfless and humble acts of charity toward the sick, abandoned, and marginalized of her day. Jeanne's father died when she was four years old, and at a very young age she learned the meaning of service by helping her mother earn enough money to pay the bills. The French Revolution was going on at the time, and Catholics could not practice their faith without ridicule, imprisonment, or even death. So, Jeanne attended Faith Formation classes in secret. Because of the chaos of war, many in her community were poor and most had to beg to survive. Jeanne loved God with all her heart and early on she knew that God wanted her for some undisclosed future mission. She began working among the poor and destitute in a local hospital. Many years passed before Jeanne discovered God's will for her. One winter's night Jesus presented himself to her in the person of an elderly woman who was blind and sick and had no one to care for her. Jeanne brought the woman into her home. Jeanne received many more individuals like the elderly blind woman into her home. Then other young women came to help her. Like Jeanne, they also saw the Lord in the faces of the poor. Jeanne and the group of women became a religious community, the Little Sisters of the Poor. Their work quickly spread throughout and beyond France. Jeanne, as foundress and superior, had become well known and respected, until an ambitious priest dismissed her to take control. Jeanne was sent into the streets to beg on behalf of the poor and later was told to retire. When Jeanne died, the Little Sisters were not even aware that she was their foundress. Jeanne lived the words she often told her sisters: "We are grafted into the cross and we must carry it joyfully unto death." Saint Jean Jugan was canonized on October 11, 2009, and her Feast day is August 30.

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