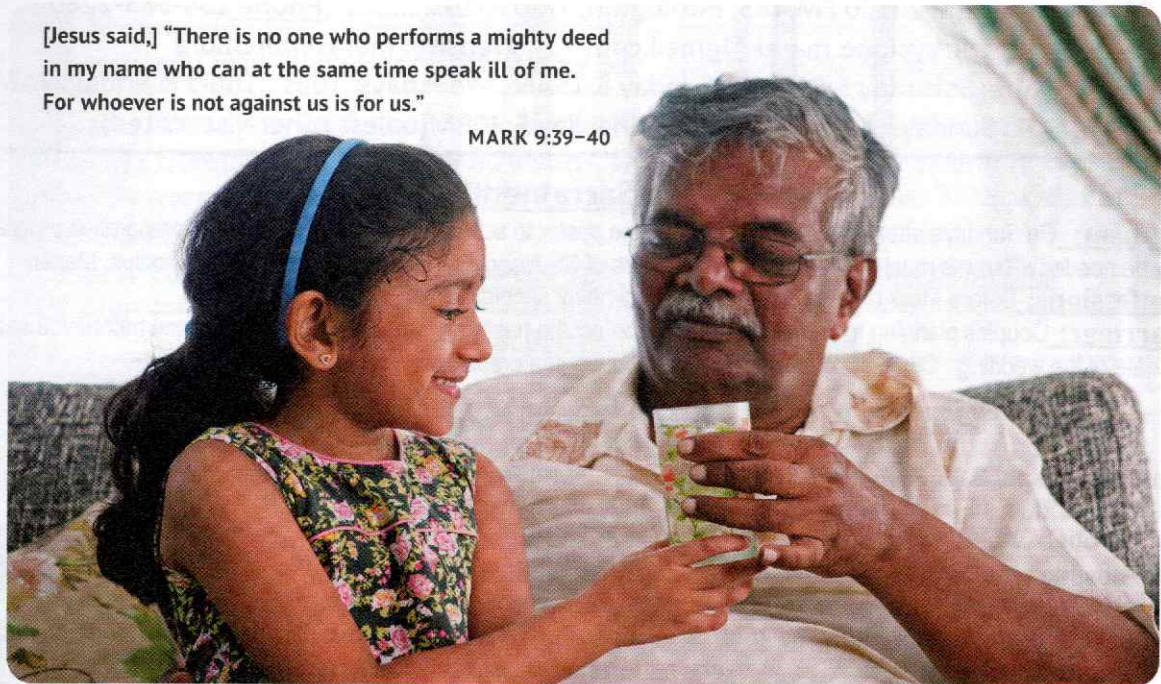




[Jesus said,] “There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us.”

MARK 9:39–40



## Spirited Truth

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It's not always easy to figure out where God's spirit of truth is revealed or by whom the truth is spoken. After “the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses,” some of that same spirit given to Moses was also bestowed upon the seventy elders. Two other men also received the spirit, although they were not specially designated, much to the consternation of the elders (see Numbers 11:25–26). These two outsiders were somehow included among those who saw themselves as insiders. How is one to know who speaks with the authority of the spirit?

Perhaps we all need to pay attention to the possibility that “outsiders” may be speaking the truth to us. Faith communities are often considered outsiders in the larger society, not worthy of a platform to be heard from; yet, many faith communities raise their voices in

defense of the unborn, the immigrants at our doors, and the lost souls adrift among us. Throughout life, we've been surprised by children who speak truth that is unrecognized by adults. We've been surprised by the voice of women to a patriarchal society, the sexually abused to the larger Church, those who defend victims of violence. But not all outsiders speak with the authority of the spirit. How is one to know? Perhaps the Gospel gives us a clue—those who give others a cup of water to drink, which is to say, those who speak with compassion on behalf of others who are thirsty for justice and life. ●

### Reflect

***How have you been surprised by someone unexpectedly speaking God's truth and wisdom?***



## 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.

### **SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Today's Gospel begins with a scene that recalls a similar moment in the history of Israel, the episode recalled in today's First Reading. The seventy elders who receive God's Spirit through Moses prefigure the ministry of the Apostles.

Like Joshua in the First Reading, John makes the mistake of presuming that only a select few are inspired and entrusted to carry out God's plans. The Spirit blows where it wills (see [John 3:8](#)), and God desires to bestow His Spirit on all the people of God in every nation under heaven (see [Acts 2:5, 38](#)).

God can and will work mighty deeds through the most unexpected and unlikely people. All of us are called to perform even our most humble tasks, such as giving a cup of water, for the sake of His name and the cause of His kingdom.

John believes he is protecting the purity of the Lord's name. But, really, he's only guarding his own privilege and status. It's telling that the Apostles want to shut down the ministry of an exorcist. Authority to drive out demons and unclean spirits was one of the specific powers entrusted to the Twelve (see [Mark 3:14-15](#); [6:7, 13](#)).

