

June 24, 2018

**The Nativity
of St. John the Baptist
Solemnity**



Prepare The Way of The Lord

John the Baptist was the great prophet and herald of Jesus, the Messiah. He prepared the way of the Lord and revealed Jesus to others. St. John exemplifies the Christian life as one who proclaims the Gospel message of healing and repentance. The celebration of this solemnity dates back to the fourth century. It is celebrated on June 24 in keeping with Luke 1:36 which notes that Elizabeth was six months pregnant at the time of the Annunciation of the Lord. Today, we celebrate this feast instead of the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time with white vestments.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, June 30
4:30 p.m. Allan, Rudy & Hattie Wiedemann,
Katherine & John Pokluda
Sunday, July 1
8:00 a.m. Helen Ann Muras

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

Next weekend is *The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 30
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15
Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles – June 29

Solemnity: These two most eminent apostles are venerated throughout the Christian world: Peter as the great evangelist to the Jews and Paul as apostle to the Gentiles. In the early Church, the witness of Saints Peter and Paul was regarded as the same, according to Clement of Rome and the historian Eusebius of Caesarea. Peter and Paul were martyred in Rome at about the same time, perhaps the year 67. It is no surprise, therefore, that the Church honors their martyrdom together in this solemnity.

2018 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2018 Assessment \$7,761.00
Contributions So Far \$ 3,180.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed \$ 4,581.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

- Susan Ivey
- Matt Cerny
- Melvin Hutzler
- Georgia Cerny
- Donna & Bob Bizzell
- Carol & Randy Barta
- Denise & Gary Greive
- Patricia & James Gready
- Anna & Michael Fishbeck
- Earline & Bernard Okruhlik
- Esther & Edward Brautigam

Do please consider making a donation.

**St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund
Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha**



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

- In Memory of Peter Ngoc Tran - \$100*
Kim Tran, Houston, TX
- In Memory of Annie & Vaclac Parma*
Veronica & John Bily; Tim, Gus Mary & Lily Bily - \$50
Grace Parma Howard, San Antonio, TX
- Susan B. Holloway Tours, San Antonio, TX - \$60*

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

**PRAHA PANCAKE SUNDAY
NEXT SUNDAY – JULY 1**



ALWAYS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
Come out and join us Sunday, July 1, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. A free will donation will be appreciated. All are invited.

Will you consider helping one Sunday? It's always the First Sunday of the month. The time commitment is from 7:30-10:30. We need 8 volunteers to make the kitchen HUM! Please contact Lori Janecka at: (361) 772-4307 or lorijanecka@gmail.com to get on the volunteer list.

REFLECTION

Born To Be The Front-Runner

We hear the prophet Isaiah speak of a “servant” of God in our First Reading today. From the beginning God called, fashioned and offered the “servant” an important place in extending the glory and kingship of God. The “servant” hears that he is not to toil merely for the restoration and union of Israel, but to open the way for the light to the “nations” that is beyond the borders of God’s chosen people. Salvation is going to come to all the world and this “servant” is going to toil for the coming of that salvation.

The Second Reading is a little historical review about how God has been preparing for the light of Jesus. Here too John is saying of himself he is not the Christ.

Today’s Gospel recalls the birth of John, but even more, his naming. Elizabeth and Zechariah are advanced in age and so the lack of fertility was seen as a kind of curse. She is found to be pregnant and when her time for deliverance comes he is born. All come to marvel and give praise to God. The neighbors are from the hill country of Judea. They expect the naming at the circumcision to follow custom. His father, in the previous verses is struck speechless by God for his questioning.

His mother announces his name to be John and his father is given a tablet and writes the same. Upon this writing, his speech returns giving thanks and praise to God. After the naming, John grows up and is the man in waiting for God’s time to be fulfilled.

John is born to be the front-runner, the advance-publicity man for the coming on stage of Jesus. We too are the co-runners who have been radiated by His Light and extend that Light to the ends of our neighborhoods, the end of our abilities, and to the end of our time. We are “servants” whom the Lord has known before we were born and in our life’s time we give birth to Him according to our individual personalities and history. John was born to make known the coming of Jesus. We are born for the remembering of His life, death and Resurrection. We are born to announce that He lives and gives new birth and life to all the nations.

– Larry Gillick, S.J.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



June 26 – Michael Hanslik

– Tracy Holub

June 27 – Amy Koncaba

June 28 – Haley Moeller

June 20 – Esther Brautigam

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Peters Pence: This collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid the neediest throughout the world.

Please be generous.

CHURCH PICNIC BULLETIN BOARD

CHURCH PICNIC – AUGUST 15

Update on Picnic Chairpersons Meetings

Picnic Meal: The number of plates served has increased. 4,676 in 2011 to 6,327 in 2018. We have to find ways to continue to serve our supporters.

- Johnnie Hoffman & Jared Tousek reported that last year they had enough volunteers to have a third line for battering the chicken. They plan to do the same this year if they have enough volunteers. Johnnie is also looking into getting another rack built for the fried chicken. To prevent non-workers from walking away with pieces of fried chicken there will be a sign posted in the kitchen: *The chicken is for selling. Not for eating for free. \$2 a piece.*
- Junior Chaloupka is donating all the spices for the stew again this year. We will look into the possibility of adding an additional gas line(s) for another kettle(s).
- Theresa Tousek had several samples of to-go plates. We are looking into the samples. We discussed the possibility of adding another line to fill the plates-to-go.
- Helen Schaefer & Josie Kubenka continue to find ways to streamline the kitchen details to cook and serve more food in the same amount of time. Last year they designated people to keep the supply of stew, green beans, etc. flowing to the plate filling lines. They met with Fr. Gabriel this week to put in their grocery order and to discuss ways to add another food line for plates-to-go.
- Owing to price increases the price of the meal will be \$10 per plate like all other picnics.

Refreshments, Outdoor Games/Booths: The big fans we added last year really helped with the air circulation. We discussed the possibility of adding one or two more big fans under the pavilions. We are looking into it.

- Tim Pospisil reported that he has been in contact with the distributors and is getting things lined up for the Picnic.
- Cynthia & Edward Koncaba and Jason Bartos have turned in their list of supplies needed. On another note we thank Jason for giving the Church Signs on Highway 90 a face lift. Great paint job Jason and Charlie!
- Thomas Petru & Liz Janak did a wonderful job of soliciting raffle prize donations. Contact them to pick up additional raffle tickets to sell.

Look for more information about the outdoor games/booths in next week’s bulletin. We thank all the chairpersons for their continued dedication and hard work for the success of our Picnic.

The Picnic Letter/Raffle Ticket Mailing went out this week. Let’s all work together to make this another successful Picnic by God’s grace.