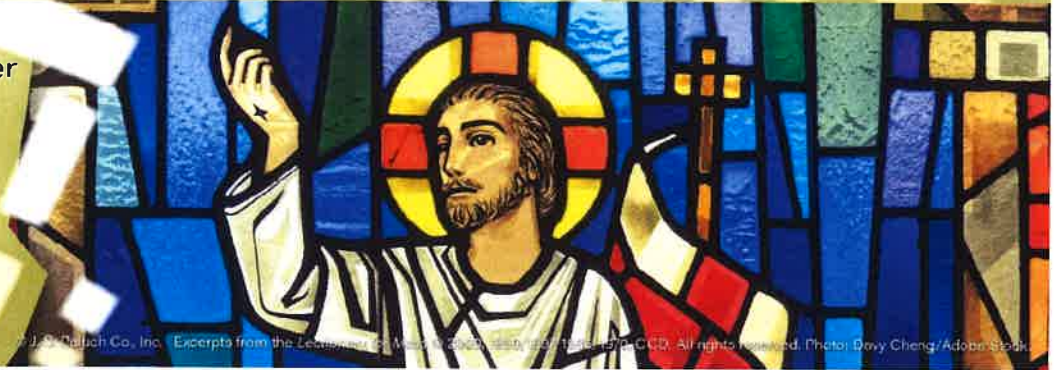


APRIL 18, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Thus it is written
that the Christ would suffer
and rise from the dead
on the third day
and that repentance,
for the forgiveness of sins,
would be preached
in his name
to all the nations.

LUKE 24:46-47



Have you ever waited for something for so long you began to think it might never happen? Your graduation day, or the day of your marriage, or the birth of a child, perhaps. The Israelites had waited for centuries for the coming of the Messiah. Yet when Jesus, the long-awaited Anointed One came, many failed to believe in him. He wasn't what they expected. The Messiah was supposed to be a strong, powerful commander of armies, not humble, compassionate, and suffering. After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples and explained all that he had said in his time with them, opening their minds to what had been written in the scriptures so that they could accept his suffering and death and rejoice in his resurrection.

GOD'S LOVE IN FLESH AND BONE

While the disciples had come to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, his crucifixion and death had left them fearful and confounded. The news of the empty

tomb and his appearance to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus added to their confusion. It seems that at first, Jesus' presence with them did not alleviate their uncertainty. In fact, they were "startled and terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost" (Luke 24:37). Jesus saw that they needed physical proof that it was he who stood among them. They needed to see the nail marks in his hands and feet, to see God's love in flesh and bone, in one who ate among them. Only when their fear and confusion had been quelled could they hear the story, the sacred story of how the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead. Only when they were filled with the peace of Christ would they be ready to witness, to share the sacred story with others. We, too, are invited to hear the sacred story and to perceive God's love for us in Jesus Christ.

Today's Readings: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9;
1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

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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!*

Third Sunday of Easter

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 Emma). 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: The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19).

Psalm: Lord, let your face shine on us (Psalm 4).

Second Reading: We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one (1 John 2:1-5a).

Gospel: Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day (Luke 24:35-48).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51 — 8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

Mass—Intentions

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

Sun 4/18 First Responders

Tue 4/20 Rusty Anderson+ (Ruddie)

Wed 4/21 Jeff Quinn+ (M/M Laudt)

Thurs. 4/22 Eleanor Leggett+ (M/M Hansen)

Fri. 4/23 Ron Szczepanski+ (K of C)

Sat. 4/24 Lexi Bonicard (M/M Bonicard)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through February 28, 2021

Expenditures \$ 4,051

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,745

Attendance 4/10 Saturday 44 4/11 Sunday 58

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.

MARTYRDOM

It is not the suffering but the cause that makes the martyr.

