

## You Are Really Something!

**T**he description of the disciples found in today's Gospel is an impressive compliment—and an even greater challenge. Jesus tells them they are “salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13), bringing out the good taste of living. In other words, life would be bland and uninteresting without them. They are also the “light of the world” (Matthew 5:14), helping people find their way. Without them, others would stumble and fall. Jesus is telling them how important they are in the lives of others. They could each and all say: I am really something!

Such compliments are also a challenge. What must one do to be salt and light in the lives of others? The Isaian passage provides some suggestions: Share your bread with the hungry; shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked; don't turn your back on your own; remove from your midst oppression, false accusation, and malicious speech. In other words, to be salt or light is to meet the needs of the needy. This teaching of Jesus is not as easy as it might at first look.

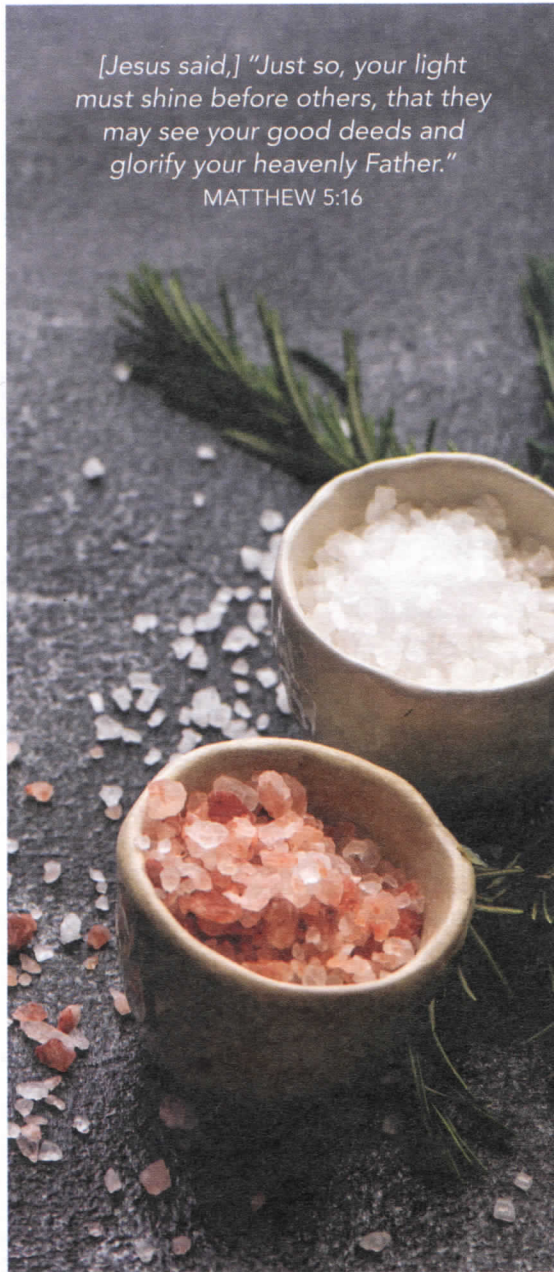
Jesus is speaking to his disciples, his followers. They are not those who are simply curious about this itinerant preacher or remarkable healer. They have chosen to follow him, not merely from place to place, but to model their lives after his. Isn't that what we also claim to be—his followers? Haven't we promised to model our lives after his? If so, as both compliment and challenge he says to us as well, “You are really something!”

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ✦ In what ways do you already enrich or enlighten the lives of others?
- ✦ In what ways is this compliment a challenge for you?

