

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE-MARAK

St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

Mailing address: 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519...

Phone 254 985-2280.

Email: cyclone.marak@gmail.com. Pastor: Rev. Ranjan Cletus

Web address: 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 Sts Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

Confessions: SATURDAYS 4:00-5:00 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT.

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

NOVEMBER 23, 2025 OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Catholics celebrate the solemnity of Christ the King today. This feast is designed to give special recognition to the dominion Christ our Lord has over all aspects of our lives. But why and how did it come about? And why is it so important today? When Cardinal Ambrogio Achille Ratti was elected pope and took the name Pope Pius XI, much of the world was in shambles. The year was 1922, and while the bloodletting of World War I had ended, widespread peace and tranquility were not evident. The war to end all wars had been especially devastating to England and the countries of continental Europe. Additionally, the overthrow of the Romanov tsars by the Russian Revolution had created great upheaval in Russia and brought immense suffering. Governments were in economic chaos, unemployment was rampant and people in many places were literally starving to death. The stability of the old social and political orders that had embraced royal houses and crowned heads of state were crumbling. The victorious warring powers sought severe penalties and unreasonable reparations from the vanquished Germans through the Treaty of Versailles. Pessimism, a sense of helplessness compounded by hatred among the nations, was overwhelming. The time was ripe for the rise of tyrants, and rise they did. The festering philosophies of fascism, National Socialism (the Nazis) and communism now spawned the likes of Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin. Pope Pius XI's predecessor, Pope Benedict XV, had warned about this prophetically in 1920 when he wrote, "There can be no stable peace or lasting treaties, though made after long and difficult negotiations and duly signed, unless there be a return of mutual charity to appease hate and banish enmity." In their distress, people clung to anyone who offered them hope, offered some kind of direction out of the chaos and promised to put food on their tables. They gravitated to the emerging dictators, and as they did they often sought to be self-sufficient to the exclusion of God from their everyday lives. Many considered the basics of morality and the teachings of the church to be out of date, no longer relevant in 20th-century society. Modern thinking allowed that, at most, Christ might be king in the private life of the individual, but certainly not in the public world. Some political regimes advocated the banishment of Jesus altogether, not only from society, but from the family as well. As nations were reborn and governments restructured, their foundations, policies and laws were often being fashioned without regard to Christian principles. In all these developments, the new Pope Pius XI saw that people were denying Christ in favor of a lifestyle dominated by secularism, material advantage and false hope created by the tyrants. He realized that he had to address the political and economic forces that were crowding out the kingship of Jesus. As a start, he dedicated his reign as pope to "The Peace of Christ in the Kingdom of Christ". In 1925, the church celebrated a jubilee year in honor of the 1,600th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. The council fathers taking part in that ancient gathering in 325 A.D. had affirmed the full divinity of Jesus Christ as God the Son, one in being with God the Father. Their pronouncement became a creed that was later expanded into what we now call the Nicene Creed, which we still profess at Mass every Sunday. Throughout the anniversary year, Pope Pius constantly emphasized the kingship of Christ as declared in the Creed: "His kingdom will have no end." He stressed that theme throughout the year as it repeatedly appeared in the church's celebrations of Annunciation, Epiphany, Transfiguration and Ascension. As part of the Holy Year, which was afforded great attention and pomp by the Vatican, hundreds of thousands of pilgrims flocked to Rome, demonstrating great fervor for their faith. On Dec. 11 of the jubilee year, and in order to acknowledge perpetually the supremacy of Jesus Christ over all men, nations and earthly allegiances, the pope issued the encyclical "Quas Primas," which added the feast of "Our Lord Jesus Christ the King" to the annual church liturgical calendar. Some at the time argued that such a celebration was unnecessary because the ancient feast of the Epiphany already acknowledged Christ as King. But more than 340 religious leaders, including cardinals and bishops, had called for the new celebration, and the pope was glad to grant their request. The encyclical provided for the feast of Christ the King to be held each year on the last Sunday of October. This date, a week before All Saints' Day and four weeks before Advent, was carefully chosen: It reminded the people that Jesus Christ is not only King of this world, reigning among nations today; he is also the eternal King, glorified by the saints in heaven, who will one day come to judge all humankind. In his encyclical, the pope noted that the continuing disorder of that era, what he called "the plague of society," had long been festering and was the result of nations rejecting Christ. Later in the encyclical the pontiff pointedly reminded national governments, "Christ, who has been cast out of public life, despised, neglected and ignored, will most severely avenge these insults; for His kingly dignity demands that the State should take account of the commandments of God and of Christian principles, both in making laws and in administering justice, and also in providing for the young a sound moral education". The pope instructed the faithful to use this annual celebration as a time to consecrate themselves, or renew their consecration to, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, explicitly tying the celebration to devotion to the Sacred Heart and to the living Christ in the Eucharist. He also called for Catholics to make reparations for the widespread atheism being practiced in many countries. In 1969, Pope Paul VI took several steps to enhance the witness of the feast day. To emphasize Christ's universal reign, he changed the name of the celebration to the feast of "Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of All". He also changed the date to the last Sunday in the liturgical year, emphasizing even more strongly the connection between Christ's kingship and his second advent (coming) to judge the world. In addition, the pope raised the feast to the highest rank of celebration on the church calendar, that of a "solemnity." Today, peace still eludes us; social, political and economic orders are shaking; and the nations continue in many ways to reject the light of the Gospel. We can be grateful, then, for the chance to celebrate each year the solemnity of Christ the King — for the world needs now, more than ever, our witness to his rule over all things.

