

APRIL 5, 2020

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. SCOTT J. HILL

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 Friday8:00 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 or Dish Channel 261
Direct TV Channel 370 **RADIO:** 99.9 FM & 94.3 FM

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.....361-217-0624

HALL RENTAL

St. John the Baptist Church

Frank Forestier
Barbara Appelt832-643-4590 (cell)
..... 361-865-2446 (home)

Ascension of Our Lord Church

Kathy Guenther 979-562-2124 (home)
..... 979-562-2328 (work)
.....979-743-0369 (cell)

CEMETERY

St. John the Baptist Church

Dorothy Berger.....979-562-2187

Ascension of Our Lord Church

Kathy Guenther979-562-2124
..... 979-562-2328 (work)
.....979-743-0369 (cell)

MASS SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday	April 4	.	Martha Orsak
Sunday	April 5	.	Leroy & Dominic Loth

Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Thursday	April 9		Evelyn Barcak
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Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Saturday	April 11		Evelyn Novosad
Sunday	April 12		Living & Deceased Members of Both Parishes

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Saturday	April 18	.	Sylvester & Joane Janak
Sunday	April 19	.	Erwin & Irene Mendel

April 5: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Readings: Mt 21:1-11 (procession); 38: Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 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. (Ps).

April 9: Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Readings: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus celebrates the Last Supper in which He gives us His Body and Blood.

April 12: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-117, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or 41: Mt 28:1-10

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

April 19: Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Readings: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

Thomas believed because he saw the risen Jesus. Although we have never seen Him, we believe in Him. We give thanks to the Lord for this gift of faith, especially when we gather for the breaking of the bread and the prayers.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Sandy Konvicka will call Altar Servers when Masses resume in Church.

CANCELLED

All Ministry Schedule is on hold until further notice. The Mass is live-streamed on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartCatholicChurchHallettsville> and on the Radio Stations FM 99.9 & FM 94.3

From the Desk of Msgr. John

In this difficult time in our world, we are reminded that we are to stay closer to God than ever. Since we cannot gather in Church for Mass and physically receive Our Lord in Holy Communion, I would encourage you to pray the prayer for Spiritual Communion any time, especially at Communion time if you are watching the Mass or listening to the Mass.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

*“O Jesus, my Savior, Who art truly present in the Blessed Sacrament for the nourishment of our souls! Since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, I humbly and earnestly beseech Thee to refresh me spiritually. I love Thee above all things and I desire to possess Thee within my soul. Come into my mind to illumine it with the light of Heaven, come into my heart to enkindle therein the fire of Thy love. Unite me so intimately with Thee, that it may be no more I that live, but Thou that liveth and reigneth in me forever.
Amen”*

Bishop Cahill stated in his letter to the priests recently the absence of the sacraments is difficult for the faithful, including the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation. The theology of Spiritual Communion has been rediscovered in many ways, which is a true blessing for the Church. Those desiring the Sacrament of Reconciliation, in a way analogous to Spiritual Communion, are to be reminded of the following, from the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops):

“When the individual faithful find themselves in the painful impossibility of receiving sacramental absolution, it should be remembered that perfect contrition, coming from the love of God, beloved above all things, expressed by a sincere request for forgiveness (that which the penitent is at present able to express) and accompanied by *votum confessionis*, that is, by the firm resolution to have recourse, as soon as possible, to sacramental confession, obtains forgiveness of sins, even mortal ones (cf. CCC., no 1452).

The Bishop is looking into a possibility of general absolution at all the Masses when we return from this time in the desert. It is important to remind people of the Catechism, “When it arises from a love by which God is loved above all else, contrition is called “perfect” (contrition of charity). Such contrition remits venial sins; it also obtains forgiveness of mortal sins if it includes the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible” (CCC 1452). This may be an extended time of reflection to deepen our awareness of our sin, and an ability to sharpen our sense of contrition.

If anyone seriously needs to go to confession, you may call the Rectory and make an appointment.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LIVESTREAMING SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK FOR SACRED HEART, ST. MARY, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, AND ASCENSION OF OUR LORD (MORAVIA)

Palm Sunday Mass without a congregation will be broadcast on FM 99.9 & FM 94.3 and live streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartCatholicChurchHallettsville> at 8:00 a.m.

