

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
SAINT THERESA PARISH

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON



SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH
705 SAINT THERESA BOULEVARD & SUGAR LAND, TEXAS 77498 & 281-494-1156
WWW.SUGARLANDCATHOLIC.COM



**SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
*Holy day of Obligation***

Monday, December 31, 2018
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Tuesday, January 1, 2019
6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m. (español)

The Parish Office will be closed
Tuesday, January 1, 2019.

We will re-open
Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

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On the cover:
Paelinck, Joseph.
The Holy Family.
1820, oil on canvas.
J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, California.

MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**WEEKDAY MASS
MISA ENTRE SEMANA**

Monday—Friday
6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday & Thursday
5:30 p.m.

Miércoles
7:00 p.m. (español)

Friday (Extraordinary Form)
5:30 p.m.

CONFESION • CONFESIONES

Saturday • Sábado
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Sunday • Domingo
4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Weekdays • Entre Semana
Monday-Friday: after each Morning Mass
Tuesday & Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
Miércoles a las 6:00 p.m. (español)

**WEEKEND MASSES
MISAS DEL FIN DE SEMANA**

SATURDAY • SÁBADO
8:30 a.m.
5:00 p.m. (anticipatory Sunday Mass)

SUNDAY • DOMINGO
6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m. (español),
10:00 a.m., Noon,
2:00 p.m. (español),
5:00 p.m.

Pope Francis at Mass: Let us allow ourselves to be consoled by God

At the Mass at Casa Santa Marta, Pope Francis speaks about consolation, which he says should be the normal state for Christians. But in today's world, he says, the word "tenderness" has effectively been removed from the dictionary.

The Lord comforts us with tenderness, like mothers who caress their children when they cry. In his homily at the daily Mass, Pope Francis encouraged us to allow ourselves to be comforted by God, and not to put up resistance.



Don't resist consolation

The first reading, taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (40,1-11), is an invitation to consolation: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God," because "her guilt is expiated." This, the Pope explained, refers to the "consolation of salvation," to the good news that "we are saved." The Risen Christ, in those forty days after His Resurrection, did just that with His disciples: He consoled them. But, Pope Francis continued, we tend to resist consolation, as if "we were safer in the turbulent waters of our problems." "We bet on desolation, on problems, on defeat;" the Lord works very hard to console us, but encounters resistance. This can be seen even with the disciples on the morning of Easter, who needed to be reassured, because they were afraid of another defeat.

Tenderness: a word that has been struck from the dictionary

"We are attached to this spiritual pessimism," Pope Francis said. He described how children who approach him during his public audiences sometimes "see me and scream, they begin to cry, because seeing someone in white, they think of the doctor and the nurse, who give them a shot for their vaccines; and [the children] think, 'No, no, not another one!'" "And we are a little like that," the Pope continued, but the Lord says, "Comfort, comfort my people." And how does the Lord give comfort? With tenderness. It is a language that the prophets of doom do not recognize: tenderness. It is a word that is cancelled by all the vices that drive us away from the Lord: clerical vices, the vices of some Christians who don't want to move, of the lukewarm... Tenderness scares them. "See, the Lord has His reward with Him, His recompense goes before Him" – this is how the passage from Isaiah concludes. "Like a shepherd He feeds His flock; in His arms He gathers the lambs, carrying them in His bosom, and leading the ewes with care." This is the way the Lord comforts: with tenderness. Tenderness consoles. When a child cries, a mom will caress them and calm them with tenderness: a word that the world today has practically removed from the dictionary."

Consolation in times of martyrdom

The Lord invites us to allow ourselves to be consoled by Him; and this is also helpful in our preparation for Christmas. And today, the Pope said, in the opening prayer from the Mass, we asked for the grace of a sincere joyfulness, of this simple but sincere joy: And indeed, I would say that the habitual state of the Christian should be consolation. Even in bad moments: The martyrs entered the Colosseum singing; [and] the martyrs of today – I think of the good Coptic workers on the beach in Libya, whose throats were cut – died saying "Jesus, Jesus!" There is a consolation within: a joy even in the moment of martyrdom. The habitual state of the Christian should be consolation, which is not the same as optimism, no. Optimism is something else. But consolation, that positive base... We're talking about radiant, positive people: the positivity, the radiance of the Christian is the consolation.

