

May 27, 2012

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

Pentecost Sunday

Saturday	May 26	6:00 P.M.	Georgia Bohuslav	St. John
Sunday	May 27	9:30 A.M.	Carolyn & Frank Okruhlik Jr. & Frances & Frank Tupa, Sr.	Moravia

First Friday

Friday	June 1	8:00 A.M.	Tom Farek	St. John
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The Most Holy Trinity

Saturday	June 2	6:00 P. M.	Frankie Kubicek	Moravia
Sunday	June 3	9:30 A.M.	Irene Mendel	St. John

Confirmation

Wednesday	June 6	6:30 P.M.	Sylvester Janak	Moravia
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The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Saturday	June 9	6:00 P.M.	Alvin and Bernice Havel 60 th Wedding Anniversary	St. John
Sunday	June 10	9:30 A.M.	Living & Deceased Members Of Chudej Family	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Pentecost Sunday

Readings: Acts 2:1-11 Psalm 104:1ab,24ac,29bc-30,31,34 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13 or Galatians 5:16-25 John 20:19-23 or John 15:26-27;16:12-15

All of us have been baptized into one and the same Spirit; let us live, then, by the Spirit! That same Spirit, the Advocate, who “renews the face of the earth”, was given as gift to the disciples to strengthen them to go forth in the name of the Lord, and to obtain forgiveness of sins.

The Most Holy Trinity

Readings: Deuteronomy 4: 32-34, 39-40 Psalm 33: 4-6, 9,18-20,22 Romans 8:14-17 Matthew 28:16-20

The Lord God is one, there is no other. We have been chosen as his own and through the Spirit, are able to call God *Abba*. Through baptism all nations are called to share in the life of the Son and acknowledge the triune God.

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Readings: Exodus 24 3-8 Psalm 116:12-13,15-18 Hebrews 9: 11-15 Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26

Moses ratifies the covenant by offering a thanksgiving sacrifice and by sprinkling blood over the people. The new covenant, the law’s oblation, is ratified in the blood of Christ, the unblemished offering poured out for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Today we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. With this Feast of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, we end the Easter Season. Today we also celebrate the birthday of the church. All of us have been baptized into one and the same Spirit who bears witness that we are children of God. That same spirit, the Advocate, was given as a gift to the disciples to teach them everything and to strengthen them to go forth in the name of the Lord to renew the face of the earth.

The Sacrament of Confirmation this year will be conferred by Bishop Fellhauer on Wednesday, June 6th at 6:30 P.M. at Ascension of Our Lord Church. A reception will follow in the hall. I encourage as many people as possible to attend this special occasion and to visit with our bishop.

We welcome Max Landman, a seminarian for our diocese, who will be staying with us for a couple of months.

PRO LIFE NEWS

“The opportunities God gives us do not wait. They come and they go. The word of life does not tarry; if we do not catch hold of it, the devil will bear it away. The devil is not lazy; rather does he always have his eyes open and ever ready to spring, to snatch away the gift that you do not use.” - Blessed John Henry Newman
In good conscience, you should vote for pro life candidates on Tuesday, May 29th.

ST. JOHN RAFFLE TICKETS

St. John Parish Picnic Raffle tickets are ready and available to be picked up in the back of St. John Church.

ST. JOHN CHURCH CLEANERS

St. John Church Cleaners for June: Patricia Berger, Susie Kalich and Terah Lux

GENERATIONS OF FAITH (GOF)

Please continue to practice your songs for Confirmation.

Important dates to remember for all GOF participants:

June 3, 2012 – Confirmation Practice, Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church, 2:00PM; candidates and sponsors must be present.

June 6, 2012 – Confirmation and Reception Immediately following at the Hall, Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church, 6:30PM Mass – Confirmation Candidates must be in the church foyer by 6:15PM; all other GOF children must be in the choir loft by 6:15PM. Roll will be taken. Assigned families, please take your food donations to the Hall before Mass.

