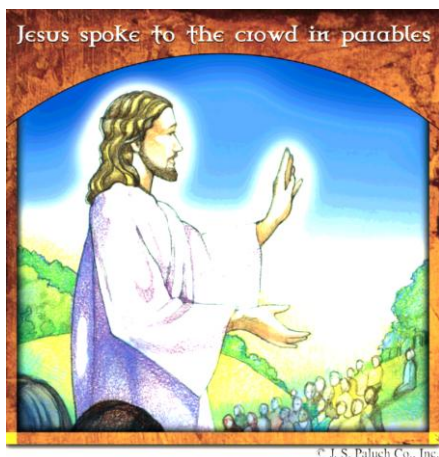


Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



PATIENTLY AWAITING JUDGMENT

Matthew, more than any other evangelist, talks about Jesus leaving and returning home. Often Jesus leaves the house because crowds have assembled outside and want to be taught. Today, after having taught and dismissed the crowds, his disciples follow him home, seeking further explanation of what seem to be, at least to us today, pretty straightforward parables.

For both Matthew and Mark, when Jesus is in the house with his disciples it signals a special teaching moment, and it should cause us today to perk up our ears. Usually it is Jesus giving commonsense advice about what it will mean to follow him. Today is no different. To follow Jesus means to be ready to encounter the followers of evil, to have to live and work and preach among them. It means patiently awaiting the judgment that can only come from God, the judgment of justly deciding who will be thrown into the flame and who will live to be a brightly shining saint. Let us heed this house-teaching, for it will be the same for us who follow Jesus Christ today.

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COMMENT

God's supremacy is clear in the reading from Wisdom. God is all-knowing, just, and powerful. Our hearts, thoughts, and actions are clear to God before we even know them. Even with incomprehensible power, God is patient. The words of Wisdom show us how God tempers justice with mercy and how God's actions teach us to be patient, fair, and hopeful.

Paul encouraged the Romans to be patient through the trials of this life. The fretting is really not worth the effort when compared to the glory God has in store for us. We are saved in the hope of what is unseen, and we need to be patient in order to receive God's promise of heaven. Even when we lack patience, the Spirit helps us and gives us the heart to hope, wait, and pray.

Jesus tells a parable about wheat and weeds in Matthew's Gospel. After planting good seeds of wheat, an enemy came along to the field and spread weed seeds.

When the plants popped through the soil, the workers were upset to see so many weeds and wanted to pull them out. The owner encouraged the workers to be patient—to let them grow together until the harvest. Whatever weeds were left, the workers were to bundle and burn.

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REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Our experience of the world is often an experience of opposites: truth and lies, goodness and evil, beauty and ugliness. They are found in intimate proximity, often on the same page of the newspaper or in the same half-hour news report, and intertwined in the same human heart. Their existence is connected to human freedom as well as to the power of sin and evil in our world.

Jesus tells a parable that makes the same point as the author of Wisdom: God's exercise of power is tempered by leniency and mercy; God's justice is balanced by loving-kindness. Our desire to pull up and destroy the weeds prematurely could destroy the good wheat. While the interpretation in the Gospel applies this image to different groups in a community, we can also hear this parable as referring to the weeds and wheat, the evil and goodness residing in the heart.

Jesus says God's active presence in the world is something as small as a mustard seed and as fragile as a pinch of yeast, yet each contains a power that, when released, will bring about growth and expansion.

In the meantime, the challenge is being as patient with others as God is, while working with God to purify our own hearts. Last week Jesus warned about the sluggish heart; today he pictures a contaminated heart, good penetrated by evil. But the power of God is stronger than the power of evil and death. Be patient, and remain open to the workings of God's grace.—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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Celebrate the Baby by Helping Babies!

The parish will be collecting baby items during the month of July to donate to the Women's Pregnancy Crisis Center.

►BABY DONATIONS to include:

- Diapers – Sizes 4-6, Wipes,
- New or gently used Baby Clothes, preferably 12 months and up,
- Baby Lotions, and Baby Shampoo.

You can bring your donations to any of the Masses.

¡Celebra al Bebé ayudando a los bebés!

La parroquia estará recolectando artículos para bebés durante el mes de julio para donarlos al Centro de Crisis de Embarazo de Mujeres.

