God . . . wills everyone to be saved
and to come to knowledge of the truth.
— 1 Timothy 2:4

GOD IS ON THE SIDE OF THE POOR

Two of today's readings make it quite clear that God is on the side of the poor. Amos describes in detail the exploitation of the poor and needy. The psalm repeats that God acts to benefit the poor and lowly. But Luke turns things upside down, telling a tale of a conflicted steward, about to be fired, who demonstrates his cleverness and is rewarded. Like the community to whom Paul writes in Timothy, these readings are personal, directed to believers, members of the Jewish and Christian communities, who struggle to deal with personal choices about how to conduct their lives. They offer an outline for how God wishes us to live in a world as complicated and as confusing as our own. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

When Jacob Marley appears to Ebenezer Scrooge at the beginning of A Christmas Carol, he wears a long chain, clasped around his middle, "made of cash-boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, deeds, and heavy purses wrought in steel." He tells Scrooge that he wears the chain he forged in life, and now he wanders the earth because in life his spirit never went beyond "the narrow limits of our money-changing hole." Old Marley's life had been about money until it ended; now he pays the price.

Luke calls on his community to consider its use of money. In today's parable a steward has been caught squandering his master's property. Seeing that his days are numbered, the steward acts quickly to ensure that he will have friends at the end. Surprisingly, the master commends him for "acting prudently." Jesus then comments that the children of this world have more gumption than the children of light, using their money to make friends.

Three other comments follow: Use money to make friends for eternity; trustworthiness in small matters and earthly wealth will lead to being trusted with true wealth, i.e. God's kingdom; and you have to choose between God and "mammon" (whatever holds your deepest trust other than God). In a nutshell, use your money to serve; allow God to save.

Jesus is in line with the prophet Amos, who castigates the businessmen of his day for cheating the poor and needy. God is on the side of these little ones. They are the ones we are to befriend by using our money for their good. Jesus, who came as a "ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:4), is our true wealth.

—James A. Wallace, C.SS.R.
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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Although June is the month most associated with weddings in the United States, September has become more popular in recent years. Wedding celebrations always require some savvy planning, and people who have a talent for hospitality in the mix. At the wedding feast at Cana, the mother of Jesus was recruited to deal with some of the details of the banquet, and when a very understandable crisis arose, she did what she could to rescue the party. Anyone who has ever run out of ice, dessert, or table settings knows the stress!

Slowly, the memory of Jesus Christ's blessing of this marriage feast led the Church to form a way to bless marriages. A thousand years ago weddings migrated from the family home to the doors of the church, where the celebration was held in public view. From this practice came a prayer called the "Nuptial Blessing," one of the most solemn prayers in our tradition. It is very much like the prayers by which baptismal water and chrism are consecrated, the ordination prayer over a priest, and the Eucharistic Prayers over bread and wine. Four hundred fifty years ago, weddings moved inside the church building. All of this gives married couples good reason to celebrate their anniversaries well, especially with the clinking of glasses filled with good wine.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday:	Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-5; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday:	Ezr 9:5-9; Tb:13:2, 3-4abefghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday:	Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 9:7-9
Friday:	Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43:1-4; Lk 9:18-22
Saturday:	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday:	Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE
Sept. 27–Guadalupanas Oct. 4–Jamaica

FOOD DRIVE

The parish will be collecting non-perishable food items to donate to one of our local food pantries. You can bring your donations to any of the Masses during the month of September. Let us share what we have with those in need.

God Bless you – Thank you!

COLECTA DE ALIMENTOS

La parroquia recolectará alimentos no-perecederos para donar a una de nuestras despensas de alimentos locales. Puede traer sus donaciones a cualquiera de las Misas durante el mes de septiembre. Compartamos lo que tenemos con los necesitados. *Dios lo Bendiga - Gracias!*

Saturday, September 20th -
5:00PM-IHM– +Maria Morales & Carlos Guerrero, Rodolfo Morales; +Daniel Grimaldo; +Manuela Solano

Sunday, September 21st
8:00AM – +Mercedes Perez; +Sara Gomez, Eulalio y Sarita Olvera, Ysidro y Elvira Navarette; +Francisco de la Torre y Fidencio Carlos
9:30AM –HF– For the People of Nolan County
11:00AM – Humberto Diaz; In thanksgiving for Jerry DelaCruz's birthday

Tuesday, September 23rd 9:00AM - HF
Noah Hernandez, Humberto Diaz & Martin Luna; +Leticia Acopa

Wednesday, September 24th 6:00PM–IHM
+Jovita, Benjie & Daniel Olguin; Jennifer & Roger Gomez

