

## Jesus' Cleansing Love

The Master of Fossa, a painter of unknown name, traveled the Umbrian region, creating works of Franciscan spirituality. This panel interprets the scenes of the passion and death of Christ as an act of service to poor sinners. The souls of his brothers and sisters were dirty. And yet he comes down from heaven, bends over our iniquity, and gently takes us into his hands while nursing us back to cleanliness and life.

Christ's greatness is revealed in his service. "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all" (Mark 9:35). Jesus didn't wish to be first; he merely wished to be faithful. His goal was to love the Father and win us back, and that meant service and the cross.

In this detail of the painting, Peter is on his papal throne while Jesus kneels in front of him. What a role reversal! Peter should be washing Jesus' feet, but no. Even Peter tried to reject this act of service, but Jesus insisted or else Peter could have no part in his reign.

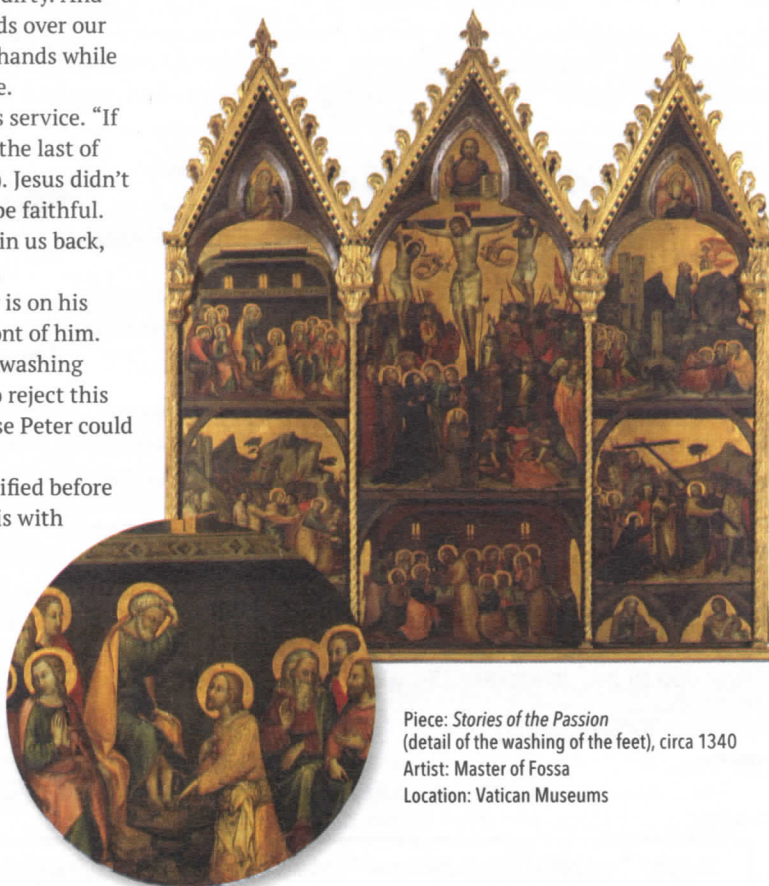
Peter needed to be washed and purified before serving and sanctifying others. So it is with us. During this Mass, allow your soul to be taken into Jesus' hands. Feel him cleanse you, pouring his warm grace over your wounds. Accept his gentle, loving attention as he caresses, dries, and restores you. Only when you have known his mercy and love can you then be an agent of that love to others.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### For Reflection

*Do I take the time to place myself in Jesus' presence and receive his healing touch?*

*The sacrament of reconciliation is a privileged moment of healing. Do I take advantage of this grace?*



Piece: *Stories of the Passion*  
(detail of the washing of the feet), circa 1340  
Artist: Master of Fossa  
Location: Vatican Museums

*[Jesus said,] "Whoever receives one child  
such as this in my name, receives me."*

