

## The “Gospel” of Health and Wealth

There’s a current in modern Protestantism that is popularly called the “prosperity gospel.” Although rejected by many Protestants, it still has its disciples. Its basic tenet is that if you’re faithful and generous with God, he will bless you with prosperity in this life. The kind of prosperity expected is usually health and wealth. The natural conclusion is that economic blessings are signs of your faith. The opposite would also be true. If you are poor, you just might lack faith or God’s favor.

Without a doubt, God promises us prosperity. Just look at the prophesy of Isaiah in today’s reading. Yet, as always for Christians, we have to read the Old Testament in the light of Christ and his revelation in the New Testament. The life of Jesus, the Son of God, was the most prosperous life ever lived. Yet, he wasn’t rewarded

with material wealth. In fact, he was downright poor. Although he was faithful and generous, God blessed him with challenges and, ultimately, the cross.

Paul didn’t glory in his apostolic successes but in the cross of Jesus. He knew that the victory of the cross was his greatest treasure. He saw in his difficulties not a curse but a sign of his true authenticity as a follower of Christ.

We should no doubt strive for sufficient material progress and prosperity for ourselves, our family, our business, and our nation. But above all we should strive for eternal prosperity, which is living and rejoicing that our names are written in heaven, whether we are materially wealthy or not.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *Vanitas Vanitatum*, 1967-1968  
Artist: Gregorio Sciltian  
Location: Vatican Museums



PHOTO © GOVERNATORATO S.C.V. DIRETTORATO DI MUSEI

### For Reflection

Is material wealth too much of a concern of mine?  
How can my family and I learn to focus on eternal treasures?

*[Jesus said,] “...Do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”*

*Luke 10:20*

## WELCOME FATHER JIM

### 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 you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

### July 7, 2019 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

"Let the peace of Christ control your hearts." Colossians 3:15

Jesus has a vision in this week's Gospel—Satan falling like lightning from the sky, the enemy vanquished by the missionary preaching of His Church. Sent out by Jesus to begin gathering the nations into the harvest of divine judgment (see Isaiah 27:12–13; Joel 4:13), the 70 are a sign of the continuing mission of the Church. Carrying out the work of the 70, the Church proclaims the coming of God's kingdom, offers His blessings of peace and mercy to every household on earth—"every town and place He intended to visit." Our Lord's tone is solemn today. For in the preaching of the Church "the kingdom of God is at hand," the time of decision has come for every person. Those who do not receive His messengers will be doomed like Sodom. But those who believe will find peace and mercy, protection and nourishment in the bosom of the Church, the Mother Zion we celebrate in this week's beautiful First Reading, the "Israel of God" Paul blesses in this week's Epistle.

The Church is a new family of faith (see Galatians 6:10) in which we receive a new name that will endure forever (see Isaiah 66:22), a name written in heaven. In this week's Psalm we sing of God's "tremendous deeds among men" throughout salvation history. But of all the works of God, none has been greater than what He has wrought by the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Changing the sea into dry land was but an anticipation and preparation for our passing over, for what Paul calls the "new creation." And as the exodus generation was protected in a wilderness of serpents and scorpions (see Deuteronomy 8:15), He has given His Church power now over "the full force of the Enemy." Nothing will harm us as we make our way through the wilderness of this world, awaiting the Master of the harvest, awaiting the day when all on earth will shout joyfully to the Lord, sing praise to the glory of His name.



**6/30 Stewardship: Regular Offering: \$1,906.00**

**6/30 Children's Offering: \$4.00**

**6/30 Peter's Pence: \$329.00**

**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 July 14

**Rosary:** Raymond Tomek

**Offertory:** Raymond Jochec Family

**Ushers:** James Dohnalik & Todd Duskocil

**Eucharistic Minister:** Johnny Winkler

**Lector:** Sarah Goeres



**Altar Servers:** Lily Brunson, Adison Dach, Bailey Anderle

**Sanctuary Light:** July 8th-14th — Jerry & Mary Ann Plachy by Betty Jane & Richard 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: Steve Simecek, Gerald Beach, Andrea Enga( Cousin of Ethel Marak), Seth Litzman (nephew of Lynne Hornung), JoLeen Cayhill, and Ethel Marak. Prayers are powerful!

**Contact** Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—[Slavik@farm-market.net](mailto:Slavik@farm-market.net) to be put on the prayer chain.

