



[Jesus said], "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me."  
JOHN 14:1



## Where the Heart Is

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**ome would say that the purpose of life is to save one's soul. And certainly we should try, with the grace of God, to live our lives in such a way that we avoid evil and do good in order to do our part in building God's kingdom on earth. At the same time, we must remember that it is God who saves us. We don't save ourselves. Eternal life and happiness are byproducts of loving others. If the focus of one's life is to be happy, one never achieves it. If one seeks to serve others, however, happiness seems to find us. So also eternal life.

Robert Frost's "The Death of a Hired Man" is a poem about Silas, an aging drifter farmhand, and Warren and Mary, a farming couple who give Silas a room whenever he comes around.

Silas comes when he is needed the least and leaves when his presence would be most helpful, all of which frustrates Warren. In the poem Silas has returned, and Mary thinks it will be his last time, that he is dying. She says to Warren that theirs is the only home Silas has. Warren simply shakes his head as if to gently mock the idea of home: "Home is the place where, when you have to go there, / They have to take you in." Mary says it differently, "I should have called it / Something you somehow haven't to deserve."

Is that not also the promise of Jesus? "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?" (John 14:2). Something we somehow haven't to deserve. ●

### Reflect

**Where do you feel truly  
at home—and is Jesus  
invited?**

## THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

**St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak**

**Pastor:** Rev. RanJan Cletus

**Mailing address:** 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

**Email:** cyclone.marak@gmail.com      **Website:** marakchurch.org

**Masses: Cyclone:** Saturday 5:30PM & Sunday 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tues., Thurs & Friday: 7AM

**Marak:** Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 5:30PM(unless otherwise stated)

### **The Sacraments:**

**Baptism:** On Sundays after Mass. Please contact the pastor to schedule a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St. Joseph, Cyclone or Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

**Confessions:** Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

**Marriage:** Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

### **MAY 7, 2023 — FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

By His death, Resurrection, and Ascension, Jesus has gone ahead to prepare a place for us in His Father's house. His Father's house is no longer a temple made by human hands. It is the spiritual house of the Church, built on the living stone of Christ's body.

As Peter interprets the Scriptures in today's Epistle, Jesus is the "stone" destined to be rejected by men but made the precious cornerstone of God's dwelling on earth (see [Psalm 118:22](#); [Isaiah 8:14](#); [28:16](#)). Each of us is called to be a living stone in God's building (see [1 Corinthians 3:9, 16](#)). In this edifice of the Spirit, we are to be "holy priests" offering up "spiritual sacrifices"—all our prayer, work and intentions—to God.

This is our lofty calling as Christians. This is why Christ led us out of the darkness of sin and death as Moses led the Israelites from bondage in Egypt. God's covenant with Israel made them a royal and priestly people who were to announce His praises (see [Exodus 19:6](#)). By our faith in Christ's new covenant, we have been made heirs of this chosen race, called to glorify the Father in the temple of our bodies (see [1 Corinthians 6:19-20](#); [Romans 12:1](#)). In today's First Reading, we see the spiritual house of the Church being built up as the Apostles consecrate seven deacons so they can devote themselves more fully to the "ministry of the Word." The Lord's Word is upright and all His works trustworthy, we sing in today's Psalm. So we can trust Jesus when He tells us never to be troubled but to believe that His Word and works come from the Father.

His Word continues its work in the world through the Church. We see its beginnings today in Jerusalem. It is destined to spread with influence and power (see [Acts 19:20](#)) and to become the imperishable seed by which every heart is born anew (see [1 Peter 1:23](#)).



**4/30: Stewardship—Sunday Offering:**\$ 1,394.00    **4/30: Children's Offering:** \$5.50  
**Thank you for your Generosity!**

**Bulletin Information:** MARAK: Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - Email—[pagaines2002@yahoo.com](mailto:pagaines2002@yahoo.com)  
CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

**Bulletin deadline :** Please call or e-mail info by Wednesday before the weekend!

**Ministries for May 14, 2023—Sunday—Mother's Day**

**Rosary:** Raymond Tomek

**Offertory:** Tom & Julia Motyka

**Ushers:** Ronald Kaulfus & Andy Littlejohn

**Eucharistic Minister:** Jeannine Dohnalik

**Lector:** Greg Hoelscher

**Servers:** Brady, Hampton, Camryn

**Sanctuary Light:** May 8th-14th: John Slavik by Merlene Slavik

**Prayer Chain...** Please remember in your daily prayers the faithfully departed, those souls in purgatory, those of our community that are in special need of prayer, those who are homebound or in nursing homes, all those in the military and for the following: Sam Berry, Laddie Vaculin, Louis and Genevieve Tepera Family, Helen Moriarty, mother of Stacie Higgins, Brady Barton, son of Clay and Rebecca Barton, Rosalie Kostroun, Adrian Mitcham (Hubnik Family), Anton Vrazel, Paulette Foster, Reenie Hubnik, Doris Matocha. Prayers are powerful!  
To be added to the prayer chain:  
Please contact: **Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—[Slavik@farm-market.net](mailto:Slavik@farm-market.net)**

