

Take to Heart These Words

"Hear, O Israel!" (Deuteronomy 6:3) are the first words of the most important declaration of faith for Jewish people, a declaration that is the centerpiece of the morning and evening Jewish prayer services. It is a kind of "pledge of allegiance" that observant Jews say even today, reminding themselves of the uniqueness of their God and the covenantal relationship they have with this God. In it they confess that the Lord is their God, their only God. Out of reverence, they do not pronounce God's personal name. In its place they substitute the word *Lord*. Behind this act of faith is the covenantal promise of God: "I will be your God and you shall be my people" (Jeremiah 7:23).

This covenant carries mutual responsibilities. God will be their God and will be faithful to all that this blessing entails. As God's people, they will live according to the standards set by God, witnessing to the world the holiness in life lived for and with God. They are to love God with all their heart, soul, and strength.

Jesus did not change this declaration in any way. It is at the heart of the Christian way of life as well. What he did was throw light on the meaning of living for and with God, of loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength. He insists that to love God is to love others, and to love them as we love ourselves. "Hear, O Israel!" "Take to heart these words" (Deuteronomy 6:6).

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- * *How in your family or workplace might you show love by being kinder, more patient, and willing to forgive slights?*
- * *How open are you to changing your understanding when a new point of view is offered to you?*

[The scribe said to Jesus,]
"To love your neighbor
as yourself' is worth more
than all burnt offerings
and sacrifices."

MARK 12:33

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: Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, 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.

OCTOBER 31, 2021 — THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Love is only law we are to live by. And love is the fulfillment of the Law that God reveals through Moses in today's First Reading (see Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 5:43-48).

The unity of God—the truth that He is one God, Father, Son, and Spirit—means that we must love Him with one love, a love that serves Him with all our hearts and minds, souls and strength. We love Him because He has loved us first. We love our neighbor because we can't love the God we haven't seen unless we love those made in His image and likeness, whom we have seen (see 1 John 4:19-21).

And we are called to imitate the love that Christ showed us in laying His life down on the Cross (see 1 John 3:16). As we hear in today's Epistle, by His perfect sacrifice on the Cross, He once and for all makes it possible for us to approach God.

There is no greater love than to lay down your life (see John 15:13). This is perhaps why Jesus tells the scribe in today's Gospel that he is not far from the kingdom of God. The scribe recognizes that the burnt offerings and sacrifices of the old Law were meant to teach Israel that it is love that God desires (see Hosea 6:6). The animals offered in sacrifice were symbols of the self-sacrifice, the total gift of our selves, that God truly desires.

We are called today to examine our hearts. Do we have other loves that get in the way of our love for God? Do we love others as Jesus has loved us (see John 13:34-35)? Do we love our enemies and pray for those who oppose and persecute us (see Matthew 5:44)?

Let us tell the Lord we love Him, as we do in today's Psalm. And let us take His Word to heart, that we might prosper and have life eternal in His kingdom, the heavenly homeland flowing with milk and honey.



10/24: Stewardship: Sunday Offering: \$1,294.00

10/24: World Mission \$10.00

10/24: Children's Offering: \$5.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - Email—pagaines2002@yahoo.com

CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

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

Ministries for November 1, 2021

Eucharistic Minister: Cindy Prcin
Offertory: Cis Marak & Sharon Richter
Lector: Kelly Laurence
Ushers: Volunteers
Altar Servers: Gracie, Carter, Tessa

Ministries for November 7, 2021

Rosary: Lynne Hornung
Eucharistic Minister: Merlene Slavik
Offertory: Garrett Prcin Family
Lector: Jill Stermer
Ushers: Adolph Vansa & Josh Pratt
Altar Servers: Sam, Will, Pat, Kate

Sanctuary Light: November 1st -7th: Joe Vansa by Robert & Debbie Vansa

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 to all those who have been affected by the Covid-19 Virus and also that the vaccine for the corona virus will help to stop this pandemic & for the following: Anton Vrazel, David Minatra, Reenie Hubnik, Kathy Hubnik, Baby Townes Bush, Carolyn Klecka, Edward Brenek, Jr., Marilyn Junek Gonzalez, and 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**

