

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

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

Pastor: Rev. Darrell Kostih

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 for scheduling 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

DECEMBER 9, 2018 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” Luke 3:4

Today's Psalm paints a dream-like scene—a road filled with liberated captives heading home to Zion (Jerusalem), mouths filled with laughter, tongues rejoicing. It's a glorious picture from Israel's past, a “new exodus,” the deliverance from exile in Babylon. It's being recalled in a moment of obvious uncertainty and anxiety. But the psalmist isn't waxing nostalgic. Remembering “the Lord has done great things” in the past, he is making an act of faith and hope—that God will come to Israel in its present need, that He'll do even greater things in the future. This is what the Advent readings are all about: We recall God's saving deeds—in the history of Israel and in the coming of Jesus. Our remembrance is meant to stir our faith, to fill us with confidence that, as today's Epistle puts it, “the One who began a good work in [us] will continue to complete it” until He comes again in glory.

Each of us, the Liturgy teaches, is like Israel in her exile—led into captivity by our sinfulness, in need of restoration, conversion by the Word of the Holy One (see [Baruch 5:5](#)). The lessons of salvation history should teach us that, as God again and again delivered Israel, in His mercy He will free us from our attachments to sin, if we turn to Him in repentance. That's the message of John, introduced in today's Gospel as the last of the great prophets (compare [Jeremiah 1:1–4,11](#)). But John is greater than the prophets (see [Luke 7:27](#)). He's preparing the way, not only for a new redemption of Israel, but for the salvation of “all flesh” (see also [Acts 28:28](#)). John quotes Isaiah (40:3) to tell us he's come to build a road home for us, a way out of the wilderness of sin and alienation from God. It's a road we'll follow Jesus down, a journey we'll make, as today's First Reading puts it, “rejoicing that [we're] remembered by God.”



12/2 Stewardship: Regular Offering: \$1,366.00

12/2 Children's Offering: \$4.00

12/2 Building Fund: \$538.00

12/2– Christmas Offering: \$50.00

Thank you for Your Generosity!

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

CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-869-2511)

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

Ministries for December 16

Rosary: Volunteers

Offertory: KJZT JRS.

Ushers: KJZT JRS.

Eucharistic Minister: Judy Vaculin

Lector: KJZT JRS.— Bryce Givens & Kenley Harris



Altar Servers: Sydney Vaculin & Macey Vaculin

Sanctuary Light : Dec. 3rd—9th —Jerry Plachy by Betty Brenek

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 the following: Julius Dubcak, JoLeen Cayhill, John David Thompson and Ethel Marak. Prayers are powerful and with God nothing shall be impossible.

Contact Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—Slavik@farm-market.net to be put on the prayer chain.

MARAK MASSES—December 9– 16, 2018		
Date	Time	Intentions
Today– 12/9	10:15am	In Honor of Laddie & Edith Vaculin - 66th Wedding Ann.
12/12– Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Bernard Kostroun by Johnnie & Jane Marek
12/16—Sunday	10:15am	+ Ann Morris by John Thompson

CYCLONE MASSES— December 9– 16, 2018		
Date	Time	Intentions
Today – 12/9	8:15am	+ Joycelyn Litzman by Jim Litzman
12/11– Tuesday	7:00am	+ Robert Dach by Monica Mikeska
12/13—Thursday	7:00am	+ Alton Moraw by Ken & Jeanette Driska
12/14—Friday	7:00am	+ Marietta Brenek by Albert Vrazel
12/15– Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	+ Roy Stermer by Carol Stermer
12/16— Sunday	8:15am	+ Patricia Eixman by Eixman Family

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **TODAY, DECEMBER 9:** REP Bake Sale—Please support our Religious Education Program.
- **DECEMBER 10:** Parish Social and Pot Luck—6pm-9pm—Marak Parish Hall
- **DECEMBER 12:** Children that would like to participate in Christmas Eve Mass, children's choir or manger scene are asked to come to church for practice after REP class.
- **DECEMBER 12:** Adult Christmas Choir Practice after Mass. Everyone is Welcome.
- **DECEMBER 14:** KC Christmas Party—Marak Parish Hall—5:30pm till 10pm.
- **DECEMBER 16:** Parish Christmas Party after Mass. Meat will be furnished. All Parishioners are invited. Please bring a covered dish. Door Prizes will be given. Santa will be present. REP children will provide Christmas Program.

TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOSEPH AND STS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS,

My deepest gratitude and appreciation to both parishes for coordinating my 50th birthday party on Sunday and for all the delicious food, desserts, and gifts. To Linda Hering and St. Mary's Altar Society ladies for the amazing decorations. Simply, everything was exceptional. Most of all, I am thankful for your presence that day and for your kind and loving support, and for helping to make the day a truly blessed and joyful day.

Sincerely Yours in Christ, Rev. Darrell Kostih