

# Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

## June 17, 2018

### Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>  
5 P.M. – James Jurica

Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>  
7 A.M. – Virginia Markert &  
Matthew Migl  
9 A.M. – Ben Kopecky

### Sanctuary Candle Intention

The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

### This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Ez 17:22-24; 2 Cor 5:6-10; Mk 4:26-34

### Your Gift to God: June 10<sup>th</sup>

Sweet Home	\$1,283
Online Giving	\$20
Building Fund	\$60
Koerth	\$933
Building Fund	\$1,030
DSA	\$55

*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.

### Area Picnics

**Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**  
St. John the Baptist – FM 1383, Ammansville

**Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Sts. Peter & Paul – Plum

**Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**  
St. John the Baptist Parish, Schulenburg

### Picnic Planning Meeting: This Week

There will be a Picnic Planning Meeting on **Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.** in the Sweet Home Parish Hall. *Plan on joining us!*

### Soon....

The flag and pole for Koerth Cemetery is in the works to be replaced and re-installed. As mentioned previously--due to proper etiquette/protocol--to leave the flag out 24 hours it is necessary to illuminate it. So the plan is in process to get this in order and done...hopefully soon.

### Sacred Heart Teen ACTS Retreat July 19-22

The Sacred Heart Teen ACTS Retreat will be held **July 19-22** at Cathedral Oaks in Weimar, Texas. Cost is \$160.00 (\$30.00 registration fee will be credited to retreat fee). Retreatants will depart from Hallettsville on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. and return July 22<sup>nd</sup> for 10:30 A.M. Mass in Hallettsville. Registration forms are available at the back of the church.

### Diocesan Catechist Rally

Those involved in Faith Formation/CCD...mark your calendars! "We are Catechists, Witnessing for Jesus: Living as Missionary Disciples" is the theme for the 2018 Catechist Rally which will be held on **Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>**, at the Cathedral Center, next to the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory, Victoria, Texas. The Catechist Rally is a Catechist appreciation and recognition event. All Catechist and Parish Catechetical Leaders are invited to attend.

*"We walk by faith, not by sight."*

## **-Calling All Youth- You are Invited!**

### **2018 Vacation Bible School**

**July 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>**

### **St. Joseph Family Center**

**9:00 A.M. – 12-noon**

Students entering grades K-6 will be VBS campers  
Students entering grades 7-12 will be VBS helpers

Adult helpers are also needed

Please contact Jana Guajardo at 361-648-3863 or  
faithformation@stj catholicchurch.com

#### **VBS Day Includes:**

River Run Storytelling; Plunge-In Bible Challenge;  
Fireside Snacks; White Water Games; River Riffs  
Music & Dance, and Sandbar Crafts

#### **VBS Daily Colors:**

Monday – Yellow; Tuesday – Red;  
Wednesday – Purple; Thursday – Green;  
Friday – Blue

**\*Safe Environment Student Awareness\***  
will take place Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> during snack  
times.

**\*Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup> – Parents are invited to our  
Closing Celebration at 11:45 A.M.\***

**Application forms are available at the  
entrance of the church and at the St. Joseph  
Pastoral Center.**

## **St. Anthony:**

### **The Miracle of the Mule**

We celebrated the Feast of St. Anthony this past Wednesday (June 13). As many of us know of his intercessory friendship in locating lost items, St. Anthony was a great preacher of the Catholic faith at a crucial time in history. An example of his devotional and dedicated piety can be understood in the “miracle of the mule.” When St. Anthony was in Rimini in the year 1223, a heretic named Bonovillo challenged him to prove the doctrine of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist in the following manner. The man would lock his mule in its stall for three days without giving it any food, then bring it into a public square where there would be plenty of hay ready for it. At the same time, St. Anthony would show the consecrated Host to the mule; if it would then ignore the hay and kneel, its owner would convert to the Catholic Faith. On the appointed day, St. Anthony celebrated Mass, then brought the Host in procession to the piazza. On arriving, he said to the mule “By the power and in the name of the Creator, Whom I, for all that I am unworthy, truly hold in my hands, I say to thee, animal, and order thee to come near at once in humility, and show Him proper veneration.” At this, the mule immediately left the hay, approached and knelt, for the sake of which miracle the heretic Bonovillo did indeed convert. In the city of Rimini, in the Piazza of the Three Martyrs, there is a small chapel known as the “Tempietto – little temple”, which marks the place where this miracle took place. So...next time you turn to “Tony” for help with something lost...also recall how he bids us recognize the greatest treasure to be found on earth: Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament!

## **SOS Marriage Retreat**

Surrender your marriage to God's plan.

Open your hearts and let the Holy Spirit lead you.

Serve the Lord in all that you do.

Are you longing to spend relaxing quality time with your spouse and better understand God's plan for your marriage and your family? If so, please join us for the annual Hallettsville Deanery marriage retreat, which will be held **August 17-19** at Disciple Oaks in Gonzales. We are all different couples, at all stages of marriage, and this weekend is designed for anyone! Registration forms are located in back of the church. You may contact Jeff and Leslie Chancellor at 361-772-2650 or Anthony and Joyce Harper at 361-798-6325 for more information. We hope to see you there!

## **Prayer for Fathers**

Heavenly Father,  
you entrusted your Son Jesus,  
the child of Mary,  
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.  
Bless all fathers  
as they care for their families.  
Give them strength and wisdom,  
tenderness and patience;  
support them in the work they have to do,  
protecting those who look to them,  
as we look to you for love and salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# How to pray for your enemies

Philip Kosloski

Including a special prayer for those who wish harm to us by St. Thomas More.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a radical one. Not only did he say that we must “love our neighbor as ourselves” but that need to love our enemies as well.

*You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:43-48)*

It is a powerful passage, one that challenges us to go beyond ourselves and love those in the world who wish us harm.

Yet, it is a necessary part of living a Christian life. Jesus set the example, saying as he stretched out his arms on the cross, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:24).

Pope Francis sees this as a particular key for holiness, explaining in a homily, “Pray for the one who hurts me? ... Yes, because it changes lives ... This is holiness. A man and a woman who do this deserve to be canonized: they become saints. So simple is the Christian life.”

Above, this ability to pray for one’s enemies is a gift of grace, something we must ask for from God. It is certainly not something that comes naturally to us humans, but is a supernatural gift that comes from the Holy Spirit.

St. Thomas More, a man who had many enemies during his lifetime, composed a prayer that helps cultivate a merciful heart, one that asks God’s grace to come down on a person’s enemies.

Here is the prayer that he wrote, a prayer that we can all incorporate into our lives, praying that we will be united with our enemies in heaven, forever rejoicing in the glory of God.

*“The seed is the word of God,  
Christ is the sower.”*

*Almighty God, have mercy on N. and on all that bear me evil will and would me harm, and on their faults and mine together, by such easy, tender, merciful means, as thine infinite wisdom best can devise; vouchsafe to amend and redress and make us saved souls in heaven together, where we may ever live and love together with thee and thy blessed saints, O glorious Trinity, for the bitter passion of our sweet Savior Christ. Amen.*

*God, give me patience in tribulation and grace in everything, to conform my will to Thine, that I may truly say: “Fiat voluntas tua, sicut in coelo et in terra.”*

*The things, good Lord, that I pray for, give me Thy grace to labor for. Amen.*

## Czech Heritage Pilgrimage to Prague:

There is still time to register for a **Czech Heritage Pilgrimage to Prague**, from September 22-30, 2018, celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Czech statehood and the Feast Day of St. Wenceslas. Bishop Patrick Zurek and Father Bob Knippenberg will serve as spiritual directors. This pilgrimage is endorsed by the Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas (the K.J.Z.T.) and the Catholic Union of Texas (the K.J.T.). For more information, contact Ceci Triska at 979-543-8575 or email her at [ceci.triska@gmail.com](mailto:ceci.triska@gmail.com). **The deadline is June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity!

Happy  
Father's  
Day!