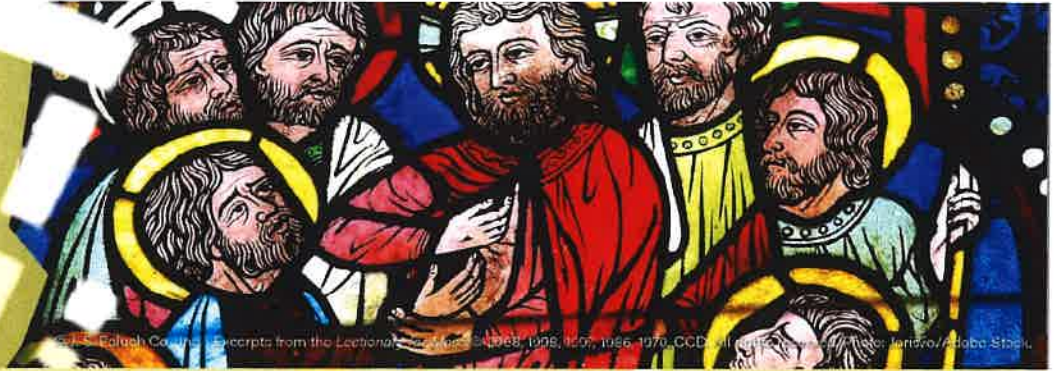


“Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

JOHN 20:29



APRIL 11, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

(OR OF DIVINE MERCY)

The apostle Thomas will forever be remembered as the one who doubted. It is good that his experience is recorded in the Gospel of John. We all doubt sometimes, and “Doubting Thomas” shows us how to move from doubt to belief, knowing that the risen Jesus will be with us through it all. Thomas did not keep his doubts to himself, but instead voiced them aloud to his trusted companions. We can only imagine the conversations that took place between Thomas and the other disciples as they described the peace that they felt following Jesus’ time with them. Thomas’ doubts were put to rest once and for all when Jesus offered him physical proof of the Resurrection. We do not have the sort of physical evidence that was shown to Thomas, but we can perceive Christ’s presence in the Eucharist, in the words of sacred scripture, and in the presence and actions of others.

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LIVING FAITH

The journey of faith often ebbs and flows, with times when our relationship with the Lord is the guiding force in our lives, and times when we are tempted to turn away from all we know to be true, good, and beautiful. In those moments when we find ourselves struggling with doubt or temptation, we can follow Thomas’ lead and turn to trusted companions, faithful and faith-filled family and friends, who will support us and show us the way from doubt to living faith. Like the disciples who were in the room when Jesus came among them, we too have received the Holy Spirit. Today, let us consider where we are on the journey of faith, turn to trusted companions and the Holy Spirit to strengthen us on the way, and know that the Lord is with us as we live and grow in relationship with Christ.

Today’s Readings: Acts 4:32–35; Ps 118:2–4, 13–15, 22–24; 1 Jn 5:1–6; Jn 20:19–31

PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. “Mike” Snider

Celebration of the Sacraments:

Mass: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday:
45 minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six
(6) months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit

Catholic Church

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Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765

Church Phone: 903-769-3235

Fr. Mike Snider

Cell Phone: 903-490-3883

www.holyspirthollylake.com

holyspirit2@yahoo.com

Welcome Visitors!

*We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us
and felt welcomed in our church as your “home away from home.”*

*Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years,
you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!*

Sunday of Divine Mercy

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Greg Mooney. Valerie Branch. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Yvonne Scott. Ulysses Cormier. Bollinger Family. Kate Guthrie. Charlie Parker. Molly Dunn. Richard Schuetz. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Ed & Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: DeLois Estoll, mother of Shirley Munoz. Johnny Collins Sr., grandfather of Johnny Collins.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

New active recruit, Dawn Quinn, US Army (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus (Acts 4:32-35).

Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading: The victory that conquers the world is our faith (1 John 5:1-6).

Gospel: Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed (John 20:19-31).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 4/10 Carolyn Edwards+ (Rosary Group & E. March)

Sun 4/11 Jean & David Kelly (M/M Clymer)

Tue 4/13 Jeff Quinn+ (M/M Clymer)

Wed 4/14 Parishioners

Thurs. 4/15 Parishioners

Fri. 4/16 Jeff Quinn+ (Bridget Rich)

Sat. 4/17 Dr. & Mrs. Boswank (Elaine March)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through February 28, 2021

Expenditures \$ 4,051

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,745

Attendance 4/1 Holy Thurs. 38 4/2 Good Fri. 53

4/03 Easter Vigil 41 4/04 Easter Sun 104

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.

