



Who Do People Say You Are?

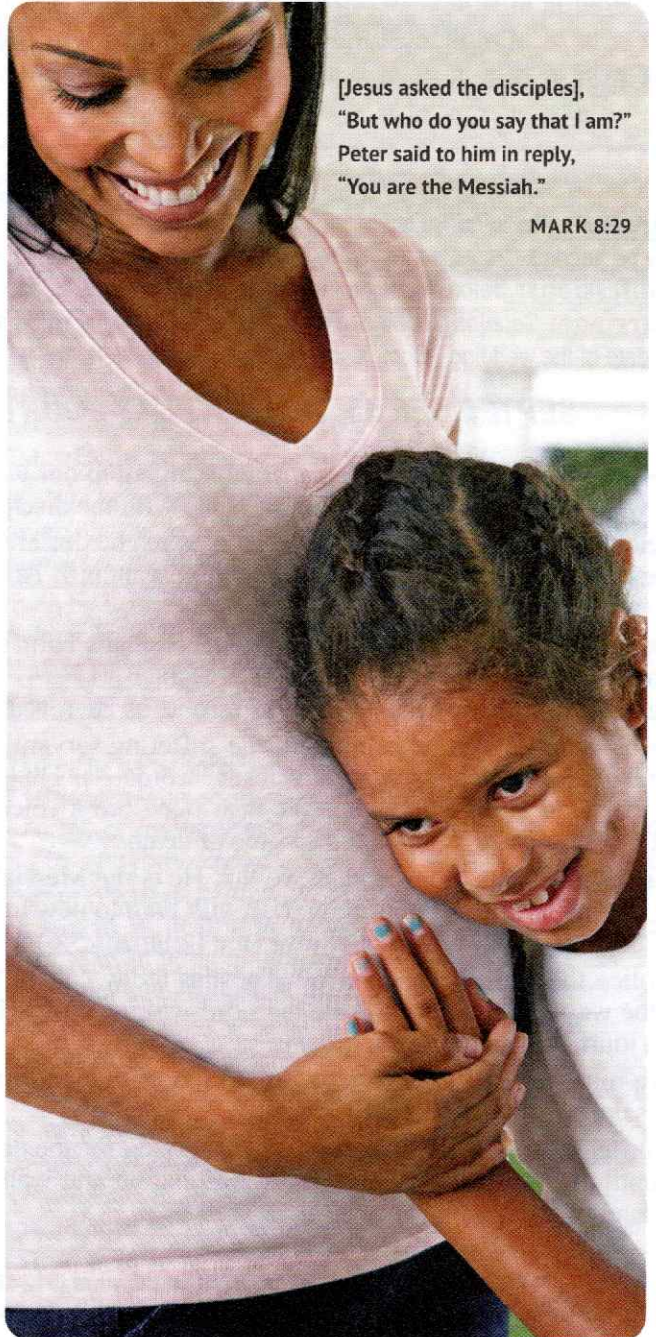
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Pain is the body's alarm clock that something is broken or not working correctly. Suffering, on the other hand, is a marker of our identity and points to what we value. Suffering through the struggles of raising a family says, "I am a parent. That's what parents do." Mental suffering that accompanies committed love says to the world that "I am married. This is something to be valued." Suffering seems to accompany our commitments and consequently contributes to our identity. We don't suffer over what is unimportant in our lives. When Peter recognized that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah, Jesus then pointed out what sort of commitment accompanied being the Christ—that he would suffer greatly, be killed, and then rise on the third day. It was all much to Peter's dismay, especially when Jesus noted that those who follow him can expect similar suffering.

The suffering that flows from our own commitments may not pin us to a physical cross, but it often reveals a faithfulness to live out the values of Jesus. For people of faith, those values become woven into our everyday living: of raising a difficult child, caring for aging parents, working at jobs that sap our energy, or tolerating those who are unkind. Many times, we may not display those values as a conscious expression of our faith, yet it does point to who we are—followers of Jesus. ●

Reflect

Does your suffering reflect your values, your commitment to follow Jesus?



[Jesus asked the disciples],
"But who do you say that I am?"
Peter said to him in reply,
"You are the Messiah."

MARK 8:29

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.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In today's Gospel, we reach a pivotal moment in our walk with the Lord. After weeks of listening to His words and witnessing His deeds, along with the disciples we're asked to decide who Jesus truly is.

Peter answers for them, and for us, too, when he declares: "You are the Messiah." Many expected the Messiah to be a miracle worker who would vanquish Israel's enemies and restore the kingdom of David (see [John 6:15](#)).

Jesus today reveals a different portrait. He calls Himself the Son of Man, evoking the royal figure Daniel saw in his heavenly visions (see [Daniel 7:13-14](#)). But Jesus' kingship is not to be of this world (see [John 18:36](#)). And the path to His throne, as He reveals, is by way of suffering and death.

Jesus identifies the Messiah with the suffering servant that Isaiah foretells in today's First Reading. The words of Isaiah's servant are Jesus' words—as He gives Himself to be shamed and beaten, trusting that God will be His help. We hear our Lord's voice again in today's Psalm, as He gives thanks that God has freed Him from the cords of death.

As Jesus tells us today, to believe that He is the Messiah is to follow His way of self-denial—losing our lives to save them in order to rise with Him to new life. Our faith, we hear again in today's Epistle, must express itself in works of love (see [Galatians 5:6](#)).

Notice that Jesus questions the Apostles today "along the way." They are on the way to Jerusalem, where the Lord will lay down His life. We, too, are on a journey with the Lord.

We must take up our cross, giving to others and enduring all our trials for His sake and the sake of the Gospel.

Our lives must be an offering of thanksgiving for the new life He has given us until that day when we reach our destination and walk before the Lord in the land of the living.