*Mark 9:37*

## THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

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

**Pastor:** Rev. Darrell Kostiha

**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.

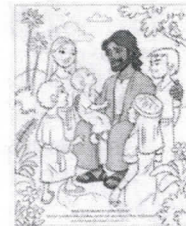
### **September 23, 2018 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**"Whoever receives me receives not me but the One who sent me." Mark 9:37**

In today's First Reading, it's like we have our ears pressed to the wall and can hear the murderous grumbings of the elders, chief priests, and scribes—who last week Jesus predicted would torture and kill Him. The liturgy invites us to see this passage from the Book of Wisdom as a prophecy of the Lord's Passion. We hear His enemies complain that "the Just One" has challenged their authority, reproached them for breaking the law of Moses, for betraying their training as leaders and teachers. And we hear chilling words that foreshadow how they will mock Him as He hangs on the Cross: "For if the Just One be the Son of God, He will . . . deliver Him. . .". Today's Gospel and Psalm give us the flip side of the First Reading. In both, we hear of Jesus' sufferings from His point of view. Though His enemies surround Him, He offers himself freely in sacrifice, trusting that God will sustain Him.

But the apostles today don't understand this second announcement of Christ's passion. They begin arguing over issues of succession—over who among them is greatest, who will be chosen to lead after Christ is killed. Again they are thinking not as God, but as human beings. And again Jesus teaches the Twelve—the chosen leaders of His Church—that they must lead by imitating His example of love and self-sacrifice. They must be "servants of all," especially the weak and the helpless—symbolized by the child He embraces and places in their midst. This is a lesson for us, too. We must have the mind of Christ, who humbled himself to come among us. We must freely offer ourselves, making everything we do a sacrifice in praise of His name.

As James says in today's Epistle, we must seek wisdom from above, desiring humility, not glory, and in all things be gentle and full of mercy.



**9/16 Stewardship: Regular Offering: \$1,180.00      9/16 Building Fund Offering: \$25.00**

**9/16 Children's Offering: \$5.00      Thank you for Your Generosity!**

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

**CYCLONE:** Nancy Posvar (254-869-2511)

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

**Ministries for Sunday, September 30**

**Rosary:** Veronica Hrozek

**Offertory:** Clay Barton Family

**Ushers:** Brian Kopriva & Jimmie Kopriva

**Altar Servers:** Chase Hubnik & Cade Hubnik

**Sanctuary Light :** Sept. 17-23 —John & Marcella Dohnalik by James & Jeannine Dohnalik

**Eucharistic Minister:** Misty Green

**Lector:** Rhonda Gelner



**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, John David Thompson and Ethel Marak. Prayers are powerful and with God nothing shall be impossible.

**Contact Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—[Slavik@farm-market.net](mailto:Slavik@farm-market.net) to be put on the prayer chain.**

**MARAK MASSES— September 23-30, 2018**

| Date            | Time    | Intentions  |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| Today— 9/23     | 10:15am | + Honor of Living Members of Henry Litzman, Jr. Families by Lynne Hornung |
| 9/26— Wednesday | 5:30pm  | + Martha Hertenberger by Cecilia Marak                                    |
| 9/30— Sunday    | 10:15am | + Cyril Vaculin by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel                                |

**CYCLONE MASSES— September 23-30, 2018**

| Date                  | Time   | Intentions                                    |
|-----------------------|--------|---|
| Today — 9/23          | 8:15am | + Dolores Motl by Connie & Howard Hail        |
| 9/25— Tuesday         | 7:00am | + Lucy Mihatsch by Ouida Black & Holly Morgan |
| 9/27—Thursday         | 7:00am | + Larry Posvar by Joe & Betty Vrana           |
| 9/28—Friday           | 7:00am | + Alton Moraw by Bernard & Netsie Hoelscher   |
| 9/29 — Saturday Vigil | 5:30pm | + Robert Dach by Fritz & Betty Hodde          |
| 9/30— Sunday          | 8:15am | + Marietta Brenek by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel  |

