

JANUARY 12, 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

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

The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday	January 11	6:00 p.m.	Minola Pauler	St. John
Sunday	January 12	9:30 a.m.	Marvin Bohuslav	Moravia

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday	January 18	6:00 p.m.	L. A. & Vera Wenglar	Moravia
Sunday	January 19	9:30 a.m.	Nerissa Cahal	St. John

The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday	January 25	6:00 p.m.	Estelle Valicek	St. John
Sunday	January 26	9:30 a.m.	Charlie Deem	Moravia

January 12: The Baptism of the Lord

Readings: 21:1s 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father. He is the light of the nations and Lord of all creation. To him be all glory and praise.

January 19: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is:49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

Jesus, the Lamb of God, is the light of the nations who came to do the Father's will. In Christ we have been called to be a holy people.

January 26: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 8:23—9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-3k 17; Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

We have seen a great light: Jesus, the Messiah, who heals us of our sin and who is our unity and peace.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 11 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Wade Shimek, Mary Beth Krischke
Sunday, January 12– 9:30 p.m. – Moravia – Carson Pustka, Carter Pustka, Bryce Machicek

Saturday, January 18 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Harley Wilson, Heather Wilson,
Sunday, January 19 – 9:30 p.m. – St. John – Wade Shimek, Bryce Machicek, Dylan Orsak

Saturday, January 25 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Wade Shimek, Mary Beth Krischke
Sunday, January 26– 9:30 p.m. – Moravia – Carson Pustka, Carter Pustka, Bryce Machicek

We will be starting training for new Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ushers for both St. John and Ascension of Our Lord Church (Moravia). If anyone is interested in becoming a new member of one of these ministries, please sign the sheet in the back of Church and put your cell phone number or the number at which you can be reached, or call the Rectory (361-798-5888).



ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord—the last day of the Christmas Season.

Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father. He is the light of the nations and Lord of all creation. To him be all glory and praise! On Jesus, the beloved of the Father, the glory of the Lord has been revealed. Salvation is offered to all, and the earth is renewed!

After the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Ordinary Time begins.

ORDINARY TIME

“Besides the times of the year that have their own distinctive character, there remains in the yearly cycle thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather the mystery of Christ itself is honored in its fullness, especially on Sundays. This period is known as Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time begins on Monday, January 13 and continues through Tuesday, February 25, the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. It will resume when the Easter season ends, that is, on Monday, May 1, the day following Pentecost.

Father Scott and I will be on our annual Priest Retreat this week from Sunday evening until Thursday afternoon. Masses at Sacred Heart will be as usual during the week with Father Tony Pesek filling in.

Novena for Life

Join us at **Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Hallettsville** for a Novena (nine days) of Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in reparation for the sin of abortion and to pray for the protection of all human life from the moment of conception. **The Novena begins on:** Tuesday, January 14, 2020, and will conclude on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, with the Holy Hour at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 14 through Wednesday, January 22 – Holy Hour – 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 19— Holy Hour with Eucharistic Procession around the Courthouse and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament—2:00 p.m. We encourage all 4th Degree Knights to fall out for Procession. (No Holy Hour)

Wednesday, January 22, 2020— Conclusion of **Novena for Life** with Holy Hour 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

NOVENA FOR LIFE SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

-Novena for Life-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

--Novena for Life-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

-Novena for Life-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

-Novena for Life-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

-Novena for Life-6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

-Novena for Life Eucharistic Procession around Courthouse and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament – 2:00 p.m. (No Holy Hour)

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

-Novena for Life-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

-Novena for Life-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

-Novena for Life-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church

ASCENSION CHURCH CLEANERS FOR JANUARY: Barbara Janak, Connie Burton

ASCENSION CHURCH USHERS FOR JANUARY: Allen Machicek, Robert Kendall

ST. JOHN CHURCH CLEANERS FOR JANUARY: Darlene Duffin, Barbara Appelt

ST. JOHN CHURCH USHERS FOR JANUARY: Marcus Bujnoch, Robert Besetsny

VISITING PRIEST—REV. FATHER LAWRENCE VILLONE

This past Wednesday, January 8th, we celebrated the 14th Anniversary of the beginning of our Adoration Chapel at Sacred Heart.

