

APRIL 4, 2010

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
ST. JOHN, TEXAS

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHURCH
MORAVIA, TEXAS

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS



REV. JOHN C. PETERS, PASTOR

REV. MICHAEL ROTHER, PAROCHIAL VICAR

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MASS SCHEDULE

Easter Sunday

Saturday	April 3	6:00 P.M.	Joe & Larry Zatopek	Moravia
Sunday	April 4	9:30 A.M.	Parishioners of Both Parishes	St. John

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy

Saturday	April 10	6:00 P.M.	Tom Farek	St. John
Sunday	April 11	9:30 A.M.	Daniel S. Spies	Moravia

Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday	April 17	6:00 P.M.	Clarence Haas	Moravia
Sunday	April 18	9:30 A.M.	Laurie Kristinik	St. John

THE WORD OF GOD

Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord

Readings: Acts 10:34a,37-43 Psalm 118:1-2,16-17,22-23 Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 John 20:1-9 or 41:Luke 24:1-12, 46:Luke 24:13-35 On this day of days, we offer a joyful sacrifice of praise to the Father who raised his Son from the dead. Let us be intent upon the life Christ offers us. Christ our Passover who has been sacrificed.

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy

Readings: Acts 5:12-16 Psalm 118:2-4,13-15,22-24 Revelations 1:9-11a,12-13,17-19 John 20:19-31

As Thomas believed because he saw the risen Jesus, so too were many brought to faith through the various signs and wonders wrought by the apostles. They proclaimed as Lord “the stone rejected by the builders”, “the First and the Last of the One who lives”.

Third Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 5:27-32,40b-41 Psalm 30:2,4-6,11-13 Revelations 5:11-14 John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

Jesus appears to seven of his disciples, among them Peter who proclaims his unfailing love for the Lord. Jesus commissions him to feed the sheep. Later, in the face of persecution, Peter and the apostles proclaim the name of Jesus, the Lamb who was slain and who rescues us from death.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Happy Easter! We wish each other this joyful greeting on Easter Sunday - and yet, for Catholics, Easter is so much more than a single celebration. Easter is so important that we cannot celebrate it in one day. To fully celebrate the Easter Season it takes fifty days, or a Pentecost (the Greek word for *fifty*). And each one of these fifty days, in fact, *is* Easter. That is why the Church speaks of the Sundays of Easter, rather than the Sundays after Easter.

And what do we celebrate during this fifty-day Alleluia? Jesus' resurrection from the dead, His eternal and everlasting victory over death, and the gift of salvation poured out upon the world. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#638) reminds us, “The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith.” The heart of our very identity as Christians is this belief that God has radically changed the universe in the birth, life, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The Easter mystery celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus. But what does that really mean? Throughout the gospels, Jesus predicts His own Passion - the suffering, crucifixion, and death that He will endure in fulfillment of the Scriptures. But it is only after we roll the stone away, and the tomb is found empty, that Jesus' predictions are truly fulfilled.

He appears in risen form first to Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:14) and then to the other women and disciples (Mt 28:9). His resurrection is bodily and complete. When the resurrected Christ visits His disciples in the Gospel of Luke, He understands their disbelief and allows them to touch Him so that they may come to believe. He even eats with His disciples as a sign of His real presence among them. The disciples are filled with joy and amazement at the presence of the Risen Christ! And we, too, are filled with joy and amazement at the real presence of the Risen Christ throughout the Mass. As Catholics, we believe that Christ is really and truly present in the celebrant, in the Word, and in the full assembly gathered as the Body of Christ, and most especially, in the Holy Eucharist.

The new life of the Resurrection “reinstates us in God's grace” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #654) “so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Rom 6:4).

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

- Divine Mercy Holy Hour, 3:00 p.m. in Sacred Heart Church
- Firefall, 6:00 p.m. in Sacred Heart Church. Parishioners are invited to join the youth in Eucharistic Adoration.

MORAVIA KJZT #44

Moravia KJZT Society #44 will be holding their People Helping People Community Fundraiser Bake Sale on May, 1, 2010. The bake sale will begin around 4:30 p.m. and will resume again after mass at the church. Any donations or contributions are greatly appreciated. This fundraiser benefits the Schulenburg, Moulton and Hallettsville Fire Departments.

CHURCH CLEANERS

Church cleaners for the month of April for St. John - Elsie Farek, Dana Daughtry and Joyce Janda.
Church cleaners for the month of April for Moravia - Richard & Wilma Schaefer

PRO LIFE

Do you agree with the following statements from National Catholic Survey on Abortion conducted by Priests for Life:

- a.) Abortion is a grave mortal evil and is always wrong.
- b.) The Catholic Church has the moral authority to speak out against the evil of abortion.
- c.) In choosing a candidate for elected office, that candidate's position on abortion is one of the most important factors a voter must consider.
- d.) Because our U.S. Bishops have spoken out in strong defense of the unborn and the value of all human life, they deserve the support and prayers of all the priests and laity.

LORD, HELP ME BE A FAITHFUL CATHOLIC.

