

**From The Pastor's Desk**

Your prayer may be useless because you have refused to look clearly in the mirror. The mirror that I'm referring to is the mirror by which we see who we are: the mirror of self-understanding. If we don't have a somewhat realistic understanding of who we are, then there is a very real chance that our prayer is useless. Is this true? Is it possible?

The Pharisee in today's parable is one who trusted his own goodness and looked at others with contempt. He went to the Temple to pray. He did pray. But, when he went back home he was not justified. He was not right in God's sight. His prayer was useless because he did not see himself the way he really was. It was not his true self that was praying. It was a false self – a self that saw in his own mirror only what he wanted to see – not what was really there.

Wouldn't it be a tragedy if our prayer was useless? Well, the fact is that if we don't have some understanding of who we really are, then our prayer may well be useless.

The Pharisee constructed an image of himself that put him in the best possible light. Everything about him glowed with goodness. He did all the right things, and made sure he stayed away from doing the wrong things. Well, isn't this what we are supposed to do? Of course it is. But, what tainted his prayer was his judgment of others. He prays: *O God I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity.* By those words, he stops praying to God and starts playing God. It is God and God alone who is to judge others. That right is not given to us.

This is why Jesus was so hard on the Pharisee in today's parable. This man was not able to be open to life as it really was. He was comfortable only with his own view and would not let anything disturb that view.

If we have that kind of self-sufficient attitude, we set up our relationships so that the honest words about ourselves do not get said. We don't allow those situations to develop where we would learn something negative about ourselves. And if the truth ever does get said, we resort to denial, saying that the other is a so and so and doesn't know what he is talking about.

And so when we come to prayer, we have to be aware of who we are. Are we bringing a closed up and isolated self to prayer? Do we listen in prayer or are we always doing the talking? Genuine prayer is the prayer of a person who may be very unsure of him or herself but who comes before God with trust that God will grant us what we need – mercy, forgiveness, peace, compassion, serenity – whatever we need. When we come to pray it is not to let God know how good we are, but how much we rely on God's power to carry us along on our life journey.



**Weekly Readings & Activities**

- Sunday, Oct. 23** Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14
- Monday, Oct. 24** Eph 4:32-5:8; Lk 13:10-17
- Tuesday, Oct. 25** Eph 5:21-33; Lk 13:18-21
- Wednesday, Oct. 26** Eph 6:1-9; Lk 13:22-30
- Thursday, Oct. 27** Eph 6:10-20; Lk 13:31-35
- Friday, Oct. 28** Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-16
- Saturday, Oct. 29** Phil 1:18b-26; Lk 14:1,7-11
- Sunday, Oct. 30** Wis II:22-12:2; 2 Thes I:11-2:2; Lk 19:1-10

**Sunday, Oct. 23**

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—Intentions of Barbara & Jon Massey
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Food & Fellowship
- 9:15/11:15 a.m. Children's Faith Formation
- 3rd Grade Mornings with Moms & Dads
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Clusters: 1 "Acts" / 2 "The Prophets"
- 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Jim Finger
- 10:30 a.m. AFM Commission Meeting
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Cluster 3 "Estudio Biblico"
- 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Lydia Aguilar
- 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—†Vladislav Stepien
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Ministry

**Monday, Oct. 24 St. Anthony Mary Claret**

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Cecil Bosworth
- 9:15 a.m. Monday Morning Scripture Study
- 7:00 p.m. Live Play: Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy

**Tuesday, Oct. 25**

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass –†Jim Finger
- 6:00 p.m. All Souls' *Prayer Novena*
- 7:00 p.m. "Divine Mercy" Class
- 7:30 p.m. K of C 1st Degree Team Installation

**Wednesday, Oct. 26**

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Graciana Santiago
- 9:30 a.m. Legion of Mary
- 6:00 p.m. Confessions
- Family Prayer Group
- 7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. Catechetical Session

**Thursday, Oct. 27**

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Jim Finger
- 6:00 p.m. All Souls' *Prayer Novena*
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

**Friday, Oct. 28 Sts. Simon & Jude**

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Faye Survil
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Hour
- 6:00 p.m. All Souls' *Prayer Novena*
- Agee/Denoy Wedding Rehearsal

