

AUGUST 8, 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

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Aug. 7	6:00 P.M.	Joe N. Steffek	Moravia
Sunday	Aug. 8	9:30 A.M.	Lad & Millie Breska	Moravia

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday	Aug. 14	6:00 P.M.	Rudolph & Rosie Berckenhoff	St. John
Sunday	Aug. 15	9:30 A.M.	Laurie Kristinik	St. John

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Aug. 21	6:00 P.M.	Thelma Spies & Alfred Becan	Moravia
Sunday	Aug. 22	9:30 A.M.	Dominic Loth	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Wisdom 18:6-9 Psalm 33:1,12,18-22 Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19 or 11:1-2,8-12 Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

The author of Wisdom speaks of "that night" of exodus from bondage in Egypt when the Lord delivered his chosen people from death. Let us be prepared for the Lord who will come again, perhaps in the midst of night. As we walk in darkness, our journey to our heavenly homeland is illuminated by faith.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: Revelations 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab Psalm 45:10-12,16 1 Corinthians 15:20-27 Luke 1:39-56

Because she belonged to Christ, Mary, our queen, is raised on high, a great sign for all who believe in her Son.

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 66:18-21 Psalm 117:1-2 Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13 Luke 13:22-30

No one is to be excluded from the kingdom for all peoples are called to proclaim the praises of the Lord and confess his holy name. No ethnic or religious group possesses exclusive right to the kingdom. Suffering and pain are part of the human condition.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Once again, I thank each and every one of you for all the prayers, calls, cards, etc. before, during and after my surgery. Dr. Weiner removed the tumor from my bladder and everything has turned out well. He will see me every three months to make sure that there is no new tumor.

During all of this, I have come to a greater appreciation of doctors, nurses and all those in the medical field. They are truly a gift from God. Again, **THANK YOU!**

GENERATIONS OF FAITH (GOF)

GOF would like to thank our special angels from the St. John KJZT Society #9 who once again cleaned the St. John Rectory/Religious Education Bldg. on Wednesday, August 4, 2010 and have the whole building sparkling clean for us! They also donated supplies to the program and the monthly magazine Take Out Family Faith on the Go to each of the families that participate in GOF! We are so blessed that the St. John's KJZT Society #9 continues to support our program each year with their hard work and generous gifts!

We also have a brand new air conditioner and heating system and new window blinds. Thank you Father John and parish!

Now that our building is sparkling clean and we have a brand new air conditioner/heating system and window blinds, GOF is beginning August 8, 2010 with a Retreat called "High Seas Expedition" at the St. John's Rectory/Religious Education Bldg from 11:00AM-6:00PM. Parents are requested to begin Generations of Faith with their children on August 8, 2010 at the 9:30AM Mass at Ascension of Our Lord Church. Participants are requested to please bring a sack lunch and drinks for the day and be prepared to have lots of fun while traveling the high seas and learning about God's love.

If you did not complete GOF Registration last weekend, you may do so at the Retreat. The Diocese is requiring new Registration Forms this year. You will need to bring your children's health insurance information, dates of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation, if appropriate.

Remember, if you wish to participate in the sandwich meal at the September GOF instead of bringing your own meal, you must sign up and pay your \$5.00 during the August Retreat. For GOF questions or more information, please call Dana Daughtry, 979-562-2381, or Kim Lofland, 979-562-2267.

ST. JOHN USHERS

Ushers for the month of August are David Kubenka and Andy Besetzny.

THE YOUTH CONNEXION

August 15: Youth to meet in Sacred Heart Church at 5:00 p.m. Firefall at 6:00 p.m. followed by youth gathering at the Youth House. (Firefall was rescheduled to the 15th this month due to the ACTS Family Picnic on the 8th)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

- **ACTS Family Picnic**, 10:30 am - 4:00 pm, Splashway.
- **St. Michael Church Picnic**, Veteran's Park Weimar

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

- **Firefall**, 6:00 p.m. in church. Parishioners are invited to join the youth in Eucharistic Adoration
- **Praha Picnic**. Mass 10 am. Stew & Fried Chicken Dinner 11 am. Auction 1 pm. Bingo, cake walk, country store, kiddy games. Music by Fritz Hodde Band, Donnie Wavra Band & The Incredible Music Makers.

