

JANUARY 9, 2022

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. JOHN AFFUM

REV. CHRISTOPHER KORANG

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 8	6:00 p.m.	David Kubenka	St. John
Sunday	January 9	9:30 a.m.	Charlie & Loraine Deem	Moravia

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	January 15	6:00 p.m.	L. A. & Vera Wenglar	Moravia
Sunday	January 16	9:30 a.m.	Leona Vaculik	St. John

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	January 22	6:00 p.m.	Gladys Besetzny	St. John
Sunday	January 23	9:30 a.m.	Henry R. & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia

January 9: The Baptism of the Lord

Readings: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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!

January 16: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

At Cana in Galilee, Jesus performed the first of his signs, revealing his glory to his disciples and later to the nations. He has revealed as well the manifestation of the Spirit who distributes different gifts as he chooses.

January 23: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Ezra proclaims the word of the Lord which gives spirit and life. Jesus proclaims himself the fulfillment of the Law and the prophets. In him we have become one body with many members.

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 broadcast 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, Krisie Janak

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

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 8 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Kullen Kutac, Dillon Goedrich

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

Saturday, January 15 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Harley Wilson, Heather Wilson

Sunday, January 16 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Mary Beth Krischke, Wade Shimek

Saturday, January 22 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Brant Redman, Dillon Goedrich

Sunday, January 23 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – Layne Sevcik, Trent Sevcik

AREA EVENTS

- ➔ Make reservations now for the 13th Annual “Rock ‘N Roll for the Red and White” featuring the Triumphs at Swiss Alp Hall benefiting St. Rose of Lima Catholic School on Saturday, February 12, 2022. Private seats are available for \$60 per person and general admission tickets are \$40. The event will include a silent auction of Romantic Getaways, Treats for Your Sweet and additional items. General admission tickets are available at the St. Rose School office at 979-743-3080 or for private tickets contact Laura Fogle at L.Fogle@strosecardinals.org or call 979-743-3080. Thank you for your continued support.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

I will be on my annual Priest Retreat this week at the Spiritual Renewal Center with a number of other priests from the Diocese. Fr. John Affum and Fr. Christopher Korang will be here to take care of the Masses and be available for emergencies and other services.

Today is the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. This officially ends the Christmas Season. We will now move into Ordinary Time until Lent.

BLESSED CHALK – An old Catholic custom is the blessing of the home at the Feast of the Epiphany especially the doorways. We can bless ourselves and the rooms of the home with holy water. We use chalk – a reminder of the clay from which God created us – to mark over the front door (or all doors) the initials of the legendary names of the Magi (Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar) and the numbers of the new year. **20 + C + M + B + 22** The initials also stand for the Latin motto “*Christus mansionem benedicat*” – “*May Christ bless this house.*” You may pick up a piece of blessed chalk from the back of church to use in blessing your home for the New Year.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Please remember to pray for the success of the 49th annual March or Life to be held in Washington DC on January 21.

What is the Pro-life Message?

Before discussing how to most effectively share the pro-life message, perhaps we should ask. “What is the pro-life message?” At its most basic level the pro-life message is this: **An unborn child is a human person whose life has value and deserves to be protected by our society.**

But we also have an important message to share about how abortion harms women—and men—and about how committed the pro-life movement is to helping women face untimely pregnancies and choose life for their babies. Ultimately, our message is a message of hope. We believe that working together, we can transform our society into a place in which no mother will ever resort to abortion and where every child, regardless of the circumstances of his or her conception, will be welcomed and loved.

ST. JOHN HALL & PAVILION RENTAL FEES

Beginning in 2022 the rental fees for the St. John Hall and Pavilion will be as follows:

- \$100 – Minimum deposit (to hold date or in case of cancellation within 60 days of booked date)
- \$175 – Pavilion with outside bathrooms
- \$100 – Funerals – Hall
- \$175 – Air Condition/Heat (\$35 per hr. or \$175 max for 5 hrs. or more)
- \$250 – Hall (Showers/Reunions/Meetings/Parties)
- \$300 – Hall & Stew Room
- \$500 – Weddings – Hall, includes pavilion and outside bathrooms
- \$50 – For each day (Decorate/cleanup before & after any event)

Call Frank Forestier – 361-865-2446 or Barbara Appelt – 832-643-4590

Make checks payable to St. John’s Parish Hall

Send to Frank Forestier, 3040 Jurica Rd, Schulenburg, TX 78956

All that have booked for 2022 and 2023 and have paid their \$50 deposit will be “Grandfathered in” at the 2021 rates.

Note: There are documents for Contract and General Hall Rules that must be signed by the Renter and Hall Management.

