

# September 21, 2014

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**“Despite the fact  
that we have nothing  
to give in return  
and we are full of faults,  
Jesus invites us to his table  
and wants to be with us.”**

**Pope Benedict XVI**



## **CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH**

6300 McKenna Drive, Mobile, Alabama 36608

Email: [Church@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:Church@CorpusChristiParish.com) • Website: [www.CorpusChristiParish.com](http://www.CorpusChristiParish.com)

### **TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Parish Office: 342-1852 • Fax 342-6313  
School Office: 342-5474, ext. 1 • Fax 380-0325  
Rel. Ed. Office: 342-5474, ext. 7 • Fax 380-0325  
Full-Day Care: 342-2424 • Fax 343-3119  
Youth Ministry: 342-1852 • Fax 342-6313

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Very Rev. James F. Zoghby, V.F., Pastor  
Rev. John S. Boudreaux, Associate Pastor  
Deacon Arthur W. Robbins, Deacon  
Sr. Donna Cooper, R.S.M., Visitation Chaplain  
Mrs. Linda M. Hawkins, Pastoral Assistant  
Mrs. Joan T. McMullen, School Principal  
Mrs. Diane M. Stoyka, Parish Catechetical Leader  
Mrs. Judi B. Ankiewicz, R.C.I.A. Coordinator  
Mrs. Colleen DeVoe, Youth Ministry Co-Director  
Mrs. Brenda Martens, Youth Ministry Co-Director  
Mr. Matthew F. Purvis, Music Director  
Mr. C. Russell Kirkpatrick, Gym Manager

### **TO REGISTER AS A MEMBER OF THE PARISH**

Please fill out a Census Form. Census Forms are available in the church vestibule and parish office.

### **COMMUNITY CENTER RENTALS & SERVICES**

For rental information and kitchen services, please call the parish office at 342-1852 or 342-1420.

### **SUNDAY MASSES**

Vigil: 5:30 p.m. Saturday  
Morning: 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

6:30 a.m.: Monday through Friday  
8:15 a.m.: Monday through Saturday

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. and by request, particularly after the 6:30 & 8:15 a.m. weekday Masses.

### **BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, ANOINTING OF SICK**

Please call the parish office (342-1852) or information and scheduling baptism, marriage, anointing of sick.

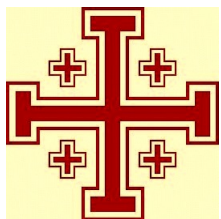
### **ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (R.C.I.A.)**

Please see published schedule for specific dates and times, or call the parish office (342-1852).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL (C.C.D.)** Grades K–12, Sundays during school year, 10:05-10:55 a.m. in school bldgs.

**SCHOOL, SACS-accredited** for Grades 3K through 8. For info & registration, please call the school office.

**CHILD CARE CENTER**, for 6-week to 2-yr. olds. For info & registration, please call 342-2424.



## ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (R.C.I.A.)

*Presented by Fr. James F. Zoghby*

Continuing education for Catholic and other adults who would like to learn more about and/or join the Catholic Church. Meetings are in the Adult Ed. Room in the Community Center, Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Wed., Sept. 24 — Introductory Classes:** Everything you want to know about the Catholic Church but haven't been able to ask. Bring your questions! Ask, or drop them in our *Question Box*.

**Starting Wed., Oct. 1 — Understanding the Bible:** A series of classes with multiple topics, showing the way to further bible study. The difference between Catholic & Protestant Bibles. The two different creation stories in the book of Genesis. Necessary "tools" for Bible study. The different types of books in the Bible. The real meaning and teaching in the book of Jonah. How to understand the book of Revelation. A summary of the contents of each book in the Bible. Why Catholic bibles don't have "for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory ...." at the end of the Lord's Prayer. Different translations, editions, etc. How to choose a Bible. Differences and similarities in the four Gospel accounts. The infancy narratives. The passion narratives. Letters of Paul. Handouts for continued study.

