

July 6, 2014

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

Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 5	6:00 p.m.	L.A. Wenglar & Vera Wenglar	Moravia
Sunday	July 6	9:30 a.m.	Charles & Julie Neskora	St. John

Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 12	6:00 p.m.	George Vasek	St. John
Sunday	July 13	9:30 a.m.	Henry & Julia Olsovsky, & Rebecca Olsovsky	Moravia

Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday	July 19	6:00 p.m.	Clarence Haas	Moravia
Sunday	July 20	10:00 a.m.	Daniel S. Spies	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Zechariah 9:9-10 Psalm 145:1-2,8-11,13-14 Romans 8:9,11-13 Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, came to bring peace to all people. We are called to live in His Spirit, to be gracious, merciful, and compassionate to all.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 55:10-11 Psalm 65:10-14 Romans 8:18-23 Matthew 13:1-23

“The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.” May the soil of our hearts be receptive to the Word and carry it out through the presence of the Spirit.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 Romans 8:26-27 Matthew 13:24-43

In His patience, the Lord allows both weeds and wheat to grow together, both saints and sinners to respond to salvation in the Kingdom. This Lord is good and forgiving, lenient to all, desiring repentance for our sins. May the Spirit assist us in our weakness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

We are celebrating the 4th of July weekend. We celebrate our independence as a country and thank God for our freedoms. Even though we have lost some of our freedoms, we are still more fortunate than most other countries. Let us never forget to thank God for all His blessings and keep preaching and working to maintain the freedom we have and the Christian values we have.

Let us pray in thanksgiving for the Supreme Court’s decision this week supporting Hobby Lobby’s right to refuse paying insurance for certain birth control and abortion medications.

We welcome Deacon Jacob Koether to our parish family. He will be with us until school starts. He will return to St. Mary Seminary in Houston for his final year of preparation for the Priesthood, which will take place on June 6, 2015. During this school year, he will be with us two weekends a month. Please welcome Deacon Jacob.

Father Daniel Danso has been our Associate Pastor since August of last year. He is being transferred to Holy Family Catholic Church in Wharton to be the Associate Pastor there. We thank Father Daniel for his presence with us this past year and wish him well in the future.

In the second week of July, Father Barnabus Kyeah, will be coming from LaCrosse, Wisconsin to be our new associate.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the St. John Parish Picnic a great success. Remember that the Moravia picnic is Sunday, July 20 beginning with Mass at 10:00 a.m.

MORAVIA PICNIC POSTERS are in the back of church. Parishioners and visitors, please take one to help advertise our picnic in other areas.

COUNTRY STORE DONATION NEEDED

It is time to begin to gather up your homemade and handmade items for the Annual Moravia Picnic Country Store. Plan to bring items such as cookies, salsas, jellies, canned vegetables, and homemade crafts to the Parish Hall on the day of clean-up or contact Janis Hrcir (361-772-4309) and she can arrange to pick them up after July 14.

MORAVIA PARISH PICNIC CLEANUP - Tuesday, July 15th starting at 8:00 a.m. Parishioners are asked to come for this general cleanup of our halls and grounds in preparation for the picnic on July 20. The cleanup after the picnic is July 21 at 7:30 a.m.

MORAVIA PICNIC NEWS:

Items for the auction are greatly needed. Please bring them early and have your items marked with your name on them. Cash donations for bingo prizes and for purchasing the meat is needed and appreciated.

The country store is in need of homemade items, baked and canned. Children's items may be donated as well – toys, books, etc. Small plants can be donated to the plant walk. The cake walk is in need of cakes well wrapped. Also, cakes for the dinner meal are greatly appreciated.

Please check the picnic work list for your name and any extra help from anyone would be appreciated. Working together makes the picnic the success it has been in the past.

Mark your calendars for the Moravia Picnic appreciation dinner to be held August 24th.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

In a 5 to 4 vote the U.S. Supreme Court has given an affirmative decision in the Hobby Lobby vs. The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). Hobby Lobby is a closely held, family owned, profit making corporation, whose owner's religious belief objects to 4 abortive means out of the 20 contraceptives in HHS Mandate insurance coverage. Hobby Lobby is now exempt from supplying insurance coverage to their employees for these 4.

The Administration, through the Health and Human Services Agency, was cited in this decision with intervention against the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (passed in the 1990's).

Outside Catholic Churches (already exempt), a complete win for Catholic Charities is not clarified in this decision. Hope is for future favorable decisions for our schools, hospitals, etc. by the courts.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 5 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Kenna Kubenka, Joshua Becan, Caitlin Deem

Sunday, July 6 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Dylan Goldberg, Rylie & Regan Lux

Saturday, July 12 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Alex Lozano, April Brossmann, Dylan Goldberg

Sunday, July 13 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Miranda Shimek, Blaine Besetzny, Seth Eckhardt

Saturday, July 19 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - James Lofland, Joshua Becan, Caitlin Deem

Sunday, July 20 - 10:00 a.m.- Moravia - Rylie & Regan Lux, Kenna Kubenka

Sacred Heart Catholic School Early Childhood 3K Registration in Progress - Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. SHCS is adding a 3 year old Early Childhood Program (3K) beginning the 2014-15 school year. A child must be 3 years old by September 1 to be eligible. (For the 4 year old Early Childhood Program (4K), a child must be 4 by September 1 to be eligible for admission.)

