

Dear Visitation Family,

Shalom (Peace)!

In the recent weeks we have been witnessing the impact of Category 5 Hurricane Irma, Category 4 Hurricane Harvey, Category 3 Hurricane Jose, Category 1 Hurricane Katia, and **CATEGORY 6 HUMAN COMPASSION**. Thank you for your prayers and generous support! Our response to each other's natural needs and crises obviously defines that **we are communal**. We depend on each other for help, strength and support.

The readings for the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time in cycle "A" tell us that we need each other not only for our temporal needs but also for our spiritual lives. We, the members of the Church, form One Body as intended by Jesus, our Founder and Lord. This weekend as we take up a diocesan special collection to help our brothers and sisters affected by the recent Hurricane Harvey and the subsequent flooding due to tropical storm, and as our school children and other organizations collect food and clothing to assist in rehabilitation and reconstruction, we are indeed carrying out our Lord's teaching on Corporal Works of Mercy. But today's Scripture readings remind us of our obligation to perform also the Spiritual Works of Mercy, one of which, "**Admonish the sinner**", is discussed at length particularly in the first reading and in the gospel. In our culture where even parents, teachers and religious leaders are reluctant to correct their erring wards for fear of being judgmental and hurting the sentiments of the children or members of their community who are on the path of perdition and destruction, the **Word of God reminds us of our obligation to be our "brother's keeper" for three good reasons:**

Firstly, **it pleases God whose children all of us are, when we help and correct each other so that the Body of Christ remains healthy, strong, united and effective in our identity and mission.** God loves all, and wants none to be lost. So, Jesus even lays out the method of fraternal correction in progressive stages (Mt 18:15-20): Jesus said to his disciples: "*If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you. If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church*".

Secondly, **our true love of our neighbor demands that we are more concerned about their ultimate good** than our selfish comfort by avoiding uncomfortable conversation and conflicts. St. Paul speaks of this in the second reading (Rom 13: 8-10): "*Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law*".

Thirdly, **failure to admonish and correct our brother or sister who is going astray will result in our own condemnation and punishment,** since we are called and appointed by God to be responsible for each other (Ez 33:7-9): "*If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death*".

So, as we are moved in spirit to help our brethren who are adversely affected by the natural calamities with our corporal works of mercy, **let us never neglect our responsibility to spiritually care for our children and neighbors by admonishing a sinner. That is the way to be GROWING DISCIPLES.**

God bless and Mary protect you and yours!

I am blessed to be your father in Christ,

Rev. Edwin Kagoo

THY WILL, LORD!

Announcements

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

DID YOU KNOW?

Why do priests wear a white collar?

Philip Kosloski

It started out as something from popular fashion and then later took on a deeper spiritual meaning. The "Roman collar," a white band that goes around the neck of a priest (or clergy members of some Protestant congregations), remains one of the most distinctive elements of clerical vesture. It speaks more loudly than any words and clearly identifies clergy members in a crowd of any size. However, it is a rather strange piece of clothing. Where did it come from?

It wasn't until the 12th and 13th centuries that priests adopted the Roman cassock as a distinctive piece of clothing that visually separated them from the laity. A few centuries later the cassock was regulated to be the color black and it was during this time period that the white collar came into existence.

At the time the current fashion was to wear a linen collar over the top of a person's clothing. According to Matthew Bunson, "This became accepted custom, and by the 17th century there were many forms of this linen collar, such as the ornate Roman variety, the collarino, of ornate and expensive lace, and the French adopted the collars worn by the noble classes, of linen and fine lace." However, Pope Urban VIII in 1624 further regulated the use of the collar and proclaimed that any ornamentation or lace was forbidden. As the years progressed different variations of the Roman collar were developed, and Protestants developed their own traditions to distance themselves from the Church. However, it is believed that a Protestant minister in the 19th century invented the modern-day removable collar and it was further popularized by the Oxford Movement at the time.

Spiritually it has become representative of a priest's consecration to God and his role as someone set apart for priestly service. Some priests see it as a symbol of their "slavery" to God, showing the world who is their true Master.

Additionally, because many priests find it rather uncomfortable, the collar has become a way of performing a daily penance to God, offering up the sacrifice for the people the priest serves.

The collar remains a distinctive sign of the priest's availability and the permanent nature of Holy Orders. The priest "is not his own" and is a visible sign of Jesus Christ, present in the midst of everyday life, ready to reconcile sinners and bring souls back to God.

