

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Sunday, February 2, 2020

1648 FM 340
Hallettsville, Texas 77964-5862
St. Mary's Rectory: 798-2128
Sacred Heart Rectory: 798-5888

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 9:15 a.m.
First Friday: 6:00 p.m.

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 RECONCILIATION

First Friday: 6:30 p.m.
Any time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the rectory.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD – Every Wednesday from
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Contact: Carol Rother (798-6856)

WEBSITES

Cemetery: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Catholic Cemeteries”)
Safe Environment: www.victoriadiocese.org
(Click on “Safe Environment Program,” then on “eAppsDB”)



PASTOR

REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS V.G.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Scott J. Hill

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Joseph (Joey) Targac
Rev. Mr. Michael Tankersley

ST. MARY'S HALL RENTAL

Judy Opela (798-2738)

PARISH BUILDING COMMITTEE

Leon Etzler, Robert Technik, Francis Klekar,
Richard Sommerlatte, & Al Svetlik, Jr.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Joyce Janak, Blasé Konvicka, Jr., Jerome
Pesek, Pat Pesek, & Larry Svetlik

CEMETERY Miranda Henke (798-3731)

EWTN Cable Channel 71 or Dish Channel
261

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, February , 2020,
by 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Sunday, February 2, 2020

Mass Intentions:

Sunday, February 2—The Presentation of the Lord

9:15 a.m. – John & Lucy Henke

Friday, February 7—First Friday

6:00 p.m.— Wied KJZT #53 Living & Deceased Members

Sunday, February 9—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:15 a.m. – Mike & Helen Technik's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, February 16—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Time

9:15 a.m. – Victoria C. Orsak

Sunday, February 23—Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Time

9:15 a.m. – Charles Schilab

Wednesday, February 26

6:00 p.m. - Parishioners

Sunday, March 1—First Sunday of Lent

9:15 a.m. – Marvin & Susan Bujnoch 45th Wedding Anniversary

Friday, March 6—First Friday

6:00 p.m.— Jimmie & James Patek

Bulletin Sponsor: Mike and Helen Technik

St. Mary Second Collection

St. Mary's Church Second Collection on the second Sunday of the month is for the St. Mary's Altar Society. This money is used by the Altar Society for occasional coffee/donuts after Mass and activities at the St. Mary's Parish Hall for special events and various needs for the altar.

PARISHIONERS

If you have information for the Bulletin, please be reminded that the Deadline for Bulletin entries is Monday at Noon before the First Sunday of the Month Bulletin.



Youth Ministry Needs Your Help.

Please consider being on Our Team. 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).

CCD

On Wednesday, February 12, 2020, Bishop Cahill will have Mass for the CCD Students at 6:00 p.m.
Everyone is welcome to attend

Financial Report for January, 2020

Income:

Sunday's Collections	\$7,120.00
Children's Collections	139.05
Hall Rental	800.00
Memorials	130.00
Votive Candles	44.14
Church in Latin America	30.00
Pasture Rent	<u>150.00</u>
Total Income	<u>\$8,413.19</u>

Expenses:

Administration	\$ 357.00
Church Expenses	50.00
Hall Expenses	444.00
Maintenance	25.00
Office/Rectory	583.42
Utilities	337.04
Black & Indian Missions	12.00
Human Development	17.00
Medical Insurance	406.00
Mission Sunday	88.00
Retirement of Religious	<u>84.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$2,403.46</u>

Beginning Balance:	\$101,879.67
Income	8,413.19
Expenses	<u>-2,403.46</u>
Balance	<u>\$107,889.40</u>

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).

Please pray for the Veterans who have served Our Country & have sacrificed & given so much for our freedom.

Please pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life!

CCD

On Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020, there will be Mass at 6:00 p.m. for CCD students, parents, and parishioners.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Today is the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the temple.

We hear in the Gospel of Luke:

There lived in Jerusalem at the time a certain man named Simeon. He was just and pious, and awaited the consolidation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not experience death until he had seen the Anointed of the Lord. He came to the temple now, inspired by the Spirit; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform for him the customary ritual of the law, he took him in his arms and blessed God in these words:

“Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word.