The 3K curriculum is the Early Childhood Curriculum written and adopted by the Victoria Diocese Catholic Schools Office and includes academic, emotional, social, and religious areas.

Please call the school office at 361-798-4251 for additional information or visit our website at www.shschool.org. Copies of birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, and baptism certificate (if applicable) is required for registration.

RETRouvaille WEEKEND, AUGUST 15-17

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information or to register, call John or Jennifer at (361) 580-2770, email jbvjov@sbcglobal.net or visit the website at www.retrouvaille.org.

FALLING LEAVES GALA

The annual Falling Leaves Gala featuring The Original Triumphs, Saturday, October 11, 5:30-11:00 p.m., Knights of Columbus Hall, Hallettsville. Tickets on sale now! Only 400 tickets will be sold. \$100 per couple includes a rib-eye steak dinner for two, open bar, dance and give-away prizes (Grand prize \$4,000). Tickets may be purchased at the K.C. Hall or online www.kchall.com and click on the Falling Leaves tab. For more information, please call 361-798-2311.

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA PASTORAL INSTITUTE COURSES

July 8/9: Church, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Chancery.

July 15: Getting Started as a Catechist, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Holy Cross, East Bernard.

July 15/17: Scripture, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Chancery.

Go to www.victoriadiocese.org for a list of upcoming courses. The fee is \$4 for the companion booklet and can be paid on the day of the class. To register, call Sherry Kainer 573-0828 ext. 2223 or email pisecretary@victoriadiocese.org.

DRAWING FOR 2014 POLARIS RANGER Crew 570 (seating for 4) with 12 ft. Maxey Single Axle Trailer and 13 additional prizes will be held at the Sacred Heart Parish Fall Picnic on August 31 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Hallettsville. Tickets are \$35 each or 3 for \$100 and are available for purchase at the Sacred Heart Church Rectory. Proceeds benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School.

COLLECT POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE FRANCISCAN MISSIONS

The Franciscan Missions sell postage stamps (cancelled, never used, U.S. or foreign) and send the proceeds to the Greenwood, MS Mission. They take all stamps, except the "nonprofit" or "canoe" stamps. Please cut off the stamps from envelopes (a 1/4" border is great) and turn them in to GERALYN KLIMITCHEK at Sacred Heart Catholic School, Hallettsville.



"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

— Mt 11:28-30

Excerpt from the Liturgy for Mass (1980), 1988, 1989 CCD

Growing in FAITH™

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

July 2014

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Joachim and St. Anne

What we know of these two saints comes from tradition. We know that they were Jesus' grandparents and that they raised Mary, Jesus' mother. We also know that they were faithful Jews who raised their daughter in a devout Jewish home. Her unshakeable faith, her devotion to the laws of her religion, her comfort with being mother and wife, and her steadiness in moments of crisis indicate the values with which she was raised.

Remember ...

Jesus gave us a great gift when he created the Sacrament of Confession (John 20:23). He knew we would want to hear the words of absolution to know he forgives us. Remember that no matter what happens, you are just one Confession away from coming home.

Begin to change

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin."
Blessed Teresa of Calcutta



Growing strong through spiritual training

The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) is a place where we can speak directly to God and get his invaluable help for renewing our lives. To truly benefit from this connection, it's best to approach this Sacrament with sincerity, openness to change, and to welcome the inevitable trials that help us resist temptation.

Sincerity is the key. Holiness, like healthiness, is an ongoing process. It starts with a sincere desire to live the way God wants not the way society suggests. Progress toward holiness means avoiding sin but also living with virtue.

Keep moving forward. Although we

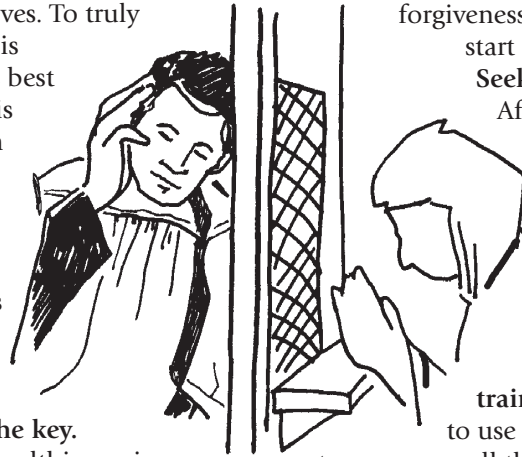
may want to be healed, if we continue to damage our souls by not avoiding temptation, we won't progress. We must change. Fortunately, we can seek forgiveness in Confession and start fresh.

Seek the priest's advice.

