

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

This weekend we observe a good national tradition of celebrating MOTHERS' DAY. What a beautiful thing it is to think of our mothers today with so much gratitude and appreciation for their selfless love and sacrifice! So, on behalf of the whole Church I wish to offer to all our mothers, living and deceased, expectant and widowed, young and aged, biological and spiritual, near and far, our sincere thanks and prayers for all that you are, you have been and will be, to each one of us, and to the human family. God bless you today and every day! **Happy Mothers' Day!**

On this special day of this special month in this special year, we as Catholics remember Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of all mothers. May 13, 2017 is the centenary of the First apparition of Our Lady of Fatima to the three little shepherd children: Lucia dos Santos, aged 10 years, and her cousins, the newly canonized saints Francisco Marto, aged 9 years and, Jacinta Marto, aged 7 years in 1917. I want to call our attention to the message of Fatima which is so relevant to us today as it was a hundred years ago, and is so pertinent to Mothers' Day and ties in so well with our Scripture readings for this Fifth Sunday of Easter. **The message of Fatima can be summed up in three words: PRAYER, PENANCE, & PEACE.**

As a little boy I often found my mother praying. Whenever I stood by her side wanting to ask her something, she would join my hands to pray and point her finger to Jesus on the altar at home. I am sure many of us have had such an experience of our mothers teaching us to pray. When our Blessed Mother appeared to the children in Fatima, She too asked them to pray to Almighty God who has done great things for her and will do all things for us as well. The first apostles understood the importance of "devoting themselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word" and entrusted the work of serving at the table to the deacons (Acts 6:1-7). **Any human work not preceded by and accompanied with prayer is seldom effective. Prayer points us to "The Other".**

St. Peter calls us "a royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:4-9). The primary task of the priesthood is to offer sacrifices for the atonement of sins. Mothers are beautiful models of sacrifices. Our Blessed Mother calls us, who share the common priesthood of Her Son through baptism, to do penance as reparation for the sins of the world. **Penance calls us to offer ourselves for others.**

Peace is something that the world needed not only at the time of the First World War but all the time through every generation. Knowing that deep need of every human soul, the Lord Jesus says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled" (Jn 14:1-12). Peace is a divine gift that is given to people of good will. Only those who are willing to work with others and give each one his/her due can experience peace. Saint Mother Teresa said, *"We don't need guns and bombs to bring peace, we need love and compassion"*. Holy Mother the Church teaches that there can be no Peace without justice first. Our Blessed Mother calls us to pray and work for peace. **Peace demands of us to work with God and with others.**

**"Prayer changes everything and nothing ever really changes until we give daily prayer a place in our lives"** says Matthew Kelly in *Resisting Happiness* (pg 35). Let us then pray the Rosary daily asking Mary our Mother to teach us to look up to Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life. Let us also through our penance pray for others that the Lord may save us all from the fires of hell. May we work with others in justice and charity and pray for Peace.

God bless and Mary protect you!

Fr. Edwin Kagoo

THY WILL, LORD!

## Announcements

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

**Mothers' Day** – Thank you, Mothers, may God bless you and we love you!

**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.

**KC Corporate Communion** – May 28<sup>th</sup>. All members are asked to sit in front of church.

**First Holy Communion Celebrations** last Sunday were beautiful and inspiring. Thanks to God, to all our children, their parents, teachers, choir and all the ministers who assisted in making it a memorable event.

### Upcoming Events

- Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 5/31
- Day of Prayer and Formation for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Day of Prayer and Formation for Lectors
- Altar Server Meeting
- Corpus Christi Procession, 6/18

### Community Activities

**Military Wall of Honor Military** – It is time to update the Wall of Honor. If you have any updates or changes, please contact Lou Buckholt at 584-1147 before May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Vet Clinic** on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Pavilion: Dr. Jared Ranly will administer shots from 7 to 11am.

**Memorial Day Tribute** will be held Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Mass will be at 10am (there will NOT be another Sunday Mass that day) followed by a tribute to veterans. Lunch and a bake sale will be held in the Parish Hall to support the Westphalia Historical Society. If you would like to supply baked items, drop them off at the hall before the 10am Mass.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The prayer, “Queen of Heaven, Rejoice! Alleluia” (Regina Caeli) replaces the “Angel of the Lord” (Angelus Domini) during the season of Easter – Easter through Pentecost. A partial indulgence is granted to the Christian faithful who devoutly recite these prayers during the times stated. According to a praiseworthy custom, these prayers are usually recited at dawn, noon, and in the evening.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

O Virgin Mary, most powerful Mother of Mercy, Queen of Heaven and earth, in accordance with your wish made known at Fatima, I consecrate myself today to your Immaculate Heart. To you I entrust all that I have, all that I am. Reign over me, dearest Mother, that I may be yours in prosperity, in adversity, in joy and in sorrow, in health and in sickness, in life and in death.

