

April 12, 2015

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH  
ST. JOHN, TEXAS

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHURCH  
MORAVIA, TEXAS



REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS, PASTOR

REV. BARNABAS KYEAH, PAROCHIAL VICAR

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### MASS SCHEDULE

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#### Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Saturday	April 11	6:00 P.M.	Evelyn Vornsand	St John
Sunday	April 12	9:30 A.M.	Moravia KJZT #44 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Moravia

#### Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday	April 18	6:00 P.M.	Bill & Stacie Siegel & Edmund & Julie Filip	Moravia
Sunday	April 19	9:30 A.M.	Delaine Dittrich	St. John

#### Fourth Sunday of Easter

Saturday	April 25	6:00 P.M.	Anton Orsak	St. John
Sunday	April 26	9:30 A.M.	Henry & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

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### THE WORD OF GOD

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#### Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Readings: Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 118:2-4,13-15,22-24 1 John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31

Thomas believed because he saw the risen Jesus. Although we have never seen Him, we believe that Jesus is the Christ, begotten by God. We give thanks to the Lord that He has formed us into a community of believers, united in the Spirit.

#### Third Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 3:13-15,17-19 Psalm 4:2,4,7-9 1 John 2:1-5a Luke 24:35-48

Peter proclaims the wonders of the Lord: the suffering Messiah is raised from the dead and has been glorified. This Jesus is our intercessor, and our offering for sin, our peace.

#### Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 4:8-12 Psalm 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28,29 1 John 3:1-2 John 10:11-18

Jesus is the "stone rejected by the builders which has become the cornerstone". He is the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for us. Through His paschal mystery we have become children of God.

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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#### FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to everyone who helped make Holy Week and Easter celebration beautiful and meaningful. The readers, choir, organists, servers, ushers, the 12 Apostles, the Altar Societies for decorating the altars and those who organized the Easter Egg Hunts. Thank You.

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. There will be a holy hour at Sacred Heart with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction from 3:00-4:00 p.m. to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. Everyone is invited to come and pray as St. Faustina has passed on to us this devotion to Our Lord.

#### YOUTH NEWS

We welcome all youth, especially the graduating seniors to our **Farewell to Seniors Youth Night & Cookout** on Sunday, April 19 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. beginning with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacred Heart Church, followed by fellowship, hamburgers, and cake at the Youth House. Music for adoration will be provided by the *Third SonDay Boys*.

Also, we thank all those who assisted and supported the Easter Bake Sale fundraiser for our Steubenville on the Bayou trip. We still have space if anyone would like to go. Please notify Troy at [troy@splashwaywaterpark.com](mailto:troy@splashwaywaterpark.com)

#### ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 11 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Alex Lozano, James Lofland

Sunday, April 12 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – Rylie & Regan Lux, Dylan Goldberg

Saturday, April 18 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Kenna Kubenka, Caitlin Deem, Joshua Becan

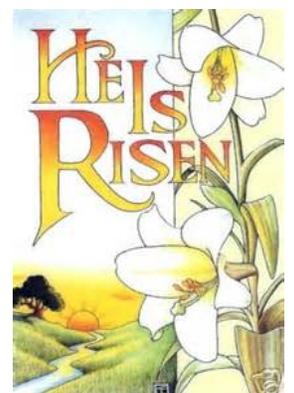
Sunday, April 19 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Caleb Krischke, Seth Eckhardt, April Brossmann

Saturday, April 25 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Alex Lozano, Seth Eckhardt

Sunday, April 26 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – Miranda Shimek, Rylie & Regan Lux

#### GABRIEL PROJECT

Lavaca Chapter of Victoria Gabriel Project Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, Mary's House, 300 S. Dowling, Hallettsville. Anyone interested in learning more is welcome to attend.



