SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH VICTORIA, TEXAS



St. Helena and the miracle of the Verification of the True Cross

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Kristopher Fuchs - frkristopher@victoriadiocese.org Pastoral Assistant: Dcn. Jim Koenig - jkoenig@stmvictoria.org Pastoral Assistant: Dcn. Richard Evans - evansra@stmvictoria.org Pastoral Assistant: Dcn. Tran Dinh - tndinh86@yahoo.com

Secretary: Cathy Fojtik - sec@stmvictoria.org

Accounting: Heather Zamykal - hzamykal@stmvictoria.org

CCD: Diana Starnes - ccd@stmvictoria.org

www.stmvictoria.org

Physical Address: 402 South Main Street Victoria, TX 77901-8123Phone: 361-573-4328Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2448 Victoria, TX 77902-2448Fax: 361-573-4308

PRELUDE

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Lift High the Cross

STAND

Hymn 184

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (10:30 am only) We should glo - ry in the Cross of Lord Je sus Christ, our in whom is our sal - va - tion, life, and res - ur - rec - tion, de - liv - ered. through whom we are saved and . In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. R. Amen.). The Lord be with you. R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT Pew Missal, page 4 **Kyrie** Sancta Maria Magdalena Pew Missal, page 30 Pew Missal, back page GLORIA Heritage

Collect

O God, who willed that your Only Begotten Son should undergo the Cross to save the human race, grant, we pray, that we, who have known his mystery on earth may merit the grace of his redemption in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SIT

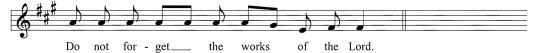
LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4B-9

With their patience worn out by the journey, the people complained against God and Moses, "Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert, where there is no food or water? We are disgusted with this wretched food!" In punishment the LORD sent among the people saraph serpents, which bit the people so that many of them died. Then the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you. Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people, and the LORD said to Moses, "Make a saraph and mount it on a pole, and if any who have been bitten look at it, they will live." Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole, and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 78:1BC-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38



utter mysteries from of old. R/.

High God, their redeemer. R/.

1. Hearken, my people, to my 2. While he slew them they 3. But they flattered him with 4. But he, being merciful, forteaching; incline your ears to the sought him and inquired after their mouths and lied to him gave their sin and destroyed words of my mouth. I will open God again, Remembering that with their tongues, Though their them not; Often he turned back my mouth in a parable, I will God was their rock and the Most hearts were not steadfast toward his anger and let none of his him, nor were they faithful to his wrath be roused. R/. covenant. R/.

SECOND READING Philippians 2:6-11

Brothers and sisters: Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.





We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. R/.

GOSPEL John 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Homily		Cruster
NICENE CREED		Stand Pew Missal, page 9
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Let us pray to the Lord.	Ř. Lord hear our prayer.
PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS		Pew Missal, back page
ANNOUNCEMENTS		
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST		
OFFERTORY HYMN Ta	ike Up Thy Cross	Hymn 254 Stand
Orate Fratres		Pew Missal, page 11
PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS		
May this oblation, O Lord, which on the altar of the Cross canceled the offense of the whole world, cleanse us, we pray, of all our sins. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.		
Preface Dialogue		Pew Missal, page 11
SANCTUS Sa	incta Maria Magdalena	Pew Missal, page 35
KNEEL EUCHARISTIC PRAYER Pew Missal, page 15 (Vigil) page 11 (Day)		
MEM. ACCLAMATION IC.	EL Chant- Save us	Pew Missal, page 39
		Stand
	<u>COMMUNION RITE</u>	Dave Missal mass 17
Our Father		Pew Missal, page 17
THE PEACE		Pew Missal, page 18
Agnus Dei Sa	ıncta Maria Magdalena	Pew Missal, page 36 KNEEL
Behold the Lamb of Go)D	Pew Missal, page 18
COMMUNION ANTIPHON When I am lift - ed up from the earth,		
	will draw ev' - ry - one to	my - self,says the Lord.

3

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

COMMUNION HYMN When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Hymn 283

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having been nourished by your holy banquet, we beseech you, Lord Jesus Christ, to bring those you have redeemed by the wood of your lifegiving Cross to the glory of the resurrection. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing & Dismissal

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

MARIAN ANTIPHON Salve Regina

Postlude

The Shape of the Liturgy

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14th, the feast day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, is the day the Church celebrates the discovery of the True Cross of Jesus Christ. A very interesting historical account surrounds this ancient feast day. The Roman Emperor Constantine's mother, St. Helena, went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land to locate where the events in the life of Jesus Christ occurred, and to preserve the relics of the Faith that remained there. One of her goals was to find the place of Jesus' crucifixion and the very Cross on which he was hung.