—English proverb

FULFILLMENT

It is interesting that during the Easter season, when we do not hear a reading from the Old Testament, it becomes so important. This is particularly true today. Peter's speech begins with a prayer formula familiar to Jews: "The God of Abraham . . ." (Acts 3:13). It likewise contains the potent phrases "Holy and Righteous One" and "mouth of all the prophets" (3:14, 18). Peter was stating in no uncertain terms that the law, psalms, and prophets had been fulfilled in Christ. This is reinforced by Jesus himself in the Gospel passage, when he states that everything in the scriptures (to the early Christians "the scriptures" were what we call the Old Testament) had to be fulfilled. Above all, Jesus and Peter both emphasize that we are witnesses to all of this, and are sent forth to bear witness to it in the world. The Latin Missa, from which our word "Mass" comes, means "sent" (as in "mission"). As we leave Mass today, let us remember to be witnesses to all that has been fulfilled in the risen Christ.

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Holy Spirit 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*



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.

April Second Collections:
24th & 25th: "Catholic Home Missions."

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.



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

LITURGICAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT MEN & WOMEN

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

FOR ONE OR SEVERAL OF OUR MINISTRIES

SIGN-UP WEEKEND APRIL 24th & 25th

WE DO NEED THE PARISHIONERS THAT ARE IN THESE MINISTRIES TO SIGN-UP AGAIN!!

WATCH YOUR BULLETIN FOR DATE OF TRAINING

URGENT NEED FOR HELP ON OUR "HOLY CLEANING CREW."

Call Richard Boultinghouse 903-769-4257 or email rbhouse61@aol.com



April is Child Abuse Prevention
What will your church do?

**Blue Sunday
Day of Prayer
for Abused Children**

April 25th

WWW.BLUESUNDAY.ORG
Register for free resources to bring awareness to your congregation



**OUR CHURCH IS NOW OPEN
FOR WEEKEND AND WEEKDAY
MASSES**

Protocols still in place:

1. Limited seating in the church maximum of 31 people. We are still alternating every other pew.
2. When we have an overflow, there is sitting available in the parish hall, (please do not move the chairs). The large screen television is setup to view our Mass. Someone from church will bring you communion in the parish hall.
3. We do ask, no socializing in the church or parish hall before, during or after each Mass. Please exit to the parking lot after Mass to socialize.

God Bless You,
Fr. Mike Snider

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 14 April 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 9 April 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

Occasionally, a reference is made to "Canon Law". We will begin this 2 part article by saying "... Put simply, canon law is how the Church organizes and governs herself." (Excerpts from *Introduction To Canon Law* by Father James Goodwin) ... it effects every Catholic whether they know it or not. ... The word "canon" basically means rule. There are about 1.3 billion Catholics in the world, and the Church administrates a large collection of institutions. Therefore, the Church needs an organizational structure to carry out its office of governance and its saving mission. Every society needs laws — and so does the Church. There is a saying: "ubi societas ibi lex" – where there is a society there is law. ... Canon law deals with all legal issues ... rights, property issues, procedures, administration, personnel, crimes and trials. It also does some things that civil law cannot, such as laws regarding sacraments, sacred places and magisterial teachings. The Church's laws have developed greatly over its 2,000-year history. Beginning in the New Testament, we see that there are procedures for replacing an apostle (Acts 1:15-26); also, what to do when there are disputes in the Church (Mt 18:15-20). As time went on there were various councils that legislated on issues of concern. Popes would issue decretals to settle disputes or enforce discipline. Courts were established to hear cases and issue decisions. In addition, they used procedures adapted from Roman law. Eventually, these disparate laws and decretals were collected into what became known as "canon law". In 1917, there was a major reform and the law was codified, published as the first **Code of Canon Law**. After the Second Vatican Council there was a revision, and the 1983 Code of Canon Law was issued for Latin-rite (often referenced as Roman-rite) Catholics by Pope St. John Paul II. Later, in 1990, a separate code was issued for the Eastern Catholic Churches. While not all of the Church's laws are in the code, it is the place to start. ... There are several Books in the code as follows:

Book I is called **General Norms** ... the backbone of the code. While it might not seem exciting, it informs the rest of the code (which cannot be understood without it) and deals with the various kinds of laws in the Church, how they are issued, who they pertain to, and how they are enforced. There are canons regarding juridic persons – things about a diocese or parish. Also there are canons on the officers who serve the Church. Some of these canons may seem like minor details, but the code is a complex thing (if a part of a car's engine fails, even if it is just a screw, it can cause the whole thing to malfunction. It is the same with the Code of Canon Law). **Book II** is about **the People of God**. It sets out the obligations and rights of the lay faithful and clergy. If you want to know what rights you have in the Church, this is the book where you will find them. In addition, it contains the hierarchical constitution of the Church including the Pope, dioceses and religious orders. It shows how they are to be organized and governed.
(To be continued.)

