

## St. John Parish

126 Hickory Street  
Strawn, TX 76475

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m. (English),  
Reconciliation: Before Mass

### **++Feast Day of the Week++**

#### **St. Matthias**

How does one qualify to be an apostle?

The first act of the [apostles](#) after the [Ascension](#) of [Jesus](#) was to find a replacement for Judas. With all the questions, doubts, and dangers facing them, they chose to focus their attention on finding a twelfth apostle. Why was this important? Twelve was a very important number to the Chosen People: twelve was the number of the twelve tribes of Israel. If the new Israel was to come from the disciples of Jesus, a twelfth [apostle](#) was needed.

But [Jesus](#) had chosen the original twelve. How could they know whom he would choose?

One hundred and twenty people were gathered for [prayer](#) and reflection in the upper room, when Peter stood up to propose the way to make the choice.

Peter had one criterion, that, like Andrew, James, John, and himself, the new [apostle](#) be someone who had been a [disciple](#) from the very beginning, from his [baptism](#) by [John](#) until the Ascension. The [reason](#) for this was simple, the new [apostle](#) would must become a [witness](#) to Jesus' resurrection. He must have followed [Jesus](#) before anyone knew him, stayed with him when he made enemies, and believed in him when he spoke of the cross and of eating his body -- teachings that had made others melt away.

Two men fit this description -- Matthias and [Joseph](#) called Barsabbas. They knew that both these men had been with them and with [Jesus](#) through his whole ministry. But which one had the heart to become a [witness](#) to his resurrection. The [apostles](#) knew that only the [Lord](#) could know what was in the heart of each. They cast lots in order to discover God's [will](#) and Matthias was chosen. He was the twelfth [apostle](#) and the group was whole again as they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

That's the first we hear of Matthias in Scripture, and the last. Legends like the [Acts](#) of Andrew and Matthias testify to Matthias' enthusiastic embrace of all that being an [apostle](#) meant including evangelization, persecution, and death in the service of the Lord.

How does one qualify to be an apostle?

Clement of [Alexandria](#) says that Matthias, like all the other apostles, was not chosen by [Jesus](#) for what he already was, but for what [Jesus](#) foresaw he would become. He was elected not because he was worthy but because he would become worthy. [Jesus](#) chooses all of us in the same way.

What does [Jesus](#) want you to become?

## St. Rita Parish

1109 Blackwell Road  
Ranger, TX 76470

Sunday Mass: 8:00 a.m. (English)  
Reconciliation: Half Hour before Mass

## St. Francis Xavier Parish

Halbryan and Foch Street  
Eastland, TX 76448

Sunday Mass: 9:45 a.m. (Spanish)  
Reconciliation: Half Hour before Mass

<http://stfranciseastland.org/>

## Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish

1108 Avenue F  
Cisco, TX 76437

Sunday Mass: 11:30 a.m. (English)  
Reconciliation: After Mass

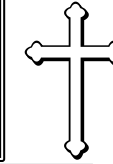
[www.cisoholyrosary.com](http://www.cisoholyrosary.com)



### **Parochial Administrator: Father Reehan Antony**

Parish Office Telephone: 254-647-3163.

If you need a priest (Fr. Reehan) in an emergency (hospital, etc.),  
please call 682-207-8557



### ***Weekday Events in Your Parish/Eventos Durante la Semana de su Parroquia***

St. Francis, Eastland	Monday – Rosario (Rosary in Spanish), 7 p.m. Tuesday – Estudio Biblico (Bible Study in Spanish), 7:30 p.m. Friday – Oracion (Evening Prayer), 7 p.m.
Holy Rosary, Cisco	Wednesday – Rosary 9 a.m., then coffee & donuts 1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Rosary Sunday – Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew, 5 p.m.



### ***Calendar of Events/Calendario de Eventos***

May 7	Holy Rosary parish pastoral and finance council meeting at 5pm
May 16	Friendship Meal at the Conrid Hilton Hotel, 6-7pm
May 16	CCD Annual Play dress rehearsal at the Majestic Theatre, 6pm
May 17	CCD Annual Play 7:00pm
May 22	St. Rita's Church Feast Day Mass at 6pm. Potluck to follow.

### **Friendship Meal**

MAY 16, 6-7 PM at the Conrad Hilton Hotel.  
Spaghetti will be served for all those in need of a meal and friendly fellowship. More volunteers are needed because many will be helping with dress rehearsal for the CCD Annual Play.

### **CCD Annual Play**

MAY 16, 6 PM- DRESS REHEARSAL  
MAY 17, 7 PM - ANNUAL DAY  
PLACE: MAJESTIC THEATRE  
ALL ARE INVITED

### **MASSES THIS WEEK**

Monday- St. Rita- 8 am  
Wed- St. John - 9 am  
Thursday- St. Francis Xavier- 7 pm  
Friday- Holy Rosary- 9 am

### **Save the date**

St. Rita's Feast Day on May 22 Mass will be at 6:00 followed by a pot luck in Hall. All churches are invited.

### **Fr. Reehan's vacation**

Father Reehan will go to India to visit his parents from May 23 to June 23. Anything needing his attention, needing any sacraments, in those days please meet him as soon as possible

### **STEWARDSHIP**

**May 6-7, 2017**

St. John	\$775.00
Seminarians	\$226.00
Holy Rosary	\$1,099.00
Seminarians	\$1,012.00
St. Rita	\$949.00
Seminarians	\$277.00
St. Francis	\$1,089.05
Seminarians	\$216.00

*May God bless you for your generosity.*

### **Mass Intentions**

Saturday 13th. St. John. ~ For the repose of the soul of: Jim Byrd. Requested by: Paulett Foster.

Sunday 14th. St. Rita ~ Mass Intention for: Fr. Reehan Antony. Requested by: Paulett Foster

Sunday 14th. St. Francis Xavier. ~~~For the repose of the soul of: Barbara Patterson. Requested by Paulett Foster.

Monday 15th. St. Rita. ~ For the repose of the soul of: Luiell Stevens. Requested by: Paulett Foster..

Wednesday 17th. Holy Rosary. ~~~Mass Intention of Father Reehan Antony, on the Anniversary of his ordination. Requested by: Holy Rosary Altar Society.

Thursday 18th . Francis Xavier. ~~~For the repose of the soul of: Barbara Patterson. Requested by Paulett Foster.

Friday 19th. Holy Rosary ~~~~For the repose of the soul of: Ron Scheuren. Requested by Paulett Foster.