

Dear Padre,

My church spends too much on flower arrangements. Are they really needed?

Flowers and plants in homes and other buildings create a sense of beauty and welcome. They also help lift the spirits of the infirm in hospitals and the pall of sadness from those who mourn a loved one. Similarly, flowers in churches awaken our senses, embody hospitality, and enliven our spirits. Moreover, living flowers and plants serve “as a reminder of the gift of life God has given to the human community” (“Built of Living Stones,” 129, USCCB, 2000).

Along with other church adornments—both fixed and movable—flowers enkindle in the worshiper a feeling of what St. Peter said at the transfiguration, “Lord, it is good that we are here” (Matthew 17:4, Luke 9:33). They add dignity to the sacred space and visually express the holiness of the mysteries celebrated there. “Sacred buildings and requisites for divine worship should be truly worthy and beautiful and be signs and symbols of heavenly realities” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 288).

Nevertheless, “floral decoration should always show moderation and be arranged around the altar rather than on the altar table” (*GIRM* 305). Restraint in floral decoration is the norm during Advent. It’s forbidden during Lent, except on Laetare Sunday and feasts, although simple compositions other than flowers are permissible.

To control costs, some parishes rely on volunteers with flower-arranging skills. Arrangements left behind at funerals and funeral homes and from church weddings are also offered for the benefit of the faithful.



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE/BOB ROLLER

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Christian life has to be a life that must blossom in works of charity, in doing what is good. But if you have no roots, you cannot blossom, and who is the root? Jesus! ... “What blossoms a tree bears come from what lies underneath it.” Never cut off Jesus’ roots.

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, MARCH 21, 2018



Calendar

- Monday**
FEBRUARY 10
Saint Scholastica,
Virgin
1 Kgs 8:1–7, 9–13
Mk 6:53–56
- Tuesday**
FEBRUARY 11
Weekday
1 Kgs 8:22–23, 27–30
Mk 7:1–13
- Wednesday**
FEBRUARY 12
Weekday
1 Kgs 10:1–10
Mk 7:14–23
- Thursday**
FEBRUARY 13
Weekday
1 Kgs 11:4–13
Mk 7:24–30
- Friday**
FEBRUARY 14
Sts. Cyril, Monk, and
Methodius, Bishop
1 Kgs 11:29–32;
12:19
Mk 7:31–37
- Saturday**
FEBRUARY 15
Weekday
1 Kgs 12:26–32;
13:33–34
Mk 8:1–10
- Sunday**
FEBRUARY 16
Sixth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Sir 15:15–20
1 Cor 2:6–10
Mt 5:17–37 or
Mt 5:20–22a, 27–28,
33–34a, 37



Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 9, 2020
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Is 58:7–10
1 Cor 2:1–5
Mt 5:13–16

You Are Really Something!

The description of the disciples found in today’s Gospel is an impressive compliment—and an even greater challenge. Jesus tells them they are “salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13), bringing out the good taste of living. In other words, life would be bland and uninteresting without them. They are also the “light of the world” (Matthew 5:14), helping people find their way. Without them, others would stumble and fall. Jesus is telling them how important they are in the lives of others. They could each and all say: I am really something!

Such compliments are also a challenge. What must one do to be salt and light in the lives of others? The Isaian passage provides some suggestions: Share your bread with the hungry; shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked; don’t turn your back on your own; remove from your midst oppression, false accusation, and malicious speech. In other words, to be salt or light is to meet the needs of the needy. This teaching of Jesus is not as easy as it might at first look.

