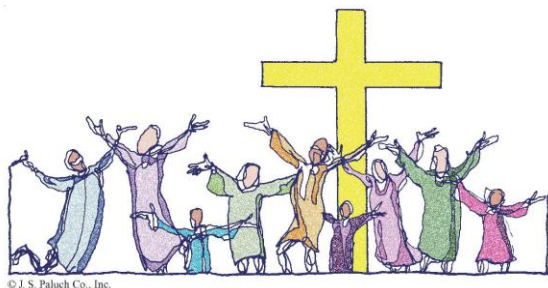


Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



COMMENT

The reading from Isaiah speaks to “insiders” and “outsiders.” It reminds us that salvation is not contingent on membership in a chosen people. Rather, it depends on a person’s attitude of faith. All who embrace the faith of Israel will enjoy the salvation God has promised Israel. God is not exclusionary. God is openness and welcome. That is why God’s house “shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

In the second reading, we find Paul speaking of a remnant, a recurring theme throughout the ancient Scriptures. Paul emphasizes that the prophets have continued to announce that no matter what befalls God’s people, God will save a remnant. Paul sees this as a divine gift, a gift of life out of death.

Paul is reminding us not to grow smug, not to write off the Jews. God is working in ways we cannot understand—perhaps cannot even imagine. The house of God will be a home for all, for God has so promised. God will stay true to that word. God will have no “them” and “us,” no insiders and outsiders.

In today’s Gospel passage, the Canaanite woman is the ultimate “outsider.” She is a triple threat, you might say: she is a non-Jew; she is a Canaanite enemy; she is a woman. Maybe she’s a quadruple threat: she’s also bold. Her daughter is suffering, troubled and beset by a demon. The woman recognizes that Jesus is Lord, Son of David, so she boldly calls upon him to cure her child. Jesus doesn’t offer her any response. However, the woman does get a rise out of Jesus’ disciples. They don’t feel pity for her, only embarrassment because of her. Their response is to entreat Jesus to get rid of her. Jesus proceeds to do just that. He tells the woman that his mission is to the lost sheep of Israel alone. The woman, however, is persistent. Jesus becomes more blunt, even insulting. She brushes off the insult and says that she’ll take what she can get. Jesus can’t refuse such faith. He gives her everything. He heals her daughter.

Since Jesus repeatedly denies the Canaanite woman and even goes so far as to call her the “D” word (dog), it’s tempting to read sarcasm, even venom, in Jesus’ words. To do so, however, would be to fail to recognize an ancient mode of Semitic dialogue and wit that matches wise aphorism with wise aphorism or riddle with riddle. Jesus tosses off a maxim to the woman and she turns it around on him to her own advantage. Jesus is impressed.

He acknowledges her wisdom and praises her faith.

Matthew uses this event to explain how Jesus’ mission of salvation is not a parochial one. Rather, the evangelist wants to make it abundantly clear that Jesus’ mission is one that extends beyond the house of Israel to the ends of the earth and to all its people. Matthew wants us to understand that membership in the chosen people is neither enough nor essential. What is enough, what is essential is active faith.

REFLECTION

The Canaanite woman is one gutsy gal. Unnamed, outcast, a foreigner, a woman, she stands for us as a model for faith and faith-filled prayer. Her prayer comes from a deep recognition of who she is and upon whom it is she is calling. Her prayer is “grounded” in humility (from *humus*, “of the earth/dust”). Her intercession is made not on her own behalf, but on behalf of her sick and tortured child. Her prayer is simple, to the point, and brooks no misinterpretation: “Lord, help me!” No matter that she is one of Israel’s outcasts, she calls upon Jesus to “observe what is right, do what is just” (Isaiah 56:1). The woman’s faith is strong. That makes her prayer persistent. Neither she nor it will be rebuffed. She calls to mind the words of Saint Paul, “There does not exist among you Jew or Greek, slave or freeman, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28). Here, in the middle of Matthew’s Gospel, the Canaanite woman serves as our representative, one of the many ordinary, unnamed, and outcast people, on behalf of whom, at the end of the Gospel, Jesus commands, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations” (Matthew 28:19).

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BINGO PRIZE DONATION REQUEST

The Jamaica committee is accepting donations of prizes for our Bingo game during the Jamaica. If you would like to help, we kindly ask that all donated items be new and unused so that everyone has the opportunity to win a wonderful prize.

Some ideas include gift cards, home décor, kitchen items, games, candles, snacks, seasonal items, or other new gifts. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps make this event fun and successful for our parish community.

Please drop off all prizes at the parish office.

Thank you for your kindness and support. May God bless you for your generosity!