There has been a change to the distribution of Palms and Bulletins for Palm Sunday.

Blessed Palms will not be given out on Palm Sunday as previously posted. Per Bishop Brendan Cahill, they will be distributed at a later date.

Bulletins can be picked up in their respective Churches, along with the Divine Mercy Novena.

For Sacred Heart, bulletins will be in the entrances of the Church; for St. Mary, bulletins can be picked up inside the door from Rectory side of Church; for Moravia and St. John, bulletins can be picked in front of Church doors in containers.

Holy Tuesday (Christ Mass), April 7, 2020, will be live-streamed at 10:00 at the Cathedral. It will be live-streamed at: <https://www.olvcathedral.org>

Holy Thursday Mass without a congregation will be broadcast on FM 99.9 & FM 94.3 and livestreamed at <https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartCatholicChurchHallettsville> at 7 p.m.

Good Friday Services will be done the same way, Friday, April 10 at 3:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil will be done the same way Saturday, April 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday will be done the same way Sunday, April 12 at 8:00 a.m.

ASCENSION CHURCH CLEANERS FOR APRIL: Joe and Debbie Neskora
ASCENSION CHURCH USHERS FOR APRIL: Dwayne Burton, Phil Guenther
ST. JOHN CHURCH CLEANERS FOR APRIL: Elsie Farek, Joyce Janda
ST. JOHN CHURCH USHERS FOR APRIL: Darrell Demel

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO PARISHIONERS

If you have information for the Bulletin, please be reminded that the Deadline for Bulletin entries is Monday at Noon.



L.A.M.B. Thrift Shop. The hours are Tuesday & Wednesday from 9:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. The location is 1429 U.S. Hwy. 90A East. (361-217-0119). (It is closed until further notice.)

THE EMMAUS CENTER—*Counseling in the Catholic Tradition*—Sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria—1508 E. Airline, Victoria, Texas 77901. For an appointment, go to www.emmauscounselingcenter.com or call 361-212-0830.
For personal counseling and family counseling from a Catholic perspective.



The next decennial census is just around the corner in 2020. Make sure you're counted! An accurate snapshot means that communities across the nation receive the funding, services, and business support they deserve and need. And your responses are confidential. To learn how the US Census Bureau protects your information, visit 2020census.gov. #2020Census

The Roast for Msgr. John Peters, scheduled for May 8, 2020, at Our Lady of Victory Cathedral Center, Victoria, to benefit the Emmaus Center, has been postponed until next year (2021).

Please pray for the Veterans who have served Our Country and have sacrificed and given so much for our freedom.

Please pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

PRO-LIFE CORNER—

We beseech our pro-life allies to take a moment to remember that every abortion is a reminder of Christ's crucifixion.

Crucifixion, defined as an "extreme and painful punishment" resulting in death, was the form of capital punishment used by Romans and others at the time of Christ. Historically, we are told that Constantine abolished the act in the year 337 AD. But for Jesus Christ it was all too real, and we know that it was out of love for us that He suffered such an ignominious death and then rose from the dead—glorious and triumphant over evil, over sin, and over death itself.

However, for the tiny aborted who die at an alarming rate every day, the agony and pain of abortion always results in death—death of the body, but surely not of the soul. We take great comfort in that as we strive to end this killing once and for all.

Just as Jesus Christ was innocent yet crucified, so too every single preborn child directly killed by abortion is innocent, yet killed in extreme and painful ways.

As we ponder Christ's love for each and every human being over these coming holy days of Lent, let us resolve anew to protect every innocent preborn child without exception and without compromise. Each little one is a person created in the image and likeness of God, and this is why regulating their deaths is not an option.

God, grant us the will to persevere for every baby.

[By Judie Brown, President, American Life League]

St. John Easter Flower Offering

The Memory/Honor envelope for Easter Flowers is in your Offertory box for April 5, 2020 (Palm Sunday).

Please drop your envelope in Church collection SOON.