Through interviewing many locals and with the assistance of the Bishop of Jerusalem, St. Macarius, she discovered the spot and found the True Cross which had been hidden. According to a church historian, the identity of the True Cross was confirmed by a miraculous healing through the prayer of St. Macarius. The date of this discovery and miracle, according to tradition, was 3 May 326 A.D. St. Helena had a church built on the original site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, known as the Church of the Holy Sepulchure. Her son Constantine dedicated this church on September 14 in the year 335 A.D., and to this day, the Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem (or the Via Dolorosa), still end at this very spot.

The Church has a long tradition of venerating the Cross, always having crucifixes in prominent places. Veneration the Cross is a liturgical tradition on Good Friday. It is also why Catholics keep crosses and crucifixes in their homes, usually on their wall or above their doorway. A cross or a crucifix put in a place of honor is a sure mark of a Christian home. If you don't have a cross or crucifix in your home, consider choosing one on this special feast day, have it blessed, and place it in a prominent place in your home where it can be honored and venerated as a reminder of the price Our Lord paid for our salvation.

"Lift High the Cross", our processional hymn today, was written in 1887 by the Rev. George Kitchen, Dean of Winchester Cathedral. He was inspired by the story of the Emperor Constantine's conversion to Christianity after seeing a cross with "In hoc signo vinces" (in this sign conquer) on it. He had the Sign of the Cross placed on the shields of his soldiers, and indeed under this sign, and although vastly outnumbered, he won the Battle of Malvern Hill, defeating his rival and making his Emperor of Rome. To honor Christ his Victor, he built a church on the spot, the Church of the Savior (known today at St John Lateran). This hymn was intended as a festival hymn, and is often sung during Lent and Holy Week, and on 14 September. The hymn tune or music is programmatic: the music reflects the words so that when we sing "Lift high the Cross", the music also goes from low to high. The beautiful and inspiring words of this hymn need no explanation. Following Constantine's example, may the Sign of the Cross enable us to conquer in the "battles" and crosses we all encounter from time to time in our own lives, may this Sign inspire us to walk more closely in the food steps of Our Lord.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? TUESDAYS AT 7:00 PM

R.C.I.A. stands for **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**. It is a process for adults who have not yet been baptized as well as baptized Christians of another denomination who would like to become Catholic. It can also be used for baptized Catholics who never completed their Sacraments of Initiation (First Holy Communion and Confirmation). If you or someone you know is interested, come to the Activity Center on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. For more information contact Karen Evans at (361) 550-9809 or betsys311@gmail.com

SAFE ENVIRONMENT / CODE OF PASTORAL CONDUCT WORKSHOP THIS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER

Safe Environment / Code of Pastoral Conduct Workshop will be held on Thursday September 16 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at St. Mary's Activity Center. To register, call Cynthia Brewer at 571-6510 or email sec@stmvictoria.org. For any questions, call the rectory at 573-4328.

Pew Missal, page 19 Pew Missal, page 537 Hymn 237

STAND

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING THIS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH AT 2:00 PM

St. Mary's Altar Society will meet on Monday, September 13th at 2:00 pm in the Parish Hall. New members and guests are welcome.

BISHOP GARY JANAK TO CELEBRATE 1100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. LUDMILA'S MARTYRDOM AT SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS CHURCH IN SHINER

THIS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH AT 10:00 AM

This event will begin with a Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Gary W. Janak, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, at 10:00 am on Thursday, September 16, 2021, in Saints Cyril and Methodius Church in Shiner. The Mass will be followed by a luncheon at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The Czech Choir will provide the music for the Mass. St. Ludmila was the first Christian martyred in Bohemia and along with her grandson St. Vaclav (Wenceslaus) were the first to be celebrated as saints by Slavic Christians. St. Ludmila and her husband Bořivoj were reportedly

baptized by St. Methodius sometime prior to his death in 885 A.D. This event is being sponsored by the newly founded Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas with the Shiner KJZT and KJT providing the preparation of the noon meal.

Those planning to attend the luncheon are asked to call (832) 437-4077 or email marek1212@gmail.com to provide a count for food preparation purposes.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH PICNIC THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER **12TH**

Come out to the Yorktown Community Hall, 60 Community Hall Road. Meal starts at 10:30 am with sausage and BBQ shoulder clod and trimmings. Adults plates to go are \$12.00.



ADORATION CHAPEL ADORERS NEEDED

The Adoration Chapel needs a Tuesday 2:00 -2:30 pm adorer. Please prayerfully consider this half-hour slot. We also need substitutes.

If you can do either, please call Cindy Brewer at 361-571-6510.



PLAY: TOLTON: FROM SLAVE TO PRIEST SEPT. 25 AT OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHEDRAL CENTER SEPT. 26 AT OUR LADY OF GULF, PT. LAVACA, SCHOOL GYM SEPT. 27 AT THE LEO J. WELDER CENTER, VICTORIA ALL AT 7:00 PM

The Diocese of Victoria presents the remarkable story of America's first black priest.

