CCHD (Neighborhood Action) needs your help. CCHD was founded to end the cycle of poverty throughout America by funding organizations that help individuals help themselves. With a tradition of improving education, housing, and community economic development, CCHD continues to make a positive impact in communities nationwide.

We pray for the Gift of Healing: Trudy Rosipal Davis, Gary Gonzales, Amanda Arelanno, Agnes Martinka, Jordan Nira, Mary Brosch, Deacon John Thornton, Elena Jezisek, Helen Jezisek, M.P. <3 (This list is for immediate need.)

We invite you to come to the Hall to celebrate the 57th Wedding Anniversary of William and Mildred Michalik. Congratulations! 2 gold on Main: In memory of George & Margaret Vranas Wedding Anniversary.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, Nov. 17 : 9AM KJZT meeting (DPC)
: 12Noon KC Hamburgers
Monday, Nov. 18 : 6:30-9:30PM EIM Basic Workshop (Light meal and snacks will be available)
Tuesday, Nov. 19 : 5PM Bingo Kitchen: (Hall)
: 7PM Guitar Group Practice (Church)
Thurs, Nov. 21 : 7PM Fall Social Recap meeting (DPC)
Saturday, Nov. 23: Deacon Johnnie’s fundraiser at the Hall-Dinner, Dance and Auction
Sunday, Nov. 24 : 11AM KJZT Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup and Chicken sandwiches (benefits the Food Pantry)
: 6PM Granger Community Thanksgiving Service (First Baptist Church)
Parish & Area Events

Thank you everyone who came out to work or buy kolaches to make the Kolache Bake a great success.

All Knights of Columbus members who can, will join every Tuesday morning for Mass at 7 AM.

KJZT will be serving Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup and Chicken Salad Sandwiches Sunday, November 24 starting at 11AM through bingo. All proceeds will benefit the Granger Food Pantry. The State Office will match an additional $200.00.

The Thanksgiving Day collection will be for the people suffering from the tragic destruction caused by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and Vietnam, as requested by the president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of the Diocese of Austin. Individuals may also donate directly to Catholic Relief Services at the following CRS website: https://secure.crs.org/site/Donation2?df_id=6140&6140_donation=form1

Granger Ministerial Alliance Community Thanksgiving Service is November 24 at 6PM at the First Baptist Church.

Card of Thanks: A very special thank you to all who expressed their concern for me during my surgery and my recovery with cards, phone calls, visits, and flowers. A special thank you to those who bring Holy Communion every Sunday and to the Legion of Mary for praying the rosary. Thanks to Father Stephen for the healing prayer. I feel your love, support, and prayers as I continue to recover. May the Lord bless you all and keep you in His care.

Mary Brosch

My sincere thanks go to my family, friends, relatives for the prayers, cards, phone calls, visits and especially to Father Stephen for the healing prayer and visit during my stay at the hospital with a stroke. The prayers are answered and I am doing really good. May God bless all of you each day. John Stefek

School News

Thank you to everyone who turned in Box Tops! We collected 2,081 total Box Tops for the school. This amounts to $208.10 going directly to the school. Please continue to collect and save Box Tops. The next deadline to turn them in will be in March!

The SSCM PTC will hold a Fall Social Recap Meeting on Thursday, November 21st at 7:00 pm in the DPC. Everyone is invited to attend.

Area Events

St. Helen Catholic Church in Georgetown Country Store Christmas & Religious Annual Sale will be SUNDAY, November 24 from 9:00am - 3:00pm in Frizelle Hall. Check out the great gifts, homemade candy and crafts, plus a shopping spree for kids. For more information call Betty Elliot 512-930-5406.

Message from Our Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

What a nice blast of cold weather we got this week. Hope everyone enjoyed it. As we prepare for the upcoming Holy Days and holidays please check your calendars so that attending Mass is the top priority in your celebrations. Enjoy the fullness of the upcoming weeks by allowing God to fill you with His grace and love.