For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed displayed for all the peoples to see:

*A revealing light to the Gentiles,
the glory of your people Israel.”*

Almighty, ever-living God, we humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be presented to you with minds made pure.

Tomorrow is the Feast of St. Blaise. We will bless throats at all Masses this weekend.

Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop, and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS #797

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS #797 DUES

Catholic Daughters dues for 2020 of \$25.00 are now past due. Payment can still be mailed to: Anita Steffek 549 CR 186, Hallettsville, TX 77964.

Please make checks payable to: CDA Court #797.

Craft Day will be on Monday, February 3, 2020, at the Family Center, from 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

If you have not picked up your Church Support Envelopes from the back of Church, please do so. Also, if you need envelopes, contact Pat at the Rectory on Monday or Wednesday at 361-798-2128.

AREA EVENTS

- **Ladies, Start the new year right by attending a Women's Evening of Reflection** on Monday, February 3, 2020, 6:30 p.m. at Featherock Center, 934 Holub Road, Schulenburg. Make your spiritual formation a New Year's resolution.
- **St. Mary's Catholic Church Parish Festival**, Victoria, Texas. Sunday, February 9, 2020. 10:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Victoria Community Center
- **Bishop Cahill will celebrate a special Mass of thanksgiving** for the faith brought to Texas by Czech immigrants; and bless the newly founded Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas on the Feast Day of SS Cyril and Methodius on Friday, February 14, 2020 at 2 p.m. in Dubina's historic church named after these saints. A reception will be held in the hall afterward. Everyone is invited. The church's location is at 3438 FM 1383, northwest of Weimar, Texas. Come helping sing the Czech hymns.
- **Men's Gathering** Sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria. Guest Speaker: Damon West. Saturday, March 21, 2020, 8:00 a.m.-Noon. Our Lady of Victory Cathedral Center, 1309 E. Mesquite Lane, Victoria, Texas. Tickets: \$10 (Breakfast included). Register at www.victoriadiocese.org/get-in-the-game



2020



“FORTY CANS FOR LENT”, a successful program promoted by the Knights of Columbus Council #2433 will be continued again for the 2020 Lenten Season Pantry to help those in need. Drop off your food products at the K of C Hall during business hours or at Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John the Baptist, or Ascension of Our Lord--Moravia Churches. Look for drop boxes. Monetary donations will also be accepted. If giving a check, make it out to the K of C #2433. Praise God for our giving community.

Michael Wick, Chairman

Please donate only canned goods or non-perishables as stated on available flyers.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

We are missing some Christmas decorations. If anyone removed the pedestals and fabric from the front of the altar, please call Pat at the Rectory (Monday or Wednesday) at 361-798-2128

February 2nd, 2019

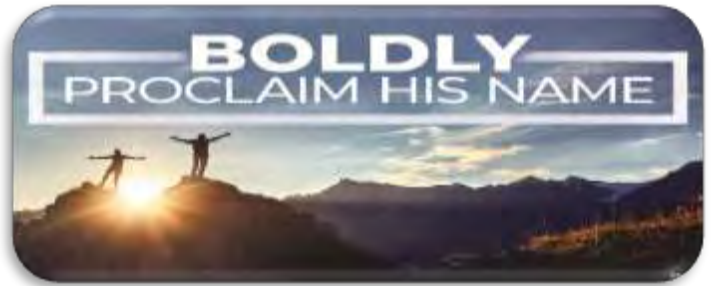
Presentation of the Lord

“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.” Very often, having more light is not something we desire as it forces us to confront something we really do not want to see. There can be comfort found in darkness. It has an eerie sense of security to it. We do not have to challenge ourselves or be challenged and can simply exist in some fabricated state of self-fabricated blissfulness. Jesus came to bring light, and it is a light that is resisted by many and hated by some. It is a light that causes us to see things as they really are and not as we would want or need them to be.

