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Fr. Barnabas Kyeah, Parochial Administrator
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Office Hours: M-Thur. 9am – 4 pm, Fri. 8:30 – 11:00 am
Church Website: <http://stjosephinez.org>,
Office Phone/Fax: 361-782-3181; **Church Email:** stjosephchurch@tisd.net
Rectory Email: bkyeah@tisd.net **Rectory Phone:** 361-781-0459
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Dear Padre

JANUARY 8, 2017

If God wants everyone to believe in him, why doesn't God offer undeniable proof of his existence? Surely more would join the Church if adequate proof were available?

Perhaps what is missing is the ability to perceive and understand the evidence before our eyes. In the Catechism we are taught that God “provides men with constant evidence of himself in created realities” (CCC 54).

Despite the evidence, however, God does seem to be hidden from the sight of some. Why might this be? Again, the Catechism offers an important truth: While faith is a grace, it is also dependent on the “free assent” of the human person to accept what God has revealed (CCC 150). Faith is a gift, but it is also a human act: “Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace” (CCC 155; see *Summa Theologica*, II-II.2.9).

In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19–31), Abraham declares to the rich man, “If they [his brothers] will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead” (16:31). So evidence of God’s presence, the witness of the Church, and even the most persuasive arguments might not be enough to convince every person to come to faith.

Fr. Tom Santa, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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Monday
January 9
The Baptism of the Lord
Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38
Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday
January 10
Weekday
Heb 2:5-12
Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday
January 11
Weekday
Heb 2:14-18
Mk 1:29-39

Thursday
January 12
Weekday
Heb 3:7-14
Mk 1:40-45

Friday
January 13
Weekday
Heb 4:1-5, 11
Mk 2:1-12

Saturday
January 14
Weekday
Heb 4:12-16
Mk 2:13-17

Sunday
January 15
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 49:3, 5-6
1 Cor 1:1-3
Jn 1:29-34

Good News!

January 8, 2017
The Epiphany of the Lord (A)
Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6, Mt 2:1-12

An amazing thing happens in today’s Gospel: Representatives from the farthest ends of the earth follow a heavenly light and end in the humble cave of Bethlehem. The Wise Men first consult with King Herod, Galilee’s civil authority. He checks with the high priest and rabbis to determine when and where the Messiah is to be born. The Jewish leadership is able to read the Scriptures and give Herod and the Wise Men all the information they need. Yet only the Eastern travelers go to adore the Lord. The priest and lawyers lack faith to see in those Scriptures a fulfillment of their hopes, while King Herod is blinded to Christ’s salvific mission and moved by a will to power, as the killing of the Innocents will make clear. They all have ears to hear and eyes to see but few pay heed to the signs of the times.

The Wise Men from the East, merely following their study of the stars and asking help from others, travel months in search of Jesus. Raphael shows the moment when they finally find what they have been looking for. The band of travelers—complete with horses, guards, and royalty—arrives at a broken-down stall. One of the Wise Men kneels, removes his crown, and offers Jesus his treasure. This small gesture shows an internal attitude that Herod and the chief priests were missing: the humility to lay aside power, wealth, and status to bend the knee before the king born in their midst.

For Reflection
Am I willing to humbly accept Jesus for who he is: the Son of God? From what must I detach myself in order to accept Jesus more fully?

Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

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Jan. 8, 2017 – The Epiphany of the Lord



REGULAR MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6:00 p.m., Sunday 7:30 a.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Confessions: Saturday 4:30 – 5:15 p.m., or by Appointment
Daily Masses: Tue. – Fri. 7:30 a.m.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues. – No Mass Please pray for the Diocese Priests on retreat
Wed. – No Mass Please pray for the Diocese Priests on retreat
Thurs. – No Mass Please pray for the Diocese Priests on retreat
Fri. – (SI)
Sat. – Joe Darilek (†) Ludene Darilek
Sun. 7:30 a.m. – Rev. Raphael Baidoo (†)
Sun. 9:00 a.m. Chris, Bradley & Paul Prukop (†) Kathy Prukop

Mass Intention Symbols

† - In honor of deceased
♥ - Anniversary/Marriage
♪ - Birthday/Thanksgiving
SI - Special Intentions

Please inform the office if you know of a St. Joseph parishioner in the hospital or that is homebound for Father Barnabas to visit.
Remember to write your prayer requests on the note cards in the corner of the Narthex and place them in the slot of the corner table.

