

**THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE-WESTPHALIA**  
**St. Joseph, Cyclone & Church of the Visitation, Westphalia.**

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Web address: [stjyclone.org](http://stjyclone.org)

**The Sacraments**

**BAPTISM:** Saturday after Mass. Please contact the pastor for scheduling a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St Joseph, Cyclone or Church of the Visitation, Westphalia and there is required paperwork to be completed.

**CONFESSIONS:** SATURDAYS 3:00-4:00 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT.

**MARRIAGE:** Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before date of wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

**OCTOBER 25, 2026 THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

As we enter into the gospel story, we encounter a scholar questioning Jesus about which commandment is the greatest. This question is really asking, "What is the central idea of the law on which all the other instructions depend upon?" Jesus responds that the first and greatest commandment is to love God. Jesus doesn't just stop there, though. He adds a second commandment: love your neighbor as yourself. These two commandments are connected: to love God is to love your neighbor; to love your neighbor is to love God. A life of loving our neighbor is a life of loving God. And this question for Jesus about the central idea of the law is the crux for the instructions found in Exodus. God calls the people of God to be holy. To be holy means to be set apart or to be unique. The instructions God gives them shows the people of God how to live their lives in a way that sets them apart or is unique from how other people were living.

In today's reading of Exodus, the laws focus on how we treat the vulnerable in society, how we treat our neighbors. The people of God in Exodus experience systematic oppression in Egypt and God hears their cry and shows them compassion. It is because God is compassionate that the people of God are instructed to enact the same compassion that God showed them in their oppression.

We love our neighbor because God loves us. God shows us compassion so we must show compassion to those around us. Our compassion must come from the understanding that we too were once vulnerable. We are responsible for treating the stranger with care because we too were once a stranger. We are responsible for listening to those who cry out to God because we too have cried out. It is clear that God holds us accountable for whether we treat our neighbor with compassion. God hears the cries of those we have wronged. For God says, "if you ever wrong them ... I will surely hear their cry ... for I am compassionate." To love God is to show the compassion that God, throughout our lives in hearing our cries, has shown us.

Because we believe in a God that hears our cries, we must hear the cries of those around us. Our love of our neighbor must be just like our love of God. It is through the treatment of our neighbors, those who are most vulnerable, that we live a holy life. These are the instructions Jesus clarifies for us, the people of God, on what it truly means to live a life set apart, a holy life. It is in our love of the most vulnerable that we love our compassionate God.

"For whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord."

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**Bulletin Information: Cyclone: Nancy Posvar (254 913-2696)**

**Bulletin Deadline: Please call or send by email all info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!**

## MINISTRIES

### Saturday, October 31, 2026

Communion: Sarah Hejl  
Lector: Kristen Parker  
Altar Servers: K & H Hejl—Carlson Family  
Ushers: Volunteers

### Sunday, November 1, 2026

Communion: Jason Hoelscher  
Lector: Andrew Brenek  
Altar Servers: Stumbaugh Family—R Jahns  
Ushers: Keith Andel & Luke Prado

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#### UPCOMING MASSES

10/25 Sunday 8:15 am: + Darwin Bruggman by Family  
+ Jerome Schoppe by Family  
10/27 Tuesday 7:00 am: Communion Service  
10/29 Thursday 7:00 am: Communion Service  
10/31 Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm: + Rubin & Leona Gottschalk by Clyde Gottschalk  
+ Josephine Psencik by Charlie & Jackie Green  
11/1 Sunday 8:15 am: + Linda Hering by Family  
+ Lucille Stock by Harold & Margie Stock

#### WESTPHALIA MASSES

10/25 Sunday 10:15 am  
10/28 Communion Service  
Wednesday 6:00 pm  
10/30 Communion Service  
Friday 8:00 am  
10/31 Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm  
11/1 Sunday 10:15 am

In your charity, please pray for: Homebound: Leora Hering. Good health: A. J. Stermer, Bill Stock, Dorothy Haisler, Evelyn Richter, Al & Lou Buckholt, Mary Jane Underwood, Lindsey Pierce, Rebecca Marek, Margaret Campbell, Barbara Johnson, Fr. Tom Chamberlain, Theresa Klecka, Faye Kolek.

Stewardship—October 18—\$2158    World Mission Sunday—\$415

Sanctuary Light—October 25—31—In Memory of Joe & Edna Simecek by Dewayne & Nancy Mesecke.

EXTRA PARISH T-SHIRTS in various sizes are available for purchase. If interested, contact Kristen Parker at 254-258-7618.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 25—Bible Study in the Parish Hall following mass.

October 27—Parish Council meeting—6 pm in Parish Hall.

October 28—REP Trunk or Treat—6:00—8:00 —pm—Come dressed up saintly or a little spooky. Please come volunteer to bring your vehicle/trunk to give out candy & treats and play games. Nachos, Frito pie and hot dogs with dessert available. We will need dessert donations, please! Come out for a great time and shine Jesus' light.

October 29—November 1—Austin Cursillo Women's Weekend—Eagle's Nest Eagle's Wings Retreat Center—2805 Ranch Rd. 2341, Burnet, TX 78611—For info call Robin Spencer 254-220-3883 or Steve Schmitz 254-289-8292.

November 1—Turkey & Dressing Dinner—St. Joseph Church—Marlin—311 Oaks St—\$15/plate—Serving 11:00 am—1:00 pm or sold out—Dine in or Drive thru—Homemade peach cobbler for dessert.

November 6 & 7—Bell County Extension Education Association Garage Sale—Seaton Community Center—November 6 11:00 am—6:00 pm    November 7 8:00 am—4:00 pm—Proceeds benefit 4-H Scholarships.

November 7—Seaton Church Christian Sisters Annual Bake Sale—9:00 am—2:00 pm—Kolaches, cakes, pies, breads, homemade canned goods—Inside garage sale—Sandwiches & soup available for lunch—Free Admission—Cash & checks only.

November 15—19—Holy Trinity Parish in Corn Hill will present a Parish Mission entitled "Work Out Your Salvation! The Theology of Faithfulness to Daily Duty" November 15 - 19. Father of Mercy Wade L.J. Menezes will speak about Being Faithful to Your Daily Duty, Be Other-Centered, Understanding the Reality of Vice and Virtue, Practicing and Living the Sacraments and Live a Trinitarian Spiritually. Sunday will begin with confessions at 5:00 pm, Book signing at 6:00 pm, with Holy Hour & Mission at 6:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday will begin with confessions and a light

#### Altar Society News

November 8—Altar Society Meeting following mass in the Parish Hall.

We are collecting food items for college care packages—6 students—Donations due at church by November 14 & 15.