Thursday, September 25th 9:00AM HF
+Ray T. Reyes

Friday, September 26th 9:00AM– HF
+Margarito, Socorro, Pedro, Margarito, Jr., Eluterio, Alfredo y Florentino Gutierrez; + Joe Angel y Brandon Ceballos

Saturday, September 27th -
5:00PM-IHM– +Manuel Jaramillo; +Gloria Castro, Rudy Torres, Delia Sparkman, Nellie, Dolores, Francisco, Frank, Jr., Velia, Juana, Tony y Patricia Gomez; In thanksgiving for Ramon & Diana Rivera's 50th Anniversary

Sunday, September 28th
8:00AM – Por la Gente de Nolan County
11:00AM – +Manuel and Cuquita Heredia; +Ruben Gutierrez

09/06-07, 2025 COLLECTION DATA

ENVELOPES/CHECKS…….$4098.00
LOOSE PLATE…….1580.71
TOTAL COLLECTION……...$5678.71

● **PROJECT RACHEL** Hope and Healing after Abortion
Safe and Confidential Helpline (432) 236-9883
Email: projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org
Website: HopeAfterAbortion.com
● **PROYECTO RAQUEL**: Esperanza y Sanación después del Aborto
Línea de Ayuda Segura y Confidencial (432) 236-9883
Correo electrónico: projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org
Sitio web: HopeAfterAbortion.com

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2025

"Always be ready to give an explanation…for a reason for your hope" **1 Pet 3:15**

All CCD teachers, aides, and helpers will be commissioned during the 11 o'clock Mass this Sunday, September 21st.

CCD RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026
● Sunday classes - Pre-K to 6th Grade; 9:30-10:40am
● Wednesday Classes -7th to 11th Grades; 7:00-8:30pm

OCIA – Need Sacraments? Looking to grow closer to God through baptism, communion or confirmation? Classes have started but you may still go by the parish office to sign up. Classes are held on Thursdays, 6:00pm at Holy Family Hall, 507 Crane St.

WEDNESDAY – Confessions begin at 5:15pm followed by Mass at 6:00pm & Adoration until 8:30pm at IHM.

WHY AM I CATHOLIC? Deacon Bill's sharing session is every Tuesday at his home, @6pm. All are invited!

ULTREYA– meets Monday, September 22nd , 7:00pm at IHM Hall. All are welcome! You don't have to be a cursillista to attend. For information on the Cursillo movement, please visit http://www.sanangelocursillo.com/home.html

GRUPO MISIONERO meets on Thursdays, IHM hall, @7:00pm.

PARISH MOVIE GROUP – will meet this Sunday, September 21st, at 4:00pm, Holy Family parish hall

● **HOLY FAMILY** members from Fr. Nilo's parish will be here this weekend selling raffle tickets for their Parish Festival. Please show your support!

JAMAICA September 28, 2025

Holy Spirit Jamaica is scheduled for ***next Sunday***! Once again, we are asking for donations for the bingo prizes, cakes for the cake walk, 2 liter soft drinks, and stuffed animals for game prizes. All donations may be dropped off at the parish office. Bring your cakes on either Saturday, Sept 27th or Sunday morning, Sept. 28th. We greatly appreciate your support. If you would like to help in any other way, please contact Ellie Mendez @ 725-0671. Please turn in your money & tickets to Patty Torres (finance) Someone from the finance council will be outside after all the masses. The raffle is the biggest money maker of the Jamaica! Thank you for your help!

● **SELL 100 Tickets** to have your name entered in a drawing for a CHANCE to win a NINTENDO SWITCH 2"

● *"WE NEED more JAMAICA SPONSORS!"*
Contact Patty Torres @325-733-8252

HOLY SPIRIT
CATHOLIC PARISH

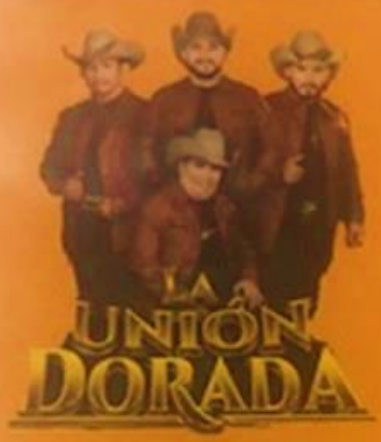
511 W Alabama Ave
Sweetwater, TX 79556

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH

JAMAICA

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

FEATURING MUSIC FROM:



& Three Stories High

GRAND PRIZE
BRAND-NEW UTV

Other Prizes

$2500 gift card
$1200 Apple card
Freezer full of meat
Patio Furniture
Custom Grill
3D Printer
Nintendo Switch 2
Robot Vacuum

Jamaica begins 10:00AM until 7:00pm. Come and enjoy great food, games, and fellowship!