ST. JOHN PICNIC WORKERS APPRECIATION DINNER

The appreciation dinner is set for Friday, August 27 at 6:00 p.m. with the meal served at 7:30 p.m. at St. John Pavilion. Since we had many helpers from out of town & surrounding parishes, please help spread the word about the dinner.

MORAVIA PICNIC APPRECIATION DINNER

Please set aside Sunday, August 29, for our annual picnic appreciation dinner. All workers are invited to come for a catered noon meal. Please bring a dessert for the dessert table. This year there will be a suggestion box set out for anyone wanting to write down any ideas for our July 2011 picnic. These suggestions are appreciated and will be read at a later time. The appreciation dinner is a thank you dinner for all the hard work that the workers put in at our 2010 picnic.

MEMORIALS - Ascension of Our Lord Building Fund in memory of Joe N. Steffek:

Richard & Wilma Schaefer \$15 Royce & Jeanette Chudej \$15

MEMORIAL - St. John Building Fund: We recently received a check for \$740.72 for St. John the Baptist in memory of Arlene A. Till. This is a death benefit from an insurance policy with SPJST Lodge 133, San Antonio. Please remember Arlene in your prayers.

PRO LIFE

WHAT CAN I DO TO STOP ABORTION? Pray Daily for an end to abortion. (Join the ongoing novena at www.PrayerCampaign.org.) Pray for women tempted to have abortions, for doctors, nurses and pharmacists, for legislators and judges, for ALL those who work in the Pro-Life Movement, and for those who do not realize how wrong abortion is. **YOU CAN SAVE SOMEONE'S LIFE TODAY!** (Priests for Life)

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O loving God, inspire your people to promote and to answer the call to Religious Life. Remove fears and doubts from their hearts. Give them the Holy Spirit's gifts of wisdom and courage. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, Aug. 7 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - James Lofland, April & Clayton Brossmann
Sunday, Aug. 8 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Hayden Besetzny, Jared Kriskhke & Logan Eckhardt
Saturday, Aug. 14 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - James Lofland, Ashley & Joshua Becan
Sunday, Aug. 15 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Seth Eckhardt, Blaine Besetzny, Miranda Shimek
Saturday, Aug. 21 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlyn Deem, James Lofland & Miranda Shimek
Sunday, Aug. 22 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Jared & Caleb Kriskhke, Logan Eckhardt

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.



“Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master’s return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.”

— Lk 12:35-36

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1995, 1970 CCC.



**Raffle Prize Winners at
ASCENSION CHURCH PICNIC**

Moravia, Texas
Sunday July 18, 2010

Prizes

Winner :

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. \$500 Cash Certificate | Ken Vanek |
| 2. \$200 Cash Certificate | Snow Matula |
| 3. \$200 Cash Certificate | Betty Danner |
| 4. \$200 Cash Certificate | Arlen Henke |
| 5. \$100 Cash Certificate | Bill Looney |
| 6. \$100 Cash Certificate | Catallna Perez |
| 7. \$100 Cash Certificate | Jo Marie Krupala |
| 8. \$100 Cash Certificate | D K Holmes |
| 9. \$100 Cash Certificate | Clinton Ulbig |
| 10. \$100 Cash Certificate | Bea Hadzynski |
| 11. \$100 Cash Certificate | Ricky Steffek |
| 12. \$100 Cash Certificate | Billy Perdziak |
| 13. \$100 Cash Certificate | David Young |
| 14. \$50 Cash Certificate | Edwin Vaculik |
| 15. \$50 Cash Certificate | Stephen Lev |
| 16. \$50 Cash Certificate | Bradley Grahmann |
| 17. \$50 Cash Certificate | Mike Janecek |
| 18. \$50 Cash Certificate | Marcia Hrnair |
| 19. \$50 Cash Certificate | Kyle Burris |
| 20. \$50 Cash Certificate | Jennifer Freytag Craig |
| 21. \$50 Cash Certificate | Donnie Polk |
| 22. \$50 Cash Certificate | Robert Besetsny |
| 23. \$50 Cash Certificate | David Marcak |
| 24. \$50 Cash Certificate | Karen Kaspar |
| 25. \$50 Gift Certificate to
Oakridge Restaurant | John Surratt |
| 26. \$50 Gift Certificate to Leon's Electric | Kristy Clark |
| 27. \$50 Savings Bond | Paul H Newtoni |
| 28. \$50 Savings Bond | Jerry Haverta |
| 29. Gift Basket (\$35 value) | Cody Bartes |
| 30. \$30 Gift Certificate | Dyrel Holmes |
| 31. \$25 Cash Certificate | Bobby Pavliska |
| 32. \$25 Cash Certificate | Bernice Schulte |
| 33. \$25 Cash Certificate | Cheryl Brossmann |
| 34. Captain's Camping Chair Gift Package | Daniel R Freytag |

Growing in FAITH™

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

August 2010

One Minute Meditations

Attitude of gratitude

True happiness doesn't come when you have all you want but when you want all you have.

