

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2018

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 10th
5 P.M. – Alois & Mary Stary

Sunday, February 11th
7 A.M. – Louis, Lena & Jimmie Bolom
9 A.M. – James Kupka

Sanctuary Candle Intention

The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Your Gift to God: January 28th

Sweet Home	\$1,329
Online Giving	\$320
Koerth	\$803
Building Fund	\$20

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.

Ash Wednesday – February 14th Mass Schedule:

7:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

Ash Wednesday Collection

The collection at the Ash Wednesday Masses is for the Church in Eastern Europe.

*"Praise the Lord,
who heals the broken hearted."*

CCD/Faith Formation

There will be **NO CCD** classes held on Ash Wednesday (February 14th) so that families can attend Mass.

You are Invited to: "Rediscover Jesus"

An invitation is extended to you to join a small group using the book "Rediscover Jesus" by Matthew Kelly beginning the week of **February 4, 2018 through March 23, 2018**. Small groups are being offered from 6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Sunday through Thursday. Please call the Parish Office, 293-3518, if you would like to join a small group for Lent and indicate the best day of the week. If you would like to host or form a small group in *your* home (or for more information), call Ashley Hermes, 293-0700, Sharon Janca, 293-8367 or Joyce Harper, 798-6325.

Why I'm Catholic (and you should be too)

Has anyone ever asked you why you're Catholic? Have you ever wondered yourself? Would you like some good reasons? If so, you might enjoy this six part series presented by Fr. Jacob. Sessions will take place on the **Mondays of Lent from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the St. Joseph Family Center beginning February 19th**.



Confessional

At long last the indicator lights have been installed over the confessional door. One burning light indicates priest is available...two burning lights indicate the confessional has a penitent inside and one should wait until they leave and one light (priest) is only one lit.



Lead Me Retreat by God's Embrace March 9-11, 2018

Registrations are open for a Lead Me Retreat by God's Embrace. Come from wherever you are to experience a deeper walk with Jesus. Retreat will be held March 9-11 at the High Hill Conference Center of God's Embrace located at 2911 FM 2672, Schulenburg, TX. Weekend begins Friday evening and concludes with Sunday Mass. Open to couples and singles. Cost is \$100 for retreat and food. Overnight lodging is not provided, but discounted rate is available at Holiday Inn in Schulenburg. Register online at www.godsembrace.org or call 979-561-8883.

2018 13-day Camino de Santiago/ Fatima Pilgrimage!

Please join other Catholics from the Galveston/Houston/Victoria area to hike the Camino de Santiago along the countryside of Spain. This tour begins in Sarria, the most popular Camino starting point, covering the last 100km of the Camino Francés to converge on Santiago de Compostela with an additional stop in Fatima and Porto. There are spots available for the following 2018 dates: June 4-16 and June 25-July 7. If you are interested in joining this spiritual journey, contact Jane Lakatos at jhlakatos@gmail.com.

*"Christ took away our infirmities
and bore our diseases."*

Koerth Parish Hall Restrooms

The hurricane winds brought in quite a bit of water into the Parish Hall restrooms that further damaged the paneling and floor. Our insurance has approved the work to repair these issue utilizing their own repair/restoration company. There has not been a timeline given yet as to when they will begin, but as soon as they inform us it will be posted in the bulletin.



Looking for a Special Way to Rekindle the Spark in Your Marriage? How about an enrichment retreat for marriages??

Father Gary Janak, along with several married couples, will be sponsoring a special weekend for married couples. *Choosing to L.O.V.E.* is a retreat for couples seeking to enrich their marital commitment, by focusing on what brought their covenant into existence – their marriage vows. It is not a weekend for couples experiencing serious problems in their relationship, but for couples seeking to be faithful to their marriage vows and desiring to strengthen the core of who they are as husband and wife. **The retreat will be held at the Spiritual Renewal Center south of Victoria on February 16-18th.** Space is limited, so register now! The cost for the retreat will be \$275 per couple, which includes lodging, food, and materials. Registration forms are available at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory Parish Office in Victoria or by emailing jvincent@olvcathedral.org. *A truly special way to treat your favorite valentine!*

The Emmaus Center: *Counseling in the Catholic Tradition*

Sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria

1508 E. Airline
Victoria, Texas 77901

For an appointment, go to
www.emmauscounselingcenter.com
or call 361-212-0830

*Now offering some services in Spanish
Extending a Listening Heart to Those in Need*

Fighting breast cancer? Here is a patron saint for you

Philip Kosloski

St. Agatha is known for her intercession against this disease that affects both women and men.

Little is known about the daily life of St. Agatha, an early Christian martyr of the 3rd century, but her death is remembered because it was a most memorable martyrdom.

Agatha was a beautiful and much courted adolescent who died for her faith when she was about 20 years old. At the time, the Roman Emperor Decius had issued an edict that required all citizens of Rome to offer sacrifice to the gods, for which they would receive a certificate that authenticated their allegiance to the empire and the pagan deities.

Disobedience to the order would mean torture and, if the dissenter still refused obedience, execution.

A local Roman magistrate took a different spin on the edict and told Agatha that if she would have sex with him, he would dispense with the emperor's edict in her case.

As a faithful Christian, Agatha refused the sinful exchange, and for that she was imprisoned, beaten and subject to excruciating torture that eventually involved the shearing off of her breasts.

In the midst of her suffering she reportedly said, "Cruel man, have you forgotten your mother and the breast that nourished you, that you dare to mutilate me this way?" She is often depicted in art with her breasts on a plate, and it is because of this episode that she is considered the patron saint of all who suffer with breast cancer or other illness and discomforts of the breast.

Agatha eventually died in prison and her name is immortalized in the First Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass, where she is recalled among the early martyrs of the Church.

Other patron saints against breast cancer are St. Aldegundis, St. Giles, and St. Peregrine. St. Zelig Martin is also a popular saint to invoke as it is believed that she died from breast cancer.

Pause for a moment to pray for all those suffering from breast cancer. Below is a traditional prayer to St. Agatha that may be used for this intention.

St. Agatha, woman of valor, from your own suffering we have been moved to ask your prayers for those of us who suffer from breast cancer. We place the NAME(S) before you, and ask you to intercede on their behalf. From where you stand in the health of life eternal – all wounds healed, and all tears wiped away – pray for [MENTION YOUR REQUEST], and all of us. Pray God will give us His holy benediction of health and healing. And, we remember you were a victim of torture and that you learned, first hand, of human cruelty and inhumanity. We ask you to pray for our entire world. Ask God to enlighten us with a "genius for peace and understanding." Ask Him to send us His Spirit of Serenity, and ask Him to help us share that peace with all we meet. From what you learned from your own path of pain, ask God to give us the Grace we need to remain holy in difficulties, not allowing our anger or our bitterness to overtake us. Pray that we will be more peaceful and more charitable. And from your holy place in our mystical body, the Church, pray that we, in our place and time will, together, create a world of justice and peace. Amen.

Feast of St. Agatha February 5th

TO THE

W e a k

I BECAME

W e a k

TO WIN
OVER

THE W e a k.
1 CO R I N T H I A N S