Most compassionate Heart of Mary, Queen of Virgins, watch over my mind and heart and preserve me from the deluge of impurity which you lamented so sorrowfully at Fatima. I want to be pure like you. I want to atone for the many crimes committed against Jesus and you. I want to call down upon this country and the whole world the peace of God in justice and charity.

Mindful of this consecration, I now promise to strive to imitate you by the practice of the Christian virtues without regard for human respect. I resolve to receive Holy Communion on the first Saturday of every month when possible, and to offer daily five decades of the Rosary, with all my sacrifices in the spirit of penance and reparation. Amen.

I, . . . , a faithless sinner, renew and ratify today in thy Heart, O Immaculate Mother, the vows of my Baptism; I renounce forever Satan, his pomps and works; and I give myself entirely to Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom, to carry my cross after Him all the days of my life, and to be more faithful to Him than I have ever been before.

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, in the presence of all the heavenly court, I choose thee this day for my Mother and Mistress. I deliver and consecrate to thee, and to thy Immaculate Heart, as thy child and slave of love, my body and soul, my goods, both interior and exterior, and even the value of all my good actions, past, present and future; leaving to thee the entire and full right of disposing of me, and all that belongs to me, without exception, according to thy good pleasure, for the greater glory of God, in time and in eternity. Amen.

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

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

<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>		<i>May 14, 2017</i>		
	<b>May 13<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<b>May 14<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	<b>May 20<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<b>May 21<sup>st</sup></b> <i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
<b>Intentions</b>	+Helen W. Hoelscher +Herman Willberg +Carrie Tobola +Connie Smiser	Parishioners	Special Intentions for the Joe & Katie Wilde Family +Erwin Kahlig +Gladys Kahlig +Geraldine Frenzel	Parishioners
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Kolby Kosel, Kelby Kosel, Brenden Doscocil, Kasen Ordner	Nolan Kahlig, Logan Kleypas, Bryce Fikes, Maddie Dach	Emma Hering, Preston Hering, Nate Hoelscher, Elizabeth Ordner	Adam Herwald, Mike Lewis, Helen Gausemeier, James Lorenz
<b>Lector</b>	Tammy Ryan	Jerry Loden	Shawna Ranly	Tammie Frenzel
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Lynwood Kleypas Family	Louis Vrana Family	Charles Moeller Family	Graduates
<b>Ushers</b>	Red Carson & Joey Hoelscher	Louis Vrana & Hagen Hoelscher	Walton Hering & Carl Hubik	Marvin Meyer & Edward Meyer
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Connie Petru	Gary Ketterman	Kerri Meier	Debby Meyer
<b>Money Counters</b>		Lonnie Ranly and Bill & Kitty Reid		Chris & Peggy Hrabal & Georgia Ketterman
<b>Rosary Leaders</b>	Calvin & Cheryl Wilde	Jr. & Belinda Hering	Calvin & Cheryl Wilde	Jr. & Belinda Hering
<b>Vocations Cross Family</b>		Charles & Cindy Moeller		Chris & Peggy Hrabal
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	5/20 & 5/27	Margaret Moeller, Pauline Hoelscher, Darlene Fikes, Jenette Driska, Courtney Hargrove, Jenny Frei		
	<b>May 16<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i>	<b>May 17<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Wednesday, 7:20am</i>	<b>May 18<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Thursday, 8:00am</i>	<b>May 19<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Friday, 8:00am</i>
<b>Weekday Mass Intentions</b>	+Charlotte Ann Thornton +Wilbert Bruggman	+Larry R. Hoelscher	+Alois Ketterman	Respect Life by the Knights of Columbus

**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 fifth 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:**

**Girl Scouts** 5/16 @ 6:30pm

**Liturgy Commission** 5/16 @ 7:00pm

**Adult Choir Practice** 5/17 @ 7:00pm

**WVFD** 5/17 @ 7:00pm

**Bible Study** 5/18 @ 6:00pm in Centennial Room in the Parish Hall

**Offerings:**

**May 7** \$2,003.00

**Children’s Collection** \$33.86

**Building Fund** \$751.00

# Parish of the Visitation Westphalia, Texas



144 County Road 3000, Lott, Texas 76656  
254-584-4983

[www.churchofthevisitation.org](http://www.churchofthevisitation.org)  
[westphaliaparish@gmail.com](mailto: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

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**05-14-2017**

*Our Mission is:*

**TO SEE JESUS**  
*In life and liturgy*

**&**

**TO BE JESUS**

*In family and community*