

January 6, 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. Tommy Chen, Parochial Vicar

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### MASS SCHEDULE

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#### The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday	Jan. 5	6:00 P.M.	Jerome & Martha Hrcir & Jerrilyn Kallus	Moravia
Sunday	Jan. 6	9:30 A.M.	Deceased Members of Neskora & Winkler Families	St. John

#### The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday	Jan. 12	6:00 P.M.	Sylvia Bartosch	St. John
Sunday	Jan. 13	9:30 A.M.	Leo T. & Viola Henke	Moravia

#### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Jan. 19	6:00 P.M.	Vera Wenglar	Moravia
Sunday	Jan. 20	9:30 A.M.	George Vasek	St. John

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### THE WORD OF GOD

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#### The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:2,7-8,10-13 Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

All nations are invited to sing the Lord's praises for they have been called to hear the good news and worship the long awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

#### The Baptism of the Lord

Readings: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7 or Psalm 29:1a,2,3ac-4,3b,9b-10 Acts 10:34-38 Luke 3:15-16,21-22 or, in Year C: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 Psalm 104:1-4,24-25,27-30 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 Luke 3:15-16,21-22

Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father. He is the light of the nations and Lord of all creation. To him be all glory and praise! Option: On Jesus, the beloved of the Father, the glory of the Lord has been revealed. Salvation is offered to all, and the earth is renewed! \* After the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Ordinary Time begins/

#### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 96:1-3,7-10 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 John 2:1-11

At Cana in Galilee, Jesus performed the first of his signs, revealing his glory to his disciples, and later to all the nations. He has revealed as well the manifestation of the Spirit who distributes different gifts as he chooses.

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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#### FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

Thank you to all who participated in any way in the Christmas Masses to make these celebrations of our faith truly beautiful and inspirational. Thank you also to all who helped clean and decorate the church and helped with all the preparations around the parishes.

Fr. Tommy and I would like to thank all of you for all your cards, gifts, good wishes, prayers and the many kindnesses during this Christmas Season. Your love, support and caring is truly appreciated.

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the coming of the Three Kings. An old Catholic custom is the blessing of the home at Epiphany, especially the doorways. We can bless ourselves and the rooms of the home with holy water. We use chalk to mark the numerals and letters over doorways. The chalk reminds us of the dust of the earth from which we were made. The numerals consecrate the new year. The initials remind us of the legendary names of the Magi - Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar - and also stand for the Latin motto: Christus mansionem benedicat ("May Christ bless the house") 20 + C + M + B + 13

#### ASCENSION CHURCH CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATIONS

In memory - honor of Frankie Kubicek, The Kram Family and the Vana Family by Perry and Sharon Kram, in memory of Thelma & Ann Spies by Allen & Arlene Becan, in memory of Sylvester Janak by Dolores Janak, in memory of Eugene Berchenhoff, Jodie & Lillie Meisetschleager, in memory of Joe and Jamie Tupa by Wilma Schaefer, in memory of Charles, Mary and Alex Hrcir by Dennis & Barbara Janak, in memory of parents - Konvicka and Holmes by Dyrel and Arlene Holmes, in memory of Henry Tupa, Jerry and Karlene Tupa, Judith and Ray Ohnheiser by Wilma Schaefer, in memory of Eddie Pilat by Pat Pilat Family, in memory of L.A. and Vera Wenglar by Phil & Kathy Guenther, in memory of Henry Tupa by Emma Tupa, in memory of Timothy and Mark Olsovsky by Albert & Dorothy Olsovsky, in memory of Joe & Irene Barcak by Daniel & Shirley Steffek, in memory - honor of Robert and Mary Dodge, William and Loretta Kendall by Robert & Mary Kendall, in memory of Thelma and Ann Spies by Arthur Spies, in memory of Joe and Jamie Tupa, Henry Tupa, Jerry and Karlene Tupa by Jimmie & Sylvia Steffek, in memory of Charles B. and Emilie Halata, Bohumil and Lillie Bohuslav by Arnold & Gene Marie Bohuslav, in memory of Joe and Vlasta Holik, Leroy Rehak Sr., Joe and Frances Holik by Franklin & Henrietta Filip, in memory of Daniel Spies by Mary Ann Spies, in memory of Anton, Marie and Patrick Hrcir by Anthony Hrcir, donation by John & Tia Meisetschleager

