



Belonging to Two Families

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Adolescence can bring family life into an upheaval for both parents and adolescents alike. At its heart, adolescence is an urge for independence, a silent instinct to be part of the larger world. It is a calling sewn by God's Spirit into the very fabric of being human. At its best, family life can be the staging ground for that movement outward.

Hannah recognized this when she believed that her young son Samuel was chosen for a specific role in life. It moved her to bring Samuel to the temple to be raised there in growing service to the community. Ultimately Samuel became a charismatic leader of the Hebrew people who would anoint both Saul and David as king. That same calling seemed to take time

to unfold in the awareness of Joseph and Mary who wondered why Jesus stayed behind in the temple. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" asked Jesus of them (Luke 2:49). All of us are meant to live more than a life of satisfaction for ourselves or even the fulfillment of our parents' dreams.

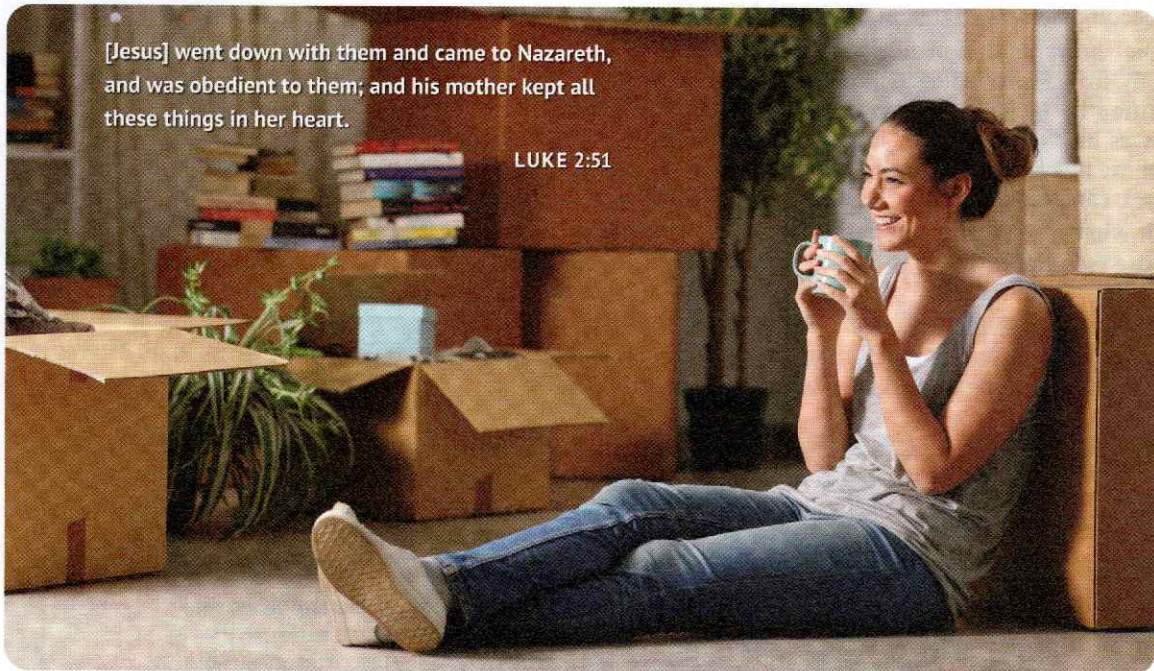
We may find ourselves asking a young person what they want to be when they grow up. A more valuable question might be what they think God wants them to be. While the Spirit of God does not usually ask us to be something contrary to our inclinations, the call of service to the needs of the human family is an added piece to the puzzle of what someone's life might look like. ●

Reflect

How has the call to serve God and God's people shown itself in your life?

[Jesus] went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

LUKE 2:51



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.

DECEMBER 29, 2024 FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Why did Jesus choose to become a baby born of a mother and father and to spend all but His last years living in an ordinary human family? In part, to reveal God's plan to make all people live as one "holy family" in His Church (see [2 Corinthians 6:16-18](#)).

In the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, God reveals our true home. We're to live as His children, "chosen ones, holy and beloved," as the First Reading puts it.

The family advice we hear in today's readings—for mothers, fathers, and children—is all solid and practical. Happy homes are the fruit of our faithfulness to the Lord, we sing in today's Psalm. But the Liturgy is inviting us to see more, to see how, through our family obligations and relationships, our families become heralds of the family of God that He wants to create on earth.

Jesus shows us this in today's Gospel. His obedience to His earthly parents flows directly from His obedience to the will of His heavenly Father. Joseph and Mary aren't identified by name, but three times are called "his parents" and are referred to separately as his "mother" and "father." The emphasis is all on their familial ties to Jesus. But these ties are emphasized only so that Jesus, in the first words He speaks in Luke's Gospel, can point us beyond that earthly relationship to the Fatherhood of God.

In what Jesus calls "my Father's house," every family finds its true meaning and purpose (see [Ephesians 3:15](#)). The Temple we read about in the Gospel today is God's house, His dwelling (see [Luke 19:46](#)). But it's also an image of the family of God, the Church (see [Ephesians 2:19-22](#); [Hebrews 3:3-6](#); [10:21](#)).

