

December 6, 2015

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
7026 FM ROAD 957
SCHULENBURG, TX 78956
ST. JOHN, TEXAS

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHURCH
11134 FM 957
SCHULENBURG, TX 78956
MORAVIA, TEXAS



REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS, V.G., PASTOR

REV. BARNABAS KYEAH, 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

St. John the Baptist Church

Saturday 6:00 p.m.
(on 2nd and 4th)
Sunday.....9:30 a.m.
(on 1st, 3rd, and 5th)
First Friday..... 8:00 a.m. followed by Holy Hour

Ascension of Our Lord Church

Saturday 6:00 p.m.
(on 1st, 3rd, and 5th)
Sunday.....9:30 a.m.
(on 2nd and 4th)

MARRIAGES

Consult the Pastor six (6) months in advance before making any plans or decisions.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our parish family. Please stop by the rectory or call to register.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the rectory.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday Evening—5:30 p.m.

GENERATIONS OF FAITH (RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)

Dana Daughtry 713-822-3019-cell or 979-562-2381

EWTN Cable Channel 71

WEBSITES

Cemetery: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Catholic Cemeteries”)
Safe Environment: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Safe Environment Program,” then on “eAppsDB”)

PARISH CONTACTS

St. John the Baptist Church

Elsie Farek..... 979-562-2159

Ascension of Our Lord Church

Robert & Mary Kendall 361-798-9467

HALL RENTAL

St. John the Baptist Church

Lorene Kubenka..... 979-562-2347

Ascension of Our Lord Church

Marcia Hrcir..... 832-331-2096

CEMETERY

St. John the Baptist Church

Dorothy Berger 979-562-2187

Ascension of Our Lord Church

Kathy Guenther..... 979-562-2124

MASS SCHEDULE

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday	December 5	6:00 p.m.	Joe N. Steffek	Moravia
Sunday	December 6	9:30 a.m.	Liz Mendel	St. John

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday	December 8	6:00 p.m.	Parish Family	St. John
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Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday	December 12	6:00 p.m.	Josephine Orsak	St. John
Sunday	December 13	9:30 a.m.	Henry & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday	December 19	6:00 p.m.	Julius Drozd & Annie Holub Drozd	Moravia
Sunday	December 20	9:30 a.m.	William Gertner	St. John

THE WORD OF GOD

Second Sunday of Advent

Readings: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Tuesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Chosen by God, Mary reverses the sin of Eve. Because of her obedience, God's salvation is made known to all the nations.

Originating in the 7th c. feast of the "Conception of Mary by St. Anne," Pope Clement XI, in his Bull, *Commissi Nobis*, established this Solemnity for the entire church in 1708; patroness of the United States of America.

Third Sunday of Advent

Readings: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-6/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Rejoice in the Lord always! Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel, a mighty savior. It is he whom John foretold; it is he who will baptize in the Holy Spirit.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

From Bethlehem shall come one who will rule Israel. Born of Mary, the servant of the Lord, he will protect and save us, offering himself once and for all in doing the Father's will.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Desk of Msgr. John

"December 8th begins the Year of Mercy. The following is taken from the Papal Bull (Letter) of Pope Francis:

In Jesus we see the mercy of the Father. This mercy is rich and everlasting. Jesus is the sacrament of this: the visible, tangible, and audible manifestation of God's endless love, forgiveness, and mercy. When we see Jesus, we see the Father; Jesus thus reveals the mercy of God to us.

We should think deeply about mercy because mercy is what leads to a true and deep sense of well-being. When we understand mercy, we understand the Blessed Trinity – the community of love which is God.

There are times in our lives when we think and pray about mercy more so that we can ourselves become agents of God's love for others.

For this reason, I hereby proclaim a Jubilee of Mercy. The Jubilee will open on December 8, 2015, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. I chose this feast because it holds a unique place in our history. We humans are a sinful lot: selfish, greedy, lustful, and mean. But despite this, God responds to us with love. Mercy me. Mercy is always greater than our sin and, as if to prove it, God called Mary to bear Jesus and he gave Mary freedom from this sinful nature.

On December 8 I will open the Holy Door which will thereby become a *Door of Mercy*. Anyone who passes through this door will experience God's mercy.

Soon after this, other doors will be opened, first in the Church of St John Lateran in Rome, then in other basilicas, at local shrines throughout the world, and even in local parish churches, as the bishop directs. This will be a world-wide Jubilee.

I chose December 8 as the opening of the Jubilee because it is also the 50th Anniversary of the closing of Vatican II. I want to keep Vatican II alive in the Church because at the Council, our Fortress-like walls came tumbling down and a new age of mercy was inaugurated.

Saint John XXIII himself proclaimed this in his opening speech at the Council. "Now the Bride of Christ wishes to use the medicine of mercy rather than taking up arms of severity," he said, The medicine of mercy, indeed. And Blessed Paul VI likewise echoed this sentiment in his closing remarks.

