



Both the first reading and the Gospel today speak of hospitality and welcome. Our ministers of hospitality are a very visible example of using one's time and talents to welcome the people of God to worship



together. We are also reminded that all of us who give even just "a cup of cold water" to one of His lowliest will be rewarded. No action is too small.

JUNE 28 THROUGH JULY 3

MASS INTENTIONS

- MONDAY** Gen 18:16-33; Mt 8:18-22
- TUESDAY** Gen 19:15-29; Mt 8:23-27
- WEDNESDAY** Acts 12:1-11; 2Tm 4:6-8,17-18; Mt 16:13-19
- THURSDAY** Gen 22:1b-19; Mt 9:1-8
- FRIDAY** Gen 23:1-4,19-24:1-8,62-67 Mt 9:9-13
- SATURDAY** Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29
- SUNDAY** Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9,11-13; Mt 11:25-30

- TUESDAY 5:30P.M.** †Jim Christie; †David Potter
- WEDNESDAY 8:30A.M.** †Luis & Sylvia Codina
- THURSDAY 5:30P.M.** †Sidney & Sophie Walenta
- FRIDAY 8:30A.M.** †Francisca Hernandez
- SATURDAY 5:30P.M.** †Irene Dirba
- SUNDAY 8:00A.M.** †Amelia Garcia
- 9:30A.M.** †Deceased Members of the Broussard Family
- 11:00A.M.** †Ben Mikrut

Daily readings: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/index.htm>

The Collection (Meditation on 2 Corinthians 8:1-9)

Resentment and cynicism about Church collections foster some of the most common, but nonetheless poorest, excuses for minimal commitment to "organized religion". First of all, in the Catholic Church, and in most Protestant denominations, contributions are clearly voluntary, following the example laid down by Paul, who indeed begged the Corinthians and other communities to contribute to collections for the poor, but he never imposed a collection as a tax or entrance fee, for as he explained, "I say this not by way of command, but to test the genuineness of your love by your concern for others."

As an inspirational example, Paul cites the conduct of the churches of Macedonia, who, in spite of their own affliction and poverty, "begged us insistently for the favor of taking part in the service to the holy ones" (which refers to a collection taken up for the poor in Jerusalem). For the generous Macedonians, it thus wasn't a matter of "giving until it hurts" – instead, they begged for the favor of contributing, because for them, it was a matter of "**giving until it feels good!**"

All of us can recall personal past acts of generosity that left us "feeling good" for responding to the invitation to share of ourselves. Yet most of us, if we take Paul's words to heart and reflect honestly on our degree of generosity, should come to admit that we could be doing a lot more! It's quite easy to give a little, but then constantly cite that donation as the excuse for not giving more. But the Christian attitude goes further, taking to heart Paul's words: "Now as you excel in every respect, in faith, discourse, knowledge, all earnestness, and in the love we have for you, may you excel in this gracious act also!"



Ed Ahlrich, Savanna Allen, Weldon Bailey, Ryan Barnes, W. W. Bartlett, Bennie Paul Bono, Jim Borger, Anne Bosche, John Buettner, David Butler, Maria Castillo, Ted Cooper, Cecil Cromeans, Lorene Cromeans, Dorothy D'Augusta, **JoAnne Denton**, Barbara Dillon, Charlie Dirba, Terry Ditges,

Lenora Duval, Tom Elder, Glenda Eudayle, Clark Flournoy, Marcia Flournoy, Emil Galetka, Emily Garcia, Lourdes Garcia-Meitin, Craig Garrison, Kathy Goolsby, Barbara Grant, Henry Gretschel, Arthur Haas, Brandon Habis, Mary Ann Haley, Belia Hardesty, Dorothy Harnden, Lorraine Hayes, Wanda Henry, Blake Johnson, Vickie Kaatz, Angeline Klekar, David Kubala, Kathy Kucera, Jerry LaCoume, Mary LaCoume, Ray Langston, Sarah Langston, Tristan Cade Lawson, John Lindsey, Jack Lippman, Cindy Lusk, Helen Mangum, Gene Matus, Jeanette Matzke, Mary McClintock, Eileen McDonald, Irene McGaughey, Karen Moran, Adrian Nye, Karl Oelfke, Doris Perryman, Carolyn Peterson, Cecelia Peterson, Paula Price, Avis Quandt, Joe Ragland, June Ragland, Rose Ramos, Kenny Rentrop, Christina Robinson, John Rosser, Vince Rowan, Mary Rogers, Stan Simiskey, Janet Smid, June Stanke, Billie Stricklin, Dan Swist, "Vinnie", Helen Walls, Joshua Ward, Allen Williams, Patricia Williams, Stephanie Thomas Wilson, Nancy Windler..

(Bold denotes new on prayer list this week)





Christ Renews His Parish

Live in a CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY - attend the Men's CRHP weekend August 27-28. For more information call Bill Behr or Mervin Vaz.



CCE Help Needed!

JOB DESCRIPTION: Grade Level COORDINATORS

Grade Level Coordinators prepare lesson plans for CCE Teachers. The CCE office will train you! **One meeting** (usually the second Tuesday of the month, 10-11am) per month to prepare Grade Level Lesson Plans. The meeting is optional. A nursery is provided if needed. Coordinators can use the suggestions in the Grade Level Teacher Manuals or supplement from other resources. **Contact Marsha** in the CCE Office 297-3043.



THANKS

Thank you to all the teachers, aides, check-in team, craft team, music team, nursery team, and snack & food team for helping to make our "Holy Land Adventure" VBS Week a huge success! Thanks to all who donated food and craft supplies. Special thanks to Jenny Harpham, Margarita Prinz, & Pat Quandt who spent months planning & organizing Vacation Bible School!



If you would like to share an hour with the Lord on Thursdays, from 1-2pm, please call Arlene Becker, 798-8388.



2005 Year of the Eucharist

The Eucharist is both communal and personal. It is something we do together, communally; and together, we each personally encounter God's loving grace.



The Gabriel Project is in need of diapers (all sizes, but especially newborn) for the babies of the girls they are assisting. If you can help, it would be greatly appreciated.

HELP



Marriage Encounter: GIVE YOUR KIDS THE BEST GIFT THEY CAN GET – PARENTS WITH A GREAT MARRIAGE! Your whole family deserves the love Mom and Dad discover on a Marriage Encounter weekend! The next weekends will be held on August 5-7 and September 30-October 2. For further information please contact Ed & Melinda Gardner at 281-482-3630 or Tom & Nelda Fetzer at 281-484-3355 or visit www.MEHouston.org



Come Join Us

Join a group of men and women for a weekend of presentations, group discussions, private consultations and prayer to find out what it's like to be a Catholic priest, sister or brother, to see whether you might have a vocation to religious life and to learn how to respond to that calling.

The program will explore the rewards and the obligations that go with religious life. It does not pressure anyone nor ask for any commitment. It is designed to help you make a more intelligent choice of your vocation, whatever it might be.

Life Awareness, a Religious Vocation weekend for single adults, ages 18 to 45 will be held July 15-17 at Holy Name Retreat Center in Houston. For more information contact Kevin Gardner, 713-402-5804. Registration forms are available in the parish office.