ST. JOHN DECORATIONS REMOVAL

All St. John Helpers – PLEASE come to take down and store our Christmas decorations. The crib, trees, etc. will be removed on Wednesday, January 12 at 4:00 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S ALTAR SOCIETY

St. John's Altar Society will have a meeting on Sunday, January 16, 2022, after the 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. John. Dues will be collected for 2022 year.

Amor Meus Spirituality Center is offering a workshop on **Saturday, January 15, 2022** entitled "**Helps/Tools for the Spiritual Journey**". Sister Digna Vela, IWBS will be the presenter. All are invited to come to Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N. E. Water Street in Victoria, TX 77901 for helpful tips on deepening your love relationship with God.

Registration/sign-in is at 9:30 AM. The workshop begins at 10:00 AM and ends at 1:00 PM. Snacks will be provided. Park in front of the convent. Masks and social distancing are required. There is no fee. A free will offering will be accepted. **For more information or to register:** email amormeuscenter@gmail.com or call (361) 485-0866 or (361) 575-7111.

Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas - All interested parishioners are invited to attend the 2nd annual membership meeting of the recently established Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas (CCFT) that will be held at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Needville, Texas in the Family Life Center on Saturday, January 15, 2022, starting at 10:30 am. A stew lunch will follow the meeting. Learn of the work of the CCFT to preserve, celebrate and perpetuate the Faith of Texas Czech immigrants. A pilgrimage and tour of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church (1925) in Damon, Texas after lunch. Headcount needed for meal: Call or email Bradley Stavinoha at (979)703-7411 or Bradley@Needvilleinsurance.com. Please join us!

Blessing of Seed and Soil Mass sponsored by Catholic Rural Life Victoria will be held on Saturday, January 15 at 10:00 a.m. It will be hosted by Bart and Karen Hajovsky at their home, 713 County Road 202 in Ganado. Call 361-771-2755 for directions or information.

NIGHT AT THE DERBY EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, February 5, 2022 – Hallettsville Knights of Columbus Hall

Enjoy an elegant evening of great company, delicious food, dancing with music by Shiner's 2nd Wind, and amazing auction items benefitting Sacred Heart School.

Hor d'oeuvres & Social 6:00 p.m. – Steak Dinner & Desserts 7:30 p.m. – Dance 8:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

Tickets: for One-\$65, for Two-\$125; Available Online via QR Code or at: Sacred Heart School, Sacred Heart Rectory, Sacred Heart Credit Union, People's State Bank, Hoffer's Drive In, Morton's Drive In or David Smolik at (361) 772-5463

CATHOLIC LIFE SWEEPSTAKES TICKETS are on sale until January 25. Ticket donation is \$5 per ticket and the drawing will be held February 14. The grand prize is the winner's choice of a 2022 Ford F-150 Truck, 2022 Ford Focus Sedan or \$20,000 Prepaid VISA gift card. Each participating school will also have a \$1,000 prepaid VISA card winner drawn from the tickets sold by their school. For tickets contact any Sacred Heart student, the school or the Sacred Heart Rectory.

Sacred Heart School – Cattle or Cash Raffle

Sacred Heart Home & School Association is having a "Cattle or Cash" raffle! Tickets are \$100 and the drawing will be held February 4, 2022. There are eleven prizes to be drawn with the Top Prize of your choice of five Black Baldie pairs with Angus calves or \$8,750 cash. For more information email sacredhearths@yahoo.com or call Sacred Heart School at 361-798-4251.

Next Bulletin: Sunday, January 23, 2022

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 18, 2022

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2022

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

Msgr. John C. Peters, VG, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Laying our gifts at the feet of the King

The three Wise Men gave Jesus gifts worthy of a king. We can also present Him with our own royal gifts. While ours may not be actual gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we can still give to Him the best we have. Give God the first and the best of what you have and He will give you more than you can imagine in return.



Fall in love with God

From the moment God created you, he has been deeply in love with you. He made you deliberately so he could love you. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you" (Jeremiah 1:5). He waits for you like a parent anticipates the return of a beloved child. Don't let Him wait long.

"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ" (Ephesians 2:4-5).



Who needs Jesus?

Many today say that they don't have a need for Jesus. They go to work, have homes, put food on their tables, raise families without His help. In fact, daily activities go on but the world can't really make sense without Him.

Truth. The truth is in Christ, "in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3). We cannot understand the truth without Him. To make sense of the world, we need Jesus to lead us.

Life. The life we have will eventually end. To keep living, we need Jesus. "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father,

but by me" (John 14:6). Eternal life comes through Him.

Death. None of us escapes death.

