

FEBRUARY 19, 2023

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. JAMES DVORAK

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.....713-501-9860 (cell)
Barbara Appelt832-643-4590 (cell)

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

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	February 18	6:00 p.m.	L. A. & Vera Wenglar	Moravia
Sunday	February 19	9:30 a.m.	Adolf B. & Adela Kutac & Anna Marie Kutac	St. John

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday	February 22	6:30 p.m.	Tim Shimek	Moravia
-----------	-------------	-----------	------------	---------

First Sunday in Lent

Saturday	February 25	6:00 p.m.	Deceased Spies, Loth & Linson Family Members	St. John
Sunday	February 26	9:30 a.m.	Dominic Loth	Moravia

<u>First Friday</u>	March 3	8:00 a.m. – Followed by Holy Hour – Evelyn Kusy		St. John
---------------------	---------	---	--	----------

Second Sunday in Lent

Saturday	March 4	6:00 p.m.	Henry R. & Julia Olsovsky & Rebecca Patterson	Moravia
Sunday	March 5	9:30 a.m.	Leonard Sumbera, Fred & Martha Hermis	St. John

February 19: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)/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: First Sunday in Lent

Readings: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/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 5: Second Sunday in Lent

Readings: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 (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 the earth. In Jesus' transfigured glory is revealed that life and immortality will rob death of its power.

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 MARCH: Kathy Guenther, Dorothy Henke

ASCENSION CHURCH USHERS FOR MARCH: Anthony Hrcncir, Thomas Brosch

ST. JOHN CHURCH USHERS FOR MARCH: Glenn Lux, Patrick Chaloupka

The Sacred Heart **ADORATION CHAPEL** – Adorers are needed on Tuesdays at 2:00 a.m. and a prayer partner at 8:00 p.m. on the 1st & 5th Wednesdays of the month. Contact Charlene Bradbury at 361-798-6191 if interested. Please prayerfully consider an hour with the Lord or serving as a substitute.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 18 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Dylan Orsak, Kullen Kutac
Sunday, February 19 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Dillon Goedrich, Mary Beth Krischke
Saturday, February 25 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Brant Redman, Barrett Redman
Sunday, February 26 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – Alaina Halata, William Halata
Saturday, March 4 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Dylan Orsak, Kullen Kutac
Sunday, March 5 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Layne Sevcik, Trent Sevcik

From the Desk of Msgr. John

The Hands of Matrimony

Beloved Wife, take your husband's hands and look at them: These are the hands, young and strong and vibrant with love, that held yours on your wedding day, as he promised to love you all the days of his life.

These are the hands that you placed with expectant joy against your stomach, until he, too, felt his child stir within your womb. These are the hands that looked so large and clumsy, yet were so gentle as he held your baby for the first time.

These are the hands that work long hours to earn the money for you and your family. These are the hands that are nicked and bruised from fixing things around the house to make you more comfortable.

These are the hands that have wiped tears from your eyes; tears of sorrow and tears of joy. These are the hands that have comforted you in illness, and held you when fear or grief racked your mind.

These are the hands that caressed your body throughout the years, to make the wonder of love come alive for you. These are the hands that tenderly lifted your chin and brushed your cheek as they raised your face to look into his eyes; eyes that were filled completely with his overwhelming love and desire for you.

Beloved Husband, take your wife's hands and look at them: These are the hands that held yours as she gave you her pledge to love you and accepted your ring on your wedding day.

These are the hands that were smooth and young and carefree then, but lined and rougher now from thousands of dishes washed, tons of laundry cleaned, and hundreds of meals prepared. These are the hands that are nicked and burned from knives and irons, hot skillets and pans.

These are the hands that held you in joy and excitement each time she said you were to have another child; that together you had created new life. These are the hands that have held each child in tender love, soothing them through illness, disciplining them, diapering them, sewing for them, baking for them, and wringing themselves in worry when trouble came.

These are the hands that massage tension from your neck and back after you've had a hard day. These are the hands that through the years have caressed you in the passion of love. These are the hands that held your face and wiped tears from your eyes, in wonder and awe that you would cry for her.

