

March 30, 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

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MASS SCHEDULE

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday	March 29	6:00 P.M.	Joe Barcak & Irene Drozd Barcak	Moravia
Sunday	March 30	9:30 A.M.	Ludwig & Adela Dittrich	St. John

First Friday

Friday	April 4	8:00 A.M.	Tom Farek	St. John
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Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday	April 5	6:00 P.M.	Clarence Haas	Moravia
Sunday	April 6	9:30 A.M.	Jake, Delrose & Dwayne Sandelovic	St. John

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday	April 12	6:00 P.M.	Erwin & Irene Mendel	St. John
Sunday	April 13	9:30 A.M.	Frances & Frank Tupa, Sr.	Moravia

THE WORD OF GOD

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a Psalm 23:1-6 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41 or 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38
Samuel does not see as God sees in the choice of David, who is anointed with oil. As Jesus cures the blind man, so too are we brought from darkness into light through the grace of baptism.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Readings: Ezekiel 37:12-14 Psalm 130:1-8 Romans 8:8-11 John 11:1-45 or 11:3-7,17,20-27,33b-45
Jesus is our resurrection and our life. Because he has given us of the Spirit, we are no longer dead because of sin, but alive. In Jesus is the fullness of redemption.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Readings: Matthew 21:1-11 (Procession) 38: Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 22:8-9,17-18,19-20,23-24 Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54
Jesus, humbling himself out of love for us, did not shield his face from buffets and spitting, but offered his life on the cross. He relied on his Father's love.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM DESK OF MSGR. JOHN

This weekend we welcome Bishop Fellhauer, Bishop Grahmann, and Bishop Olson, the priests, religious, and out of town guests who are at Sacred Heart to help me celebrate my 40th anniversary of priesthood. We all gather to celebrate the Priesthood of Jesus Christ.

We will have our Lenten Parish Mission from April 5th-9th at Sacred Heart for all of our parishes. Our Mission priest will be Fr. Bob Hogan. The theme will be "Jesus Alive and Risen in our Hearts." The topics will be -

Jesus, Revealer of God's Love (having a relationship with Jesus, experiencing His transforming love, how to pray).

Jesus as Savior and Lord (repentance, healing, the cross, discipleship).

Jesus as the Christ, the Giver of the Holy Spirit (the risen Lord imparting the Spirit; role of the Holy Spirit in our lives).

Please try to attend each evening, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT - Each Friday at 7:00 p.m.

St. John - April 4

Moravia - April 11

KJZT BAKE SALE

There will be a KJZT Bake Sale on April 5th at 5:00 p.m. at the Moravia Dining Hall.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

... It's time that we teach our daughters and sons how to prepare for founding Christian homes, homes where every baby is welcomed, cherished and raised, and yes, then yes, no child will be left behind...(Michelle Taylor, March-April Crusade Magazine)

ST. JOHN ALTAR SOCIETY QUILT

St John Altar Society is currently quilting a quilt for the St. John 4th of July picnic at Alvin & Bernice Havel's home starting at 9:00 AM Monday - Friday. If interested, please come and join in the fun of quilting!

YOUTH NEWS

We hope everyone is having a week of blessings! We join together this week especially in prayer for those in our community who are suffering. Each moment of our day brings the mixed message of suffering as well as thanksgiving. Suffering in the things we have lost and in thanksgiving for the things we have. Yet we rejoice in the faith that Jesus is suffering with us and can give us strength. Our upcoming **Youth Night!!** taking place on April 13 will be our last Youth Night of the semester. We will end the semester with a farewell to the seniors to be scheduled at a later date, as well as our trip to Splashway as a youth group! God Bless!

ST. JOHN ALTAR SOCIETY SPRING BRUNCH

The St. John's Altar Society's Spring Brunch will be held at the Religious Education Building Sunday, May 4, 2014 immediately after the 9:30AM Sunday Mass. Juice, water, and coffee will be provided. Members are asked to bring a brunch item. If you have any questions, please contact Dana Daughtry, 979-562-2381 or 713-822-3019 or Joyce Janda, 979-562-2682..

MORAVIA CHURCH CLEANERS ,

Moravia Church Cleaners for April: Richard and Wilma Schaefer

MORAVIA USHERS

Moravia Ushers for April: Phil Guenther and J.G. Hrcir.

ST. JOHN CHURCH CLEANERS

St. John Cleaners for April: Elsie Farek and Joyce Janda

ST. JOHN CHURCH USHERS

St. John Church Ushers for April: David Berger and Forrest Dittrich

LENTEN SILENT RETREAT

Lenten Silent Retreat & Day of Fasting, Saturday, April 12th, 10am-4pm, St. Mary's Church, Hallettsville. Confession, mass, adoration, stations, rosary, Divine Mercy. Bread & water will be provided. Families are welcome. For information call Lorrie Adamek 293-1300 or 293-6190.

