

OCTOBER 16, 2011

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
ST. JOHN, TEXAS

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHURCH
MORAVIA, TEXAS

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS



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MASS SCHEDULE

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Oct. 15	6:00 P.M.	Joe & Irene Drozd Barcak	Moravia
Sunday	Oct. 16	9:30 A.M.	Living & Deceased Members of St. John KJZT #9	St. John

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Oct. 22	6:00 P.M.	Adolph B. & Adella Kutac	St. John
Sunday	Oct. 23	9:30 A.M.	Eddie Pilat	Moravia

Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Oct. 29	6:00 P.M.	Henry R & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia
Sunday	Oct. 30	9:30 A.M.	John & Julia Jurica	St. John

THE WORD OF GOD

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 45:1,4-6 Psalm 96:1,3-5,7-10 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b Matthew 22:15-21

The Lord is king, and there is no other. We are to render to God, therefore, fitting praise and service, as is God's due. God's word to us, in turn, is a matter of power and strength, to be lived with conviction of heart.

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Exodus 22:20-26 Psalm 18:2-4,47,51 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10 Matthew 22:34-40

We are to love the Lord with our whole heart and our neighbor as our self. By thus fulfilling these two great commandments, we hope to become models of faith and imitators of the Lord who gave himself totally for our sakes.

Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Malachi 1:14b-2:2b,8-10 Psalm 131:1-3 1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9,13 Matthew 23:1-12

The prophet denounces those priests who in their pride have turned away from the Law, causing others to go astray. Jesus, too, is critical of those religious leaders who fail to practice what they preach. All, rather, are called to greatness through humility and service, by sharing their lives with others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The Parish Mission at Sacred Heart begins this Sunday evening. The services are usually centered on a symbol of our faith and have a theme:

Sunday Evening:

Symbol - Bible

Theme - God's plan of salvation and our response

Monday Evening:

Symbol - Crucifix

Theme - Who is Jesus for me?

Tuesday Evening:

Symbol - Ashes

Theme - The Sacrament of Reconciliation brings forgiveness and healing.

Alternate Tuesday Evening:

Symbol - Paschal Candle

Theme - Sin, reconciliation and healing. Tuesday night includes a penance service conducted by the missionaries.

Wednesday Evening:

Symbol - Altar

Theme - Eucharist

The mission will begin at 7:00 p.m. each evening. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the Mission.

PENNIES FOR LIFE

During the month of October, Respect Life Month, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Rose #1597 is collecting Pennies for Life. Parishioners are asked to donate one penny for each year of their lives in thanksgiving to God for the life He has given them. Proceeds will be used for Respect Life activities in the Diocese of Victoria. You may place your donation in the container at the main entrance of the church. Thank you for your continued support of this project.

ST. JOHN PICNIC MEETING

There will be a St. John Picnic meeting on Monday, October 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the St. John Parish Hall.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 15 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Rylie Lux, Caitlyn Deem, Josh Becan
Sunday, October 16 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - April & Clayton Brossmann & Blaine Besetzny
Saturday, October 22 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - James Lofland, Ashley Becan, Josh Becan
Sunday, October 23 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Caitlyn Deem, Caleb Krischke, Blaine Besetzny
Saturday, October 29 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - April & Clayton Brossmann, James Lofland
Sunday, October 30 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Rylie Lux, Dylan Goldberg, Miranda Shimek

FALLING LEAVES FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 23 - Hallettsville KC Hall. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. Hall admission \$8 each. Fried Chicken & Sausage Dinner \$8 per plate, 10:30am-1pm. Battle Dance 11am-7pm: Czechaholics, Fritz Hoddie & Fabulous Six, Dujka Bros.

ST. JOHN'S ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING

The St. John's Altar Society will hold their meeting, Sunday, October 16th, in the church immediately after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

THE YOUTH CONNEXION

Firefall: Sunday @ 5pm...Short youth gathering following Firefall. Join us for the parish missions @ 7pm

TRUNK 'R TREAT Sunday, October 30th....**FOLLOWING SPANISH MASS**

Discount Cards \$10 each, on sale at Blahuta Advertising & the Rectory. *Thank you for supporting the youth of our parish!!*

VISITING & BLESSING OF GRAVES FOR ALL SOULS DAY:

Saturday, October 29:

Ascension of Our Lord, Moravia - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 30:

St. John the Baptist, St. John - 10:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart - 3:00 p.m.

