



Why Is There Evil?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

At some point in one's faith journey, every believer asks: If God is good and loving, why is there evil in the world? Why is there war? Why do children die prematurely? Why do pandemics rage? The biblical story of Job seeks to speak to that question, though it never really answers it.

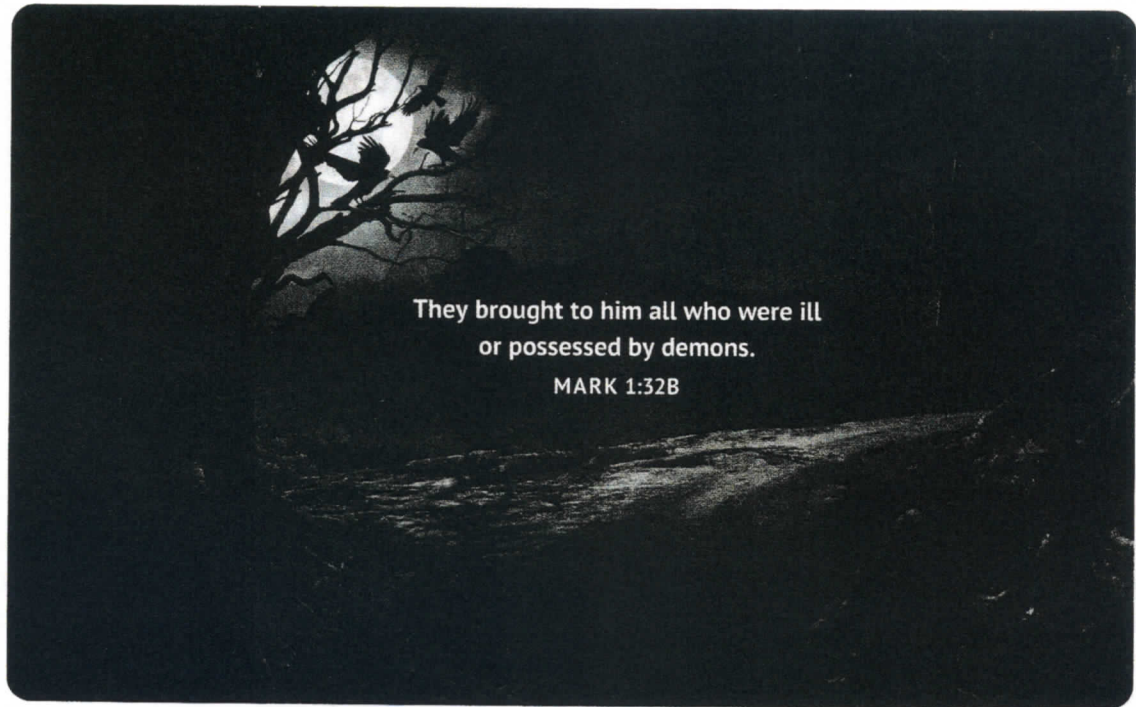
God and the satan (the name he is called in the Book of Job) are discussing Job and what a fine man he is. The satan suggests Job is a good man only because everything is going well for him. God then tells the satan that he may do whatever he wishes to test Job but may not harm him. By a series of catastrophes, then, Job loses his flocks, his camels, and even his sons and daughters. It is at this point that we hear today's first Scripture reading—Job's lament of misery and hopelessness.

Though Job's friends suspect that the cause of all

that has befallen him must be due to some grave sin on his part, Job denies this accusation and continues believing in the goodness of God, never wavering in his faith. Though frustrated by what life has brought, Job never blames God or asks God to fix his life. God is God, concludes Job, whether we understand the ways of life or not. To seek any more is to seek to be God. He continues to trust in God and admits that the ways of God are incapable of being understood. This becomes Job's only answer to the question about the "why" of evil. ●

Reflect

How do you answer the question of why evil exists?



They brought to him all who were ill
or possessed by demons.

MARK 1:32B

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.

February 4, 2024 — FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In today's First Reading, Job describes the futility of life before Christ. His lament reminds us of the curse of toil and death placed upon Adam following his original sin (see [Genesis 3:17-19](#)). Men and women are like slaves seeking shade, unable to find rest. Their lives are like the wind that comes and goes.

But, as we sing in today's Psalm, He who created the stars promised to heal the brokenhearted and gather those lost in exile from Him (see [Isaiah 11:12](#); [61:1](#)). We see this promise fulfilled in today's Gospel. Simon's mother-in-law is like Job's toiling, hopeless humanity. She is laid low by affliction but too weak to save herself.

But as God promised to take His chosen people by the hand (see [Isaiah 42:6](#)), Jesus grasps her by the hand and helps her up. The word translated "help" is actually Greek for "raising up." The same verb is used when Jesus commands a dead girl to arise (see [Mark 5:41-42](#)). It's used again to describe His own resurrection (see [Mark 14:28](#); [16:7](#)). What Jesus has done for Simon's mother-in-law, He has done for all humanity—raised all of us who lay dead through our sins (see [Ephesians 2:5](#)). Notice all the words of totality and completeness in the Gospel. The whole town gathers; all the sick are brought to Him. He drives out demons in the whole of Galilee. Everyone is looking for Christ. We too have found Him. By our baptism, He healed and raised us to live in His presence (see [Hosea 6:1-2](#)).

