

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 15, 2017

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 21st

5 P.M. – Frances, Eddie & James Kupka

Sunday, January 22nd

7 A.M. – Leo G. Janak

9 A.M. – Johnnie Honish

This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

Your Gift to God: January 8th

Sweet Home	\$1,767
Building Fund	\$90
DSA	\$10
Koerth	\$487
DSA	\$10

May God reward your generosity!

Celebrate the Lord's Abundant Mercy

Each Saturday the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance/Confession) is available from 4:00 P.M. to 4:40 P.M. in the Sweet Home confessional.

www.qpcatholicchurch.com

Make sure and check out the parish website for Queen of Peace and St. John the Baptist. A few of the historical pictures are there (still looking for pictures of the church interiors) as well as CCD/Faith Formation calendar, registration and weekly bulletin. There is also a link to the diocesan cemetery database for both cemeteries and links to Catholic sites of interest.

Annual Contribution Statement

Those who would like a statement of their envelope support contributions should call the parish office, 293-3518.

PLEASE JOIN US!! **We Need Your Help in Bringing Awareness to the Dignity of Life!!**

2017 Candlelight March – Thursday, January 26, 2017 beginning at De Leon Plaza at 7:00 P.M. and proceeding to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church.

Main speaker will be State Representative Geanie W. Morrison. Pro-Life groups in attendance and short presentation are: The Victoria Gabriel Project, Knights of Columbus, Crisis Pregnancy of Victoria, and St. Gianna Pro-Life Group. Robert Seale is Master of Ceremonies and others involved in the organization this year are: Bernie Seale, Barbara Williams, and the Knights of Columbus. There are lots of other individuals who have participated to make this year a SUCCESS for LIFE!

Contact Barbara McCain Williams for further information (361) 649-1612.

Human Resources Director

The Diocese of Victoria has an opening for a Human Resources Director. A degree in HR Management is preferred or related experience. Position reports to the CFO. For qualifications, job description, and application, visit: www.victoriadiocese.org. The closing date to apply is January 31st.

*“The Word of God became flesh
and dwelt among us.
To those who accepted him, he gave
power to become children of God.”*

TMIY Update

Each Wednesday morning the men gathered at the bright and early hour of 6:00 A.M. for breakfast, camaraderie, inspiration/reflection and discussion. All meetings concluded by 7:30 A.M. It was both a challenge and reward to be able to dedicate the best part of the day to focusing on what defines us: our faith! If you were not able to take advantage of this opportunity you are in luck! The next semester is now scheduled to begin **February 1, 2017**. And as all good Catholics recall...it will include the time of Lent...offering yet another way to better engage and deepen your faith. This is a new semester so it will be a great time to join us. If you are not sure just ask one of the men that attended the last semester to find out what they think.

Online Giving

The company that provides our offertory envelopes has the ability to allow "online giving" for those who would want to utilize it. There is a link on the parish website that has more information. It offers the possibility of using this for a one-time gift or for setting up regular giving in place of using envelopes. There is an instructional video that provides extra information posted there as well. The donations/gifts given are deposited directly either in Queen of Peace or St. John the Baptist Church accounts--and can be done by bank transfer, electronic check, or using a credit card--and can be setup for single instance, weekly, monthly, etc.

Cemetery Inquiries

Anyone with questions regarding the Catholic Cemeteries should contact the local representatives for the Cemeteries.

Queen of Peace:

Harvey Matussek & J. O. Hermes

St. John the Baptist:

Gene Velek & Jerry/Joyce Kurtz

They can provide the needed information and help with locating available plots. They will also provide the needed details to complete a purchase/reservation and receive a deed for record purposes.

THAT MAN IS YOU

What participants this past fall had to say regarding their experience of this parish offering:

"So many times we take our Catholic faith for granted and assume that there is nothing we can do to help our children and grandchildren realize the important role God plays in their lives. That Man Is You (TMIY) has given me a whole new perspective on the importance of male leadership in family life. TMIY has made me aware that I can make a difference. The focus on Scripture, Church history and events leading up to our current world situation explains why we have so many problems in our society today. TMIY not only addresses the problems, it emphasizes things I can do with my family that can help them grow in faith and be more productive members of the community. Not only does the family benefit spiritually, the economic situation also improves as well.

I strongly encourage young fathers to take advantage of this wonderful program. It can make a difference in your marriage and help your children become more stable and able to cope with challenges they face in this constantly changing world."



