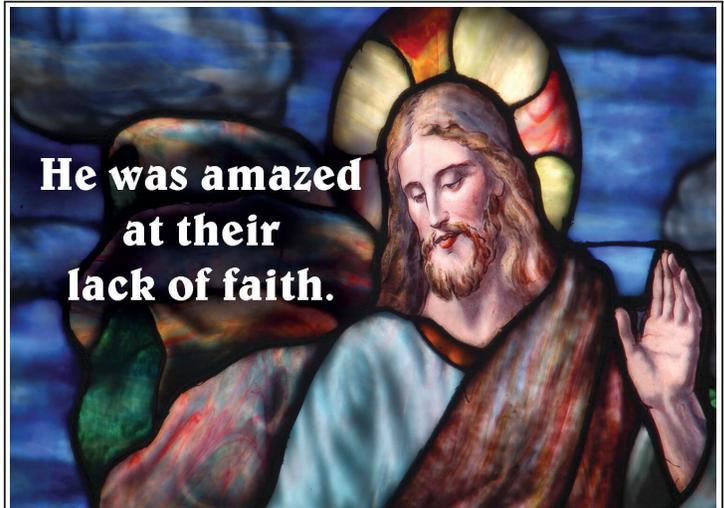


**“HE WAS AMAZED AT THEIR LACK OF FAITH”**

by Fr. Jeremy Myers

Mark 6:1-6

This gospel passage tells us that Jesus made a return trip “to his native place” where he took a turn teaching in the local synagogue. But the hometown people found it difficult to see Jesus as anyone but “the carpenter, the Son of Mary and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon.” They listened to his words and were astonished to hear what he said, but they could not move beyond their closed minds to see beyond Jesus as anything but a carpenter. The evangelist Mark concludes the story by telling us that Jesus “was not able to perform any mighty deed there. He was amazed at their lack of faith.” It is an interesting story that focuses our attention on faith and on believing. The hometown people were blinded by their cynicism and could not believe that Jesus might be somebody other than they thought. The writer and activist Jim Wallis recently shared some thoughts on cynicism. He writes in his book, *God’s Politics* these words, “First, let’s be fair to the cynics. Cynicism is the place of retreat for the smart, critical, dissenting, and formerly idealistic people who are now trying to protect themselves. They are not naïve. They tend to see things as they are, they know what is wrong, and they are generally opposed to what they see. They know what is going on, and at one point, they might even have tried for a time to change it. But they didn’t succeed; things got worse, and they got weary. Their activism, and the commitments and hopes that implied, made them feel vulnerable. So they retreat to cynicism as the refuge from commitment.” He continues, “Cynicism does protect you in many ways. It protects you from seeming foolish to believe that things could and will change. It protects you from disappointment. It protects you from insecurity because now you are free to pursue your own security instead of sacrificing it for a social engagement that won’t work anyway. Ultimately, cynicism protects you from commitment. If things are not really going to change, why try so hard to make a difference? Why become and stay so involved? Why take the risks, make the sacrifices, open yourself to the vulnerabilities?” Then Wallis offers this thought, “Perhaps the only people who view the world realistically are the cynics and the saints. Everybody else may be living in some kind of denial about what is really going on and how things really are. And the only difference between the cynics and the saints is the presence, power, and possibility of hope.” He concludes in this way, “More than just a moral issue, hope is a spiritual and even religious choice. Hope is not a feeling. It is a decision. And the decision for hope is based on what you believe at the deepest levels—what your most basic convictions are about the world and what the future holds—all based on your faith.” He offers us this final thought, “You choose hope, not as a naïve wish, but as a choice, with your eyes wide open to the reality of the world—just like the cynics who have not made the decision to hope.” His words offer us a way to understand the townspeople who could not see Jesus as someone other than an ordinary carpenter. They were locked in their worldview—a cynical and a closed mindset that squashed any hope of change, of difference, of a future unlike the present. That gospel challenges us to decide to be people of hope, rather than opting simply to be cynics who believe hope is the refuge of the foolish.



**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)** It is easy for us to overlook great gifts which we find right here in our midst. We pray that we will recognize the gift of the people God gives us, for in them we find direction for conducting our lives with holiness.

**DECIMOCUARTO DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO (B)** *Es fácil para nosotros pasar por alto los grandes regalos que encontramos aquí mismo en nuestro medio. Oramos para que podamos reconocer el don de la gente que Dios nos da, porque en ellos encontramos dirección para conducir nuestras vidas con santidad.*



**STEWARDSHIP  
FOR JULY 1, 2018**

*Contributions were not tabulated at the time the bulletin was submitted for printing.*

**Blessings to you for your generosity.**

*“Who then is the faithful and wise steward?” Discipleship entails responsible stewardship. As children of God, created in his likeness and redeemed through his mercy, and as members of his Church, may our response for stewardship flow from the acceptance of our role as disciples, rooted in the deep joy of a vibrant faith.”* Author Unknown

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Please join us in welcoming Fr. Steve Antes to St. Francis of Assisi Church. Bishop Burns appointed Fr. Steve as the new Parochial Vicar effective July 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are grateful to have him as a part of our Church and offer him our

prayers and support as he joins our parish family.  
*Por favor únase a nosotros para dar la bienvenida al Padre Steve a la iglesia de San Francisco de Asís. El Obispo Burns nombró al Padre Steve como nuevo vicario parroquial a partir del 2 de julio. Estamos agradecidos de tenerlo como parte de nuestra iglesia y ofrecerle nuestras oraciones y apoyo al unirse a nuestra familia parroquial.*