It is no wonder then that Simeon boldly and honestly proclaims to Mary, “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted and you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” We have to take the Gospel message as it is and not just use those parts that are useful to us or more palatable. Taking Jesus at face value can and will lead to turmoil and dissention. Hearts will be pierced. Whether we like it, Jesus’ proclamation of what the world God created really ought to look like has real and absolute social implications.

It has a lot to say about how we treat our brothers and sisters: spiritually, personally, economically, and globally. It has everything to do with the poor, the immigrant, the scared, the unborn, the vulnerable, the sick, and the broken. The light opens us to a challenging, table-turning experience that may not be something we want to see but shows us where we need to be.

© LPi



Healing Our Blindness

The value of stewardship living is difficult to see unless we are experiencing that way of life for ourselves. You can read 100 Everyday Stewardship reflections and go to church every Sunday, but unless you are actively growing in faith and trying to live a life of generous stewardship, you cannot see the power of such a lifestyle. Like most things, we need direct, purposeful experiences to really understand.

I worked in a stewardship parish for over 20 years, but it was only after I started treating all I have as God’s, and began to actively offer all I am to Him for His glory, that I really got the message. That doesn’t mean I am a perfect steward. Far from it! However, the stress and anxiety that comes with life has greatly diminished because all is in God’s hands. I choose to act more generously than before, which provides me with a sense of fulfillment and joy. How I act towards my family, friends, and even people I meet daily has changed. Now I am more mindful of their presence, and I seek to give them a part of me that just might change their day and bring them a little closer to Christ. I am transforming into a disciple who seeks to use all I have been given to transform all that is around me.

It would be a shame to be blind to the important things for an entire life. Today, consider taking a path of life-changing stewardship. Give it all to God. In the midst of all you have been given, you just might find God in a profound way. You may even find the real person God created you to be.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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**ST. MARY'S ALTAR SOCIETY REPORT
2019**

Income:

Second Sunday Collection	\$1,580.50
Memorials.....	2,390.00
Donations	<u>225.00</u>

Total Income:..... \$4,195.50

Expenses:

Discaled Carmelite Nuns.....	\$ 99.00
Sacco (Candles and Oil).....	221.13
Autom (Prayer Cards and CCD Stoles).....	236.41
Holy Water Liner & Purifactors.....	41.76
Trunk & Treat.....	75.00
Confirmation Retreat.....	187.45
Root Candles (Wine).....	122.05
Christmas Gifts (Priests and Altar Servers)	350.00
Feast Day (Soup and Sandwiches).....	267.13
Sacred Heart Church	30.00
May Crowning.....	27.02
Education of Seminarians.....	300.00
Mary Regina (CCD Stoles & Prayer).....	187.81
F.C. Ziegler (Violet & Green Vestments).....	<u>1,171.21</u>

Total Expenses:..... \$3,315.97

Balance December 2019	\$4,241.99
Income	<u>4,195.50</u>
	8,437.49
Expenses	<u>-3,315.97</u>
Balance	5,121.52

MEMORIALS

ST. MARY CHURCH

In Memory of Elisa Ulcak: Nara Takakauwa-\$100; William & Amy Gerke-\$30

ST. MARY CEMETERY

In Memory of Louise Pesek: Pete & Glenda Trlicek-\$50

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2020

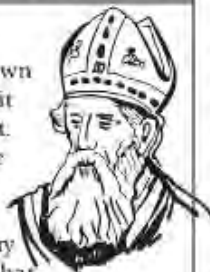
Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Blaise

Not much is known about his life, but it is certain that St. Blaise was the bishop of Sebaste in fourth-century Turkey, and that he was arrested for being a Christian. On his way to jail, he healed a young boy who was choking on a fish bone. According to one legend, the boy's mother also gave St. Blaise two candles in gratitude. Refusing to deny his faith, the bishop was tortured and martyred by the local governor.



Lenten Obligations

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday (February 26th) and Good Friday (April 10th). In addition, all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

The U.S. bishops define fasting as eating one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted as necessary to maintain strength.