**Saturday, Oct. 29**

- 8:00 a.m. Ministry of Consolation
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Henry Davis
- 9:00 a.m. Lector & EM Makeup Day of Reflection Workshop
- 11:00 a.m. Agee/Denoy Wedding
- 2:00 p.m. Castillo/Segura Convalidation
- 3:30 p.m. Confessions
- 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—†Jim Finger
- 6:45 p.m. All Souls' *Prayer Novena*

**Sunday, Oct. 30**

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass—†Jim Finger
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Food & Fellowship
- 9:15/11:15 a.m. Children's Faith Formation
- 2nd Grade Mornings with Moms & Dads
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Clusters: 1 "Acts" / 2 "The Prophets"
- 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†Tyler Timms
- 11:15 a.m. Adult Cluster 3 "Estudio Biblico"
- 11:30 a.m. Holy Mass—†John McCann
- 12:45 p.m. All Souls' *Prayer Novena*
- 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass—†Teresita Fajardo
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Ministry

**Youth Ministry**

Thank you to everyone who came out to Chick-fil-A last Monday and supported our fundraiser! All proceeds will go to our annual pilgrimage to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. coming up in January 2017!

Every year before All Souls' Day, the youth group goes to Little Bethel Cemetery to pick up trash and make the place look nice for visiting family members. Join us this year at Little Bethel **NEXT Sunday, Oct. 30 1:30-2:30p.m.**

Tomorrow night, the Young Adult group will attend the play. "*Faustina: Messenger of Diving Mercy*" for our meeting! See you there!

**All Souls' Day Novena Masses, Nov. 2-10.** If you would like your deceased loved ones to be included in Novena prayers, please complete an envelope with their names, written legibly and include donation. Envelopes can be returned through the offertory now until NEXT Sunday, Oct. 30. Their names will be placed at the altar during the Novena Masses.

**All Saints Day, Tuesday, Nov. 1**  
**Holy Day of Obligation Masses:** 8:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**All Souls' Day: Wednesday, Nov. 2**  
**Commemoration of All the Faithful Mass:** 6:00 p.m.  
 Potluck dinner will follow immediately after Mass.  
**Please Note:** There will be no 8:30 a.m. Mass or Communion Service or 6:00 p.m. Confession on this day.

Pastoral offices will be closed on All Saints Day, **Tuesday, Nov. 1.** Regular office hours will resume **Wednesday, Nov. 2.**

**SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL CLERGY APPRECIATION DINNER—Thursday, Nov. 10:** Knights of Columbus Assembly 2799 will sponsor a dinner open to ALL Parishioners, in the Dining Room. Tickets are available after all for \$20.00 each. Additional information can be obtained from SK Andy Goza (214) 212-8114 or SK Jim Russell (214) 728-6702.

**Children and Youth Christmas Eve Mass Choir:** All Youth 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or older, are invited to join this year's 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass Choir. Sign up outside the Music Room in the church building. Instrumentalists are welcome also. Practices will be held in the church, **Saturdays, Nov. 12 - Dec. 17, 10:00-11:30 a.m.** (No practice Nov. 26). Contact Mary Russell (214) 773-1293, or mrussell@swbell.net for more information.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in celebration of **Marcel & Flora Osuji's wedding anniversary.**

**Sacramental Preparation**

If you missed the first **PARENT ONLY** meeting for the **Sacrament of Eucharist** this past Sunday, please contact Lisa Estrada, x12 as soon as possible. The first **PARENT & STUDENT** session is **Sunday, Nov. 6 1:30-3:30 p.m.** in the Gym.

**Parents, Confirmation Retreat Permission Forms** are due as soon as possible, and don't forget to turn in your youth's Confirmation Sponsor Forms.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** There seems to be some confusion in regards to Sunday Faith Formation/Youth Ministry attendance when there is also a sacramental preparation class scheduled for that same afternoon. Parents, your children/youth must attend their regularly scheduled Faith Formation/Youth Ministry class on Sunday morning/evening **AS WELL AS** the afternoon sacramental preparation meeting. It's both...not one or the other. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Lisa or Devyn.

Information and paperwork regarding infant Baptism (ages 6 and under) may be directed to Lisa Estrada, x12. Our next baptismal preparation class for parents and godparents is **Saturday, Nov. 5, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** All completed paperwork must be completed and on file two weeks prior to the class date.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS:** Those previously trained EM's who were unable to attend the Oct. 22 enrichment session, please come **NEXT Saturday, Oct. 29, 9:30 a.m.** Fr. Joe requests that all EM's attend an enrichment session annually to be commissioned to serve.