April Pope's Intention:

Fundamental rights. We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

CHRIST IS HERE

Christ departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find him. For he departed, and behold, he is here. —St. Augustine

DOUBT

The desire to be able to prove the existence of a divinity has troubled humanity since human consciousness first became aware of the divine. To this very day we are fond of saying that any number of things—from sunsets to hot fudge sundaes—are “proof that there is a God.” We get so caught up in the story of “doubting Thomas” that we fail to notice that today’s Gospel gives us John’s account of Pentecost, the bestowing of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples following the Resurrection. Thomas, evidently, missed out not only on seeing the Risen Christ, but receiving the Holy Spirit as well. This is not to be taken lightly and, perhaps, makes Thomas’ disbelief a bit easier to comprehend. It also makes his professing that Jesus is his Lord and God—the only time the New Testament explicitly refers to Jesus Christ as “God”—more remarkable.

Easter Food Donations: We're continuing to accept non-perishable food donations for our food pantry. Please place donations in plastic container in the Narthex between the parish hall and church hall.

Thank you,

*Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd; Stan & Terry Evans
Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team*

April Second Collections: 10th & 11th: "Retired & Infirm Priests of the Diocese." 24th & 25th: "Catholic Home Missions."



Please join us as we pray the **patriotic rosary for peace in America**



**First Saturday of each month after the 9:00am Mass
RESCHEDULED TO: Saturday April 10th**



**COME JOIN US FOR THE
DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION
CHURCH
SUNDAY, APRIL 11th at 3:00PM**

Cenacle of Life: Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm**. Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

To fulfill the **Legion of Mary** work obligation they are making information posters for our parishioners & visitors. The information will not be new to most of you, though some of it may be. It is their hope that each of you will find something in the information that encourages your spiritual growth. Look for these posters in the entrance to the parish hall. They may also be placed outside also be placed outside, weather permitting.

Cycle Prep Info Night—Monday, April 12th, 7:30 pm (Zoom) The Family Life Office is hosting an online info night with Cycle Prep creator and host, Christina Valenzuela on Monday, April 12th at 7:30 pm. Cycle Prep is a self-paced online course for parents and daughters, which introduces girls to menstrual cycles, periods, and body literacy in a way that: upholds the dignity of the body, respects parents as primary educators, and supports our Catholic faith. For more information and to register please visit www.stphilipinstitute.org/events

Catholic East Texas The Catholic East Texas is back and online! New articles are posted online weekly. Be sure to subscribe to keep up with all the latest news in the diocese! catholiceasttexas.online/

WHAT IS THE LORD ASKING ME TO DO WITH MY GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT?

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT MEN & WOMEN

ALTAR SERVERS, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, LECTORS, USHERS, CANTORS & CHOIR MEMBERS WITH MUSICAL ABILITIES.

WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW



**Holy Spirit Garage Sale
June 4th & 5th**

We started pricing and you can **drop off items every Wednesday between the hours of 9:30—11:30am. NO CLOTHING or ELECTRONICS.** Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868 if you have questions or unable to drop off items on Wednesday mornings.



**FR. MIKE CONFESSION TIMES:
EVERY
SATURDAY 4:15—4:45PM
&
SUNDAY 8:15—8:45AM
BEFORE MASS ON WEEKENDS
OR
FOR APPOINTMENT CALL HIS CELL#
903-490-3883**

Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Apr. 10th at 5:00pm and Sun., Apr. 11th at 9:00am.

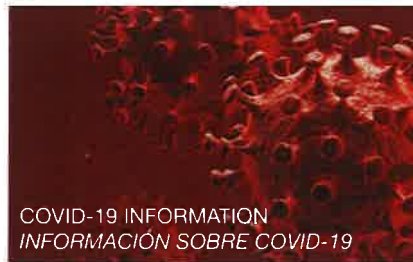
Protocols for weekend Masses:

- Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
- Masks: read page three**
- No socializing** in the parish hall. Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.
- Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**

Weekday Mass Tues. — Fri. of this week at 9:00am

Protocols for weekday Masses:

- Masks: read page three**
- No socializing** in the Narthex. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
- In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
- Limited seating maximum 31.** In order for the households to maintain at least 6 feet separation.



Because of the progress being made against the COVID-19 pandemic in Texas, Governor Greg Abbott has announced that he is increasing the capacity of all businesses and facilities in the state to 100 percent and lifting his mask requirement for the state.

Governor Abbott said that COVID-19 has not disappeared and that “removing state mandates does not end personal responsibility.” The governor stressed that removing these mandates doesn’t abandon safe practices. The same applies to our churches. We are still in a pandemic that has tragically caused over 500,000 deaths in the United States and there is still a virus that can easily spread if we are not careful.

