

December 8, 2013

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. DANIEL DANSO, 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

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday	Dec. 7	6:00 P.M.	Sylvester Janak	Moravia
Sunday	Dec. 8	9:30 A.M.	Henry R. & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday	Dec. 9	7:00 P.M.	Fr. Brian Crookes & all former pastors	St. John
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Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday	Dec. 14	6:00 P.M.	L. A. Wenglar	St. John
Sunday	Dec. 15	9:30 A.M.	Gladys Chaloupka	St. John

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday	Dec. 21	6:00 P.M.	Julius & Annie Holub Drozd	Moravia
Sunday	Dec. 22	9:30 A.M.	Julia Jasek	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Second Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12

Reform your lives: live in God's peace so that justice may flourish.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Pastoral Feast Day of the United States of America (not a holy day of obligation this year)

Readings: Genesis 3:9-15,20 Psalm 98:1-4 Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12 Luke 1:26-38

Chosen by God, Mary reverses the sin of Eve. Because of her obedience, God's salvation is made known to all the nations. Originating in the 7th century, feast of the "Conception of Mary by St. Anne," Pope Clement XI, in his Bull, *Commissi Nobis*, established this Solemnity for the entire Church in 1708; patroness of the United States of America, Spain, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Third Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6a,10 Psalm 146:6-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

In the person of Jesus, God has come to heal and save us. Patiently, yet joyfully, we await the fulfillment of his advent.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 24:1-6 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

Jesus is Immanuel, "God with us", risen from the dead. He is the king of glory.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

We are already in the Second Sunday of Advent. Let us prepare ourselves well for Christmas and for Jesus' second coming.

"Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." John the Baptist meant business. He proclaimed a serious message of change and conversion in words that, today, might earn him the label of a "hellfire and brimstone" preacher. But he was more than a preacher; he was a witness to repentance. Indeed, he must have been a sight to behold draped in his penitential garb, nibbling on his locusts and honey. Anyone who heard him preaching must have taken notice, even if they didn't take heed. If nothing else, John the Baptist surely got people's attention.

But will he get ours? Because we've heard this story before, we might be inclined to glaze over its inherent drama. He urges us, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" This is the moment! Now is the time! Advent especially reminds us to examine our lives and renew our commitment to Christ. As John the Baptist put it, we are called to "produce good fruit as evidence" of our repentance.

True conversion reveals itself outwardly. When our hearts change, our actions do too. Charity replaces criticism. Forgiveness replaces anger. Service replaces selfishness. This marks the difference between a "tree" that is firmly rooted in Christ, and one that's only good for a pile of firewood. "Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees." This Advent, may we feel the urgency of John's words and get about the serious business of repentance.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHURCH CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice for Christmas Eve Mass at the Ascension of our Lord Church will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 18th, 6:30 pm, at the church. We will practice Christmas carols in Czech. Please join us!

ST. JOHN CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Those interested in caroling before and singing during 9:30 a.m. Christmas Mass, be in balcony by **9:00 A.M.** on Christmas morning.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS – ST. JOHN PARISH

Donations towards the decorations for Christmas can be put in the flower donation envelope or mailed to Pam Besetsny at 5325 W. County Line Road, Schulenburg. We appreciate your generosity!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST NATIVITY SET UP

Setting up the Nativity and decorating of the church will be done on Monday evening, December 16th starting at 6:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to help.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Anyone wishing to donate Christmas flowers in memory of loved ones to Moravia Church can do so by contacting Dorothy Olsovsky at 979-562-2169 or you may drop memorial in the collection basket.

MORAVIA ALTAR SOCIETY COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

Cookbooks are still available for sale at Hallettsville General Store, 405 N. Texana, Hallettsville, TX. Books contain 300 recipes and cost \$10, with proceeds benefiting the Moravia Altar Society. Folks can pick up at the store OR call 512.461.3236 (Janet Spies cell) to order. I can ship books for an additional \$2/each. These books make GREAT Christmas presents!!

PRO-LIFE CORNER

AMERICAN LIFE LEAGUE’S PRAYER TO END ABORTION

- Our Lady of Life, please hear this prayer and, through the Love of Your Divine Son, intercede for these urgent and holy petitions.
- Our Lady of Life, ask Your Son, Jesus, for the conversion of Planned Parenthood and of everyone involved in promoting the Culture of Death.
- Our Lady of Life, ask Your Son, Jesus, to send the courage and graces of the Holy Spirit for our consecrated religious, priests and, of course, our Holy Father, to proclaim the fullness of Truth.
- Our Lady of Life, ask Your Son, Jesus, to send the courage and graces of the Holy Spirit for all people of God to counter the Culture of Death and proclaim the fullness of Truth.
- Our Lady of Life, ask Your Son, Jesus, to provide healing for mothers and fathers of aborted children.
- Our Lady of Life, ask Your Son, Jesus, to bless America by restoring our nation to its founding principles of law respecting the inalienable right to life for every person, born and preborn.

“for nothing is impossible with God.” Luke 1:37

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 7 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Joshua Becan, Miranda Shimek, Alez Lozano
Sunday, Dec. 8 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - April Brossman, Seth Eckhardt, Blaine Besetsny
Saturday, Dec. 14 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Alex Lozano, Jenna Kubenka, April Brossmann
Sunday, Dec. 15 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Dylan Goldberg, Rylie & Regan Lux
Saturday, Dec. 21 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Joshua Becan, Caitlin Deem, James Lofland
Sunday, Dec. 22 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Miranda Shimek, Blaine Besetsny, Seth Eckhardt

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL EXTRAVAGANZA

Sacred Heart Extravaganza! Saturday, February 1, 6:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m., Knights of Columbus Hall. Cost per ticket is \$125, which covers the entry fee for two people, refreshments for the entire evening, a steak dinner with all the trimmings, and a dance with live music by “Cactus Country.” Tickets are now available for purchase at SHCS Office, Sacred Heart Credit Union and the Rectory. *This would make a great Christmas gift for that someone who is hard to shop for!*

MEMORIALS – ASCENSION PARISH BUILDING FUND –

In memory of Dorothy Appelt: Wilma & Richard Schaefer - \$20; Peoples State Bank - \$10

In memory of Albert Shimek: Wilma & Richard Schaefer - \$15



John wore clothing made of camel’s hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. — Mt 3:4-6

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