## PRO-LIFE CORNER

"We know what the truth is. We understand that the sexual saturation in the society as a whole has penetrated the Church and the thinking of far too many Catholics. We can see that many in the Catholic community already dissent from Church teaching and are not troubled by the HHS mandate. But we can also see that this is the hour for courage, for discernment, and for a renewal of dedication to the Lord of Heaven and Earth." (Judie Brown, Pres. of American Life League - Speech can be viewed in its entirety at [www.all.org](http://www.all.org).)"

## MSGR. JOHN PETERS' SEMINARY BURSE

In memory of Lester Haas by Willie Barborak	\$10
In memory of Sylvester Janak by Ervin & Bernice Neskora	\$20
In memory of Henry Tupa by Ervin & Bernice Neskora	\$10

### In Honor of Msgr. John Peters' Elevation

Bryant & Megan Kutac	\$25	Allen & Arlene Becan & family	\$20
Bill & La Morris Thompson	\$50	Frank Forestier & Barbara Appelt	\$50
Arnold & Dorothy Berger	\$50	Kim & James Lofland	\$20
Harvey & Evelyn Hermis	\$50	James & Dana Daughtry	\$100
Arthur W. Spies, Jr.	\$20	Marcus & Mava Jalufka & family	\$40
Alvin & Bernice Havel	\$25	St. John Altar Society	\$250
Walter & Josie Hermis & Dylan Goldberg	\$50	Ervin & Bernice Neskora	\$25

## MORAVIA ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING

Moravia Altar Society will meet Wednesday January 9, at 7:00 PM at the dining hall. Item of discussion will be the anniversary of our parish coming up in February so members please attend.

## ASCENSION CHURCH CLEANERS & USHERS

January Church cleaners for Moravia Church: Barbara Janak and Angie Kubenka  
January Ushers for Moravia Church: Phil Guenther, Robert Kendall.

## KJZT SOCIETY #44

KJZT Society #44 will have a meeting after Mass on January 13, 2013.

## ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 5 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlyn Deem, Joshua Becan  
Sunday, January 6 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - April & Clayton Brossman, Blaine Besetzny  
Saturday, January 12 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - James Lofland, Rylie Lux  
Sunday, January 13 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Seth Eckhardt, Blaine Besetzny, Miranda Shimek  
Saturday, January 19 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlyn Deem, Joshua Becan  
Sunday, January 20 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Dylan Goldberg, Caleb Krischke, April Brossman

## SPRING 2013 - ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SIGN-UP

In celebration of the Holy Year of Faith, the Spring series of classes for Fr. Tommy's Tuesday night Adult Religious Education will be using the beautiful Catholicism DVD series by Fr. Robert Barron. This series of twelve classes will be studying the basics of our Catholic faith. Come and refresh your knowledge of the beauty of our Catholic faith! Please call the church office to sign up for the classes and to order the workbook. **The workbook is \$25 and must be prepaid.** **The last day to sign-up is January 14,** so that the materials may be ordered. Classes will begin on Tuesday, January 29 at Sacred Heart Family Center.

## Pro-Life Candlelight March set for January 24, 2013.

The Life & Family Advocates of Victoria is sponsoring the ***Candlelight March for Life*** on **Thursday, January 24th**. This is in response to the 40th anniversary of the infamous Supreme Court case of *Roe vs. Wade* which legalized abortion in our country. This year we will gather in downtown Victoria at DeLeon Plaza at 6:30pm and will begin our march to Our Lady of Sorrows on River and Water Street at 7:00pm. Those who cannot walk can meet at **Our Lady of Sorrows Church. A bus will be provided to take people back to their cars.**

## "COME AND SEE" DISCERNMENT WEEKEND

The Sisters of Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament are hosting a Discernment Weekend for single Catholic women between the ages of 18 and 50 years of age on January 26-27, 2013, at Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria, Texas. If you are interested in learning more about deepening your prayer life and about religious life or in discovering if God might be calling you to consecrated life, please call [\(361\) 575-7111](tel:3615757111) or e-mail [iwbsvoc@yahoo.com](mailto:iwbsvoc@yahoo.com) or [www.iwbsvictoria.org](http://www.iwbsvictoria.org) for more information about the Sisters.