Bulletin Information: MARAK: Anna Givens (512-809-9889) marakchurch@yahoo.com

CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

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

MINISTRIES FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

Rosary: Liz Jungmann

Eucharistic Minister: Cindy Prcin

Lector: Kelly Laurence

Offertory: Greg and Mary Hoelscher

Ushers: Richard Brenek and Charles Teague

Servers: Cade and Cutter

Sanctuary Light: September 16th-22nd: Eleanor Motyka by Tom and Julie Motyka

Prayer Chain...Please pray for Anton Vrazel, Martha Hubnik, Brandon Lewis (Cousin to the Tomek Family), Dorothy Vansa, and Kay and Ed Moraw 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—September 15-22, 2024

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—9/15	10:15am	+Catechetical Sunday to honor all those who share in evangelizing and teaching the mission of the church +Stanley Hubnik by Alice Vrazel +Laddie Dohnalik by Alfred and Bernice Vrazel +August Dohnalik by James and Jeannine Dohnalik
9/18—Wednesday	5:30pm	+Jerry Sipula by Lester and Glenda Hays +Henry Litzman, Jr. by Lynn Hornung +Stanley Hubnik by Sherri Mueck
9/22—Sunday	10:15am	+Scott Litzman by Lynn Hornung +Clem Tomek by Robert and Vicki Plachy +Joe and Stefina Vansa by Robert and Debbie Vansa +Stanley Hubnik by Junior and Patsy Vrazel

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **THANK YOU:** A very special thank you to all parishioners who continue to make the Picnic a great success. Your support, through donations, time, energy, or love helps our Church family do more good things. The weather was perfect and contributed to everyone having a wonderful day. May God bless you and your family. Your kindness shows the love of Christ and helps our church grow stronger.
- **WELCOME:** A very special welcome and thank you to the following REP teachers for the 2024-2025 School year—Suzanne Dorskocil-1st and 2nd grade; Gracie Dorskocil-3rd and 4th grade; LeAnna Junek-5th grade; Raymond Tomek-6th grade; Kennedy Dorskocil-7th grade; and Brian Kopriva-8th grade. Thank you so much for your time and talent of teaching the REP classes.
- **SEPTEMBER 17th:** K C Meeting at St. Joseph's Parish Hall—Cyclone at 7 p.m.
- **ST. JOSEPH'S CYCLONE:** Annual Picnic Sunday, September 22nd-Sausage and Home Fried Chicken Plates-\$15-serving begins at 10:30 AM. Music by Jerry Haisler. Games at 12:00 PM—Auction at 2 PM.
- **ST. MARTIN OF TOURS:** Annual Picnic Sunday, September 22nd-Fried Chicken and Sausage Dinner at 11am-Cost is \$14. Auction at 1pm-raffle, bingo, country store, and children's games.
- **SYMPATHY:** Our deepest sympathy to Mary Carolyn Vansa and her family on the loss of Steve Stanley Vansa. May God provide comfort and healing to the family.

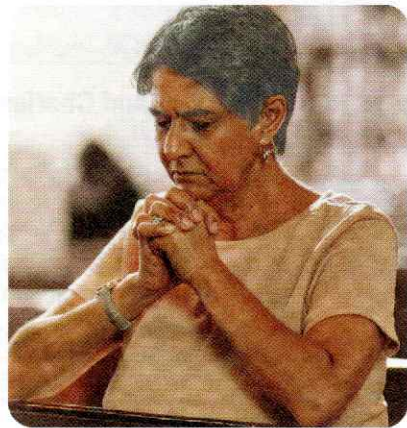
9-8: Sunday Offering: \$1,842.46 9-8: Children's Offering: \$29.00 9-8: Building Fund: \$25.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Dear Padre,

Why does OCIA take so long? I've been married to a Catholic for fifty years and would like to become Catholic. My parish's Order of Christian Initiation of Adults program runs from September through Easter. That's a long time for someone in her eighties. Is there any way to accelerate the process?

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults and the new name for RCIA) was designed to meet the needs of two main groups: those who have been baptized as Catholics or in a Protestant tradition but have received no additional instruction in the Catholic faith, and those who have not been baptized. Someone in the first group has a different starting point from someone who has little knowledge of Christ, or who has never participated in a church community. OCIA programs use an instruction process called catechumenate, in which people seeking to become Catholic (catechumens) experience a worshiping community, learn to pray, and reflect on God's word. The catechumenate is divided into steps that are marked by liturgical rites; some parts of the process are optional, depending on each catechumen's pastoral situation. Catechumens can be received into the Church at any time of year. Talk to your priest about your closeness to Catholicism since your marriage and how it has formed your faith. Together, you can determine the amount and type of preparation that's right for you. ●



FROM EMMANUEL.COM - VIRAL / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSSR / DearPadre.org



ALESSIA PIERMENO / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus asks his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?"

....Today too, the Lord looks at each of us personally and asks: "Who am I—in fact—for you?".... This question, addressed to each of us, calls for more than a quick answer straight out of the catechism; it requires a vital, personal response.

HOMILY, BUDAPEST, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Monday

September 16
Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
1 Cor 11:17–26, 33
Lk 7:1–10

Tuesday

September 17
Weekday
1 Cor 12:12–14, 27–31a
Lk 7:11–17

Wednesday

September 18
Weekday
1 Cor 12:31–13:13
Lk 7:31–35

Thursday

September 19
Weekday
1 Cor 15:1–11
Lk 7:36–50

Friday

September 20
Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs
1 Cor 15:12–20
Lk 8:1–3

Saturday

September 21
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Eph 4:1–7, 11–13
Mt 9:9–13

Sunday

September 22
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 2:12, 17–20
Jas 3:16–4:3
Mk 9:30–37