

JANUARY 10, 2021

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

REV. JOHN AFFUM

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

The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday	January 9	6:00 p.m.	Delaine Dittrich	St. John
St. John	January 10	9:30 a.m.	Christopher Canada	Moravia

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	January 16	6:00 p.m.	Arnold Bohuslav	Moravia
Sunday	January 17	9:30 a.m.	Ludwig & Adela Dittrich	St. John

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	January 23	6:00 p.m.	Nerissa Besetsny Cahal	St. John
Sunday	January 24	9:30 a.m.	Willie, Albina, Irene & Willie E. Barborak	Moravia

January 10: The Baptism of the Lord

Readings: Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

All who are thirsty, come to the waters, to the Lord, the fountain of salvation. Jesus Christ came through water and blood. He is the Son in whom the Father is well pleased.

January 17: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Sm 3:3bj-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7, 10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

Through baptism we have been joined to the Lord who calls us to be his disciples. How well do we listen to his voice? How willing are we to do his will?

January 24: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

The Ninevites heard the preaching of Jonah and repented of their evil ways, thus experiencing the Lord's compassion. Do we repent when we hear the preaching of Jesus? Do we invest our lives in the world rather than in God's kingdom?

Ministry Schedule has been made. If there is a change, you will be notified. The Mass is live-streamed at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Facebook. The link for the Mass is:

<https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartCatholicChurchHallettsville> and also on the Radio Stations FM 99.9 & FM 94.3 on Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

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



From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord—the end of the Christmas Season. When we were baptized, we were told “God the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the Chrism (oil) of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.”

Let us remember this every day of our lives. We are members of his body and let us live as such.

As Covid increases everywhere, especially in our area, let us pray for those who are seriously ill, which includes many of our parishioners. Let us not be afraid. Let us try our best to protect ourselves and others by getting our vaccinations, wearing masks, keeping social distance and avoiding large crowds and **PRAY**.

I will be on retreat this week from Sunday afternoon until Thursday evening.

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO PARISHIONERS

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



ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 9– 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Dylan Orsak, Brant Redman

Sunday, January 10 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – Wade Shimek, Bryce Machicek, Dylan Orsak

Saturday, January 16 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Harley Wilson, Heather Wilson

Sunday, January 17 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Dylan Orsak, Brant Redman, Dillon Goedrich, Bryce Machicek

Saturday, January 23– 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Dylan Orsak, Brant Redman

Sunday, January 24 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – Wade Shimek, Bryce Machicek, Dylan Orsak

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—

“It’s an abomination to God, the culture of Death... God (is) the only one who has a right to create life and call it forth to Himself. The only one! You don’t have a right: I don’t have a right. Nobody as a right to call death upon someone God has called to life.”—Mother Angelica
[From EWTN January 2021 FAMILY NEWSLETTER]

ATTENTION TO ALL PARISHIONERS

A mask must be worn to Church at all Masses and any event that is held in the church. Social Distancing is required until further notice.

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Prayer for our Country: First Sunday of the Month at 6:00 p.m. Under the St. John Pavilion to pray the Patriotic Rosary. The prayers and songs are provided. Social distancing is used and you may sit as far back as needed for your comfort. Families are welcome.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) Court #797 Mass

Sacred Heart Catholic Church is in need of Rosary Leaders for each of the Masses. If you are interested in being a Rosary Leader, please contact the Rectory (361-798-5888).



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Sacred Heart Catholic School

361-798-4251

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TICKET SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2021

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2021

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

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Tough times?

Throughout history, God has proven his faithfulness and care over and over again. He promises that He will help you through whatever tough times you face. *"God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it"* (1 Corinthians 10:13). Lean on Him.



Tune out the world and tune into God

In our noisy world, it can be hard to hear God's voice over the din. Yet, listening is as important as talking during prayer. *"By waiting and by calm you shall be saved, in quiet and in trust your strength lies"* (Isaiah 30:15). Talk to Him often, but make a point of listening for God's voice.

"Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6).



Give the gift of friendship in the New Year

When times are tough, it can be our family and friends who help us through. There wasn't much Jesus wouldn't do for His friends. In fact, He was more concerned with being a good friend than with having one. In our current pandemic situation, we can care for our loved ones as Jesus would:

Make spending time together a priority.

Connections between loved ones are critical now. When meeting in person isn't possible, phone calls, letters, and emails can keep us connected. Video conferencing has become a staple of daily life; consider organizing regular get togethers with friends and family using your favorite conferencing program.

Help other people feel important. No matter how you interact, give the other person your full attention in conversation, and show appreciation and understanding for what he is saying.

Celebrate your friends' successes.

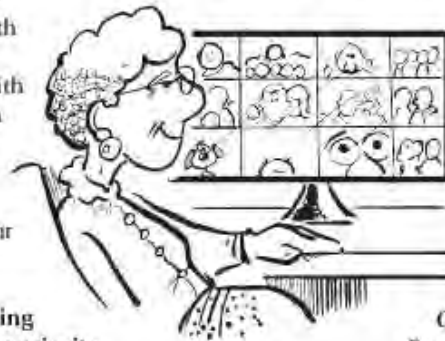
A true friend is genuinely happy when something good happens in the other's life.

Value differences. Don't try to change your loved ones.

Celebrate their diversity.

Be willing to apologize: You may let each other down but a sincere apology can bring friends closer together.