*[Jesus said,] “Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”*  
MATTHEW 5:16



ANNA BOGUSH / SHUTTERSTOCK

## 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.

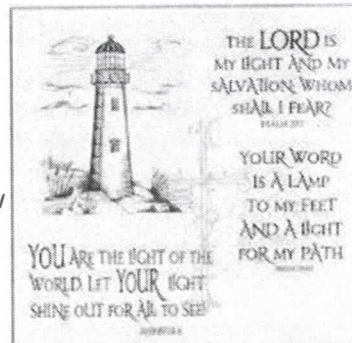
**Marriage:** Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

### FEBRUARY 9, 2020— FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus came among us as light to scatter the darkness of a fallen world. As His disciples, we too are called to be "the light of the world," He tells us in the Gospel this Sunday (see John 1:4-4, 9; 8:12; 9:5). All three images that Jesus uses to describe the Church are associated with the identity and vocation of Israel. God forever aligned His kingdom with the kingdom of David and his sons by a "covenant of salt," salt being a sign of permanence and purity (see 2 Chronicles 13:5, 8; Leviticus 2:13; Ezekiel 43:24). Jerusalem was to be a city set on a hill, high above all others, drawing all nations towards the glorious light streaming from her Temple (see Isaiah 2:2; 60:1-3). And Israel was given the mission of being a light to the nations, that God's salvation would reach to the ends of the earth (see Isaiah 42:6; 49:6).

The liturgy shows us this week that the Church, and every Christian, is called to fulfill Israel's mission. By our faith and good works we are to make the light of God's life break forth in the darkness, as we sing in this week's Psalm. This week's readings remind us that our faith can never be a private affair, something we can hide as if under a basket. We are to pour ourselves out for the afflicted, as Isaiah tells us in the First Reading.

Our light must shine as a ray of God's mercy for all who are poor, hungry, naked, and enslaved. There must be a transparent quality to our lives. Our friends and family, our neighbors and fellow citizens, should see reflected in us the light of Christ and through us be attracted to the saving truths of the Gospel. So let us pray that we, like St. Paul in the Epistle, might proclaim with our whole lives, "Christ and him crucified."



**2/2 Stewardship: Regular Offering: \$2,188.00**

**2/2 Building Fund: \$370.00**

**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!



### Ministries for February 16

**Rosary:** Volunteers

**Offertory:** Glenn Laurence Family

**Ushers:** Glen Laurence & Tom Motyka

**Altar Servers:** Camryn Green, Colby Green, Garrison Prcin

**Sanctuary Light:** February 10th—Feb. 16th: Ivy Laurence by Glenn & Kelly Laurence

**Eucharistic Minister:** Misty Green

**Lector:** Kelly Laurence



**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 the following: JoLeen Cayhill. Prayers are powerful! To be added to the prayer chain, please contact:

**Contact Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—[Slavik@farm-market.net](mailto:Slavik@farm-market.net)**

#### **MARAK MASSES—February 9-16, 2020**

Date	Time	Intentions
Today— 2/9	10:15am	+ Deceased Members of Henry Litzman, Sr. & Frank Plachy Sr. Families
2/12—Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Lynette Jochec by Louis & Mary Frances Vansa + Annie Mae Jochec by Tony & Debbie Dohnalik
2/16—Sunday	10:15am	+ Robert Dach by Gladys Lee, Craig & Laura Dohnalik + Albina Vrazel by Terry & Barbara McNeill

#### **CYCLONE MASSES— February 9-16, 2020**

Date	Time	Intentions
Today – 2/9	8:15am	+ Rosa Pechal by Charlie & Emilie Tischler
2/11—Tuesday	7:00am	+ Lucille Bruggman by Charles & Cindy Moeller
2/13—Thursday	7:00am	+ Herbert Hoelscher by Ken & Jeanette Driska
2/14—Friday	7:00am	+ Grace Hoelscher by Donnie Hoelscher
2/15—Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	+ Royella Roessler by Bill & Carol Smetana
2/16—Sunday	8:15am	+ Dolores Motl by Skip & Ann Cockrell

