

**FEBRUARY 23, 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](http://www.shcatholicchurch.org)

E-mail: [rectory@shcatholicchurch.org](mailto:rectory@shcatholicchurch.org)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**St. John the Baptist Church**

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

**Ascension of Our Lord Church**

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

**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

**WEBSITES**

Cemetery: [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org)  
(Click on “Catholic Cemeteries”)  
Safe Environment: [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://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 Appelt .....832-643-4590 (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 Guenther .....979-562-2124  
..... 979-562-2328 (work)  
.....979-743-0369 (cell)

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## MASS SCHEDULE

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### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	February 22	6:00 p.m.	Willie Barborak	St. John
Sunday	February 23	9:30 a.m.	Dominic and Leroy Loth and Daniel Spies and Casey Nickelson	Moravia

### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday	February 26	7:30 p.m.	Evelyn Haas	Moravia
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### First Sunday of Lent

Saturday	February 29	6:00 p.m.	Henry Tupa	Moravia
Sunday	March 1	9:30 a.m.	Albert Berckenhoff	St. John

### First Friday

Friday	March 6	8:00 a.m.	Janik & Hermis Families	St. John
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### Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday	March 7	6:00 p.m.	Dorothy Tykal	Moravia
Sunday	March 8	9:30 a.m.	Henry R & Julia Olsovsky and Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

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### February 23: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

Offer no resistance to one who persecutes you. Rather, love your neighbor as you love yourself. As the Lord is gracious and merciful, treat others in the same way, humbling yourself before the Lord.

### February 26: Ash Wednesday

Readings: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6b, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Be reconciled and return to the Lord by means of prayer, fasting, and deeds of loving service.

\*Ash Wednesday is a day of universal fast and abstinence in the Church.

### March 1: First Sunday of Lent

Readings: Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19; Mt 4:1-11

Like Adam and Eve, Jesus was tempted, but did not sin. Our sinfulness is acquitted through one man, Jesus Christ, in whom we are justified.

### March 8: Second Sunday of Lent

Readings: Gen 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

Abram places trust in God's promise of making his name and descendants great on earth. In Jesus' transfigured glory is revealed that life and immortality will rob death of its power.

## ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 22 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Wade Shimek, Mary Beth Krischke  
Sunday, February 23 – 9:30 p.m. – Moravia – Carson Pustka, Carter Pustka, Bryce Machicek

Saturday, February 29 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Harley Wilson, Heather Wilson  
Sunday, March 1 – 9:30 p.m. – St. John – Wade Shimek, Bryce Machicek, Dylan Orsak

Saturday, March 7 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Harley Wilson, Heather Wilson  
Sunday, March 8 – 9:30 p.m. – Moravia – Carson Pustka, Carter Pustka, Bryce Machicek

## MEMORIALS

### St John Building Fund

In Memory of **Nerissa Besetsny Cahal** by Mark & Barbara Vecera-\$20; Leonard & Grace Sumbera-\$20; Jimmy Sumbera-\$20

### St John Seminary Burse

In Memory of **Nerissa Besetsny Cahal** by Albert & Dorothy Olsovsky-\$20

### St John Cemetery Fund

In Memory of **Nerissa Besetsny Cahal** by Caroline Mazoch-\$50

### St John Church

In Memory of **Nerissa Besetsny Cahal** by Walter & Josie Hermis-\$10

### From the Desk of Msgr. John

#### What are Days of Fast & Abstinence?

*Abstinence* from meat (all meat and fowl) is observed on **Ash Wednesday, Good Friday**, and all the **Fridays of Lent** by all Catholics 14 years and older.

*Fasting* is observed on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those bound by this rule may take only one full meal. Two small meals are permitted as necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Fast days are also days of Abstinence from meat.

#### Prepare Your 2020 Lenten Discipline

The Discipline of Lent is based on Jesus' instructions in the Ash Wednesday Gospel to live lives of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. These are lifelong values, but Lent is a concentrated effort to develop more fully in our journey of faith. Choose at least one goal in each of the three areas. Expand and Deepen your Christian life! The benefit lasts forever!!

**ASCENSION CHURCH CLEANERS FOR MARCH:** Kathy Guenther, Dorothy Henke

**ASCENSION CHURCH USHERS FOR MARCH:** Anthony Hrcir, Thomas Brosch

**ST. JOHN CHURCH CLEANERS FOR MARCH:** Agnes Berckenhoff, Sarah Berckenhoff, Jan Morin

**ST. JOHN CHURCH USHERS FOR MARCH:** Glenn Lux

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).