Book III is on The Teaching Function of the Church. This book covers preaching, catechesis, missions and education. This book tells us what levels of authority there are for Church teachings. It also has rules for educational institutions, including Catholic universities.

Book IV is about The Sanctifying Function of the Church. This pertains to the sacraments. It tells us who can receive them, administer them and what is required for their validity. The section on matrimony is of particular interest since the recent synods on the family. It defines marriage and its valid celebration, and gives the legal reasons why a marriage may be ruled invalid in an annulment process. This book also covers other liturgical acts such as funerals. In addition, it contains regulations for churches, shrines and other places of worship.

Book V covers The Temporal Goods of the Church. This is basically the Church's property law. It gives regulations on how to properly administer the Church's property and finances. Also, it includes rules on contracts and wills.

Book VI is on Sanctions in the Church. This is the Church's criminal law. It sets out the authority the Church has to punish crimes, who can be punished, what crimes may be punished, and what the penalties are for those crimes. It may surprise many people to find this in the Code of Canon Law, but every institution has disciplinary regulations. However, in our law, the goals are to repair scandal, restore justice and reform the offender. So there is more to it than simply punishing crime.

Book VII is about Processes. This book covers trials, their procedures, officers of the court, how to organize courts, the rights of the parties and appeals. Those who watch "Law & Order" on television would find Church trials not nearly as exciting. Normally, cases are handled in a documentary way. Rarely do the parties meet each other in an open court. This may strike us as odd, but, in fact, it is the norm in many judicial systems influenced by Roman law in other parts of the world.

In total, there are 1,752 canons in the code, so to cover them all would require a lengthy commentary. In fact, there are a variety of commentaries and other books that are helpful in understanding canon law.

Canon law includes both divine law and ecclesiastical law. Divine law is unchangeable and is applicable to every human being — for example, the law against murder. Ecclesiastical law is rooted in Church law and is not infallible, although it is authoritative — for example, the laws regarding fast and abstinence. Our system of law is human and not perfect.

Justice and Mercy

As mentioned earlier, often in our minds we think of law and mercy as being opposed. Even some priests do not see the law as being "pastoral." However, the law is about order and justice. These are necessary if there is to be mercy.

Justice is defined as giving and receiving one's due. If we are wronged, we desire justice. If someone hits your car in the parking lot, you will want their insurance to pay for the accident. Justice involves moral obligations and responsibilities.

The law is concerned with the common good. Of course, there are disputes about what the common good is, and that is where the law comes in, to settle the issue fairly. The Church is concerned with spiritual realities, but these are lived out in the material world. We are not divorced from this world. This is where we must live out the demands of the Gospel. These include justice for the poor, oppressed and others who cannot defend their own rights. Therefore, mercy, in fact, includes justice rather than opposing it.

For us to show mercy to others means ensuring that their rights are respected and upheld. It also means that they have the right to the true teachings of the Church, that the sacraments will be validly administered, that the finances will be handled properly, that those who injure others will be restrained and punished and that everyone will receive the due process of law. All of these things are part of our canon law. They are concrete ways in which mercy is accomplished in the Church.

In the bull of indiction by which he opened the Jubilee of Mercy, *Misericordiae Vultus*, Pope Francis said: "It would not be out of place at this point to recall the relationship between justice and mercy. These are not two contradictory realities, but two dimensions of a single reality that unfolds progressively until it culminates in the fullness of love" (No. 20). He added, a little bit later: "Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God's way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert and believe.... God's justice is His mercy given to everyone as a grace that flows from the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thus the Cross of Christ is God's judgment on all of us and on the whole world, because through it He offers us the certitude of love and new life" (No. 21). Pope Francis points out that Jesus Christ is to be at the center of all that canon law aims to accomplish.

Ultimately, canon law is at the service of the Church. It exists to assist the Church in its mission to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to the world. The last canon in the code states clearly that the purpose of the law — indeed, the highest law — is the salvation of souls. That makes canon law a true work of mercy.



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