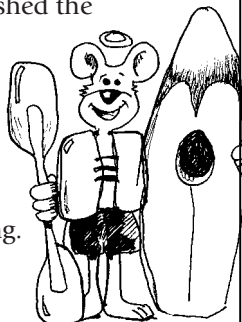
"A tranquil mind gives life to the body, but jealousy rots the bones" (Proverbs 14:30).

The gift of work

Work can feel like a treadmill. The routine can be exhausting and the job seem pointless. When we treat our labor as a gift back to God, there is an additional purpose to it other than just a paycheck. *"There is nothing better for man than to eat and drink and provide himself with good things by his labors. Even this, I realized, is from the hand of God"* (Ecclesiastes 2:24).

Lose the baggage

Sometimes we hold onto hurts and wrongs for years, carrying them throughout our lives like suitcases. We hold the offenders responsible long after the misdeed. Think how much lighter we would feel if we shed the baggage and went through life forgiving and forgetting.



"Where is God when I need him most?"

Two men, distraught over the murder of a friend, were walking to the next town. Along the way, they struggled to understand what happened and worried that God had abandoned them. A stranger joined them, helped them cope and turned out to be the very friend they were grieving. Though they didn't realize it, God was with them all along (Luke 24).

Why can't we find him?

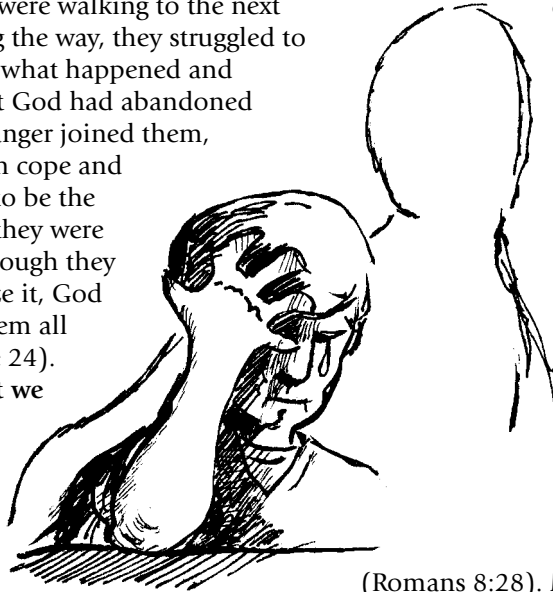
Events or experiences in our lives can lessen our awareness of God and make him appear distant. Sometimes we are too worried, too sad, or too angry to find him. For example, preoccupied by grief, the two friends on the road failed to recognize God walking with them.

Believing is seeing. Trust in God is often hardest when it is most necessary. In fact, he promised never to abandon us. Whether or not we are aware of him makes no difference. He promised, and God never breaks a promise.

Act on faith.

"... All things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose"

(Romans 8:28). Mary, Jesus' mother, also was distraught by his death. Yet instead of being overwhelmed by it, she acted on faith and stood with dignity at the foot of his cross. Her reward for her faith in God's promise was amazing.



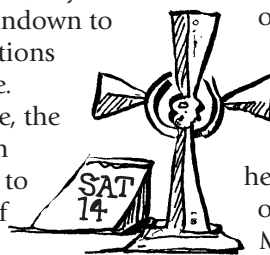
Why Do Catholics Do That?

In the Jewish calendar, days are measured from sundown to sundown and celebrations begin the night before. Following this practice, the Church allows solemn liturgical celebrations to begin after 4:00 pm of the prior evening.

What is a Vigil Mass?

Therefore, you can fulfill your obligation for Mass on a Saturday evening because it is really a Sunday celebration.

