

July 22, 2018

Ordinary Time

Sixteenth Sunday



Finding Rest In The Shepherd

Aware of the need for those pauses that renew and refresh, Jesus called his apostles to come away with him to a deserted place. Jesus' compassion for those who sought him out and his willingness to tend to their hungers, both spiritual and physical, called forth the shepherd's love in him. Although many times extended periods of solitude and rest may not be possible, each of us is called to punctuate our days with many pauses in which to be still and know and rest in God who is the heart and center of all we are and all we do.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, July 28

4:30 p.m. Anton Stryk

Sunday, July 29

8:00 a.m. Frank Branecky & Marvin Rothbauer

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

Next weekend is *The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 145

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6

Gospel: Mark 6:1-15

SOCIETY NEWS

K.J.T. State Family Day, July 29 at the K.J.T. Activity & Fraternal Center in La Grange. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m., Mass at 11:30 a.m. followed by a meal. All members and their families are invited to come enjoy a Barbeque meal and a day of fun! Chris Rybak, attendance prizes, water slide and face painting.

Remember the sick in your prayers this week, especially Julia Stryk.

2018 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2018 Assessment \$7,761.00
Contributions So Far \$ 3,555.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed \$ 4,206.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Jane Schneider

Ken Stryk

Rosemary & Arthur Klekar

Susan Ivey

Do please consider making a donation.

St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Fr. Lambert S. Bily, San Antonio - \$200

In Memory of the Stryk Family - \$286.35

Anonymous Donor

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

PRAHA PANCAKE SUNDAY – AUGUST 5



ALWAYS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Come out and join us Sunday, August 5, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. It brings our community together for fellowship. A free will donation is appreciated.

Will you consider helping one Sunday? It's always the First Sunday of the month. The time commitment is from 7:30-10:30. We need 8 volunteers to make the kitchen HUM! Please contact Lori Janecka at: (361) 772-4307 or lorijanecka@gmail.com to get on the volunteer list.



Church Tours

According to the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce 3,563 people toured the Church on registered tours between April to June 2018.

We thank Juan Vasquez for keeping the church clean and Georgia Cerny, Pat Masek, Lori Janecka, and Kathleen Svatek for keeping the votive candle rack replenished and taking care of what needs to be done in the sanctuary. We also thank Marcus Jasek for opening and closing the church every day, Celine Kalina for taking care of the roses, Martin Svatek for the cemetery care and Jerome Raabe for taking care of the church grounds.

CHURCH PICNIC BULLETIN BOARD

CHURCH PICNIC – AUGUST 15

Dear Friends,

It is count down time to the Picnic – 24 days more. A lot is going on behind the scenes to get ready for the Picnic.

Business Plates Orders: Letters have been sent to the local business for their Business Plates Orders. To help us have the plates ready on time, we ask that the businesses to do please *turn in their final order no later than Friday, 5 p.m., August 10.*

- **TO PICK UP BUSINESS PLATES:** Take F.M. 1295 to Praha, turn on South Knezek Road to the Hall. Make a left turn onto the gravel road behind the hall. Follow the signs to the Business Plates pick up station.
- **TO PICK UP INDIVIDUAL PLATES TO GO:** Take Highway 90 turn on South Knezek Road to Praha Hall. Make a right turn onto the gravel road behind the hall. Follow the signs to the Drive-Thru Individual Plates-To-Go pick up station.

The walk up Plates To Go line will still be available.

Auction Items: Lori & David Janecka are soliciting auction items from local businesses. You may once again bring in your items for tagging ahead of time. Look out for details.

Pre-Picnic Work Days are scheduled for Aug. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 6th, 6:00 p.m. till ? Come, help prepare for our visitors.

We thank the Flatonia Firemen for once again volunteering to hose down the pavilion areas in preparation for the Picnic. They are scheduled for Aug. 8 and Aug. 22.

Fr. Gabriel's Cake last year brought in **\$4,606**. Consider making a donation this year too.

Meat Donation Fund: Do make a special effort to donate to the Meat Donation Fund so we can meet our target of \$10,000. Last year we took in \$12,610.00 and the cost of the food was \$21,628.63. Let's keep up the good work.

Raffle and Other Donations: We still have a long way to go with the Raffle. Turn in your tickets and other Picnic donations.

Over the last seven years our Picnics have done well. I want this year's picnic to be a celebration of what we have achieved together as a Parish with God's grace. Just look at where we began seven years ago and see where we are now.

2011 Picnic Net Profit - \$82,361.23

2011 Plates Sold – 3,728

2017 Picnic Net Profit - \$162,928.85

2017 Plates Sold – 6,327

What is it going to be this year? That depends on you. You can make a difference with your donation.