**NOTICE:** For those who attended Fr. Tommy's Adult Ed Class on the Book of Revelation during the Fall and who purchased the binder, but did not pick up the Answer Packet during the last two classes, packets are still available for pick-up at the church office.



Next Bulletin: Sunday, Jan 20th, 2013  
Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Thursday Jan. 17th, 2013



# Growing in FAITH™

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

January 2013

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### A Christian's job

As followers of Christ, our primary job is to love. "Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet especially your family. Be holy – let us pray." Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

### Help Catholics come home

Do you know someone who was baptized Catholic but has stopped attending Mass, is questioning the faith, or hasn't found a parish home? Why not help your friend to come home? Perhaps you can act as a resource or offer to attend Mass together. If you aren't sure how to help, ask your pastor or priest for advice.

### January saint

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the Year of Faith saint we celebrate in January. A wealthy American, St. Elizabeth became Catholic after her husband died. Despite much personal tragedy, she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, a teaching order that established affordable schools.



## Grow in love for God this New Year

The more we know God, the more we love him. It naturally follows because of who he is. But we can't love someone we don't know. When making New Year's resolutions, consider adding a plan for deepening your knowledge of God.

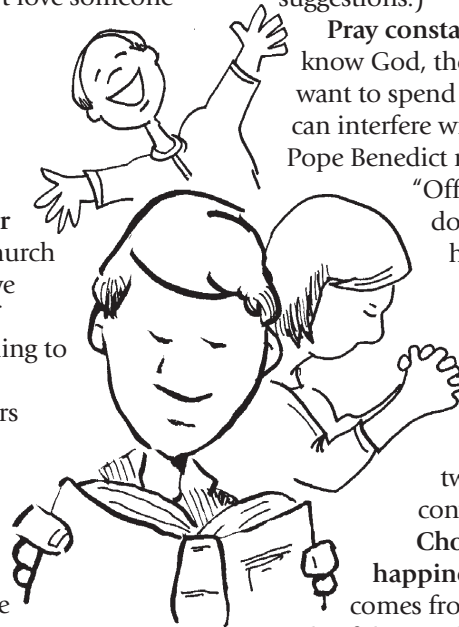
**Learn and study our faith.** The Catholic Church leads us to God and we have two millennia of inspired Church teaching to help.

For a start, the prayers and readings at Mass remind us of what we know about God. To go deeper, we can turn to the works of many reliable Catholic authors. For example, *The Catholic Way* by Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, uses easy-to-understand language to explain many

wonderful aspects of our doctrine and practice. (Your pastor may have more suggestions.)

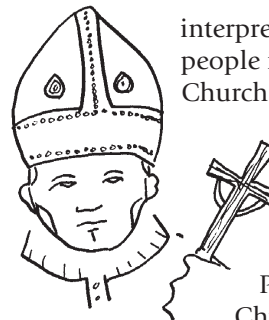
**Pray constantly.** The better we know God, the more time we will want to spend with him but life can interfere with formal prayer. Pope Benedict recently advised, "Offer everything you do to the Lord, ask his help in all the circumstances of daily life and remember that he is always beside you." Make prayer a constant, two-way conversation with God.