We want to wish a happy birthday to all in our parish family celebrating a birthday this week, especially Steven Castruita and Gary Dale Lewis, today, July 8<sup>th</sup>; Catia Guimaraes, Cecilia Guimaraes, Tina Hubbell, and Bridgette Kirkpatrick on July 9<sup>th</sup>; Mario Chavez, Ana Galan, and Emerson Knabenshue on July 12<sup>th</sup>; Jonathan Breidenstein and Oscar E. Hernandez on July 13<sup>th</sup>; and Dylan Terry on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

*We want to wish a happy anniversary to all couples celebrating a wedding anniversary this week, especially Rick & Roseann Laney on July 9<sup>th</sup>, Brad & Barbara Urban on July 11<sup>th</sup>, and Cory & Cristina Pollard on July 12<sup>th</sup>.*

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults will be held at St. Mary's Parish in Sherman on Tuesday evenings beginning September 4<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in joining the Catholic Church or wanting to learn more about the Catholic Church is encouraged to attend. Each Tuesday a meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation will follow from 7 - 8 p.m. Please call the Church Office at 903-893-5148 if you have any questions or would like to register.  
*El rito de iniciación cristiana de adultos se celebrará la Santa Maria en Sherman el lunes por la noche comenzando el 3 de septiembre. Cualquier persona interesada en unirse a la iglesia católica o si desea aprender más sobre la iglesia católica anímese a asistir. Cada lunes habrá una presentación de 7 - 8 p.m. Si tiene alguna pregunta o desea registrarse por favor llame a la oficina de la iglesia al 903-893-5148.*



**MASS INTENTION  
FOR JULY 15, 2018**

†Ted Endres by  
Jimmy Ferguson Family



**LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS  
FOR JULY 15, 2018**

|                              |  |                               |  |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Lector</b>                | Connie Lloyd   | <b>Servers</b>                | Stephen Fuhrmann<br>Sutton Fuhrmann<br>Jacob Dobbs |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> | Sharon Kirkpatrick<br>Deb Teuscher<br>Suzanne Cunningham | <b>Ushers</b>                 | Don Kolash<br>Toby Fuhrmann                        |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>          | McDonald Family  | <b>Ministers to Homebound</b> | Toby & Bridgette                                   |

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Gold Anniversary Mass celebrating 50 and 50+ Years of Marriage will be held on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe. This celebration is for couples celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> (married in 1968) or 50+ years of marriage (married in 1967 or before) in 2018. Registration is required; please visit <https://www.cathdal.org/Gold Anniversary August 2018> to register. Anniversary couples that register will have reserved seating. All family members and guests are welcome to attend and will be seated in open seating. A festive reception will be held following the Mass at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. Registration deadline is August 19<sup>th</sup>.  
*La Quinta Misa Anual Diocesana de Bodas de Oro, celebrando 50 años de matrimonio o más, tendrá lugar el sábado 25 de agosto a las 2 p.m. en la Catedral Santuario de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Esta celebración es para matrimonios que en el 2018 celebran su 50 aniversario (unidos en matrimonio en 1968) o más de 50 años de casados (unidos en matrimonio en 1967 o antes). Se requiere su inscripción. Para inscribirse por favor visite <https://www.cathdal.org/Gold Anniversary August 2018>. Todas las parejas que se inscriban tendrán su asiento reservado. Sus familiares e invitados pueden asistir, pero deberán sentarse en asientos no reservados. Habrá una celebración festiva después de la Misa en el Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. La fecha límite de inscripción es el domingo, 19 de agosto.*



**PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.06, PENAL CODE (TRESPASS BY LICENSE HOLDER WITH A CONCEALED HANDGUN) A PERSON LICENSED UNDER SUBCHAPTER H, CHAPTER 411, GOVERNMENT CODE (HANDGUN LICENSING LAW), MAY NOT ENTER THIS PROPERTY WITH A CONCEALED HANDGUN.**

**CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 30.06 DEL CÓDIGO PENAL (EL INGRESO SIN AUTORIZACIÓN DE TITULAR DE LICENCIA CON UN ARMA DE FUEGO OCULTA), UNA PERSONA CON LICENCIA BAJO EL SUBCAPÍTULO H, CAPÍTULO 411, CÓDIGO GUBERNAMENTAL (LEY DE LICENCIAS PARA PORTAR ARMA DE FUEGO), NO DEBE ENTRAR A ESTA PROPIEDAD PORTANDO UN ARMA DE FUEGO OCULTA.**



**PURSUANT TO SECTION 30.07, PENAL CODE (TRESPASS BY LICENSE HOLDER WITH AN OPENLY CARRIED HANDGUN), A PERSON LICENSED UNDER SUBCHAPTER H, CHAPTER 411, GOVERNMENT CODE (HANDGUN LICENSING LAW), MAY NOT ENTER THIS PROPERTY WITH A HANDGUN THAT IS CARRIED OPENLY.**

**CONFORME A LA SECCIÓN 30.07 DEL CÓDIGO PENAL (EL INGRESO SIN AUTORIZACIÓN DE TITULAR DE LICENCIA CON UN ARMA DE FUEGO A LA VISTA), UNA PERSONA CON LICENCIA BAJO EL SUBCAPÍTULO H, CAPÍTULO 411, CÓDIGO GUBERNAMENTAL (LEY DE LICENCIAS PARA PORTAR ARMAS DE FUEGO), NO DEBE ENTRAR A ESTA PROPIEDAD PORTANDO UN ARMA DE FUEGO A LA VISTA.**