

Saint Francis Village Catholic Chapel

4125 St. Francis Village Rd., Crowley, TX 76036

<https://stfrancisvillagecatholicchapel.com>

(817) 292-3274

Father Ken Robinson, Chaplain

September 13, 2026

REFLECTIONS

Certainly one of the most difficult and challenging aspects of being a Christian, a follower of Jesus, is living Christ's command to love and to forgive. We know that this can be a challenge with those who differ from us markedly, but it can be difficult even with those we love. Even more so, then, when others hurt us – either intentionally or even without intention – we might well believe that we have no obligation to forgive. All of us have experienced the challenge of forgiving someone.

However, forgiveness is not something we do just for the other person; it is truly something that we need to do for ourselves as well. Refusing to forgive merely prolongs hurt feelings and negative emotions. It encourages us to dwell on these injured feelings and keeps them alive and painful. And as we can all testify, that feels awful. Indeed, it has been said that refusing to forgive others is like drinking poison and thinking that it will kill the other person. Lack of forgiveness hurts everyone.

But when we forgive, the negative feelings are purged and there is new room for goodness within us. The energy that sustained the angry feelings and emotions is now available for other, more positive purposes. And that is a much better feeling. Now I am not suggesting that choosing forgiveness is easy. In fact, the very struggle to forgive has its own set of challenges. And yet, life without forgiveness is a life that is stagnated, frozen in place. It is rather like having an anchor attached to our legs, preventing us from moving forward.

Jesus taught in scripture that to receive daily forgiveness of our own sins, we must first forgive those who have hurt us. If we cannot or will not forgive the sins of others, how can we obtain that forgiveness for ourselves. That doesn't mean that God will refuse to forgive us if we refuse to forgive others; rather our failure to forgive doesn't leave us with an open space to receive God's forgiveness. The challenge of Christian discipleship is, as Jesus emphasizes in scripture, to pray for those who hurt us. Forgiveness is not any easy virtue, but certainly one worth cultivating.

From Father Ken



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are beginning the 24th Week in Ordinary Time. Today's gospel reading in Matthew continues Jesus' teaching on how the communities' practices on reconciliation among each other should be carried out. Those who have sinned and have been sinned against bear an inexhaustible responsibility for reconciliation. Jesus emphasizes the importance of forgiveness as many has **seventy times seven**. We are reminded that as the Lord is kind and merciful so should we be forgiving toward each other.



To Sign Up

*Safe Environment Training

Thursday, September 24th,
9:45 AM to 11:45 AM
In the A & B Activity Rooms

*Catechism of the Catholic Church Continuing Education

10 Mondays beginning
September 28th through
November 30th (9:45 to 11:15AM).
See Ken Becan for more information
(817-455-9013).

A recent article, with the theme focused on the idea that **"Sometimes Less is More"**, drew my attention. I thought I might share some of the highlights with you. The emphasis was that having less enables us to make room for what may be more important.



Less talking & more listening leads to better understanding.



Less possessions & more gratitude for what we have means more gratitude & helps us to focus our hearts.



Less judgement with more compassion helps us to see what issues another might be experiencing.



Less control & more trust helps our Faith Journey.



Less ego with more Love helps us to be more self-giving.



Less noise & more silence helps us to hear the voice of God.



Less distractions make us more aware of God being with us.

**The conclusion to this article challenges us to ask:
What do I need less of to have more?**

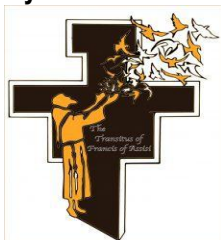
***May Christ's will be done on earth
as it is in Heaven. God Give You Peace.
Mike Pierson***



**Saturday, October 3, 2026
9:00 AM - 1st Saturday Mass**

10:00 AM Transitus Service

honoring St. Francis's final witness of humility, peace and trust in God.
Candles will be lit to commemorate SFV residents & Secular Franciscans who have died since October 2025.



1:00 PM Blessing of Animals

An act of love, care, and gratitude toward animals: a reminder to respect all life, reflecting St. Francis's deep love for nature and all living beings.



**BLESSING OF
THE ANIMALS**

Mass Intentions

Sept. 13, 2026	SFV Catholic Chapel Community
Sept. 14, 2026	Intentions of Susan Wolff By Miriam Gore
Sept. 15, 2026	Father Bob Strittmatter
Sept. 16, 2026	Repose of the Soul of Joan Humble By Mary & Glen Gillespie
Sept. 17, 2026	Repose of the Soul of Jennifer Kemp By Tom & Ruth Kemp
Sept. 18, 2026	Repose of the Soul of Matthew Schaaf By Bob & Karen Frank
Sept. 19, 2026	Intentions of Mike Pierson on his Birthday By Doris Pierson (5:00 Vigil Mass)