St. Augustine, Worthing - 3:45 p.m.

St. Anthony, Breslau-Witting - 4:30 p.m.

St. Ludmila, Wied - 5:15 p.m.

Wednesday, November 2:

Sacred Heart - 9:00 a.m.

St. Mary - 6:15 p.m.

GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Our next Generations of Faith will be Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 5:30PM at St. John the Baptist Rectory. We will continue our study of "Responding In Prayer" with "Praying The Rosary." If your child has a rosary, please have her/him bring it to GOF. Please remember that each GOF is begun with dinner. Anyone that would like to participate in the \$5.00 sandwich meal must notify Dana Daughtry at 979-562-2381 by Sunday, October 16, 2011.

GOF would like to thank the KJZT for the generous donation of an additional month of our take home magazine. If you have any questions about GOF, please contact Dana Daughtry at 979-562-2381 or 713-822-3019.

STRUDEL BAKE

Sacred Heart School 60th annual Apple Strudel Bake set for Saturday, October 22, 2011. Unbaked strudels - \$13, baked - \$15. Pickup from 10am to 5pm on 10/22 at the SH Family Center. To order, call Charlene Bradbury 361-798-3224 or email charlene_bradbury@hotmail.com. (*Advance orders are required*) Donations are needed to purchase 100 boxes of apples (\$20/box). For a \$20 donation, an apple with your name will be placed on apple trees in the church foyer. Donations may be left at the rectory, school office, or in the weekend collection basket.

ST. JOHN'S KJZT SOCIETY MEETING

St. John's KJZT Society #9 will hold their Annual Meeting & Social on Friday, October 21st, at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Bessie Dornak. We invite all members to attend. For more information call Joyce Janda at 979-562-2682.

MEAT DONATION OMISSION

Accidentally left off from Moravia Picnic Report: Meat Donations - Aubrey & Vernell Shanks - \$60 and Dorothy & David Young - \$30.

PRO LIFE

"Increasing attempts to expunge God and religious discourse from public life are contributing to a growing disrespect for the unique status of human beings," Cardinal DiNardo said in a message for October Respect Life Month. (Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo is Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and chairman of the U.S. Bishops' committee on Pro-Life Activities.) The cardinal said the recent decision by the Department of Health and Human Services to require all health plans to cover surgical sterilization and all FDA approved contraceptive drugs and devices without cost demonstrates both "a distorted view of sexuality and a disdain for the role of religion." (From THE CATHOLIC LIGHTHOUSE, Oct. 2011)

FALL BAZAAR

Sunday, October 16 - On the St. Paul Church Grounds at 204 Mills St., Smithville. Benefiting St. Paul, Smithville and Sts. Peter & Paul, Kovar Catholic Churches. Mass at 10:15 a.m. BBQ Chicken & Sausage Dinner at 11:00 a.m. Adult - \$7 and children \$4. Live Auction, Raffle, Arts & Crafts, Cake Wheel/Country Store, Silent Auction, Kids' Games

*October – Month of the Holy Rosary
Pray the Rosary especially this month.*

Next Bulletin: Sunday, Oct. 30th, 2011
Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27th, 2011



The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

TODAY

Isaiah 45:1, 4–6
1 Thessalonians 1:1–5B
Matthew 22:15–21

MONDAY

Luke 12:13–21
“Be on your guard against all kinds of greed.”

TUESDAY*

Luke 10:1–9
“The harvest is plentiful . . .”

WEDNESDAY

Luke 12:39–48
“ . . . the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

THURSDAY

Luke 12:49–53
“Do you think that I have come to bring peace . . .”

FRIDAY

Luke 12:54–59
“ . . . why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?”

SATURDAY

Luke 13:1–9
“ . . . unless you repent, you will all perish . . .”

*Feast of Saint Luke

In God We Trust

Jesus says that we should give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s. His words are frequently misunderstood. Jesus is not proposing parity between God and civil government, such as that implied in the separation between church and state. Jesus knows that everything belongs to God. The state we live in has some claim on what we have, but God has a claim on everything. Our life, the world around us, our family, our friends, our health, our talents, our future all belong to God.