ST. JOHN PICNIC

St. John's Picnic on July 4 is coming soon. THE OLD LISTS OF ST. JOHN PICNIC WORKERS-2011 are in the back of Church for Chairman and Co-Chairman to take and make corrections, additions, etc. so that the 2012 Picnic Worker List can be prepared. **DEADLINE TO RETURN IS JUNE 8, 2012.** Return to: Dorothy Berger, 95 CR 957B, Schulenburg, Texas 78956. Phone: 562-2187; Email: dsberger@cvctx.com or drop in the collection basket at Mass.

REMINDER: Start thinking about items for the Auction. Suggestions: Home canned pickles, homemade jelly/jam, salsa, relish, home baked goods (cookies, bread, strudel, rolls, etc.), homemade noodles, fresh vegetables (tomatoes, potatoes, onions, etc.) and fruits (watermelons, cantaloupes, etc.), antiques, quilts, livestock and other unique items.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 26 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Dylan Goldberg, April & Clayton Brossmann

Sunday, May 27 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Seth Eckhardt, Blaine Besetzny & Caleb Krischke

Saturday, June 2 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlyn Deem, Josh & Ashley Becan

Sunday, June 3 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - James Lofland, Riley Lux, Miranda Shimek, & Dylan Goldberg

Saturday, June 9 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Clayton & April Brossman

Sunday, June 10 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Seth Eckhardt, Blaine Besetzny, & Caleb Krischke

MEMORIALS

Ascension Building Fund

In memory of Sylvester Janak

Aubrey and Vernell Shanks \$25

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD)

Save the Date: "A Wilderness Adventure through the Sacraments, Jesus in My Heart" Vacation Bible School is June 18-22. Pick up Registration forms at the Rectory. Adult volunteers are needed: a Faith Sharing Station leader and a Registration coordinator. All materials are provided! First adult meeting May 30, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Youth Leader Training June 13, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Please call Angela McConnell if you can help (361-741-8730).

VOCATION CAMP

Diocesan Boy's Vocation Camp, Cooper's Farm, July 15-18. Please call Fr. Tommy for application forms. This camp is open to young men who have completed 8th grade through 21 years of age. This camp is staffed by the Diocesan Seminarians and some of the junior clergy of the diocese. Spaces are limited, so sign up today!

Experience another culture by hosting an international exchange student 2012-2013 academic year. The students are 15-18 yrs. Old, have their own spending money and health insurance. For more information, call Ayusa at 888.552.9872 or visit www.ayusa.org

NEW MAUSOLEUM

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery in Hallettsville is looking into the possibility of building a second mausoleum in the cemetery. The first one is completely sold out. If you are interested in knowing more about this you may call Sacred Heart Rectory at 361-798-5888 to make an appointment with one of the sales representatives.

SACRED HEART PICNIC

The Sacred Heart Catholic Church Spring Picnic will be held on Sunday, May 27 at the KC Hall in Hallettsville.

The meal will consist of fried chicken, stew, homemade dressing and all the trimmings. Serving from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. Drive thru plates to go from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. Cost \$8 adults and \$4 children. Music by J & S Playboys, The Red Ravens and Jodie Mikula Orchestra. Auction, bingo, cake walk, country store, religious articles booth, rides, etc.

SHINER CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday May 27th at Shiner K.C. Hall. Dinner consisting of stew, sausage & fried chicken 10:30a.m -2:00 p.m.

ST. ROSE PICNIC

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Schulenburg will hold its annual parish picnic on Sunday, June 10 at Knights of Columbus Hall. A meal featuring fried chicken, sausage and all the trimmings will be served starting at 11 a.m. at the K. of C. Hall. Adult plates will be \$8, children under 12,\$4. Drive-through adult plates will be available. Hamburgers, iced tea and other food and refreshments will be served all afternoon and evening. The biergarten will open at noon. The Czechaholics will be featured from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mark Halata & Texavia will play from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Auction starting at 12:30 p.m. country store, cake walk, country walk, pull tab bingo, and a water bounce house as well as other games for kids. The sweepstakes drawing will beat 8p.m

Next Bulletin: Sunday, June 10, 2012

Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 7th, 2012

Growing in FAITH™

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

June 2012

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Good advice

On a visit to his son-in-law Moses, Jethro noticed that Moses mediated every dispute that arose between the Israelis. The workload was overwhelming so Jethro suggested Moses delegate to assistants. Moses did, and the community grew as a result. Sometimes it just takes a friend with perspective to see solutions to our most pressing problems.

