



Our Lady of Sorrows

Traditional Catholic Mission Central Texas

Upcoming Mass Details:

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Confession 4:30pm – Mass 5:30pm

Courtyard by Marriott Austin Dripping Springs – Meeting Room #2

1002 Rob Shelton Blvd, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Contact information:

Fr. Stephen McKenna: email: frmckenna@sgg.org mobile: 978-764-6599

website: www.olosorrows.org twitter: [@OLOSTexas](https://twitter.com/OLOSTexas)

Announcements

Fr. McKenna will be out of the country until the 29th. If you need to contact a priest during this time, you can reach one of the other priests by calling St. Gertrude's 513-645-4212.

Note From Father

Dear Faithful,

Well, this past week was quite eventful. It was already going to be a short week, after making the long drive back to St. Gertrude's from Park Falls, WI on Monday. I had a lot of work to get caught up on before I was to return to Milwaukee for this weekend. However, Wednesday would bring a surprise which I truly was not prepared for.

I was in my office on Wednesday afternoon when I suddenly heard someone knocking on the door to come back to the priest office area. I called out for them to come in, and I looked up to see one of the Oblate Sisters enter with a bit of a bewildered look upon her face. "Father", she intoned, "someone just drove a car into the church." Well, as you might imagine, it was my turn to don the shocked look upon my face. I joked with our principal, Dr. Dan Stanislawski, that my brain just started making the noise that old dialup internet used to make as it was connecting. The younger readers won't get the reference but just think of it like the audio version of the spinning wheel that appears when your computer is slow loading something.

I went outside to find that, indeed, there was a couple standing beside a smashed up Honda Civic which sat upon our now horizontal lamp post and was pressed up against the wall of one of the classrooms of our school...the building being even more smashed than car. Thankfully, the people were not injured and school was out for the summer.

How someone could possibly drive into our church seemed like a mystery, as it isn't exactly near to the street. However, what we were best able to piece together (the two people didn't speak English, so it wasn't exactly clear), it seemed that the man may have been teaching the woman to drive. At some point, she must have hit the gas, thinking it was the break, and then panicked. She jumped over two parking stones that border the grassy divider in the middle of our parking lot, continued on straight across the remainder of the parking lot, over the lamp post, and finally came to an abrupt stop at our building. According to Sister Ulricha, who had seen most of the event, she was accelerating the whole way...most likely pressing down harder on the gas in a panic when she was surprised by the car moving instead of stopping, as expected.

The wall of the building has an external stone façade and a number of these were broken and/or dislodged. The car punched a hole into the classroom, and because it hit on the corner, it actually shifted the entire perpendicular wall.

It was obviously necessary to call emergency services to be witness and help with the proceedings. I don't know if it was just a really slow day for them or if they just had to see what they heard over the radio to believe it...but we had five police cars, three fire engines, an ambulance, a truck bringing the fire chief, and the truck

of the police shift supervisor all in our parking lot within a couple of minutes. While certainly superfluous, they were quite helpful. Thankfully, we also had one of our parishioners who is a lawyer present on site so he could ask important questions and see that proper documentation of the event was taken. He also happens to be an ivy league educated Egyptologist...but I don't know if this particular expertise was much help. (The people in the car were Guatemalan, so they spoke Spanish instead of ancient Egyptian or Coptic).

And so, because of all this excitement, the rest of my time home was spent dealing with police, county building inspectors, insurance representatives, and various other people to figure out what the necessary steps would be to move forward. Seldom a dull day!

In Christ, *Fr. Stephen McKenna*

Set Your Missal

Sunday Within the Octave of the Sacred Heart, second collect of St Basil the Great, third of the Octave of the Sacred Heart. Sacred Heart Preface.

Sacred Heart Sunday **Third Sunday after Pentecost**

On Me a Sinner
Luke 15: 1-10

There are many phrases in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass that take on a deeper, more affectionate meaning on this Sunday within the octave of the feast of the Sacred Heart.

On that feast we thought gratefully of the promise of the Sacred Heart: "Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy." Hypocrites (if there are really any such in the world) and the spiritually conceited (and they are surprisingly many) and the narrow-minded may pretend to be shocked that "this man welcomes sinners and eats with them." The rest of us, sinners ourselves and keenly conscious of our sinfulness, can only be thankful that there is "joy among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

After all, Christ became man and lived and died because he had a deep love for man.

He knows that most men are not meanly malicious. We are ignorant, we are thoughtless, we are weak. We mean to do the right thing. We want to offer to God, day by day, a spotless, generous offering of ourselves, and we are sincerely ashamed of ourselves when we forget, when we fall victims to our own weakness.

That is why it is good to know that He understands, He still loves, He is always willing to forgive. When we bow our heads at the foot of the altar and make a sincere confession before the whole court of Heaven, that "I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed," we know that He hears our confession, that He loves us all the more for our formal admission of our wrong-doing, that He stands ready to give us a hand and pull us out of our sinful way.

The Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy on us) becomes a fervent prayer for forgiveness and for strength. "Lord, have mercy on us," we pray for ourselves and for all men. We need His mercy; we need His strength and, as we pray that short Litany, our thoughts go to all men throughout the world, all sinful men for whom Christ died on the Cross. Kyrie Eleison, because, after all, O Lord, you loved sinners. And you did praise that prayer of the poor publican, "Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner."

All through the Mass, it is with a realization that we are sinners that we send our prayers to God. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is all the more ours because we are sinners. "Lamb of God," we pray in the Gloria, "Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us...hear our prayer...Accept, O Holy Father this spotless host which I, Thy unworthy servant, offer to Thee for all my numberless sins, offenses and negligences...With contrite and humble heart we beg Thee, O Lord, to accept this offering of ourselves...grant that we may be saved from eternal damnation...This is the chalice of My Blood which shall be shed for you and for many for the remission of sins...nobis quoque peccatoribus...to us also sinners and Thy servants who hope in the multitude of Thy mercies, graciously grant...fellowship with Thy Holy Apostles and Martyrs...Look not upon my sins but upon the Faith of Thy Church...Lamb of God, have mercy on us...O Lord, I am not worthy...."

All through the Mass it runs, this realization of our sinful unworthiness but, side by side with it, runs a confidence in the mercy and the forgiving goodness of the Sacred Heart, and a daring resolve to come ever closer to this Heart in spite of our sinfulness. "This man eats with sinners." That is not remarkable. This man becomes daily food for sinners, and we have such faith in the all-forgiving goodness of the Sacred Heart that even this amazing miracle of goodness is only what we expect of Him, the source of all goodness.

Act of Thanksgiving After Holy Communion

(Saint Basil the Great)

We give Thee thanks, O Lord our God, for the Communion of Thy holy, pure, deathless and heavenly Mysteries, which Thou hast given for the good, the hallowing and the healing of our souls and our bodies. Do Thou, O Sovereign of the world, cause this Communion in the Holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ to nourish in us unashamed faith, sincere charity, ripe wisdom, health of soul and body, separation from all ills, observance of Thy Law, and justification before His awful Judgment Seat.

O Christ our God, the Mystery of Thy Providence has been accomplished according to our ability. We have been reminded of Thy Death and we have seen a figure of Thy Resurrection; we have been filled with Thine Infinite Life, and we have tasted Thine inexhaustible joy; and we pray Thee to make us worthy of these things in the life to come, through the grace of Thine Eternal Father and of Thy holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever, eternally: Amen.



(A couple of pictures from the battle of car vs. church)