### **Youth Ministry Needs Your Help.**

Please consider being on Our Team. See flyer for ways you can help. Volunteers can help as little or as often as you like. Please call and ask for more details before saying NO. (Angela McConnell-361-741-8730).

**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](http://www.emmauscounselingcenter.com) or call 361-212-0830.

For personal counseling and family counseling from a Catholic perspective.



For the first time, in 2020 the U.S. Census Bureau will be accepting responses online. The process will be quick and secure. You can respond to the census in less time than it takes to finish your morning coffee. You'll still be able to respond by mail. To learn more about what to expect, visit [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov). #2020Census.



## PRO-LIFE CORNER

*"To be clear: Catholics cannot provide, support, or encourage abortion. Catholic political leaders have a serious obligation in this matter. Abortion is sinful; it is immoral. It destroys life and exploits women. Disciples of Christ do not support abortion. Period."*

[From Bishop Thomas J. Robin]

*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.*

St. John's Altar Society will have their annual meeting on March 15, 2020 after the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass. All members please attend. Thank you!

## AREA EVENTS

- **St. Rose Spring Festival** will be held March 1, 2020 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Schulenburg, Texas. Turkey Dinner (and all the trimmings) will be served from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$4 for children. Drive-thru adult plates available. Live auction, cake walk, and more!
- **Evening of Recollection for Women** at Featherock Conference Center, 934 Holub Road, Schulenburg, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 9
- **Men's Gathering** Sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria. Guest Speaker: Damon West. Saturday, March 21, 2020, 8:00 a.m.-Noon. Our Lady of Victory Cathedral Center, 1309 E. Mesquite Lane, Victoria, Texas. Tickets: \$10 (Breakfast included). Register at [www.victoriadiocese.org/get-in-the-game](http://www.victoriadiocese.org/get-in-the-game)
- **"Veni Sancte Spiritus: Rediscovering the Power and Purpose of the Holy Spirit!"** – A Fullness of Truth Lenten Catholic Family Conference – Held March 27-28, 2020 at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church in Corpus Christi.



Donations are currently being accepted for the big raffle for St. John picnic. It can be cash, gift cards, or items. **Deadline is March 13<sup>th</sup>.**

## Stations of the Cross during Lent are as follows:

Sacred Heart – Each Friday of Lent at 6:00 p.m.

St. Mary – Each Friday of Lent at 6:30 p.m.

St. John & Moravia – Fridays of Lent at 7:00 p.m.

February 28 (St. John)

March 20 (Moravia)

April 3 (Moravia)

March 6 (Moravia)

March 27 (St. John)

April 10 (St. John)

March 13 (St. John)

\*At 1:00 p.m. Service

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

March 2020

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Toribio de Mogrovejo

Born in Mayorga, Spain, St. Toribio was educated in law and became the Professor of Law at Salamanca University. His work and his holiness earned him the notice of the king, who named him to be the next Archbishop of Lima. Despite his arguments, Toribio was ordained a priest, consecrated, and sent to Peru. He spent his office reforming the then-corrupt diocese, catechizing the native Peruvians, and defending them from the abuses of the Spanish conquistadors.



### Sunday rest

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.

"I would like everyone to feel loved by the God who gave his Son for us and showed us his boundless love. I want everyone to feel the joy of being Christian" (Pope Benedict XVI).



## Dealing with difficult people Jesus' way

People who argue, fight, or refuse to cooperate can make our lives downright miserable. Yet, Jesus was masterful at dealing with difficult people. Following his example can save our sanity and our relationships.

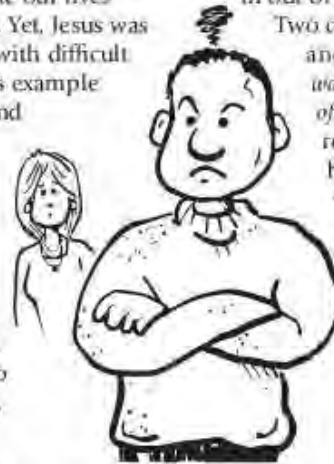
**Know when to ignore.** When Jesus made his Nazareth friends and neighbors so mad that they wanted to throw him off a cliff, he knew there was no reasoning with them. "Passing through the midst of them he went away" (Luke 4:30). When people speak harshly or offensively, the best response can be to disengage and walk away.

**Know when to say "no."** Sometimes others demand more from us than we

are able or willing to give, yet we give in out of guilt or fear of displeasure.

Two of his best friends, James and John, said to Jesus, "we want you to do whatever we ask of you" (Mark 10:35). In response to this stunning breach of boundaries, Jesus was calm and firm. He said "no" and didn't second-guess himself when he didn't make his loved ones happy.

