

## We're the Supporting Cast

Life can make us think we are in control of our lives. We plan, think, execute, and succeed (or fail). Then along comes an illness, an accident, a job loss, or one of countless other things, and we realize we really aren't in control of much. This famous phrase sums it up: Man proposes, God disposes.

We can transfer this same false assumption into

our relationship with God and expect Mass, prayer, and liturgy to work for us, fill us, and entertain us. But liturgy and prayer are about giving God his glory above all else.

When we pray, and especially when we enter into communal liturgy, we are reminded once again that it is all about what God is doing. Isaiah says the Lord will provide for all people. God will provide! We might prepare, serve, or participate, but the director, producer, and main actor is God. We are the supporting cast. That is why liturgy is not so much about our planning, participation, or entertainment but about entering into harmony with God's action and praising him as he asks.

The same point can be found in the Gospel. The king sends out invitations for his son's wedding and prepares the feast. He adjusts to the unexpected lack of interest and invites others. The ones who arrive are the ones the master has invited.

It would be foolish for one of the invited guests to vaunt their importance. Their role is to humbly enjoy and gracefully help the king and the newlyweds to shine on their night!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *Still Life With Classical Elements*, 1600s-1700s

Artist: Pietro Navarra

Location: Vatican Museums



### For Reflection

*What attitudes do I regularly bring with me to Mass? Is Mass about my pleasure or God's glory? How often do I serve even when there's nothing in it for me? How can I commit to more unselfish service?*

*"I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me....My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:13, 19).*

## **THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK**

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

**Mailing address:** 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

**Email:** cyclone.marak@gmail.com **Pastor:** Rev. George Thirumangalam CMI

**Mass Schedule: Cyclone:** Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, Thurs & Friday: 7AM

**Marak:** Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 6PM

### **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 wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

### **October 15, 2017 : Twenty –Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time:**

Our Lord's parable in today's Gospel is again a fairly straightforward outline of salvation history. God is the king, Jesus the bridegroom, the feast is the salvation and eternal life that Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading. The Israelites are those first invited to the feast by God's servants, the prophets. For refusing repeated invitations and even killing His prophets, Israel has been punished, its city conquered by foreign armies. Now, Jesus makes clear, God has sent new servants, His apostles, to call not only Israelites, but all people—good and bad alike—to the feast of His kingdom. This is an image of the Church, which Jesus elsewhere compares to a field sown with both wheat and weeds, and a fishing net that catches good fish and bad. We have all been called to this great feast of love in the Church, where, as Isaiah foretold, the veil that once separated the nations from the covenants of Israel has been destroyed, where the dividing wall of enmity has been torn down by the blood of Christ. As we sing in today's Psalm, the Lord has led us to this feast, refreshing our souls in the waters of baptism, spreading the table before us in the Eucharist. As Paul tells us in today's Epistle, in the glorious riches of Christ, we will find supplied whatever we need. And in the rich food of His body, and the choice wine of His blood, we have a foretaste of the eternal banquet in the heavenly Jerusalem, when God will destroy death forever. But are we dressed for the feast, clothed in the garment of righteousness? Not all who have been called will be chosen for eternal life, Jesus warns. Let us be sure that we're living in a manner worthy of the invitation we've received.

**SAINT OF THE WEEK: October 15—St. Teresa of Jesus (1515-1582)** More commonly known as St. Teresa of Avila, she joined the Carmelite convent of the Incarnation at the age of 21. Disheartened by convent life, in particular, its spiritual laxity, opulent nature, and overly social atmosphere, she began a reform movement that provided the framework for the Discalced Carmelites. Members of this new branch of Carmelites modeled themselves on the poor and crucified Christ, adopting a life of poverty and abstinence. In collaboration with St. John of the Cross, Teresa helped bring this new way of life to the male Carmelite communities. Their reforms met with great resistance, but they moved forward with faith and persistence.

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## Ministries for Sunday, October 22

Rosary: Adolph & Dorothy Vansa

Eucharistic Minister : Bernice Vrazel

Ushers: Patsy Gaines & Debbie Vansa

Lector: Judy Vaculin

Offertory: Dorothy Vaculin & Cecilia Marak

Altar Servers: Camryn Green & Colby Green

Sanctuary Light: 10/9 –10/15 Stefina Vansa by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel

Prayer Chain...Continue to pray for all those in need of prayer and especially for the victims that are affected by the recent natural disasters.. Pray for Vocations & more priests. Prayers are powerful and God answers prayers.

