

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

Having completed the Easter Octave, we continue to celebrate this glorious season of Easter with the observance of **the feast of Divine Mercy** on this second Sunday of Easter. The message of Divine Mercy so appropriately captures the whole truth about the Paschal Mystery, which is at the heart of our faith and this holy season.

I am so glad that some of you have begun the eight week **"A Quick Journey through the Bible"** course by Jeff Cavins. Through this study you will discover that the message of the Divine Mercy is what the Bible story is all about. And that message is this: **militarism, materialism and moralism cannot bring about human salvation and true freedom. It is only through the Mercy of God can the world and every human being experience the peace and redemption which the world is so sorely in need of, and each of us so eagerly longs for** (*Acts 2:42-47*).

The Risen Christ wants to give us that precious gift of His Mercy as He did to His undeserving disciples who were quite aware of their sins (*1Peter 1:3-9*). **But the Lord who died for all peoples wants the recipients of His Mercy also to be the apostles of His Mercy to others, completely trusting in Him** (*Jn 20:19-31*).

So, on this feast of Divine Mercy and in the joyous days of this Easter season, join me in prayer to: 1. Ask for Divine Mercy, 2. Be Merciful ourselves 3. Completely Trust in His Mercy. That is the ABC of Divine Mercy. The message and the mission of the Risen Christ and His bride, the Church, is Divine Mercy. **"You were made for mission. You will never have lasting happiness until you realize this and act on it"** says Matthew Kelly in *"Resisting Happiness"* (pg 166).

Those who could not attend the first session of the Bible Study last Thursday and those who are now desiring to join the course, are invited for a make-up session next Thursday from 5-6 pm at the Centennial room in the Parish Hall. We will continue with session two from 6:30 pm to 8 pm with snack time at 6 pm. This may well be a life time opportunity to get acquainted with the **Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth (BIBLE)**. Don't miss it!

Many of you expressed your appreciation of the beautiful, faith-inspiring liturgies of the Holy Week and Easter. **I am grateful to God, to our Liturgy Committee, to our liturgical ministers, to the Altar Society, and to so many generous volunteers for their time and assistance.**

Please keep in prayer our children who will receive First Holy Communion and our youth who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in a fortnight.

God bless and Mary protect you and yours,

Fr. Edwin Kagoo
Pastor

THY WILL, LORD!

Announcements

(Please submit bulletin announcements 2 weeks in advance of the expected publication date.)

Diocesan Seminarian Collection this weekend. This collection supports our seminarians by funding the yearly budget of the Office for Clergy Vocations. This budget includes tuition, room, board and other costs associated with the formation of seminarians.

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Confirmation, Friday, May 5th, Mass will be at 6:00pm. All confirmands and sponsors will assemble in the Religious Education Building at 5.15 pm. The Altar Society is hosting a social after the Mass with sandwiches, chips, tea, and water. We appreciate any volunteers to bring cookies.

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First Communion, Sunday, May 7th, Mass will be at 9:00am followed by a social hosted by the Altar Society. Again, any volunteers who can bring pastries and sweets, they will be appreciated.

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Graduation Mass will be on Sunday, May 21st, at 8:00 am. If you or one of your children is graduating from high school or college, please contact Linda Lorenz at 254-715-0573 so they can be included.

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Sacrament of Confirmation rehearsal, with sponsors, will be Thursday, May 4 at 5.30 pm. Please meet at the Religious Education building & then we will proceed to the church.

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Thank you - Westphalia Historical Society and Branch #3 Catholic Life thank those who participated in the Easter Parish Social and Easter Egg Hunt. It was wonderful to see all the young families attend Mass, and then gather Easter eggs. May God bless you.

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St. Mary's Cemetery committee has made improvements to the old section of the cemetery by rebuilding graves with sand and white rock and repairing grave stones since the beginning of 2017. Now the newer section (south side) will be undertaken. If you and your family have members in that area, and you do NOT want anyone to add sand and rock to your graves, please contact Sylvia Heise at 584-5041, as soon as possible. Work needs to be completed soon.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Graces Promised by Jesus on Divine Mercy Sunday

Jesus promised St. Faustina that those who received Holy Communion in a state of grace on Divine Mercy Sunday (Feast of Mercy) would receive "the complete remission of sins and punishment" (Diary 699). The theologian who examined St. Faustina's writings for the Holy See, Rev. Rozycki, explained that, "this is the promise of a complete renewal of baptismal grace, and in a sense it is like a second baptism." Fr. Rozycki wrote: "Christ made the remission of all sins and punishment contingent on the reception of Holy Communion on the Feast of Divine Mercy. It is most obvious that in order to affect a complete forgiveness of sin and punishment, the Holy Communion received on the Feast of Mercy must be received worthily, and must also fulfill the basic requirements of the Divine Mercy devotion. However, received unworthily, without trust in Divine Mercy and devoid of some deed of mercy toward neighbor, it would be a contradiction of devotion to the Divine Mercy. (Instead of the exceptional grace, it would bring down upon the recipient the Divine Wrath.) (Stackpole, 2004, p. 113-114)."

