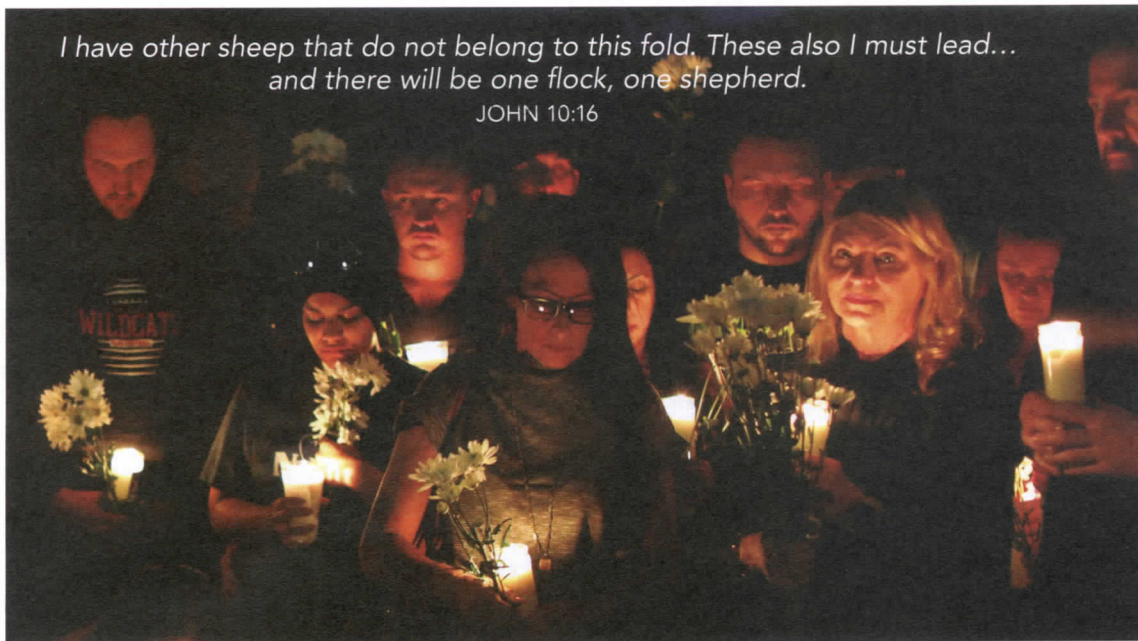




*I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead...  
and there will be one flock, one shepherd.*

JOHN 10:16



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

## The Good Shepherd

**F**or many of us, our only connection with sheep is with the cuddly white creatures found on holy cards. However, that image strays from the facts. Sheep are not household animals. They live outdoors; they lie down in grass, dirt, and mud. Furthermore, unlike many other animals, sheep cannot clean themselves. I'm not denigrating sheep, just putting aside any fanciful view of their nature.

Raising sheep was an important occupation in the ancient world. In fact, the royalty's governance of people was often described as shepherding. David was told: "You shall shepherd my people Israel" (2 Samuel 5:2). Later, when the royalty were not faithful to this charge, God declared: "I myself will pasture my sheep" (Ezekiel 34:15). This startling characterization of God became a characterization of Jesus.

Grime and animal smells, the blood of births and

deaths, inclement weather, and the threat of predators mark the life of a committed shepherd. Human comfort was secondary to the needs of the sheep. Sheep actually learn to recognize the voice of the one who feeds them, cares for them, protects them. The shepherd's voice seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine. As "the good shepherd," Jesus is totally committed to us, his sheep. He attends to our needs, willing to risk his own security in order to save us. His care for us seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### For Reflection

- ★ *Is Christ really your shepherd? Do you listen to his voice?*
- ★ *Do you rely on Christ's protection, even when you don't seem to feel it?*

## 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:** 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.

### APRIL 25, 2021— FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus, in today's Gospel, says that He is the good shepherd the prophets had promised to Israel. He is the shepherd-prince, the new David—who frees people from bondage to sin and gathers them into one flock, the Church, under a new covenant, made in His blood (see Ezekiel 34:10-13, 23-31). His flock includes other sheep, He says, far more than the dispersed children of Israel (see Isaiah 56:8; John 11:52). And He gave His Church the mission of shepherding all peoples to the Father. In today's First Reading, we see the beginnings of that mission in the testimony of Peter, whom the Lord appointed shepherd of His Church (see John 21:15-17).

Peter tells Israel's leaders that the Psalm we sing today is a prophecy of their rejection and crucifixion of Christ. He tells the "builders" of Israel's temple that God has made the stone they rejected the cornerstone of a new spiritual temple, the Church (see Mark 12:10-13; 1 Peter 2:4-7).

Through the ministry of the Church, the shepherd still speaks (see Luke 10:16), and forgives sins (see John 20:23), and makes His body and blood present, that all may know Him in the breaking of the bread (see Luke 24:35). It is a mission that will continue until all the world is one flock under the one shepherd.

In laying down His life and taking it up again, Jesus made it possible for us to know God as He did—as sons and daughters of the Father who loves us. As we hear in today's Epistle, He calls us His children, as He called Israel His son when He led them out of Egypt and made His covenant with them (see Exodus 4:22-23; Revelation 21:7).

Today, let us listen for His voice as He speaks to us in the Scriptures, and vow again to be more faithful followers. And let us give thanks for the blessings He bestows from His altar.



