

SUNDAY-SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

Mass Intentions:

Sunday, September 14-

9:15 a.m.-Phil Mladenka

Wednesday, September 17-

6:00 p.m.- CCD Students

Sunday, September 21-

9:15 a.m.-Joe & Cecilia Fikac

Sunday, September 28-

9:15 a.m.-Living & Deceased Members of
Guntram & Annie Janak Family

First Friday, October 3-

7:00 p.m.-Joseph, Alois & Sophie Opela,
& Hedwig Opela Dehart

Sunday, October 5-

9:15 a.m.-Ronnie Kanak

Rosary Leaders:

Sept. 14-Dorothy Schneider

Sept. 21-Sandy Konvicka

Sept. 28-Ruth Rouse

Oct. 5-Lucille Klekar

Lectors:

Sept. 14-Dedie Dobbs

Sept. 21-Pat Mladenka

Sept. 28-Dorothy Schneider

Oct. 5-Daniel Matula

Cantors:

Sept. 14-Choir

Sept. 21-Ruth Rouse

Sept. 28-Pat Mladenka

Oct. 5-Lucille Klekar

Altar Servers:

Sept. 14-Josh Bludau, Emilie & Ryan Mudd,
Luke Scherer

Sept. 21-Jacob Janak, Clay & Blake Rother,
Simon Machicek

Sept. 28-Adam & Ryan Hermes, Michael &
Robbie Perdziak

Oct. 5-Derek & Kevin Konvicka, Alexus Mizera
& Kaitlyn Rother

*September 14 - The Exaltation of
the Holy Cross*

Extraordinary Ministers:

Sept. 14-Janice Rother, Dedie Dobbs, Pat Pesek
& Carol Rother

Sept. 21-Billy & Bev Hrcir, Ed & Sandra Pustka

Sept. 28-Tony & Joyce Bludau, Vivian Mozisek &
Carol Rother

Oct. 5-Richard Sommerlatte, Evelyn Konvicka,
Trina Sommerlatte & Pat Mladenka

Offertory Gift Bearers:

Sept. 14-Larry & Agnes Greer

Sept. 21-Michael & Margaret Hanslik

Sept. 28-Roman & Miranda Henke

Oct. 5-Scott & Sharon Henrichs & Family

Ushers:

Sept. 14-Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Gilbert
Urbish & Charles Grafe

Sept. 21-Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar
& Sidney Jasek

Sept. 28-Eugene Gillar, Robert Sciba, Bernard
Patek & Richard Sommerlatte

Oct. 5-Stanley Orsak, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert
Mozisek & Marvin Bujnoch

Church Cleaners:

Sept. 13-Rosalie Tobola, Glenda Tobola &
Mary Jo Bludau

Sept. 20-Helen (Dornak)Janak, Gussie Kelnar
& Helen Janak

Sept. 27-Charlene Klekar, Janice Rother &
Sue Cinadr

Oct. 4-Joyce Janak, Anita Steffek, Helen
Technik & Ruth Rouse



From the Desk of Msgr. John.....

Another school year has arrived. It is time for our Religious Education Program to begin soon.

We thank Cindy Svetlik for taking the position of Director of Religious Education for one more year. Also, thank you to the returning teachers and the new ones for this year. If anyone is interested in helping out with the CCD Program, please contact Cindy Svetlik.

CCD News:

CCD will begin this year on September 17th with Mass at 6:00 p.m.

Registration packets will be mailed approximately 2 weeks prior. If you do not receive your packet, are new to the parish or have a child beginning kindergarten, please call Cindy Svetlik @ 772-8875 and a packet will be mailed to you.

We are still in need of CCD teachers. Please consider this wonderful ministry.

Messages & Announcements

Promise of Marriage:

Jessica Quinn & Matthew Hanslik on Sept. 20. Flowers on the Main Altar on the weekend of September 20 & 21 will be in honor of Jessica Quinn and Matthew Hanslik.