On the weekend of January 25th and 26th, Father Lawrence Villone will be preaching at the Masses at Sacred Heart and St. Mary about Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. He will also meet with some of the Adorers after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Rev. Father Lawrence Villone is a very dynamic preacher and missionary. He is highly successful in establishing Perpetual Eucharist Adoration Chapels in various parishes and communities around the United States and in other countries. Personally, he has opened up over 200 Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapels over the last several years. In addition, Father Villone has given numerous missions on devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, and Eucharist spirituality as well as a variety of other inspiration topics. As a missionary, he zealously strives to achieve the goal of Pope Francis, and the late Sain John Paul II, to have Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in every parish and Christian community throughout the world.

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).

PRO-LIFE CORNER—

More than a quarter of a century ago, when someone asked Mother Angelica why EWTN discussed pro-life issues, she said, "I want other people to live, that's why. It's a teaching of the Lord that God alone gives life and God alone takes life."

("Upholding Life" in January, 2020 EWTN Newsletter)

St. John Church Christmas decorations will be removed Sunday morning, January 12, 2020, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Helpers who are at Sunday Mass in Moravia, please drive to St. John ASAP to help clear Christmas things for Ordinary Time.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS #797

"Would you like to become more involved in your parish? To share your faith with other Catholic women? The Catholic Daughters will be welcoming new members into Court Sacred Heart at their meeting on January 20, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Center for Patriotic Rosary with fellowship and meeting to follow. If you are interested in joining, please contact **Kay Steinocher at 798 4817.**"

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS #797 DUES

Catholic Daughters dues for 2020 of \$25.00 are now due. Dues can be paid at the next meeting (January 20, 2020) or payment can be mailed to: Anita Steffek 549 CR 186, Hallettsville, TX 77964.

Please make checks payable to: CDA Court #797. **All dues re due by January 31, 2020.**



CATHOLIC SCHOOL SWEEPSTAKES RAFFLE

Once again, Catholic Life Insurance is sponsoring the Catholic School Sweepstakes Raffle that will benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School (SHCS). Tickets are only **\$5.00** each and all money collected stays at SHCS.

Prizes as follows:

2020 Ford F-150 Truck or 2020 Ford Focus Sedan or \$20,000 Prepaid Visa Credit Card

Participating School Prize:

Each participating school will have a \$1,000 prepaid Visa Credit Card Individual Winner drawn from tickets sold at their school.

Tickets are available at the School, the Rectory, or any SHCS student. Drawing to be held Friday, February 14, 2020

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact:

Sacred Heart Catholic School—361-798-4251



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, January 25th to 31st – Sacred Heart Catholic School will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week with events and activities from January. 25th – 31st. Thursday, January 30th the school will hold an Open House from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Home & School Association will be selling soup and sandwiches in the cafeteria, and the coronation and talent show will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the school gym. These events are all open to the public. Come see all the great things we are doing at our school!



2020
EXTRAVAGANZA

The
ROARING 20s
to benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2020
Hallettsville Knights of Columbus Hall

TICKET FOR ONE \$65.00 OR
TICKET FOR TWO \$125.00

TICKET PRICE INCLUDES

Hors d'oeuvres & Social	6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Steak Dinner & Desserts	7:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Music by Texas Dream	8:30 PM – 12:00 AM

*Enjoy an Elegant Fun-Filled Evening of Great Company,
Great Food & Music along with Amazing Silent Auction Items*

Contact Any of the Following to Get Your Tickets Now:

Sacred Heart Catholic School 361-798-4251	Rectory 361-798-5888	Peoples State Bank 361-798-3227
Sacred Heart Credit Union 361-798-4361	Waller's Drive-In 361-798-5243	Mortons Drive-In 361-798-4889

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2020

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Thomas Aquinas

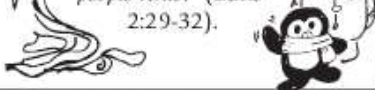
Against his family's wishes, St. Thomas Aquinas joined the newly founded Dominican Order of Preachers. A brilliant, humble scholar, he taught theology at universities in Paris, Cologne, and Rome, and advised popes, kings, and students. His greatest achievement was his *Summa Theologica*, a thorough, logical, concise treatise on the faith. Exhausted by constant work and travel, St. Thomas collapsed en route to a Church council and died at Fossanova. He is the patron of students and schools.



