

JULY 11, 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. TOMMY CHEN, PAROCHIAL VICAR

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MASS SCHEDULE

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 10	6:00 P.M.	Helen Henke	St. John
Sunday	July 11	9:30 A.M.	Henry & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 17	6:00 P.M.	Fred & Martha Hermis	Moravia
Sunday	July 18	10:00 A.M.	Daniel S. Spies	Moravia

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 24	6:00 P.M.	Alphonse Berger	St. John
Sunday	July 25	9:30 A.M.	Joe & Irene Drozd Barcak	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Deuteronomy 30:10-14 Psalm 69:14,17,30-31,33-34,36,37 or Psalm 19:8-11 Colossians 1:15-20 Luke 10:25-37 The law of the Lord, the great commandment of love is not something “mysterious” or “remote.” Indeed, it is “very near” to us. Yet how difficult it is to fulfill, being neighbor to whoever is in need. But if we seek God, we must “go ahead and do the same” for we have been created in, for, and through Christ.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Genesis 18:1-10a Psalm 15:2-5 Colossians 1:24-28 Luke 10:38-42

Abraham, the just and upright man, graciously hosts three visitors. As Mary and Martha host Jesus, he speaks of only one thing as necessary for us who follow him: being open to receive the message and person of Jesus, and being receptive to the “mystery of Christ” as he comes to us through one another.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Genesis 18:20-32 Psalm 138:1-3,6-8 Colossians 2:12-14 Luke 11:1-13

In bargaining with God, Abraham demonstrates a real persistence in prayer. Jesus invites us to persist in prayer as well, to “ask...seek...knock”. May our prayer open us to God’s will, and so build up his strength within us. In baptism, we have died with Christ, and have been risen to life with him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

We welcome our new associate pastor, Fr. Tommy Chen. Fr. Tommy comes to us as his second assignment. He just celebrated his second anniversary as a priest.

I ask for your prayers for my upcoming surgery on July 21st at Citizens Hospital in Victoria. The doctors discovered a tumor on my bladder. They believe it is malignant but confined. I will stay in the hospital overnight and return here. After the surgery, it will be determined whether or not I will need any treatments. I am very optimistic about it all. Thank you for your prayers and concern.

Thank you to all who helped in any way to make the St. John Parish Picnic such a great success. It was a great day all the way around.

Our Moravia Parish Picnic is coming up soon - Sunday, July 18th. We ask everyone’s help and cooperation to make the picnic successful.

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone for all you have done for me. I could not have had a better first assignment. Leaving is difficult because I made a home here largely due to the welcome you all gave me, inviting me into your homes, families, and lives. I truly feel like a son of Hallettsville. Each of the four parishes has a special place in my heart and will be remembered fondly as my first home as a priest. You all were very supportive of my endeavors and me as a person and taught me a great deal. I will take what I have learned here to Our Lady of Victory and wherever I am sent after that. I also want to express my extreme gratitude for the enormous response in gifts for my farewell. In all about \$1500 was donated to the seminary burse for the education of our seminarians. May God bless each of you with His abundant graces. *Fr. Michael*

ST. JOHN’S CHURCH CLEANERS

St. John’s Church cleaning list for the month of July: Irene Mendel, Diane Kutac & Joanie Krischke.

MEMORIAL
ST. JOHN BURSE

In memory of Kenneth Besetzny by Jim & Mary Jean Krimbill \$10

MORAVIA PARISH PICNIC - JULY 18

Parishioners are asked to donate the following for our picnic. Items for the auction - please bring them early, cash donations for bingo and cash donations to help with the purchase of the meats. The country store is in need of homemade canned goods and handmade items. This year there will be a fish pond along with the toy walk so items for the young can be donated for that.

The cake walk is in need of cakes well wrapped. Also cakes for the dinner are greatly needed. Please check the picnic work list for your name and any extra help from anyone would be appreciated. Working together will make our picnic the great success it has been in the past.

PRO LIFE

Do not use the terms, "going to be a mother (or father)," "expecting a child" or "a child on the way" when speaking of pregnancy. **THE CHILD IS ALREADY IN THERE IN THE WOMB!** Priests for Life

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Spiritual Retreat on Saturday, August 7, Sacred Heart Family Center. A day of renewal, prayer & Catholic spirituality will be offered by Michael Fonseca, the facilitator for Spiritual Formation in the Diaconate Program for the Victoria Diocese. No cost: however, a good will offering will be accepted. Bring a bag lunch or purchase a meal that day. If interested in attending, contact Michael Fonseca (michaelfonseca@verizon.net) . Kenneth Fishbeck (kwfishbeck@sbcglobal.net or 361-596-4650), Bill Briscoe (brisco3@cvctx.com or 979-263-5212), or Deacon John McCourt (johnmc16@verizon.net or 979-968-3408).

REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE

Rediscover Your Marriage - September 10-12 in Victoria. Retrouvaille simply means "rediscovery." The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10's of 1000's headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriage by attending. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For information or to register for the September program, call 979-543-3493 or email lbconner@sbcglobal.net or visit the website at www.retrouvaille.org.

ACTS FAMILY PICNIC

Save the date - Sacred Heart ACTS Community Annual Family Picnic, Sunday, August 8, 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Splashway Water Park. Beginning with outdoor Mass followed by lunch, outdoor games and swimming.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

Jesus Christ gives Himself entirely to us; He unites His sacred body with ours; and by this union, we become one and the same spirit with Him. As the food which we take nourishes our body, so the Holy Eucharist is the nourishment of our soul. For even as our bodily food is changed into our substance, so the Holy Eucharist transforms us into Jesus Christ.

ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you, for you *alone*? He burns with the desire to come into your heart.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 10 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - James Lofland
Sunday, July 11 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Seth Eckhardt, Caleb Krischke & Blaine Besetzny
Saturday, July 17 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlyn Deem, Ashley & Joshua Becan
Sunday, July 18 - **10:00 a.m.** - Moravia - Miranda Shimek, Seth Eckhardt, Caleb Krischke, Blaine Besetzny
Saturday, July 24 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - James Lofland, April & Clayton Brossmann
Sunday, July 25 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Hayden Besetzny, Jared Krischke, Logan Eckhardt

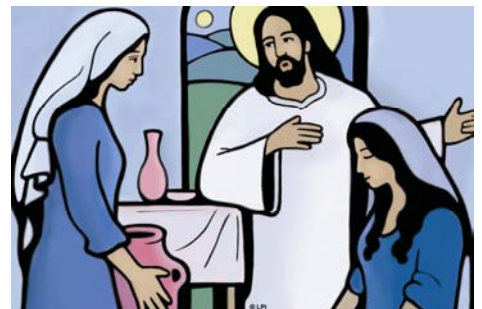
Next Bulletin: July 25, 2010

Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 22nd, 2010



“Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?” He answered, “The one who treated him with mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.” — Lk 10:36-37

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



The Lord said to her in reply, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.” — Lk 10:41-42

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

Growing in FAITH™

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

July 2010

One Minute Meditations

Dress for Mass

Warmer weather in many parts of the country means wearing lighter, more casual clothing. Still, something that could be worn to play a sport, clean the garage, or work in the yard may not be appropriate for Mass. God deserves your "Sunday best" even in the Summer.

Rest

Jesus knows that we become weary as we work and when his disciples came back from their first missionary trips, he took them to a quiet place to rest. The same is true for us. When Jesus sees us grow weary from work, he invites us to rest in his company.

Pray for priests

"God wants us, as priests, in one tiny moment of history, to share his concern about people. As priests, we want to be persons who share his concern for men and women, who take care of them and provide them with a concrete experience of God's concern." Pope Benedict XVI



Help inactive Catholics claim their prize

Would you quietly watch while a friend threw away a winning lottery ticket without claiming his prize? In a way, seeing a baptized Catholic neglect his faith is similar. Catholics who don't attend Mass each week, don't partake of the Sacraments, and don't grow in their faith are throwing away the riches Christ has offered. Instead, encourage all Catholics to claim their promised prize.

Listen. Perhaps a painful past episode associated with the Church or a sin that seems unforgivable is keeping your friend from coming to church. Offering gentle attention and comfort makes you an instrument of grace.

Invite. Some Catholics don't practice

their faith because they haven't found a parish home where they feel welcome. Inviting your friend to attend Mass with you is a first step.

Encourage. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are freed from our sins and reminded of God's forgiveness. Encourage your friend to go to Confession and receive the peace of Christ.

Share. Your friend may know about God but he may not know God's love. Sharing the ways in which God has blessed you can help him to start noticing God's love in his own life.

Show. When you live a joyfully Catholic life, your joy becomes contagious. Continue to grow in your own faith and others will want to share it.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

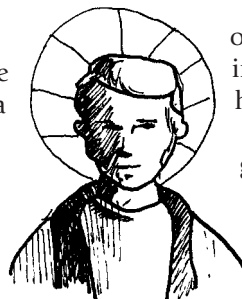
Canonization is a solemn declaration by the Pope that a person lived a life of heroic virtue on Earth or remained faithful to God through martyrdom, and has received eternal life. Such a person is worthy

Why does the Church canonize saints?

of imitation and can act as an intercessor for us as we try for holiness.

Proposing saints as models gives us hope and help to achieve the same reward.

Offering us holy people to inspire us is another gift from the Church to her people.