If you are interested in serving as a Lector or Extraordinary (Eucharistic) Minister, please call Pat Mladenka at the Rectory (798-2128) on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

September Bulletin Sponsor:

Gilbert & Evelyn Mozisek in memory of Jeremy Mozisek.

Attendance at Mass:

Aug. 3—283 Aug. 10—302
Aug. 17—339 Aug. 24—290
Aug. 31—320

**Memorials to St. Mary's Memorial Fund
In Memory of LillieKolacny**

Ed & Judy Aulick-\$10; Lillian Harned-\$10; Mary Ann Staha-\$20; Kubena Funeral Home-\$20; Franklin Billimek-\$15; Randy & Tori Dornak & Melissa-\$20; Rosemary Hermes-\$10; M/M Patrick Belcik-\$20; Alton J. Grahmann-\$20

**Memorials to St. Mary's Altar Society
In Memory of Lillie Kolacny**

Glenn & Donna Leopold-\$10; Roman & Miranda Henke-\$20; Bruce & Debbie Schneider-\$30

In Memory of William "Suggie" Grahmann

James, Barbara & Kevin Matula-\$10

**Memorials to St. Mary's Cemetery Fund
In Memory of Lillie Kolacny**

Sandy Supak & Denise Dunkin-\$40; Elroy & Barbara Holik-\$10; M/M Jimmy Steffek-\$10; Wilbert & JoAnn Kristek-\$10; Henry & Ann Kostelnik-\$15; Sharon Janak-\$10; Emma Bujnoch & Joseph-\$10

Financial Report for August 2014

Income:

Sunday Collections.....	\$ 5,247.90
Children's Collections.....	61.00
Assumption.....	145.00
Hall Rentals.....	600.00
Memorials.....	145.00
	<u>\$ 6,198.90</u>

Expenses:

Hall.....	\$ 119.47
Utilities.....	162.67
Maintenance.....	150.00
Office.....	892.50
Priest Pension.....	94.00
Administration.....	357.00
Health Insurance.....	406.00
Church.....	<u>1,611.67</u>
	<u>\$ 3,793.31</u>

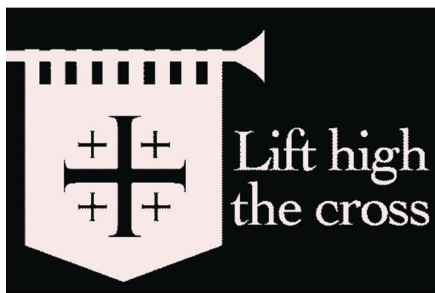
Beginning Balance.....	\$52,319.33
Income.....	6,198.90
Expenses.....	<u>3,793.31</u>
Operating Balance.....	<u>\$54,724.92</u>

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross –

"And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up." The first reading today refers to the story of the Israelites and the serpents. These venomous creatures were biting and killing the people of Israel wandering in the desert. Moses begged God to save them from the affliction. God chose a strange antidote to the poison: He told Moses to mount a bronze serpent on a pole. Those who looked at it survived.

In the Gospel reading, John refers to this historical event in the context of salvation. Then, the people of God were saved from physical death by looking up. Now, we are saved from spiritual death in much the same way. Through the cross where Jesus was "lifted up," God has given us an antidote to the poison of sin. The habits of selfishness that threaten to suffocate our souls can be overcome when we raise our eyes to this cross upon which Christ made the ultimate act of selflessness.

Today at Mass, many of us will sing the



rousing hymn "Lift High the Cross" and call to mind this "triumphant sign" that has come to

