



Apples and Pears

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As a child, I remember our back yard had a fruit tree planted by my grandfather. Each year the tree bore apples and pears, both on the same tree. My grandfather explained that he had planted an apple sapling and then had grafted a pear branch onto its trunk. What continues to intrigue me about that tree is how the very same nourishment, the same sap out of the earth and traveling up the trunk, would produce such different fruits.

It is much like the power of the Holy Spirit given to human beings at the time of the ascension. Various gifts make themselves known, at times in the same person, over the course of a lifetime. A friend loved being a mom and raising a family. After the children had grown and went on their way, she went back to school and became a nurse. A local pastor was a pediatrician. After his wife died, he decided to become

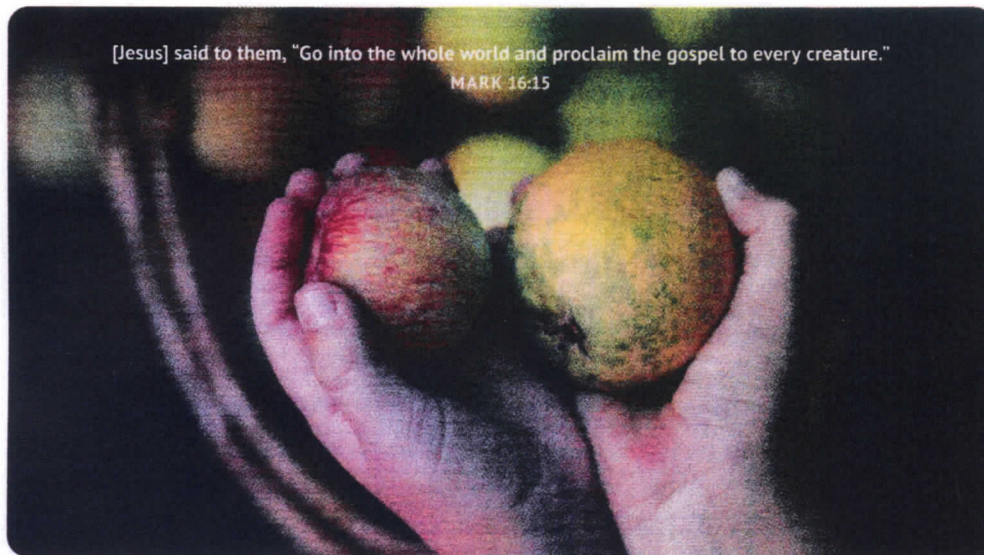
a priest. John Grisham, educated as an attorney, began writing novels. All apples and pears, the fruit of God's Spirit.

We tend to ask young people what they would like to be when they grow up. A better question might be to ask what they think God would like them to be. However someone might answer such a question, what is important is to do it with "humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve unity of the spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:2-3)—all prompted by God's Spirit. ●

Reflect

Is there a difference between what we want to do and what God wants us to do?

How do we know?



[Jesus] said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."

MARK 16:15

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 12, 2024 SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



In today's first reading, St. Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus' appearances to the Apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus' saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and he has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies. The truth of this feast shines forth from the Letter to the Hebrews, where we read of the great high priest's passing through the heavens, the sinless intercessor's sacrifice on our behalf (see [Hebrews 4:14-15](#)).

Indeed, his intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit's descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the first reading for the feast of the Ascension: "in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" ([Acts 1:5](#)). Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church's attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God's children. To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through baptism.

The Responsorial Psalm presents the Ascension in terms familiar from the worship of the Jerusalem Temple in the days of King Solomon: "God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord" (Psalm 47). The priest-king takes his place at the head of the people, ruling over the nations, establishing peace.

The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early Church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called "illumination" or "enlightenment" (see, for example, [Hebrews 10:32](#)) because of the light that came with God's saving grace. Saint Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened," he writes, as he looks to the divinization of the believers. Their "hope" is "his inheritance among the holy ones," the saints who have been adopted into God's family and now rule with him at the Father's right hand.

This is the "good news" the Apostles are commissioned to spread—to the whole world, to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem—at the first Ascension. It's the good news we must spread today.

5-5: Sunday Offering: \$2,098.00 Children's Offering: \$19.00 Building Fund: \$632.00
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Irene Kaultus (254-248-2069) ikaultus15@gmail.com
CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

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

MINISTRIES FOR MAY 19, 2024

Rosary: Julia Motyka

Lector: Rhonda Gelner

Ushers: Josh Holy & Brian Kopriva

Eucharistic Minister: Rick Rhoades

Offertory: Charles Teague Family

Servers: Gracie, Carter & Bella



Sanctuary Light: May 13th—May 19th: John Slavik by Merlene Slavik

Prayer Chain... Please pray for Barbara Vansa McNeill, Martha Hubnik, Brandon Lewis (Cousin to the Tomek Family), Dorothy Vansa, Laddie Dohnalik, Joseph Ribar, Kay & Ed Moraw and Paulette Foster and those in need in the Book of Prayers. Prayers are powerful as we pray daily for those in need. To be added to the prayer chain:
Please contact: **Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247** or email—Slavik@farm-market.net

