



TAKE HEART,  
**I AM,**  
FEAR NOT

*Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*August 9, 2026*

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

4 PM †Mary June Fuller; Lifsey 50<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary; †Bill Germann; Poor Souls;  
†Marile Griffin

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

8:15 AM Elizabeth Schnur  
10:45 AM Pro Populo  
1:45 PM Poor Souls

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

8:15 AM Brian Lewandowski

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

5:30 PM †Rufina Soberanes Telles

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

8:15 AM †Margarita Rico; Poor Souls;  
Benefactors of St. Joseph's Projects; †Kelly  
McHugh; Flor Aranda

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

8:15 AM Klarissa McNamara & Safe  
Delivery of Baby McNamara

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

8:15 AM Sofia Illescas

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

8:15 AM Pro Populo  
4 PM †Mary June Fuller; †Bill Germann;  
Poor Souls; †Margarita Rico; †Joan Farino  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16  
8:15 AM Poor Souls  
10:45 AM Pro Populo  
1:45 PM Poor Souls

SANCTUARY CANDLES

2 weeks: \$20 & 1 week: \$10

†Juan Carlos Coss Vargas  
Conversion of Ryan and Laura Smith  
†Joan Farino  
Reparation to the Blessed Sacrament  
St. Joseph's Projects Benefactors  
†Bill Germann

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Kitty Gordon  
Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R.  
Amparo Estrada  
Whit & Carolyn Bell  
Jeanine Hilbert  
Larry Colbert, Jr.  
Gloria Dorian  
Marie-Jo Hammond



I HAVE LOVED O LORD



THE BEAUTY OF YOUR HOUSE

-Psalm 26:8

*Sponsor a hand-painted flower in honor or  
memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving to  
God and help support the continued work of  
beautifying the sanctuary of our  
Little Flower Church.*

*If you are interested in helping us complete  
the adornment of our sanctuary, please  
contact the office to sponsor a legacy of art  
and beauty for the House of God.*

*All contributions will be commemorated by  
memorial plaques.*



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Solemnity of the Assumption is **THIS  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup>**. There will only be one high  
Mass that day for the Solemnity at 8:15 AM

JOIN US next **Sunday, August 16th from 9:30-10:30 AM**, in  
the Adult Faith Formation room to learn about the last of  
our pivotal players in the history of Catholicism: **Bartolomé  
de las Casas** and his contributions to the Americas

BLESSING OF SACRAMENTALS

Father will be blessing sacramentals after the 8:15 AM Mass  
on **Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>**. The next blessing after that will  
not be until October 31<sup>st</sup>.



"There's only a couple things I'd like blessed, Father..."

Weekly Offerings (7/26/2026)

General: \$2,094.87

Building: \$425

St. Martin: \$50

St. Joseph's Projects

(restoring our church)

*Second Collection today is for the St. Martin Society*

YTD: \$10,554.60

YTD: \$1,482

YTD: \$2,548

YTD: \$13,920.10

**I**N ALL THREE [Gospel] accounts, Jesus does and says two very remarkable things. First, he walks on the Sea of Galilee in the midst of wind and waves (Matthew 14:25; Mark 6:48; John 6:19). Second, in all three accounts, when the disciples see him and become afraid, he says to them: "I am; do not be afraid (Greek: *ego eimi mé phobeisthe*)" (Matthew 14:27; Mark 6:50; John 6:20). What is the meaning of this miracle? Why does Jesus say "I am" to the disciples?...

Whenever the expression "I am" (Greek: *ego eimi*) occurs by itself, then its meaning must be determined by the context. In certain contexts, the expression "I am" by itself means much more than just "It's me." In the Old Testament, "I am" is often used for the divine name of God (see Exodus 3:14; Deuteronomy 32:39; Isaiah 41:4; 43:10-11)...

Once this Old Testament background is clear, we can go back to Jesus's words to the disciples in the boat and interpret them in the context of the miracle he is performing. In light of Jesus's miraculous display of power over the wind and sea, when he says to the disciples, "I am (Greek: *ego eimi*); do not be afraid," he is not just saying "It's me." He is revealing his divine identity to them. Just as the LORD revealed his divine name to Moses in the context of his display of power over creation in the burning bush, so too Jesus reveals his divine name to the disciples in the context of his display of power over creation when he walks on water...In other words, in a first-century Jewish context, Jesus's act of walking on the water is nothing less than a theophany—an appearance of God—the same God who appeared to Moses on Sinai! That is why Jesus refers to himself by the mysterious expression "I am." Because he is revealing his divine identity as the LORD come in person.