I thank you for your prayers and support as we plan another successful Picnic.

God bless,

REFLECTION

Availability To Serve 24/7

In today's first reading, the prophet Jeremiah addresses the problem of leadership among the Israelites and couples his criticism of the unworthy shepherds with a promise that God would intervene to gather, to lead and guide the people once again as a good and loving shepherd. In short, God promised absolute availability not only on God's part but also on the part of future shepherds whom God would personally appoint.

Mark, in today's Gospel, indicates that Jesus is that promised ideal shepherd who had compassion on the people, for they were like "sheep without a shepherd." That Jesus was intent upon sharing his shepherding duties with his own is evidenced in the fact that he sent them forth to be absolutely available, 24/7, for their contemporaries. Upon their return, they were debriefed by Jesus, who then provided time for their physical rest and spiritual recuperation. Work balanced with and supported by prayer was the ideal ascribed to by Jesus, and he would have his disciples follow his lead. However, and as is strikingly clear in today's Gospel, when the people who needed their words and works sought them out, Jesus set aside the time for rest, and whether it was convenient or not, he attended to the needs of the people. Mark tells the readers that Jesus taught the people at great length. In next week's Gospel, despite the disciples' suggestion that he dismiss the crowds, Jesus will provide for the people's physical needs and hungers. His ministry was one of absolute availability 24/7. He challenges would be disciples to be similarly given to service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



July 25 – Allen Cerny
July 26 – Thomas Petru
July 28 – Dennis Stryk

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



July 23 – Cynthia & Allan Stryk
July 26 – Marilyn & Allen Cerny

Area Picnics

August 4-5 – St. Anthony's Shrimporee, Palacios
August 5 – St. Joseph Picnic, Yoakum
August 12 – St. Michael Harvest Feast, Weimar
September 16 – St. Joseph's, Moulton

Fr. Gabriel

This is how you can help make our Picnic successful.

Donate Auction Items: Items of value bring in money.

Raffle Tickets: Purchase/sell raffle tickets.

Contribute to the: Meat Donation Fund, Bingo, Country Store, Music Fund, Fish Pond/Toy Box, Fr. Gabriel's Cake, other donations.

Volunteer to work: Sign up to help at the Picnic.

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My donation to the Auction. (include market value)

My donation to: Meat Fund \$_____ Bingo \$_____

Music \$_____ Fr. Gabriel's Cake \$_____

Country Store: _____

Other donations: _____

I would like to help at the picnic. Sign me up to help with: _____

Name: _____

Phone # _____

HELP NEEDED:

We have been meeting with the kitchen and cooking CPs to figure out how to take care of the increasing number of out-going plates more efficiently. We will add more battering lines for frying chicken and more plate filling lines to fill plates. *Volunteers are needed to:*

- help with the battering and frying of the chicken
- help fill plates for the business plates and plates-to-go. We need 30 extra people to fill and bag the plates and get them outside to the distribution lines.

To volunteer call the Parish Office (361-596-4674) or email st_joe@sbcglobal.net. All are welcome to help including non-parishioners.

Cake Walk Volunteers Needed: We need seven volunteers for each shift. Contact Robin Cerny at rlcerny@aol.com or Sharon Crowe at dascrowe@consolidated.net and let them know what shift you would like to volunteer for.

Picnic Donations: If you have not done so yet, fill out your donation slip and turn in your raffle stubs and donations as soon as possible so you can be given credit. You may drop them in the collection basket or the mail. Extra raffle tickets for sale outside the Church after Mass.

We thank the following for their donations:

Meat Donation Fund

Matt Cerny - \$10

Helen Wiedemann - \$50

Anonymous Donor - \$500

Marie & Frank Dulak, Bryan - \$100

Peggy & Darrell Mica, Austin - \$100

Sallye & Scott Cielencki, Katy - \$70

Music Donation Fund

Matt Cerny - \$10

Bingo Donations

Matt Cerny - \$10

Helen Weidemann - \$25

Fr. Gabriel's Cake

Robin & Gary Cerny - \$100

Helen Wiedemann - \$25

John Muras, Concord, CA - \$20

Matt Cerny - \$10

Toy Box Donations

Pat Masek - \$15

Helen Wiedemann - \$12.50

Fish Pond Donations:

Helen Wiedemann - \$12.50

Melvin Hutzler - Hot Wheels

Contributions from out-of-town friends of the parish are accepted and appreciated.



Picnic Flyers: Pick up some Picnic Flyers on your way out of Church today. Ask if you can post them at work, at area businesses and at Picnics. You can help make the Picnic a success!