Coronavirus Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

My Lord Jesus Christ, in your ministry you travelled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness. You commanded and the sick were healed. Please come to our assistance in the midst of the spread of the coronavirus globally.

Lord, healer of the sick, stay by our side at this difficult time of the spread of the disease. Be with those who have died and be with the families who are grieving. Be with those who have contracted the virus and grant them your healing.

Lord Jesus, we pray to you to be with our doctors, nurses and all medical researchers who are helping us look for a cure. Protect them and guide them with your wisdom so that they will find a cure for this disease.

Lord, we pray also for the leaders of all the countries, that they will be one in finding a solution to this illness.

Lord Jesus Christ, stay with us when we are at home, at work and travelling. Guide and protect us in the midst of the coronavirus spreading globally. Lord Jesus, heal us, hear us and give us your peace.

Amen.

CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility Care System Service—An authentic Language of a Women's Health and Fertility Introductory Sessions

2020 Group Introductory Sessions:

April 27

May 11

July 20

September 21

November 16

June 22

August 24

October 19

December 14

Mary's House, 300 South Dowling, Hallettsville, Texas

6:00 p.m. or call to make an appointment for a private introductory session.

Lara Haas, FCPI

361-772-1410

Larahaas.fertilitycare@gmail.com

This is a reminder that you can purchase Easter gifts, Communion, Confirmation Gifts, Wedding Gifts and other Religious Articles and books at the Rectory. Come by and see the latest items for sale.



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

April 2020

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Catherine of Siena

Born in Siena, Italy, St. Catherine was a doctor of the Church. A mystic from a young age, she had regular conversations with Jesus. At age sixteen, she joined the Third Order of St. Dominic and served the sick and the poor. For her reputation for holiness and wisdom, she was called on to be a peacemaker and counselor, even by popes! She is credited with coaxing Pope Gregory XI back to Rome from Avignon, France.



Necessary choice

Rather than a day to catch up on errands and chores, God intends Sunday to be a day of contemplation and of rest. Sunday is the day we set aside for God and moments of praise and worship.

"He said to them, 'Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here!'" (Mark 16:6).



4 reasons to be hopeful right now

It's hard not to worry these days with reports of viruses and financial concerns. Yet we in God's family have more reasons to be hopeful no matter how uncertain the world...

God, our Father, knows what we need. *"If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask him"* (Matthew 7:11). He will take care of us when we trust him.

He can work miracles when we ask. *"Know that the Lord works wonders for the faithful; the Lord hears when I call out"* (Psalm 4:4). *"Be strong and of*

good courage, do not fear ... for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you"

(Deuteronomy 31:6). Just when life looks bleak, God can surprise us.

He will never abandon us.

"You, Lord, are near to all who call upon you ..." (Psalm 145:18). Know that he is always close.

Worrying won't do any good. *"Can any of you by worrying add a moment to your lifespan? If even the smallest things are beyond your control, why are you anxious about the rest?"* (Luke 12:25). Don't waste energy on worrying about what is beyond your control. Enjoy your blessings.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Easter on different dates?

Although celebrating Easter on a different day every year isn't strictly a Catholic practice, the reason why we do this has its roots in the Church's history. There was a dispute in the second century about the date of Easter: should it be celebrated



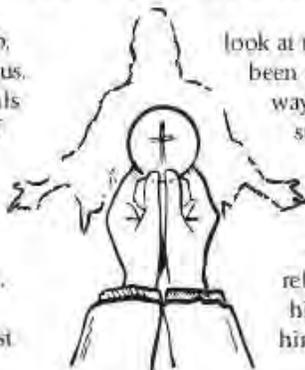
on the exact date or on the nearest Sunday? At the Council of Nicaea (325 A.D.), it was decided that Easter Sunday would be celebrated the Sunday after the first full moon after the Vernal (Spring) equinox.

Get personal with Jesus

The Easter season is a perfect time to develop, strengthen and deepen our friendship with Jesus. During this time of celebration, we can set goals that aim to deepen our knowledge and love of our Lord.

