

March 31, 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

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Saturday	March 30	6:00 p.m.	Joe & Larry Zatopek	Moravia
Sunday	March 31	9:30 a.m.	Ludwig & Adela Dittrich	St. John

Second Sunday of Mercy - Divine Mercy

Saturday	April 6	6:00 p.m.	Frances & Jim Okruhlik, Margie Okruhlik Vacek & Renee Okruhlik	Moravia
Sunday	April 7	9:30 a.m.	Hattie Berger	St. John

Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday	April 13	6:00 p.m.	Henry & Martha Besetzny & Steven Kusy	St. John
Sunday	April 14	9:30 a.m.	Henry R. & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 16ab-17, 22-23 Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 John 20:1-9 or 41: Luke 24:1-12 On this day of days we offer a joyful sacrifice of praise to the Father who raised his Son from the dead. Let us be intent upon the life Christ offers us, Christ our Passover who has been sacrificed.

Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy

Readings: Acts 5:12-16 Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19 Jn 20:19-31 As Thomas believed because he saw the risen Jesus, so too were many brought to faith through the various signs and wonders wrought by the apostles. They proclaimed as Lord “the stone rejected by the builders,” “the First and the Last of the One who lives.”

Third Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 Ps 30:2, 4-6 Rv 5:11-14 Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14 Jesus appears to seven of His disciples, among them Peter who proclaims his unflinching love for the Lord. Jesus commissions him to feed the sheep. Later, in face of persecution, Peter and the apostles proclaim the name of Jesus, the Lamb who was slain and who rescues us from death.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

Thank you to an anonymous donor for providing the new landscaping alongside the Ascension of Our Lord Church. It is very beautiful!

Happy Easter! We wish each other this joyful greeting on Easter Sunday – and yet, for Catholics, Easter is so much more than a single celebration. Easter is so important that we cannot celebrate it in one day. To fully celebrate the Easter Season it takes fifty days, or a Pentecost (the Greek word for *fifty*). And each one of these fifty days, in fact, *is* Easter. That is why the Church speaks of the Sundays of Easter, rather than the Sundays after Easter.

And what do we celebrate during this fifty-day Alleluia? Jesus’ resurrection from the dead, His eternal and everlasting victory over death, and the gift of salvation poured out upon the world. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#638) reminds us, “The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith.” The heart of our very identity as Christians is this belief that God has radically changed the universe in the birth, life, Passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus.

The Easter mystery celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus. But what does that really mean? Throughout the Gospels, Jesus predicts His own Passion – the suffering, crucifixion, and death that He will endure in fulfillment of the Scriptures. But it is only after we roll the stone away, and the tomb is found empty, that Jesus’ predictions are truly fulfilled.

He appears in risen form first to Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:14) and then to the other women and disciples (Mt 28:9). His resurrection is bodily and complete. When the resurrected Christ visits His disciples in the Gospel of Luke, He understands their disbelief and allows them to touch Him so that they may come to believe. He even eats with His disciples as a sign of His real presence among them.

The disciples are filled with joy and amazement at the presence of the Risen Christ! And we, too, are filled with joy and amazement at the real presence of the Risen Christ throughout the Mass. As Catholics, we believe that Christ is really and truly present in the celebrant, in the Word, and in the full assembly gathered as the Body of Christ, and most especially, in the Holy Eucharist.

The new life of the Resurrection “reinstates us in God’s grace” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #654) “so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Rom 6:4).

NEW ASCENSION PARISH HALL MANAGER - MARCIA HRNCIR

Cell Phone - 832-331-2096; Home Phone - 361-798-5774; Chamber of Commerce Phone - 866-504-5294 (Toll free) 979-743-4514

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 30, 6:00 p.m., Moravia - April & Clayton Brossmann, Miranda Shimek
Sunday, March 31, 9:30 a.m., St. John - Blaine Besetzny, Seth Eckhardt, Dylan Goldberg, Alex Lozano
Saturday, April 6, 6:00 p.m., Moravia – Joshua Becan, Caitlyn Deem
Sunday, April 7, 9:30 a.m., St. John – April & Clayton Brossmann, Dylan Goldberg
Saturday, April 13, 6:00 p.m., St. John – Kenna Kubenka, James Lofland, Alex Lozano
Sunday, April 14, 9:30 a.m., Moravia – Rylie Lux, Megan Lux, Miranda Shimek



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH CLEANERS FOR APRIL – Elsie Farek, Dana Daughtry, and Joyce Janda

GENERATIONS OF FAITH –

Please pray for Joshua Schachrel who will be confirmed on April 10th at Sacred Heart Church, Hallettsville. Generations of Faith students in Group 2, Grades 4-6, will meet on April 3 at 5:30 p.m. instead of April 10.