MARAK MASSES—May 12-19, 2024

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—5/12 Mother's Day	10:15am	+ Joe & Stefina Vansa by Robert & Debbie Vansa + Frank & Helen Hubnik by Louis & Mary Frances Vansa + Jerry Sipula by Leroy & Kathy Vansa + Clem Tomek by Ronald & Irene Kaulfus
5/15—Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Stanley Hubnik by Billy & Mary Ann Seaton + John Slavik by Merlene Slavik Family + Stanley Hubnik by Louis Hubnik
5/19—Sunday	10:15am	+ Marcella Dohnalik by James & Jeannine Dohnalik + Joe Vansa by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel + Louis Sr. & Delia Vansa by Louis & Mary Frances Vansa + Clem Tomek by Steve Tomek

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **TODAY:** Second Collection for Seminarians & Continuing Education of Priests
- **THANKS:** A special Thank You to the REP and KJZT Jrs. children participating in the ceremony of the Crowning of Mary. It was very nice to see the children of our parish taking part in this ceremony. May God Bless all of you and your family.
- **MAY 15TH:** St. Anne's Altar Society will be hosting the Killeen-Temple DCCW meeting at the Parish Hall @ 10 am. All ladies are invited to attend.
- **MUSICAL LITURGY HELP NEEDED:** The Parish is looking for some talent to help with our music liturgy when Janice Marek is out of town. This can be someone who plays a different instrument or will help with leading songs using recorded music. Please contact Fr. Ranjan or Greg Hoelscher if you can help or would like more details.
- **ROSARY VOLUNTEER LEADER NEEDED:** We need a volunteer to lead the rosary on 2nd Sunday of each month. Please contact Fr. Ranjan if you would like to volunteer.
- **MAY 19TH — ORDINATION CELEBRATION FOR FR. RANJAN:** The Cyclone and Marak Parishes will be joining hands to have a Celebration Luncheon for Fr. Ranjan's 40th Ordination on May 19th at Marak Parish Hall after Mass. All are encouraged to come and support Father Ranjan at this special time in his life and priesthood. The parishes will provide meat and Marak families are asked to bring covered dish veggies. Cyclone families will be providing deserts. There is a sign up sheet in the church entry. *Please sign up today.*
- **PICNIC RAFFLE:** Our homecoming picnic has been a very successful fundraiser because you have been so **GENEROUS!** We are a little over four months away from our 2024 picnic (September 8th). We are asking for your help again this year. Please consider donating a prize (or help sponsor a prize) for the raffle. Contact Kelly Laurence (254-931-5992) or Julie Motyka (254-722-0394) if you would like to donate. Thank you for all that you do to make our picnic successful.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY—MAY GOD BLESS YOU!



Dear Padre,

What were the main changes brought about by the Second Vatican Council?

Saint Paul VI was Pope when the last of the Second Vatican documents was promulgated.



It has been sixty years since the Second Vatican Council and we are still learning from what Pope John Paul II called the “fundamental event in the contemporary Church” and “the constant reference point of every pastoral action.” Vatican II’s sixteen documents focus on a wide variety of topics, touching almost every conceivable aspect of Church and Christian life. Four of the documents bear the title of “Constitution” and contain the core formulations of the council’s teachings.

The most visible change might be in how we worship. But even more fundamental is the emphasis on the Church as the “people of God.” Baptism admits all to the same journey of faith, initiating each person with differing talents and abilities into the mission of the Church. Thus, the faithful must be “led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people’ (1 Peter 2:9; see 2:4–5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism” (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [*Sacrosanctum Concilium*], 14). The hierarchy continues, but it is to hear and serve God’s people; “servant leadership” is the way to exercise authority in the Church of Vatican II. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19
Easter Weekday	St. Matthias, Apostle	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Pentecost
Acts 19:1–8	Acts 1:15–17, 20–26	Acts 20:28–38	Acts 22:30; 23:6–11	Acts 25:13b–21	Acts 28:16–20, 30–31	Acts 2:1–11
Jn 16:29–33	Jn 15:9–17	Jn 17:11b–19	Jn 17:20–26	Jn 21:15–19	Jn 21:20–25	1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Gal 5:16–25

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Jn 20:19–23 or Jn 15:26–27; 16:12–15



RENTA SEDMANOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus’ ascension into heaven...constitutes the end of the mission that the Son received from the Father and the beginning of the continuation of this mission on the part of the Church. From this moment...Christ’s presence in the world is mediated...by those who believe in him and proclaim him. This mission will last until the end of history.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 28, 2017



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