**Choose joy over happiness.** Happiness comes from pursuing the rewards of this world. Joy is pursuing those of the next. Happiness never lasts. Joy lasts forever but can only come from knowing and loving God.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

In Matthew 16:13-19, Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter ("rock") making him the foundation of the Church. Jesus gave Peter the keys to the kingdom of God on earth and the power of binding and loosing, which in Judaism meant giving him the authority to



## Why do Catholics obey the Pope?

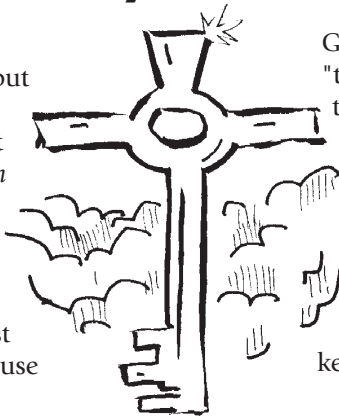
interpret the Scriptures and bring people into communion with the Church. Peter traveled to Rome and became its first bishop. His successors, the popes, receive the same position and authority Peter had as head of the Church.

## The keys to holiness

Holiness will help us to get to Heaven and comes when we surrender to God's will and put all of our trust in him.

**Courage.** During the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5), Jesus said, "blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are they who mourn," and promised that when we turn to God in times of trial, we will be comforted and cared for. Trusting God in difficult times takes courage.

**Discipline.** Jesus makes it clear that we must apply the correct principles to our habits and use



God's laws as our standards. When he talked about "the meek, the merciful, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness," he was giving us a ruler. We are to measure our behavior against these standards to see if we are on the right path to holiness.

**Endurance.** Only a true follower of Christ can put the Sermon on the Mount fully into practice. It takes endurance to combine holy inner attitudes with these outward actions and keep it up for life.

### from Scripture

#### Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21; Jesus teaches in the synagogue

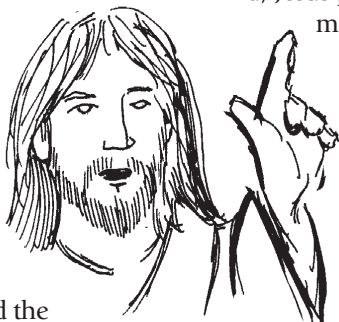
This Gospel tells the beginning of Jesus' teaching in the synagogues of Galilee. It makes several points.

First, Jesus entered the synagogue on the Sabbath according to his custom. He regularly took time to worship, showing us the importance of communal worship.

Second, Jesus read the scriptures, explained their meaning, and finally applied the scripture to a situation. In the process he taught us how to approach the Bible. Some Bible passages can be confusing so explanation is important when we read Scripture. Applying its lessons in our lives

is equally important. Jesus came into the world to bring glad tidings to us.

Third, Jesus provided details of his mission: "to bring glad tidings to the poor...to proclaim liberty to captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to announce a year of favor from the Lord."



This passage from Isaiah is a prophecy of the Messiah. When Jesus said, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing," he confirmed for his listeners that he was the awaited Messiah.

### Q & A What is the Liturgy of the Hours?

The Liturgy of the Hours is a public and common prayer of the Church comprised of psalms, scripture texts, canticles, hymns, writings from the works of Church Fathers, and other prayers. Ordained clergy and religious are required to pray the Liturgy of the Hours daily, which has components that are prayed many times throughout the day in order to sanctify it.

In the Middle Ages, monks gathered for prayer seven times a day. The Liturgy of the Hours is based on the prayer formulas used by the monks. "The traditional terms of 'hours,' familiar in the daily breviary, namely, matins, lauds, terce, sext, none, vespers, and compline, have been replaced by with simpler terms under the headings: Office of readings, morning prayer, three daytime prayers, evening pray, and night prayer" (*The Catholic Encyclopedia*).

While the Liturgy of the Hours is obligatory for the ordained, all Catholics are encouraged to participate in one or more of the Hours. Many do morning, evening, or night prayer. Some parishes have community evening prayer.

**Our Mission**

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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



### Feasts & Celebrations

In January we celebrate the Holy Name of Jesus. "...at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10).

**January 1 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.** When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. This is a holy day of obligation and Catholics are required to attend Mass.

**January 13 – Baptism of Our Lord.** Celebrates the baptism of Jesus by his cousin, St. John the Baptist. This also marks the end of the Christmas Season.

**January 26 – Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st century).** Timothy was a convert of Paul's and later became his trusted friend joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus was also a friend of Paul's who served the early Church as a peacemaker and as administrator to a community on Crete.