MARAK MASSES —October 31—November 7, 2021

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—10/31	10:15am	+ Albina Vrazel by Adolph & Dorothy Vansa + Annie Mae Hubnik by Katherine Hubnik + Joe Vansa by Kevin & Anna Givens + Martha Tomek by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel
11/1— Monday All Saints Day	5:30pm	+ Eugene Vaculin by Adolph & Dorothy Vansa + Martha Tomek by Mike & Vicki Tomek + Albina Vrazel by Leroy & Kathy Vansa + Mary Ann Plachy by Margie & Jerry Wade
11/3 — Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Dorothy Vaculin by Frank & Janice Klecka + Albert Michalka by Evelyn Marek + Joe Vansa by Terry & Barbara McNeill + Eugene Vaculin by Anna & Kevin Givens
11/7—Sunday	10:15am	+ Albina Vrazel by Mike & Janice Marek + Anna Mae Hubnik by Zorosky Family + Martha Tomek by Bill & Georgia Kincer + Valeria Kostiha by Johnny & Donna Dohnalik

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **TODAY:** St. Anne's Society #21 of Marak are sponsoring the Polka Mass. Musicians for the Polka Mass are Alfred Vrazel, Mike, Janice & James Marek. Refreshments will be served after Mass. Drawing for the Quilt will be After Mass. Thank you St. Anne's #21!
- **TODAY:** Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) will begin. Pledge cards are in the pews for your donation.
- **TODAY:** BBQ Chicken Meal—Flag Hall—Serving 11AM until ? \$12/plate—Drive thru only.
- **NOVEMBER 1ST:** ALL SAINTS DAY MASS will be at 5:30pm at Marak and 8:15am at Cyclone.
- **NOVEMBER 6TH-21ST:** KJZT Jrs. will be sponsoring a food drive again this year. Please bring non-perishable items between Nov. 6th—21st. There will be baskets in the church entry. This will be donated to the Cameron Area Thrift Shop. Thank you for your generous giving.
- **NOVEMBER 7TH:** Election Ballots for Parish Council will be provided and the return deadline is on November 21st.

Dear Padre,

Does the Church have a position on cosmetic surgery?

For clarity, we understand cosmetic surgery to be a medical intervention that's purely optional and not required to maintain or restore physical health. For example, we aren't considering here plastic surgeries in response to serious injuries from fire or trauma. It's impossible to give a single response about all cosmetic surgery, and the Church has no explicit teaching on the matter. Perhaps some general suggestions will help guide our thinking.

We must first ask what the goal of the surgery is. Face lifts, "nose jobs,"



DIMITRY ZUB / PEXELS

"tummy tucks," and such are elective surgeries usually pursued because persons are unhappy with their appearance. While there may be instances where people are so distraught over these matters that cosmetic surgery would help them attain some peace and comfort, often these surgeries are motivated by vanity. When these feelings are present, one might ask whether more profound

issues about self-acceptance should be addressed, rather than resorting to changing one's appearance. One should ask how this particular cosmetic surgery would enhance our dignity as one made in God's image.

In a broader context, we might consider how much is spent on "looking better" when many have neither food, shelter, nor proper clothing. A good meditation is to think first of Jesus' concern for the poor and then how he wishes to work through us to take care of his poor as the body of Christ.

From *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices*, © 2011 Liguori Publications
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Vanity never heals. Rather, it is poisonous, it goes on bringing the disease in your heart, bringing you that hardness of heart that tells you: "No, do not go to the Lord, do not go. Stay by yourself." Vanity is precisely the place to close ourselves to the call of the Lord.

HOMILY, MARCH 10, 2020

Calendar

Monday

NOVEMBER 1

All Saints

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14

1 Jn 3:1-3

Mt 5:1-12a

Tuesday

NOVEMBER 2

Commemoration
of All the Faithful
Departed (All Souls)

Wis 3:1-9

Rom 5:5-11

Jn 6:37-40

Wednesday

NOVEMBER 3

Weekday

Rom 13:8-10

Lk 14:25-33

Thursday

NOVEMBER 4

St. Charles Borromeo,
Bishop

Rom 14:7-12

Lk 15:1-10

Friday

NOVEMBER 5

Weekday

Rom 15:14-21

Lk 16:1-8

Saturday

NOVEMBER 6

Weekday

Rom 16:3-9,

16, 22-27

Lk 16:9-15

Sunday

NOVEMBER 7

Thirty-second Sunday
in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 17:10-16

Heb 9:24-28

Mk 12:38-44 or

12:41-44

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