Beloved Couple: These are the hands of the Sacrament of Matrimony. These four hands are your armor and shield against the evils of the world. These four hands are God's plan for renewing His Church. These are the hands that will reach out to the teenager, bring hope to the lonely, teach the engaged the wonders of married love, heal the abused and hurting children of the world. These hands are the hope of a troubled humanity. These are the hands that will change the world.
by Larry & Mary Sue Eck, Fr. Tom Burr

PRO-LIFE CORNER

...I don't think any human heart should dare to take life, or any human hand be raised to destroy life. Life is the life of God in us. Life is the greatest gift that God has bestowed on human beings, and man has been created in the image of God. Life belongs to God, and we have no right to destroy it.

[St. Teresa of Calcutta]

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday – February 24, 2023 – Moravia – 7:00 p.m.

Friday – March 3, 2023 – St. John – 7:00 p.m.

WHAT ARE FASTING & ABSTINENCE? – **Abstinence** from meat (all meats & 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.

HOLY ROSARY MEN'S ACTS RETREAT – will be held March 23-26 at Cathedral Oaks with round trip transportation from St. Michael's Church in Weimar. The theme is "I am the Resurrection and the Life, Whoever Believes in Me Will Live." The cost per retreatant is \$175 which includes the deposit of \$50. Registration forms with more information are online at <http://www.holyrosaryacts.com>.

MORAVIA KJZT SOCIETY #44 – **Bakeless Bake Sale** benefits the Hallettsville, Moulton and Schulenburg Fire Departments. Donations may be by cash or check with checks payable to Moravia KJZT Society #44. Mail to Kathy Guenther, 1103 CR 248, Schulenburg, TX 78956 by April 1.

APPLICATIONS FOR ALTAR SERVERS have been distributed to students at Sacred Heart CCD classes and at Sacred Heart School. Current servers and new servers interested in serving at any of our parishes need to complete this form and returned. The form will also update contact information. Servers currently on our listings who do not renew interest by returning the form will be removed from the serving rotations. **Mandatory training** for new and current servers will be held during the Sacred Heart CCD class on March 1 and during school for Sacred Heart students. **If your student would like to serve, forms are available in the back of the Ascension and St. John churches** or contact the Sacred Heart Rectory. Forms should be returned in the collection basket by February 19. Trainings will be scheduled as needed.

HALLETTSVILLE K.C. #2433 FISH FRY – benefitting the Knights of Columbus Charity Fund will be Friday, February 24. Tickets are \$12. Drive thru will be open from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

THAT MAN IS YOU! Lenten Challenge. Instead of just giving up something for Lent, give yourself to God! Join THAT MAN IS YOU group for seven Fridays during Lent: Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7. Breakfast at 6:00 a.m., program 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the Schulenburg KC Hall. For more information call/text Mark Hudec at 713-854-1335.

LAVACA CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING every fourth Monday, at the Queen of Peace Family Life Center, in Sweet Home. Father Richard Barfield will be the featured speaker February 27th. Mass will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Queen of Peace Church, with the meal and program to follow. Become a better disciple and enjoy fellowship and food with friends. Visit www.lavacacatholicmen.com or contact Robert Lewis 817-897-2678 for more details.

SACRED HEART MEN'S ACTS RETREAT – will be held March 16-19 at Cathedral Oaks with round trip transportation from Sacred Heart Church in Hallettsville. The theme is "I Was Blind and Now I See." The cost per retreatant is \$175 which includes the registration fee of \$25. Registration forms with more information are in the back of church and online at <https://www.shcatholicchurch.org>.

Catholic Daughters #797 – 2023 **dues** of \$25.00 are now owed. Checks payable to CDA #797 can be mailed to Catherine Lyssy, Financial Secretary, 380 CR 170, Hallettsville, TX 77964 or bring to the **Meeting** Monday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Family Center.

THE GABRIEL PROJECT is excited to host its 2nd annual "**Let's Taco 'Bout Babies**" **Bingo Benefit** on Thursday, Feb. 23rd at the Club Westerner at 6 p.m. to help the ministry to cover expenses for the Mother Baby Services & The Bethlehem Maternity Home. There will be a Taco Bar & drinks along with Purse Bingo & hunting gear. **Tickets** are \$50 each (which includes the meal, drink & 10 bingo games). **Sponsor tables** for 8 can be purchased for \$1,500 and **Side tables** for 12 for \$800 or become an **Event Sponsor** for \$5,000. All can be **purchased** online at victoriagabrielproject.org or at the Gabriel Project Office, 101 W Convent, Victoria. For information contact michele.rohde@ampf.com.