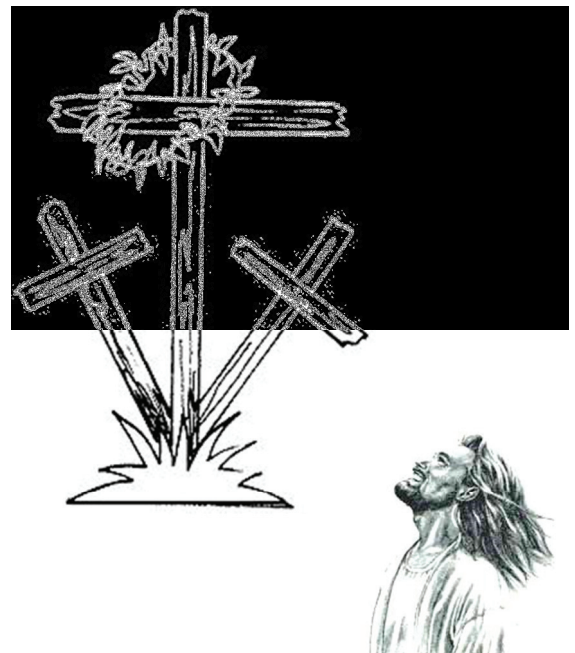
be equivalent with Christianity itself. The cross is our symbol, our banner, and our hope. As Christians, we march behind it with confidence and courage because through it, even the most fearsome of all human realities—sin and death—have been conquered. Now we can enjoy the gift of eternal life.

But, like the children of Israel wandering in the desert, we have to participate in our own salvation. God desired that they actively "look" at the bronze seraph instead of passively being cured. So too, we must choose to actively embrace the cross of Christ by modeling our lives after the generous, life-giving love of the Lord.

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40 Days for Life Prayer Campaign-

For the past 5 years, various Catholic schools from the Diocese of Victoria have participated in the 40 Days for Life prayer campaign in Houston. This year, we are calling on all the schools and parishioners to join in this effort on Wednesday, October 29, 2014. We will meet at the Planned Parenthood at 4600 Gulf Fwy, Houston, TX 77023 on that day at 10:30 a.m. and pray until noon. I hope your school and your parishioners can join us! For questions or more information, contact Fr. Tommy Chen, pro-life coordinator for the Diocese of Victoria, at (361) 552-6140 x100.



**THE HOLY CROSS
(By Saint Thomas Aquinas.)**

**The Cross is my sure salvation.
The Cross I ever adore.
The Cross of my Lord is with me.
The Cross is my refuge.**

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

September 2014

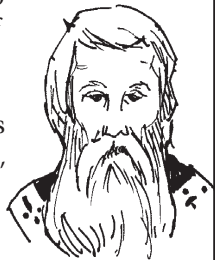
Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Pope St. Gregory the Great

A great pope of the Church, Pope St. Gregory gave up the privileges of being a rich man's son to serve God. As a young man, he became one of seven deacons of Rome. He then became Rome's Chief Magistrate but resigned to become a monk turning the family estate into the Abbey of St. Andrew.



Elected pope at age 50, St. Gregory made peace with the invading Lombards, saved Rome from famine, and restored order within the Church itself.

Our rock

Although the world may change, God stays the same. He can be trusted to provide love, support, strength, patience, wisdom, insight, and creativity when we need it. All we have to do is ask. *"For I the Lord do not change ..."* (Malachi 3:6).

Power in number

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).



God loves me; this I know."

We are loved immeasurably by Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Why, then, do we often fear God as a stern taskmaster who imposes impossible rules and waits to catch us in misdeeds? Instead, let's be confident in his warmth.

God is love.
"Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God ... for God is love" (1 John 4:8). God's very nature is love. He isn't capable of ill will, ridicule, or bad feelings. He can only love and want us to love.

God is only capable of wanting our good. When someone loves us, he

wants the very best for us. *"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope"* (Jeremiah 29:11).

God doesn't want us to wonder about him. We don't have to guess who he is. He makes it easy to come to know him. *"... Let*

him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practice steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I

delight, says the Lord" (Jeremiah 9:24).

We get to know him through seeking him in prayer and action.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do we say the Church is "Apostolic?"

The Church was founded on the Apostles, sent by Christ to *"make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you"* (Matthew 28:19-20). The Apostles conferred their mission and authority on their successors with the imposition of



hands, still done today.