Cleanse me from my unknown faults, we pray in today's Psalm. Often, like Joshua and John, perhaps without noticing it, we cloak our failings and fears under the guise of our desire to defend Christ or the Church.

But as Jesus says today, instead of worrying about who is a real Christian and who is not, we should make sure that we ourselves are leading lives worthy of our calling as disciples (see [Ephesians 1:4](#)).

Does the advice we give, or the example of our actions, give scandal—causing others to doubt or lose faith? Do we do what we do with mixed motives instead of seeking only the Father's will? Are we living, as this Sunday's Epistle warns, for our own luxury and pleasure while neglecting our neighbors? We need to keep meditating on His Law, as we sing in today's Psalm. We need to pray for the grace to detect our failings and to overcome them.



**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 OCTOBER 6, 2024**

**Rosary:** Lynne Hornung

**Eucharistic Minister:** Judy Vaculin

**Lector:** Jill Michalka

**Offertory:** Andy and Tricia Littlejohn

**Ushers:** Rick Rhoades and Brad Vaculin

**Servers:** Gracie, Carter, and Bella

**Sanctuary Light: September 30th-October 6th: Martha Krenek by Quen Osborn**

**Prayer Chain...Please pray for Anton Vrazel, Martha Hubnik, Brandon Lewis (Cousin to the Tomek Family), Dorothy Vansa, Kay and Ed Moraw, and Ethel Marak 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](mailto:Slavik@farm-market.net)**

**MARAK MASSES—September 29-October 6, 2024**

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—9/29	10:15am	+Joe and Stefina Vansa by Louis and Mary Frances Vansa +Mr. and Mrs. John Vansa by Louis and Mary Frances Vansa +Stanley Hubnik by Anna and Kevin Givens
10/2—Wednesday	5:30pm	+Eugene Marak by Donnie and Janice Reinders +Jennifer Pelzel by Rebecca Barton +John and Mary Hubnik by Mary Ann Seaton
10/6—Sunday	10:15am	+Jerry and Angeline Sipula by Louis and Mary Frances Vansa +Clement Tomek by Alfred and Bernice Vrazel +Jerry Wade by Kevin and Anna Givens +In Honor of Johnny and Ethel Marak's 66th Wedding Anniversary

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION**

- **ST. MATTHEW'S ROGERS:** Fall Festival-October 6th-Pulled Pork and Sausage-Plates for \$15-Serving for Dine-in and To Go begins at 11AM.
- **BABY BANKS:** October is Respect Life Month. Baby Banks will be distributed after Mass next Sunday! We will host this campaign to foster greater respect for the sanctity of human life.
- **SECOND COLLECTION:** Second Collection next Sunday for the Building Fund.
- **PICNIC MEETING:** For all parishioners on Sunday, October 6th, following Mass.
- **CHURCH OF THE VISITATION:** Westphalia Picnic-October 13th-Fried Chicken and Sausage Plates-\$15-Drive Thru begins at 10AM; Inside Dining at 10:30 AM-Music by the Praha Brothers from 10:30 AM to 1 PM-Games, Auction, Museum, Shuttle

9-22: Sunday Offering: \$1,248.00

9-22: Children's Offering: \$7.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



# Dear Padre,

**After we die and go to heaven, will our guardian angel still be with us? Will we know the angel in a closer way?**

"The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls 'angels' is a truth of faith" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 328). The notion that each person has his or her own guardian angel may be based on Jesus' warning not to despise "little ones" because "their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father" (Matthew 18:10). Saint Basil wrote, "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life." How might we interact with these constant companions in heaven? In heaven, we'll be consumed with the presence of the beatific vision—the immediate knowledge of God, which the angelic spirits and the souls of the just enjoy. In beholding God face to face, we find perfect happiness. "This perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity—this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed—is called 'heaven.' Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfillment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness" (CCC 1024). Even though "this mystery of blessed communion with God and all who are in Christ is beyond all understanding and description" (CCC 1027), to imagine the pure joy of being close to our guardian angel is just a foretaste of what heaven will be! ●



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 30	October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4	October 5	October 6
<i>St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i>	<i>St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</i>	<i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>St. Francis of Assisi</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Jb 1:6–22	Jb 3:1–3, 11–17, 20–23	Jb 9:1–12, 14–16	Jb 19:21–27	Jb 38:1, 12–21; 40:3–5	Jb 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–17	Gn 2:18–24
Lk 9:46–50	Lk 9:51–56	Mt 18:1–5, 10	Lk 10:1–12	Lk 10:13–16	Lk 10:17–24	Heb 2:9–11 Mk 10:2–16 or 10:2–12



YARA NARDI / CNA

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**We need to be vigilant about closure in the Church.... Because the devil, who is the divider—this is what the word "devil" means, the one who divides—always insinuates suspicions to divide and exclude people.... The Holy Spirit does not want closure; he wants openness, welcoming communities where there is a place for everyone.**

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021