►DONACIONES PARA BEBÉS para incluir:

- Pañales - Tallas 4-6, Toallitas húmedas,
- Ropa de bebé nueva o poco usada,
- preferiblemente de 12 meses en adelante,
- Lociones para bebés y Champú para bebés.

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE

July 25 – Grupo Misionero August 1 - Guadalupanas



Those who are just must be kind.

— *Wisdom 12:19*

Saturday, July 18th -

5:00-IHM – For the People of Nolan County

Sunday, July 19th –

8:00AM – IHM Grupo Misionero;

+Christopher Cardoza; +José Angel Zarate

11:00AM – IHM – In thanksgiving for the birthdays of Pat Saenz, Mikenly, Mikayla & Adri Ashley;

+Abundio Saenz, Sr;

For the health and well-being of Sammy Camacho

Tuesday, July 21st 9:00AM-HF

+Rene “JoJo” Martinez

Wednesday, July 22nd 6:00PM - IHM

+David Palacios, Jr.

Thursday, July 23rd 9:00AM-HF

+Guadalupe, Cecilia, & Martina Martinez

Friday, July 24th 9:00AM – HF

For the success of the Cursillo Movement

Saturday, July 25th -

5:00-IHM – +Maria Morales Guerrero, Rodolfo

Morales, Carlos C, Maria and Carlos Guerrero, Sr.;

+Louis Flores; +Trini Longoria

Sunday, July 26th –

8:00AM – IHM En acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Refugio Gonzalez y Sarah Kelly

+Ezequiel, Albina, Delia y Teresa Gonzalez; Ebelio Solis; Rafael y Concha Acevedo; +Eugenia Guerrero

11:00AM – IHM – For the People of Nolan County

► **RAFFLE TICKETS “2026 Jamaica” – Don’t forget to get your raffle tickets after Mass!**

“HOLY SPIRIT 2026 VBS”

“*Fruits of the Spirit*” - Incoming 1st– 6th Grade,

Tuesday, July 21st – Friday, July 24th, 6:00-8:00pm at Immaculate Heart Hall. We are still taking registrations!

“*The Rosary*” - Incoming 7th – 12th grade,

Monday, July 27th, - Thursday, July 30th, 6:00pm – 8:00pm, at Holy Family Hall.

Sign-ups this weekend & next!

•**Note back page this bulletin for VBS The Rosary**

VBS starts with a **Pool Party** Monday, July 20th, 6:00pm – 9:00pm, at the Sweetwater City Pool.

Every one is Invited!

WEDNESDAY – Mass at 6:00pm & Adoration until 8:00pm @IHM. Fr. Josh will be in the church after the Mass. If you need to go to confession, please let him know. He will hear confessions until 8:00pm.

GRUPO MISIONERO meets Thursdays, 7:00pm @Immaculate Heart Hall.

ULTREYA MEETINGS

Sunday, July 19th - 6:00pm (*English*)

Monday, July 20th - 7:00pm (*Spanish*)

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>

• **COME JOIN THE FUN!** The Holy Spirit C’athletes will be getting ready to play in the Sweetwater Church League for this fall, and practice will begin soon. If you are interested in playing, please contact Deacon David Mendez at 325-725-6333 for more information. No experience necessary, must be 14 years of age to participate.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 36:6-7b, 8-11; Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17; Ps Jer 31:10-12d, 13; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1b, 2-6; Mt 20:20-28

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 [44-46]

July 11/12, 2026 COLLECTION DATA

ENVELOPES/CHECKS.....\$3669.00

LOOSE PLATE.....1671.89

Honduran Partnership.....970.00

TOTAL COLLECTION.....\$6310.89

Thank you for your generosity

WORD OF LIFE July 19th “Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together.”

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

“Married Love and the Gift of Life”

BE A JAMAICA SPONSOR!

“*1st Sponsor*”--Please give a big “Thank you” to **José y Gloria Guzman** for their generous **2026 Jamaica Sponsorship**



VBS

Vacation Bible School

— THEME: —

The ROSARY



YOUTH AGES
7TH GRADE TO 12TH GRADE



JULY 27TH – 30TH



6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.



HOLY FAMILY HALL

Share it.

— — — — —
GROW IN FAITH. GROW IN MARY. GROW CLOSER TO JESUS.