When was the last time you invited someone to be a priest or a religious? Do it today!

Cleanup and repair day at the Church on Saturday, April 29, 2017 beginning at 8:00am.

All are invited and encouraged to join in to clean up and beautify our church and the premises. Please contact Marvin Meyer at 254- 721-0320 to find out what tools and equipment need to be brought for work that morning. Thank you and God bless you!

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Barclay Community Center Fundraiser 4/23, Bar-B-Que with all the trimmings, Serving from 11:00 -???. Silent auction, dine in or take out.

Mother's Day Barbecue Flag Hall 5/14. From 11:00 until gone.

St. Mary's Parish Festival, Temple, 4/30, from 10:30am – 4:00pm, at Columbus Hall.

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC RADIO FM 98.3

<i>Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday</i>		<i>April 23, 2017</i>		
	April 22nd	April 23rd	April 29th	April 30th
	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
Intentions	+Cecil Wilde +Robert Hoelscher Alois Ketterman Special Intentions for the Joe & Katie Wilde Family	Parishioners	+Katie Willberg +Leonard Wilde +Erwin Kahlig +Gladys Kahlig	Parishioners
Altar Servers	Emma & Preston Hering, Nate Hoelscher and Elizabeth Ordner	Adam Herwald, Mike Lewis, Helen Gausemeier and James Lorenz	Kolby Kosel, Kelby Kosel, Brenden Dorskocil, Kasen Ordner	Nolan Kahlig, Logan Kleypas, Bryce Fikes, Maddie Dach
Lector	Tammy Ryan	Susan Neumann	Shawna Ranly	Ray Rabroker
Gift Bearers	Leon Hoelscher Family	Ronnie Kleypas Family	Charles Wright Family	Dennis Stojanik Family
Ushers	Calvin Wilde & Craig Ordner	Johnny Polach & Charles Moeller	Mike Heise & Michael Heise	Chris Hrabal & Lynwood Kleypas
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Doris Wright	Walton Hering, Jr.	Greneta Ordner	Randy Willberg
Money Counters		Louis & Jerlene Vrana and Horest & Bernice Weaver		Calvin & Cheryl Wilde and Craig & Debbie Ordner
Rosary Leaders	Georgia Ketterman	Kenneth & Geraldine Kahlig	Georgia Ketterman	Kenneth & Geraldine Kahlig
Vocations Cross Family		Scott & Laurie Hoelscher		Perry & Connie Petru
Church Cleaners	4/22 & 4/29	Jean Herzog, Jacque Herzog, Kay Rabroker, Sylvia Heise, Shawna Ranly		
Weekday Mass Intentions	April 25th <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i> +Joe Wilde +Ida Wilde	April 26th <i>Wednesday, 7:20am</i> +Clemence Wilde	April 27th <i>Thursday, 8:00am</i> +Larry R. Hoelscher	April 28th <i>Friday, 8:00am</i> +Charlotte Ann Thornton

Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



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westphaliaparish@gmail.com

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

Saturday Mass – 6:00pm
Sunday Mass – 8:00am

Reconciliation: Sat. 5:20pm - 5:50pm and Sun. 7:20am – 7:50am

**Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday**

04-23-2017

Our Mission is:

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

Meetings:

High School Religious Education Class 4/23 after Mass

Outreach Class 4/23 after Mass

Confirmation Class 4/23 after Mass

CYO 4/26 @ 7:00pm

Adult Choir Practice 4/26 @ 7:00pm

Bible Study 4/27 @ 6 pm Centennial Room in Parish Hall.

Baptism Class 5/6 @ 9 am RE building

**Sanctuary Candle is burning during April
in memory of Reverend Reinhold Schmitt and Lucille Kennedy**

Please pray for the sick & suffering:

Josie Kleypas, Dennis Fuchs, Beatrice Arnold, Steven Pletzke, Sr. Clemence Ribitzki, Pattie Pletzke, Mike Meyer, Kyla Frei, Bobby Bulls, Cathy Didner, Sr. Benedict Zimmerer, Don Drake, Al Buckholt, Gene Kreger, Hudson John Halfmann, George Wright, Charles Ordner, Edwin Green, Craig Thornton, and Grace Hoelscher.

Offerings:

4/16 \$2,661.00

Children's Collection \$140.75

Holy Land \$704.00