### MASSES THIS WEEK: MARAK

Today 10/15 + Phillip Hubnik by Debbie Bush

Wed. 10/18 + Kathrine Bedrich  
by Janice Johnson

10/22 Sun.—10:15AM - Living &  
Deceased Members of K.J.Z.T. #21 Marak

### Stewardship:

**Thank you for your generosity!**

Sunday 10/8 Collection \$ 961.00  
Building Fund \$10.00

### MASSES THIS WEEK: CYCLONE

10/15—Sun. 8:15am + Lucy Mihatsch by  
Monica Mikeska

10/17 Tues. 7am + Edwin & Ann Mikeska  
by Monica Mikeska

10/19 Thurs. 7am + Marvin Wilde by  
Anthony & Gina Hoelscher

10/20 Fri. 7 am - + Marvin Wilde by Bill &  
Nancy Halfmann

10/21 Sat. Vigil Mass 5:30pm  
+ Randolph Green by Monica Mikeska

10/22 Sun. 8:15 am + Larry Posvar by  
Monica Mikeska

## UPCOMING

Sun., Oct. 15th. St. Stephens Picnic—Salado— St. Luke's Fest—Temple &  
St. Mary's—Bremond

Tues., Oct. 17th KC Meeting 7:30 pm St. Joseph's Parish Hall

Sun., Oct. 22nd the KJZT #21 will be hosting The Celebration of Czech Heritage Month.

There will not be a Polka Mass; however, Czech music will be played during mass. The  
Ladies will be serving Czech Pastries after mass.

Second Collection on Sunday, October 22nd: Authorized by the Bishop for Hurricane  
Disaster Aid for Puerto Rico and also Aid for the Earthquake in Mexico

Wed., Oct 25th Parish Council Meeting after 6pm Mass

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Merlene Slavik (254-697-1247) - CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-869-2511)

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

## Calendar

### Monday

October 16

#### Weekday

Rom 1:1-7

Lk 11:29-32

### Tuesday

October 17

*St. Ignatius of Antioch,  
Bishop and Martyr*

Rom 1:16-25

Lk 11:37-41

### Wednesday

October 18

*St. Luke,  
Evangelist*

2 Tm 4:10-17b

Lk 10:1-9

### Thursday

October 19

*Sts. John de Brébeuf and  
Isaac Jogues, Priests, and  
Companions, Martyrs*

Rom 3:21-30

Lk 11:47-54

### Friday

October 20

#### Weekday

Rom 4:1-8

Lk 12:1-7

### Saturday

October 21

#### Weekday

Rom 4:13, 16-18

Lk 12:8-12

### Sunday

October 22

*Twenty-Ninth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

Is 45:1, 4-6

1 Thes 1:1-5b

Mt 22:15-21

# Dear Padre,

**I try my best to live as God asks, but I make a lot of mistakes and I don't always feel God's presence. How can I know that God loves me?**

Most people, at one time or another, find themselves asking this very question. There comes a time in any developing spirituality and awareness of God when it is necessary to ask the question and then come to a faith conviction that we are, indeed, loved.

When we ask ourselves the question, "Does God love me?" we are also

asking ourselves, "Do I love me?" It is very hard for the average person to answer that question, but for those who have a tendency to dwell on every mistake, even after receiving forgiveness through the sacrament of reconciliation or who hold themselves to a standard of perfection, it can be even more difficult. They may find themselves asking, "How can God love me when I have all of

these thoughts and these feelings? Surely my life is displeasing to God."

God loved you first. God's love started everything off. Because God first loved you, he gave you life. God does love you, no matter what you have done, and he offers forgiveness and mercy through reconciliation when you are truly sorry. There is nothing you can possibly do to make God stop loving you. When God loves, he loves for keeps. He will not change. He will always be faithful in his love for you. That is why the Bible tells us: "God is love."

Adapted from *Understanding Scrupulosity* by Fr. Thomas Santa, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



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## A Word From Pope Francis



*"Man takes control of everything, he believes he is God, he believes he is king. And wars...they do not exactly help to sow the seed of life but to destroy. It is an industry of destruction. It is also a system, also of life, that when things cannot be fixed they are discarded: we discard children, we discard the old, we discard unemployed youth.*

*This devastation has created the culture of waste....May the Lord help us and give us the grace of this hope, but also the grace of courage to emerge from all this destruction...to walk in the hope of finding ourselves one day face-to-face with Him."*

—Homily, Solemnity of All Saints, November 1, 2014



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