

July 7, 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

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 6	6:00 P.M.	L. A. & Vera Wenglar	Moravia
Sunday	July 7	9:30 A.M.	Fred & Martha Hermis	St. John

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 13	6:00 P.M.	Barbara Snowden	St. John
Sunday	July 14	9:30 A.M.	Judith & Raymond Ohnheiser & Henry & Jerry Tupa	Moravia

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 20	6:00 P.M.	Lebert & Leona Berger	St. John
Sunday	July 21	10:00 A.M.	Daniel Spies	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 66:10-14c Psalm 66:1-7, 16, 20 Galatians 6:14-18 Luke 10:1-12,17-20 or 10:1-9

Let us boast of nothing but the cross of Christ. Through it his grace and power are made known to his servants. Tremendous deeds shall be performed in his name: the reign of God is proclaimed, peace is given as a gift, and the forces of sin are overcome.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Deuteronomy 30:10-14 Psalm 69:14,17,30-31,33-34,36-37 Colossians 1:15-20 Luke 10:25-37

The great commandment of love is not something "mysterious" or "remote." Indeed, it is "very near" to us. Yet how difficult it is to fulfill, being neighbor to whomever is in need. But if we seek God, we must "go and do the same", for we have created in, for, and through Christ.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Genesis 18:1-10a Psalm 15:2-5 Colossians 1:24-28 Luke 10:38-42

Abraham, the just and upright man, graciously hosts three visitors. As Mary and Martha host Jesus, he speaks of only one thing as necessary for us who follow him: being open to receive the message and person of Jesus, and being receptive to "the mystery of Christ" as he comes to us through one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

We are still in the process of celebrating our Independence Day. From Thursday, July 4th through this weekend, we think especially about how fortunate we are to live in the United States of America. We pray in thanksgiving for our freedom and we also pray for our government leaders so that we can maintain Christian values and religious freedom now and in the future.

Thank you to all who helped in any way to make the St. John Picnic such a great success. It was a wonderful day. It was great to see so many people turn out.

We now prepare for the Moravia Picnic on Sunday, July 21st. We will need lots of help from family and friends to make it a success also.

Please pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall!!

Heavenly Father, we believe that is it You Who created our world with all of its beauty and life. We believe that it is You Who put into place the systems of nature that sustain, nurture and renew this work of Your hands. We believe that it is You Who hears Your children when they call upon You. Hear then, this prayer which comes from a heart filled with confidence and trust. Grant to us and to all who seek it, the gift of a bountiful rain. Water our lands so that they may once again spring to life and reflect the beauty of Your creation. Fill our lakes and rivers with sufficient rain so that they may continue to provide life giving and refreshing water to all who depend upon it for their livelihood and well-being. Please do not let many more days pass without sending us this most needed blessing of rain. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.

PICNICS

Dubina- Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish Picnic, July 7. Holy Mass at 8:45 a.m. Fried Chicken & Sausage Dinner at 11:00 a.m., \$8.50 for adults and \$4 for children.

Moravia- Ascension of Our Lord Parish Picnic, July 21 (located at FM 957 and FM 532). Holy Mass 10:00 a.m. Stew & Fried Chicken Dinner 11:00 a.m. Auction, bingo, cake walk, country store, plant walk, kiddy booths & much more. Delicious food, snacks & cold beverages all afternoon. Enjoy music by Mark Halata & Texavia and the Red Ravens. Entertainment for all ages!

ST. JOHN PICNIC APPRECIATION SOCIAL

The St. John Appreciation Social and Meal for the picnic workers will be held at St. John Pavilion on Saturday, September 7, starting with the social at 6:30 p.m. and the meal being served at 7:30 p.m.. Please spread the word to all your helpers.

MORAVIA PICNIC POSTERS - Moravia Picnic Posters are ready and are on the table in the back of church. Anyone may take some to distribute to help in advertising our upcoming picnic.

MORAVIA PICNIC

Moravia parish Picnic is July 21 and is almost here. Starting on Tuesday, July 9th at 8:00 a.m., parishioners are asked to please come help clean the inside of our halls and the outside area in preparation for our picnic.