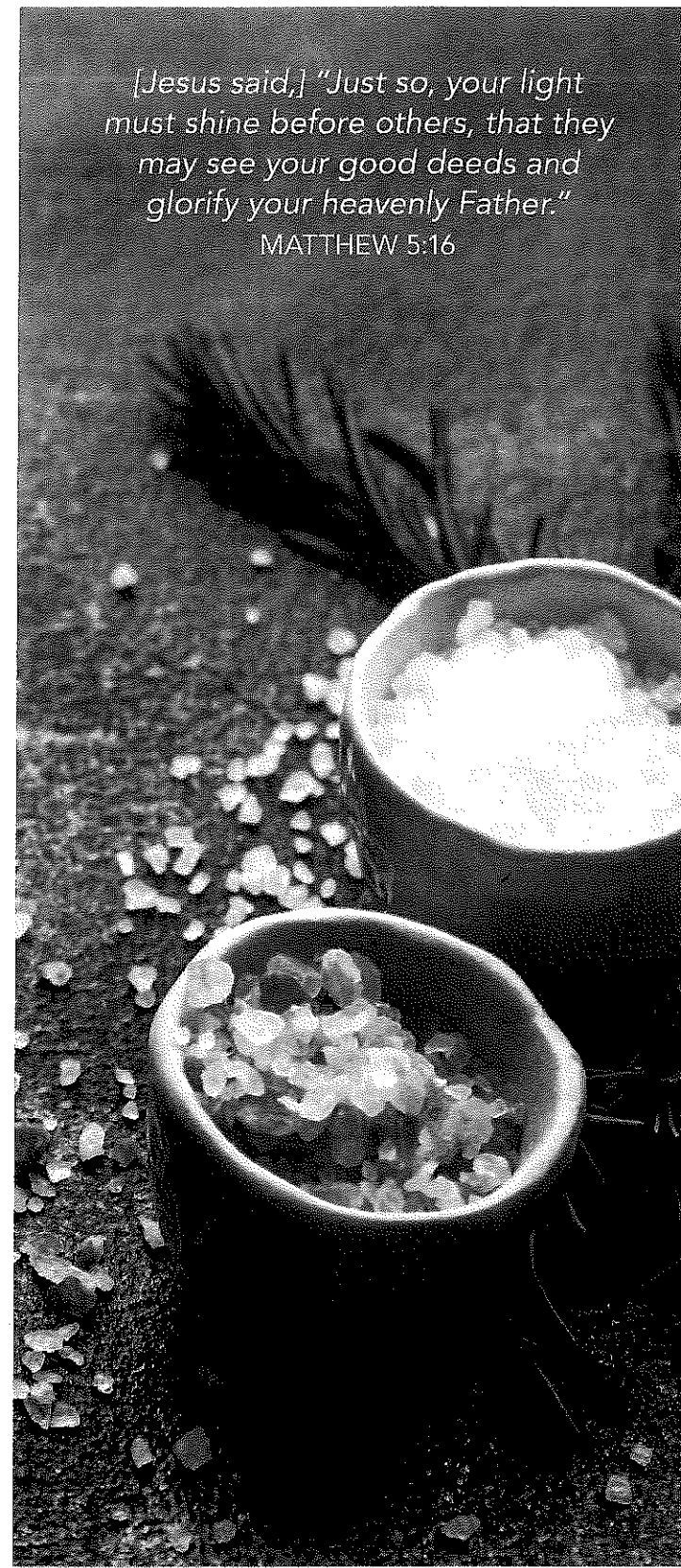
Jesus is speaking to his disciples, his followers. They are not those who are simply curious about this itinerant preacher or remarkable healer. They have chosen to follow him, not merely from place to place, but to model their lives after his. Isn’t that what we also claim to be—his followers? Haven’t we promised to model our lives after his? If so, as both compliment and challenge he says to us as well, “You are really something!”

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- * In what ways do you already enrich or enlighten the lives of others?
- * In what ways is this compliment a challenge for you?

[Jesus said,] “Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”
MATTHEW 5:16



ANNA BOGUSH / SHUTTERSTOCK

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ST. MARY AND GOOD SHEPHERD

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 Pastor: Rev. Paul Hudson 512-564-0260 E-Mail: frpaulhudson@gmail.com
 Business Manager: Cyndi Cobb E-Mail: smccltx@gmail.com
 Parish Secretary: Patty Rios & Carol Boberg E-Mail: smccltx3@gmail.com Ministries
 Coordinator: Deacon David Cardon E-Mail: deacon.david@hughes.net

Website URL: <https://stmarycatholic.faith>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Horas De Oficina

Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am-6:00pm
Friday 9:00am-2:00pm
 Cyndi in office Tues & Friday
10-2pm & by appointments.
 Patty in office Tues-Fri 9-2
 Carol in office Tues-Thurs 2-6
Confessions: Saturday 4:00-4:40pm
Confessions: in GS Lometa
 Sunday 7:30-7:55am
Kitchen Hours/ Horas de Cocina:
 Tues- Fri 6:00-11:00am
Food Pantry/Despensa de Comida:
 Wed & Fri 9:30-11:30am
Shared Blessing:
 Wed & Fri 9:30am-2:00pm
Baptismal Class
 Call the office for date.
Clase de Bautismo
 Llamar la oficina para la fecha.
Adoration: Every Wednesday after 8:00am
 Mass to 5:00pm and Thursday for one hour
 after the 6pm Spanish Mass.
Adoración: Todos los miércoles después de
la Misa de 8:00am hasta las 5:00pm. Y los
jueves después de la misa de las 6:30pm