ST. JOHN'S ALTAR SOCIETY SPRING BRUNCH –

Everyone is invited to the annual Spring Brunch on April 21 immediately after Mass. Altar Society members are asked to bring a brunch item if attending. Coffee, juice, and water will be provided. Altar Society members may pay their dues at the brunch.

MORAVIA KJZT MEETING – Moravia KJZT Society #44 will meet on April 14th after Mass.

ASCENSION CHURCH EASTER FLOWERS

Anyone wishing to donate Easter flowers in memory of loved ones to Ascension Church, please contact Dorothy Olsovsky at 979-562-2169.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH EASTER FLOWERS

Donations for the Easter flowers for St. John Church in memory of loved ones can be placed in the collection basket using your Easter Flower Offering Envelope or mailed to Pam Besetzny at 5325 W. County Line Rd, Schulenburg, TX 78956 or call to 979-562-2818 (home) 979-743-6119 (office) or 979-561-6994 (cell).

PRO-LIFE CORNER – THE RECIPE FOR PRO-LIFE SUCCESS IN 2013

Combine: One generation of young enthusiasts, one helping of articulate speakers, one measure of self-sacrificing leaders, one generous sprinkling of faithful public witness, and one heaping cup of reliable guidance. Stir with the largest amount of total surrender to God's will possible and allow to rise! (*American Life League*)

MEN'S ACTS RETREAT –

The Hallettsville Sacred Heart Men's ACTS Retreat will be held on April 18-21 at Cathedral Oaks. Registration forms are available at the entrance of the church. Please mail the completed form to the address on the application.

MORAVIA CENTENNIAL COOKBOOK is available for purchase at Hallettsville General Store.

MEMORIALS

Ascension Parish Building Fund –

In memory of Sheryl Janak: Robert & Mary Kendall-\$25; Ervin & Bernice Neskora-\$25; William G. & Helen M. Gertner-\$20; Albert & Dorothy Olsovsky-\$20; Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Filip-\$10; Barbara & Dennis Janak-\$50; David & Dorothy Young-\$25; Greg & Angie Kubenka Family-\$15; Royce & Jeanette Chudej-\$20; Edward J. Filip-\$10; Leo & Joyce Janda-\$20; Jimmie & Sylvia Steffek-\$20; Mr. & Mrs. Phil Guenther-\$20.

In memory of Marcella Chaloupka: Ervin & Bernice Neskora-\$25.

Ascension Parish Cemetery Fund –

In memory of Sheryl Janak: Daniel & Shirley Steffek-\$15; Almeda Jurica Poth-\$10; Skip & Donna Smith, Ronald & Eunice Sparks-\$60.

St. John Parish Building Fund –

In memory of Hattie Berger: Alphonse & Donna Hermis-\$25.

Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters Seminary Burse –

In memory of Hattie Berger & Sheryl Janak: Willie Barborak-\$20.

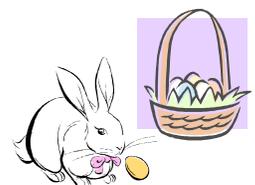
Please pray for the blessing of rain:

Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear blue sky, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear! We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs. But You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises, and the hearts of men will be made glad. Amen.



Happy Easter!

Next Bulletin: Sunday, April 14, 2013
Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2013



Growing in FAITH™

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

April 2013

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Mother Théodore Guérin

The Year of Faith saint for April is St. Mother Théodore

Guérin, who predicted at age ten that she would become a nun. At age 25, she became a Sister of Providence of Ruillé-sur-Loir in France. She was soon asked to lead missionary sisters to Indiana where their base was a log cabin with a porch for a chapel. By her death in 1856, she had opened schools throughout Illinois and Indiana, trusting in God's providence to accomplish the impossible..



Speak the truth

Do you speak out against injustice or sin? Yes, you may be called "intolerant" for sharing Gospel truths but tolerance doesn't render truth untrue. In fact, saying nothing can be worse. Christ is clear: "When your brother sins, rebuke him and when he repents, forgive him" (Luke 17:3).

"The world promises you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."

Pope Benedict XVI



Speak out, reach out, and live out our Catholic faith

Recent studies reported that of all Christian denominations, Catholics are least likely to share our faith with others despite having the same requirement to "make disciples of all the nations." Try these ideas to speak out, reach out, and live out the Good News of our Catholic faith:

Talk about love. For someone who hasn't experienced God or who has become inactive in her faith, hearing how you have personally experienced God's love can be powerful. Don't hesitate to share how God has blessed you when you sense someone is ready to listen.

