

Clergy: Msgr. Frank H. Rossi, Pastor
oloppastor@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm
olopcc@sbcglobal.net
STAFF: Lynn Stacy, Director of Liturgy
 Diane Sanderson, Facilities Coordinator
 Annette Faircloth, Director Youth Ministry
 Cathy Favre, Bookkeeper



My dear parishioners:

Memorial Day: Tomorrow, Monday, May 28, our country observes Memorial Day. A day set aside each year to honor the brave men and women of the Armed Forces who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country, their very lives.

By the year 1865 the practice of decorating the graves of Civil War soldiers had become widespread in the North. In 1866 a resolution setting May 30 as "Decoration Day" was established in our country. May 30 was identified as the date for prayerfully remembering our country's war dead because no battle had taken place on that date. In 1882 the name of the observance was changed to Memorial Day and in 1968 it was moved to the fourth Monday in May.

Tomorrow, in the midst of your enjoyable activities with family and friends, please take some quiet time to pray for the dedicated men and women from the founding of our country to the present day who have died to protect our country and its freedoms, and the freedom of people throughout the world. May God grant them eternal rest and assure them of our gratitude and respect.

Santa Fe High School: As I write these words I fully admit to doing so with a deep sense of sadness and frustration that another ten innocent people lost their lives in a mass shooting in a school in our country; this time so very close-by in Santa Fe, Texas. Once again we have watched as teenagers cry that their school should be a place of learning not a place of massacre. Once again we watch parents bitterly weep the loss of life of their beloved child. Once again we hear a parent say that they are as shocked as anyone that their child was capable of committing such an atrocity. How many more times will we go through this nightmare?

I fully realize that there is no definitive solution to this horrific taking of innocent lives. There are numerous elements that come into play when trying to ascertain the contributing factors to a person's homicidal actions. They certainly include one's psychological state, one's life experiences, the people with whom one associates, and what one has encountered on television, the internet, in video games and any other entity that influences one's behavior. I also know that if we wait until we fully understand the psychology of a mass killer before we put into place all possible safeguards to reduce the likelihood of these heinous crimes, we are committing a huge injustice to innocent people and keeping our community from being as safe as possible as most certainly these mass killings will continue.

The "right to bear arms" and the "right to free speech" are a part of the fabric of these United States and have been from its infancy. These rights are amoral, in that they are neither good nor bad in and of themselves. They take on their moral weight by their use. The right to free speech is moral when used to honestly engage in public discourse or to respectfully express one's opinions or perspectives. It is immoral when free speech is used to lie or defame; to incite anger or hatred; to espouse bigotry or prejudice. Rightfully, our states and country have enacted numerous laws to ensure that the moral use of freedom of speech is protected while the immoral use of free speech is reduced and punished.

From my perspective, we have not done the same as states or as a country when it comes to the right to bear arms. We have placed the objective right to possess and use firearms over and above the common good of protecting the public from their immoral use. There is so much more that can and must be done to ensure the safety of people in schools, homes, neighborhoods and public places. Parents must know what is going on with their children and be as vigilant as possible in monitoring their moods and behavior. They must ensure that firearms are out of reach of children (adolescents and teens) and used only under appropriate adult supervision. The community must be attentive to the behavior of people and if they "see something,"

(continued in next column)

**May 26 - June 3, 2018
 Readings and Mass Intentions**

Saturday, May 26 4:30pm—Mass
 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8 [2a]/Mk 10:13-16
Mass intention for Rusty Smith
Sunday, May 27 9:00am—Mass
 Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 [12b]/
 Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16 20
Mass intention for the People of the Parish
Monday, May 28 4:30pm—Mass
 1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c [5]/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday, May 29 No Mass
 1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday, May 30 4:30pm—Mass
 1 Pt 1:18-25/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Mk
 10:32-45
Mass intention for Tom Leger
Thursday, May 31 8:30am—Mass
 Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [6]/
 Lk 1:39-56
Friday, June 1 9:30am—Communion Service
 1 Pt 4:7-13/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mk 11:11-26
Saturday, June 2 4:30pm—Mass
 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Jude 17, 20b-25/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6 [2b]/Mk 11:27-33
Mass intention for Billy Moore
Sunday, June 3 9:00am—Mass
 Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 [13]/Heb 9:11-
 15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-26
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