4/18: Stewardship: Sunday Offering: \$1,075.00

4/18: Children's Offering: \$2.00

Thank you for Your Generosity!

**Bulletin Information:** **MARAK:** Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - Email—pagaines2002@yahoo.com

**CYCLONE:** Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

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

## WELCOME FATHER LEE!!!

### Ministries for May 2, 2021

Rosary: Lynne Hornung

Eucharistic Minister: Johnny Winkler

Offertory: Henry Hilscher Family

Lector: Kelly Laurence

Ushers: Tommy Vaculin & Brad Vaculin

Altar Servers: Camryn, Colby, Garrison, Annalee

Sanctuary Light: April 26th—May 2nd: Henry Hubnik Sr. by Kathryn Hubnik

**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 to all those who have been affected by the Covid-19 Virus and also that the vaccine for the corona virus will help to stop this pandemic & for the following: Colt Charanza, Baby Townes Bush, Paulette Hubnik Foster, Carolyn Klecka, Edward Brenek, Jr., Marilyn Juneke Gonzalez, and Doris Matocha. Prayers are powerful!

To be added to the prayer chain:

Please contact: Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—Slavik@farm-market.net

### **MARAK MASSES —April 25—May 2, 2021**

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today— 4/25	10:15am	+ James Juneke by Robert & Debbie Vansa + Daniel Hromcik by Victor & Mary Jane Balcar + Robert & Donna Dach by Michelle Kostroun
5/2—Sunday	10:15am	+ Joe Vansa by Kevin & Anna Givens + Albina Vrazel by Richard & Betty Brenek + James Juneke by Dennis & Carolyn Lazek

### **CYCLONE MASSES —April 25—May 2, 2021**

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today — 4/25	8:15am	+ Clarence Bartek by Family
4/27—Tuesday	7:00am	Communion Service
4/29—Thursday	7:00am	Communion Service
4/30—Friday	7:00am	Communion Service
5/1—Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	+ Rosa Pechal by Bill & Carol Smetana
5/2—Sunday	8:15am	+ Evelyn Green by Lois & David Skala

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION**

- **TODAY:** Second Collection for Seminarians & Priest Education.
- **TODAY:** St. Monica's Ladies Drive-Thru—Bar-B-Q Chicken & Sausage Dinner—Raffle-Sweet Shop—Beginning at 10am—Plates \$10.00—See Bulletin Board for More Information.
- **MAY 5TH:** Altar Society Meeting at the Milam County Museum at 9am.
- **WELCOME:** Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church would like to welcome Charles and Quen Osborn to our church family. May God bless you!
- **FOR YOUR INFORMATION** to all Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Altar Servers—If you are scheduled to participate in these ministries and cannot be in the church on your day to serve, please contact someone to take your place. We appreciate all that you do for our church and God bless you always!
- **FOR YOUR INFORMATION:** The red ropes have been removed and therefore all pews are available for seating. Per the Diocese of Austin, masks are recommended. Praying for normality back to our church.
- **Per Father Ranjan—**He has landed safe and sound to his home in India. He says a great big HELLO to all of us. His family sends lots of greetings to all of us. He is also praying for all of us. God Bless you Father!

# Dear Padre,

## Am I sinning when I work or shop on Sunday?

**B**iblical tradition states that the Sabbath is the day that God rested from the labors of creation. Sunday is also the day we commemorate Christ's resurrection from the dead and the inauguration of the new creation.

We rightly refer to Sunday, then, as the Lord's day. This being so, it's important that we do everything possible to keep the Lord's day holy and ensure that we reserve adequate time on Sunday for worship, rest, and recreation.

Today, many activities, social services, and family needs require some people to work on Sundays. In fact, many people have only the weekends to do the errands and activities that sustain their families.

Our participation in such activities and services is not a sin, nor does it mean that those who do need to work cannot find an appropriate way to sanctify the Lord's day and allow time for the worship, rest, and renewal that are proper to the day.



Even so, we must guard against treating the Lord's day as just another workday, or a continuation of our Saturday shopping spree. Remember that the primary focus on Sunday should be participating in the Mass and growing our relationship with the Lord.

For more information on this topic, see paragraphs 2184 through 2195 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSsR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*True rest is not simple, because there is false rest and true rest....Man has never rested as much as today, yet man has never experienced as much emptiness as today! Opportunities to amuse oneself, to go out, cruises, travels; but many things do not give you fullness of heart. Indeed, they do not give you rest.*

GENERAL AUDIENCE, SEPTEMBER 5, 2018



## Calendar

### Monday

APRIL 26

Easter Weekday

Acts 11:1-18

Jn 10:1-10

### Tuesday

APRIL 27

Easter Weekday

Acts 11:19-26

Jn 10:22-30

### Wednesday

APRIL 28

Easter Weekday

Acts 12:24-13:5a

Jn 12:44-50

### Thursday

APRIL 29

St. Catherine of Siena,  
Virgin and Doctor  
of the Church

Acts 13:13-25

Jn 13:16-20

### Friday

APRIL 30

Easter Weekday

Acts 13:26-33

Jn 14:1-6

### Saturday

MAY 1

Easter Weekday

Acts 13:44-52

Jn 14:7-14

### Sunday

MAY 2

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31

1 Jn 3:18-24

Jn 15:1-8

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