## LECTORS MEETING

**This Thursday, Sept. 25, at 7 p.m. in the church**

This meeting is for parishioners interested in serving as lectors.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Classes:** 10:05-10:55 a.m. in the main school bldg. Sunday School participants at 9 a.m. Mass are dismissed with the final blessing.

**Info:** [SundaySchool@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:SundaySchool@CorpusChristiParish.com), or 648-4441.

## CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL

*Building the Body of Christ, one student at a time.*

**Friday, Sept. 26:** No Classes. *Annual Faculty Retreat.*

Congratulations to Burke Moore, CCS graduate and current Senior at McGill-Toolen, named a National Merit Semifinalist, now going to the Finalist competition.

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

**Poor Box, Food, Clothing** donations put in the designated places in the vestibule are distributed by our St. Vincent de Paul Society. **"In-Need" Drop Box** next to the food pantry box in the vestibule. Fill out a card, and deposit it in the locked drop box. Your info will be held in strict confidence and a member of our society will contact you.

**Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul by attending a meeting.**

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed., 6:30 p.m., Com. Ctr. Conf. Rm. (2<sup>nd</sup> Flr.)

**To obtain assistance, call 432-5173 and leave name & phone no.**

## Our Church Bulletins are Online.

Please note the instructive insert pages in our Sunday bulletins. More than 3 years' worth of prior bulletins are available for viewing or printing at [www.CorpusChristiParish.com](http://www.CorpusChristiParish.com): (click "Church", then the "Sunday Bulletin" tab on the left side of the Church home page.

## Guide Book & Directory

### Advertising Opportunity

Corpus Christi's annual Guide Book & Directory is being updated and will be mailed to all parishioners at no cost to the parish. It is subsidized by local businesses that advertise in it. **If you would like to find out about advertising** in this book, please contact the parish office at 342-1852 or at [Church@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:Church@CorpusChristiParish.com).

### *11<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Candidates (Class of 2016)*

You should have received your schedule for your Confirmation interview which will take place in the Community Center next Sunday afternoon, Sept. 28. If you have any questions regarding your binders that you will bring for your interview, contact Diane Stoyka, Parish Catechetical Leader, at [dianestoyka@aol.com](mailto:dianestoyka@aol.com) or 490-4816.

## Confirmation Schedules

### For students to be confirmed in their Junior year in High School

Confirmation has been set for this school year's 11<sup>th</sup> Graders, who are the senior class of 2016.

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Graders (Class of 2016)**

Sept. 28, 2014: 4-6 p.m. Interviews at designated times.

**Oct. 21, 2014: 6 p.m. Confirmation Mass and reception.**

#### **10<sup>th</sup> Graders (Class of 2017)**

Oct. 26, 2014: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Spirit Day. Lesson 6.

Nov. 2, 2014: Turn in Confirmation name.

Jan. 10, 2015: 10 am-4:30 pm Visitation Monastery retreat. Lessons 2,3,4.

May 18, 2015: Turn in Sponsors name.

Aug. 9, 2015: 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Spirit Day. Lesson 8

#### **9<sup>th</sup> Graders (Class of 2018)**

Oct. 12, 2014: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Welcome Mass, Lesson 1.

Feb. 8, 2015: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Spirit Day. Lessons 5 & 7

## 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign

**Wednesday, Sept., 24 through Sunday, Nov. 2**

**Sign Up Sunday After All Masses Sept. 20 & 21.**

**Pray & Fast:** Visit [www.mobile40daysforlife.com](http://www.mobile40daysforlife.com) to sign up to pray for an end to abortion, and receive prayers & updates for the Mobile 40 Days for Life campaign. Stand in peaceful prayer vigil at the local abortion facility, Planned Parenthood, 717 Downtowner Loop W. (across the street from Chuck E. Cheese). Corpus Christi Parish will cover the abortion facility in prayer, Wednesdays, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. **For more info or to sign up:** Contact Steve Pierre 458-6188 or [ahoalton322@gmail.com](mailto:ahoalton322@gmail.com).

