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My dear parishioners:

One of the joys of spring is to participate in the reception of First Holy Communion of our children. Since 1910 the Catholic Church has identified age seven as the “age of reason”, and the age at which a Catholic can receive Holy Communion. That makes the second grade a very special time for our children. In the fall semester they are prepared for and receive the sacrament of reconciliation, and then in the spring semester they are prepared for and receive their First Holy Communion.

This weekend ten children of our parish are receiving the Lord in the Eucharist for the first time. It is such a joy to see the faces of these children as they say “Amen” and have placed in their hands or on their tongue the real and abiding presence of the Lord in the consecrated host and wine. I am very proud of them for taking this privilege very seriously and receiving the Lord with great reverence. I pray that each time they receive the Lord in the Eucharist they will have the same spiritual love of the Lord that they have when they make their First Holy Communion. Congratulations and God bless you always to Brielle Buckner, Luke Evans, Alejandro Flores, Jackson Griffith, Katie Linney, Elizabeth Lopez, Victoria Lopez, Danna Lopez Ramirez, Isaiah Pippin, and Cristian Reyes.

I wish to offer a word of deep appreciation to those who helped prepare these children for the reception of Holy Communion. First and foremost, I wish to thank the children’s parents and family members who are the first teachers of these children in the ways of faith. The reason the children are able to receive the gift of the Eucharist is because their families have given them and nurtured in them their Catholic faith and love of the Eucharist.

I want to deeply thank as well, Diane Sanderson, the director of our religious formation program for children, and Mrs. Lois Henderson, our second grade religion teacher. By word and example these women taught our children to know and love the Lord in the sacraments of the Church. I am most grateful for their dedication to the parish and for their commitment in sharing the Catholic faith with our children.

This is a wonderful time of the year for each of us to recall our First Holy Communion. What were we wearing then? What were our emotions then? What was our faith commitment then? What do we wear to Mass now? What are our emotions now? What is our faith commitment now? Though we cannot reclaim the innocence of our youth, we most certainly can reclaim the joy of our youth, including the joy we felt when we received the Lord in Holy Communion for the first time. May we recommit ourselves to loving and reverencing the Lord in the Eucharist by the way we come to Mass, participate in the Mass and receive the Lord at Mass. We thank our children for reminding us adults on how blessed we are to receive the Lord in the Eucharist. God bless you all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Frank H. Rossi
 Pastor

April 28– May 6, 2018
Readings and Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 28 4:30pm—Mass
 Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14
Mass intention for Thelma Drouet

Sunday, April 29 9:00am—Mass
 Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/
 1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

Monday, April 30 4:30pm—Mass
 Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26
Mass intention for Thelma Drouet

Tuesday, May 1 11:30am—First Tuesday Mass
 Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/
 Jn 14:27-31a
Mass intention for the Ladies of the Altar Society

Wednesday, May 2 4:30pm—Mass
 Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
Mass intention for Thelma Drouet

Thursday, May 3 8:30am—Mass
 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

Friday, May 4 9:30am—Communion Service
 Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday, May 5 4:30pm—Mass
 Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Mass intention for Nellie Leger

Sunday, May 6 9:00am—Mass
 Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/
 1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for: Nelda Leathem, Maureen Peltier, Mandy Boudreaux, Gabriel & Ronald Petree, Michele Duncan, Allen Carlson, Susie Gaudet, Wayne Cook; Emma Duncan, Jared Dean, Laura Moore, Frank Cuccia, Sr., RoseMary Urban, Michael Strother (Fr. Michael’s father)

Repose of the soul: Linda Jordan, Agnes Courville; Jim Higginbotham

Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You may list names in the Prayer book in the vestibule of the Church and your intention will be offered at daily Mass.

SACRED SILENCE

Please respect the true presence of the Lord in the tabernacle by not visiting before and after Mass inside the Church.

Weekly Stewardship

April 21 & 22 Weekly Offering \$ 2,529.00
 Average Weekly Cost \$ 3,152.00
 Excess/Deficit \$ -623.00
Thank you for your generosity.

Sun. April 29 <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet & Adoration 9:00am—Mass First Communion Reception following Mass	Mon. Apr 30 4:30pm—Mass	Tues. May 1 10:00 am—Senior Social 11:30am—First Tuesday Mass 12:00—Lunch 1:00pm—Altar Society	Wed. May 2 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 6:00pm—CCE	Thurs. May 3 8:30am—Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. May 4 9:30am— Communion Service	Sat. May 5 3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
Sun. May 6 <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> 8:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet & Adoration 9:00am—Mass Blessing of Catechists	Mon. May 7 4:30pm—Mass	Tues. May 8	Wed. May 9 11:00am- Stewardship Meeting 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 6:00pm—CCE	Thurs. May 10 8:30am—Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. May 11 9:30am— Communion Service	Sat. May 12 3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass Blessing of Mothers

Congratulations on making your First Communion!

Brielle Buckner
 Alejandro Flores
 Katie Linney
 Victoria Lopez
 Danna Lopez Ramirez

Luke Evans
 Jackson Griffith
 Elizabeth Lopez
 Isaiah Pippin
 Cristian Reyes

Reception in the Family Center following Mass.

Honoring our Graduates

The parish would like to honor all parishioners graduating from high school and college/university this year, with a blessing at the 9:00 am Mass on Sunday, May 20. Please provide the pastor/parish office with the names of graduates and whether they are graduating from high school or university so that we can prepare a parish gift to honor our graduates.

Newman Connection

Statistically 80% of U.S. college-age Catholic young adults stop actively practicing their faith at some point in their college years. Only less than half of these Catholics will return to the practice at some time in their adult life. Newman Connection is a Catholic non-profit organization which attempts to support college enrolled Catholics in continuing to practice their faith by connecting them with the Newman Center of the college they are attending. Parishioners with children who will be attending college in the fall, or are presently attending college, are asked to provide the parish office/pastor with the parishioner names and colleges so that the Newman Connection can provide this information to the colleges. Let us do all we can to help keep our young adult parishioners connected to their Catholic faith.

Adult Faith Formation Classes

Sundays after Mass
4 Signs of Dynamic Catholics by Matthew Kelly
Led by Madeline Arnett

Diocese of Beaumont Office of Youth Ministry

Summer Camp 2018

Registration By April 15 \$215 per camper
 April 16 and May 31 \$230 per camper
 After May 31 \$245 per camper

Registration Forms in the foyer of church.

The **BEST WEEK OF SUMMER** that you'll remember all year long! Great times with good friends - old and new. Crazy games. The pool! Special prayer times. Talent show. Arts and crafts, lots of stuff to learn and do, great food & those amazing counselors and CITs!

Summer Camp is held at Camp Niwana located in the beautiful woods 5 miles west of Woodville, TX.

Session 1 July 15-20 For those entering 4th-6th grade
Session 2 July 22-27 For those entering 7th-9th grade