Well-placed faith

Our world is filled with pain, sorrow, and suffering. Putting our faith in worldly powers guarantees disappointment. Putting faith in God guarantees that we will never be disappointed.

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).



Shed bad habits in the New Year

Bad habits are sinful inclinations acquired through repetition. Unless we overcome them, they come between us and God and can destroy our peace. Working to overcome our bad habits puts us on the path to true holiness.

Identify the root.

It sounds simple, but recognizing what causes us to sin repeatedly is the first step to overcoming the behavior. That doesn't mean it's easy to do. It can be uncomfortable to look at our failings, but change won't come without courage. Ask for help if you need it.

Replace a bad habit with a good one. Once we understand what is behind our bad habits, we can replace

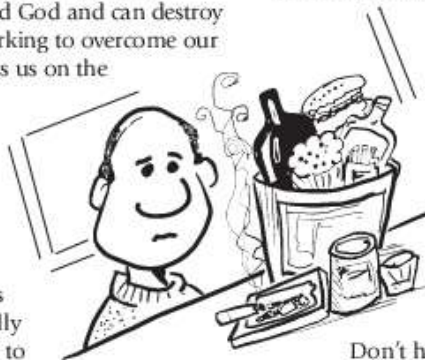
them with new and healthy ways to deal with the underlying issue. If we overeat or drink too much when

stressed, for example, we can adopt exercise or meditation to cope instead.

Eliminate triggers. Make it easier to cure bad habits by avoiding the conditions that nurture them. Do you want to avoid eating junk food?

Don't have it around you at home or at work. Want to change a gossip habit? Avoid the people with whom you gossip. Change your environment to change your behavior.

Find good influences. It may not be necessary to lose your old friends, but consider finding new ones who already live the way you want to live.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why are Catholics called "catholic"?

"Catholic" means "universal." In the Greek, it also means "wholeness" or "fullness." Firstly, the Church is catholic because her members have a universal mission. Jesus commanded his Apostles to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them" (Matthew



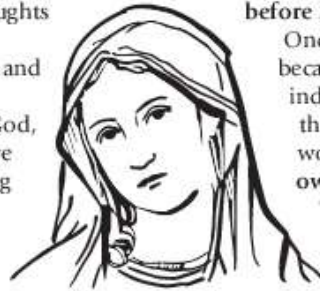
28:19). Secondly, the Church is catholic because, being founded by Christ and united to him, her members have the "correct and complete confession of faith, full sacramental life, and ordained ministry in apostolic succession" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) #830*).

The keys to Mary's success

Jesus loved his mother dearly, and his last thoughts on Earth were of her. We know she is Queen of Heaven, but what did she do to receive His love and great reward?

When Mary agreed to become the mother of God, she could have expected an easy life but Scripture tells us that all Mary expected was the joy of doing God's will. **She put God's will before her own.**

Mary didn't have to go with Joseph to Bethlehem for the census. She chose to go with Joseph as his wife. **She put Joseph's needs**



before her own.

Once there, the couple lodged with animals because there was no room at the inn. Instead of indulging in self-pity, Mary graciously received the shepherds and the Magi, who came to worship her baby. **She put their joy before her own discomfort.**

Throughout her life, Mary said "yes" to God, put his will first, and thought of others before herself. If we follow her example, we'll receive our reward in Heaven, too.

from Scripture

Matthew 4:12-23, The common call

This Gospel passage recounts the call of the first disciples. They may not have known Jesus personally at first, but they knew about him through John the Baptist (John 1:35-42). When invited to know Jesus better and follow him closely, the men dropped what they were doing "at once" and left everything behind.

Under Christ's leadership, the disciples went on to do amazing things. They worked miracles, brought the Gospel to distant lands, converted countless souls for heaven, and suffered hardships, even martyrdom. The secret of their success was their relationship with Christ as



their God, Savior, Teacher, and Friend who promised to be with them always (Matthew 28:20).

All of us are called to be saints – intimate friends of God. Jesus invites each of us to know him personally and follow him closely. While few of us are called to leave everything,

we can still offer everything we have to God's service. We can still imitate the first disciples who dropped everything "at once" to accept God's invitation. Knowing Jesus personally and closely makes for a great adventure.

Q & A Why are we required to respect Jesus' name?