The Lord knocks at the door with caresses

When we suffer, we might not feel that consolation; but a Christian will not lose interior peace "because it is a gift from the Lord," who offers it to all, even in the darkest moments. And so, Pope Francis said, in these weeks leading up to Christmas, we should ask the Lord for the grace to not be afraid to allow ourselves to be consoled by Him. Referring back to the Gospel of the day (Mt 18,12-14), he said we should pray: "That I too might prepare myself for Christmas at least with peace: peace of heart, the peace of Your presence, the peace given by Your caresses." But [you might say] "I am a great sinner." – Ok, but what does today's Gospel tell us? That the Lord consoles like the shepherd who, if he loses one of his sheep, goes in search of it; like that man who has a hundred sheep, and one of them is lost: he goes in search of it. The Lord does just that with each one of us. [But] I don't want peace, I resist peace, I resist consolation... But He is at the door. He knocks so that we might open our heart in order to allow ourselves to be consoled, and to allow ourselves to be set at peace. And He does it with gentleness. He knocks with caresses.

Donation of Altar Arrangement
December 30, 2018

In memory of
Mabel Osifo

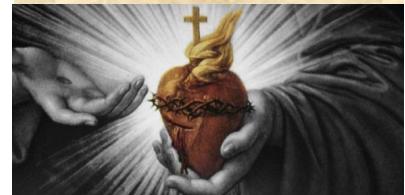


In remembrance of a loved one, a donation toward an Altar arrangement is a lovely gesture.

Please call the parish office for more details: 281-494-1156

FIRST FRIDAY REPARATION VIGIL

January 4, 2019



9:00 p.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Consecration to the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts, & Holy Rosary

9:45 - 10:45 p.m.
Confession available

11:00 p.m.
Holy Mass with Gregorian chant

INSCRIPCIÓN EN LA PARROQUIA: Pase a la oficina parroquial de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. de lunes a viernes o puede tomar una forma en el vestíbulo de la iglesia y entregársela a un ujier.

GUARDERÍA: La guardería esta abierta durante la misa de 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. y 12:00 p.m. No necesita hacer reservación.

FORMACIÓN PARA LOS SACRAMENTOS

PREPARACIÓN DE BAUTISMO INFANTIL:

A los padres se les pide que inscriban a su hijo (a) para el bautismo. Deben traer el certificado de nacimiento del niño a la oficina de la parroquia, y asistir a una clase pre-bautismal. Los Papas y los padrinos deben asistir a la clase. Los padrinos deben de ser mayores de dieciséis (16) años, católicos practicantes, tener sus sacramentos iniciales de bautizo, comunión y confirmación y si están casados, deben de estar casados por la iglesia católica.

Las clases se ofrecen el Segundo domingo de cada otro mes a las 3:15 p.m. en el Centro de Vida Familiar. A los padres se les pide de favor que no lleven a sus hijos a la clase. Se les dará Certificado de asistencia al final de la clase aquellos padres o padrinos que no bautizaran en Santa Teresa. Por favor llame a la oficina para inscribirse a la clase al 281-494-1156. **La próxima clase es el 13 de Enero a las 3:15 p.m.**

PREPARACIÓN PARA EL MATRIMONIO EN ESPAÑOL: Las personas que deseen contraer matrimonio aquí en la Iglesia de Santa Teresa son invitados a asistir una entrevista de preparación matrimonial. Esto es obligatorio para comenzar el proceso de preparación. Es para las parejas que no están casados y para las parejas que están casadas civilmente o que viven juntos. Por favor pre inscríbase llamando al 281-494-1156. El seminario se ofrece cada otro mes, el segundo jueves. **El próximo seminario es el Jueves 10 de Enero del 2018** en el Salón FLC-A.

CATEQUESIS: Nuestro Catecismo en español se ofrece de Septiembre a Mayo, los domingos de 9:30 a 11:00 a.m. para grados de Kinder al 8 grado. Catequesis es un proceso continuo de evangelización, educación, formación y conversión que dura toda la vida. Para mas información por favor llame a la oficina de Catequesis de lunes a viernes al 281-494-1156 de 8:00 a.m. a 4:30 p.m.

Domingo de Sacramentos: Para los niños que desean la formación para los Sacramentos de Primera Reconciliación (confesión) y la Sagrada Comunión. Esta clase es en conjunto con su catequesis. Los niños deben tener mínimo siete (7) años al comienzo del año escolar. Las clases son un domingo al mes a la 1:00 p.m.

CATÓLICO BÁSICO: Católico Básico es para padres de los niños que asisten a catequesis por primera vez y desean que sus hijos se preparen para la formación de los Sacramentos de Reconciliación {Confesión} y La Primera Comunión. Esta clase es una vez al mes {en martes} a las 7:00 p.m. en el Centro Comunitario de la Parroquia. Esta clase es obligatoria para los padres solamente.