Next Weekend's Ministry Schedule

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Chace Charbula & Reed Kallus
Sun. 7:30 Natalie Koehl & Maddie Nunez
Sun. 9:00 Daniel Gonzales, Katelyn Letbetter
CANTOR: C. Baker

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. L. Koliba
Sun. 7:30: K. Davis
Sun. 9:00: M. Kolb, D. Witte, Volunteer

LECTORS

Sat. R. Hammack
Sun. 7:30: Kolodziejczyk
Sun: R. Basaldua

USHERS

Sat. T & F Maraggia & P. Miori
Sun. 7:30: J. Koch, C. Horelka, D. Zacek, Volunteer
Sun. 9:00: R. Bitterly, V. Bueno, L. Solis, Volunteer

Upcoming church meetings, events, information and bulletins are available on our website: <http://stjosephine.org>

Message of the Week:

Sometimes you find yourself in the middle of nowhere, and sometimes in the middle of nowhere, you find yourself. <https://www.dailyinspirationalquotes.in/>

From Fr. Barnabas' Desk - I would like to thank everyone for the many Gifts, Christmas Cards, Blessings and Well Wishes. They are all very much appreciated!

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Edward Jurica that passed away Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017.

Visitors, Welcome to St. Joseph! If you would like to join our St. Joseph family you may pick up a registration form in the Narthex. You may drop it in the giving basket, bring it by the office or email it.

Benefit Dinner for Missionary Catechist of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary – January 15th @ the CWV Hall 1007 S. Main St., Victoria. Carne Guisada Dinner, \$9/plate serving 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Live Auction starts at 11:45 a.m. Please join in supporting the work of our Sisters.

Jan. 8th – Altar Society Meeting – After 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Church

Jan. 8th – KC Meeting – After 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Pavilion

Jan. 10-12th – Due to the Diocese Priest Retreat – No morning Masses Tues. – Thurs. Please pray for them

Jan. 15th – Oct., Nov., Dec. Birthday Anniversary Social After 9:00 a.m. Mass

Jan. 15th – Catholic Daughters Meeting – 10:30 a.m. Mass in the CCD Hall

Jan. 17th – Building Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. Meeting Room

Jan. 17th – OLV Open House for Pre-K thru 8th for info call 575-5391 or visit www.ourladyvictory.org

2017 Pro-Life Candlelight March – Thursday, January 26, 2017 beginning at De Leon Plaza at 7:00 p.m. and proceeding to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church. Main speaker will be State Representative Geanie W. Morrison. Pro-Life groups in attendance and short presentation are: The Victoria Gabriel Project, Knights of Columbus, Crisis Pregnancy of Victoria, and St. Gianna Pro-Life Group. You are invited to participate to help make this year a SUCCESS for LIFE

Leonard Otto	Natalie Powell	Linda Dixon	Billy & Jennifer Powell
Ann Smith	Elizabeth Liska	Whitney Kurtz	Kevin & Brandy Bowers
Troy Stephenson	Agnes Otto	Jackson Bennatt	Charles & Lorissa Grymes
Elida Zuck	Mary Wagner		

♪ Happy Birthday ♪

The Tenth Annual Catholic Knowledge Bowl will be held **Sunday, February 12, 2017 from 2:30-5:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrow – Trinity Hall in Victoria.** If anyone would like to participate please go to www.victoriadiocese.org for more information.



Looking for a Special Way to Begin the New Year with Your Spouse? How About Enrichment Retreat for Marriages?? Fr. Gary Janak and Fr. Michael Rother, along several married couples, will be sponsoring a special weekend for married couples.

Choosing to L.O.V.E. is a retreat for couples seeking to enrich their marital commitment by focusing on what brought their covenant into existence – their marriage vows. It is not a weekend for couples experiencing serious problems in their relationship, but for couples seeking to be faithful to their marriage vows and desiring to strengthen the core of who they are as husband and wife. **The retreat will be held in Palacios, on February 10-12th, 2017.** Space is limited. The cost for the retreat is \$250 per couple, which includes lodging, food, and materials. Application forms are available at the parish offices of The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory in Victoria and St. Philip in El Campo, or by emailing jvincent@olvcathedral.org.