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION**

- **TODAY:** Second collection for Catholic Higher Education
- **THANK YOU:** KJZT Jrs. would like to sincerely thank the parishioners for their unending support in all that we do and our bake sales. God bless!
- **FEBRUARY 10:** Parish Social & Pot Luck at Marak Parish Hall—6-9pm.
- **FEBRUARY 12:** St. Ann's Altar Society meeting—9:30am at the Milam County Museum in Cameron. All members, please turn in your 2019 volunteer hours before the meeting date. Volunteer hours consist of any activities done at the church, such as decorating, and anything that is done for the church without pay. If you have any questions, contact Kay Moraw.
- **FEBRUARY 12:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Cyclone—7:00pm-7:30pm. Everyone invited.
- **FEBRUARY 18:** KC Meeting at St. Joseph's Parish Hall—Cyclone—7:30pm.
- **FEBRUARY 19:** Killeen/Temple Council of Catholic Women meeting at St. Mary's—Temple 10am.
- **FEBRUARY 24:** Annual Clergy Appreciation Banquet will be held at the KC Hall 2218 W Ave D, Temple, TX. There will be a cocktail and get acquainted hour at 6:00 p.m. after which a meal will be served. The cost is \$11.00 per person. Please R.S.V.P. by February 17th by calling or texting Bruce McAtee @ 254 721-4223. You may also email Bruce McAtee at [bjmcaatee@hotmail.com](mailto:bjmcaatee@hotmail.com)
- **MARCH 26:** Group tour of Painted Churches near Schulenburg on Thursday March 26, 2020 leaving downtown Cameron on 22 passenger motor coach at 8 am returning at 4 pm. Transportation, tours, tips, and buffet lunch at Oakridge Smokehouse included for \$65. Contact Lynne Hornung @ 254-482-0212.

# Dear Padre,

## My church spends too much on flower arrangements. Are they really needed?

**F**lowers and plants in homes and other buildings create a sense of beauty and welcome. They also help lift the spirits of the infirm in hospitals and the pall of sadness from those who mourn a loved one. Similarly, flowers in churches awaken our senses, embody hospitality, and enliven our spirits. Moreover, living flowers and plants serve “as a reminder of the gift of life God has given to the human community” (“Built of Living Stones,” 129, USCCB, 2000).

Along with other church adornments—both fixed and movable—flowers enkindle in the worshiper a feeling of what St. Peter said at the transfiguration, “Lord, it is good that we are here” (Matthew 17:4, Luke 9:33). They add dignity to the sacred space and visually express the holiness of the mysteries celebrated there. “Sacred buildings and requisites for divine worship should be truly worthy and beautiful and be signs and symbols of heavenly realities” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 288).

Nevertheless, “floral decoration should always show moderation and be arranged around the altar rather than on the altar table” (*GIRM* 305). Restraint in floral decoration is the norm during Advent. It’s forbidden during Lent, except on Laetare Sunday and feasts, although simple compositions other than flowers are permissible.

To control costs, some parishes rely on volunteers with flower-arranging skills. Arrangements left behind at funerals and funeral homes and from church weddings are also offered for the benefit of the faithful.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE/BOB ROLLER

### A WORD FROM Pope Francis

*Christian life has to be a life that must blossom in works of charity, in doing what is good. But if you have no roots, you cannot blossom, and who is the root? Jesus! ... “What blossoms a tree bears come from what lies underneath it.” Never cut off Jesus’ roots.*

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, MARCH 21, 2018



## Calendar

### Monday

FEBRUARY 10

*Saint Scholastica,  
Virgin*

1 Kgs 8:1–7, 9–13

Mk 6:53–56

### Tuesday

FEBRUARY 11

*Weekday*

1 Kgs 8:22–23, 27–30

Mk 7:1–13

### Wednesday

FEBRUARY 12

*Weekday*

1 Kgs 10:1–10

Mk 7:14–23

### Thursday

FEBRUARY 13

*Weekday*

1 Kgs 11:4–13

Mk 7:24–30

### Friday

FEBRUARY 14

*Sts. Cyril, Monk, and  
Methodius, Bishop*

1 Kgs 11:29–32;  
12:19

Mk 7:31–37

### Saturday

FEBRUARY 15

*Weekday*

1 Kgs 12:26–32;  
13:33–34

Mk 8:1–10

### Sunday

FEBRUARY 16

*Sixth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time*

Sir 15:15–20

1 Cor 2:6–10

Mt 5:17–37 or

Mt 5:20–22a, 27–28,  
33–34a, 37

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