Tolton: From Slave to Priest is a powerful multi-media live production, filled with music, drama and inspiring performances. It brings a message of hope and healing for the wounds that plague our culture.



No admission charge; free will offering accepted.

BLUE MASS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH AT THE CATHEDRAL

The Diocese of Victoria will celebrate its second Blue Mass at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, September 29th for first responders in the diocese at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. Please RSVP to the Rev. Dalton Ervin at dervin@victoriadiocese.org or call 361-575-4741. September 29th is the feast day of the Archangels Michael, Raphael, and Gabriel.

MASKS & SPACED SEATING *REQUIRED* IN THE **ADORATION** CHAPEL

DURING THE WEEKEND MASSES

Masks and spaced seating in the Adoration Chapel are required during the weekend Masses.



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S	OFFERTORY GIFTS
Saturday, Sept. 11 Sat. of the 23rd Week in Ordinary Time	August 30-September 5
8:00 am - 3:00 pm Rummage Sale in the Activity Center	Sunday Collection\$9,319.00
4:00 pm Vigil Mass Mass Intention: Brad Dierlam (Birthday)	On-line giving\$885.00 Total\$10,204.00
5:00 pm Confession Brandlyn Sneed (Birthday)	Total\$10,204.00
Sunday, Sept. 12 Exaltation of the Holy Cross (observed)	Amount needed weekly
8:00 am Sunday Mass Mass Intention: Dee Garza	to meet budget: \$8,085.00
9:30 am Holy Face Devotions - Chapel Harry Stevens †	MASS ATTENDANCE
10:30 am Sunday Mass Mass Intention: People of the Parish	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday Sent 12 Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom	Sat., Sept. 4th at 4:00 pm115
Monday, Sept. 13Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom7:00 am - 7:00 pmExposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel	Sun., Sept. 5th at 8:00 am72
12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Adeline Decker †	Sun., Sept. 5th at 10:30 am102 Total
12:35 pm Confessions and Communal Rosary	Total289
2:00 pm Altar Society Meeting	
Tuesday, Sept. 14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	THE FLOWERS
7:00 am - 7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel	IN THE SANCTUARY
12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Max Montez †	this weekend are given
12:35 pm Confessions & Communal Rosary 3:00 - 4:30 pm Divine Mercy Cenacle in the Chapel	in honor of
3:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul Food Distribution at the Annex	
7:00 pm R.C.I.A. (Classes to become Catholic) in the Activity Center	Father Kristopher Fuchs
Wadnasday Sant 4. Monarial of Our Lady of Sannaya	by an anonymous donor
Wednesday, Sept. 15Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows7:00 am - 7:00 pmExposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel	
12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Agnes Culak †	THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
12:35 pm Confessions and Communal Rosary	in the church burns this week
3:30 pm Children's Choir Practice	in memory of Deceased Members of the
1:30 pm Homeschool Co-op at the Nazareth Convent 6:00 - 7:15 pm CCD (Religious Education K-12) in the Activity Center	Stefka Family
	by
Thursday, Sept. 16 Memorial Saints Cornelius & Cyprian	Sandra Haeber
7:00 am - 7:00 pm _Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel 8:10 am - Nazareth Academy Mass Intention: Catherine Ford †	
9:00 am - 2:00 pm Quilt and Craft Corner in the Annex	THE ADORATION CANDLES burn this week in memory of
12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Ed Stary †	Benito & Irene Menchaca
12:35 pm Confessions and Communal Rosary	by
5:30 pm Heal Our Land Rosary and Prayers in the Chapel 6:00 pm Immaculate Heart of Mary Homeschoolers Ice Cream Social at	Benny Menchaca
the Nazareth Convent	
6:30-8:30 p.m. Safe Environment / Code of Pastoral Conduct Workshop	THE CANDLE IN COMMEMORATION OF
in the Activity Center	THE DECEASED
Friday, Sept. 17 Fri. of the 24th Week in Ordinary Time	burns in memory of
7:00 am - 7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel	Vrana & Janacek Families
12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Jimmy Stockbauer †	by Paul & Mary Ann Janacek
12:35 pm Confessions and Communal Rosary	T dur de Mary Thin Sundook
Saturday, Sept. 18 Sat. of the 24th Week in Ordinary Time	
4:00 pm Vigil Mass Mass Intention: Mike Donalson †	AT MARY'S ALTAR burns this week in honor of
5:00 pm Confession Petra Rodriguez †	Joyce Morris
Sunday Sont 10	
Sunday, Sept. 1925th Sunday in Ordinary Time8:00 am Sunday MassMass Intention: Amanda Johnson †	THE CANDLE
9:30 am Holy Face Devotions - Chapel Donna Haubloldt †	AT JOSEPH'S ALTAR
10:30 am Sunday Mass Mass Intention: People of the Parish	burns this week in honor of Elaine & James Ratcliff
† symbol indicates the deceased	for their Wedding Anniversary

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