God doesn't joke

The residents of Sodom and Gomorrah were so sinful that the Lord decided to destroy the cities. He sent angels to lead Abraham's nephew, Lot, and his family to safety but the daughters' fiancées wouldn't follow and were destroyed because they thought Lot was joking about the wrath of God.

Even today, people think it's okay to joke about God and sin. Catholics know that God's wrath is fearful and sin is no joke at all.

Old Testament diplomacy

"A mild answer turns back wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger" (Proverbs 15:1).



Accept God's gifts without fear

Have you ever held back from accepting all of God's blessings and gifts because you were afraid to surrender to his goodness? Yet there is no good reason not to "*Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; exult, all you upright of heart*" Psalm 32:11.

Enjoy the world around you. God reveals himself through his creation so we can know him, be amazed by him, and love him. Imagine how he feels when we overlook or reject it. Instead, take time to notice and meditate upon what God's creation tells you about him.

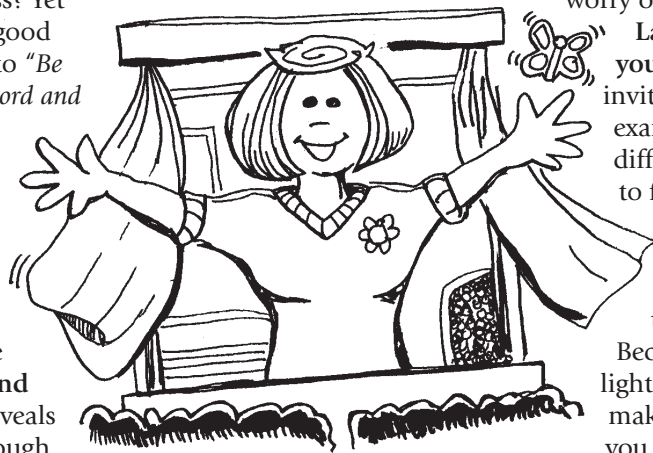
Recapture joy. God has given each of us gifts to be enjoyed – people who

love us, fulfilling activities, steady jobs or comfortable homes. Enjoy these gifts given from a loving Father without worry of a later price.

Laugh at yourself. Humor invites us to examine life in a different way and to find delight in it. Avoid treating your life too seriously.

Becoming more lighthearted will make it easier for you to trust God.

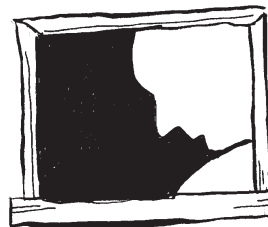
Look to what's right instead of what's wrong. Don't let bad feelings drive out good ones. For example, we often miss the "angels" God sends because they don't take the form we expect. Know that God's goodness is all around but you have to learn to recognize and appreciate it.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics confess their sins to a priest?

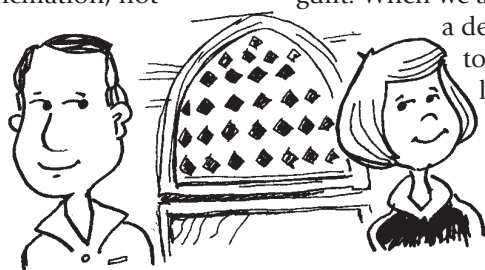
On Easter Sunday, Jesus appeared to the Apostles in the Upper Room and said, "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose sins you retain, they are retained" (John 20:22-23).



With that, Jesus established the normal way we receive forgiveness of our sins, through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. He knew we would need to be assured of his forgiveness by hearing the words, "I absolve you of your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

What's so great about Confession?

