



## Peace, the Marker of Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**piritual writers tell us that a sure sign of life lived with faith in God is peace, the inner kind of peace that enables you to rest in it with no worry or anxiety. When the risen Lord appears in the midst of the disciples just back from Emmaus and says to them first off, "Peace be with you," that's the sort of peace he's talking about and wishing for them.

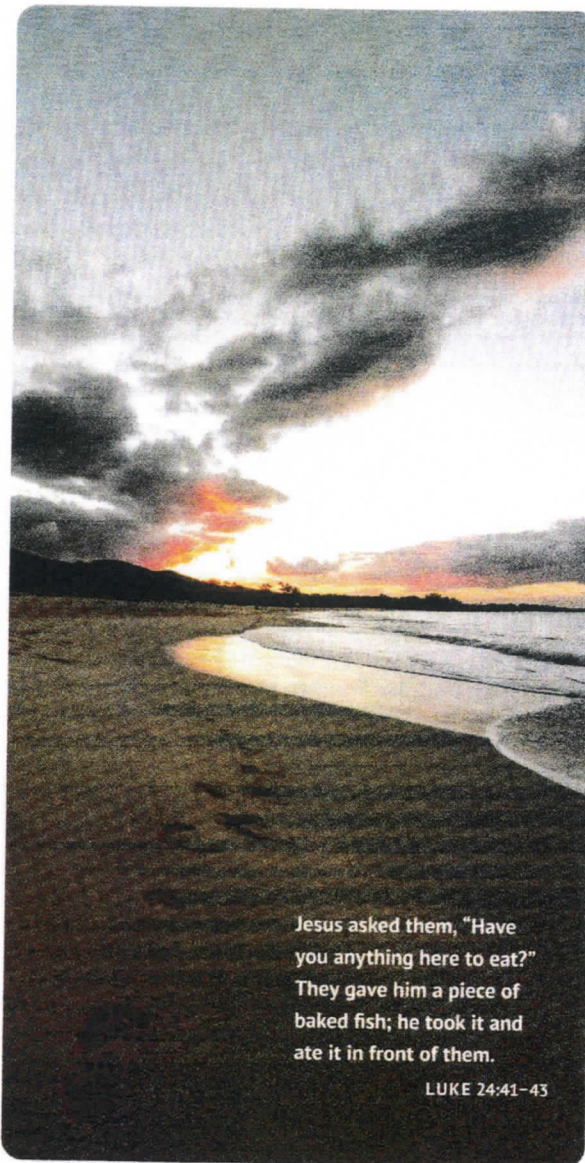
Such peace doesn't seem to be something easy to come by, something that simply plops into the lap of your soul. More than anything it seems to be the fruit of prayerfulness—sometimes praying the rosary or other traditional prayers and sometimes just simply sitting in the quiet, in the midst of love without having to say any words.

There is something about surrendering to God's love over the course of many lived days that eventually brings us to that sort of trusting peace.

The thing about such peace is that only you know if it's genuine. When you feel peace when life turns topsy-turvy, that's God peace. When life is progressing smoothly, it's not easy to know if that's God's peace or just a life without turbulence. But if you're at peace when everything else around you is not, that's when you know it's the presence of God that has you all wrapped up in worry-free wonder. ●

### Reflect

***Have you ever felt at peace even when there is conflict or fear?***



Jesus asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

LUKE 24:41-43

## 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.

### APRIL 14, 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Jesus in today's Gospel teaches His apostles how to interpret the Scriptures. He tells them that all the Scriptures of what we now call the Old Testament refer to Him. He says that all the promises found in the Old Testament have been fulfilled in His Passion, death, and Resurrection. And He tells them that these Scriptures foretell the mission of the Church—to preach forgiveness of sins to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

In today's First Reading and Epistle, we see the beginnings of that mission. And we see the apostles interpreting the Scriptures as Jesus taught them to. God has brought to fulfillment what He announced beforehand in all the prophets, Peter preaches. His sermon is shot through with Old Testament images. He evokes Moses and the Exodus, in which God revealed himself as the ancestral God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (see [Exodus 3:6, 15](#)). He identifies Jesus as Isaiah's suffering servant who has been glorified (see [Isaiah 52:13](#)).

John, too, describes Jesus in Old Testament terms. Alluding to how Israel's priests offered blood sacrifices to atone for the people's sins (see Leviticus 16; Hebrews 9–10), he says that Jesus intercedes for us before God (see [Romans 8:34](#)), and that His blood is a sacrificial expiation for the sins of the world (see [1 John 1:7](#)).

Notice that in all three readings, the Scriptures are interpreted to serve and advance the Church's mission—to reveal the truth about Jesus, to bring people to repentance, the wiping away of sins, and the perfection of their love for God. This is how we, too, should hear the Scriptures. Not to know more "about" Jesus, but to truly know Him personally, and to know His plan for our lives.

In the Scriptures, the light of His face shines upon us, as we sing in today's Psalm. We know the wonders He has done throughout history. And we have the confidence to call to Him, and to know that He hears and answers.