**Blessed the people the Lord has
 chosen to be his own. (Ps 33)**

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

(continued)
 say something" when it comes to the immoral use of firearms. Elected officials must be more concerned about the public good than they are about re-election or campaign contributions and have the courage to enact sufficient legislation to reduce the likelihood of injuring and killing by firearms. This is a national crisis and it needs a "full court press" response. When the U.S. Constitution or the Bill of Rights become in conflict with the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes, it is our responsibility to choose the law of God over the law of man. For it is by this that we will be eternally judged.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Frank H. Rossi
 Pastor

Sun. May 27 <i>Trinity Sunday</i> 8:50am Blessing of new flags 9:00am—Mass Adult Faith Formation following Mass	Mon. May 28 Memorial Day 4:30pm—Mass	Tues. May 29	Wed. May 30 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass	Thurs. May 31 8:30am—Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. June 1 9:30am— Communion Service	Sat. June 2 3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
Sun. June 3 <i>The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ</i> 9:00am—Mass Adult Faith Formation following Mass	Mon. June 4 4:30pm—Mass	Tues. June 5 6:00pm—Altar Society End of Year Dinner	Wed. June 6 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass	Thurs. June 7 8:30am—Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. June 8 9:30am— Communion Service	Sat. June 9 3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass

**Coming Soon . . .
 SonCreek Junction
 Vacation Bible School
 July 9-July 13, 2018**

The prospects are great for loads of fun at SonCreek Junction. You'll discover a gold mine of Bible truths from the book of Acts, and you'll experience the adventure of growin' in God's family.

Help is needed.
 Contact the office at 409-283-5367 to volunteer.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for: Nelda Leathem, Maureen Peltier, Rosemary Urban, Frank Cuccia, Sr., Therese Reinemeyer, Paislee Turner, Michelle Duncan, Paul Binagia, Roxie Carpenter & family, Norma Henry; Linda Smith, Chris Rogers, Theresa Dale, Adolfo Chapa, Dora Chapa, Raymond Wilson

Repose of the soul: Mary Podgurski, Ethel Dabbs

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.

Weekly Stewardship

May 19 & 20 Weekly Offering \$ 4,016.30
 Average Weekly Cost \$ 3,152.00
 Excess/Deficit \$ 864.30

Thank you for your generosity.

**Altar Society
 End of Year Dinner**

June 5, 2018 6:00 pm
 Z's Fillin Station

RSVP: 283-3163 or Office: 283-5367

Religious Articles

Come and see new items for sale.

Rosaries Prayer books Prayer cards
 Bibles Art for your walls Figurines

Many other items available
 Browse on Saturday after Mass or
 while having coffee on Sunday mornings.

Get checked... for you & your loved ones!



**GIFT OF LIFE
 FREE MEN'S HEALTHCARE SCREENINGS**
 Simple, non-invasive tests.

FREE HEALTHCARE SCREENINGS INCLUDE:

- ✓ PSA (prostate cancer screening)
- ✓ Cholesterol Panel
- ✓ HIV
- ✓ Blood Pressure
- ✓ Hepatitis C
- ✓ Blood Sugar
- ✓ On-Site Physician Consultation

LUNCH DOOR PRIZES & REFRESHMENTS

SCREENING SITES · JUNE 2018

BEAUMONT JUNE 2 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Beaumont Civic Center	PORT ARTHUR JUNE 23 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Carl A. Parker Multipurpose Center	ORANGE JUNE 30 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM West Orange Stark High School
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Call to find out if you are eligible!
 409.833.3663 · giftoffifehmt.org