**Know when to stay calm.** When Jesus took a Sabbath stroll with his friends (Matthew 12), Pharisees barged in and accused him of breaking the Sabbath. He remained calm and answered them peacefully. He wasn't afraid of being tripped up or trapped because he was unconcerned about others' opinions.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics call Good Friday "good"?

Although a sad day, Good Friday actually is "good" because it is the day when Jesus saved us from our sins, reconciled us with God, and reopened Heaven. Out of what seemed like defeat, God brought a greater victory. With



his sacrifice, Jesus conquered sin and death. On Good Friday, we see more clearly God's goodness, justice, wisdom, power, and love. "God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

### 3 ingredients for powerful prayer

A close, loving relationship with God depends on a rich prayer life. It is through prayer that God guides, consoles, strengthens, challenges, and transforms us. Ingredients of a strong prayer life can include a Scripture reading, quiet meditation, and expectation.

**Meditate on Scripture each day:** The Bible contains everything God wants us to know. Start each morning with a verse, a chapter, or a phrase that speaks to you and carry it with you



throughout the day.

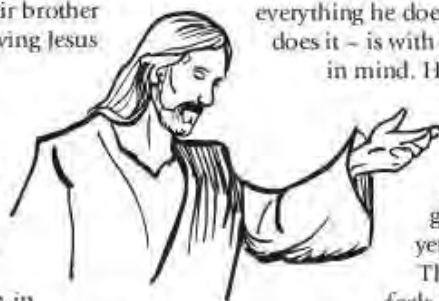
**Listen in silence:** Listening is as important as talking. Spend 15 minutes in silence each day to listen to what God wants your heart to know.

**Wait in positive expectation.** When we have faith that God personally loves us and wants what is best, we eagerly await the plans he has for us. "... faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). The conviction that God hears and answers us makes our prayer truly powerful.

### from Scripture

#### John 11:1-45, Trust, and you shall be rewarded

God's ways can be puzzling. In this Gospel passage, Martha and Mary sent word to Jesus that their brother was seriously ill, believing Jesus could help. Yet, Jesus delayed in coming to them and Lazarus died. Despite this, Martha showed great faith: "Even now I know that whatever you ask of God he will give you." For her firm faith in God, she was rewarded generously.



he wasn't insensitive to their pain. God's timing is not ours, yet everything he does - even when he does it - is with our best interests in mind. He was not too

late for Lazarus, but right on time and worked his greatest miracle yet.

The next time it feels like God isn't

listening, remember Jesus' own words: "Father I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me." We can trust his response, while perhaps not what we want, will work for good.

God never leaves us in our troubles but draws closer to us. When the situation was at its bleakest for his friends, Jesus was with them. He wept;

### Q Can you suggest a & meaningful sacrifice for Lent?

The point of Lent is not to greet Easter a few pounds lighter but to be transformed. Try something new this Lent:



**Make extra time for him each day.**

Read the Bible, attend daily Mass, pray a Rosary, or visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

**Avoid the mirror.** Take the focus off your appearance or looks. Refuse to compare yourself to others or accept others' view of you. Remember, your worth isn't in how others see you, but in God's infinite, unchanging love for you.

**Give up one thing at every meal.** Offer up a little something every time you eat - forego sugar in coffee, honey on cereal - to keep the idea, "it's Lent," in the forefront.

**Offer the heroic minute.** St. Josemaría Escrivá suggested jumping out of bed - no snooze button - as soon as the alarm goes off, "without granting a single minute to laziness. If, with the help of God, you conquer yourself in that moment, you'll have accomplished a great deal for the rest of the day."

### Feasts & Celebrations

**March 3 - St. Katharine Drexel (1955).** A Philadelphia heiress, Katharine Drexel became a nun and used her inheritance to establish the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for African and Native American peoples. She founded missions for Native Americans and Xavier University in New Orleans, the first to admit African American students.

**March 4 - St. Casimir of Poland (1483).** When his father sent him to conquer Hungary, Casimir assessed the odds against winning the war and

turned back out of concern for his troops. He resolved never to be involved in war again.

**March 19 - St. Joseph, husband of Mary (1st Century).** Jesus' earthly father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and a protector of families.

**March 27 - St. John of Egypt (c.394).** Born in modern Assiut, Egypt, St. John became a hermit when he was twenty. He lived an ascetic life but preached publicly on weekends.

Also a prophet, he made two accurate predictions for Emperor Theodosius I.