SIGN UP TODAY for the exciting 10 week series on CATHOLICISM starting THURSDAY, SEP 21

Special Diocesan Collection for those affected by Hurricane Harvey today. Thank you for your prayers and support. If you haven't brought your donation to the church today, please stop by the parish office to make your contribution that will be sent to the diocese next week.

WESTPHALIA PICNIC is less than a month away. Please pray for its success, favorable weather, and that it may be a time to be Growing Disciples for Jesus. Kindly be involved in one way or another to make it OUR celebration of Thanksgiving to God and to others. Take a flyer and spread the word.

ALTAR SERVER MONTHLY MEETING with Fun, Food and Formation will begin from October. The meetings are scheduled for the Second Saturday every month. We invite the parents not only to bring your children but also to participate in volunteering to help us provide the quality time for our children with your assistance. Please contact Linda Lorenz for more information.

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION for September will be at 6 pm on Wed, Sep 13th.

St. Joseph's Marlin Fall Festival September 9th and 10th.

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Marak Annual Homecoming and Picnic Sunday, September 10th.

Holy Trinity in Corn Hill will host its annual Bazaar Sunday, September 17th.

<i>Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>		<i>September 10, 2017</i>		
	September 9th	September 10th	September 16th	September 17th
	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>	<i>Saturday, 6:00pm</i>	<i>Sunday, 8:00am</i>
Intentions	+Connie Smiser +Charlotte Ann Thornton	Parishioners	+Robert Hoelscher +Christopher Kahlig +Gerald Hoelscher	Parishioners
Altar Servers	Brenden Doscocil Kasen Ordner Bryce Fikes Logan Kleypas	Nolan Kahlig Preston Hering Nate Hoelscher Maddie Dach	Nolan Kahlig Preston Hering Nate Hoelscher Maddie Dach	Mike Lewis Adam Herwald James Lorenz Helen Gausemeier
Lector	Shawna Ranly	Renae Willberg	Laurie Hoelscher	Jerry Loden
Gift Bearers	Calvin Wilde Family	Terry Frenzel Family	Don Culp Family	Perry Petru Family
Ushers	Paul Doscocil Randy Lorenz	Chris Hrabal Lynwood Kleypas	Calvin Wilde & Craig Ordner	Allen Frei & Randy Frei
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Doris Wright	Connie Petru	Kerri Meier	Walton Hering, Jr.
Money Counters		Louis & Jerlene Vrana and Horest & Bernice Weaver		Calvin & Cheryl Wilde and Craig & Debbie Ordner
Rosary Leaders	Melvin & Helen Ranly	Perry & Connie Petru	Melvin & Helen Ranly	Perry & Connie Petru
Vocations Cross Family	Charles & Cindy Moeller		Chris & Peggy Hrabal	
Church Cleaners	9/9 & 9/16	Jane Meyer, Debby Meyer, Mary Jane Hubik, Angela Grubbs, Donna Hoff, Kally Meyer		
Weekday Mass Intentions	September 12th <i>Tuesday, 8:00am</i>	September 13th <i>Wednesday, 7:20am</i>	September 14th <i>Thursday 8:00am</i>	September 15th <i>Friday 8:00am</i>
	+Alois Zeig	+John Lingnau +Helen Lingnau	+George Lange +Charlotte Ann Thornton	+Alois Ketterman +Leo Lehman

Sanctuary Candle – *In memory of Christopher Kahlig and Lt. Col. Raymond Roessler*

Please pray for the sick & suffering:

JoeAnn Kalmbach, Jeff Bernsen, Carla Welch, 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.

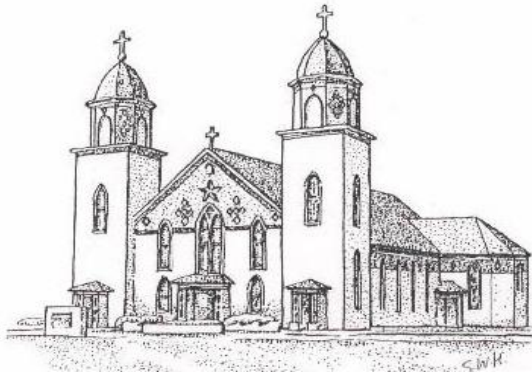
Meetings:

Outreach Classes 9/10 after Mass
H.S. Religious Education 9/10 after Mass
Parish Council 9/12 @ 7:00pm
Choir 9/13 @ 7:00pm

Collections:

9/3 \$1,947.00
Children's \$11.00
Building Fund \$1802.00

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

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 10, 2017

Our Mission is:

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