After all, it is Jesus speaking through him. This is our special time with the Lord who wants to help us overcome our weaknesses.

View trials as training. Jesus wants us to use Confession to learn

to overcome all that separates us from him. When we fail to resist temptation, we can thank God for the trial and start again. Jesus wants so much to help us to grow closer to him. He created this Sacrament as a way for him to lead and guide us.



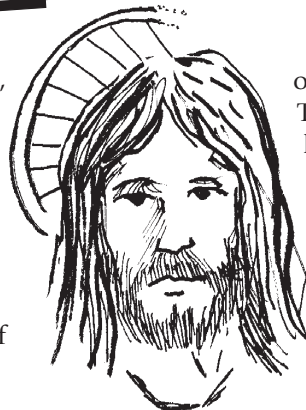
Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics say that Jesus is true God and true man?

Jesus, as the Son of God, assumed a human nature and became one with us in all things except sin (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #470). That made him true God and true man.

This is a great mystery of

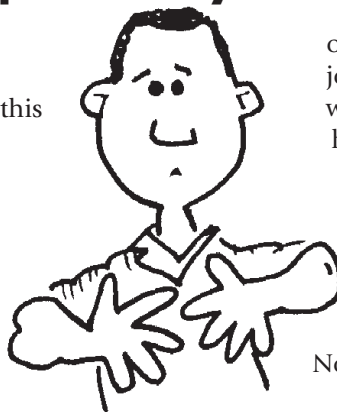
our faith: (John 1:14). The divine nature and human nature united in the person of Jesus "without confusion or division" (Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 541). Jesus is "Emmanuel," God with us.



How “poor” is your spirit?

To be “poor in spirit” conjures up images of people who are depressed or down-hearted with little or no spiritual life. In fact, people who live this beatitude are spiritual giants fully aware of their absolute need for God and live with complete dependence upon him. In that way, they grow stronger through their trials and personal crosses. When we live this beatitude we are most likely living the other seven, too.

Happy to live in union with God. Poor in spirit means that we depend upon God for all



our needs and we are happy to live our lives joined to him. Someone who lives in union with God knows that there is nothing the world has to offer that can compare.

Happy to be secure with God. Poor economy, bad health, loneliness, insecurity in an imperfect world can rob us of safety and happiness in the world. Yet, when we rely on God for what we need, nothing can steal the joy or happiness that he provides. Nothing.

from Scripture

Matthew 13:44-52, Hidden treasure.

In this Gospel reading, Jesus described several scenarios of extraordinary good fortune and compared that feeling to discovering the kingdom of God. When people from Judah were sent into exile in 587 BC, some buried their treasures in the hope of returning. People in Jesus’ audience would have known that coming upon such a treasure would have changed their lives. So, discovering the hidden treasure of the Kingdom now revealed through Jesus can give new meaning to our lives.

In a barter-based economy like that of ancient Israel, a merchant’s fortune

depended upon the quality and desirability of what he had to sell.



Discovering a valuable pearl would have been irresistible to him. Also irresistible would be the answers to someone searching for truth when he or she discovers the reign of God. When we possess Godly treasure, we are truly rich.

Then Jesus described the separation between the evil and righteous like the sifting that takes place when a catch is brought ashore. The message of the Kingdom now takes precedence over any old messages and gives them new meaning.

Q & A Is the Church always right?

At the Last Supper, Jesus promised his disciples he would send the Holy Spirit to guide them “to all truth” (Jn 16:13). “The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you” (John 14:26). The Apostles handed on their authority and mission to their successors, -- the pope and the bishops. Together, they are responsible for “giving an authentic interpretation of the Word of God” (CCC #85; *Dei Verbum*, 10, § 2). The whole Church, because it is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, cannot err in matters of faith and morals.

Also, “The whole body of the faithful...cannot err in matters of belief. This characteristic is shown in the supernatural appreciation of faith (*sensus fidei*) on the part of the whole people” (CCC 92). That means that individual members may make mistakes, sometimes publically. Then the Church must clarify “what has always and everywhere been believed by all” (St. Vincent of Lerins).

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>

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

Feasts & Celebrations

July 6 – St. Maria Goretti (1902). Twelve year-old Maria was attacked by a neighbor who tried to defile her. When she fought rather than submit, he stabbed her repeatedly. She forgave him before dying shortly after. Her attacker dreamed of Maria while in prison and his first act when released 30 years later was to beg Maria’s mother’s forgiveness. He wept tears of joy when he attended Maria’s canonization.

July 22 – St. Mary Magdalene (1st century). Jesus expelled seven demons

from Mary (Luke 8:2) and she supported his ministry with her own money. She stood by his Cross with his mother and was the one who informed the Apostles of his Resurrection.

July 25 - St. James (42). St. James and his brother left their father in a fishing boat to become Jesus’ Apostles. St. James was one of three apostles to witness Jesus’ transfiguration, the raising of Jairus’ daughter, and the agony in Gethsemani. St. James was the first Apostle to be martyred.