BLUEBONNET YOUTH RANCH SPRING FLING

Bluebonnet Youth Ranch Spring Fling, April 6, Yoakum Community Center. BBQ Chicken Plates 10:30a.m.-1pm. Shiner Hobo Band, classic car show, live auction, raffle.

Looking for former students of St. John-Assumption Seminary: The Committee for the Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of St. John-Assumption Seminary would like to send former students a formal invitation to the celebration of 100 years of Ministry and Service. If you are a former student or know a former student, please contact Mike Davis at Assumption Seminary: mike.davis@archsa.org or 210-734-5137 with your contact information. Thanks.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 29 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlin Deem, Joshua Becan, Seth Eckhardt
Sunday, March 30 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Rylie & Regan Lux, Blaine Besetzny
Saturday, April 5 - 6:00 p.m. - Moravia - Caitlin Deem, Joshua Becan, Kenna Kubenka
Sunday, April 6 - 9:30 a.m. - St. John - Rylie & Regan Lux, Dylan Goldberg
Saturday, April 12 - 6:00 p.m. - St. John - Alex Lozano, April Brossmann & Seth Eckhardt
Sunday, April 13 - 9:30 a.m. - Moravia - Miranda Shimek, James Lofland, Blaine Besetzny

Mark your calendars: Quo Vadis Vocation Camp for young Catholic men 15-21, July 6-9, Coopers Farm near LaGrange. The cost of this Camp is \$65 and includes food and lodging. A \$15 non-refundable deposit by **June 25** guarantees your spot. Spaces are limited. The retreat will be facilitated by priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Victoria. The 2014 Vocation Camp Flyer and registration form is on the Diocesan website at www.victoriadiocese.org. Please email Fr. Dan Morales at pastor@hfccvic.org or vocations@victoriadiocese.org or call 361-573-4328 for more information.

MEMORIALS – Ascension Cemetery Fund

In memory of Dorothy Halata by Arnold & Gene Marie Bohuslav \$20.00

COME & SEE DISCERNMENT WEEKEND

“Come & See” Discernment Weekend for single Catholic women 18 to 50 years old, April 12-13, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria. For information or to register, call 575-7111, email iwbsvoc@yahoo.com or check us out at www.iwbsvictoria.org.

BLESSING CEREMONY AT INCARNATE WORD CONVENT

Blessing ceremony of Rosary path, Stations, and prayer space at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 13, on East lawn of Incarnate Word Convent. The public is invited to attend.

Raffle tickets (\$100 each) for a 2014 Chevy Silverado LT 1500 4x4 crew cab truck are available for purchase at Sacred Heart Rectory. The truck is on display at Grafe Chevrolet GMC, Hallettsville and will be given away at the Sacred Heart Parish Picnic on May 25th.

Growing in FAITH™

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

April 2014

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Maria Faustina

Born Helena Kowalska in Poland, Faustina was 20 years old when she joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. She began to receive messages from Jesus which she recorded in her diary at his request.



These messages emphasized Jesus' mercy and forgiveness for sins acknowledged and confessed. On May 5, 2000, five days after St. Faustina's canonization, the Vatican declared the Second Sunday of Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday, as Jesus had asked of Faustina.

Jesus loves me

The beloved children's song, "Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so," speaks of unshakable faith in Christ's love. Easter, as at no other time of the year, is testament to that love. Let our faith be like that of little children who know without doubt that Jesus loves us.

"Show me the path I should walk, for I entrust my life to you"
(Psalm 143:8b).



We are: priest, prophet, and king

The Israelites anointed their priests and kings with oil as a sign that they were set apart for special work. When we were baptized, we were also anointed with oil to show that we have been set apart for Christ and share in his threefold roles as priest, prophet and king.

Priest. A priest mediates between God and humans and offers sacrifices on behalf of others. We accept our baptismal priesthood when we pray intercessory prayers, when we perform penitential acts for other people, and when we regularly participate in the Mass fully and joyfully.

Prophet. A prophet is a messenger sent by God to speak for God. The message is credible because the prophet

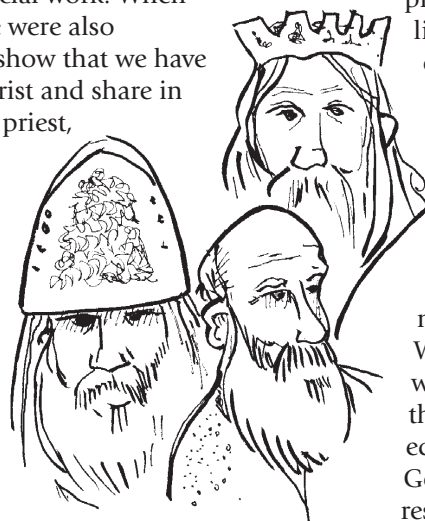
lives a holy life and also calls people to conversion. We share in Jesus'

prophetic ministry by living our faith, teaching others about God and his love, and by spreading Jesus' Gospel messages.