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday/Lunes, February 10
8:00am: Communion Service
Tuesday/Martes, February 11
8:00am: Frankie Medina Birthday
Wednesday/Miércoles, February 12
8:00am: †Hurbert Buenker
Thursday/Jueves, February 13
8:00am: (GS) †Bobbie Dyer
6:00pm: Mike & Margaret Medina
Friday/Viernes, February 14
8:00am: Aurelia Shepherd Birthday
Saturday/Sábado, February 15
5:30pm: †Helen Kiley
Sunday/Domingo, February 16
8:00am: (GS) †Joan Brown
10:00am: †Ed Dimas
12:15pm: †Julia Aguilar

Sacrificial Giving: February 1/2

1st Collection: \$4311.00
Children's Collection: \$25.00
Building Fund: \$816.00

Counters: February 11
 Robert & Emily Stluka

LECTORS February 8/9

Sat 5:30pm: Andrea Cardon
Sun 10:00am: KOC
Dom 12:15pm: Estela Montiel
 Kika Romero
Lectors February 15/16
Sat 5:30pm: Wanda Bunting
Sun 10:00am: Simon Valles
 Clay Harrington
Dom 12:15pm: Romelia Rivera
 Juanita Mendoza

EMHC February 8/9

Sun 5:30pm: Mary Cisneros
 Carmen Coonrod
Sun 10:00am: KOC
Dom 12:15pm: Edwin Rivas,
 Eduardo y Rosa Arevalo
EMHC February 15/16
5:30 Sat 5:30pm: Mary Cisneros
 Andrea Cardon
Sun 10:00am: Berna Buenker
 Carol Boberg
Dom 12:15pm: Bernarda Abreu
 Eduardo y Rosa Arevalo

Those Who Serve Our Country

Angelica Sanchez, Aaron Ripley Kiser,
 Jarren Morua, Anthony Morua, Mark
 Argo, Jose Argo, Colton Currier, Luke
 Argo, Lawrence Olivarez, Jesus Garcia,
 Trenton Cavness, Dyrán Self,
 Graham Hibber, Edwin Rivas-Miranda

For Our Sick/Nuestro Enfermos

Carlos Franco, Janie Ovalle, Pauline Swift, Joshua DeZarn & Family, Teri Clayton, Felix DeLeon, Father Jim Robertson, John Michael Maldonado, Trinidad Rangel, Noah Garcia, Teresa Velasquez John Tracey, Cindy Sawyer, Ed Reigle, Jason Moreno, Shannon Barnett, Anthony Ray Torrez, Fred Bartell, Willie Nuñez, Mary Tobin, Dorothy Jeter, Gilbert & Rudy Lozano, Teresa Gronau, Bennie & Nancy Hromadka, Luis Lopez, Bill Nors, Robert Vasquez, Adrian Torrez, Chris Longoria, Robert Ramirez, Mary G Cortez, Tom Rogers, Ann Hughes, Arielle Dayrit, Felix Gonzales, Felipe Rodriguez, Madisyn Morua, Adolfo Torrez, Evelyn Ahearn, Ann Wilson, Anita Hyatt, Anna & Daniel Little, Richard Salazar, Melanie Bartek, Barbara Folks, Maggie Lopez, Henry Langford, Sylvia Reber, Truman Crawford, Lilly & Raul Olivarez, David Hernandez, Mary S & Jesse Ramirez, Andres Moreno, Diana Harlow, Carlos Jasso, Arturo Aragon, James Fioroni, Annabel Salazar, Marie Berger, Juan Torres, Donna Brewer, Lupe Rodriguez, Oliva Garcia,

Prayer: All praise and glory are yours, Lord our God. You have called us to serve you and one another in love. Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health. Bless those who have grown old in your service and give them courage and strength in their faith. Lead us all to eternal glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Announcements