## 40 Days for Life Kickoff Rally Cookout

**This Tuesday,** Sept. 23, 6 p.m. at Corpus Christi Parish House on Evergreen Rd. (Behind out parking lot at the corner of McKenna Dr. And Evergreen Rd.) All participating in the fall campaign and families are invited! Food provided, donations accepted.

**Please RSVP** to [dan@4pmmmedia.com](mailto:dan@4pmmmedia.com). For more info: Contact Steve Pierre, Corpus Christi Respect Life/Family Life Coordinator, at 458-6188 or at [ahoalton322@gmail.com](mailto:ahoalton322@gmail.com).

## Sing in the choir any weekend

**Just come to the rehearsal the Wednesday before any weekend you want to sing in the choir.**

**Rehearsals are on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Room 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Community Center).**

## Child Protection Policy

For volunteers who have substantial contact with children

**The required Initial Training will be held**

***This Tuesday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m.***

**in the Adult Ed Room of the Community Center**

**Archdiocesan policy requires:** 1. Attendance at an initial training. 2. Annual online recertification each following year.

**The annual online recertification** is fulfilled by following the instructions at [www.mobilearchdiocese.org/childprotection](http://www.mobilearchdiocese.org/childprotection).

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues., Oct. 14, at 7 p.m., at the Parish House.

**Contact:** Grand Knight, Cosmo Comiskey, 508-0547.



## Breakfast

Monday through Friday, 7:00 to 9:30 a.m.

In the Banquet Hall

## Wednesday Night Dinner

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Banquet Hall

\$9.00 for Adults • \$4.00 for Children (Age 12 & under)

**Sept. 24 ~** Roast Pork Loin, Grilled Rosemary Chicken Breast, Red Skinned Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Pearl Onions, Sautéed Baby Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Cheesecake.

Iced Tea/Lemonade/Coffee. Kids meal on request: Chicken Tenders, Fries.

**Must RSVP no later than TUESDAY EVENING**

**Return an RSVP Card, or call 342-1852 or email**

[WedNightDinner@CorpusChristiParish.com](mailto:WedNightDinner@CorpusChristiParish.com)

## Men of St. Joseph

Tuesdays, 7 to 8 a.m. in the Family Room

Also Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. in the Parish House

All men are welcome to meet for prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion.

**Info:** Damian Bell, 639-2522 or 367-4486 or [Damian@rockbwm.com](mailto:Damian@rockbwm.com).

**Wed Evening Info:** Walter Bracewell, 599-1650 or [walter.bracewell@yahoo.com](mailto:walter.bracewell@yahoo.com)

## Women of Mary

Wednesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.

Room 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Community Center)

All women are welcome to meet for prayer, reading the Gospel, and discussion.

**Info:** Sr. Deborah Kennedy, R.S.M., 753-4872.

## Widowed Persons' Support Group

For information call parishioner Glen Porter at 666-8977.

**Next Weekend Sept. 27-28**

**Holy Land Gifts – Olive Wood Carvings for sale after Masses**

With our archdiocesan approval, volunteer members from the Catholic Church in Bethlehem, have been visiting local parishes, and they will visit our parish next weekend. They will have Olive Wood carvings for sale, handmade by Christian people in Bethlehem as part of their effort to maintain the existence of the Christians in the Holy Land, who were once the majority, but now are less than 1.5%.

## Parish Picnic

Sunday, Oct. 12. *Save the date!*

## Thursday Women's Bible Study

SYMBOLON, a stunning new video series systematically presents the BIG picture of the Catholic Faith. Filmed on location in Rome, the Holy Land, Calcutta and elsewhere, with nationally-known teachers. For more information go to [www.symbolonatholic.org](http://www.symbolonatholic.org) and [www.lighthousecatholicmedia.com](http://www.lighthousecatholicmedia.com). All are welcome! Please join us on this special journey to grow and learn our faith, to pray with each other, and learn how to live our faith more fully in our everyday lives.