COLLECTION DATA August 8/9, 2026

ENVELOPES/CHECKS.....	\$2568.00
LOOSE PLATE.....	1658.00
<i>Priests' Retirement</i>	<u>927.00</u>
TOTAL COLLECTION.....	\$5153.00

Thank you for your generosity

MASSES

Saturday, August 15th -

5:00PM-IHM – For our seminarians, Cameron Moore and Martin Luna; +Alma & Frances Solano;
+Josie & Anthony Adames

Sunday, August 16th –

8:00AM – IHM Por Grupo Misionero y en acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Maria Montealvo, Erick Medellin, Anna Islas, Maria y Adolfo Herrera;
+Rodrigo DeLoera; +Rita Romero

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

Tuesday, August 18th 9:00AM-HF

+Leticia Acopa, Adán y Nallys Montejo

Wednesday, August 19th 6:00PM - IHM

+Margaret Butler

Thursday, August 20th 9:00AM-HF

In thanksgiving for the birthdays of
Zackery & Dominic Villa

Friday, August 21st 9:00AM – HF

+David Palacios, Jr., David Palacios, Sr., Augustina Palacios, Cruz Palacios, Sr., Rufus Palacios, Sr.

Saturday, August 22nd -

5:00PM-IHM – +Maria Morales Guerrero, Rodolfo Morales, Carlos C, Maria and Carlos Guerrero, Sr.;
+Seferino Ramirez, Sr. & +Ray Longoria, Jr.

Sunday, August 23rd –

8:00AM – IHM En acción de gracias por el cumpleaños de Sarah Kelly; +Ezequiel, Albina, Delia y Teresa Gonzalez; Ebelio Solis, Rafael y Concha Acevedo
11:00AM – IHM – For the People of Nolan County

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 August. 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 agosto. Compartamos lo que tenemos con los necesitados.

Dios lo Bendiga- Gracias!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab;
Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;
Mt 22:1-14
Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40
Saturday: Ez 43:1-7a; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12
Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8;
Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

HOLY SPIRIT CLEANING SCHEDULE

August 22 – Parish Council August 29 – Cursillistas

YOUTH GROUP meets this Sunday, 6:00-7:30pm,
Holy Family Hall.

WEDNESDAY – Mass at 6:00pm & Adoration until
8:00pm @IHM.

ULTREYA MEETINGS

Sunday, August 16th - 6:00pm (*English*)

Monday, August 17th - 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>

FUNDRAISER – Starting next Sunday, Aug. 23rd, Guadalupeans & Cursillistas will sell meal plates to raise funds for the celebration of “Our Lady of Guadalupe.”

• **SOFTBALL – Sweetwater Coed Church League** is just around the corner. This league is for any male or female from the age of 14 years and older. No experience needed. Come join the fun! If you are interested in playing, contact Deacon David Mendez @325-725-6333.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM 2026 – 2027

REGISTRATION

(Note: ALL CURRENT and NEW STUDENTS)

WHEN: Starts: Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Ends: Thursday, August 27, 2026

Days: Monday thru Thursday

Time: 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Where: IHM Hall c/o Sister Tita, OND

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: NO REGISTRATION on
WEDNESDAYS or SUNDAYS when CLASSES start!

CLASSES BEGIN:

(a) Wednesday, September 9th: 7th to 11th Grades

Class Time: 7:00-8:30pm

(b) Sunday, September 13th: Pre-K to 6th Grades

Class Time: 9:30-10:40am

*Religious Education Calendar 2026-2027

will be given upon registration.

*Baptismal Certificate is required of all new registrants and current students without baptismal records.

Please come and register early!

ATTENTION: If you are interested in being a Eucharistic Minister, an Usher, Lector, or Altar Server, please contact Deacon David Mendez @325-725-6333.

ATENCION – Si está interesado en ser Ministro de la Eucaristia, Ujier, Lector, o Monaguillo/Monaguilla, pongase en contacto con Diacono David Menez

“BE A JAMAICA SPONSOR!”

