

September 28, 2014

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
ST. JOHN, TEXAS

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHURCH
MORAVIA, TEXAS

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS



REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS, PASTOR

REV. BARNABAS KYEAH, PAROCHIAL VICAR

P.O. BOX H ✠ HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS 77964 ✠ (361) 798-5888 ✠ (361) 798-4970 FAX

WEBSITE: WWW.SHCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG

E-MAIL: RECTORY@SHCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG

MASS SCHEDULE

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Sept. 27	6:00 P.M.	Henry & Martha Besetzny & Leo Schramek	St. John
Sunday	Sept. 28	9:30 A.M.	A. J. Kalich & Deceased Relatives	Moravia

First Friday

Friday	Oct. 3	8:00 A.M.	Family Life	St. John
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Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Oct. 4	6:00 P.M.	Agnes Krohovjak	Moravia
Sunday	Oct. 5	9:30 A.M.	Lebert & Leona Berger	St. John

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Oct. 11	6:00 P.M.	Daniel S. Spies	St. John
Sunday	Oct. 12	9:30 A.M.	Henry & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Ezekiel 18:25-28 Psalm 125:4-9 Philemon 2:1-11 or 2:1-5 Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus was obedient to the Father, even to death on a cross. We need never fear if we turn away from the path of virtue for the Lord is ever ready to forgive us, if we but repent. Remember, the Lord's compassion and kindness are from of old.

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:9,12-16,19-20 Philippians 4:6-9 Matthew 21:33-43

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel. At vintage time the master will return to receive the harvest. May we bear fruit in plenty, and be pleasing in His sight by living lives that are marked by love and respect.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 25:6-10a Psalm 23:1-6 Philippians 4:12-14,19-20 Matthew 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

The Lord invites us to a banquet, one of the favorite images of messianic times. This banquet is spread before us and can fully satisfy our needs, yet how often have we refused the Lord's invitation to share in the riches prepared for us?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

In this day and time, we are to really focus on family life. This is so very important for our church and for our society.

Pope Paul VI, in his great apostolic exhortation on evangelization, quotes the Second Vatican Council's description of the Christian family as the domestic church. For Pope Paul VI, this means that to truly become a domestic church "there should be found in every Christian family the various aspects of the entire Church."

The Second Vatican Council also taught that every Catholic is called to holiness. And since the great majority of Catholics live out their lives in families, it is clear that the family should be a place in which each family member can grow in holiness.

As the saints have shown throughout history, holiness in life leads inevitably to witness in our daily lives. In our time, the work of evangelization is not reserved only for an elite few, but is the responsibility of all baptized Christians.

In a very real sense, we are all called to be missionaries. We are all called to "proclaim" the Gospel to those around us through our lives each day, and the privileged place for most of us to do this is within our own families.

The Christian family is essentially missionary in character because of this reality. In the words of St. John Paul II, "The family has the mission to guard, reveal and communicate love". In fulfilling this mission, the Christian family is itself called to be an image of the loving communion that exists among the three Persons of the Trinity.

The Catholic family is able to reveal and communicate this love in a special way because it is founded upon sacramental marriage. Christian spouses first receive this love as a divine gift, but they also receive this love as a task. The task of Christian spouses to live and communicate this love first to each other and their children and then to others is at the center of the family's mission in the world.

For this reason, when the Christian family takes up the task "to become what it is" - a living icon in our world of God's own communion - the family stands at the heart of the Church's mission of evangelization. And when the family responds in this way to the design of the Creator, it truly becomes a "domestic church."

Recently, Pope Francis reminded us that Christian families "are the domestic church where Jesus grows in the love of a married couple, in the lives of their children."

KJZT MEETING

The October KJZT meeting will be held on Oct 12th at 12pm at the Moravia Dining Hall

ST. JOHN CHURCH CLEANERS FOR OCTOBER: Jo Marie Krupala & Gladys Surman

ST. JOHN USHERS FOR OCTOBER: Gary Mendel & Harold Kalich

ASCENSION CHURCH CLEANERS FOR OCTOBER: Marcia Hrnair & Sophie Cernik

ASCENSION USHERS FOR OCTOBER: Phil Guenther & Perry Deem

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, Sept. 27 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Rylie & Regan Lux, Seth Eckhardt

Sunday, Sept. 28 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Miranda Shimek, Caitlin Deem, Kenna Kubenka

Saturday, Oct. 4 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Kenna Kubenka, Caitlin Deem, Joshua Becan

Sunday, Oct. 5 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Seth Eckhardt, Miranda Shimek, Alex Lozano

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Rylie & Regan Lux, Dylan Goldberg

Sunday, Oct. 12 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Blaine Besetzny, April Brossmann

PUBLIC ROSARY FOR PEACE

Join in praying the Rosary for peace at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 11th in the gazebo on Main Street in Schulenburg. High Hill's St. Anne Society sponsors this event in concert with America Needs Fatima public Rosaries throughout the country.



