

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 26, 2018

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 1st

5 P.M. – Marie Harrell

Sunday, September 2nd

7 A.M. – Otto, Lydia & Toni Havel

9 A.M. – Antoinette Rothbauer

Sanctuary Candle Intention

The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week for our homebound parishioners.

This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

Your Gift to God: August 19th

Sweet Home	\$1,189
Online Giving	\$220
Building Fund	\$30
Feast of the Assumption	\$340
Koerth	\$925
Feast of the Assumption	\$247

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, August 26th

Sts. Cyril & Methodius - Cistern

Sunday, September 2nd

Sts. Cyril & Methodius – Shiner

Sacred Heart – Hallettsville

St. Mary's – Nada

St. John Boscoe – Vanderbilt

Our Lady of Guadalupe – Cuero

St. Mary's – High Hill

Sunday, September 9th

Holy Cross - Yorktown

Faith Formation (CCD)

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

Faith Formation/CCD

Teachers and Assistants:

There will be a brief informational meeting on **Wednesday, August 29th** beginning at **6:30 P.M.** at the Sweet Home Parish Hall in preparation for the new year. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Skye Anderle at 361-772-0418 or faithformation@qpcatholicchurch.com

Please Help

Our Faith Formation (CCD) Program still needs volunteers to help. We need at least 12 individuals to serve as helpers in the classrooms. Time is running short...classes begin September 5th...please volunteer now. For more information or to volunteer please contact Skye Anderle at 361-772-0418 or faithformation@qpcatholicchurch.com.

Office Schedule

The Parish office will be closed Monday, September 3rd for the Labor Day holiday. Normal operations will resume at 8:00 A.M. Tuesday, September 4th.

Special Collection

A special collection for Black and Indian Missions, Catholic Communications Campaign and The Catholic University of America will be taken up at all Masses September 8-9.

"Live in love, as Christ loved us."

September 1st – 5:00 P.M. Mass

The St. Mary's Chapel Choir will be attending and providing the music and singing at the 5:00 P.M. Mass next Saturday, September 1st.

RETURN: How to draw Your Child Back to the Church

Do you know someone who has drifted away from the Church? Not sure what to do? Join us for RETURN as we explore the topics of evangelization, discipleship, and effective strategies for outreach. This 10 week one hour program will be held on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Joseph Family Center beginning **September 4th**. For more information about the book the program is based on, visit brandonvogt.com.

Baptismal Preparation Class

The next class of Baptismal Preparation will be Saturday, **Saturday, September 8th** at 9:00 A.M. in the St. Joseph Family Center Meeting Room.

An “Informed” Decision

Most will remember the “old days” when an adult who wanted to be baptized or received into the Church would undergo several meetings with Father then “become” Catholic. The Church wants those who consider joining it to be as informed as possible about what “they are getting themselves into.” The best way to get a good and broad overview of the Church and its teachings is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.). **It begins on September 9th**, meets weekly (except holidays) and concludes at Easter when the candidates receive all of their Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation). If you have been thinking about joining the Church or know someone who has always said that they are eventually going to become a Catholic, now is the time to encourage them to take the next step. For more information contact Deacon Dennis Kutach at (361)741-2657 or at deacon@stj catholicchurch.com.

“Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ.”

Picnic Raffle Tickets

Extra raffle tickets are available at the entrance of the church or at the Pastoral Center in Yoakum.

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.”*



Dynamic Catholic is coming to the Diocese of Victoria!

What are your habits? Are they helping you become the-best-version-of-yourself or some second-rate-version of yourself? Our lives change when our habits change. Join us on Saturday, September 15th from 9:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Victoria and hear Jonathan Fanning with Dynamic Catholic present “Find Your Greatness – Four habits that will transform your life”. Cost of this event is \$25.00. Tickets may be purchased online at DynamicCatholic.com or by calling 1-859-980-7900. In addition to hearing a life-changing talk, all attendees will receive a hardcover copy of a Dynamic Catholic Book (valued at \$25), a CD copy of The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality (valued at \$10) and an Inspirational Journal (valued at \$12)

“Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.”

The beautiful devotion of the three Hail Marys

The custom started in Germany in the 13th century, and it was beloved by many saints, including St. John Bosco.

Among the devotions to Our Lady, there is one that is very special: that of praying three Hail Marys every day. But, where did this devotion come from?

Its origin dates back to the 13th century, and is connected to St. Mechtilde of Hackeborn, a German Benedictine nun, to whom Our Lady revealed a way of lifting up a prayer of thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity for the privileges granted to the Virgin Mary.

St. Mechtilde was born in 1241 into a noble family. One day, while thinking about her own death, she fervently begged the Mother of God to help her during the last moments of her life.

She heard Our Lady say to her:

“Yes, I will; but I want you, on your part, to pray three Hail Marys to me each day. With the first, you will ask that, just as God the Father raised me up to a throne of glory without equal, making me the most powerful creature in heaven and on earth, so too I may assist you on earth to strengthen you and drive away from you every power of the enemy. With the second Hail Mary, you will ask that, just as the Son of God filled me with wisdom to such an extent that I have more knowledge of the Holy Trinity than all the Saints, so too may I help you during the last moments of your life, filling your soul with the light of faith and of true wisdom, so that the shadows of error and ignorance may not darken it. With the third, you will ask that, just as the Holy Spirit filled me with the sweetness of His love, and has made me so loving that, after God, I am the sweetest and most merciful, so also may I help you at the hour of your death, filling your soul with such gentleness of divine love that all the sorrow and bitterness of your death may be changed for you into delight.”

This was not the only revelation to a saint regarding the devotion of the three Hail Marys.

Another religious, a contemporary of Mechtilde, St. Gertrude, known as “the Great,” had a beautiful vision containing another revelation. This is how it happened: It was the vespers of the feast of the Annunciation, and when it was time to sing the Hail Mary, St. Gertrude suddenly saw something like three springs of water emerging from the Hearts of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, which then penetrated the Heart of the Blessed Virgin.

At that instant, she heard a voice which said, “After the Power of the Father, the Wisdom of the Son, and the Tender Mercy of the Holy Spirit, nothing compares to the Power, Wisdom, and Tender Mercy of Mary.”

The Virgin Mary promised St. Mechtilde that whoever would pray three Hail Marys every day would receive her help during life and her special assistance at the moment of death; the Virgin Mary would appear to them with such brightness and beauty that the mere sight of her would bring consolation and the joys of heaven.

In addition to these two saints, other saints were special promoters of this devotion, such as St. Alphonsus Maria de’ Liguori, who frequently recommended this beautiful practice; or St. John Bosco, who suggested it to young people. St. Pio of Pietrelcina also said that many would convert just by practicing this devotion.

How to pray the three Hail Marys:

Mary, my Mother, free me from falling into mortal sin.

By the power granted you by the Eternal Father, Hail Mary...

By the wisdom granted you by the Son, Hail Mary...

By the love granted you by the Holy Spirit, Hail Mary...

You conclude with a Glory be ... and the brief prayer,

“Mary, by your Immaculate Conception, purify my body and sanctify my soul.” (This prayer was granted an indulgence by Saint Pius X.)