Please join us for our First Friday Evening Adoration **Nov. 4, 7:00-9:00 p.m.**, which will include the **Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Pilgrimage Prayer Service.** For more details about this program, contact Grand Knight Jim Richardson (214) 952-1257.

**Finances**

**Oct. 15/16**

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Contributions           | \$20,948.00          |
| Average Weekly Expenses | <u>(\$24,785.00)</u> |
| Deficit                 | <u>(\$ 3,837.00)</u> |

Balance in the Future Fund: \$35,286.00

Thank you for your continued generous support of the parish, our diocese and the global Catholic Church. May God bless you!

# CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



Grab your "mummy" and a canned food item and make plans to join us on Halloween night, Monday, Oct. 31, 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Community Center gym for our annual

## HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR!

There'll be lots of games, snacks, lots of treats and maybe even a few tricks. Be sure to bring a treat bag and your cutest costume (let's keep it from being too creepy) and enjoy an evening of ghostly fun! Canned food donations will be collected at the door to help stock Holy Spirit's food pantry in anticipation of upcoming holiday needs.

We are also graciously accepting donations of bagged Halloween candy, treats and prizes (we'll need a lot as this is one of our largest community events!). Please drop your donations off at the Community Center front desk, attention Deborah. Also, if you would like to volunteer to help out (Confirmation families, here's a great service project!), contact Deborah or Devyn. We need some helping hands!!!

3rd Grade "Mornings with Mom & Dad" are THIS Sunday, Oct. 23 in the dining room. Mom & Dad, plan on joining your child for some one-on-one time and experience what they are learning in their Faith Formation class. To ensure minimal disruption, our nursery is available for younger siblings. Please note that Mornings with Mom & Dad **ARE NOT** associated with our sacramental preparation program. 2nd Grade "Mornings with Mom & Dad" sessions are NEXT Sunday, Oct. 30 in the Dining Room.



As part of our ongoing efforts to provide not only educational, but also lived faith experiences, Children's Faith Formation would like to invite everyone to a Special All Saints/All Souls' Day Celebration NEXT Sunday, Oct. 30 in the Community Center lobby.

So that we can continue to honor those who have left this world but live on in our hearts, we invite you to bring a framed photo of your special loved one to be placed on a Memory Table. We ask that all photos be turned in to the Faith Formation Office **no later than Wednesday, Oct. 26** so that the table can be decorated and ready for all to see on the 30th. Be sure to put your name on the back of your photo so we know who to contact if you forget to retrieve your photo.

Additionally, Catholic Updates will be available with information on both All Saints and All Souls Days, a basket for name submissions to be included in the novena for the deceased and the mass schedule for The Solemnity of All Saints (Nov. 1), which is a Holy Day of Obligation. Contact Deborah with any questions.

*Como parte de nuestros esfuerzos para proporcionar no sólo experiencias educativas de fe, pero vivirlas también, el ministerio de doctrina de fe de niños quisiera invitar a cada uno de ustedes, a celebrar el día de los Santos y día de los muertos, el domingo, 30 de oct. en el lobby del centro comunitario.*

*De modo que podamos seguir honrando a aquellos que han dejado este mundo pero siguen viviendo en nuestros corazones, le invitamos a traer una foto en marco de su ser querido para ser colocado en una Mesa de Memoria. Pedimos que todas las fotos sean entregadas a la Oficina de doctrina de Fe no más tarde que el miércoles, 26 de oct. de modo que la mesa pueda ser decorada y lista para que todos puedan ver el 30 de oct. No olvide poner su nombre en la parte posterior de la foto para saber a quién contactar si usted se olvida de recuperar su foto.*

*Al igual tendremos disponible información sobre el día de los santos y día de los muertos, una canasta ester disponible para incluir nombres para la novena en honor al fallecido y el horario de las misas de la solemnidad de Todos Los Santos (1 de noviembre), que es un Día Santo de obligación. Por favor póngase en contacto con Deborah con cualquier pregunta.*

**Adult & Family Ministry**

For information about any of our Adult & Family Ministry programs, please Email:

**Richard Johnson:** richardjohnson@holyspiritcc.org

**Veronica Houston:** veronicahouston@holyspiritcc.org

**Coming to Holy Spirit THIS Monday!**



**LIVE Theatrical Drama!**

**THIS Monday, Oct. 24 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Here at Holy Spirit Catholic Church!**

More info: (972) 298-4971 or [DivineMercyDrama.com](http://DivineMercyDrama.com)