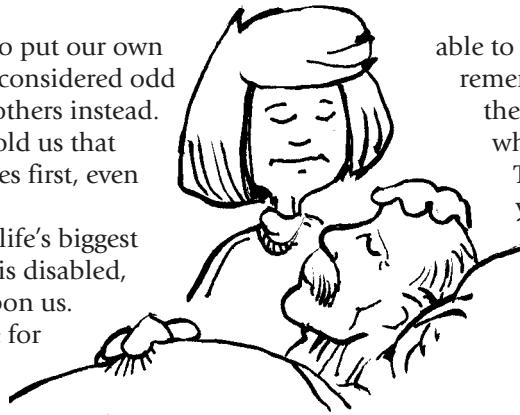
Such Masses of anticipation, also called Vigil Masses, have been helpful to workers, caregivers, or others for whom attending Sunday Mass may be difficult or impossible.



When others need us

Society tells us that it's our right to put our own happiness first. In fact, we may be considered odd or abnormal if we cheerfully serve others instead. Yet, that's not what Jesus said. He told us that serving God and our neighbor comes first, even if it doesn't make us happy.

Caring can be difficult. Some of life's biggest challenges come when a loved one is disabled, ill or even dying, and dependent upon us. Putting aside our own needs to care for someone who may not even be



able to appreciate it is hard. It may help to remember that Christ had special compassion for the sick and disabled and he appreciates it when we do, too.

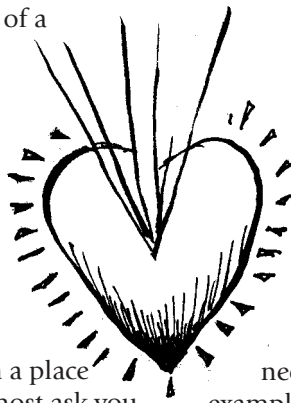
There is a reward. Mother Teresa said, "if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love." When we take another into our care or go out of our way to help, we aren't just serving our neighbor. We are serving the Lord who loves us.

from Scripture

Luke 14:1, 7-14, a pure heart

Throughout his public ministry, Jesus criticized the Pharisees' desire for prestige and praise instead of a heart-felt service to the people in their care. When a leading Pharisee invited Jesus to dinner, our Lord took it as an opportunity to encourage service to the poor and sincere humility.

To make his point, Jesus used the example of being a guest at a banquet. How embarrassing to sit in a place of honor only to have the host ask you to move and make room for someone more important. Instead, Jesus



suggested behaving with true humility and taking the lowest place at the table. There is great honor in being invited by your host to "move up" but even if no such invitation comes, those around you will appreciate your desire to put others first.

Jesus went on to encourage us to forget about being admired and instead serve people in need – and Scripture is full of examples of how he lived this advice. Such service is the way to fulfillment.

Q & A What can I do to be a happier person?

We know that God wants us to be happy with him in Heaven, but he also wants us to be happy on Earth, too.



Don't be afraid. Happy people don't fear pain because they know God will give them the grace they need to deal with it. Instead of running from pain, we need to feel it, deal with it, and then let it

flow away from us when we can. Once we have dismissed pain, we are free to feel joy.

Don't fight him. When we are in a situation that is right for us, everything flows. Flow creates harmony, and harmony leads to happiness. To achieve flow, we have to let God place us where he wants us to be.

Walk with him. Happy people know that God is always present in their lives and they seek frequent opportunities to be with him. Consider going to daily Mass, increasing your daily prayer, or just find extra time to place yourself in his presence in some quiet spot.

Feasts & Celebrations

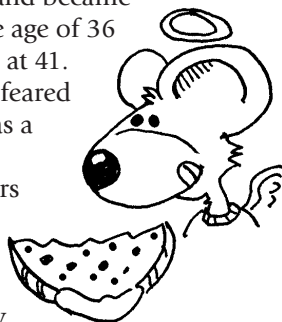
August 11 – St. Clare. Born to a noble family in Italy, St. Clare followed St. Francis of Assisi into poverty over her family's strenuous objections. She founded a sister order to the Franciscans called the "Poor Clares."

August 14 – St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe. A Polish Franciscan, St. Maximilian was imprisoned in 1941 by the Nazis at Auschwitz. When the jailers chose a man with a family to execute in punishment for another's escape attempt, St. Maximilian offered himself instead.

August 15 – Assumption of the

Blessed Virgin Mary. Declared a dogma of our faith in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary's taking up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life.

August 28 – St. Augustine (430). Although quite decadent before his conversion, St. Augustine turned to Christianity and became a priest at the age of 36 and a bishop at 41. He was both feared and revered as a prophet who offered sinners no shelter or escape from personal responsibility.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
 Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>

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