PRO-LIFE CORNER

“Human life is sacred and inviolable...Every civil right is based on the recognition of the first, fundamental right, the right to life, which is not subject to any condition, of a qualitative, economic and certainly not of an ideological nature...Therefore it is necessary to reaffirm our solid opposition to any direct offense against life, especially when innocent and defenseless, and the unborn child in its mother’s womb is the quintessence of innocence. **Let us remember the words of Vatican Council II: ‘Therefore from the moment of its conception life must be guarded with the greatest care while abortion and infanticide are unspeakable crimes.’...**” [Pope Francis in recent address to members of Italian Movement for Life]

THE FALLING LEAVES GALA featuring **The Original Triumphs, Saturday, Oct. 11, 5:30-11:00 p.m.,**

Knights of Columbus Hall, Hallettsville. Tickets on sale now! \$100 per couple includes a rib-eye steak dinner for two, open bar, dance and prizes (Grand prize \$4,000). Tickets may be purchased at the K.C. Hall, the Sacred Heart Rectory, or online at www.kchall.com (click on the Falling Leaves tab). For more information, please call 361-798-2311.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS – SACRED HEART CHURCH

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will begin on Thursday, October 2 at Sacred Heart. If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the Catholic Faith with the possibility of joining the Catholic Church or if you are already Catholic and are interested in helping with the RCIA process as a Sponsor or Team Member, please call the Sacred Heart Rectory at (361) 798-5888. It is not too late to register for the class or to volunteer your services.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & LECTORS

If you are interested in serving as a Lector or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please let Msgr. John or Elsie Farek know.

AREA CHURCH PICNICS

September 28:

Queen of Peace, Sweet Home Community Center. Stew & Sausage Dinner, 11am-1pm. Auction 1pm. Raffle
St. Philip, K.C. Hall, El Campo. Holy Mass 10am. BBQ Beef & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, bingo, booths
Sts Peter & Paul, Meyersville. Holy Mass 10am. BBQ Beef Dinner 11am. Auction, bingo, booths, games

October 5:

Holy Rosary, Hostyn. Holy Mass 10am. Fried Chicken & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, booths, games, music.
Sacred Heart Catholic Daughters, Flatonia. Turkey & Dressing Dinner & Silent Auction 11am-2pm.
St. Roch, Mentz. Holy Mass 10:30am. BBQ Beef, Pork & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, booths, games, music
St. John, Hungerford. Holy Mass 9:30am. BBQ Beef, Chicken & Sausage Dinner 10:30am. Auction, booths
Holy Cross, K.C. Hall, Bay City. Turkey & Dressing Dinner 11am. Auction, country store, games, music.

LIFE CHAIN

Life Chain on Sunday, October 5 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. along Hwy 77 South in front of the K.C. Hall in Hallettsville. Prayerfully witness on behalf of the unborn - signs will be provided. **All are welcome!**

Raphael’s Refuge, Flatonia, September 29, prayers and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00-7:00 p.m., for Feast Day of Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels. For more information, contact Midge Elam 361-865-3812, email raphaelsrefuge@att.net, or go to the website at www.raphaelsrefuge.org.

Sacred Heart School 63rd Annual Apple Strudel Bake, Saturday, October 25. Unbaked - \$14, Baked - \$16. Pickup from 10am-5pm at the Sacred Heart Family Center. To order, call Charlene Bradbury 361-798-3224, Annette Henke 361-798-5374, or email shsstrudelbake@gmail.com. Advance orders are required to guarantee order fulfillment.

Forty Days for Life Prayer Campaign: For the past 5 years, various Catholic schools from the Victoria Diocese have participated in the 40 Days for Life prayer campaign in Houston. This year, we are calling on all the schools and parishioners to join in this effort Wed., October 29. We will meet at Planned Parenthood, 4600 Gulf Fwy., Houston on that day at 10:30 a.m. and pray until noon. I hope your school and your parishioners can join us! For questions or more information, contact Fr. Tommy Chen, Pro-Life Coordinator for the Diocese of Victoria, at (361-) 552-6140 ext. 100.

Growing in FAITH™

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

September 2014

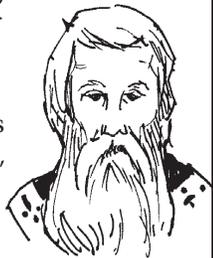
Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Pope St. Gregory the Great

A great pope of the Church, Pope St. Gregory gave up the privileges of being a rich man's son to serve God. As a young man, he became one of seven deacons of Rome. He then became Rome's Chief Magistrate but resigned to become a monk turning the family estate into the Abbey of St. Andrew.



Elected pope at age 50, St. Gregory made peace with the invading Lombards, saved Rome from famine, and restored order within the Church itself.

Our rock

Although the world may change, God stays the same. He can be trusted to provide love, support, strength, patience, wisdom, insight, and creativity when we need it. All we have to do is ask. *"For I the Lord do not change ..."* (Malachi 3:6).

Power in number

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).