Today’s Gospel asserts God’s sovereignty over all things. This is one of the few passages in the New Testament that directly addresses the issues of money and taxes. What could be more relevant to us today? Our economy is still struggling to recover from the worst period since the Great Depression.



Credit is either difficult to obtain or extremely overused. Jobs are few, and the value of our homes continues to spiral downward.

All these conditions make us fearful. In whom can we trust? The answer is on the dollar bill: “In God we trust.” In these difficult times, it is more important than ever to believe in God’s rule over all things, including our finances.

We try to trust in God. But while things were going well financially, we probably also trusted in money.

But now, when our monetary cushion is gone, it is clear that we must find confidence elsewhere. Now is the time to remember that in good times and in bad, in boom and in bust, the wise person is the one who places trust in God.



The Faith of the Church

The bishops at the Second Vatican Council remind us that we should work for socioeconomic development and defend justice in our world. At the same time, we should give witness to the proper value of earthly things, demonstrating the spirit of poverty and placing the work for God’s kingdom before all else (Cf. *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World* 72).



Questions of the Week

The tax that Jesus discusses in the Gospel is a Roman “head tax,” which was exacted from men, women, and slaves from the ages of twelve to sixty-five. It had to be paid in Roman currency and was equal to a full day’s wage.

Adults

Is there a financial issue that worries me and detracts from my work or life with my family?

Children

Do I realize that everything important in my life comes from God and they’re not the things I can buy or possess?

Responding to God's Word . . .

When we place our trust in God, it gives us the freedom to ask how much do we need? We need a lot less than we think. Before the economic downturn, we were accustomed to live in an artificial bubble of prosperity. It was easy to confuse the things that we could have with the things we must have. Now that the bubble is gone, there is an opportunity to ask ourselves what is really important.

We might have to make adjustments in the way that we live. We may not be free to go out as often. We

might not be able to buy what was previously within our reach. We might have to re-imagine the shape of our retirement. Making such changes is not easy. But we still have access to the most important things.

Family, friends, integrity, and the willingness to use what we have for the benefit of others are all things that belong to God. When we use them according to God's will, we can be happy, even if we have less money. If we render to God the things that are God's, we will not be disappointed.



Meditation Moment

Many professional beekeepers tend their beehives without putting on special veils or clothing. How do they avoid being stung? Their technique is simple. They remain perfectly calm and move about slowly and deliberately. This keeps the bees calm and cool. Thus, even when scores of bees land on a keeper's unprotected skin, the keeper does not yield to panic. Jesus also mastered the virtue of staying calm in heated situations. We see him do that in today's reading.

For reflection . . .

To what extent do I try to remain cool and in control when others attack me—even unfairly?

ANGER IS THE WIND THAT BLOWS
OUT THE LAMP OF THE MIND.

ROBERT INGERSOLL

FROM *VISION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

A Stewardship Prayer

Almighty
God, you have
blessed me with life and
love, with family and friends,
with talents and dreams. I am
gifted with food, money, and a
place to live. Each day you give me
twenty-four hours of time. Never let
me forget that all of these gifts are
yours. I do not own them but only
hold them in your name.
I have them for the service of your
people and the building of your
kingdom. Let me use them,
freely, generously, joyfully—
always trusting in you.
Amen.

*Carry this thought in your heart as a
guide for your faith journey this week.*

But strive first for the kingdom
of God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be
given to you as well. So do not
worry about tomorrow, for
tomorrow will bring worries of
its own.

Matthew 6:33–34

SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

In the home. Discuss together whether a part of your family budget could be redirected to serve someone in need.

In the workplace or in school. Identify someone who is struggling because a family member is unemployed. Give him or her your support.

In the community. Determine who has been most affected by any cutbacks in government services. Ask yourself if you can be of assistance.

Profile in Faith

The Lilies of the Field

In the middle of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus addresses the worry that comes from our need of material things.

He admits that we do need food and clothing, but reminds us that if God feeds the birds of the air and clothes the lilies of the field, he will certainly also care for us.

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