

Aspiring to True Greatness

It's so easy to fall into complacency and not strive for greatness. When we're young, we idealistically dream of reaching the heights of success. Then with time and the resistance of circumstances, we are hypnotized into settling for less and less. Eventually we're content with just getting by, rather than embracing the arduous struggle upon the higher road that once attracted us.

The rich man of the Gospel was also complacent. His wealth blinded him to the needs of Lazarus, the poor man he passed and stepped over every time he entered his home. Even though he could help, the rich man refused. How could he be so inconsiderate? He had everything and was unwilling to offer even leftover food to someone in need.

God is against complacency and settling for the easy and sensual. He upbraids the chosen race for exactly that. They are too comfortable on their expensive, comfortable couches. Saint Paul challenges the young bishop Timothy to pursue high ideals such as righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, gentleness, and all other virtues. We should strive for them as well. How?

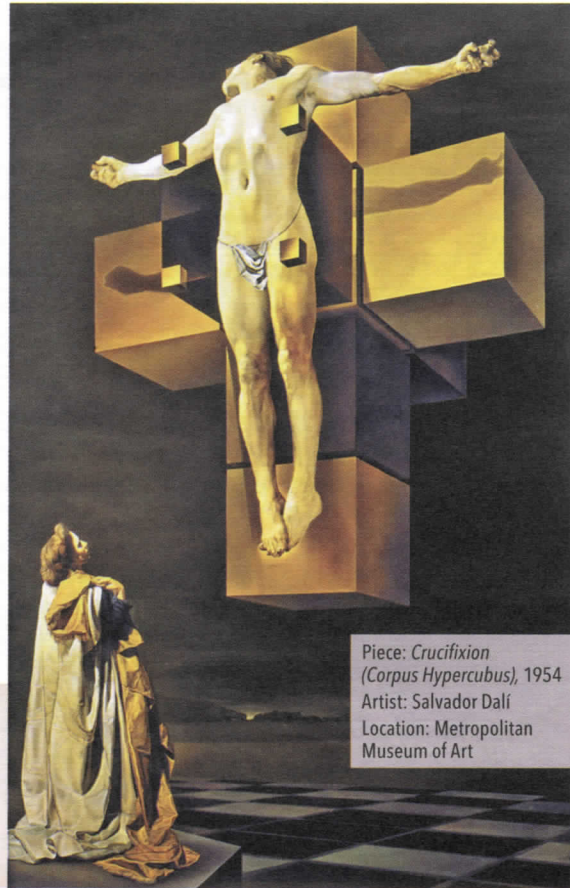
Look at the painting by Salvador Dalí. The monk stands at the edge of his sacred space, staring up into the heavens at the crucified Jesus. There are no material things to distract his gaze from the Savior. Jesus is the beautiful, timeless ideal of every soul aiming for perfect love. Keep your eyes on him and you will never settle for anything but true greatness.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

When you were younger, what were some of your ideals that were inspired by God?

How have you followed them? Should you get back to them?



Piece: *Crucifixion (Corpus Hypercubus)*, 1954
Artist: Salvador Dalí
Location: Metropolitan Museum of Art

"Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

Luke 16:31

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

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

Pastor: Rev. Darrell Kostiha

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.

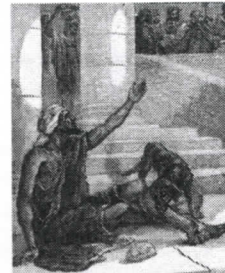
SEPTEMBER 29, 2019—TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

The rich and powerful are visited with woe and exile in today's Liturgy—not for their wealth but for their refusal to share it; not for their power but for their indifference to the suffering at their door. The complacent leaders in today's First Reading feast on fine foods and wines, reveling while the house of Joseph, the kingdom of Israel (see Amos 5:6), collapses around them. The rich man in today's Gospel also lives like a king—dressed in royal purple and fine linen (see 1 Maccabees 8:14).

The rich man symbolizes Israel's failure to keep the Old Covenant, to heed the commandments of Moses and the prophets. This is the sin of the rulers in today's First Reading. Born to the nation God favored first, they could claim Abraham as their father. But for their failure to give—their inheritance is taken away.

The rulers are exiled from their homeland. The rich man is punished with an exile far greater—eternity with a "great chasm" fixed between himself and God. In this world, the rich and powerful make a name for themselves (see Genesis 11:4) and dine sumptuously, while the poor remain anonymous, refused an invitation to their feasts. But notice that the Lord today knows Lazarus by name, and Joseph in his sufferings—while the leaders and the rich man have no name.

Today's liturgy is a call to repentance—to heed the warning of One who was raised from the dead. To lay hold of the eternal life He promises, we must pursue righteousness, keep the commandment of love, as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle. "The Lord loves the just," we sing in today's Psalm.



9/22 Stewardship: Regular Offering: \$1,222.00

9/22 Children's Offering: \$4.00

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 October 6

Rosary: Lynne Hornung

Offertory: Richard & Betty Brenek

Ushers: Dennis Marek & Laddie Dohnalik

Altar Servers: Sam Richter, Will Richter, Brady Barton

Sanctuary Light: September 30th—Oct. 6th—Henry Jr. & Lillian Litzman by Lynne Hornung

Eucharistic Minister: Merlene Slavik

Lector: Kelly Laurence



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: Gerald Beach, Andrea Enga(Cousin of Ethel Marak), JoLeen Cayhill, and Ethel Marak. Prayers are powerful!