#### **MARAK MASSES—July 7-14, 2019**

Date	Time	Intentions
Today- 7/7	10:15am	+ Lillian Plachy Litzman Family by Lynne Hornung + Mary Ann Plachy by Jane & Johnnie Marek
7/10- Wednesday	5:30pm	Communion Service
7/14—Sunday	10:15am	Living & Deceased members Joseph Jistel Family + Larry Green by Merlene Slavik

#### **CYCLONE MASSES— July 7-14, 2019**

Date	Time	Intentions
Today – 7/7	8:15am	+ Dolores Motl by Mrs. Joe Teakell
7/9– Tuesday	7:00am	Communion Service
7/11– Thursday	7:00am	Communion Service
7/12—Friday	7:00am	Communion Service
7/13– Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	+ Charles Sulak by Monica Mikeska
7/14— Sunday	8:15am	For the Intention of Bill & Lucille Stock

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION.**

- **TODAY:** Second Collection for Building and Maintenance Fund.
- **JULY 8:** Parish Social & Pot Luck—Marak Parish Hall—6-9PM.
- **VACATION:** Father Darrell will be on vacation on July 6th and 7th. Father Jim will officiate Mass.
- **RETREAT:** Father will be on a Retreat from July 8th –July 14th. On Sunday, July 14th, Father Blaise Czaja DP will be the Missionary Priest who will officiate Mass and preach the mission co-op appeal on behalf of the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica. A collection will be taken up for this mission.
- **LUMEN GENTIUM AWARD:** Robert & Debbie Vansa will be accepting the award on July 16th at the Mayborn Center in Temple, Texas at 7pm. Congratulations to Robert & Debbie and please come join the ceremony on the 16th of July. May God Bless both of you for your spirit of Christ.
- **JULY 21ST: Family Fun Day!** The Cyclone/Marak Knights of Columbus invite parishioners from St. Joseph & Sts. Cyril & Methodius to a Family Fun Day at Marak Pavilion & Hall. We will have water slides for the kids & enjoyment for the whole family. Time—4-8pm with hot dogs & fixings for supper. Hope to see you there!
- **JULY 26TH:** A benefit for Steve Simecek will be held on Saturday, July 27th at Cameron VFW. Meal will be served from 5pm till sold out. Dance begins at 8pm—12pm. For more information, Please read the flyer on the bulletin board at the church entry . Prayers for Steve!

## Calendar

### Monday

JULY 8

#### Weekday

Gn 28:10–22a

Mt 9:18–26

### Tuesday

JULY 9

#### Weekday

Gn 32:23–33

Mt 9:32–38

### Wednesday

JULY 10

#### Weekday

Gn 41:55–57;

42:5–7a, 17–24a

Mt 10:1–7

### Thursday

JULY 11

St. Benedict, Abbot

Gn 44:18–21, 23b–29;

45:1–5

Mt 10:7–15

### Friday

JULY 12

#### Weekday

Gn 46:1–7, 28–30

Mt 10:16–23

### Saturday

JULY 13

#### Weekday

Gn 49:29–32;

50:15–26a

Mt 10:24–33

### Sunday

JULY 14

Fifteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Dt 30:10–14

Col 1:15–20

Lk 10:25–37

# Dear Padre,

## Why so many collections during Mass?

For many, besides a boring homily, the collection is the most unpleasant part of the Mass. Some grudgingly drop small bills, while others believe contributing a twenty is reasonable. A second collection may elicit silent groans—unless it's for a recent calamity.

Since the early Church, a collection has been part of the liturgy. It was intended to support needy members (including widows and orphans) and the clergy. The collection was an expression of fellowship or communion.

This communion had several dimensions: communion of faith, communion of heart and mind (unity and friendship among members), communion of the table (the Eucharist), and communion of goods.

"The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common," writes Luke in Acts 4:32. "There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need" (Acts 4:34–35).

Even today, at Mass we celebrate our communion of faith, heart, and mind. The Eucharist is the sacrament of communion between Christ and the community. Likewise, a communion of goods is concretely expressed during the collection.

This is what the Eucharist is about—not just sharing bread and wine, but sharing resources and gifts which ultimately are blessings from God.

—Fr. Amado L. Picardal, CSsR, SThD

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



GREGORY A. SHEPHERD PHOTO



## A Word from Pope Francis

Today gratuitousness is often not part of daily life where everything is bought and sold. Everything is calculated and measured. Almsgiving helps us to experience giving freely, which leads to freedom from the obsession of possessing, from the fear of losing what we have.

—Blessing of ashes, March 5, 2014