Get your tickets in the Narthex,

the Community Center (Monday) and online at

<http://www.holyspiritcatholic.com/adult-and-family>

**Novena for All Souls' and other intentions:**

Please join us **THIS Tuesday, Oct. 25 - All Souls' Day, Wednesday, Nov. 2.** Tues-Fri 6:30 p.m. / Sat 6:45 p.m. / Sun 12:45 p.m. / Mon 6:30 p.m. / Tues-Wed 5:30 p.m.. In order that all in our multicultural parish may join together, those who wish may lead some of the Novena prayers in their own language. Contact John Rizo: [Jrizo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Jrizo@sbcglobal.net).



*"Blessed are the merciful..."*

**PARISH RETREAT:  
Living Beyond the Year of Mercy**

**Saturday, Nov. 5,  
Program 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Continental breakfast provided

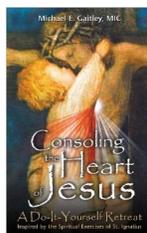
**Featuring Maryknoll Lay Missioner Ken  
Eppes**

For singles, couples, & families of all ages.

\$5.00 for Adults. Ages 13-18 **Free**. Childcare provided ages 1-12.

Call the Church Office @ (972) 298-4971 to reserve your space!

**Consoling the Heart of Jesus:** A 10-week small-group retreat featuring Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. Begins **Wednesday, Nov. 2, 7:00-9:00 p.m.** Continue living out the Year of Mercy with this 10-week small-group retreat, focusing on the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Divine Mercy. Weekly meetings will include group discussion of the book and a video presentation by Fr. Gaitley. Registration forms available in Narthex.



**Holy Spirit Library is open!**

Hours are **Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m. before evening classes and Sundays 9:00—11:30 a.m.** Come see our collection of over 500 books! Help us grow! Donations of new and gently used Catholic books are welcomed. If you are interested in helping in the library during these hours please contact **Debbie Gleason (214) 755-3534**. Volunteers must be Safe Environment-trained.

**Community Life Ministry**

**Sunday Morning Food and Fellowship**

**Today: Breakfast Casserole by RCIA**

Join us in the Gym for a homemade casserole to fill up your stomach and some fellowship to fill up your soul for the week! ☺

**Next Sunday, Oct. 30: Coffee & Donuts**

**Autumn Family Social THANK YOU!**

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the Zone Board and Ministry Volunteers who helped make our second Autumn Family Social a great success! We enjoyed meeting new families who attended and extend a big WELCOME to ALL of our new parishioners. **162 new families** have registered since January 2016! We are so thankful to have you as part of our parish family.

**Outreach Ministry**

**40 Days for Life: TODAY is the day that Holy Spirit has adopted to pray** in front of the Planned Parenthood abortion Center at (7989 West Virginia Dr. in Dallas). Please come out and pray for an hour (or more) with us. We will be praying 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., if you would like to be a part of this day of peaceful and prayerful witness.



**Baby Banks are due back Monday, Oct. 31.** If you didn't get a chance to pick up a Baby Bank there are still some available in the back of the Church or in the Community Center lobby. Please make checks out to Catholic Pro Life Committee. Your donations will go to help to support the Crisis Pregnancy Centers in the Diocese of Dallas. Please contribute whatever you can in an effort to save the lives of the unborn.

**Baby and Maternity Items Needed:** We are collecting for the White Rose and Birth Choice Crisis Pregnancy Centers through the end of this month. You can place your donations in the cribs in the Narthex and Community Center Lobby. Copies of the list of items needed are attached to the cribs. Thank you for whatever you can contribute.

**Rachel's Corner**

*"Before this retreat I could only imagine my child. I was able to get all the hatred out and begin to forgive. Now I even value my husband sitting here beside me. He left work behind to be together here. I was terrified to come and thanks to God after 18 years it is all out now. I feel light and with no more burdens. I was broken and now I have been made whole again"* (Testimonial from Rachel Retreat). Do you feel the weight of the burden inside and wish you had a way to be free? Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and let Him make you whole again. Contact Abortion AfterCare-Healing, The Rachel Ministries at [healing@racheldallas.org](mailto:healing@racheldallas.org) or call 214.544.CARE (2273).