KC #2433 AND CDA COURT #797 - 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – will be Saturday, February 25, 2023. **Please RSVP by Monday, February 20** to the Hallettsville KC Hall at 361-798-2311 so that preparations can be finalized. Leave a message after office hours. We look forward to having you join in this celebration.

We are working on the big raffle for St. John Picnic. Cash prizes and gift card donations are currently being accepted thru March 10th. Please contact Ann (979-561-6261) or Gary (979-743-0697).

Diocese of Victoria Men's Conference – Be a man, Be a Saint – will be Saturday, February 25, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church, Victoria. **Cost:** \$40 per person. Six registrations for the cost of five. Priests, deacons, seminarians are free. To register visit www.victoriadiocese.org. The **keynote speaker** will be Father Larry Richards along with Mass celebrant Bishop Brendan Cahill as well as Gary Marek and Deacon Joe Machacek. Adoration and Confession will be available.

Memorials

Ascension of Our Lord Building Fund

In Memory of Donna Coldewey

Leonard & Marilyn Goerig - \$20

In Memory of Clinton Cernik

Henrietta Filip - \$10

Dennis & Barbara Janak - \$50

In Memory of Tim Shimek

Josh Kalich - \$25

Hilbert Henke - \$10

Travis & Kari Etzler - \$50

Larry "Bear" Kana - \$20

Annette Coerver - \$10

Greg & Vanessa Shimek - \$25

Kenny & Jane Janecek - \$40

Roland Vacek - \$100

Don & Doris Hoeinghaus - \$20

Jason Barta - \$25

Norbert & Theresa Banse - \$20

Nathan & Jill Etzler - \$25

Phil & Kathy Guenther - \$25

Janet Spies - \$25

Leroy, Diana, Lindsay & Haley Etzler - \$50

Leo C. & Dorothy Henke - \$25

Dennis & Barbara Janak - \$50

Ascension of Our Lord Cemetery Fund

In Memory of Tim Shimek

Gary & Dolly Etzler - \$20

James Raab - \$20

Daria Emmel - \$10

Billy & Amy Gerke - \$100

Frank, III & Ginger Tilicek & Cheryl

Lauterstein - \$100

Randy & Dawn Shimek - \$20

Ascension of Our Lord Church

In Memory of Tim Shimek

Madeline & Justin Brown - \$30

Lindsay Etzler - \$50

Donald & Gracie Grohman - \$20

Marty Hrnecir - \$80

Donald & Karen Kutac - \$20

David Pesl - \$20

Tommy & Clara Holub - \$25

Joseph & Diane Kallus - \$20

Andrew & Susan Velasquez - \$20

Paul & Sandra Migl - \$20

Tommy & Diane Hadash - \$20

Dave & Gail Zambie - \$100

Chris & Sara Wick - \$20

Kenneth & Tammy Cerny - \$20

Joe & Carol Janak - \$20

Vic & Gloria Jasek - \$50

Frances Vacek - \$50

Dale & Claudia Vrana - \$20

W. L. Shimek Music Scholarship

In Memory of Tim Shimek

Stanley & Anita Shimek - \$50

Donations In Memory of Evelyn Kusy

St. John Building Fund - \$435.00

St. John Seminary Burse - \$275.00

St. John CCD Program - \$10.00

St. John Cemetery Fund - \$120.00

St. John Altar Society - \$55.00

St. John Cemetery Fund

In Memory of Herbert Pauler

Vernita Dopslauf - \$25

Next Bulletin: March 5, 2023

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, February 28, 2023

GOSPEL MEDITATION

February 19, 2023
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Of all the things Jesus says which seem totally bat-crazy, this one might take the cake: “**But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you.**” An enemy is someone who desires the destruction of you, your projects, or those you care about. To love and pray for them is to want their health, strength, and flourishing. But if they thrive, they are more likely to hurt you and others. So, aren’t you indirectly willing your own destruction, or that of your friends? If you doubt that this problem is embedded in this teaching, when was the last time you actually prayed honestly for the people you really hate?