As most of you know we have had several unexpected maintenance and repair issues come up with the church in the last several months. We had to bat-proof the church and clean up the mess that was left behind all of which cost $5,533.00. Next we had to replace an A/C for $6081.00. We have had lightning damage over that last several months to our wiring in the church, Carillon Bells and our sound system. The sound system and wiring had to be replaced and the Bells repaired which was over $12,000 ($7,000 reimbursed by insurance.) We have now had lighting rods added to the church and grounded everything which cost over $11,000. Now, because of the damage to our aged wiring in the church all the wiring has to be replaced and updated so that it is up to code. That is costing over $20,000.00. All of the work totals to more than $56,000.00. But, in the midst of all these expenses we received a great blessing. In 1902 Fr. Frank Pridal became Pastor of Ss. Cyril and Methodius. He died in December of 1926. It seems that he owned land in south Texas and the land was sold and a portion of the money came to Ss. Cyril and Methodius. The Diocese still holds the mineral rights on this land. They recently entered into a lease with an oil and gas exploration company with that land. Ss. Cyril and Methodius received a portion of the money from the lease totaling $76,871.30. Fr. Pridal is still sending his blessing to our parish. This money will be used for the above mentioned expenses and for other work that needs to be done with our church building. Please say a prayer of thanksgiving to Fr. Pridal.

Next Sunday is the Solemnity of Christ the King, the end of our Church Liturgical Year. The readings for these three Sundays of November focus upon the “End Times” and the “Final Judgment.” Today’s Gospel talks about what will happen in these “End Times.” Have you ever thought about what the end of the world will be like? Jesus tells us that there is no need to worry about the end of the world or about the final judgment if we have persevered in living our faith as it should be lived. He also says that no one will be able to predict when this will take place, not even He could say when the end will be, only His Heavenly Father knows the day and the hour. In today’s Gospel Jesus tells us that we will be persecuted for living a life of faithfulness to Him. In today’s world it seems that most of this persecution comes from our very own families...from our children and grandchildren, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, or maybe even from our very parents. Those who really try to live their faith are ridiculed, laughed at, and even hated by others because they put God first in their life. Just think about your very parents. Those who really try to live their faith are ridiculed, laughed at, and even hated by others because they put God first in their life. Just think about your very parents. Those who really try to live their faith are ridiculed, laughed at, and even hated by others because they put God first in their life. Just think about your very parents. Those who really try to live their faith are ridiculed, laughed at, and even hated by others because they put God first in their life. Just think about your very parents. Those who really try to live their faith are ridiculed, laughed at, and even hated by others because they put God first in their life.

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What do they tell you? They probably say that you are old fashioned and out of step with the rest of the world. Or, they may say that those teachings don’t mean anything today. Jesus tells us that His teachings and all that the Father has commanded pertains to every age, it is never going to be outdated. It seems that many will not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven because they just don’t care. Hell is a reality whether you believe in it or not. Read today’s bulletin attachment about the “End Times” and the reality of Heaven, Hell and Purgatory.

Please continue to pray for the Souls in Purgatory during this month of November as we remember those who have died. May they rest in peace.

In Christ, Fr. Stephen Nesrsta, farář
During the month of November many of our readings from Scripture during Mass focus on the so-called “Last Things”. Also during this month we pray especially for all the faithful departed, those in Purgatory that they may soon enter into the presence of God. Below are a couple of articles on the “Last Things” and “Purgatory”.

Summary of Doctrine on the Last Things
The last things are death, judgment, heaven and hell. **Death** is the separation of man's mortal body and immortal soul. It comes to all men as a result of original sin. It is a temporary state, for at the end of the world, all men shall rise again to be judged by Christ. Thus the whole man, body and soul, will be rewarded for the good or evil that he has done, body and soul, in this life. At the moment of death, each human person is judged by God based on his conduct in this life, and goes immediately to his reward or punishment. Moreover, at the end of the world, Jesus Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. At that time, God's whole plan for the world shall be revealed, and his mercy and justice demonstrated. **Heaven** is the eternal state of perfect happiness resulting from the face to face vision of God, which is the reward of those who have served Him in this life. **Hell** is the eternal state of torment and despair which awaits those who, in this life, have freely rejected God and the happiness which He offers. Before the end of the world, there will be an intermediate state called **purgatory**. There, those who are bound for heaven, but whose love for God is still marred by some imperfection, undergo a temporary period of purifying suffering. When this purification is complete, they are fit to enter God's presence and are admitted to the joys of heaven.

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Purgatory
Mere reason suggests there must be a Purgatory. So many people seem to be good, but not so greatly good that they should be fit for heaven at once. Again, not nearly all are so evil as to deserve hell. So there should be a means of purification and paying the debt of temporal punishment for those not fit for hell, nor for heaven at once. (Of course Luther would say we can sin all we want and still go to heaven at once, if only we believe it is all covered by Christ's merits: Epistle 501 to Melanchthon).