*from "The Case for Jesus: The Biblical and Historical Evidence for Christ" by Dr. Brant Pitre*

## LITTLE FLOWER CHRISTMAS CARDS

We are again taking submissions for our annual parish Christmas Card. The proceeds from the sale of these cards benefit the St. Martin Society for those most in need during the holiday season. We are looking for work that is focused on the Nativity of the Lord with a *Little Flower* flair. The setting may be our parish church, our patron saints may be featured, etc. We would love your creative ideas.

The last two years have featured the talents of some adult parishioners, but we also welcome the creativity of the kids of the parish, especially those who are artistically gifted (the artwork should be recognizably Christmas, something that can be sent out in the mail to family, friends, or acquaintances). Submissions may be emailed to the office. Compositions should fit on a standard card layout.

We would love to sell them at our Annual Parish Fundraiser Potluck in October, so submissions sent in by the end of September will be considered first. Selections will be made by a local artist. *Get your art supplies ready!*



## A NEW SUNDAY ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS STARTING SEPTEMBER 13

**J**OIN US Sundays beginning Sept 13 in the Adult Faith Formation room from 9:30-10:30 AM for a brand new Scripture Study with Dr. John Bergsma

Dive into the most profound of the Gospels with Dr. Bergsma as he unpacks the rich symbolism and deep theology of St. John the Evangelist. From the Word made flesh to the "I Am" sayings, John's Gospel reveals Jesus' divinity and draws us into the mystery of His love. This course will help you see familiar passages with fresh eyes and enter more fully into the life-giving relationship Christ offers to His disciples.

A complete schedule of this 8-part series will be handed out at the first class. No materials necessary. Just bring your Bible!

THE GOSPEL OF  
**JOHN**

*"I am the resurrection and the life" - John 11: 25-26*



## HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday- 4:00 PM *English at Blessed Sacrament*  
Sunday- 8:15 AM; 10:45 AM;  
1:45 PM *Spanish at Blessed Sacrament*  
Monday & Wednesday-Saturday- 8:15 AM  
Tuesday- 5:30 PM  
First Friday- 8:15 AM & 6:00 PM  
Holy Days- See Bulletin or Call the Office for Times

## ADORATION & DEVOTIONS

### Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament:

Thursday - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
First Fridays - 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

### Holy Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet:

Monday - Friday - 3:00 PM  
Saturday - 3:00 PM at *Blessed Sacrament*  
Sunday - Rosary before 8:15 & 10:45 Masses

### Little Flower Novena:

Thursday after Mass & after evening Benediction

## SACRAMENTS

**Baptisms** - Parents of children to be baptized must be registered parishioners for at least 6 months and complete a baptism course

**Marriages** - Couples must contact Pastor 6 months prior to the desired wedding date.

**Sick Calls** - Anytime. Please let us know if someone is hospitalized or needs a home visit.

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults** - please contact the DRE for information on becoming Catholic.

**Office Hours:** Open 3 days a week: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9AM - 3PM

**Blessed Sacrament** - 2564 Hale Avenue, Memphis, TN 38112

## CONFESSIONS

Monday -Friday- 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM  
Thursday - 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM & 5:30 PM - 6:45 PM  
Saturday - 7:45 - 8:00 AM  
3:30 PM - 3:45 PM at *Blessed Sacrament*  
Sunday - 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## STAFF

**Rev. Fr. Yoelvis A. Gonzalez** - Pastor  
father.gonzalez@stlfchurch.cdom.org

**Rev. Mr. Bill Lifsey** - Deacon  
bill.lifsey@stlfchurch.cdom.org

**Brandy Oltremari** - Bookkeeper  
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**Brian Lewandowski** - Parish Business Manager  
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**Laurie Lewandowski** - Director of Religious Education (DRE)  
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**Emma Nwobilor** - Director of Sacred Music  
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*Little Flower Church is the first Catholic Church in Tennessee dedicated to St. Theresa of the Infant Jesus, the Little Flower of Jesus. Living the Little Way since 1930.*

Cover Artwork:  
Gustave Brion,  
*Jesus and Peter on the Water*  
(detail), 1863.



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## CHILDREN ARE A GIFT

We are blessed to have this gift at our Parish!  
Children are also a **RESPONSIBILITY**.  
If your little one gets rowdy or disruptive, please be a responsible parent so others can pray and commune with the Lord undisturbed. Thank you for being considerate.



**JOSHUA HOLCOMB**  
DENTISTRY

435 N. Byhalia Rd. Ste. 112  
Collierville, TN 38017

901-850-0300

Parishioner

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## Holy Souls Memorial

*Requiescant In Pace*

- Msgr. James Whitfield
- Msgr. Joseph Leppert
- Deceased Priests, Parishioners, Alumni, and Benefactors of our Parishes
- Rolando Gonzalez
- Eladio Gonzalez
- Esperanza Llanes
- Allen & Armantine Keller
- Neal Holcomb Family
- Luigi & Maria A. Pierotti Family
- Louis & Dolly Pierantoni



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