How can we solve this riddle so we might actually live this command? Recall that enemy-love is the surest sign that you love someone with God’s love, and not with indirect egotism. After all, if my love for my enemy ends up hurting me or my loved ones, it can’t be for me. Enemy-love costs more because there are no tit-for-tats. No reciprocity — just loved poured out, and often pain in return. That’s why it is so precious and rare. “What is unusual about that?” asks the Lord about love for our friends. Jesus wants us to experience the unusual love which only comes from him.

When Jesus was being killed on the cross, he was loving his executioners. In fact, he was holding them in being as they nailed him to the cross. He loved those who were spiritually piercing his Mother’s heart, *while they were doing it*. And when he rose from the dead, he showed us that this kind of love is always worth it. It’s stronger than death. Real love is unusual.

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi

IS GOSSIP A SIN?

Question: Is gossip a mortal sin?

Answer:

To really ask this question, we must consider the Eighth Commandment: “You shall not bear false witness.” In its reflections on this commandment, The Catechism of the Catholic Church invites us to not only think about what bearing “false witness” means, but to also consider how we understand the truth and how we communicate more broadly. This is why so much of this section of the Catechism has to do with the gift of language. With this in mind, we will notice that the word “gossip” isn’t used by the Catechism. Instead, we find the words “detraction” and “calumny,” which are actually two forms that gossip can take, and both can be quite serious.

First, detraction is the revealing of “another’s faults and failings to persons who did not know them,” without morally valid reasons. Calumny, by extension, is saying something about another person that is untrue, and it is sinful because it “harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgements” (see no. 2477). In all of our communication, we have to always recognize that we have a moral obligation to the truth and to always work to protect the reputation and honor of our neighbors (see no. 2479).

Gossip can, in fact, prove to be a very serious sin. After all, the Catechism reminds us: “No one is bound to reveal the truth to someone who does not have the right to know it” (no. 2489). When we have gossiped, especially if we are aware we have damaged another person’s good name or reputation, we want to make every effort to undo the damage we have done, including seeking the grace and forgiveness offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

©LPi

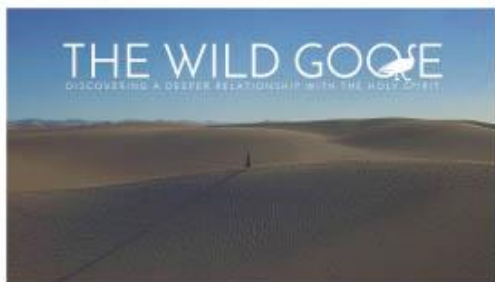
THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of February 19, 2023



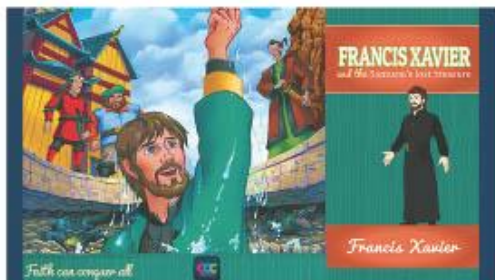
Whole 40: Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.



The Spirit and the Desert

Sometimes we might feel like we're stuck in spiritual deserts. In this episode of The Wild Goose, Fr. Dave Pivonka shares how the Holy Spirit is present even in these times of desolation.



Love—Sacrifice—Trust: He Showed Us the Way by Fr. Mike Schmitz

In this talk, Fr. Mike Schmitz shares with us the need to pick up our crosses and embrace Christ in our own suffering. He reminds us that love often means sacrifice!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

LENT 2023

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches
 Rev. Msgr. John C. Peters, Pastor