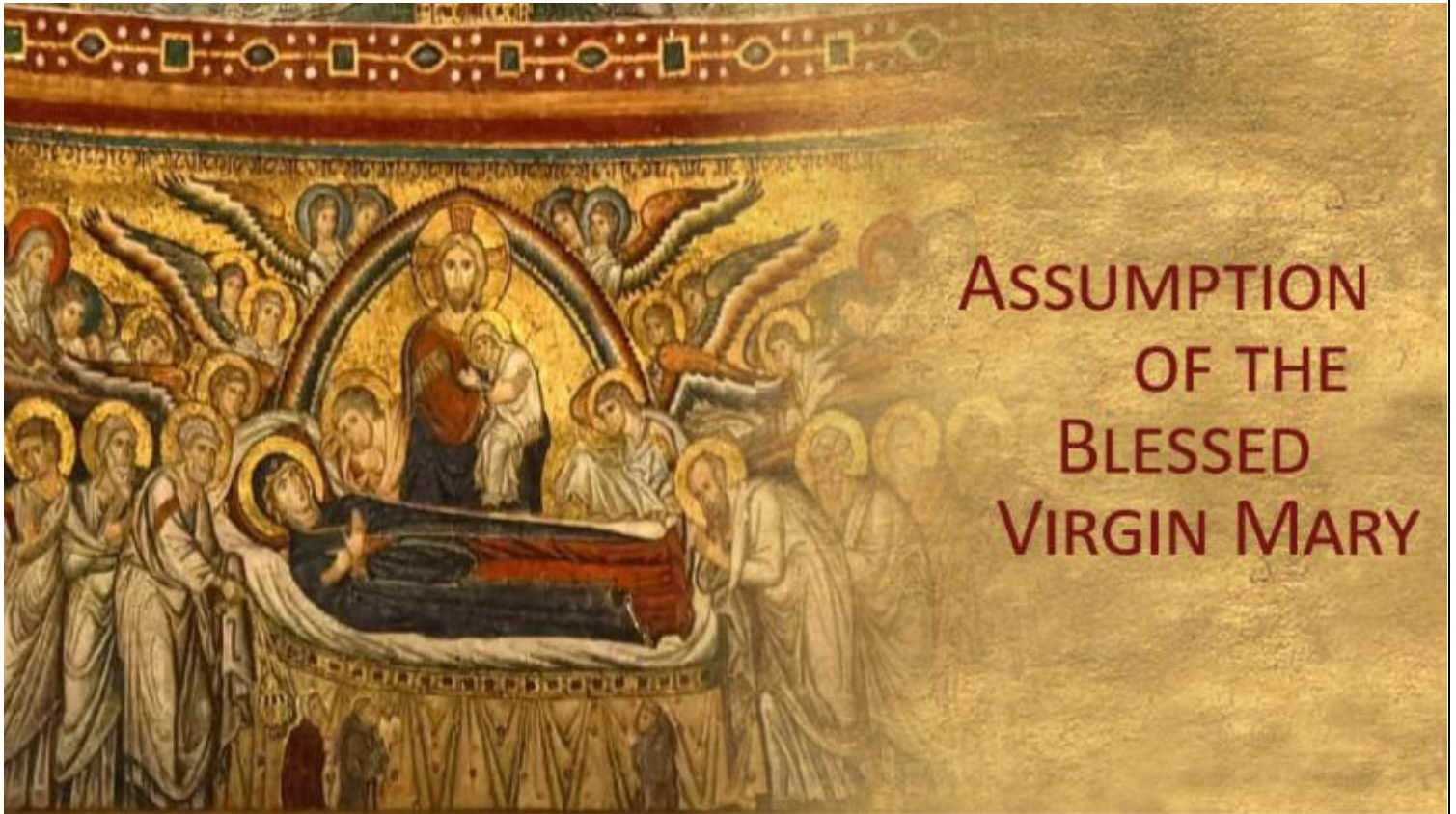
Please give a big “THANK YOU” to:

Salon Rubio

&

Alicia Grimaldo

for their generous contributions to the Jamaica Festival



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

15 August

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was already being celebrated on 15 August in the 5th century. It bore the sense of Our Lady's "Birth into heaven", or in the Byzantine tradition, her "Dormition". The feast began to be celebrated in Rome in the middle of the 7th century. It was not until 1 November 1950, that Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Dogma of Mary's assumption body and soul into heaven. In the Apostles' Creed, we profess our faith in the "Resurrection of the body" and in "life everlasting". This is the ultimate goal and meaning of our life's journey. This promise of faith is already accomplished in Mary, who is the "sign of sure hope and comfort" (Preface). It is a privilege granted to Mary, and closely connected to her being the Mother of Jesus. Since death and the corruption of the human body are consequences of sin, it was not right that the Virgin Mary – who is free from sin – should be affected by this natural law. Hence the mystery of her "Dormition" or "Assumption into heaven". The fact that Mary has already been assumed into heaven is a reason to celebrate, to rejoice, to hope in the "already and the not yet". One of God's creatures – Mary – is already in heaven. With her, and like her, we too, who are God's creatures, will one day be there too. Mary's destiny, united to the transfigured and glorious body of Jesus, is, therefore, the destiny of all those who are united to the Lord Jesus in faith and love.

Vatican

PRAYER *Almighty, ever-living God, You raised to eternal glory the body and soul of the immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of Your Son, Grant that our minds may always be directed heavenward and that we may deserve to share in her glory. Amen.*