**For more information, please call or email:**

Joanne Donaghey at 251-554-6753 or [joannekd@aol.com](mailto:joannekd@aol.com)

Penny Claiborne at 904-868-0063 or [claiborneps@gmail.com](mailto:claiborneps@gmail.com)

## Tuesday Women's Bible Study

Starting this Tuesday, Sept. 23, 10:00 a.m. in the Adult Ed. Room

**Introduction to the Bible, Overview of the New Testament and a Study of the Gospel of John**

Conducted by Judi Ankiewicz

*Judi Ankiewicz earned her Master's Degree in Theology from Spring Hill College in Mobile, and serves as our R.C.I.A. Coordinator.*

For more info, call 344-0321 or leave a message at the parish office

## Corpus Christi High School Youth Ministry

**This Sunday, Sept. 21: 5:30 p.m. Mass**

**6:30-8:00 p.m. Gathering**

All high school students are invited to join us on for our kick-off Mass and gathering of the new school year. We will start with 5:30 p.m. Mass, followed by pizza, upstairs in the community center. We will have a chance to hear about some of our activities planned for this year, have a few activities, and welcome everyone to a new year of CCHSYM. If you've already gone to an earlier Sunday Mass, please feel free to join us at the 6:30 p.m. Gathering; if you can't come to the 6:30 p.m. Gathering, please still join us at the 5:30 p.m. Mass.

The Corpus Christi High School Youth Ministry (CCHSYM) welcomes students of our parish and their friends to all of our events. It gives us an opportunity to get together as members of our great parish, and also to meet up with friends that may not go to the same high school as you! Through social activities, service opportunities, faith-building and prayer/retreat events, we offer something for everyone. There are no "memberships," and you can come whenever you can! Those receiving their religious education through our program, however, are to attend regularly. Remember, you can bring your friends with you — Our motto is "Bring \$1 and a friend."

We need people to help with the Music Ministry (play an instrument or sing) at our monthly 5:30 p.m. Mass. All talent levels are welcome, and practice is held just prior to Mass: Meet at 4:15 p.m. in the church. Instrumentalists, please let us know what instrument you are playing so we can get the music to you ahead of time in the correct key. Email [corpuschristihsyouth@yahoo.com](mailto:corpuschristihsyouth@yahoo.com).

## Used Textbook Drive

Help the Tues. Night Bible Study Group raise funds for a new TV for the Parish House by selling current used textbooks online. Place used, **current** textbooks (Grade School through College, etc.) in the designated box in the vestibule. Info: Mary Ann Payne, 554-4211.

## 2014 Friends of the Poor Walk

Saturday, Sept. 27

St. Vincent de Paul Church on Three Notch Rd.

The walk is a 2-mile fund walk. Walkers gather pledges. Pledges are collected at the time the pledge is made and turned in on Walk day. Your pledge goes to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference of your choice. 100% of pledge dollars raised will be used to help the poor. Mass at 7 a.m., followed by registration and free breakfast. Walk begins at 8 a.m. Free T-shirts to all walkers. A new bike and several Wal Mart gifts cards will be given away to lucky walkers. You must be present to win. Face painting and a Jumpy will be provided for the kids. You can register online at [www.svdpfriendsofthepoorwalk.org](http://www.svdpfriendsofthepoorwalk.org). Hit the pavement & help the poor.

## BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Campbell Verloin deGruy

(son of Robert Verloin deGruy & Amy Elizabeth King deGruy)

## REST IN PEACE

Cohen Elizabeth Harkins

Daughter of Matt & Shannon Verneuille Harkins

Marie T. Kaminski

Mother of Judith & Ed Behm

Grandmother of Mike Behm, Kelly Palmer, Kim Cummings, Jill Harris

## Flowers

The flowers before the altar this weekend have been placed in loving memory of

**Monica Alexis Knight**

commemorating the first anniversary of her death, and in gratitude to God for her life, for your friendship, your kindness and your prayers.

