

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

This Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as "**Good Shepherd Sunday**", since every year on this Sunday we hear from the tenth chapter of the Gospel according to St. John, which speaks of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Jesus continues to shepherd us today through the men whom He chooses and anoints to be our pastors today. So, today, we pray in a very special way for all our religious leaders and also pray for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Therefore, this Sunday is also called "**Vocations Sunday**". The word "*vocation*" comes from the Latin word "*vocare*" which means "*to call*". "***If you are doing what you believe God is calling you to do deep in your soul walk on***" says Matthew Kelly in his book "*Resisting Happiness*."

The Shepherd at the time of Jesus knew his flock when they responded to his call. The sheep listened to their shepherd's voice and followed him. Thus they were well fed and well protected. **It is important for us to go out of ourselves to hear the Lord's voice and to remain as part of the ecclesial community wherein we can not only hear His voice clearly, but also be well nourished in all aspects and guarded from every mortal danger.** But as Pope Francis points out on this *54th World Day of Prayer for Vocations*, ***we must also reflect on the missionary dimension of our calling:***

"Those who are drawn by God's voice and determined to follow Jesus soon discover within themselves an irrepressible desire to bring the gospel joy to all, through proclamation and service, thus answering the call to be ***Prophets of His Word and Witnesses of His Love***. There can be no Christian mission or promotion of vocations apart from constant contemplative prayer. Therefore our lives need to be nourished by **attentive listening to God's Word** and, above all, by the cultivation of a **personal relationship with the Lord in Eucharistic adoration**, the privileged "place" for our encounter with God.

Despite a widespread sense that the faith and discipleship are listless or reduced to mere "duties to discharge", our young people and we can discover the perennial attraction of Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd, to be challenged by His Words and actions, and to cherish the ideal that He holds out: ***a life that is fully human, happy to spend itself in love.***

Mary Most Holy had the courage to embrace this ideal, placing her youth and enthusiasm in God's hands. Through her intercession, may we be granted that same ***openness of heart***, that same ***readiness*** that was hers at the annunciation to respond to the Lord's call, and the same **joy** that was hers in setting out at the visitation, **to proclaim Him through our service**".

Let us not forget to pray the family rosary, especially during this month of May, dedicated to our Blessed Mother.

May God bless and Mary protect you and yours,

Yours in Christ's service,

Fr. Edwin Kagoo
Pastor

THY WILL, LORD!

Announcements

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

Building Fund Collection this weekend. Thank you for your generous support.

Special collection next weekend will be the national collection for the Trinity Dome to be completed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., before its 100th anniversary. Also known as America's Catholic Church, the National Shrine has been a century in the making, built by and for the faithful of our great nation in honor of our Blessed Mother, the patroness of the United States. Please be generous in your support of this most worthy cause. This will be a one-time collection.

Mothers' Day – Special blessing for all mothers at the Mass next weekend.

Congratulations to the newly confirmed. We pray that you will grow in faith and service to be strong witnesses to Christ as His Growing Disciples. Our thanks to Bishop Joe Vasquez, Linda Lorenz, Peggy Hrabal, James Kahlig, Valerie Gausemeier, the sponsors, parents, and Altar Society for their dedicated work in making confirmation to be a joyful celebration of faith. The newly confirmed also express their appreciation and gratitude to all who assisted.

Our Prayers & Congratulations to the following children on making their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 7th in our parish:

Bailey Dory'ce Cannon, Cheyenne Taylor Cannon, Makinley Grace Daskocil, Thomas Becket Duhon, Carter Joseph Kleypas, Hayley Ray Meadows, Colton John Ranly, Lilah Paige Swanson, Georgia Pauline Tusa, and Maddie Elizabeth Whitley.

Please keep these children in your prayers that they may grow in holiness and happiness. Our sincere thanks to their parents, teachers, and especially to Jane Meyer and Linda Lorenz for their dedication to their ministry of catechesis. Our appreciation to the children's choir directed and accompanied by Jerlene Vrana and Valerie Gausemeier.

Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on Wednesday, May 10th at 6:00pm.

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.

Vet Clinic on May 20th at the Pavilion: Dr. Jared Ranly will administer the shots from 7 to 11am that day.

Listen to Catholic Radio 98.3 FM in our area.

