

November 3, 2019

Ordinary Time

Thirty-first Sunday



Out On a Limb for God

Today, Jesus invites us to give ourselves over to the experience of Zacchaeus. Jesus, aware of what the tax collector had done to catch a glimpse of him, invited himself to Zacchaeus' home. Zacchaeus not only welcomed Jesus but also allowed Jesus to impact his life. He offered to share his wealth with the poor and to make recompense beyond what the law required. Zacchaeus' honest assessment of himself and his willingness to go out on a limb to respond to God challenges each of us to do likewise.



Flowers for the altar this weekend are donated by Robin & Gary Cerny in recognition of National Adoption Month – celebrating a family for every child.

November celebrates the lifelong benefits to families touched by the miracle of adoption, honors birth mothers for their courageous choice and remembers children who still need permanent homes.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, November 9

4:30 p.m. Willie C. Migl

Sunday, November 10

9:30 a.m. Spec. Int. – For All Veterans

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



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

First Reading: 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

Responsorial Psalm: 17

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:16—3:5

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

Diocese of Victoria News – see insert.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Vigil Masses:

5:30 p.m., Praha 7:00 p.m., Moulton

Nov. 28 – Thanksgiving Day Mass, 6:30 a.m., Moulton

Come celebrate God's goodness with the community. Canned goods and monetary offerings will be collected to help our less fortunate brothers and sisters in the county.



Food baskets have been made available at the Church entrance for your canned goods and non-perishable food items (rice, pasta, dry beans, etc.). You may drop your food items at any time. Drop the monetary donations in the collection basket during the month of November.

Altar Society Bake Sale – November 26th

The Praha Altar Society will be holding a Thanksgiving Bake Sale on Tuesday, November 26th from 9:00 a.m. – noon at the Flatonia National Bank. Parishioners are encouraged to donate home baked/made items or make a monetary donation to the sale. You may drop your items off on November 26th at 8:00 a.m. at the bank or call the rectory (361-596-4674). Proceeds go to the cleaning of the Church, supplies and other items. Thank you in advance for your contribution to kick off Thanksgiving with our community.

2020 MASS BOOK OPENS NOVEMBER 5

Mass Stipend: It has been a long standing tradition of the Church that an offering is made by parishioners when Mass (prayers) is requested. The donation given is an offering to God not a payment for the Mass. Parishioners are encouraged to be generous in their offering. To make it possible for even the poor to request Masses, a donation of at least \$5 is to be made when Mass is requested. Parishioners are encouraged to participate in the Mass they request.

* *Owing to the large volume of Mass requests for our beloved dead and other occasions each family is limited to 2 Masses per year. The Mass can be for a married couple, one person, or two individuals.*

Sanctuary Light and Bulletin: In addition to booking Masses or offering flowers for the Altar, you may also sponsor the Sanctuary Light (the candle burns for a week) or sponsor the Church Bulletin for a weekend. It could be: *in memory of, in honor of, in thanksgiving, Special Intention, etc.*

Sanctuary Light - \$20; Bulletin Sponsor - \$35

To book a Mass, Altar Flowers, Sanctuary Light or Bulletin call the Parish Office or put your intention and offering into the collection basket or mail.

The Sanctuary Light
will be lit this week
in thanksgiving – Mary & Charlie Bartos.



REFLECTION

The Lord Shows Mercy to All People

The unexpected conversion of Zacchaeus is wonderful and quite radical. "Half of my possessions, Lord I shall give to the poor." See how this rich tax collector immediately enters on the gospel path of the proper use of wealth. With "elusive wealth" he makes friends, the poor. He understands that one cannot serve both God and mammon. He firmly opts for God. He publicly vows to make restitution to those whom he may have wronged. By his occupation Zacchaeus had excluded himself, in the popular estimation, from his people. He was a traitor, who had thrown in his lot with the hated occupying Roman power for the sake of money. But for Jesus this does not disqualify this tax collector from salvation. He also is a son of Abraham. For Jesus it is not the Law of Moses that ultimately determines a person's relation to God but a person's attitude toward Jesus himself. Zacchaeus' determination to see Jesus and his climbing up into the sycamore tree are taken as a sign of genuine faith, which breaks through the barriers between God and Humans. Now he hears the word, "Today salvation has come to this house." This is the mission of Jesus fulfilled. In Jesus, God is seeking and saving the lost.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



November 4 – Ernest (Junior) Chaloupka, Jr.
November 7 – Briley Grahmann, Leo Janak

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



November 6 – Mary & Charlie Bartos
November 8 – Robin & Gary Cerny

ST. ANNE'S K.J.Z.T. CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

St. Anne's K.J.Z.T. #4 Praha will have a Christmas Luncheon and Social for members and their families, Saturday, November 23 at 12 noon at Robert's Steakhouse in Flatonina. Please RSVP to Georgia Cerny (361-865-3354) or Nancy Jasek (361-772-2356) with number attending from your family. As decided at the last Society meeting, food and drinks ordered at the luncheon will be the responsibility of each person attending.

Acts Family Social Gathering, November 9, 2019 at St. Michael's Catholic Church Family Center, Weimar, Texas. Please RSVP - call or text 979-966-3597.

Shiner Strudel Sale, Nov. 9, \$16 (unbaked only)

Call Virginia & David Vinklerek (594-2343) by Nov. 8th.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Archdiocese for the Military Services

This collection is taken up once every three years. It offers each of us a substantial way to "serve those who serve." Funds raised will help bring the Church's full range of pastoral services to the men and women in uniform as well as their families and patients in the nation's VA Medical Centers.

A special envelope for the military will is included in your monthly envelope mailing. *Please be generous.*

PRAHA PANCAKE SUNDAY – TODAY



ALWAYS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Today, we are holding our last Praha Pancake Sunday for the year. In thanksgiving for the success and the support of our community we will have a special celebration with prizes, a delicious breakfast and fellowship! All are welcome. A free will donation will be appreciated.

The next Praha Pancake Sunday will be January 5, 2020.

LOOKING AHEAD

The 32nd & 33rd Sundays in Ordinary Time

Christian faith and life and the Church's journey point toward the resurrection of the dead and the coming of the Son of Man. This faith is expressed in every Liturgical celebration.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Each of us proclaims it in the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father who art in heaven ...
They Kingdom come ...*

One may wonder whether our daily life and the way we perceive the Church have much to do with this. However, the readings of the 32nd & 33rd Sundays, deal with death and life after death and the events related to the final victory of Christ. The Gospel According to Luke has drawn us, from Sunday to Sunday, on Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Jerusalem, which we enter with Jesus, is not the end of a long earthly road. It is the city where the events in the Gospel are unfolded. The life of each Christian is a journey with Jesus, a participation in his Paschal life.

The whole liturgical year is symbolic. It takes place through the signs and sacraments - a journey which leads from the first revelation of God and his plan of salvation to the Passover of Christ, death, resurrection, ascension, drawing us along behind him. The fulfillment of all things is found in the return of the Lord. The First Sunday of Advent sets before our eyes, Jesus speaking to his disciples of his coming. This sets the background from the very beginning for the whole Liturgical year.

Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!