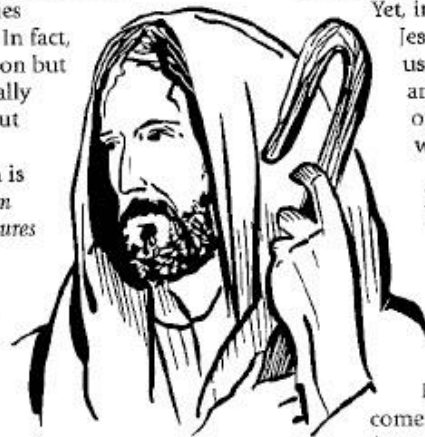
Yet, in the Resurrection, Jesus defeated death for us. It didn't hold Him and He offers the gift of life to each of us if we live in Him.

Sin. Even the holiest of us sins.

Without Jesus, what becomes of us? He "gave himself as a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:6). If we don't accept His price, our sins

come back to us for eternity.

Suffering. Modern science can alleviate but not eliminate some of the world's suffering. Jesus provides comfort and healing to those who trust Him and surrender to Him.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics pray to Mary?

Catholics don't pray to Mary, but instead ask her to pray for us. For example, the Hail Mary prayer asks the Mother of God to stay close to us in prayer.

While we don't

worship Mary, we honor her as Jesus' mother. On the Cross, Jesus gave her to us as our own mother (John 19:27). We can approach her with our needs and concerns and ask her to present them to Her Son. Mary always leads us to Him.



Three tips to boost your prayer

Prayer fuels our spiritual life, but praying effectively can be challenging. Even the saints had dry spells. Among these was the mystic and Carmelite reformer, St. Teresa of Avila. Try these suggestions from her to enliven your prayer:

Become aware of God's presence. It may feel as if God is distant, but He is so close. St. Teresa began by enjoying God's nearness. Know that He is with you and wants your company.

Bring a good book. St. Teresa, who struggled with dryness in prayer, kept a book with her. Scripture,



Lives of the Saints, or a book about the Faith can help us focus and spark conversation with Him.

Be honest. It is said that St. Teresa once fell into the mud and told God bluntly, "If this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so few of them!" God wants you to share all your experiences with Him – good and bad. Entrust your cares to Him and "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5).

from Scripture

Luke 4:21-30, God's will is unexpected

In this Gospel, Jesus returns to Nazareth after launching His public ministry. He announced He is the Messiah of Isaiah's prophecy. But then comes a twist: Jesus recounts a time when great prophets were sent to call Israel to repentance and were ignored and persecuted.

The response of faith God was looking for in His Chosen People was found elsewhere, in the Gentiles. Jesus' listeners doubted that He was really the Messiah and were deeply insulted at being reminded that "foreigners" had received God's favor instead of them. In anger, they threw Jesus out of the synagogue and tried to



cast Him off a cliff. He passed unharmed through their midst.

God's will can surprise us. For example, He willed that the Messiah-King be a local carpenter. God's favor extended beyond the Chosen People to include Gentiles, who were considered outsiders. Sometimes,

we assume we know how God works, and lose faith when He does something that seems illogical. We can pray for the faith to see Jesus as He really is and trust Him, even if He does the unexpected.

Feasts & Celebrations

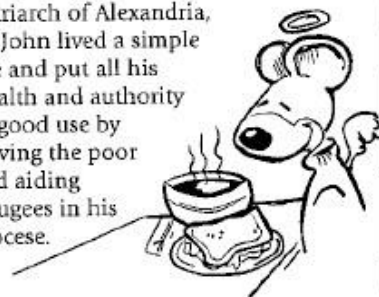
Jan. 1 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, and also Jesus, as true God and true Man.

Jan. 9 – Baptism of the Lord. Jesus began his public ministry by getting baptized by St. John the Baptist. The Heavens opened up and God the Father spoke, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

Jan. 14 – St. Macrina the Elder (340). St. Macrina was related to St. Basil the Elder and St. Macrina the

Younger. She and her husband were forced to flee during the Diocletian persecutions and endured many hardships. After her return, she helped raise her grandchildren Saints Gregory of Nyssa and Basil the Great.

Jan. 23 – St. John the Almsgiver (616). Despite being a noble and the Patriarch of Alexandria, St. John lived a simple life and put all his wealth and authority to good use by serving the poor and aiding refugees in his diocese.



Q & A Can you suggest a New Year's resolution to grow in Holiness?

All Christians are called to holiness. "Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). There are three tools on which every Catholic can rely to attain greater holiness.



Daily prayer. God meets us in a very real and present way when we come to him in prayer. Start in the morning and pray throughout the day.

Weekly Mass. The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. We receive Jesus' body and blood as real food for our souls. He said, "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:55-56). That's why we call it, "Communion."

Monthly Confession. Jesus created the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) because he knew we would stray. He also knew we would want to come back. Frequent participation in this Sacrament sharpens our sense of sin, holds us accountable for our errors, and gives us the grace to keep trying for holiness.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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