**MARAK MASSES—May 7-14, 2023**

<b>Mass Intentions</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	
Today— 5/7	10:15am	+ Georgie Ann Glaser by Louis & Mary Frances Vansa + Marilyn Kemp by Rebecca Barton
5/10—Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Georgie Ann Glaser by Robert & Debbie Vansa
5/14—Sunday— Mother's Day	10:15am	+ Frank & Helen Hubnik by Louis & Mary Frances Vansa + Reba Loretta Winkler by Robert & Debbie Vansa

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION**

- **TODAY:** There will be a second collection for the Building and Maintenance Fund.
- **TODAY:** There will be a ceremony by the REP and KJZT Jrs. for the Crowning of Mary.
- **TODAY:** Pam Nolen, the Director of the Place of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center is here to speak on behalf of the Pregnancy Center. Also the Baby Bottle Campaign will begin on next Sunday and end on Father's Day. Bottles will be in the church entrance.
- **MAY 10TH:** The Ladies Altar Society will be having a meeting at the Cameron Museum at 9am.
- **JUNE 11TH:** KJZT Family Fun Days will be at the Splashway Waterpark in Sheridan, Texas. Tickets are \$31.99. See bulletin board for more information.
- **RETREATS AT CEDARBRAKE:** In the church entrance, you will find a flyer that shows many retreats offered at Cedarbrake. Please take one, if you are interested.
- **PICNIC RAFFLE:** Our 2022 homecoming Picnic was very successful! We are asking for your help with this year's raffle. We would like to have tickets printed by June 25th. If you can donate a prize, please contact Julie or Tom Motyka at 254-722-0394.
- **FOOD DRIVE:** St. Anne's Ladies Altar Society wants to thank our parishioners for the generous donation of food items. There were 251 food items donated to the Cameron Area Thrift Shop.
- **MAY 14TH:** The second collection will be for the Seminarians and continuing education of Priests.

# Dear Padre,

*I know a Catholic couple who wanted to celebrate their sacrament of matrimony at a Mass in a forest, but the bishop didn't allow it. Why not marry in God's creation?*

A marriage between Catholics or between a Catholic and a baptized non-Catholic is usually celebrated in a parish church. It can be celebrated in another church or oratory with the bishop or pastor's permission. A marriage between a Catholic and an unbaptized person can be celebrated in a church or another suitable place, although a Catholic church remains the preferred place for the celebration.

Why is the parish church the preferred site for the celebration? For Catholics, matrimony is a sacrament—one of the seven sacred signs through which God communicates love to us. When Catholics ask God to bind their union as a sacrament, the couple's love for each other is a sign of God's love for both, and their union is also a continuous sign of Christ's love for the Church. Thus, the church as a "house of God," which contains the presence of Christ, is revered as the most sacred place to make this most sacred commitment. Marriage, according to Pope Francis in a 2015 General Audience, "is not merely a ceremony in a church, with flowers, a dress, photographs....Christian marriage is a sacrament that takes place in the Church, and which also makes the Church, by giving rise to a new family community....[Saint] Paul says that the love between spouses is an image of the love between Christ and his Church. An unimaginable dignity!" ●



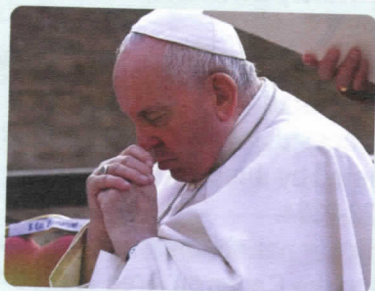
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Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Weekday	Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 14:5-18	Acts 14:19-28	Acts 15:1-6	Acts 15:17-21	Acts 15:22-31	Acts 16:1-10	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Jn 14:21-26	Jn 14:27-31a	Jn 15:1-8	Jn 15:9-11	Jn 15:12-17	Jn 15:18-21	1 Pt 3:15-18
						Jn 14:15-21



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*[Jesus] knows that, in life, the worst anxiety, anguish, arises from the sensation of not being able to cope, of feeling alone and without points of reference when faced with events. We cannot overcome this anguish alone...and this is why Jesus asks us to have faith in him, that is, to lean not on ourselves but on him.*

REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 10, 2020

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