

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

With the Reformation, some early Protestants, including the “Anabaptists,” rejected infant baptism in favor of “believer’s baptism.” Against Orthodox and Catholic practice, which favored baptism as soon as possible for a newborn, these movements desired that the candidate for baptism speak for him- or herself at a mature age, not through godparents as an infant. Today, it is clear that they were rejecting a very ancient practice (even as early as the second century) of baptizing children of all ages. Children came first in ancient baptismal ceremonies, and someone would speak for them. Gregory of Nazianzen wanted to delay the baptism of children to three years of age, since at that age they could retain at least some impression of the liturgy. He made an exception for the very ill, who were to be baptized ahead of the annual Easter baptism. That means that infants and children were normally baptized together with adults, and that everyone received confirmation and the Eucharist.

The tone of the early bishops’ writings is generous and compassionate, and seeks to build up the eucharistic assembly by widely celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit. If a priest celebrated baptism, then the gift of the Spirit was postponed for the bishop, but with no regard for the person’s age. So, until the fifth century, confirmation was for infants, too.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

St Patrick & St. Mary Cemeteries

Cemetery Seasonal Decorations

All seasonal decorations placed on graves during holidays throughout the year should be removed within 2 weeks of the holiday. If the holiday falls at the end of the month decorations should be removed by the 15th day of the following month. Please be advised that any items not removed by the specified time period will be removed by the cemetery maintenance crew.

Notice:

The cemetery maintenance crew continues the removal of items that obstruct maintenance of the cemetery. Please remove all glass items you wish to keep. This includes vases, shadow boxes, statues, etc.

Bricks have been placed to identify sold plots for future use. They are property of St. Mary’s Church. Please do not remove or disturb placement of bricks.

Mass Intentions

Whether it is a wedding anniversary, birthday remembrance, recent death of a loved one, or celebrating a loved one’s life years after he or she passed, every day presents a reason to celebrate or mourn. Please remember your loved ones with a Mass Intention. Mass Request Envelopes are available in the back of the Church.

Pastoral Visitation / Holy Communion for the Homebound and Hospitalized

Do you know a fellow parishioner who is unable to get to church anymore, but would still like to receive Holy Communion? If so, please call the church office to make arrangements for an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to bring the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist to their home.

OVASE - Office of Victim Assistance for Safe Environment

Parents please do not let your children go to the restroom without being accompanied by an adult.

Bulletin Deadline

Please submit bulletin items **including Mass Intentions** by noon on Friday **one week prior** or sooner to date needed. **Please use Mass Intention envelopes at the back table to request a Mass.**



Founded 1933

July 5, 2020

St. Mary's Church

*“...my soul is glad because of God
My Savior...”*

Luke 1:47

19711 N. Dixon Rd.
PO Box 295
Somerset, TX 78069

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:00 a.m.

Holy Hour
Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m

Fr. James Kotara, Pastor

Sylvia Cruz, DRE
sylvia.rcruz@gmail.com

OVASE Coordinator
830 701-3123

Victim's Assistance/Safe Environment
Pastoral Center: 1-877-700-1888

Cemetery Committee
Maria Lopez 210-624-3839

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Before Mass on Saturday, 3:15 to 3:50 PM,
and anytime by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the church office for information and for making arrangements. Certain requirements must be met. A class for the parents and godparents is required.

Sacrament of Marriage

Make arrangements with Fr. Jim no later than six months before the planned date. Preparation classes are required by the Texas bishops. Special paperwork and additional procedures may be required.

Sacrament of Anointing the Sick

Please inform Fr. Jim when someone is sick and needs anointing.

Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Church Office: 830-701-3123

stmarys.somerset.tx@gmail.com

Website: www.stmcstx.org
www.archsa.org
www.usccb.org
www.vatican.com

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to anyone new to our parish family & all visitors who celebrate with us throughout the year. If you would like to join this parish, please stop by the office and complete the registration form.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 2020

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”

— Matthew 11:28

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

| | | | |
|-----|-------|----------|--|
| SAT | 07/04 | 4:00 PM | For all who have died or are suffering from COVID-19 and for their families +Tony Cruz by Sylvia Cruz +Eloy Reyes by Laura Saucedo |
| SUN | 07/05 | 11:00 AM | +Antonio Garza by Robert & Becky Martinez |
| MON | 07/06 | 8:00 AM | +Eloy Reyes by Laura Saucedo For the Sick and their Caregivers |
| WED | 07/08 | 8:00 AM | For the Intentions of the Holy Father |
| FRI | 07/10 | 8:00 AM | For Priests & Religious Vocations |
| SAT | 07/11 | 4:00 PM | +Eloy Reyes by Laura Saucedo |
| SUN | 07/12 | 11:00 AM | +Tony Cruz +Antonio Garza by Robert & Becky Martinez +Juanita Quinionez by Family |



THE RIGHT DIRECTION

*If we walk one step toward God,
God will run ten steps toward us.*

—Anonymous

FINDING PEACE

If you want peace, work for justice.

—Pope Paul VI

GOING HOME

*Life is a voyage that's homeward
bound.*

—Herman Melville



Sanctuary Light Intention
In Loving Memory of
Tony Cruz

Weekly Collection: June 27th & 28th \$417.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

SHARE THE BURDEN

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). These words of our Savior seem to be in stark contrast to the previous chapter from the same Gospel, when we were told that if we do not take up our crosses, we are not worthy of Christ. Connecting these two messages might help us on our faith journeys. Being a follower of Christ surely means that we must embrace the cross, in its mystery of both suffering and triumph. This is something that we need not do alone, for the burden is often too heavy for us to carry by ourselves. Who, then, do we turn to? We can turn to the Body of Christ—the community of disciples gathered for worship. When we find the burden too heavy, let us remember that we can share that burden with our Christian sisters and brothers, who can help bring us rest.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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|------------|---|
| Monday: | Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26 |
| Tuesday: | Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38 |
| Wednesday: | Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7 |
| Thursday: | Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15 |
| Friday: | Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23 |
| Saturday: | Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33 |
| Sunday: | Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 [1-9] |



SAINT MARIA GORETTI (1890-1902)

July 6

Does anything match a mother's pride in her children? First Communions, confirmations, graduations, weddings: how these delight a mother's heart! Imagine, then, Assunta Goretti, the only mother ever to attend her child's canonization! In poverty-stricken rural Italy, widowed Assunta tended fields for the Serenelli family, whose eighteen-year-old son, Alessandro, propositioned her barely twelve-year-old Maria; then, when she resisted, crying, “It is a sin! God forbids it!” he stabbed her fourteen times. As she lay dying, Maria assured the attending priest, “Yes, I forgive Alessandro! I want him to be in Paradise with me someday.” Imprisoned, unrepentant, Alessandro changed after dreaming that a radiant Maria had offered him fourteen lilies. “I've kept my promise,” she smiled. “You'll be here with me someday.” Upon release, he rushed to beg Assunta's forgiveness. “Jesus has forgiven you,” she replied, “my Maria, too. How can I refuse?” Next morning, mother and murderer walked arm in arm to church and knelt side by side for Communion.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.