DID YOU KNOW?

May 13th is the 100th anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady to the three children: Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia, at Fatima in Portugal. Through her message at Fatima, Our Blessed Mother reminds us that man's future is in God, and that we are active and responsible partners in creating that future.

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

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS
Loving and Generous God,
it is You who call us by name
and ask us to follow You.
Help us to grow in the Love
and the Service of your Church
as we experience it today.
Give us the energy and courage
of Your Holy Spirit
to shape its future.

Grant us faith filled leaders
who will embrace Christ's Mission
of Love and Justice.
Bless our parish by raising up
dedicated and generous leaders
from our families and friends
who will serve Your people as Priests,
Sisters, Brothers, Deacons and Lay
Ministers.

Inspire us to know You better
And to open our hearts
To hear Your call.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Men

The Clerical Endowment Fund - Westphalia was recognized as the top seller again with \$1,668 for the Temple Council. A check for \$117,165.91 for the education of seminarians was given to our bishop. Georgia Ketterman had a special mention at the DCCW convention. Thank you!

<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>		<i>May 7, 2017</i>		
	May 6th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	May 7th <i>Sunday, 9:00am</i>	May 13th <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	May 14th <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
Intentions	+Charlotte Ann Thornton +Vince Tana +Leona Brenek	Parishioners First Communicants	+Helen W. Hoelscher +Herman Willberg +Carrie Tobola +Connie Smiser	Parishioners
Altar Servers	Emma Hering, Preston Hering, Nate Hoelscher, Elizabeth Ordner	Brenden Doscocil, Logan Kleypas, Bryce Fikes, James Lorenz	Kolby Kosel, Kelby Kosel, Brenden Doscocil, Kasen Ordner	Nolan Kahlig, Logan Kleypas, Bryce Fikes, Maddie Dach
Lector	Laurie Hoelscher	Shawna Ranly	Tammy Ryan	Jerry Loden
Gift Bearers	Edwin Green Family	Communicants	Lynwood Kleypas Family	Louis Vrana Family
Ushers	Bill Reid & Edward Ranly	Paul Doscocil & Chris Hrabal	Red Carson & Joey Hoelscher	Louis Vrana & Hagen Hoelscher
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Jim Lewis	Cindy Moeller	Connie Petru	Gary Ketterman
Money Counters		Ronnie & Rita Kleypas and Clifford & Susan Neumann		Lonnie Ranly and Bill & Kitty Reid
Rosary Leaders	Calvin & Cheryl Wilde	Jr. & Belinda Hering	Calvin & Cheryl Wilde	Jr. & Belinda Hering
Vocations Cross Family		Ed & Debby Meyer		Charles & Cindy Moeller
Church Cleaners	5/6 & 5/13	Bernadette Hurta, Ruth Doscocil, Connie Petru, Kathy Hoelscher, Debra Colon		
	May 9th <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i>	May 10th <i>Wednesday, 7:20am</i>	May 11th <i>Thursday, 8:00am</i>	May 12th <i>Friday, 8:00am</i>
Weekday Mass Intentions	+Charlotte Ann Thornton +Bernard Bartek	+John Lingnau +Helen Lingnau	+Mary Cox	+Doug Landry

Sanctuary Candle – in Memory of Robert & Leona Brenek and Ben & Zita Kahlig

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.

Free Book for Easter – Have you picked up your parish Easter gift: Best known author, Matthew Kelly’s recent publication – Resisting Happiness? If you haven’t, please contact the parish office.

Bible Study - We are in the fourth session of the 8-week ***Quick Journey Through the Bible*** by Jeff Cavins. It is exciting to see so many of you showing great interest in the study of the Word of God. All are welcome.

Meetings:

Pastoral Council 5/9 @ 7:00pm

Holy Hour of Adoration 5/10 @ 6:00pm

Adult Choir Practice 5/10 @ 7:00pm

Bible Study 5/11 @ 6:00pm in Centennial Room in the Parish Hall

Offerings:

4/30 \$2,108.00

Children’s Collection \$18.00

Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



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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

Fourth Sunday of Easter
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS
05-07-2017

Our Mission is:

TO SEE JESUS
In life and liturgy

&

TO BE JESUS
In family and community