As the Son of God, Jesus' name is "above every name" (Philippians 2:9) and commands respect.

It is the name God gave himself when he became man



(Luke 1:31). In Jesus' day, there was no internet, no media, no network to use to find out if someone was reputable or reliable.

All people had was their good name and the way others used it with respect. He knew he would need a recognizable name.

Jesus' name tells us of his mission. The angel Gabriel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to name the child "Jesus," "for he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). And he did.

There is great power in Jesus' name. Jesus promised his disciples that whatever they asked in his name, he would do (John 14:14). In his name, the Apostles cast out demons (Luke 10:17), cured the sick and even raised the dead (Acts 3:16; 4:10). "There is no other name under heaven...by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Feasts & Celebrations

Jan. 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. On this holy day of obligation, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. In their honor, pray a Rosary and attend Mass.

Jan. 6 – St. André Bessette (1937). Born near Montreal, Canada, André joined the Congregation of the Holy Cross at twenty-five and was the doorkeeper for their school. During an epidemic, everyone in his care was miraculously healed. He helped build a beautiful chapel to St. Joseph.

Jan. 12 – The Baptism of the Lord

(1st century). Jesus began his public ministry by getting baptized by St. John the Baptist. Jesus was free of sin, but he allowed himself to be baptized in order to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). By his baptism, Jesus declared his willingness to fulfill God's saving plan.

Jan. 20 – St. Fabian (250). During his long reign as pope, Fabian organized Rome into seven districts, countered a heresy in Africa, and founded churches in France. He was martyred during the Decian persecutions.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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The Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 2020

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives four reasons for the Incarnation, why God became man in Jesus Christ. The third reason is “to be our model of holiness.” All of Jesus’ words and actions model for us what we ought to do. He also shows us how we’re meant to be. Jesus’ baptism ought to remind us of our own baptism and of the importance of baptism in the Christian life.

The Baptism of the Lord reminds us of our Trinitarian identity. When we are baptized, we stand in solidarity with Christ, bathed in the waters he sanctified. There, the Father proclaims our adoption into the family of God. “This is my beloved son [this is my beloved daughter], with whom I am well pleased.” And the Spirit, too, descends. We are filled with the Spirit’s grace and power to continue Christ’s mission on earth. We received these gifts in the sacrament, and they continue to dwell within us through sanctifying grace. We can — and should — invite God to stir up these graces of our baptism and consider them in our own lives.

Does Christ feel like a distant relative two thousand years in the past? Or do you see him as someone who can be encountered here and now? Ask yourself where you find your sense of dignity and worth. Do you still search for it in success, social status, and selfish pursuits? Or are you able to rest in being a beloved child of God? Remember, baptism gives us a call and a charge to change the world. Do you pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you? Or are you so focused on your own life that you miss the mission? This week, let’s do as Jesus did. Let’s live in our baptism!

©LPi

Lessons from Baptizing a Frog

I used to lead an RCIA session on baptism, where I would bring in my Kermit the Frog toy from when I was a child and pretend to baptize it. It was a session I especially made sure I led when we had children preparing for Easter sacraments. You would think Kermit would have become super holy having been baptized so many times, year after year. But, if he had been real, he would not have been any holier due to multiple baptisms than he was after the first baptism. He couldn’t be re-baptized. (Not to mention, of course, he is a FROG.)

When Jesus came to John for baptism, he transformed the baptism of repentance that John was practicing into a baptism of redemption. And although we are called to repentance over and over in our life, redemption comes to us only once. We cannot get baptized again in the Jordan or Sea of Galilee because of romantic notions, or come into the Catholic Church by a second baptism so we can start all over. Our baptism, whether we can remember it or not, is a one-time deal. But it is the real deal. Whether you feel it or not, you are sealed for Christ, and the stain of original sin has been washed away.

Too many of us take that moment for granted. Yes, you may have been baptized as an infant. But much time has passed since then, and you can work to understand the impact that it had on your life. We sometimes look for a good time to begin living a stewardship way of life. However, that time already passed, and God has been waiting. We are called to reflect on our baptism and respond to the call it has placed on our lives. We can respond and be disciples, or we can be like Kermit the Frog, always searching for a new start that never comes.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
LPI

Next Bulletin: Sunday, January 26, 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 Monday, January 20, 2020