We trust now that the Holy Spirit will guide us as a Church to observe this Jubilee faithfully.

The Jubilee year will close on November 20, 2016. I can't tell you how much I hope this year will create a Church of mercy, steeped in love and forgiveness, ready to be like Jesus in every way. This is how the world is being saved!"

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 5 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Caitlin Deem

Sunday, December 6 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Dylan Goldberg, April Brossmann

Saturday, December 12 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Caleb Krischke, Dylan Goldberg

Sunday, December 13 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – James Lofland

Saturday, December 19 -- 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Alex Lozano, April Brossmann

Sunday, December 20 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Rylie Lux, Regan Lux

PRO LIFE CORNER

Paragraph 117...“When we fail to acknowledge as part of reality the worth of a poor person, a human embryo, a person with disabilities – to offer just a few examples – it becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself; everything is connected. (From environment and life encyclical of Pope Francis entitled “Laudato Si,” issued in June 2015).

ASCENSION CHURCH CLEANERS FOR DECEMBER: Roxanne Deem, Colleen Deem, Caitlin Deem, Lorraine Deem

ASCENSION CHURCH USHERS FOR DECEMBER: J. G. Hrcir and Allen Becan

ST. JOHN CHURCH CLEANERS FOR DECEMBER: Sharon Bujnoch, Vicky Kainer

ST. JOHN CHURCH USHERS FOR DECEMBER: Scotty Brossmann and Nathan Redman

Practice for St. John's Christmas Morning Music will be after Mass on Saturday, December 12. Let us fill the balcony with folks making “*Joyful Music to the Lord.*”

Practice for Ascension of Our Lord Christmas Eve Music will be held after Mass on Saturday, December 19th. The Czech Christmas carols will be practiced. All voices are welcome!

Donations toward Ascension of Our Lord Church Christmas flowers in memory of loved ones can be given to Dorothy Olsovsky or into the donation basket.

Please include family members to be remembered at that time.

Gabriel Project Meeting

There will be a meeting every third Monday of the month from now until May. The meeting will be held at Mary's House at Sacred Heart, beginning at 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions about *The Gabriel Project*, please contact Julie Kubena at 798-3579.

Amor Meus Spirituality Center, Incarnate Word Convent 1101 N. E. Water Street Victoria, TX Solemn Vespers-the Liturgical Evening Prayer of the Church pray with people of all faith traditions - Incarnate Word Convent Chapel beginning Sunday, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13, 20. 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. For more information, contact Sister Emilie Eilers 361 – 575 – 7111 or email: amormeus@yahoo.com. Check our website - www.amormeusspiritualitycenter.org for details

Nativity Pilgrimage “Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus”—A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land for 10 days—May 2-11, 2016. The Spiritual Director is **Rev. Barnabas Kyeah**, of St. John the Baptist, St. Mary’s, Ascension of Our Lord, and Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Hallettsville, Texas. Cost is \$3,099.00 per person—Round Trip From Houston, Texas (includes First class Hotels, Double Occupancy, 2 Meals a day, Breakfast and Dinner, Daily Sightseeing, Daily Mass, Airport Taxes, Fuel Surcharges). Registration Packets and Forms will be in the back of each church. If you have any questions, please call Rev. Barnabas Kyeah at Sacred Heart Church Rectory – 798-5888.



MEMORIAL FOR ST. JOHN’S CHURCH

In Memory of Liz Mendel: Frank & Ginger Tilicek III-\$100

COOKBOOKS

The Czech Heritage Cookbook, produced by the Altar Society of the Ascension of our Lord Catholic Church in Moravia, makes an excellent Christmas present! Only \$10 each – they can be purchased at Hallettsville General Store (405-A N. Texana) or Found antiques, vintage and more (306 N. LaGrange St.). Call (361) 798-5691 or email foundtexas@gmail.com with questions!

Special Advent Concert

There will be a special concert for Advent featuring Handel’s Messiah at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Hallettsville, on **Sunday December 6th** at 5:30 pm.. A free will offering will be accepted.

Saturday, December 12 at 8:00 am there will be a Mass at Sacred Heart honoring **Our Lady of Guadalupe** on her Feast Day. The Spanish Choir will be present. There will be a breakfast of Pan Dulce and Breakfast Tacos afterwards at the Family Center



Only 19 more days until Christmas? It’s true! Stop by the Sacred Heart Church Rectory for that special religious item. We have added many new items, such as Children’s Christmas Books, Coloring Books, Sports Rosaries, ornaments and so much more.

Next Bulletin: Sunday, December 20

All announcements can be sent by email to the Rectory at rectory@shcatholicchurch.org

Or can be called in to the Rectory to 361-798-5888.

Any announcements after the due date and time, will be published in the next bulletin, if applicable.

Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Monday, December 16.
