

Announcement

A reminder to all Seniors students and parents that Senior mass will be Sunday May 19th. We hope to see you all there to celebrate and help bless our graduating Seniors! Thank you and have a blessed day!

Celebration!

Let us celebrate and give thanks to our own Deacon Gene Corrigan! This Sunday will be Deacon Corrigan's 40th Ordination Anniversary! Let's come together to celebrate Deacon Corrigan's four decades of devoted service and express our gratitude for his commitment to our faith!

Announcement

As the date for sacraments is getting to a close, I would like to state a code for dressing properly for the sacraments to be administered in our St. Joseph and St. Patrick Churches. If the candidate, sponsor and parent comes to Mass with a short dress, I am going to be in the position to ask them kindly to step out of the church, and go get dressed decently for the occasion. (This also applies to all sacraments and sacramentals (15, 16 añejas, blessings) that we offer in our churches). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. Blessings to all.
Sincerely, Father Gustavo Ortega

Announcement

The Guadalupanas are giving out one \$500 scholarship to a Catholic senior in our community. Applications can be picked up at the school from Gloria Perez or Janette Perez

St. Joseph Catholic Church



LA PRYOR, TEXAS

Unity and Perfection in Christ

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying: "Holy Father, I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one..." [John](#)

[17:20-22](#)

What an amazing prayer! This is Jesus' High Priestly Prayer that He prayed just before He was arrested. This prayer concludes the Last Supper at which Jesus instituted the Most Holy Eucharist. It is truly His Eucharistic prayer that culminates in the offering of His life on the Cross. This prayer is not only a prayer; it is also a teaching about the life that we are invited to share in with our Lord. To begin, it is important to understand the concept of unity. Deep within each of us is a longing to be united to another. The draw to marriage, the love of a parent and child, the desire for friends, and the bonding together as a community all point to this desire. We want unity. We want to be one. Unfortunately, our natural ability to form a holy union with others was deeply wounded by Original Sin. For that reason, the most central mission of the Son of God was not only to restore that which was lost, but to transform it into something even greater. Now, because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we are not only able to live in peace with each other, we are also able to share in a new spiritual union with God Himself. This union goes to the heart and soul of who we are. When properly understood, pondering this desire is very consoling and enticing. If you can separate selfishness, lust, and possessiveness from the equation, you are left with a very holy desire for union with others. Try to discover this desire within. As you discover this desire that God placed within you, learn from Jesus' High Priestly Prayer. Understand that this desire is only completely fulfilled by entering into the life and unity of the Most Holy Trinity. We are called to share in God's very life. When that happens, we also share in a perfect and holy union with one another. In this life, a holy marriage is an earthly prefiguration of that union that is to come. In Heaven, the divine marriage to which we are called will enable us to fulfill every human desire we have.

May 12, 2024

**St. Joseph Catholic Church and
St. Patrick Catholic Church
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Parish Administrator: Fr. Gustavo Ortega, OFM.

Assistants: Deacon Gene Corrigan and

Deacon Juan Gallegos

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