Like Simon's mother-in-law, there is only one way we can thank Him for the new life He has given us. We must rise to serve Him and His gospel.

Our lives must be our thanksgiving, as Paul describes in today's Epistle. We must tell everyone the good news, the purpose for which Jesus has come—that others, too, may have a share in this salvation.



Ministries for February 11, 2024

Rosary: Raymond Tomek

Lector: Brad Vaculin

Ushers: Todd Doskocil & Carter Doskocil

Eucharistic Minister: Cindy Prcin

Offertory: Chester & Margaret Hays

Servers: Adison, Lily, Ian



Sanctuary Light: February 5th—February 11th: Stanley Hubnik by Janice Johnson

Prayer Chain...Please pray for Laddie Dohnalik, Rosalie Kostroun, Joe 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—February 4, 2024—February 11, 2024

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—2/4	10:15am	+ Eugene Marak by John & Theresa Duffy + Jerry Wade by Kevin & Anna Givens + Calvin Junek by Leroy & Kathy Vansa
2/7—Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Joe & Stefina Vansa by Robert & Debbie Vansa + Stanley Hubnik by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel
2/11—Sunday	10:15am	+ David Klepac by Merlene Slavik + John & Mary Hubnik by Katherine Hubnik + Susan Chandler by Merlene Slavik

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- The Parish Council met on January 24th and elected Greg Hoelscher as Chairperson and Debbie Vansa as Recorder. The remaining members are Judy Vaculin, Andy Littlejohn, Misty Green and Henry Hilscher.
- Fr. Ranjan has appointed Jeannine Dohnalik, Anna Givens and Lindsay Vaculin to the Finance Council. They are still looking for volunteers to assist with counting the offering each week.
- **TODAY** Second Collection for Building & Maintenance Fund
- **FEBRUARY 11TH:** Second Collection for Catholic Higher Education.
- **FEBRUARY 11TH:** The KJZT Jrs. will be hosting a Super Bowl Chip-N-Dip/bake sale before and after Mass. Please help support our Jrs. with the purchase of great snack food.
- **FEBRUARY 14TH:** St. Ann's Altar Society will be meeting at the Cameron Museum at 9 am. The Killeen-Temple Deanery Meeting will be held at St. Joseph's in Killeen at 10am on Feb. 21st. All ladies are welcome to attend!
- **FEBRUARY 18TH:** The Parish is hosting a Luncheon after Mass in recognition of Sts. Cyril & Methodius Feast Day. Parishioners are asked to bring covered dishes or desserts; the parish will provide meats and drinks. A signup sheet is in the church entrance.
- **PAINTED CHURCHES BUS TOUR**, Wednesday, April 3, 2024, sponsored by KJZT Family Life, 7:30 pickup in Taylor and 8:30 in Caldwell. \$135 includes guided tour of four painted churches, buffet lunch in Schulenburg and snacks and bus games along the way. Please see flyer on bulletin board for more information.

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Irene Kaulfus (254-248-2069) ikaulfus15@gmail.com

CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

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

Dear Padre,

***In the Our Father, we pray, "thy kingdom come."
Will God's kingdom come only at the end of the world?***

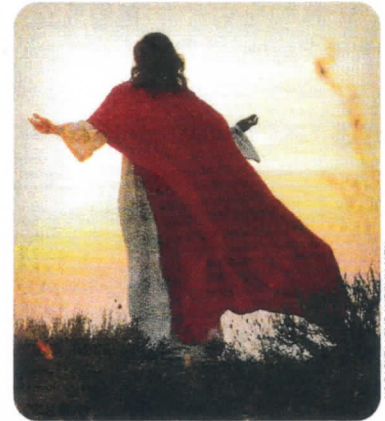
God's kingdom will come in its fullness only at Jesus' Second Coming, but the kingdom came into the world with Jesus' first coming as a man. That means we are in God's kingdom right now, but not in its fullness.

In the Scriptures, we read that John sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he is the messiah or if they need to wait for another. Jesus responds, "The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the good news proclaimed to them" (Luke 7:22). These are all signs of the kingdom of God.

In the meantime, we don't have to just wait for God's kingdom to come in its fullness. We can make God's kingdom more of a reality on earth by visiting the sick, caring for the poor, and being kind to others. Loving your spouse is a sign of the kingdom of God. God's kingdom is among us, not completely but partially, and we can make it more of a reality in the good that we do for each other.

Jesus' Second Coming will be at the end of time, an event Jesus himself did not know the time of: "But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" (Mark 13:32). ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
DearPadre.org



NEW AFRICA / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 5 <i>St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i> 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 Mk 6:53-56	February 6 <i>St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i> 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 Mk 7:1-13	February 7 <i>Weekday</i> 1 Kgs 10:1-10 Mk 7:14-23	February 8 <i>Weekday</i> 1 Kgs 11:4-13 Mk 7:24-30	February 9 <i>Weekday</i> 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 Mk 7:31-37	February 10 <i>St. Scholastica, Virgin</i> 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 Mk 8:1-10	February 11 <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 1 Cor 10:31- 11:1 Mk 1:40-45



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus shows a particular predilection for those who are wounded in body and in spirit: the poor, the sinners, the possessed, the sick, the marginalized. Thus, He reveals Himself as a doctor both of souls and of bodies, the Good Samaritan of man. He is the true Savior: Jesus saves, Jesus cures, Jesus heals.

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 8, 2015



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