

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. **Masses will be at 7:00am and 6:30pm.** Ash Wednesday is a **day of fasting and abstinence.** The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding from age 14 onwards. **There will be two collections on Ash Wednesday.** The first collection will be for the Parish. The second will be a special collection for the Diocese called: ***The Catholic Home Missions Appeal*** - Right now, over 40 percent of dioceses in the U.S. are considered home missions because they are unable to fund essential pastoral work needed in their local communities. Your support will fund programs such as religious education, seminary formation, and lay ministry training to build vibrant faith communities right here in the U.S. Please be generous.

***FRIDAY MASS AND THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS*** during Lent, beginning this week, will be at **6:00pm.** There will be **NO Mass in the morning.**

***BUILDING FUND COLLECTION*** will be next weekend, **March 4-5.** Please be generous!

***BAPTISM CLASS*** will be held on **Saturday, March 4 from 9 to 11 am in the RE building.**

For more information, contact Eileen Lewis.

***TWO \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS*** will be awarded to graduating High School seniors who are registered members of this parish by our Altar Society.

**Completed applications are due by March 31<sup>st</sup>** and are available on our website.

***FISH FRY:*** The Westphalia **Ball Association** will be selling 'To Go Fish Plates' on Friday, **March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4-7 PM** at the pit. Plates will be **\$8.00** with all the fixings Fish, Beans, French Fries & Hushpuppies.

***Westphalia Ball Association and Celebration Park Fundraiser on March 4<sup>th</sup>.*** Tickets are **\$100** and include a ribeye steak dinner, dance with a drawing for prizes and also a silent auction and a stretch raffle. Proceeds will be used for upcoming projects for the park and fields. If you would like a ticket or to make a donation please contact Suzanne Doscocil [254-482-0006](tel:254-482-0006), Kayla Skala [254-217-0143](tel:254-217-0143), Shawna Ranly [254-721-0475](tel:254-721-0475), or Alicia Fikes [254-537-2775](tel:254-537-2775).

***BIBLE STUDY:*** We are praying and planning on starting a Bible Study in our parish soon. The first course will be of eight sessions. We are thinking of offering one session per week. The suggestion is to have the same session twice a week, one during the day and one in the evening to make it convenient for all to attend. We intend to start the **8 week Bible Study beginning the Easter week and going through the beginning of June.** We need volunteers to assist with facilitating the program. **If you would like to assist with this great mission in our parish, please contact Fr. Edwin.** We have three volunteers as of today! We appreciate very much your help and any suggestions! It will be an exciting journey! Please look forward to hearing more about it in the coming weeks.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**The first church in Westphalia was built and used for worship on February 24, 1884.** Our first parishioners took turns to offer their homes where Masses could be celebrated for the parish community. After the Mass in Rabroker's home in October 1883, a committee of four men was assigned to plan and raise funds for a Church building. In January of 1884, sufficient money being raised, the construction began and was completed by February. And ***the first Mass in the first church in Westphalia was celebrated on February 24, 1884*** with great joy. We remember the vision, the sacrifice and the legacy of our forefathers and thank God for them, our Church and our faith. It is now up to us to continue and strengthen that faith and mission by our life and ministry. ***See the picture on the wall in the narthex!***  
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When was the last time you invited someone to be a priest or a religious? Do it today!

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***Have you plans to make this year's Lent a meaningful one for you and your family?***

***Think of attending Mass besides Sunday, on one or more weekdays during every week of Lent!***

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**Listen to Catholic Radio 98.3 FM in our area.**

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

***The central theme of all the Scripture readings for this Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time is TRUST.***

The insecurities and fears with which we live today have made some to call this present time AN AGE OF ANXIETY. Most of us tend to be "**Worriers**". We may worry about everything sometimes or about something all the time. Try to think of your three big worries right now! I am almost certain that ninety percent of the times your worries may be about your past, which you can do nothing about, or about the future, which may not fully be in your control, or about some unimportant thing that really may not matter much. According to a study made by the statisticians at the university of Wisconsin and quoted by Roy B. Zuck in his book 'The Speaker's Quote Book' in 1997 on worrying and its adverse impact on our health and well-being, 40% of our worries are about things that never happened, 30% of them are about things that are past, and 22% are about petty and needless things. Only 8% may be legitimate ones.