= a day of fasting and abstinence from meat



= a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>).</p> <p>26 Imagine being responsible for all the souls in the world. Offer a Rosary for the intentions of the pope.</p>	<p>27 Ask God to show you what is keeping you from experiencing His love fully - worry, fears, sin. Resolve to deal with it by Easter.</p>	<p>28 Offer an extra small sacrifice for God, just for today - coffee without cream, lukewarm shower, no snacking, etc.</p>	<p>1 March Enjoy pretzels - a traditional Lenten snack. The "crossed" arms of the pretzel recalled monks at prayer.</p>	<p>23 Start a prayer book and record those for whom you pray or for what you pray. Also keep track of how God answers your prayers.</p>	<p>24 Catholics are required to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent as a form of penance.</p>	<p>25 The Bible teaches us to deny ourselves and give instead to those in need. Read Matthew 6:1-4 to learn more about sacrificial almsgiving.</p>
<p>5 After Mass today, go out to eat with other parishioners from church.</p>	<p>6 Dive deeper into your faith. Skim the glossary in the Catechism for an unfamiliar term and learn the Church's teaching about it.</p>	<p>7 Pick an issue in the news and pray over it today.</p>	<p>8 Figure out on which luxuries you spend the most money. Take a tenth of that amount and put it in the poor box at church.</p>	<p>9 Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who have no one to pray for them. Look here: https://www.usccb.org/prayers/divine-mercy-chaplet.</p>	<p>3 First Friday Attend Mass or visit the Blessed Sacrament (find the red candle). Be present to Him who is present to you.</p>	<p>4 Set up an empty box or bin. Throughout Lent, fill it with gently used clothes. Bring it to a local charity at the end of Lent.</p>
<p>12 Reread John 4:5-30. How is Christ calling you closer to Him? What "jug" would you leave behind?</p>	<p>13 Refuse to gossip, either in person or on screen. Affirm every person or keep silent.</p>	<p>14 Write down your worries. Place the list under a statue or image of Jesus. Pray, "Jesus, I surrender this to You. Take care of everything."</p>	<p>15 Attend Confession and experience God's mercy. Resolve to make amends where you can.</p>	<p>16 Check out Catholic Relief Services to see how you can support their projects. Look here: https://www.crs.org.</p>	<p>10 Resist "idle curiosity." Don't research trivial questions or follow every browser thread. Unless it's important, it's okay not knowing.</p>	<p>11 Pray for pregnant mothers and their babies. Consider donating to pro-life charities that help women in crisis.</p>
<p>19 Lactare Sunday Unless it's sinful, enjoy something you gave up for Lent in joyful anticipation of Easter!</p>	<p>20 St. Joseph's Day St. Joseph silently, selflessly cared for Mary and Jesus. Pray for fathers and entrust them to St. Joseph's care.</p>	<p>21 Do an act of kindness. Whether openly or secretly, do it for God's glory. It's really Him you're serving.</p>	<p>22 Take the box of clothes you set up on March 4 to a clothing drive.</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day In honor of St. Patrick, evangelize silently by wearing a symbol of your faith (e.g. a cross, medal).</p>	<p>18 Contact local shelters and soup kitchens and ask if they need volunteers.</p>	<p>25 Annunciation of the Lord Mary said "Yes!" to God's plan. Pray three Hail Marys for the grace to give your "Yes" to Him, too.</p>
<p>26 Fast from unnecessary screen use today. Use the time to read a book, walk outside, pray.</p>	<p>27 This week, set up when the alarm goes off and offer your day to God's service.</p>	<p>28 Send your parish priests a "spiritual bouquet" - listing the prayers you'll offer for them (e.g. three Hail Marys, an Our Father).</p>	<p>30 The Our Father is the prayer given to us by Jesus. Pray each line slowly. Really think about what you are saying.</p>	<p>24 Practice patience... patiently. Be patient with everyone, but first of all with yourself (St. Francis de Sales).</p>	<p>25 Annunciation of the Lord Mary said "Yes!" to God's plan. Pray three Hail Marys for the grace to give your "Yes" to Him, too.</p>	<p>1 April Declutter, dust, and clean the house in preparation for Holy Week - the holiest time of the year.</p>
<p>2 Palm Sunday Display blessed palms around your home, "that the King of Glory may come in!" (Psalm 24:7)</p>	<p>3 Holy Week is a busy time for parishes. Stop by your parish office and ask how you can help.</p>	<p>4 Pray for those who are coming into the Church at the Easter Vigil.</p>	<p>6 Holy Thursday Visit the Blessed Sacrament. Offer Him your love for the "lost hour" of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:40).</p>	<p>31 Today, fast from complaining. Cultivate gratitude instead.</p>	<p>7 Good Friday Read the Passion Narrative, John 18, 19. See Jesus' offering of love for you. How will you respond?</p>	<p>8 Holy Saturday Renew your baptismal vows and commit to living your faith more fully this year.</p>