

Piece: *The Descent of the Holy Spirit* (detail), 1609
Artist: Guido Reni
Location: Vatican Museums

that had been given to them through Moses hundreds of years before. They were now listening to it for the first time. Upon hearing all its wisdom and prescriptions, they were cut to the heart and wept. There was so much they had forgotten and were no longer practicing. As exiles in Babylon they had lost so much.

Yet the response toward this rediscovery could have been joy, because now they knew once again what made for happiness and living in the Lord. They had discovered the love that called them into existence.

We have been given the Holy Spirit who leads us into all truth and reminds us of everything Jesus taught us in Scriptures and Tradition. Knowing God's

truth is the deepest source of joy. Finding him is like finding what was lost. Like the found key, God unlocks our happiness. Like a cell phone, he gives us a constant connection with him. And like a credit card—but infinitely better—God is the love that fulfills our desires. And we never have to pay him back.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Rediscovering God's Love

Have you ever lost something and then, after some time passes, finally found it? Perhaps your keys, a cell phone, or worse still, a credit card. When we find utilitarian items that we've lost or misplaced, we're so relieved and happy because we need these things for daily living. But what if we lose our whole purpose for living? Then we're really in trouble.

The people to whom Nehemiah was speaking lost more than something material; they lost the key to who they were as a people. They lost the law of God

For Reflection

Is there any aspect of God's word or truth that I have ignored or forgotten?

How can I rediscover and accept that truth again?

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.*

Luke 4:18

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

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

Pastor: Rev. Darrell Kostih

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.

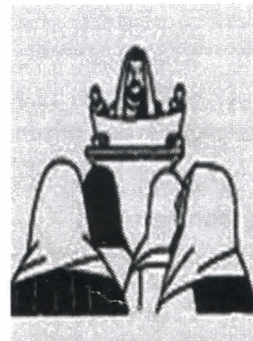
Confessions: Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

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.

JANUARY 27, 2019 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The Law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul." Psalm 19

The meaning of today's liturgy is subtle and many-layered. We need background to understand what's happening in today's First Reading. Babylon having been defeated, King Cyrus of Persia decreed that the exiled Jews could return home to Jerusalem. They rebuilt their ruined temple (see Ezra 6:15-17) and under Nehemiah finished rebuilding the city walls (see Nehemiah 6:15). The stage was set for the renewal of the covenant and the reestablishment of the Law of Moses as the people's rule of life. That's what's going on in today's First Reading, as Ezra reads and interprets (see Nehemiah 8:8) the Law and the people respond with a great "Amen!" Israel, as we sing in today's Psalm, is rededicating itself to God and His Law. The scene seems like the Isaiah prophecy that Jesus reads from in today's Gospel. Read all of Isaiah 61. The "glad tidings" Isaiah brings include these promises: the liberation of prisoners (61:1); the rebuilding of Jerusalem, or Zion (61:3-4; see also Isaiah 60:10); the restoration of Israel as a kingdom of priests (61:6; Exodus 19:6); and the forging of an everlasting covenant (61:8; Isaiah 55:3). It sounds a lot like the First Reading. Jesus, in turn, declares that Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in Him. The Gospel scene, too, recalls the First Reading. Like Ezra, Jesus stands before the people, is handed a scroll, unrolls it, then reads and interprets it (compare Luke 4:16-17, 21 and Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10). We witness in today's Liturgy the creation of a new people of God. Ezra started reading at dawn of the first day of the Jewish new year (see Leviticus 23:24). Jesus also proclaims a "sabbath," a great year of Jubilee, a deliverance from slavery to sin, a release from the debts we owe to God (see Leviticus 25:10). The people greeted Ezra "as one man." And, as today's Epistle teaches, in the Spirit the new people of God—the Church—is made "one body" with Him.



1/20 Stewardship: Regular Offering: \$1,521.00

1/20 Children's Offering: \$ 4.75

1/20 First Offering: \$20.00

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 February 3

Rosary: Lynne Hornung

Eucharistic Minister: Albert Michalka

Offertory: KJZT JRS.

Lector: KJZT JRS.

Ushers: KJZT JRS.

Altar Servers: Gracen Dach and Gracie Dorskocil

Sanctuary Light : January 28th—February 3—Dan Hoelscher Family by Aline Junek



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: Seth Litzman (nephew of Lynne Hornung), Albina Vrazel, Julius Dubcak, JoLeen Cayhill, 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 to be put on the prayer chain.