For the picnic, items for the auction are greatly needed. Please bring them early. Please have your items marked with your name on them. Cash donations toward bingo prizes and cash donations to help with the purchase of the meat is appreciated. The country store is in need of homemade items, canned goods, and fun things for children. Small plants can be donated to the plant walk that is new this year. The cake walk needs cakes well wrapped. Cakes for the dinner are also needed. Please check the picnic work list for your name, and any extra help from anyone would be appreciated. Working together will make our picnic the great success it has been in the past. Our church is a treasured legacy which we want to keep up for generations to come.

Please mark your calendars for our Moravia Parish Picnic Workers Appreciation Dinner on August 25. There will be a noon catered meal as in the past.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

(One Man/One Woman) - He (Jesus) said in reply, Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator 'Made them male and female' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? (Matthew 19: 4 & 5)

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 6 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Rylie & Regan Lux, April Brossmann
Sunday, July 7 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Miranda Shimek, Dylan Goldberg, Seth Eckhardt, Blaine Besetzny
Saturday, July 13 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - James Lofland, Alex Lozano, Kenna Kubenka
Sunday, July 14 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Miranda Shimek, Seth Eckhardt, Blaine Besetzny
Saturday, July 20 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Dylan Goldberg, Joshua Becan, April Brossmann
Sunday, July 21 - **10:00 a.m.** - Moravia - Caitlin Deem, Rylie & Regan Lux

ALTAR SERVER PARTY

All altar servers who serve for the weekend Masses of Sacred Heart Church, St. Mary's, St. John's and Ascension Parish, Moravia are invited to a bowling and pizza party on Wednesday, July 31 at the Tenth Frame Bowling Alley in Schulenburg from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. If you plan to attend this event, please call Fr. Tommy (798-5888) to sign up no later than Sunday, July 28. The parishes will provide the rounds of bowling, shoe rental and pizza. Parents will be responsible for the transportation of their children to and from the event.



Mini-Cheerleader Camp, July 29-31, 9 am-12 noon, Sacred Heart Catholic School Gym for girls in PreK-6th Grade. To register, please call Debi Bludau, 798-6842.

Mini-Twirl Camp, July 22-25 at Sacred Heart Catholic School Gym. To register, please call Becky McElroy at 798-2831 or 772-6674.



Chancery Library & Media Center. Summer is a good time to read and watch movies. Check out the vast inventory of books and videos available in your diocesan library. Go to www.victoriadiocese.org, click the ministries link, and then scroll to library, or come by the Chancery at 1505 E. Mesquite Lane in Victoria between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. Call 361-573-0828 for more information.

Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) simply means 'rediscovery'. The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For confidential information or to register for the September 6-8 program, call John or Jennifer Vincent (361) 580-2770 or email: jbvjov@sbcglobal.net or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.



“Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God is at hand for you.’” — Lk 10:8-9

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

Growing in FAITH™

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

July 2013

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Kateri Tekakwitha

The Year of Faith saint for July is St. Kateri Tekakwitha, one of the newest American saints.

A smallpox epidemic in her Native American village left Kateri orphaned, disfigured, and half-blind at the age of four. Introduced to Catholicism by visiting priests, she was baptized at the age of 19 against the strenuous objections of her relatives. Eventually, the persecution against her became so strong that she had to steal away to a Christian village where she lived in holiness.



Room for God

"Make room therefore for Christ, and refuse entrance to all others. When you have Christ, you are rich and have need of (nothing) else."
Thomas À Kempis

Pray all day

St. Paul tells us to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Try repeating the "Jesus Prayer": "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner."



Let God love you

Have you ever seen a parent scoop up a child and hug him closely as if he couldn't get enough of that beloved child? That's how God feels about you. He loves you dearly and shows you each day. Open your heart to him.

He longs to embrace you and tell you that he loves you. Let God love you through the people around you. When you need help, support, or healthy love, don't refuse those whom God sends to you.

God wants our safety and shows us the surest path for us to walk. Jesus walked it first to show us how. Follow

his steps to stay safe.

Our Father lets us make our own choices but gives advice to guide us. All we need to know to make smart decisions is contained in Scripture. Refer to it often to find out what God thinks is best.

He is always ready to forgive. We are the ones who forget to ask. Meet him in Confession regularly.

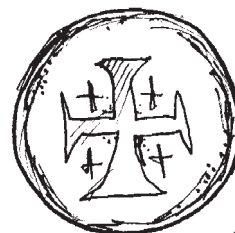
As a loving Father, he waits for our next visit and longs for our love. Don't miss a chance to meet him at Mass and in daily prayer.