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

MARAK MASSES—September 29—October 6, 2019

Date	Time	Intentions
Today- 9/29	10:15am	+ Larry Green by Adolph & Dorothy Vansa + Joseph Andrew Tomek by George Tomek Family
10/2- Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Joe Vansa by Arvell & Liz Jungmann + Dana Kubesova by Mary Ann Ring
10/6—Sunday	10:15am	Honoring Johnny & Ethel Marak's 61st Wedding Anniversary + Cyril & Dorothy Vaculin by Gary & Marlene Vrazel + Marcella Dohnalik by Evelyn Richter

CYCLONE MASSES— September 29– October 6, 2019

Date	Time	Intentions
Today – 9/29	8:15am	+ Dolores Motl by Raymond & Gayle Schmiedekamp
10/1– Tuesday	7:00am	+ Helen Hoelscher by Ken & Jeanette Driska
10/3— Thursday	7:00am	+ Jason Holy by Bunny & Chuck Felderhoff
10/4—Friday	7:00am	+ Gerry Dukatnik by Lyn Dukatnik
10/5– Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	+ Albina Vrazel by David & Janet Kasner
10/6— Sunday	8:15am	+ Royella Roessler by Bill & Carol Smetna

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **EIM CLASSES:** Thanks to all the parishioners who attended the EIM Class.
- **CHURCH DIRECTORY:** All group pictures will be taken after Mass. The groups are USHERS, LECTORS, ALTAR SERVERS, PARISH COUNCIL, FINANCE COUNCIL, BUILDING COMMITTEE, CEMETERY BOARD, ORGANIST, HALL MANAGERS, REP DIRECTORS AND TEACHERS, ROSARY LEADERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, KC MEMBERS, KJZT, JRS., KJZT, & ALTAR SOCIETY. All those involved—please stay after Mass.
- Lifetouch Company will be taking family portraits for a new church parish directory. The dates are October 14th, 15th, & 16th. Today, before and after Mass you can make an appointment for the photo session. If you haven't made your appointment after today, contact Liz Jungmann 254-697-1004 to schedule an appointment.
- **OCTOBER 6:** St. Matthew Catholic Church—Rogers—will be have the annual Fall Festival—Serving begins at 11am—See bulletin board in the church entry for more information.
- **OCTOBER 6:** Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish—Hostyn Festival in LaGrange will begin at 11am. Fried Chicken Dinner—\$10.00 Adults—\$5.00 Children. Games, Auction, Music and much more. See Bulletin board in the church entry for more information.
- **OCTOBER 6:** Building and Maintenance Fund Collection.
- **OCTOBER 6:** Parish Council nomination forms will be given out for the 2020 church year. Ballots will be available on October 6th and 13th.

Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 30

St. Jerome, Priest and
Doctor of the Church

Zec 8:1-8

Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday

OCTOBER 1

St. Thérèse of the Child
Jesus, Virgin and
Doctor of the Church

Zec 8:20-23

Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday

OCTOBER 2

Holy Guardian Angels

Neh 2:1-8

Mt 18:1-5, 10

Thursday

OCTOBER 3

Weekday

Neh 1:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12

Lk 10:1-12

Friday

OCTOBER 4

St. Francis of Assisi

Bar 1:15-22

Lk 10:13-16

Saturday

OCTOBER 5

Weekday

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29

Lk 10:17-24

Sunday

OCTOBER 6

Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4

2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14

Lk 17:5-10

Dear Padre,

Do dogs go to heaven?

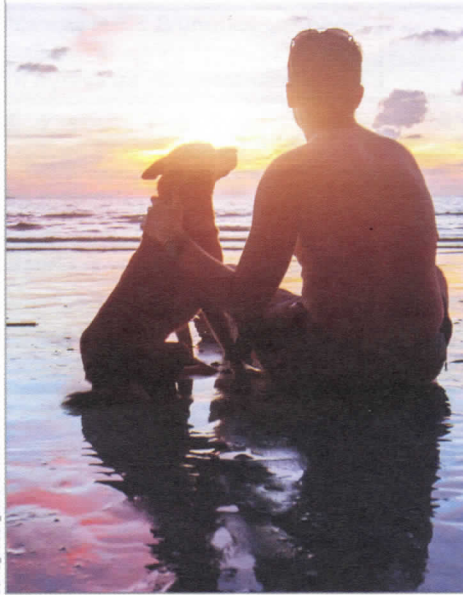
Franciscan Friar Kevin Mackin writes, "The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye to eye are two creatures of love" (*Catholic Update*: "Why We Bless Animals," Liguori).

Is it any wonder that people desire to see their pets in heaven! Yet, we know so little of what heaven is like. "We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). "At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face" (1 Corinthians 13:12). Thus, in heaven we'll see and enjoy the loving essence of God for eternity.

Would not the sensation we experience on earth through a bond with loved ones and with lovable creatures be experienced and infinitely satisfied when

we're bonded to God's loving essence for eternity? In other words, if a beloved pet gives us such happiness on earth, won't that sensation be experienced preeminently forever in heaven? We either won't miss the pet for that very reason or perhaps God will reunite us with it in some form as part of that heavenly experience. "What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



SONG_ABOUT_SUMMER/SHUTTERSTOCK



A Word from Pope Francis

More than a place, [heaven] is a "state" of soul in which our deepest hopes are fulfilled in superabundance and our being, as creatures and as children of God, reach their full maturity. We will finally be clothed in the joy, peace and love of God, completely, without any limit, and we will come face to face with him!

—General audience, November 26, 2014