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION**

- **SEPTEMBER 23— TODAY:** St. Joseph's Cyclone Picnic—Sausage and Home Fried Chicken—\$10/plate—Games begin at 12 noon—Live music—11am-2pm Jerry Haisler—Auction at 2PM—see bulletin board in the back of the church for more information. Let's support our sister parish!
- **SEPTEMBER 25:** During the 7:00am Mass in Cyclone, Fr. Richard O'Rourke, MSC, the Dean for the Temple-Killeen Deanery will be here to install Fr. Darrell Kostiha as Administrator of St. Joseph and Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church. If you are able, please attend the Mass.
- **SEPTEMBER 25:** Encountering Christ Campaign Meeting at 7PM in Cyclone. All those who have been contacted, please attend.
- **SEPTEMBER 26:** Altar Society Meeting at 9am at Milam County Museum—Will discuss By-Laws.
- **SEPTEMBER 26:***Church Picnic Wrap up meeting* after Mass at Marak Parish Hall. Attendance of all parishioners and chairpersons need to be present —need everyone's input of the good things that are working and ideas on ways to improve next year's picnic. Refreshments will be served.
- **OCTOBER 7:** St. Matthew Catholic Church Fall Festival—Rogers—BBQ Pulled Pork & Sausage—starting at 11am—See Bulletin Board in Back of Church.

## Calendar

### Monday

SEPTEMBER 24

#### Weekday

Prv 3:27-34

Lk 8:16-18

### Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 25

#### Weekday

Prv 21:1-6, 10-13

Lk 8:19-21

### Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 26

#### Weekday

Prv 30:5-9

Lk 9:1-6

### Thursday

SEPTEMBER 27

St. Vincent de Paul,

Priest

Eccl 1:2-11

Lk 9:7-9

### Friday

SEPTEMBER 28

#### Weekday

Eccl 3:1-11

Lk 9:18-22

### Saturday

SEPTEMBER 29

Sts. Michael, Gabriel,  
and Raphael, Archangels

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or

Rv 12:7-12a

Jn 1:47-51

### Sunday

SEPTEMBER 30

Twenty-sixth Sunday in

Ordinary Time

Nm 11:25-29

Jas 5:1-6

Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

# Dear Padre,

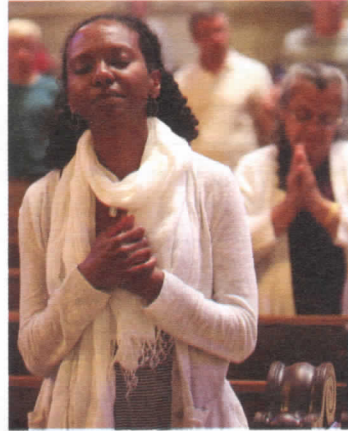
## I occasionally need to be reminded why I should remain Catholic. Can you help?

Whether our faith was inherited at birth or adopted later, it's healthy to periodically reexamine our beliefs and practices with the intent to grow closer to God. Saint Paul uses the metaphor of moving beyond milk to solid food to explain our maturing faith (Hebrews 5:12-14). Questions or doubts are not intended to instill guilt, nor are they signs of crisis or disloyalty to God or the Church. Indeed, it's often when we challenge pat answers that God moves us to a deeper meaning and stronger relationship—that is, if we're steadfast on the path to holiness.

People remain Catholic for numerous reasons, including:

- the Church's belief in God's goodness to us through the sacraments;
- a 2,000-year tradition of living the gospel in a universal, multicultural community of faith; and
- a proven track record as an agent for personal, spiritual growth and social transformation.

When Church behavior is contrary to Christ's mission and our confidence to remain is tested, it's good to recall the Church as divinely fortified and humanly composed. People remain Catholic because the Church exists to bring us into full communion with God, through Christ, by working toward the fullness of the kingdom. God "calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church....In his Son and through him, he invites men to become...his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1).



ONS PHOTO

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



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## A Word From Pope Francis

*For all of us, the Catholic Church continues to be a field hospital that accompanies us on our spiritual journey. It is the place where we can sit with others, listen to them and share with them our struggles and our faith in the Good News of Jesus Christ.*

—Address to Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, September 21, 2017



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