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Irene Kaufus (254-248-2069) [ikaufus15@gmail.com](mailto:ikaufus15@gmail.com)  
CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

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



**MINISTRIES FOR APRIL 21, 2024**

**Rosary:** Julia Motyka

**Lector:** Janice Marek

**Ushers:** Tony Dohnalik & Adam Dohnalik

**Eucharistic Minister:** Debbie Vansa

**Offertory:** Andy & Tricia Littlejohn

**Servers:** Paige, Claire & Kate K.

**Sanctuary Light: April 15th—April 21st: Martha Krenek by Quen Osborn**

**Prayer Chain...** Please pray for Martha Hubnik, Brandon Lewis (Cousin to the Tomek Family), Dorothy Vansa, Laddie Dohnalik, Joseph Ribar, Kay & Ed Moraw and Paulette Foster and 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—April 14—April 21, 2024**

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—4/14	10:15am	+ Stephanie Krumnow by Merlene Slavik + Helen Moriarty by Cecilia Marak
4/17—Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Joe & Stefina Vansa by Robert & Debbie Vansa
4/21—Sunday	10:15am	+ Jerry Sipula by Leroy & Kathy Vansa + Stanley Hubnik by J.R. & Patsy Vrazel

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION**

- St. Anne's Altar Society will be meeting on Wednesday April 17th @ 11:30 at Dairy Queen in Cameron. All ladies are welcomed and food orders are not required.
- EASTER LILIES: If you would like to have an Easter lily, please pickup after Mass today. Lilies are located in the side room of the Altar.
- APRIL 19TH: 12th Anniversary Hope Night Celebrating "High Rollers & Baby Strollers" at Milam County Cowboy Church @ 6 pm. Live Auction, Card games, Silent Auction, Catered Dinner/Dessert Bar. Tickets \$50/person. See Patsy Gaines for tickets. See flyer on bulletin board for more information.
- APRIL 24TH: Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday, April 24th @ 6 pm.
- EIM COMPLIANCE INFORMATION & WORKSHOP INFORMATION: EIM compliance is required for persons active in most ministries in the diocese. Visit [austindiocese.org/eim](http://austindiocese.org/eim) to learn about compliance policies, how new applicants get started, and how active users maintain compliance. **EIM CLASSES** will be held at: *Our Lady of Guadalupe— Temple—April 27th @ 9am; St. Joseph's-Cyclone-June 9th @ 9:45. Contact Irene Kauffus for more information.*
- SYMPATHY: Our deepest sympathy to the Family of Clem Tomek , who recently passed away. May God give your family strength, healing and comfort.

4-7: Sunday Offering: \$1,531.00      Children's Offering: \$5.00

Building Fund: \$578.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

# Dear Padre,

## What is a "covenant," and how are marriage and covenant related?

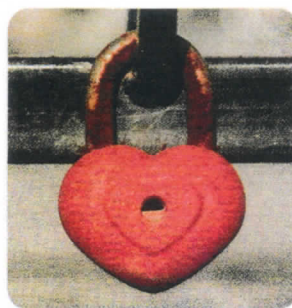
"Covenant" is the word the Church employs to define and describe the sacrament of matrimony. It is clearly based on the idea of "covenant" contained in Scripture. In contrast, society uses the related word "contract," as in the "marriage contract." However, these two words do not mean the same thing.

The meaning of "contract" is too limited to contain the full commitment of Christian marriage. When you sign a contract, you are legally bound only to its terms. You need not do more or less than what is stipulated in its wording. Warmth and concern for the well-being of one party for the other are not stipulated in a contract.

A covenant, on the other hand, is different. Although it may contain some aspects of contract, it establishes a personal relationship of closeness, affection, and warmth, and it locks the couple into a mutual commitment to each other's well-being.

As God freely chose Israel from all the nations possible, so do two people choose each other from all other people. As God declared, "I will take you as my people, and I will be your God" (Exodus 6:7). In the same way, a husband and wife pledge total commitment to each other.

Christian marriage bears the same characteristics of covenant commitment—the personal relationship of caring, loyalty, intimacy, exclusivity, permanency, and, above all, love; hence the use of "covenant" to define Christian marriage. ●



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 15	April 16	April 17	April 18	April 19	April 20	April 21
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 6:8–15	Acts 7:51–8:1a	Acts 8:1b–8	Acts 8:26–40	Acts 9:1–20	Acts 9:31–42	Acts 4:8–12
Jn 6:22–29	Jn 6:30–35	Jn 6:35–40	Jn 6:44–51	Jn 6:52–59	Jn 6:60–69	1 Jn 3:1–2
						Jn 10:11–18



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Eating, when we do so together, among family or friends, also becomes an expression of love, an expression of communion, of celebration. How often the Gospels present us with Jesus experiencing this convivial dimension! Even as the Risen One, with his disciples. To the point that the Eucharistic Banquet has become the emblematic sign of the Christian community.*

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 18, 2021

GIOVANNI CARDILLO / SHUTTERSTOCK