The Emmaus Center:

Counseling in the Catholic Tradition

Sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria

1908 N. Laurent Street, Suite 140

Victoria, Texas 77901

For an appointment, go to

www.emmauscounselingcenter.com

or call 361-212-0830

Extending a Listening Heart to Those in Need

"The first session of TMIY was great. It provided a unique perspective, using current real world experiences, to combine faith with my role and responsibilities as a father and grandfather. I am very excited about the next session. I see it as an excellent opportunity to experience the season of Lent from a new perspective."

“The program reinforced the teachings of the Catholic Church on the importance of the father in the family unit. Over a period of 13 weeks, it also gave me the opportunity to share experiences with other fathers in the community who share a strong faith.”

“The ‘That Man Is You’ program has proven to be everything it claimed to be. Having the opportunity to meet with other men in our parish on a weekly basis has become a habit that I look forward to each week. The presenter does an excellent job of dovetailing all the material together in an organized fashion. He correlates the Old Testament with current world events. Finally, the fellowship portion of the program is my favorite part. It gives me an opportunity to hear from other points of view.”

Registration forms for the next TMIY session which starts February 1st are available at the entrances of the church.

How to pray without ceasing?

Pray in baby-talk

You don't need to be good with words to pray as you are supposed to

Anna O'Neil - January 12, 2017

“A disciple comes to his abba (spiritual father) in the desert and says he has a bad foot and doesn't know how to pray about it. Should he pray for a healing or for the grace to suffer?”

The abba lifts up his foot, points to it, and says “Just go before the Lord and say, ‘Foot!’”

(“Prayer that Pierces the Clouds”)

I can't tell you how relieved I was to read this. I've really been struggling with the concept of intercessory prayer. This is partly due to a slew of GoFundMe requests that have come my way lately — a single mother who desperately needs child support, a sick baby who needs an expensive medical treatment, a friend of a friend in critical condition after a car crash — all asking for money, but especially for prayers.

It's upsetting, because after all, God knew about all of this, and so much more, long before I did, and he knows how to fix it, too. I certainly don't. Why does he need

me to ask him? There's just so much to pray for, and I have such limited energy. Can't God just take care of all of this on his own? It's his world, after all!

And it is. It's his world. Deacon Greg Kandra recently wrote about the AA slogan, “Am I doing God's work, or God's job?” What an important distinction to remember. It's God's job to bind up the wounds, comfort the afflicted, and set free the prisoners. God's work, though, is a different matter. Doing God's work means doing what he has asked, and he's made it quite clear that we must “pray without ceasing.”

Talk about an unrealistic request! But prayer needn't be daunting, if we can remember that we aren't responsible for doing God's job. The disciple in the desert doesn't tell God what to do, he just invites him to participate in his situation. In effect, he is really just saying, “Hey, God, see this problem I have?”

My one-year-old son actually does this all the time. He knows a handful of words, but doesn't form sentences yet. He doesn't need to. All he needs to say is “Stuck!” and I will come over, and either pick him up, or talk him through how to get un-stuck all by himself. Either way, his need gets met. If he doesn't even know the word for what's wrong, that's fine too. He just has to shout, “Mama!” Sometimes he doesn't have a problem at all; he just wants me to share in his delighted: “Mama, ball!”

My son just wants me to participate in his life, to be with him when he is glad, to see him grow and learn, to help him out of whatever trouble he runs into. And that's praying without ceasing. You don't need to be good with words to pray like you are supposed to. Actually, praying in baby-talk cuts through all the extra details, and gets right to the heart of the matter. If my son said to me, “Mama, foot!” that would be more than enough.

God doesn't need our advice. It's his job to heal the world in his own way. But he invites us to participate in his action in our world. Even more, he wants to be included in our lives, and that means being included in our desires and hopes, too. He wants to be with us so much that if we say, “God, I want you here in this situation,” he will respond with joy.

He just wants us to say, “God, come be here.” “God, see my foot?” “God, see my child?” So I am trying to learn to speak to God in baby talk. I'm going to stop explaining to him just how bad the problem is, and I'm going to stop trying to tell him how to do his job. He can do his job, and I'll do mine, which is just to include him in my life, in my heart, and in all of my simple and complex desires.

***“Here am I, Lord;
I come to do your will.”***