Many Catholics forget that the purpose of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is reconciliation, not punishment. We tend to focus on the scary part of facing our weaknesses and admitting our failings to another being, but confession is just one part of the Sacrament. What's so great about this Sacrament is that God longs to forgive us and offers this chance to directly experience his unending mercy and forgiveness. The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is:



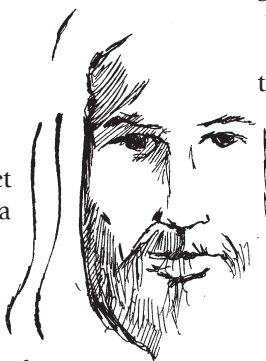
A restoration to integrity: Through it, we are freed from guilt. When we approach the Sacrament with a contrite heart, a desire to make amends, and a determination to change, we become transformed. We can leave remorse behind and live a new life. It is this Sacrament that enables us to again hold up our heads as children of God.

A close encounter with God: created by Jesus, this Sacrament is a celebration of our Father's unconditional love and a chance to acquire the grace we need to meet future challenges and temptations.

from Scripture

Luke 1:57-66, The Baptist

The birth of St. John the Baptist was the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies, especially those of Isaiah: "Behold the voice of one crying in the wilderness." That was John's purpose, to prepare the way for his cousin, Jesus. He's considered the last prophet of the Old Testament and a bridge between the two testaments.



Like other prophets, the Baptist received his name from God. John means "God is graceful." His mission was to preach that God is graceful to those who

repent and turn to him. It took courage for John to preach the imminent coming of the kingdom of God with the advent of the Messiah.

When he preached repentance to Herod Antipas, who was living in sin with his brother's wife, he paid the price of his fidelity to God's mission with suffering and death.

St. John's mission is as relevant today as it was in Jesus' day. He challenges us to repentance and belief in Jesus as our Savior. Our challenge is to heed John's call to renounce sin, turn to God, and pray for grace.

Q & A Why are Catholic and Protestant Bibles different?

The differences are found in the Old Testament. The first 39 books accepted by Jews as divinely inspired were written in Hebrew. After Alexander the Great conquered the Middle East, Greek became the common language. Another 7 books Jews accepted as inspired were written in Greek.

In time most Jews lost their knowledge of Hebrew. About the year 150 BC, a group of 70 scholars were appointed to translate the original 39 books into Greek. This version of Scripture was called the Septuagint and contained 46 books. All Jews, including Jesus and the Apostles, used this version.

One of the Scripture references to Purgatory is in 2 Maccabees, a book originally written in Greek. In the early 1500s, Martin Luther rebelled against the Catholic Church. One reason he gave was his rejection of Purgatory. So he removed all seven books originally written in Greek. Ever since, Protestants have followed suit. Even though Christians had believed those seven books to be divinely inspired for 1500 years, Protestants removed them from the Bible.

Feasts & Celebrations

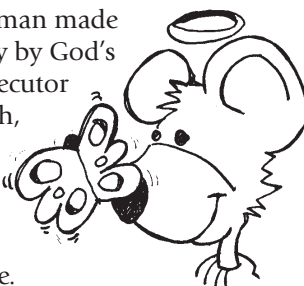
In June we honor the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The flame of the Sacred Heart symbolizes Christ's unending love for us. Mary's pure mother's heart follows her son's and goes out to everyone he loves.

June 1 - **St. Justin** (165). When ordered by a pagan judge to renounce his faith or die, St. Justin responded, "Nobody in his senses would give up truth for falsehood." His punishment was martyrdom.

June 11 - **St. Barnabas** (1st Century). The Apostles changed his name from

Joseph to Barnabas (meaning "son of encouragement") because he sold his property and gave the much needed funds to the Jerusalem community. He accompanied St. Paul on his first evangelical journey.

June 29 - **Saints Peter and Paul** (1st century). Peter was the apostle chosen by Jesus to lead the Church. Peter was an ordinary man made extraordinary by God's grace. A persecutor of the Church, Paul was transformed by grace and became the Great Apostle.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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