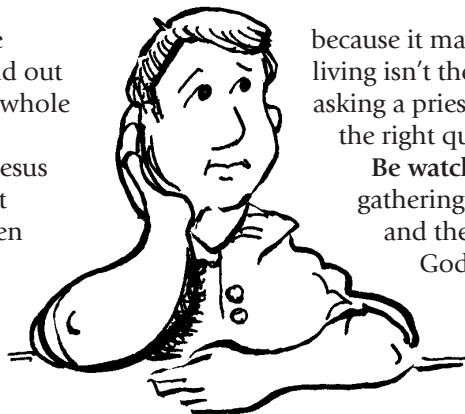


Give me a sign, Lord!

We can only be truly happy when we live according to God's will, but how do we find out what that is? Instead of trying to guess the whole plan, try letting him lead a step at a time.

Quiet down. Listening in silence is key. Jesus often went off alone to pray. Set aside quiet time every day just to listen to God. Even ten minutes a day helps.

Question. Don't be afraid to ask tough questions. "What is my heart's desire?" can be a frightening question to ask



because it may mean accepting that the life you are living isn't the right answer. For extra help, consider asking a priest or other religious to guide you in asking the right questions.

Be watchful. Learning God's will involves gathering information. Learn about your choices and then watch for signs to indicate which ones God wants you to choose.

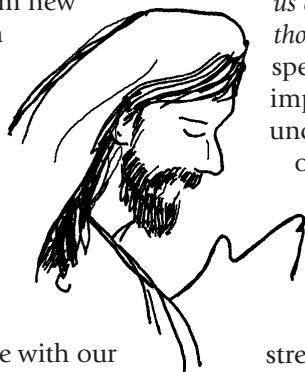
Don't worry. If you make a mistake, God can redeem even bad choices. Let him pick you up and try again.

from Scripture

Luke 11:1-13, Our Father

The disciples were used to formal Old Testament prayer rituals, and expected that Jesus would teach them new ones when they asked him how to pray. He surprised them by introducing the "Our Father," a very warm and informal prayer.

In teaching this prayer, Jesus made a strong point to the disciples that God is our Father and we should be as intimate and familiar with him as we are with our dads on earth. Knowing how much God loves each of us gives the confidence that he will always provide for us.



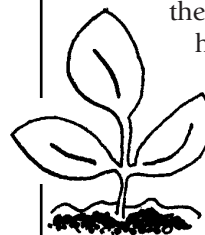
There was another stunning point in the prayer Jesus taught them. "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us," speaks volumes about how important it is for us to unconditionally forgive each other. As we forgive, so will we be forgiven.

Finally, we ask God not to give us more than we can endure.

Of course God knows our strength better than we do. But we pray this way to remind ourselves that he will always be with us throughout all of our trials.

Q & A What does stewardship mean?

Remember the parable of the three servants who looked after the master's money while he was gone? The first two servants invested the money wisely, but the third was punished for having done nothing with what was given him. (See Matthew 25:14-30.) He was a poor steward of his master's goods.



A steward is someone trusted to manage an employer's affairs and possessions. We have each been trusted with talents and strengths to use in God's service and to further his mission. He expects us to use these gifts to help others know him, love him, serve him, and be happy with him in Heaven.

Today, stewardship means committing the best portion of our time, talent, and treasure to the mission of the Church. Generous sharing of resources, including money, is central to caring for God's Church and his people. When you realize that everything you have and everything you do is from God, then you want to give back to God in thanksgiving. That's modern day stewardship in action.

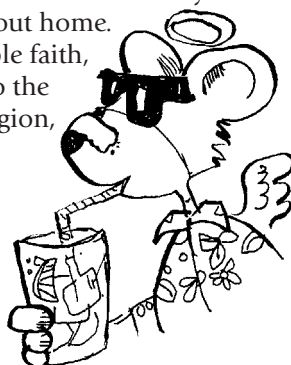
Feasts & Celebrations

July 3 - St. Thomas (1st century). Known as "doubting Thomas" for requesting proof of the Resurrection, he made a beautiful profession of faith when he received that proof, "My Lord and My God" (John 11:16). Tradition says that Thomas evangelized the Parthians, Medes, and Persians and ultimately reached India. He was martyred at Calamine.

July 22 - St. Mary Magdalene (1st century). Mary Magdalene was the woman from whom Jesus expelled seven demons in St. Luke's gospel (Luke 8:2). She helped to financially

support Jesus' ministry out of her own money and stood with Jesus' mother at the foot of the Cross. And, she was the one who first informed the Apostles of Jesus' Resurrection.

July 26 - St. Joachim and St. Anne (?). Little is known about Jesus' grandparents, but we know Mary was raised in a devout home. Her unshakeable faith, her devotion to the laws of her religion, and her steadiness in moments of crisis indicate the values with which she was raised.



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