In our families we're to build up this household, this family, this living temple of God—until He reveals His new dwelling among us and says of every person: "I shall be his God and he will be my son" (see [Revelation 21:3, 7](#)).



12-22 Sunday Offering: \$1,495.00

12-22: Building Fund: \$75.00

12-22: Children's Offering: \$3.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

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 JANUARY 1, 2025—NEW YEAR'S DAY-SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Lector: Kelly Laurence

Ushers: Chester Hays and Greg Hoelscher

Rosary: Lynne Hornung

Lector: Janice Marek

Ushers: Henry Hilscher and Garrey Prcin

Eucharistic Minister: Judy Vaculin

Offertory: Amy Brunson Family

Servers: Gracie, Carter, Bella

Eucharistic Minister: Jeannine Dohnalik

Offertory: Robert and Debra Vansa

Servers: Lily, Adison, Ian

MINISTRIES FOR JANUARY 5, 2025— EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sanctuary Light: December 30th—January 5th: Parishioners of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church

Prayer Chain... Please pray for Anton Vrazel, Martha Hubnik, Brandon Lewis (Cousin to the Tomek Family), Dorothy Vansa, Kay and Ed Moraw, Ethel Marak, Sister M. Andrea Hubnik, Thomas Motyka as well as 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—December 29, 2024 to January 5, 2025

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—12/29	10:15am	James Hosch by Aline Junek †James Junek by Louis and Mary Frances Vansa †Stanley Hubnik by James and Jeannine Dohnalik *Remembrance of Laddie Dohnalik's Birthday
1/1—Wednesday, Solemnity of Mary	5:30 pm	†Larry Green and Carol Lewin by Lynne Hornung †Laddie Dohnalik by Arvell and Liz Jungmann †Stanley Hubnik by Mary Ann Seaton
1/5—Sunday	10:15am	†Clement Tomek by Knights of Columbus Council No. 10186 (Marak/Cyclone) †Stanley Hubnik by Arvell and Liz Jungmann †Claire Worley by Robert and Debbie Vansa

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **SECOND COLLECTION:** Today's second collection for the Feast of the Holy Family supports the Family and Pro-Life Ministries in the Diocese of Austin such as Annunciation Maternity Home and Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter.
- **JANUARY 4TH:** January 4, 2025 will be our last Holy Rosary Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary-9AM in the Church. February is cancelled due to the absence of Father.
- **SECOND COLLECTION:** Next Sunday's second collection is for the Building Fund.
- **BENEFIT DANCE:** KJT Society #12 of Frenstat –Saturday, January 11, 2025—Frenstat Recreation Center featuring the Red Ravens from 7 to 10:30 PM. Tickets are \$12 per person. Kitchen opens at 5:30 PM—proceeds benefit the Diocese of Austin Clergy Retirement Fund.

Dear Padre,

If Jesus was a Jew, why are we Catholic and not Jewish?

Jesus was a first-century Jew, as were his first disciples. They continued their Jewish practices after Jesus' resurrection, but they believed and proclaimed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, the fulfillment of Judaism. Such claims inevitably led to clashes with Jewish authorities, as when St. Stephen, the first martyr, was charged with blasphemy and stoned to death in Jerusalem in the year 36 (Acts 6–7).

Nevertheless, Jesus' followers initially saw themselves as reformers of Judaism—not founders of a new religion. The Acts of the Apostles traces the first thirty years of this community of believers, from Jesus' ascension in Jerusalem to Paul's imprisonment in Rome. It details the beginnings of their separation from Judaism, as when the Jewish disciples wanted to impose certain practices of Mosaic Law on the Gentile disciples—circumcision, for example (Acts 15:11). Acts and the epistles also chronicle the expansion outside of Jerusalem to the Mediterranean region, where, for example, in Antioch, the disciples of Jesus were called Christians for the first time (Acts 11:26). The first written reference to "Catholic Church" is from St. Ignatius of Antioch around the year 107. Catholic means "universal." "The Church is catholic: she proclaims the fullness of the faith.... She is sent out to all peoples. She speaks to all men. She encompasses all times" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 868). ●



Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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
December 10	December 31	January 1	January 2	January 3	January 4	January 5
Octave of Christmas	Octave of Christmas	Mary, Holy Mother of God	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church	Christmas Weekday	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious	Epiphany of the Lord
1 Jn 2:12–17 Lk 2:36–40	1 Jn 2:18–21 Jn 1:1–18	Nm 6:22–27 Gal 4:4–7 Lk 2:16–21	1 Jn 2:22–28 1 Jn 1:19–28	1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Jn 1:29–34	1 Jn 3:7–10 Jn 1:35–42	Is 60:1–6 Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6 Mt 2:1–12

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Every day, families have to learn to listen and understand one another, to walk together, to face conflicts and difficulties.... And this too helps...talk within the family, talk at table, dialogue between parents and children, dialogue among siblings. It helps us experience our family roots that come from our grandparents. Dialogue with the grandparents!

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 26, 2021