God loves me; this I know."

We are loved immeasurably by Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Why, then, do we often fear God as a stern taskmaster who imposes impossible rules and waits to catch us in misdeeds? Instead, let's be confident in his warmth.

God is love.
"Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God ... for God is love" (1 John 4:8). God's very nature is love. He isn't capable of ill will, ridicule, or bad feelings. He can only love and want us to love.

God is only capable of wanting our good. When someone loves us, he

wants the very best for us. *"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope"* (Jeremiah 29:11).

God doesn't want us to wonder about him. We don't have to guess who he is. He makes it easy to come to know him. *"... Let*

him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practice steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I

delight, says the Lord" (Jeremiah 9:24). We get to know him through seeking him in prayer and action.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do we say the Church is "Apostolic?"

The Church was founded on the Apostles, sent by Christ to *"make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you"* (Matthew 28:19-20). The Apostles conferred their mission and authority on their successors with the imposition of



hands, still done today.

The faith of the Apostles was preserved through time via this apostolic succession. *"[The Church] continues to be taught, sanctified, and guided by the Apostles until Christ's return, through their successors in pastoral office"* (CCC 857).

Mistakes can be blessings

Do you dread making mistakes and feel remorse when you do? Instead, realize that mistakes are simply outcomes we didn't expect and can lead to growth.

Start by admitting your mistake. You can only learn from a mistake if you admit you made one. Acknowledging the error takes the focus away from assigning blame and moves it toward understanding a future course of action.

Enlist help. Talking to someone else about what happened gives you the benefit of another's experience. He or she may have made a similar

mistake or know of solid solution. Plus, describing the event forces you to think it through and may even help you see opportunities you didn't know were there.

Decide on change. Ask, "What will I do better next time?" Real growth and change happen when you see possibilities for improvement.

Benefit from mistakes. If you can learn from the current error, you may be able to avoid a future one.

Remember, God is the only one you know who doesn't make mistakes.

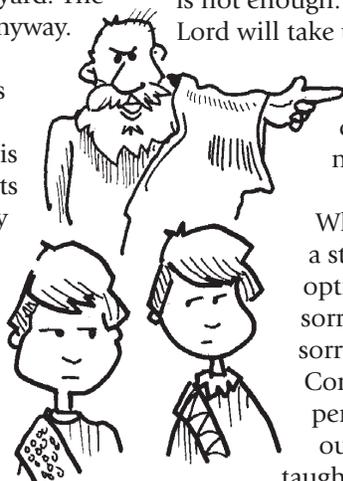


from Scripture

Matthew 21:28-32, Honest obedience.

Jesus told of a man who asked his two sons to go work in his vineyard. The first said, "No," but went anyway. The second said, "Yes," but didn't go. Which son did as the father asked?

The father in the parable is God. The first son represents the outcasts of society. They said "No" to God at first, but repented of their sins and changed. The second son represents the Jewish religious leaders. They said "Yes," but it was just lip service. They followed rules rather than change their hearts.



Saying, "Yes, God, I believe in you," is not enough. If we presume that the Lord will take us into Heaven just

because profess our faith, we will be disappointed. Words are not enough.

True obedience is lived. When we realize we are in a state of sin, we have two options. We can say we're sorry, or we can show we're sorry by going to Confession, doing sincere penance and amending our lives. Living as Jesus taught us is our way of "working in our Father's vineyard."

Q & A Why is the Our Father called, "The Perfect Prayer?"

One reason we call the Our Father, "The Perfect Prayer," is because Jesus

taught us to pray it (Luke 11:1-13). It is actually four prayers in one. First, it is a prayer of praise and gives God the glory that he is due.

Second, it is a prayer of petition in which we ask God to provide what we need.

Third, it is a prayer asking for forgiveness and the strength to be forgiving. And last, it is a prayer of acknowledgement. It leads us to admit that God knows what is best for us and reminds us to submit to his will rather than our own. That's what makes it the perfect prayer and the perfect prayer model.

The Our Father is a good beginning to heartfelt prayer. Jesus encourages us to ask for God's help, seek God's will, and open the door to God's grace in our lives.



Feasts & Celebrations

Sept. 13 - St. John Chrysostom (407). A powerful public speaker, he was a brutal critic of clergy who abused their office and royals who turned a blind eye to the suffering of the poor. He died in exile as a result

Sept. 27 - St. Vincent de Paul (1660). St. Vincent de Paul, was devoted to the spiritual and physical relief of the poor and sick. He founded several hospitals, and ransomed over 1,200 galley slaves from North Africa.

Sept. 21 - St. Matthew. Also known as Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St.

Matthew left everything when Jesus called him to spread the Gospel. He wrote the Gospel According to Matthew.

Sept. 29 - St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael, the Archangels. Members of the third hierarchy of angels around the throne of God, archangels are entrusted with important missions to mankind such as St. Gabriel's visit to the Blessed Mother to tell her she had been chosen as the mother of God.



Our Mission

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