King. Kings protect their people from harm, exercise leadership, and act as models and examples. We are servant kings when we participate in the leadership and education of those within God's Church, when we resist bad influences and live lives of virtue, and

when we work to lead others to salvation.

By living our faith, participating in our parish and in the Sacraments, we help to build the reign of God.

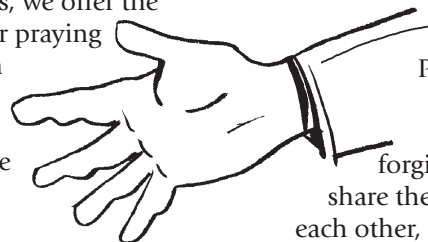


Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do we offer peace at Mass?

During the Mass, we offer the Sign of Peace after praying the Our Father, in preparation for Communion. In the Our Father, we ask God to "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who

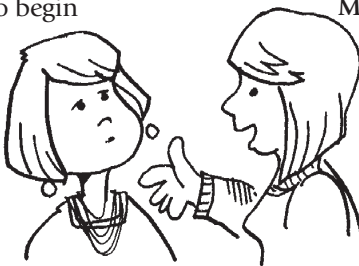
trespass against us." We offer the Sign of Peace in the confidence that if we forgive our neighbors, God will forgive our sins. Since we share the Peace of Christ with each other, the Sign of Peace can also be a sign of spiritual unity.



Invite a friend to Mass ... really?

Do you invite non-Catholics to Mass? For some it's a good start to learning our faith. For others, it's better to begin slowly. Consider these steps:

Do life first. It can be a stretch for someone who doesn't know Christ to find him at Mass the first time. If unused to ritual, Mass may be confusing and seem exclusive because non-Catholics can't receive Communion. Instead, try sharing the warmth of a Christ-centered community by including your friend in a parish dinner or fundraising event where



she can socialize with others who live for Christ.

Make it small. Bring your friend along to your Bible study, prayer meeting or small study group. Adult faith formation classes also make good introductions to faith in a small setting for someone unused to formal religion.

Let it come naturally. Your friend will let you know when it's time to graduate to Mass. By that point, he will be more comfortable in the parish setting and will have a better idea of what to expect.

from Scripture

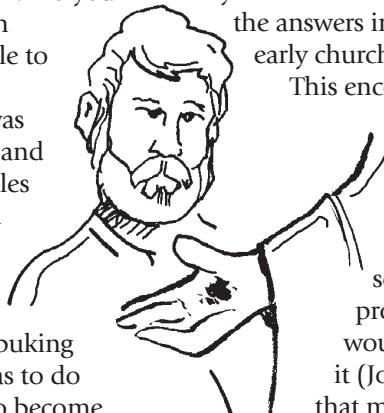
John 20:19-31, Doubting Thomas.

Have you ever struggled with doubts or questions about your faith? Do you sometimes feel that tough questions aren't acceptable to people of faith?

Even though Thomas was with Jesus for three years and witnessed amazing miracles first hand, he still needed evidence and first-hand observation before he could accept the Resurrection. Far from rebuking him, Jesus invited Thomas to do whatever was necessary to become convinced of the truth.

It is important to note that in spite of his misgivings, Thomas didn't leave the

group of believers, nor was he excluded by them. As a result, he was able to find the answers in the context of that early church.



This encounter with Thomas suggests that every seeker is welcome to bring his or her doubts to God. He delights in guiding our search for the truth and promised that the Spirit would aid those who seek it (John 16:13). God knows that many faithful people who probe their doubts and fears finally reach the truth - and faith in the truth is what Christ desires for us.

Q What is required & to keep the Lord's Day holy?

Sunday - the Lord's Day - is the day of the week we set aside just for God. We gather at Mass to listen to his Word and take part in the Eucharist.



Our activities on Sunday should center around thanking God for our blessings and promise of salvation.

One of the best ways we can show God how much we love him is to show love to each other. Sunday is a great day to devote to the care of relatives and friends, which may be tough during the week. Performing works of mercy is also a fitting observation of the day.

Sunday is also a time for the reflection and meditation necessary for our spiritual growth. It can be the one day in the week during which we slow down and listen for the voice of our Father, and actually have a chance of hearing it.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 2 - St. Francis of Paola (1507). After a pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome when he was thirteen, St. Francis became a hermit in a cave. Others joined him and formed the Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi. While he preferred solitude, St. Francis was called to active service and influenced international relations. He was canonized for blending active and contemplative service.

April 4 - St. Isidore of Seville (636). Born to a family of three other saints, St. Isidore succeeded his brother as archbishop of Seville. St. Isidore

established seminaries in every diocese, and founded schools that taught every branch of learning. Some of his writings helped shape the spiritual outlook of the Middle Ages.

April 27 - Divine Mercy Sunday. In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy." Jesus promised special graces to those who honor him as the King of Mercy and pray The Chaplet of Divine Mercy.



Our Mission

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