Brush up on Catholic terms and positions. When asked or when you sense there is confusion, be ready to explain the meaning of such terms as

"Sacrament" or "Communion" or the Church's position on social issues. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a reliable reference or you can refer to the U.S. bishops' website: www.usccb.org/issues-and-action.

Support parish ministries. During parish drives, collect food and clothing from neighbors, coworkers, and relatives. Those are prime opportunities to talk about the Catholic dedication to serving the poor and hungry.

Use social media.

Whichever platform you choose, tweet an inspiration from the Bible, post your favorite devotion, pin a picture of your patron saint, or update the latest way God has worked in your life. No door knocking is required.



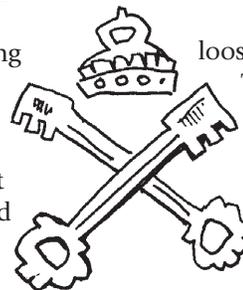
Why Do Catholics Do That?

The Magisterium is the teaching authority of the Church, exercised by the pope and the bishops (*Catechism of the Catholics Church, 2033*). Christ gave this authority to Peter and then to the Apostles as a group when he gave them the power of binding and

What is the Magisterium?

loosing (*Matthew 16:19, 18:18*).

This authority involves matters of faith and morals. As Catholics, we believe the Holy Spirit guides the thinking of the pope and bishops. We are therefore required to accept these teachings.



Don't worry, be happy

What kind of happiness do we want to choose for ourselves? The happiness society suggests involves possessions, status, popularity, celebrity. Few people, if any, attain that level of happiness nor does it last when achieved. Real lasting happiness is the kind Jesus wants us to choose. It means placing ourselves in God's care, choosing what he wants for us and ignoring what the world tells us we need. This kind of happiness lasts forever.

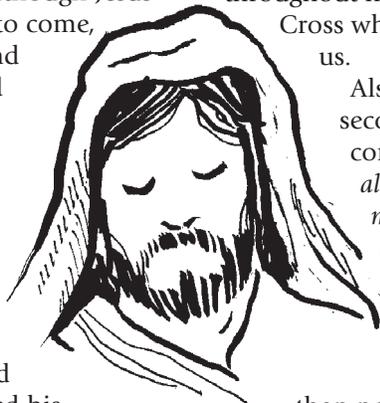


Trust God completely. "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat [or drink], or about your body, what you will wear ... Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom (of God) and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides" (Matthew 6:25, 32-33).
Express gratitude. If we aren't thankful for what we already have, it will be hard to ever be happy. Spend time each day appreciating what you have and it will increase in value.

from Scripture

John 13:31-35, Love one another

The Last Supper was a confusing night for the Apostles. Although Jesus talked of his glory soon to come, they didn't yet understand that Jesus' glory involved great suffering. Jesus prepared them by giving them an important command that would help, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you should also love one another."



This is carefully worded by Our Lord. Jesus wanted his followers to be clear that this love is not a warm and fuzzy feeling. The love we are to have for each other is to be as

sacrificial as the love he demonstrated throughout his life and on the Cross when he gave his life for us.

Also important is the second part of this command, "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Jesus intended for Christians to stand out in the world by behaving differently than non-believers. He is no longer visible on Earth with us, so he left us to be his hands and his heart to those around us.

Q & A What is the Golden Rule?

"Do to others whatever you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12) is often called the Golden Rule. For Christians,



however, it is just a start. In its broadest sense, the Golden Rule means that we are to treat each other with extraordinary love.

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." Jesus made it clear that he wants us to imitate the way he loves us by putting others' needs before our own. Jesus' sacrificial love for each of us is our model.

Love God. And we do all of this because of our love for God. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments" (Matthew 22:37, 39-40). That love is the basis for all we do on Earth so that we can be happy with him forever in Heaven.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 23 – St. George (300). Although many legends surround St. George, we know he was a soldier under Emperor Diocletian who persecuted Christians, and that he died a martyr in Palestine. He is celebrated as a model knight, protector of women, and combatant of evil. He is a patron of England, Portugal, Germany, Spain, and Italy.

April 28 – St. Peter Chanel (1841). Born a peasant in France, he was ordained a priest and entered the Society of Mary. He was sent to evangelize the Marshall Islands. Despite

adversities, he baptized the natives, including the chieftain's son. He was martyred by hostile warriors. The island converted two years after his death.

April 30 – Pope St. Pius V (1572). Born to a poor family in Italy, Antonio Ghislieri became a Dominican, taught theology, and became Pope Pius V. As Pope, he established seminaries and hospitals, and published the Roman Catechism, Roman Breviary, and the Missal. He is known for his efforts to implement the Council of Trent.



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