Don't forget old friends. Call someone you haven't been in touch with for a long time. Don't know what to say? Try, "I don't want another moment to go by without being in touch. I've missed you."



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics honor the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus?

The image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a symbol of Christ's love for us. It is often a heart surrounded by flame, pierced by a lance, topped by a cross, and circled by a crown of thorns.



Jesus' love for us burns bright and intense like a flame. His heart is pierced by the lance representing our sins and the crown of thorns and the cross remind us of the death he suffered to bring us life.

“What do you want from me, Lord?”

God gives to us freely, but what does he want in return? Simply put, God wants us to love Him back.

Know Him. God made each of us with a space in our heart just for Him. Until we discover it, we may try to fill it with earthly things, but nothing else fits. When we turn to Him, the reward is beyond our dreams.

Love Him. Jesus said, *“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul,*



and with all your mind” (Matthew 22:37). He wants us to surrender to his infinite love. Show your love by praying frequently, seeking Communion with Him often, and praising Him continually.
Serve Him. *“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me”* (Matthew 25:40). When we make sure everyone has enough to eat, warm clothes to wear, and a place to stay, Jesus takes it personally. It’s what he wants from us.

from Scripture

Mark 1:21-28, God’s authority is not a formality

In this Gospel passage, Jesus and his apostles entered the synagogue at Capernaum where Jesus taught those gathered at the Sabbath. It was customary for learned teachers to say, “Thus says the Lord...” Instead Jesus said, “I say to you...” He taught as one who spoke with the authority of God.



man at the synagogue recognized who Jesus was. They were forced to obey Him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance. In fact, God’s power and authority isn’t just a formality. What God says, happens.

Our kind and gentle Savior is also our powerful and awesome Lord. As the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus has supreme majesty and we will one day appear before Him to be judged. Yes, he is our divine savior and mediator. But if we say, “Jesus is Lord,” then we give Him our loyalty and obedience.

His calm authority astounded Jesus’ listeners. Just as they began to wonder what it meant, he gave them a sign. He further demonstrated his authority by performing an exorcism. Spirits that bedeviled an unfortunate

Q & A How can I choose Catholic references that are accurate and faithful?

One good way to determine whether or not a book or pamphlet accurately reflects Catholic doctrine is to look for an “imprimatur” printed in the first few pages of the book. The presence of an



imprimatur generally means that a bishop’s office has determined it to be free of doctrinal or moral errors. It may be accompanied by a “nihil obstat” (Latin for “nothing stands in the way”) which means that someone well-versed in Catholic theology has reviewed the contents and found the same thing. Keep in mind that neither the imprimatur nor the nihil obstat imply agreement with the content or opinions.

It is particularly important for a book that purports to teach about the faith of the Church to carry the approval of the Catholic Church. There are many well-meaning people who intend to educate others about God’s infinite love but may have an imperfect understanding of Catholic doctrine. When choosing materials to learn more about our religion, you will want to be sure that they are accurate.

Feasts & Celebrations

Jan. 1 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Today, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. In their honor, pray a Rosary. Because this feast day is on a Monday, Mass attendance is optional (but encouraged) this year.

Jan. 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (1st Century). Setting out for Damascus to carry on the persecution of the Christians, he encountered Christ (Acts 9:1-19; 22:5-16; 26:12-18) while on the road to Damascus. He was struck blind from

the experience until he was baptized by Ananias three days later. He converted and began preaching the faith as he travelled around the Mediterranean.

Jan. 26 – Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st Century). Timothy was a convert of St. Paul’s and later became his trusted friend, joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus, also a friend of Paul’s, served the early Church as a peacemaker and administrator to a community on Crete.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
(Unless noted, Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA MEN'S GATHERING

There will be Diocese of Victoria Men's Gathering on Saturday, February 20, 2021, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, 1309 E. Mesquite Ln., Victoria, Texas 77901. This dynamic event for men ages 18 and up will feature inspiring talks, prayer, group discussions, resources, great food, and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession. Join us to be strengthened in your faith and equipped to lead your families and communities alongside a band of brothers. Register Early for \$25 at www.victoriadiocese.org/arise Buy 4 tickets, get 1 free.

SAINT GABRIEL PROJECT

The Saint Gabriel Project of the Crossroads is having a fund raiser to promote Pro-Life options and help provide assistance for crisis pregnancies. Yard signs are a great way to make a Pro-Life statement and provide contact information for the Saint Gabriel Project of the Crossroads. If you would like to get a yard sign, please call the Bethlehem Maternity Home at (361) 649-5782 or Collette Burroughs (281) 217-2118. Donations are greatly appreciated for this important ministry. 100% of donations go to the Saint Gabriel Project of the Crossroads and Bethlehem Maternity Home.



The Emmaus Center provides individual, couple, family, adolescent and children's counseling as well as specialized support groups from a Catholic perspective. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (361) 212-0830.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Vysehrad Stew Dinner/Raffle: St. Mary's Parish Hall, Sunday, January 10, 2021, 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.-\$10 per plate. Raffle Prizes. Purchase tickets at Hoffer's, Sacred Heart Federal Credit Union and Vysehrad School, or contact any Vysehrad Student or Staff Member.

The Baptism of the Lord

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so?



Next Bulletin: Sunday, January 17, 2021

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, January 11, 2021