Given by Chris and Monica Z. Knight

Tony Giattina, and Corinne K. and Josh Levy.

## Around the Archdiocese: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Festival

at 5 Rivers, Thurs., Oct. 16, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tickets at Domke Market, Red or White, or at [WineFestivalat5Rivers.com](http://WineFestivalat5Rivers.com). Proceeds to Catholic Social Services. Info: 434-1550. **Annual Red Mass:** Friday, Sept. 26, 12 noon at the Cathedral with Archbishop Rodi, sponsored by the St. Thomas More Society, asking God's blessing on our Judicial System & elected officials. To join the St. Thomas More Society, or participate more fully in the Red Mass, contact Greg McAtee, 661-9399. **Public Square Rosary Rally** Sat., Oct. 11, 12 noon, 2300 Springhill Ave. at front gate of Visitation Monastery. **Retreat for Women** at Visitation Monastery Oct. 17-19 with Fr. Eugene Pathe as Retreat Master. Registration begins 4 p.m., Friday; retreat ends Sunday after noon meal. Daily Mass, spiritual talks, confessions & private conferences with Fr. Pathe. Suggested offering is \$125. Reservations: 473-2321. **Holy Name of Jesus Parish Mission:** The Role of Prayer, Oct. 20-22, 7 pm. Nationally known authors, Deacons Eddie Ensley & Robert Herrmann lead the mission. Info: 649-4794 or [holynamofjesusc@bellsouth.net](mailto:holynamofjesusc@bellsouth.net).

**Part-time Employment Opportunity at To Be Choices for Women** to provide support services to the Director and volunteers. Must exhibit strong commitment and dedication to the sanctity of human life, from the moment of conception to natural death and to sexual purity for singles and faithfulness in marriage. Should be a high school graduate with at least two years of direct clerical experience, good verbal and written communication skills, knowledge of basic bookkeeping tasks, proficient in Microsoft Office and Internet usage/navigation. For further info email [mcoaker@cssmobile.org](mailto:mcoaker@cssmobile.org); to apply send cover letter with resume to [mcoaker@cssmobile.org](mailto:mcoaker@cssmobile.org), 400 Government St., Mobile, AL 36602.



## Emergency! Emergency!

Emergency Vehicles must have access on all two-lane drives on the parish property.

The double yellow lines indicate two-way traffic. Some people have been parking in one of the lanes of the parish's two-lane drives: The "West Drive" or "Middle Road" or "East Drive." Both lanes must be kept open!

Corpus Christi's "West Drive" is on the left side of the church. CC's "Middle Road" is on the right side of the community ctr. CC's "East Drive" is in front of the school & preschool bldgs.

**Also note:** CC's "Mid-Way Drive" runs from west to east along the back of the community center and in front of the gym.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:** Catholic University.

**FIRST COLLECTION TODAY** for tithing offerings.

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY** for Catholic University of America .

**SEPT. 14<sup>TH</sup> BUILDING FUND DONATIONS & ONLINE:** \$2,675.55

**SEPT. 14<sup>TH</sup> TITHING COLLECTION & ONLINE:** \$20,685.81

## Thank You and God Bless You

God bless all who tithe and contribute to support God's work here at Corpus Christi, and those who make a special bequest in their will for Corpus Christi Church. For info, or to transfer shares of stock to Corpus Christi Church, contact your stockbroker, or call Steve Setterstrom at Citigroup Global Mkts. at 470-1060.



## Offering Envelopes

If you wish to use Offering Envelopes, just notify the parish office (342-1852). An initial set will be sent to you right away, and then, every two months, you will receive a two-month's supply of envelopes.

## Online Giving



With Online Giving make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring automatic withdrawal from a checking or saving or credit card account: Use a computer, tablet or smartphone to go to [www.CorpusChristiParish.com](http://www.CorpusChristiParish.com); click "Church"; then click the green Online Giving icon on the side left of the church's homepage. Follow the instructions to contribute to the tithing or building fund or special collections. **For assistance**, call 1-800-348-2886, ext 4, or the parish office, 342-1852.