## PRO-LIFE CORNER

“Jesus Christ has said that we are much more important to His Father than the grass, the birds, the flowers of the earth; and so, if He takes such care of these things, how much more would He take care of His life in us. He cannot deceive us; because life is God’s greatest gift to human beings. Since it is created in the image of God, it belongs to Him, and we have no right to destroy it.” [Blessed Mother Teresa in A Gift for God – page 40]

## ST. JOHN ALTAR SOCIETY SPRING BRUNCH

St. John Altar Society will host the annual spring brunch on May 3 at the St. John rectory following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Members please bring food for everyone to enjoy. Dues will also be collected. Everyone is invited. For more information call Evelyn at 979-562-2364 or Peggy at 979-562-2246.

## ST. JOHN RAFFLE PRIZE DONATION

Donations are being accepted for the St. John raffle ticket prizes. We will accept donations thru April 26<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Theresa Eckhardt 743-4435 or Ann McBride 561-6261 or mcbride@cvctx.com if you are interested in donating. Thank you in advance for your donation toward the raffle.

## AREA PICNICS & EVENTS

**April 12:** Bluebonnet Youth Ranch Spring Fling, Yoakum Community Center. BBQ Chicken Plates 10:30-1:00 pm. Auction, music, raffle, plant sale, desserts, arts & crafts.

**April 26:** St. Michael’s Spring Festival in Weimar. Fried chicken & sausage dinner at 11:00 a.m. Adults \$9.00 Children \$4.50 (12 & under) Veterans Memorial Park.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



“Put your finger here and see My hands, and bring your hand and put it into My side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” After the Resurrection, the wounds of Christ take on a whole new meaning. Whereas they had originally been a sign of the tragedy and pain of the crucifixion, they now became a sign of triumph and power over physical death as well as spiritual death – sin.

When Jesus invites Thomas to touch His wounds, He is allowing Thomas to experience this reality for himself. Thomas doesn’t just look at the nail marks; he personally encounters them. He puts himself into the now-glorified wounds of Jesus. And then, he believes. This encounter not only takes away Thomas’ doubt but also allows him to share in the joy of Christ’s victory. **“My Lord and my God!”** Thomas exclaims.

This is a powerful image for the mercy of Christ. The suffering He endured on the cross was not just a distant symbol for us to admire. It was not just an opportunity for Him to surprise everybody by rising from the dead. The fact that Jesus suffered for us means that our suffering now has somewhere to go. Our pain, our battle with sin, our struggle to truly believe in Him, all of this can be laid within the wounds of Christ and healed. When we carry our scars alone, they blind us. They paralyze us. They prevent us from experiencing joy. But when we unite our own wounds to those of Christ, when we allow ourselves to encounter the wounded but glorified Christ, we are able to move beyond our own troubles. We get to share in the victory and stop hiding in the sadness of our self-doubt. It is through this honest encounter with the risen Christ that we are truly able to experience His peace.



## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



“He stood in their midst and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' But they were startled and terrified.” What was so terrifying about being wished peace? How ironic that the disciples were so scared right at the moment that Jesus was offering them peace.

The fact is that they didn’t understand what was going on. They were already aware at this point that Jesus had risen from the dead, and two of them had just had a powerful encounter with Him on the road to Emmaus. But now, He suddenly appeared before them, in a manner that was not only totally unexpected, but also apparently physically impossible. This is why they thought they were seeing a ghost. It just didn’t make sense.

Jesus reassured them with concrete actions. He told them to look at Him and to touch Him. He wanted His disciples to be comforted by His real physical presence among them. He wanted them to come into contact with His entire being, not just the abstract idea of His presence. Once they did this, they were “incredulous for joy and were amazed.” The peace that He wished for them was now complemented by great joy. It just took a while to sink in.

This may be the case for us at times too. We may not understand the mysterious ways in which Jesus is present in our lives. Sometimes He is hidden in what Mother Teresa called “the distressing disguise.” His Spirit may be present, wishing to bring us peace right in the midst of stress, sickness, anguish, or pain, but we may not recognize Him at first. But just because He may not “show up” in the way we expect doesn’t mean He isn’t with us. The risen Christ also wants to give us the gift of peace.