The faith of the Apostles was preserved through time via this apostolic succession. *"[The Church] continues to be taught, sanctified, and guided by the Apostles until Christ's return, through their successors in pastoral office"* (CCC 857).

Mistakes can be blessings

Do you dread making mistakes and feel remorse when you do? Instead, realize that mistakes are simply outcomes we didn't expect and can lead to growth.

Start by admitting your mistake. You can only learn from a mistake if you admit you made one. Acknowledging the error takes the focus away from assigning blame and moves it toward understanding a future course of action.

Enlist help. Talking to someone else about what happened gives you the benefit of another's experience. He or she may have made a similar

mistake or know of solid solution. Plus, describing the event forces you to think it through and may even help you see opportunities you didn't know were there.

Decide on change. Ask, "What will I do better next time?" Real growth and change happen when you see possibilities for improvement.

Benefit from mistakes. If you can learn from the current error, you may be able to avoid a future one.

Remember, God is the only one you know who doesn't make mistakes.

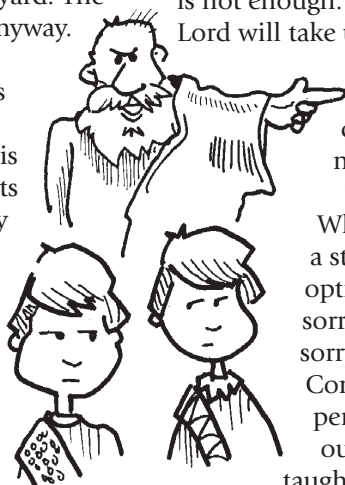


from Scripture

Matthew 21:28-32, Honest obedience.

Jesus told of a man who asked his two sons to go work in his vineyard. The first said, "No," but went anyway. The second said, "Yes," but didn't go. Which son did as the father asked?

The father in the parable is God. The first son represents the outcasts of society. They said "No" to God at first, but repented of their sins and changed. The second son represents the Jewish religious leaders. They said "Yes," but it was just lip service. They followed rules rather than change their hearts.



Saying, "Yes, God, I believe in you," is not enough. If we presume that the Lord will take us into Heaven just

because profess our faith, we will be disappointed. Words are not enough.

True obedience is lived. When we realize we are in a state of sin, we have two options. We can say we're sorry, or we can show we're sorry by going to Confession, doing sincere penance and amending our lives. Living as Jesus taught us is our way of "working in our Father's vineyard."

Q & A Why is the Our Father called, "The Perfect Prayer?"

One reason we call the Our Father, "The Perfect Prayer," is because Jesus



taught us to pray it (Luke 11:1-13). It is actually four prayers in one. First, it is a prayer of praise and gives God the glory that he is due.

Second, it is a prayer of petition in which we ask God to provide what we need.

Third, it is a prayer asking for forgiveness and the strength to be forgiving. And last, it is a prayer of acknowledgement. It leads us to admit that God knows what is best for us and reminds us to submit to his will rather than our own. That's what makes it the perfect prayer and the perfect prayer model.

The Our Father is a good beginning to heartfelt prayer. Jesus encourages us to ask for God's help, seek God's will, and open the door to God's grace in our lives.

Feasts & Celebrations

Sept. 13 - St. John Chrysostom (407). A powerful public speaker, he was a brutal critic of clergy who abused their office and royals who turned a blind eye to the suffering of the poor. He died in exile as a result

Sept. 27 - St. Vincent de Paul (1660). St. Vincent de Paul, was devoted to the spiritual and physical relief of the poor and sick. He founded several hospitals, and ransomed over 1,200 galley slaves from North Africa.

Sept. 21 - St. Matthew. Also known as Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St.

Matthew left everything when Jesus called him to spread the Gospel. He wrote the Gospel According to Matthew.

Sept. 29 - St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael, the Archangels. Members of the third hierarchy of angels around the throne of God, archangels are entrusted with important missions to mankind such as St. Gabriel's visit to the Blessed Mother to tell her she had been chosen as the mother of God.



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