Find your new heart during Lent

The root of the word "convert" means to "change," or "transform." Think of turning from sin and evil toward grace, virtue, goodness, and God. It is the transformation of the human heart, by an act of God's grace. *"A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh"* (Ezekiel 36:26).

A new heart. God desires our conversion more than we ever could. With the perfect heart of a Father, he pursues and draws us to himself. Conversion begins by offering him our whole heart so he can remake it as his own.

Break the heart of stone. There can be no healing or conversion when we harbor unconfessed sin. Make a full Confession to a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Don't worry if you have been away for a while. The priest will be happy to guide you and to welcome you back to God's friendship.

A new spirit. When we have a soft and tender heart of flesh, we are able to receive God's

holy will. Our new spirit requires renewal every day. Daily prayer, frequent Confession, and regular reception of the Holy Eucharist will keep our hearts filled with God's love.



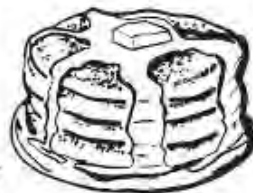
Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Fat Tuesday "Shrove" Tuesday?

Commonly known as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras, the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday has been traditionally spent feasting (especially on pancakes). It is also called "Shrove Tuesday," recalling the tradition of going to Confession. The

word "shrove" comes from "shrive" — the English word for confessing one's sins and receiving absolution.

In fact, there was a custom of churches ringing the "shriving bell" on this day. The goal was to start Lent with a clean soul and a repentant spirit.



Choose Heaven over Earth

Life on Earth lasts but a moment compared to our eternal life, yet we often let earthly concerns take priority over preparing for Heaven. If we put Heaven first, however, God will take care of everything else.

What is important to you? Make a list of what you do each day, from morning to bedtime. The activities that absorb most of your time are your real priorities. If it isn't in God's service, you need a change.



How do you make decisions? Do you look to friends or coworkers for advice? Or do you turn to prayer and Scripture for guidance? Resolve to take your eyes off of the world and place them on Christ. If we base all choices and decisions on God, we will never choose wrong.

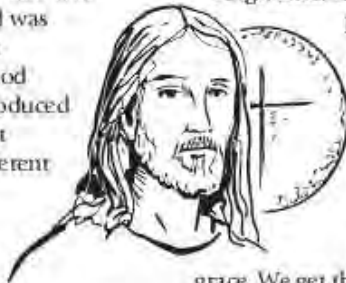
Do you trust God to make you happy? *"For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe! Plans to give you a future full of hope"* (Jeremiah 29:11).

from Scripture

Matthew 5:38-48, Forgive and pray

The ancient concept of justice – *"an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth"* – is from Exodus 21:24, Leviticus 24:20 and Deuteronomy 19:21, and was originally meant to limit violence and prevent blood feuds. Instead, Jesus introduced a new approach, one that would bring about a different kind of justice.

Jesus directed his followers and us to *"be perfect,"* which includes being merciful. God requires our treatment of others – enemies included – to mirror his treatment of his enemies. As Christians, we are to imitate Christ, who forgave his executioners from the



Cross: *"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do"* (Luke 23:34).

Forgiveness doesn't mean letting the person get away with their offense.

Forgiveness means letting go of our anger at the offender and entrusting the situation to God's care. We can't do this alone; we rely on God's

grace. We get this from the Holy Spirit and also from receiving the Eucharist at Mass. By receiving the Eucharist, we are nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ, who strengthens us to lead a more perfect life.

Q How can I fit & more prayer into A my busy day?

"Pray constantly" sounds challenging, but it doesn't have to be. Actually, busy days offer many great opportunities for prayer if we know where to look.



Consider these suggestions: **Pray throughout the day.**

Consider praying the Rosary on the way to work, saying grace before lunch, offering a quick "I love you," or praying for guidance for important decisions. Even job-related tasks can become "prayers in action."

Fifteen minutes a day. Good friends know text messages can't replace being together. It's the same with God. He loves us and wants our company. Aim for 10-15 minutes of daily prayer. Thank God for your blessings, meditate on Scripture, offer him your day, or simply enjoy his company.