WASHINGTON D.C. YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER

Please help support Dylan, Kyle, and Katie Jahn of St Rose as they travel with Sacred Heart to Washington DC this June by purchasing tickets for their spring Washington D.C. Youth Group fundraiser dinner. Each student is required to sell 70 tickets. The meal is on Wednesday, April 7, 2010. Time: 4:30-6:30 pick up at Schulenburg or Hallettsville K.C. Hall Chicken Fried Chicken Breast w/ white sauce, rice, green beans & homemade peach cobbler - \$7.00 each. Please call Ann McBride 561-6261 mother of Dylan, Kyle, and Katie Jahn

MEMORIALS

In memory of Kenneth Besetzny

<u>St. John Seminary Burse</u>		<u>St. John Building Fund</u>	
Willie Barborak	\$10	Nancy Sivyver	\$50

Ascension Building Fund

In memory of George Shimek:

Donald & Karen Kutac	\$10	Albert & Dorothy Olsovsky	\$10
Sylvester & Dolores Janak	\$10	Tom & Margaret Cunningham	\$10
George & Caroline, Dennis & Angela Kutac	\$20	Leo & Dorothy Henke	\$10
Arnold & Gene Marie Bohuslav	\$20	Anna Marie Huebner	\$40
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Mikush	\$10	Leo & Liz Janak	\$10
Peoples State Bank	\$10	Alvin & Gladys Besetzny	\$5

Ascension Cemetery Fund

In memory of George Shimek:

Phil & Kathy Guenther & family	\$20
George & Doris Schwartz	\$20
Joe & Carol Janak	\$10

Ascension CCD Program

In memory of George Shimek:

Harold & Susie Kalich	\$15
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St. John Seminary Burse

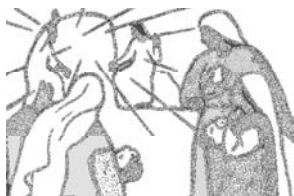
In memory of George Shimek:

Alfred & Anna Marie Schwartz	\$5
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Ascension Building Fund: In memory of Pat Hrcir by Charles Hrcir \$100

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 3 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia -Caitlyn Deem, Joshua & Ashley Becan
 Sunday, April 4 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Clayton & April Brossman, Caleb Krischke
 Saturday, April 10 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - James Lofland, Caitlyn Deem & Ashley Becan
 Sunday, April 11 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Caleb & Jared Krischke, Blaine Besetzny
 Saturday, April 17 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlyn Deem, Ashley & Joshua Becan
 Sunday, April 18 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Clayton & April Brossmann & Miranda Shimek



The women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the

Lord Jesus. — Lk 24:1-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 C.C.D.

Next Bulletin: April 18th, 2010
Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 15th, 2010



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

April 2010

One Minute Meditations

Actions speak loudly

John the Baptist sent his disciples to Jesus to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" (Luke 7:20). Instead of a long discourse on his spiritual genealogy, Jesus told them to watch him and report what they saw. His actions said it all. If you were to tell a friend about who Jesus is, what would you say?

Why obey?

Moses knew the people of Israel needed more incentive to follow the new commandments he presented to them. Asking for their obedience wasn't enough. So he said, "Observe them carefully, for thus will give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations" (Deuteronomy 4:5-9). Yet another reason to obey God; it shows how smart you are.

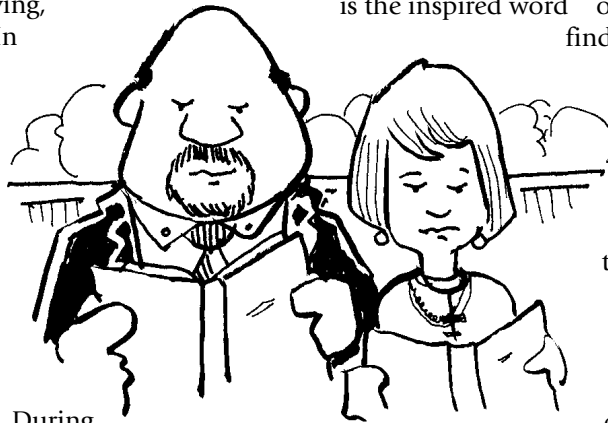
Overconfidence

Sin can be tricky. Just when you think have it beat, watch out. "Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall" (1 Corinthians 10:12).



Meet God at "Little Easter"

One awesome fact of which Easter reminds us is that God lives and lives with us. Yet, as the joy of the celebration fades, we may feel distant from our loving, living God. In fact, we can renew our Easter joy every week at Mass on Sunday, our "little Easter." It's a great place to find God.



The Priest. During Mass, the priest is not acting on his own but in the person of Christ ("In Persona Christi"). Bishops and priests act in persona Christi when they offer Mass, forgive sins, preach on behalf of the Church, and perform other acts of shepherding and teaching. So, we find God in the priest.

The Word. Much of what goes on at Mass is directly from Scripture – the prayers we say together, the hymns we sing, the readings, etc. Since Scripture is the inspired word of God, we can find God in his Word.

The Eucharist. What starts as bread and wine becomes the body and blood of Christ. So we meet God in the consecrated Eucharist.

The People. When we unite to praise God, we are his Church. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). So God is there when we worship with others at Mass.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

What is an Epiclesis?