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS: Meets second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the KOC hall
GUADALUPANAS SOCIETY: Meets every first Saturday of the month @ 11:30am, starting with Rosary, Divine Mercy, Mass and ending with Meeting.
GRUPO SAN BENITO: Ven a sentir el abrazo de Jesús, nos reunimos en los Lunes 7:00pm en el pasilo arriba de la cafeteria.
MENS PRAYER GROUP: Men's prayer group, meets every Thursday morning @ 6:00am in the upstairs hall.
ROSARY CRUSADE: Every Wednesday @ 6:00pm, call Vicki Franco 512-540-1199 for more info
CRUZADA DEL ROSARIO: Cada Miercoles, las 6:00pm. Por favor no dude en unirse con nosotros
RCIA CLASS: Mondays @ 7:00pm
CONFIRMATION CLASS: Meets Sundays @ 9:00am in upper hall
FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: Meets Mondays @ 6pm in cafeteria

SECOND SUNDAY MOVIE NIGHT: Showing "THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe", Sunday February 9th @5:00pm.
ASH WEDNESDAY: February 26 @6:30am and 7:30pm (No CCE on this day)
MIERCOLES DE CENIZA: Febrero 26 a las 6:30am y 7:30pm (No hay CCE en este dia).
STATIONS OF THE CROSS: On Fridays beginning, February 28 @6:00pm
VIACRUCIS: En los Viernes, comenzando Febrero 28 a las 6:00pm
SHARED BLESSINGS: Come and get free adult and children clothing/Ven y obtén ropa gratis para adultos y niños.
ALTAR SERVERS: Meeting Sunday February 16 @5:00pm in the dining hall.

Good Shepherd Announcements

FLOWERS: Rebecca Britton
ALTAR: Linda Klose
LECTOR: Missy Buckley
EMHC: Nelda DeRiso, Edna Torres & Adelaida Martinez

DIVINE MERCY CENACLE: Please join us Thursdays @ 4:15 in the Family Life Center.
WEEKDAY MASS: Thursday, February 13 @8:00am
SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST: Please join us for some breakfast and fellowship after Mass, Sunday, February 9th
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Wednesday, February 19 @ 6:30pm
STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Beginning every Friday during Lent beginning February 28 @6:00pm

Take a moment after mass and look through the assorted religious literature on the wall rack at the back of the church, there is something for everyone: prayers, meditations, brochures- help yourself,

SACRIFICIAL GIVING: February 2
Weekly Offering: \$746.00
Building Fund: \$146.00

St. Mary/Good Shepherd Announcements:

SUBSCRIBE TO PARISH UPDATE:

If you would like to receive parish updates on your cell phone, text to 84576, St. Mary parishioners type **Lampasas** into the body of text, Good Shepherd type **Lometa** to subscribe.

EIM WORKSHOP NEWS:

Schedule for February:

St John Neumann/Austin (English) 2/13-7:00pm
 University Catholic Center/Austin (English) 2/18-7:00pm
 St Martin de Porres/Dripping Springs (English) 2/20-10:00am
 St Thomas Aquinas/College Station (English) 2/20-6:30pm
 St Mary Catholic School/West (English) 2/20-6:30pm
 St William/Round Rock (English) 2/22-9:00am
 St William/Round Rock (Spanish) 2/22-5:00pm
 St John/Marble Falls (English) 2/22-2:00pm
 Sacred Heart/La Grange (English) 2/23-2:00pm
 St Paul Chong Hasang/Harker Heights (English) 2/29-9:00am
 Our Lady of San Juan/Moody (Spanish) 2/29-3:00pm

The EIM Office annually requests membership lists for all persons in ministries/groups/organizations which require compliance with EIM policies (visit austindiocese.org/eim-policies). Please send your membership list to your parish EIM site administrator. Please include last name, first name, other last names used, nick names or other names known as at the parish, their email address and mailing address. All lists should be provided to Carol Boberg, your site administrator, by Friday March 6th. Thank you for your assistance. The EIM Office is in the process of helping all applicants update their email address in their EIM account in order to improve communication regarding EIM compliance matters. Please login to your EIM account at eappsdb.com/austin to update your email address (in Main Application section). If you are not able to login, email the parish EIM site administrator Carol Boberg at smccltx3@gmail.com with your full name, your nickname or name known as at the parish, and your correct email address. Thank you for your help.

NO GREATER LOVE: During Lent at Good Shepherd on Thursdays, beginning March 5th @ 7:00pm. While taking this study class, you will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Mount of Calvary. Every step of the way, biblical experts reveal how Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. With these insights, Catholics can come to a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love---drawing closer to Jesus than ever have before.

LITURGY OF THE HOUR: at St Mary, beginning Tuesday, February 25th @7:30am & 5:00pm, and at 8:00am at Good Shepherd.

DONATE by using smile.amazon.com, 5% of eligible purchases will be donated to St Mary at no extra cost to you.