# Are Catholics Required To Believe in Private Revelations?

No. Even for those apparitions and messages which are approved by the Church, it is not necessary for Catholics to believe anything new that was said, or even that the apparitions actually happened.

A number of apparitions (including Guadalupe in 1531, LaSalette in 1846, Lourdes in 1858, Fatima in 1917, Cracow [Divine Mercy] in 1931) have been approved by the Church. However, even when apparitions have been officially approved by the Church, they are still considered “private revelation.” In other words, they aren’t a necessary component of the Catholic faith.

This reserved, cautious approach by the Church is founded on the belief, and the fact, that God was absolutely and perfectly revealed to the apostles by Jesus, and that this revelation contains what we need for salvation. There can be no addition to the revelation given by Jesus. The words and example of the Lord provided everything.

Public revelation was completed through Jesus. It is found in sacred Scripture and the Tradition of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #65-66, 78). These form the deposit of faith, the sum of truths necessary for our salvation.

On May 13, 1982, at Fatima, Pope John Paul II said, “The Church has always taught and continues to proclaim that God’s Revelation was brought to completion in Jesus Christ, who is the fullness of that Revelation, and that ‘no new Revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord’” (Vatican II, *Dei Verbum*, #4).

Again, the Gospel, the Mass and sacraments and the official teachings of the Church are all that we need. Apart from them, no one is obliged to accept or follow anything in private revelation.

When the Church approves particular apparitions, all it says is that there is nothing contrary in them to Catholic faith or morals, and that following the suggestions in these messages may be helpful in our efforts toward holiness. If it enhances one’s spiritual life and one’s love of God and neighbor, that is good.

Pope Benedict XIV warned that even private revelations given to a canonized saint are subject to errors. The messenger could have heard something incorrectly, or forgotten to record something. St. Catherine Laboure, who originated the “miraculous medal” from one of her visions, when confronted with the error of certain of her predictions, pointed out that she got some facts of the revelation wrong.

# Can Infants Receive Communion?

*Our new Catholic neighbors have several children. Their mother told me that all of their children received their First Communion when they were baptized as infants, before they came to this country. How is this possible?*

In the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, infants do in fact receive all three of the sacraments of initiation — Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. They receive the Eucharist under the form of a small drop of the consecrated wine.

Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, in that order, is the original order of the sacraments of Christian initiation, and administering them together was the original practice of the early Church: Baptism and Confirmation immediately preceded sharing in the Eucharist.

Around the 1200's the predominant Western Rite of the Church (the Latin rite) began to separate the three sacraments of Christian initiation, but the Eastern rites of the Church continued the original order and practice of the sacraments of initiation.

After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council, the original order and practice was restored in the Latin rite whenever the sacraments of initiation are being administered to adults, but not for infants.

## Shorter RCIA

**Q.** My husband is in his 80s, and he is in poor health. He has never been baptized, but has always come to Mass with me and he knows Catholicism fairly well. He now thinks he would like to be baptized. However, my parish friends tell me that he will have to go through a year-long process of catechesis and wait until next Easter. Is there an easier way to get him baptized than this?

**A.** Your friends are misinformed. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), which includes Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, is flexible enough, with pastoral discretion, to cover any situation, including your husband’s. Those who are elderly or in poor health do not need to go through a whole year of preparation. The documentation of the RCIA states that in certain circumstances the candidate may receive the Sacraments of Initiation immediately.



## We Do What We Can!

We must not be unjust and require from ourselves what is not in ourselves.

**St. Francis de Sales**

To the right and to the left, I throw to my little birds the good grain that God places in my hands. And then I let things take their course. I busy myself with it no more. God tells me, "Give, give always, without being concerned about the results."