I ask and expect all clergy and faithful to continue to take measures to keep everyone safe. This is essential in order to protect the health of our communities and so that we do not lose the progress that, by God’s grace, has been made against COVID-19.

In light of the actions taken by the governor, I issue the following updates and instructions:

Dispensation. The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Day of Obligation that I issued in March of 2020 is withdrawn as of **March 10, 2021**. Many have already returned to Mass, and I encourage everyone to do so now, aware of the centrality of the Mass to our lives as Catholics and the obligation attached to it.

One does not have an obligation to attend Mass if you are sick or in a high-risk category for COVID-19; if you were recently in contact with a sick person; if you care for the sick or homebound; if you are pregnant; or if you have a *significant* fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass.

Seating at Mass. Pastors may open additional pews in churches, but all must be responsible for observing social distancing (6-foot between households) according to CDC guidelines. Depending on the church, seating every other pew may still be the best way to maintain social distancing, per the Texas Minimum Standard Health Protocols for churches. Pastors should consider making special areas available for vulnerable persons.

Masks. While there is no requirement to wear masks, and it is an individual choice, I encourage all to continue to follow the recommendations of the CDC.

Holy Communion. Churches in the diocese will continue to distribute Holy Communion only under the form of bread. Ministers of Communion must continue to observe the practices that are currently in place.

Holy Water and Hymnals. Parishes may make holy water, hymnals, and missalettes available. Holy water should be changed, and fonts/stoups cleaned frequently.

Events. Parish social events, classes, and other activities are permitted if CDC guidelines can be followed.

Other. Parishes should continue to observe heightened sanitization and hygiene standards for common surfaces. Hand sanitizer should continue to be made available.

Let us continue to be mindful of the sanctity of the life of each person we encounter and, in love, do our part to keep our families, friends, and communities safe and healthy.



+ Joseph E. Strickland
Bishop of Tyler

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 7 April 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 2 April 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

Recently, reference was made to “The Apostles Creed”. This is similar to “The Nicene Creed”. Both of these are recited at many events presented by The Church and these are even recited at many personal prayer sessions. The following excerpts are from the online article, *What’s the difference between the Apostles’ Creed and Nicene Creed?* By Philip Kosloski (02/01/18) <https://aleteia.org/2018/02/01/whats-the-difference-between-the-apostles-creed-and-nicene-creed/> ... When attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, the congregation joins together in reciting a Profession of Faith after the homily. This is also known as “the Creed” (from the Latin word *credo*, meaning “I believe”). The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM – a set of guidelines to be used when celebrating a Mass) explains the purpose of the Creed embedded in the Mass: *“The purpose of the Creed or Profession of Faith is that the whole gathered people may respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings taken from Sacred Scripture and explained in the Homily and that they may also honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith by pronouncing the rule of faith in a formula approved for liturgical use and before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist begins.”* In other words, the Creed is a much longer “Amen” to everything that was said in the Liturgy of the Word and an affirmation of what is about to unfold in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. It is a personal and collective assent, proclaiming to all present that one believes in the foundational beliefs of the Catholic faith.

The Church, ... has selected two different Creeds that can be recited during the Mass: the Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed. ... Both are ancient and have roots that can be traced to the very beginnings of the Church. **The Nicene Creed** is ... the “Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed” and was first developed following the First Council of Nicaea in 325. It was held to combat a theological error called Arianism ... that denied the divinity of Christ. A Creed was developed to affirm the teachings of the Church and was further refined at the First Council of Constantinople in 381. It expanded on previous Creeds in order to be more precise in what the Church believed. Before the Nicene Creed there existed many other early Creeds, often called a symbolon in Greek. (According to Edward Sri, a symbolon had great meaning in the ancient world. Christians described their Creed, their summary statement of faith, as the symbolon, the “seal” or “symbol of the faith.” ... the word symbolon typically described an object like a piece of parchment, a seal, or a coin that was cut in half and given to two parties. It served as a means of recognition and confirmed a relationship between the two. When the halves of the symbolon were reassembled, the owner’s identity was verified, and the relationship confirmed.) In like manner, the Creed served as a means of Christian recognition. Someone who confessed the Creed could be identified as a true Christian. Moreover, they were assured that what they professed in the Creed brought them into unity with the faith the Apostles originally proclaimed. **The Apostles’ Creed** grew out of that ancient tradition and according to legend, the Apostles themselves each wrote a portion of that Creed on Pentecost. ... at the very least, a form of the Apostles’ Creed was written during the 2nd century and was based on an outline from the apostolic age. Both Creeds essentially say the same thing, with one being more precise (Nicene) and the other summarizing the faith in fewer words (Apostles’). The purpose of each one is the same, affirming the faith and proclaiming before all what we believe.



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