In each Sacrament, the prayer asking for the power of the Holy Spirit is called an "Epiclesis." In the Epiclesis during the Eucharist, the priest petitions God to send the Holy Spirit so that the offerings may



become the Body and Blood of Christ.

When that happens, the faithful who receive them become a living offering to God, too. "He has also put his seal upon us and given the Spirit in our hearts as a first installment" (2 Corinthians 1:22).

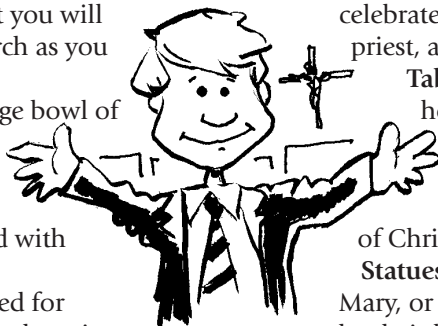
Feel at home in any Catholic church

Each Catholic church may be unique, but you will find familiar elements in any Catholic church as you find in your own parish home.

Baptismal font – A pool, fountain, or large bowl of water usually stands near the doors of the church and reminds us that baptism is our “door” to the Catholic faith.

Nave – The large open room usually filled with pews or seats is the main assembly area.

Sanctuary – The part of the church reserved for liturgical action that contains an altar where the priest



celebrates the sacrifice of the Mass, a chair for the priest, and the lectern for reading Scripture.

Tabernacle – Usually located in a place of honor in the sanctuary, this receptacle holds consecrated hosts. A candle nearby signifies when it is full.

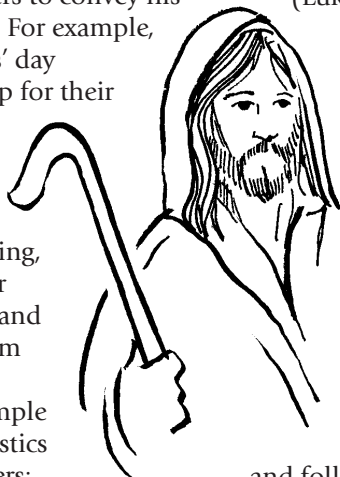
Crucifix – A prominent cross with an image of Christ crucified is usually located near the altar.

Statues - Statues and other forms of art of Jesus, Mary, or the Saints remind us of those who inspire us by their holy lives.

from Scripture

John 10:27-30, Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

As a storyteller, Jesus used images familiar to his listeners to convey his message of salvation. For example, many people in Jesus’ day depended upon sheep for their livelihood. A village might have a common pasture where the sheep were led in the morning, but at night an owner would call his sheep and they would follow him home.



Jesus used this example to describe characteristics of his faithful followers:

They hear his voice. Jesus said to his

Apostles, “*He who hears you hears me*” (Luke 10:16). Catholics recognize Christ’s voice in the successors of the Apostles: our pope and bishops.

They follow him.

Catholics are called to follow Jesus. We follow out of love and we do what he asked us to do, including caring for the poor and vulnerable. We joyfully come when he calls us home.

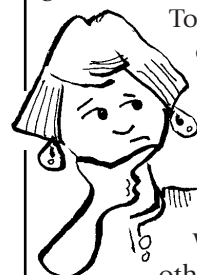
They will have eternal life. Listening to his voice

and following Jesus will guide us safely to the pastures of eternal life.

Q & A

Should I say something to people who come dressed to Mass inappropriately?

There was a time when reverential dress meant men and boys came to Mass in a coat and tie and women and girls wore a dress or skirt (and a hat).



Today’s idea of reverential dressing has many interpretations and what may be reverential to you could be different to someone else.

When you look at how other parishioners dress, ask yourself if they could be wearing their good clothes even if it doesn’t fit your idea of reverential. Then again, if they are dressed in clothing they would use to play a sport or clean the house, you may be right.

If you find how someone is dressed to be distracting, by all means offer a gentle, educational comment. Or, if in doubt, talk to your pastor.

The best way you can influence other people is by how you dress yourself. Wear your “Sunday best” and accessorize with a warm and welcoming manner to those around you, and you are sure to influence others to do the same.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 11 - St. Stanislaus (1079). As Bishop of Krakow in 1072, St. Stanislaus attempted to reform the violent and depraved king of Poland, Boleslas II. When his efforts failed, he excommunicated the king. In retaliation, Boleslas murdered the saint.

April 21 – St. Anselm (1109). A native of Italy, St. Anselm became a monk in France and reluctantly became bishop of Canterbury, England. He was exiled for rebuffing the king’s interference in Church matters.

April 24 – St. Fedelis (1622). In his native Prussia, St. Fidelis became a

lawyer and championed the poor and oppressed. Later, he joined the Franciscans and gave away his wealth. During a revolt against the Church, St. Fidelis worked to bring people back. He was murdered by an angry mob.

April 25 - St. Mark (1st century). St. Mark wrote the second Gospel based on St. Peter’s perspective. Mark accompanied Sts. Paul and Barnabas (Mark’s cousin) on their missionary journey to Cyprus and is credited with founding the Church of Alexandria.



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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)