The Eucharist is the source. The best way to get close to Jesus is in the Holy Mass and by receiving Holy Communion. It is God's way of bringing us into communion with him.

Visit the confessional. Confession is a Sacrament that encourages us to take an honest



look at the way we are living. Even Catholics who have been away from Confession will find that the best way to get a new beginning with Jesus off to a great start is to visit the confessional. Clean that slate! Begin anew.

Spend time with him. We can spend time reading inspirational books and blogs, and chatting on Catholic sites, but to develop a relationship with Jesus, we need face time with him. Adoration is one of the best ways to keep him company.

from Scripture

Luke 24:13-35, Jesus accompanies us

Imagine what it would be like to have a Bible study with Jesus! This was exactly what Cleopas and his friend experienced when Jesus accompanied them to Emmaus. Failing to recognize Jesus and still grieving his death, they unknowingly told the risen Christ all about it. In an unexpected turn of events, Jesus explained to them how his death and resurrection was part of God's saving plan.

The disciples invited Jesus to stay with them, even though they still didn't recognize him. Jesus took the bread,

blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples. Suddenly, they recognized him. He vanished, but their hearts burned with joy. They raced back to Jerusalem to share the Good News with their fellow disciples.

Cleopas and his friend's story is ours too. At every Mass, God speaks to our hearts through Scriptures. In the

Eucharist blessed, broken and given to us, we encounter Jesus and receive him into our hearts. With the final blessing, we are sent to spread the Good News; Christ rose from the dead and reopened heaven for us.



Feasts & Celebrations

April 19 – Divine Mercy Sunday. In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy." Jesus promised those who honor him as the King of Mercy and pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy would receive special graces and great mercy.

April 21 – St. Anselm (1109). St. Anselm left a rich court life to become a monk in France and reluctantly became bishop of Canterbury, England. He was exiled for rebuffing the king's interference in Church matters.

April 25 – St. Mark the Evangelist (1st century). St. Mark wrote the second Gospel largely based on St. Peter's perspective. Mark travelled with SS. Paul and Barnabas (Mark's cousin) through the island of Cyprus and is credited with founding the Church of Alexandria.

April 28 – St. Louis de Montfort (1716). A French priest with a passion for preaching the Gospel, St. Louis had a special devotion to the Blessed Mother, and his *True Devotion to Mary* is widely popular today.



Q & A What is a monstrance?

In practicing or learning Catholicism, one can find some funny sounding words. "Monstrance" is one of them. It's



an upright container for the Blessed Sacrament (a consecrated Host), usually made of gold or silver and often shaped like a sunburst. The rays are meant to evoke the power and grace radiating from the Host. They also draw the eye

to the window (luna) at the center where the Host is. By means of it, Christ and the viewers can literally be face to face.

The monstrance is used to display the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration. Adoration of the Eucharist outside of Mass developed to satisfy the devotion of the faithful. When you love someone deeply, you want to see him – in person – and spend time with him frequently. God doesn't just want to hear our prayers; he wants to be with us always (Matthew 28:20). Jesus longs for us to visit him in our churches. He remains in the Blessed Sacrament so that anyone who seeks him can find him.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Patterns 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)

Lent 2020



"FORTY CANS FOR LENT", a successful program promoted by the Knights of Columbus Council #2433 will be continued again for the **2020 Lenten Season Pantry** to help those in need. Drop off your food products at the K of C Hall during business hours or at Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John the Baptist, or Ascension of Our Lord--Moravia Churches. Look for drop boxes. Monetary donations will also be accepted. If giving a check, make it out to the K of C #2433. Praise God for our giving community.

Michael Wick, Chairman

Please donate only canned goods or non-perishables as stated on available flyers.

MEMORIALS

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD (MORAVIA) CEMETERY

Skip and Donna Smith-\$100

In Memory of Alvin J. Besetzny by Gladys Besetzny-\$25

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD (MORAVIA) BUILDING FUND

In Honor of George & Diana Jasek's 45th Wedding Anniversary by George and Diana Jasek-\$50



Next Bulletin: Sunday, April 19, 2020

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 Tuesday, April 14, 2020