Worrying or worrying about worrying is not going to do much good. Instead, ***we must be asking ourselves the question: HOW CAN I OVERCOME WORRIES? Today's readings present an amazing one word answer: TRUST.*** This trust is based on the fact that ***God is my Heavenly Father who knows all my needs and cares for my body and soul to the smallest detail:*** "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides." (Mt 6:24-34); that ***Christ owns my life and yet entrusts me with His:*** "Thus should one regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Now it is of course required of stewards that they be found trustworthy." (1Cor 4:1-5); that ***God alone is my Rock, my salvation and my stronghold in whom I shall not be disturbed:*** "Only in God be at rest, my soul, for from Him comes my hope. Trust in Him at all times, O my people! Pour out your hearts before Him" (Psalm 62); and finally in the awareness that ***even the best of human love is only a shadow of God's eternal, life-giving love for His people:*** "Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you!" (Is 49:14-15)

***Pope St. John the XIII went through some worries and anxious sleepless nights before the Second Vatican Council that he had convened. And one night, he heard Jesus say to him:" John, this is My Church! You are only the Pope! Stop worrying! Go to sleep!"*** That is the gist of today's message: **Stop worrying! Start trusting! God is in charge!**

***"My experience of people and life continually teaches me that those who have no central purpose in their lives fall easy prey to petty worries, fears, troubles, and self-pity"*** says **Matthew Kelly** in *Rediscover Catholicism* (pg. 72).

***On Wednesday we begin the season Lent with the observance of Ash Wednesday.*** We may not hear the "Gloria" or the "Alleluia" sung during those days of Penance and intense prayer, but we will certainly continue the pursuit of our mission: to **SEE Jesus** and to **BE Jesus** as we live this holy season to grow as Christian disciples with the disciplines of ***Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.***

May God bless and Mary protect you and yours!

Yours in Christ's service,

**Fr. Edwin Kagoo**

**THY WILL, LORD!**

# Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



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254-584-4983

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[westphaliaparish@gmail.com](mailto:westphaliaparish@gmail.com)

**Rev. Edwin Kagoo, Pastor**  
Deacon Bill Smetana  
Deacon Charlie Wright  
Deacon Julian Tyboroski

Sunday Mass – 8:00am  
Reconciliation: Sat. 5:20pm - 5:50pm and Sun. 7:20am – 7:50am

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**02-26-2017**

*Our Mission is:*

**TO SEE JESUS & TO BE JESUS**  
*In life and liturgy & In family and community*

## Mass Intentions and Ministry Schedule

	February 25th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	February 26th <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	March 4th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	March 5th <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
<b>Intentions</b>	+Florene Gudat +Larry R. Hoelscher Respect life by the Knights of Columbus +Leonard Wilde +Leroy Garvey	Parishioners	+Connie Smiser +Charlotte Ann Thornton	Parishioners
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Kolby Kosel & Kelby Kosel	Bryce Fikes, Maddie Dach & Logan Kleypas	Elizabeth Ordner & Kasen Ordner	Mikey Lewis & James Lorenz
<b>Lector</b>	Tammy Ryan	Ray Rabroker	Shawna Ranly	Renae Willberg
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Charles Moeller Family	Bernard Ordner Family	Mike Heise Family	A.T. Voltin Family
<b>Ushers</b>	Walton Hering, Jr. & Carl Hubik	Bradley Rudloff & Jonathan Frei	Craig Ordner & Calvin Wilde	Mark Hoelscher & Matthew Hoelscher
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Emily Hering	Geraldine Kahlig	Doris Wright	Walton Hering, Jr.
<b>Money Counters</b>		Ronnie & Rita Kleypas and Clifford & Susan Neumann		Lonnie Ranly and Bill & Kitty Reid
<b>Rosary Leaders</b>	Patricia Simecek	Marilyn & Bradley Rudloff	Geraldine Havran	Edna Spivey & Dorothy Dewey Smith
<b>Vocations Cross Family</b>		Deacon Bill & Carol Smetana		Randy & Linda Lorenz
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	2/25 & 3/4	Renae Willberg, Meagan Willberg, Randy Willberg, Emily Hering		
	<b>February 28th <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i></b>	<b>March 1st <i>Wednesday, 7:00am &amp; 6:30pm</i></b>	<b>March 2nd <i>Thursday, 8:00am</i></b>	<b>March 3rd <i>Friday, 6:00pm</i></b>
Weekday Mass Intentions	+Charlotte Ann Thornton +Ronnie Ranly	<b>Ash Wednesday 7:00am</b> +Alois Ketterman <b>6:30pm</b> +Zita Kahlig	+Hulda Frey	Stations of the Cross and Mass Special Intentions for the Boeselt Family

### Meetings:

High School Religious Education 2/26 after Mass  
Quilt Group Sew-In 3/1 @ 8:00am  
Adult Choir Practice 3/1  
Westphalia Historical Society 3/2, @ 6:30pm, in the Convent  
Altar Society 3/5 after Mass

Sanctuary Candle during March: *in memory of Manard & Margaret Moeller and Joe Kaminski*

**Please pray for the sick & suffering:** Beatrice Arnold, Jean Trice, Steven Pletzke, Sr. Clemence Ribitzki, Pattie Pletzke, Mike Meyer, Kyla Frei, Bobby Bulls, Cathy Didner, Sr. Benedict Zimmerer, Don Drake, Al Buckholt, Gene Kreger, Jack Longmore, Hudson John Halfmann, George Wright, Charles Ordner, Edwin Green, Craig Thornton, & Grace Hoelscher.

### Offerings:

February 19, 2017 \$1,721.00  
Children's Offerings \$17.00