### 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)

## **KJZT District 1**

KJZT District 1 Social will be held on March 1, 2020, at Sacred Heart Family Center. Registration at 11:00 a.m. with meal and social to follow. All members are cordially invited. Please **RSVP** by February 21, 2020 to Mary Ann Pavliska at 361-798-5033 or Renee Hardt at [reneeardt@wildblue.net](mailto:reneeardt@wildblue.net)



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

### **2020 Group Introductory Sessions:**

January & February - private appointment only

March 23                      April 27

May 11                         June 22

July 20                         August 24

September 21     October 19

November 16     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](mailto:Larahaas.fertilitycare@gmail.com)

## **WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

### **Question:**

Why is it so important that we register in a parish? Isn't it good enough that we go to Mass?

### **Answer:**

Registration is the official way we join a parish community. Many people think that because they attend a particular parish they automatically belong. At times, young adults who have moved away for years think they are still signed up under their parents. But membership requires signing up, formally enrolling yourself in a parish. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social, and ministerial activities of your parish. Your registration affects the parish in many ways. Census numbers can determine how many priests are assigned to a church, what benefits and obligations the community has to the diocese, and how Masses, Confessions, and devotions are planned and scheduled.

Registration shows you belong. It is also necessary for certain benefits, like scheduling sacraments, obtaining sponsor certificates, and getting donation statements for taxes. Most importantly, it lets the parish count on you, to call on you to assist in its mission. Registering in your parish is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish.

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## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

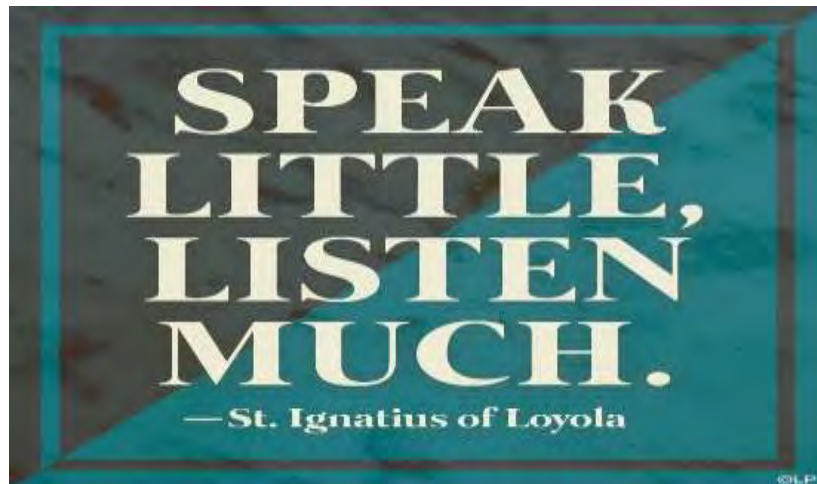
The Gospels continue to challenge us to the core. This is especially true in the way our social relationships have developed. Feeling safe and secure in the world are not things that come easily these days. Actually, we may find ourselves feeling more reservation, caution, reluctance, and fear than ever before. In a moment's notice, life can drastically change. When someone has been intentionally and violently hurt, especially someone we love, we can all too easily find ourselves very attracted to the Old Testament philosophy of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

Intellectually, we know this is not what Jesus wants us to do. But on some level it just seems to make practical or even political sense. After all, why should we allow someone to get away with a heinously violent act? Yet, Jesus cannot be any clearer than he is with this! Offer no resistance to one who is evil. Turn the other cheek as well. When pressed into service, go two miles. Do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Love your enemies. Now, take a moment to reflect on all of this. Consider a horrible act of violence committed against someone you love. Listen. Think. Be honest. Can you do as Jesus directs?

We want to be holy. But we are more comfortable with a definition of holiness that can keep us saying our prayers and on our knees in church. We are not comfortable with a definition of holiness that has something to say about to how we react to and negotiate life. We like to keep a sharp and strong line between the secular and the sacred. In fact, we would prefer that the doors between them be kept closed. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. If God sees this one way and we see it another, then where does this leave us on our journey to God?

Our minds like the practical, worldly, and secular answers to things. They are more black and white and at first glance appear to make more sense. Holiness wells up from our souls and is beyond reason. It cannot be explained. It is something we just simply know comes as a result of deep prayer. The truly contemplative eye knows inwardly that what Jesus asks is true and then willingly does it. It may not be easy.

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**Next Bulletin: Sunday, March 8, 2020**

**All announcements can be sent by email to the Rectory at [rectory@shcatholicchurch.org](mailto: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, March 3, 2020**