And, as a good Father, he waits for the day when all his children will come home to him and rest forever in his arms.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

The word "host" comes from hostia, which means "victim." During the Exodus, each Hebrew family sacrificed a lamb, the blood of which was smeared on the doorways of their homes. The occupants were thus saved from the death



Why do Catholics call communion wafers the "Host?"

of the first-born, which the Egyptians suffered. Jesus is our spotless lamb who saves us from the death of sin. He serves as our victim in the bloodless sacrifice of the Mass. Since the communion wafer is Jesus, we call it "host."

The power of forgiveness

When someone wrongs you in some way, do you hold a grudge and keep the hurt? Here are three reasons to embrace the power of forgiveness.

Forgiveness is not something we do for the other person, but something we do for ourselves. Refusing to forgive merely prolongs hurt feelings. It helps us dwell on them and keep them alive. And that feels awful.

But when you forgive, the negative feelings are purged and there's new room for goodness. The



energy that sustained the anger is now available for other purposes. And that's a much better feeling.

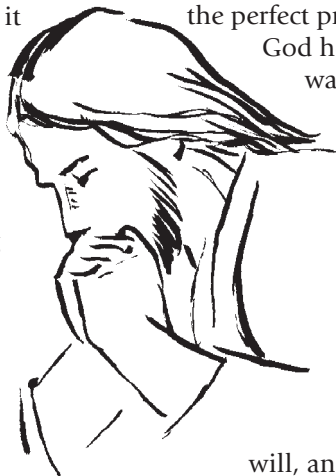
Need another reason? Jesus taught us that to receive daily forgiveness of our own sins we must forgive those who have hurt us. If we can't or won't—how can we obtain it for ourselves?

Think about praying for anyone who hurts you and ask God to bless him. Not only will you find the pain start to lessen, you'll be saying one of Jesus' favorite prayers. He prayed it while on the Cross.

from Scripture

Luke 11:1-13, the perfect prayer

The Our Father is actually four prayers in one. First, it is a prayer of praise and gives God the glory that he is due. Second, it is a prayer of petition in which we ask God to provide what we need. Third, it is a prayer asking for forgiveness and the strength to be forgiving. And last, it is a prayer of acknowledgement. It forces us to admit that God knows what is best for us and reminds us to submit to his will rather

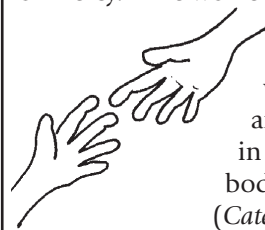


than our own. That's what makes it the perfect prayer model.

God hears all prayers, but he wants to know that we are committed to that for which we are asking. Is it a real need or just a momentary thought? Like the neighbor in this Gospel reading, Jesus encourages us to be persistent and continue to ask for God's help, seek God's will, and open the door to God's grace in our lives.

Q & A Other than attend Mass, what else must I do?

We are also called to perform works of mercy. "The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities."



(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2447).

There are seven spiritual works of mercy: to admonish the sinner, to instruct the ignorant, to counsel the doubtful, to comfort the sorrowful, to bear wrongs patiently, to forgive all injuries, to pray for the living and the dead.

There are also seven corporal works of mercy. They are: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those in prison, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, bury the dead.

How important is it for us to perform these acts? Jesus said, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me" (Mt 25:35-36). That makes it very important.

Feasts & Celebrations

July 11 – St. Benedict. While pursuing an education in Rome, Benedict became disgusted with the life of privilege and retired to a cave outside of Rome for three years. Others who recognized his holiness followed him. In 529 he built Monte Cassino – his first monastery – and wrote the rule of the Benedictines, "Ora et Labora," which means "Pray and Work."

July 15 - St. Bonaventure (1274). Cured of an illness through the prayers of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Bonaventure became a Franciscan. As minister general of the order, he cultivated a love

of the way of St. Francis and the order's ideals.

July 31 – St. Ignatius of Loyola (1556). Ignatius spent several years defending his native country of Spain. His resulting injuries required several surgeries at home, and long recuperative periods during which he began a religious conversion and a lifelong dedication to education. He later started a community of priests called the Company of Jesus, now known as the Society of Jesus.



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