

July 3, 2016

Ordinary Time

Fourteenth Sunday



Messengers of the Gospel

Jesus, in today's Gospel, offers clear, concise directives to us, who are called to be his disciples. We are to remember that in all we do for the sake of the gospel it is God who is at work in us and that our relationship with God is more important than the powers we have been privileged by God to wield over evil. The mission is not our cause and the success is not our achievement. Even an apostle is a sinner in need of Divine Mother's caring love and direction.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, July 9

2:00 p.m. Almanza-Farek Wedding

4:30 p.m. Cecelia & Charlie Hajek

Sunday, July 10

8:00 a.m. The Deceased of the Mary (Janecek) & Joseph Jasek Family

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

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

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Responsorial Psalm: 69

Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-20

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37



No Bible Study Wednesday, July 6

CHURCH SUPPORT

We are gearing up for August 15, our Church Picnic Day. Raffle tickets have been mailed to parishioners. If you did not receive Raffle Tickets or want to pick up additional tickets to sell contact the Thomas Petru, Liz Janak or the Parish Office. Also included in the mailing is a breakdown of parishioner's Church support contributions in the weekly Sunday collections.

If you did not get a financial report and would like to receive Church Support Envelopes monthly, do please drop a note in the collection basket or call the Parish Office (361-596-4674).

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 4, 2016

Independence Day Prayer



God, source of all freedom, this day is bright with the memory of those who declared that life and liberty are your gift to every human being.

Help us to continue the good work begun long ago. Make our vision clear and our will strong, that only in human solidarity will we find liberty, and justice only in the honor that belongs to every life on earth. Turn our hearts toward the family of nations to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship, and to find safety only in common good of all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remembering Maticka Praha Roots



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Lucreta & David Fike, Flatonia - \$100

In Memory of Albert Berckenhoff

Julia Stryk - \$25

Fr. Lambert Bily (Casa De Padres) San Antonio, TX - \$500

He wrote this letter:

Dear Father Maison

Thank you for your recent letter. Yes, I enjoyed the celebration of the Rededication of St. Mary's Church – Praha and the luncheon. The restoration of the Church is beautiful. I commend you and the parishioners and all those who gave their support for this restoration. What a great blessing for "Maticka Praha"!

I am enclosing a check as a donation in memory of my parents, Steve F. & Frances G. Vyvlecka Bily, to help maintain and preserve the spiritual heritage to St. Mary's Restoration Fund.

My father, Steve F. Bily, was born in Praha, TX on August 8, 1900 and my mother, Fances G. Vyvlecka, was born in Praha, TX on December 27, 1901. On my birth record (I was born in Runge, TX) I notice that the birthplace of both my father and mother was listed as Flatonia, TX. But from their birth and the early years of my parents' lives, they only lived on farms just across the highway from the present site of the Praha Church.

Both of my grandparents on the side of my father and my mother (the Bilys & Skopps and Vyvleckas & Ohareks) immigrated with their parents from Czechoslovakia in the years of 1880, 1882, and 1883 and settled on those farms across the highway.

God bless you in your ministry to the people of God in Moulton and Praha.

Father Lambert Bily

REFLECTION



Continuing Jesus' Mission

In between sending his 72 disciples to mission and their returning to him, Jesus offers some basic principles on discipleship. He warns his disciples about the challenging demands of following him. He gives instructions for how they are to travel and what to take with them. Jesus would not have his disciples be unaware as to the cost of belonging to him.

Theirs would not be an easy mission. Jesus' instructions to his disciples about the manner in which they would travel; the sparseness of their gear; and the way they should forego even the most basic social amenities *greet no one* may seem surprising to contemporary readers. However, similar directives had been given to Israel's prophets (see 2 Kings 4:29) as they embarked upon a God-directed mission. Besides comparing the disciples and their mission to that of the prophets, the stringent nature of Jesus' instruction underscored the immediacy of the Kingdom that Jesus had come to establish. With the reign of God looming on the horizon, there would be little else that deserved the disciple's attention, save for their efforts at effecting its realization.

Jesus compared the work that lay ahead of them to a rich harvest ready for reaping. As the harvest workers, the disciples were to be messengers of peace. By their greeting, *Peace to this house* the disciples were announcing the Good News of Salvation.

Does your life reflect that of a disciple of Jesus?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



July 4 – Patricia Michna

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



July 8 – Cynthia & Edward Koncaba

WEDDING BANNERS

Karina Lee Ann Almanza & Alex Holden Farek



AREA PICNICS

Today – Sts. Cyril & Methodius Feast, Dubina

July 4 – St. John Picnic, St. John

July 17 – Moravia Picnic, Moravia

LOOKING AHEAD

The Fifteenth to the Seventeenth Sundays in Ordinary Time

During these three Sundays, we read the end of chapter 10 of Luke's Gospel (15th & 16th Sundays) and the first thirteen verses of the next chapter (17th Sunday). These are teaching of Jesus given to the many disciples who follow him on the road to Jerusalem.

What makes the Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Sundays such a distinct sequence is the concrete nature of Jesus' interventions. Actually, several chance meetings on the road give Jesus the occasion to teach. We notice that, on each of these occasions, the question put to Jesus and his response have to do with very concrete behavior. "What must I *do* to inherit everlasting life?" asks the doctor of the Law (15th Sunday), "My Sister has left me to *do* the household tasks all alone, says Martha; "Tell her to help me" (16th Sunday). And the disciples ask Jesus about praying, and even ask him to *give* them a prayer they can recite (17th Sunday).

The Christian must behave like Jesus, who, appears here as the model for us to imitate.

CHURCH PICNIC BULLETIN BOARD

The Picnic plans are coming together. We have been meeting with the chairpersons of the various work stations/booths. We thank all the chairpersons for their continued dedication and hard work for the success of our Picnic. Here is a brief breakdown of the meetings:

Charlie Bartos (CP) & Edward Koncaba (Co-CP) have retired after many years of service. We thank them for doing a good job.

The Meal Chairpersons: Junior Chaloupka (*Stew*); Johnnie Hoffman & Jared Tousek (*Chicken Frying*); Helen Schaefer & Josie Kubenka (*Kitchen*); Theresa Tousek, Brittani Rerich & Barbara Jasek (*Plates-to-go*); Alphonse Kubenka, Leon & Greg Kubenka, Bennie & Earlene Okruhlik, and Pat Masek (*Kettle Cashier/Dinner Tickets/Plate Distribution*) are finalizing their supply lists.

We continue to look for ways to ease the congestion of the meal crowd. We have improved the inside meal line. Last year we initiated the Drive Thru Plates-To-Go. **This year we plan to have the Drive Thru for both Business Plates and individuals. Walk-up plates-to-go will also be available as in the past. Look out for more details.**

Look for more information about the Picnic Meetings in next week's bulletin.

Raffle Tickets/Picnic Letter: By now you should have received your raffle tickets and picnic donation letter in the mail. Fill out your donation slip and turn in your raffle stubs and donations as soon as possible so you can be given credit. You may drop them in the collection basket or the mail. *Contributions from out-of-town friends of the parish are accepted and appreciated.*