Bulletin Information: Cyclone: Nancy Posvar (254 913-2696) Marak: Anna Givens 512 809-9889

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

MINISTRIES

Saturday, November 29

Communion: Jackie Green
Lector: Letha Novosad
Altar Servers: Novosad/Hoelscher Families
Ushers: Volunteers

Sunday, November 30

Communion: Debbie Buckholt
Lector: Kayley Hejl
Altar Servers: E. Eixman—H & E Cowen—I Stumbaugh
Ushers: Ricky Brenek & David Hejl

UPCOMING MASSES

Thanksgiving November 27—7:00 am

Communion—Pat Armstrong Altar Servers—D, R, & C Jahns & L. Schneider
Lector—Cheyenne Jahns Ushers—Volunteers

11/23	Sunday 8:15 am:	+ Stanley Motl by Monica Mikeska + Jerome Schoppe by Family
11/25	Tuesday 7:00 am:	+ Evelyn Hoelscher by Smetana Family + Nancy Hubnik by Bernadette Bruggman Family
11/27	Thursday 7:00 am:	+ Marvin Wilde by Oleta Wilde + Rubin & Leona Gottschalk by Clyde Gottschalk
11/28	Friday:	NO MASS
11/29	Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm:	+ Monica Mikeska by Raymond & Margaret Moeller + Glenda Hesse by Charlie & Jackie Green
11/30	Sunday 8:15 am:	+ Linda Hering by Marvin Meyer + Lucille Stock by Tammie Sundin

MARAK MASSES

11/23	Sunday 10:15 am
11/26	Wed. 5:30 pm
11/30	Sunday 10:15 am

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

Stewardship—November 16—\$2466

Campaign for Human Development—\$458

Sanctuary Light—November 23—29—In Honor of Cecilia Mallory & Ricky Brenek Birthday by Joe & Beatrice Mallory.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Rosebud Ministerial Alliance, Rosebud Police Dept., and Café 77 are partnering to bring Christmas joy to local children through the Blue Santa Toy Distribution December 13. Please donate new, unwrapped toys in the box located in the church entrance.

KC Council #13902 Westphalia is sponsoring a toy drive. The intent is to help children around the area to have a great Christmas. There are boxes at the entrance to church and the entrance to the religious building at Church of the Visitation.

CCD Students are collecting canned goods for the Rogers Food Pantry. We will take canned goods and non-perishable food items through Christmas. The class with most collected items gets a pizza party!

November 23—Scripture class following mass.

November 29-30—Second Collection for St. Antony's Orphanage in India.

NOTE: Knights of Columbus Members Christmas Gathering will be Dec. 6 at Marak Parish Hall—Socializing starts at 5 pm—Meal 6 pm—Widows of past members welcome. A sign-up sheet will be in church entry through Nov. 30. Appetizers & desserts greatly appreciated.

December 7, 14, 21—Christmas Pageant practice following mass.

December 21—The CYO will be Christmas caroling. If you know of someone who would like for us to visit, please contact Michael Brenek by December 10 at church or by phone at 254-721-8877.

ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

Sign-up sheet for the Altar Society Christmas Party—December 7—is in the church entry. Deadline Nov. 30.

November 21-22—College Care Package items are due this weekend—We have 3 college students.