MARAK MASSES—January 27—February 3, 2019

Date	Time	Intentions
Today— 1/27	10:15am	+ George Michalka by Chester & Margaret Hays
1/30—Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Rita Mikulec by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel
2/3—Sunday	10:15am	+ Ethel Moraw by Lynwood Kleypas Family

CYCLONE MASSES— January 27—February 3, 2019

Date	Time	Intentions
Today – 1/27	8:15am	+ Lucille Bruggman by Jerry & Darlene Fikes
1/29– Tuesday	7:00am	+ Robert Dach by Helen & Carson Wallace
1/31— Thursday	7:00am	+ Lucille Bruggman by Monica Mikeska
2/1—Friday	7:00am	+ Alfons Wilde by Michael & Sylvia Heise
2/2– Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	+ Jerome & Della Green by Jackie & Charlie Green
2/3— Sunday	8:15am	+ Denise & Larry Posvar by Family

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **TODAY—JANUARY 27:** Catholic Services Appeal collection begins. Please fill out your pledge cards that are located in the pews. Even if you are not pledging, please complete the pledge card and place in the collection.
- **TODAY—JANUARY 27:** 42 Domino Tournament—Westphalia Parish Hall—Registration 11:30 to 12:30pm. Play begins at 12:30pm. \$5.00 per entry. Sponsored by Westphalia KC #13902. Prizes awarded. Food available at 11am.
- **FEBRUARY 3:** K.J.Z.T. Jr's will be sponsoring their Annual Super Bowl Chip-N-Dip Bake Sale before and after Mass. Let's support our KJZT Jrs.
- **FEBRUARY 3:** Second Collection—Building and Maintenance Fund
- **FEBRUARY 10:** Annual Czech Mass—Corn Hill—5PM—Sts. Cyril & Methodius Feast Day—All readings, prayers, hymns in Czech. Dinner in Parish Center following mass. Everyone is welcome.
- **FEBRUARY 10:** REP Bake Sale before and after Mass. Let's support our Religious Education.

Calendar

Monday

JANUARY 28

*St. Thomas Aquinas,
Priest and Doctor
of the Church*
Heb 9:15, 24-28
Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday

JANUARY 29

Weekday
Heb 10:1-10
Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday

JANUARY 30

Weekday
Heb 10:11-18
Mk 4:1-20

Thursday

JANUARY 31

*St. John Bosco,
Priest*
Heb 10:19-25
Mk 4:21-25

Friday

FEBRUARY 1

Weekday
Heb 10:32-39
Mk 4:26-34

Saturday

FEBRUARY 2

*Presentation
of the Lord*
Mal 3:1-4
Heb 2:14-18
Lk 2:22-40 or
Lk 2:22-32

Sunday

FEBRUARY 3

*Fourth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*
Jer 1:4-5, 17-19
1 Cor 12:31-13:13 or
1 Cor 13:4-13
Lk 4:21-30

Dear Padre,

What is the symbolic relationship between the altar and the Eucharist?

The altar, also called the table of the Lord, is not just a piece of furniture. Many generations ago, our earliest Christian ancestors gathered at dining-room tables for the Eucharist, and through the centuries that simple piece of furniture came alive with deep meanings.

It is from the altar that we share in the Eucharist, and the altar resonates with the presence of Christ. The altar is consecrated by a bishop and anointed with chrism, just as Christ was anointed priest, prophet, and king.

The gestures and rituals of the Catholic Church shape the expression of our faith and our hearts. We bow and genuflect to express reverence, honor, and devotion. These gestures are used not only by Roman Catholics and other Christians, but by people of other faiths, including Jews, Muslims, and Buddhists.

After the priest raises and shows the consecrated host and chalice to the assembly, he genuflects, and any concelebrants bow to the host and chalice. Norms exist for bowing to the altar and, at some points of the eucharistic celebration, kissing the altar. The kiss is an intimate act of showing reverence and honor.

The altar is a tangible sign of Christ and his sacrifice. We bow to the altar during the eucharistic liturgy and outside of the Mass as well, because for Catholics it's the central place of our encounter with Christ and with the great communion of saints.



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARRIS

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

From *The Eucharist: 50 Questions From the Pews*, © 2009 Liguori Publications



A Word from Pope Francis

We have before us Jesus hidden yet present in the Eucharist....On the altar, we worship the flesh of Jesus; in these our brothers and sisters, we encounter the wounds of Jesus. The Christian adores Jesus, the Christian seeks Jesus, the Christian can recognize the wounds of Jesus.

—Greeting the sick at Fátima, May 13, 2017



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