It's the love that counts. For her love and humility, Jesus commended a poor but generous widow for her small donation (Mark 12:43-44). Sometimes, we have little time or energy for "good prayer." Remember, what pleases God is not the elegance or number of our prayers, but the love with which we offer them.

Feasts & Celebrations

Feb. 2 - Presentation of the Lord. In accordance with the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple forty days after his birth, and Simeon praised God for revealing the long-awaited Savior.

Feb. 2 - St. Catherine of Ricci (1590). St. Catherine was born to a prominent banker. Against her father's wishes, she joined the Dominicans when she was twelve. She is known for her visions of the Lord's Passion, which she experienced every Friday.

Feb. 17 - The Seven Holy Founders

(13th century). Seven Italian noblemen who withdrew from the immorality of the times to live in prayer, simplicity and penance. Their order, the Servants of Mary, was later approved by the Holy See in 1304.

Feb. 26 - Ash Wednesday. First day of Lent. Ashes from burnt palms are placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence from meat and fasting – one regular meal and two smaller meals that together don't equal a full meal.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version, and the New American Bible)

ST. MARY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY, 2020

Sunday, February 2 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Jules Janak, Timber Janak, Justin Perdziak, Ava Shimek
Cantor	Ruth Rouse
Lector	Daniel Matula
Extraordinary Ministers	Edward Pustka, Sandra Pustka, Dedie Dobbs, Janice Rother
Rosary Leader	Joyce Janak
Offertory Gift Bearers	Pat Mladenka
Ushers	Stanley Orsak, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert Mozisek, Marvin Bujnoch
Church Cleaners	Rosalie Tobola, Glenda Tobola, Mary Jo Bludau
Sunday, February 9 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Ty Gerke, Layne Gerke, Brandt Trliceck, Wyatt Mudd
Cantor	St. Mary's Choir
Lector	Dedie Dobbs
Extraordinary Ministers	Leon Etzler, Carol Rother, Billy Gerke
Rosary Leader	Dorothy Schneider
Offertory Gift Bearers	Mike and Helen Technik
Ushers	Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar, Sidney Jasek
Church Cleaners	Helen (Dornak) Janak, Gussie Kelnar, Helen Janak, Marty Horecka
Sunday, February 16 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Blake Rother, Trace Patek, Macey Pustka, Ashlyn Pustka
Cantor	Laurence Bludau
Lector	Martha Horecka
Extraordinary Ministers	Tony Bludau, Joyce Bludau, Trina Bludau, Scott Sommerlatte
Rosary Leader	Janice Rother
Offertory Gift Bearers	Keith and Amy Orsak Family
Ushers	Russell Sciba, Robert Sciba, Bernard Patek, Richard Sommerlatte
Church Cleaners	Charlene Klekar, Janice Rother, Sue Cinadr
Sunday, February 23 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Rynna Orsak, Rylyn Orsak, Ava Shimek, Justin Perdziak
Cantor	Richard Rouse
Lector	Dorothy Schneider
Extraordinary Ministers	Janice Rother, Dedie Dobbs, Pat Mladenka, Richard Sommerlatte
Rosary Leader	Anita Steffek
Offertory Gift Bearers	Robert Sciba Family
Ushers	Stanley Orsak, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert Mozisek, Marvin Bujnoch
Church Cleaners	Joyce Janak, Anita Steffek, Helen Technik, Ruth Rouse
Sunday, March 1 9:15 a.m.	
Altar Servers	Elizabeth Grahmann, Elena Grahmann, Paige Wright, Allec Mizera
Cantor	Kelly Rother
Lector	Monica Barnes
Extraordinary Ministers	Edward Pustka, Sandra Pustka, Billy Gerke, Nancy Etzler
Rosary Leader	Sandy Konvicka
Offertory Gift Bearers	Marvin & Susan Bujnoch
Ushers	Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Gilbert Urbish, Charles Grafe
Church Cleaners	Sharon Henricks, Lisa Matula, Laura Ulcak

**** If you are unable to serve your Ministry, you are responsible for finding another person to take your place.