There is not much in Scripture on Purgatory except that in Second Maccabees 12:45, Judas sends a collection to the Temple for those fallen in battle, found with amulets on, "that they might be freed from this sin." Luther saw so clearly that this referred to Purgatory--which he rejected--that he rejected this book too, declaring it not part of Scripture. Other passages from Scripture that pertain to the teaching on Purgatory are: The need to make up for transgressions - Mt 5:25-26, Lk 12:58-59; nothing profane can enter heaven – Rev. 21:27; cleansing fire – 1 Cor 3:12-15; David, though forgiven, still punished for his sin – 2 Sam12:13-14. But our belief in Purgatory rests on the tradition and definitions of the Church, at the Councils of Lyons II, Florence, and Trent.

The essential, perhaps the only suffering of Purgatory is the loss of God--it is like what we described in speaking of hell, except that in Purgatory there is no despair, rather, great consolation from assurance of salvation. Is there also something like fire in Purgatory? A host of private apparitions say there is; the Church has never pronounced on it. In fact the Eastern part of the Catholic Church has no such tradition. Many theologians say the suffering is greater than anything on earth. Neither Scripture nor Tradition tells us if that be so.

We do know that the souls there cannot merit or help themselves in any way anymore, they can only suffer. We know we can by prayers and penances relieve them, and somehow, they are enabled to know it when we do that, and they pray for us. How long should we pray and sacrifice for a particular soul? We do not know. St. Augustine in his Confessions (9:13), written 10 to 15 years after the death of his mother, St. Monica, still asked for prayers for her. If we can believe the private apparitions, Purgatory may last the equivalent of many years (we speak thus, for there is no time in Purgatory). For certain, it is terribly wrong to virtually canonize a person at the funeral, as Protestants do under the influence of Luther's sad mistake. Sadly, now a few Catholics are imitating them.
“Advent Blessing: The Crib, Cross and Gift”

You are invited to share in the blessing of this very special Advent Mission which is coming to SS Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church located at 100 North Brazos in Granger Texas on December 2nd, 3rd & 4th at 7PM

Fr. Dave Pivonka will concelebrate Mass with our Pastor, Fr. Stephen Nesrsta to introduce us to the Mission at the weekend Masses.

- SSCM in Granger on Saturday 7PM and Sunday 10AM.
- Holy Trinity in Corn Hill on Saturday 5PM and Sunday 8AM.

All Mission Talks will be given at SSCM in Granger.

Our Presenter: Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, is a well-known conference speaker around the United States. Fr. Dave also leads pilgrimages around the world to some of the holiest and most important sites in our Christian faith. He spends much of his time helping others come to know God’s love for them through his preaching, writings, CDs and other spiritual outreaches. Fr. Dave has written books; Spiritual Freedom: God’s Life Changing Gift and his most recent is Hiking the Camino: 500 Miles with Jesus.

Currently, Fr. Dave is the Director of Franciscan Pathways which is a ministry of his Franciscan Community. This ministry has Fr. Dave involved in full time preaching and evangelization traveling the United States and the world preaching, leading parish missions, retreats and conferences.

Mission Schedule: Each evening begins at 7PM. A light meal will be offered 5:30-6:30PM in the Divine Providence Center on Monday and Tuesday and 5-6PM Wednesday. Desserts will be shared after the Mass and talk on Wednesday.

(Praise & Worship thru Song begins at 6:40PM)

Monday, December 2: “The Crib-Come to Save Us”
(Evening begins with a light supper 5:30-6:30PM in the DPC and ends with Confessions)

Tuesday, December 3: “The Cross-God’s Love Revealed”
(Evening begins with a light supper 5:30-6:30PM in the DPC and ends with Adoration)

Wednesday, December 4: “The Gift-Eucharist and Christmas”
(Evening begins with a light supper 5-6PM in the DPC followed by Mass and ends with refreshments)

A free will offering will be taken up for Fr. Dave's ministry. The collection is used to support the Seminarians in Fr. Dave's Franciscan Community. If you would prefer to write a check please make it out to: Franciscan Friars. Thank you and God Bless.

For more information call the Parish Office at (512) 859-2223 or online www.sscmchurch.org

Deacon John’s Benefit
Dinner Auction Dance
Saturday, November 23, 2013
SSCM Parish Hall (Recreation Center)

Advance Dinner Ticket Holders: BBQ Pork Dinner 4-6PM
(A limited number of meal tickets will be available at the door)
Auction: Silent Auction begins at 4PM Live Auction begins at 5:30PM
Dance begins at 8:30PM $10 tickets sold at the event (The Hamende Brothers)

Donations of silent auction and live auction prizes may be brought to the Hall Saturday morning 9AM.
Desserts will be greatly appreciated. Please bring them to the Hall by 3PM.