**St. Therese of Lisieux**

We know that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But if that drop were not there, the ocean would be less.

**Mother Theresa**

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble.

**Helen Keller**

It took me a hundred years to figure out I can't change the world. I can only change Bessie. And, honey, that ain't easy, either.

**Elizabeth "Bessie" Delany, 102**

We are sometimes so occupied with being good angels that we neglect to be good men and women.

**St. Francis de Sales**

Were I worthy of such a favor from my God, I would ask that he would grant to me this one miracle, that by his grace he would make of me a good man.

**St. Ansgar**

I don't think of death, or of my sins, or of paradise, or of hell, but only of doing little things for the love of God, since I am not capable of doing great things. Other than that, whatever happens to me is God's will.

**Brother Lawrence**

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.

The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing that we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection, no pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces the effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

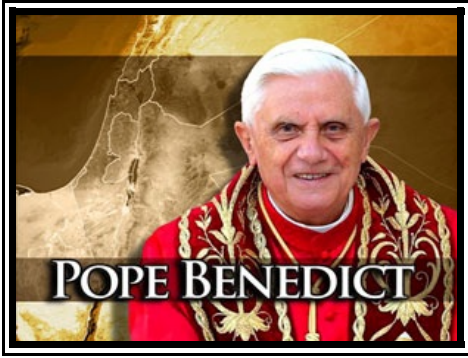
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

**Archbishop Oscar Romero**

**Proselytism** (or proselytizing) is aggressively attempting to convert others to one's faith.



The Church does not engage in proselytism. Instead, she grows by attraction... she accomplishes every one of her works in spiritual and practical imitation of the love of her Lord.

Charitable works cannot be used as a means of engaging in proselytism. Love is free. It is not practiced as a way of achieving other ends.

This does not mean that charitable activity must somehow leave God and Christ aside, because the Church is always concerned with the whole person. The Christian knows that disdain for love is disdain for God and man alike. It is an attempt to do without God. Consequently, the best defense of God and man consists precisely in love. It is the responsibility of the Church's

charitable organizations to reinforce this awareness in their members, so that by their activity – as well as their words, their silence, their example – they may be credible witnesses to Christ.

Those who practice charity in the Church's name will never seek to impose the Church's faith upon others. They realize that a pure and generous love is the best witness to the God in whom we believe and by whom we are driven to love. They know when it is time to speak of God and when it is better to say nothing and to let love alone speak. They know that God is love, and that God's presence is felt at the very time when the only thing we do is to love.

— Pope Benedict XVI (Encyclical, "God Is Love")

We are called to receive and to pass on the truths of the faith in a spirit of harmony – to live our love for each other and for everyone, sharing joys and sufferings, and learning to seek and to grant forgiveness. We have been given the task of building parish communities that are more and more like families, and to evangelize not only by word, but by radiating love.

— Pope Benedict XVI (Brazil, May 2007)

**Go forth and proclaim the Gospel, and if necessary, use words!**

— St. Francis of Assisi

*St. Francis of Assisi invited his friends to accompany him to a town in order to proclaim the Gospel there. As they walked along, Francis joyfully greeted everyone he met. One of the brothers asked, "When are we going to begin preaching to these people?" Francis answered, "We already have!"*

We are supposed to preach without preaching. Not by words, but by our example, by our actions. All works of love are works of peace.

The same loving hand that has created you has created me. If he is your Father he must be my Father also. We all belong to the same family. Hindus, Muslims and all people are our brothers and sisters. They too are the children of God.

Our work among the Hindus proclaims that God loves them. God has created them – they are my brothers and sisters.

Naturally I would like to give them the joy of what I believe, but that I cannot do; only God can. Faith is a gift of God, but God does not force himself.

Christians, Muslims, Hindus, believers & nonbelievers, have the same opportunity with us to do works of love, have the same opportunity to share the joy of loving and come to realize God's presence. Hindus become better Hindus. Catholics become better Catholics. Muslims become better Muslims.



**Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta**