

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 5, 2018

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 11th

5 P.M. – Victor & Julia Pavliska,
Frank & Theresa Brosch

Sunday, August 12th

7 A.M. – Robin Pekar
9 A.M. – Antoinette Rothbauer

Sanctuary Candle Intention

The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in memory of Fathers Marcus Valenta, Henry Herbst and Leo Pesek.

This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35

Your Gift to God: July 29th

Sweet Home	\$1,565
Online Giving	\$320
Building Fund	\$61
DSA	\$105
Koerth	\$890
Building Fund	\$550
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.

Faith Formation (CCD)

Registration for CCD classes for the 2018-2019 year will be held on **Saturday, August 25th** after the 5:00 P.M. Mass and on **Sunday, August 26th** after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

Area Picnics

Sunday, August 5th – St. Joseph's – Yoakum
Wednesday, August 15th – St. Mary's – Praha

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15th is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated as follows:

Tuesday, August 14th – 6:30 P.M. (Vigil Mass)
Wednesday, August 15th – 7:00 A.M.

Picnic Donations

It is not too early to be thinking about Auction items...no garage sale merchandise or used appliances, etc.; homemade jelly, pickles, bread, etc. (be sure to list all ingredients on food items).

Picnic 2018

As always, we are in need of volunteers to help in various areas at the Parish Picnic. Please contact Allan Monk if you are willing to give an hour or so of your time to help make the picnic a huge success. Remember, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."*



Help Needed

Our Faith Formation (CCD) Program is in search for classroom teachers and assistants for various grade levels. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Skye Anderle at 361-772-0418 or faithformation@qpcatholicchurch.com.

The Isaacs in Concert

The Isaacs, a multi-award-winning country and bluegrass Southern gospel music family of Hendersonville, TN will perform in concert at the Cuero ISD Performing Arts Center on Saturday, **August 4th** beginning at 7:00 PM. The concert is hosted by the Stevenson Unit Chapel Development Corporation and proceeds from ticket sales will be added to the construction fund for an education and multi-denominational chapel building at the prison in Cuero. Tickets range from \$20 to \$40 and are available online – www.chapelfund.org

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!

Queen of Peace Church Centennial

This past month marked the 100th year since the construction of the present Church building began with the blessing of the church cornerstone in 1918. The actual consecration of the Church took place on June 3, 1919. Looking ahead plans are being considered for a special Centennial Mass on Sunday, June 2, 2019 with the Bishop coming to celebrate the date with an afternoon Mass. At this point getting the date in Bishop's calendar needed to be done. Details and further planning will be considered in the months ahead. Mark your calendars!

CCD Early Registration

For those who want to get ahead and cross an item off of the annual "to do" list...you can find the registration forms available for download in the parish website (or by stopping by the Pastoral Center during office hours). Formal registration will be held August 25th & 26th—this is just information for the "early birds" amongst us.

Safe Environment Training

A Safe Environment Training class will be held **Wednesday, August 22nd at 6:30 P.M.** at the St. Joseph Family Center Meeting Room. This class is mandatory for individuals who are interested in assisting or participating in any school function, field trip, CCD aide. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, etc. Anyone interested in becoming Safe Environment compliant **must complete the online application (www.victoriadiocese.org) prior to attending the class.**



*"One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth
from the mouth of God."*

Why did Jesus invent the Eucharist?

Tom Hoopes

The soul-body unity that is the human being requires treatment that acknowledges both elements. And our Creator knows that ...

It is as if we are two creatures in one, we human beings.

We could say that we are part animal and part “angel.” One part of us is hungry, like a bird, for what will satisfy our body — the other is starved for what will satisfy our soul.

Jesus points to our two hungers in Sunday’s Gospel (the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B). Last week, he showed his preference for giving us more than enough for our body. This Sunday, he wants to give us more than enough for our soul.

Bread is not enough.

Feeding the body is a central aspect of Christianity — from Jesus’ miracle at Cana to the loaves we heard about last weekend, to the Last Judgment when his test for each of us will be, “Who did you feed?”

As one 12th-century Church text put it: “Feed the man dying of hunger, because if you have not fed him, you have killed him.”

But Jesus has also always warned about stopping there.

When the devil tempted him to turn stones to loaves of bread, he refused, saying, “Man does not live on bread alone.”

Today, he hides from the people who want to celebrate him merely because they ate. “Do not work for food that perishes,” he tells them, “but for the food that endures for eternal life.”

Mother Teresa knew what this greater hunger looks like.

“Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think that is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat,” St. Teresa of Calcutta said.

Recent headlines about wealthy suicides would seem to make her point. But our hunger for meaning causes many behaviors that plague us, well short of suicide. There is the hookup culture on campuses, alcohol and drug abuse, even social media.

Clearly we have a gaping hole in our hearts that pains us terribly if we find no way to fill it.

As the Second Vatican Council put it, a human being “plunges into the depths of reality whenever he enters into his own heart; God, Who probes the heart, awaits him there; there he discerns his proper destiny beneath the eyes of God.”

The only way to satisfy our second hunger is to plunge in.

Jesus Christ in this Sunday’s Gospel refuses to settle for satisfying anything less than the deepest hunger he knows the people have.

This is why he invented the Eucharist — to show as clearly as possible that he wants to enter into our lives and fill us with his life.

As the the Catechism puts it, “What material food produces in our bodily life, Holy Communion wonderfully achieves in our spiritual life.” In particular, “As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity.”

In other words, it immerses us in love, making it possible to “put away the old self of your former way of life” and “put on a new self, created in God’s way in righteousness and holiness of truth” as the Second Reading specifies.

The Eucharist can do wonders for us, if we receive the Bread of Heaven not just with our mouths but with our hearts and our lives.

After all, when we are hungry, we can’t think of anything else.

For me, at least, the longest 10 minutes of the day are the 10 minutes before dinner. And when the milk, eggs or bread run out, restocking them is a priority that trumps all other considerations — even if it means going to the store looking like you just woke up.

That is how hunger works: It demands food, now.

Our spiritual hunger has to work that way, too. But often it doesn’t. We are like hungry beggars invited to a feast who stand outside, too self-conscious to go in — too afraid of confession, too afraid of Christ, too afraid of ourselves.

“I am the bread of life,” Jesus tells us. “Whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

We know we are hungry. We know where the food is. We have been invited to the table. What are we waiting for?