GRUPOS DE ORACIÓN Y APOSTOLADO

APOSTOLADO DE LA CRUZ: El grupo se reúne los martes a las 7:00 p.m., en el edificio de CCE. Para mayor Información por favor llame a Myrla Vanegas al 281-277-2730.

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN DIOS CON NOSOTROS: Se reúne en la capilla de la iglesia los Jueves de 7:00-9:00 P.M. Para mas información llamar a Rocio Padilla 832-573-3713 y Ana Perez 281-948-3349.

CORO FRATERNIDAD DE LA SANTÍSIMA VIRGEN MARÍA: El coro práctica los lunes a las 7:00 p.m. y cantan en la misa del domingo a las 8:00 a.m. o 2:00 p.m. Para mas información llame a Susan al 281-494-1156 ext 291

ESTUDIO BÍBLICO: El Grupo se reúne los domingos después de Misa de 8:00 a.m. (los meses de Agosto a Mayo). Para mas información llame a el Sr. Larry Ponce de León, 281-250-9651

DEVOCIÓN AL SAGRADO CORAZÓN: El primer viernes de mes en la capilla de la iglesia a las de 6:00 p.m. Información: Loreto Casillas 281-494-1156 o Maricela Ponce 832-896-8289.

FRANCISCANOS DE MARÍA, MISIONEROS DEL AGRADECIMIENTO: El carisma y la misión de los FM consiste en vivir y difundir la espiritualidad del agradecimiento que radica básicamente "en tener una relación con Dios en la gratitud por el amor que del señor se ha recibido"(estatuto,n3) Martes, salón B4 de 7:00-9:00pm. Para mayor información llamar a Elsa Galindo al [713 534-7395](tel:7135347395)

IMAGEN DE LA VIRGEN PEREGRINA: Desea llevarse la imagen de la Virgen Peregrina a casa una semana? Regístrate después de misa o llame a Elvira Morales al 281-682-0626.

LA LEGIÓN DE MARÍA: El grupo se reúne los Lunes a las 6:30 p.m. Para información con Estella Rodríguez al 832-396-6071 o Jaime Abreu 832-418-2287.

MINISTERIO VOCACIONES: Desea llevar el Crucifijo y Libro de Oraciones a su casa y rezar por vocaciones sacerdotales y religiosas. Para mas información llame a la Sra. Maria Elena Rico 281-277-5776.

10 Días de Peregrinación a los Santuarios de Francia



Lourdes - Playas de Normandía - Caen - Alençon - Lisieux - Paris

Agosto 5 - 14, 2019

\$3,790.00 por persona desde Houston

Director espiritual:

Padre Gregorio Mirto

Coordinadora de excursiones:

Mercy Urbina

Incluye: Transporte aéreo ida y vuelta desde Houston, hoteles de primera clase (ocupación doble), dos comidas al día (desayuno y cena), visitas diarias, cargos de aeropuerto, entradas, propinas a conductores y guías, y cargos de combustible (sujetos a cambios).

Para mas información comunicarse con Mercy Urbina a 281-224-1720 o al email:

mercy.e.urbina@gmail.com

ROSARIO GUADALUPANO: El rosario se reza el día 12 de cada mes en la capilla de la iglesia a las 7:00 p.m. Para información llame a Modesta Mora al 281-494-3588.

PLANIFICACIÓN FAMILIAR NATURAL: Es segura, saludable y efectiva al igual para concebir, o posponer embarazos y es conforme a lo que la Iglesia Católica ensena sobre la belleza del ser humano y su capacidad para cooperar con Dios y dar vida. Para mas información llame a Irma Roman al 832-287-7333.

ALCOHÓLICOS ANÓNIMOS: La Gracia de Dios nunca se acaba. Esto es únicamente con el fin de ayudar a todos aquellos que tengan problemas con el alcohol. Para mas información llame al Sr. Oscar Santaella al 346-818-1205.



¿ESTÁ DIOS LLAMÁNDOTE A HACER ALGO MÁS? ¡VEN Y EXPLORA LA IGLESIA CATÓLICA!

Si tienes 17 años de edad o más y no has sido bautizado, o has sido bautizado en otra comunidad de fe, o bautizado Católico pero que nunca has recibido la Primera Comunión, entonces RICA es para ti!

La próxima reunión de Iniciación será el **Domingo 30 de Diciembre del 2018** de 10:00 am a 12:00 pm en el salón B1/7. Estos encuentros informales están estructurados para responder a tus preguntas acerca de la Iglesia católica.

Póngase en contacto con:
Elsa Galindo al 713-534-7395
 (durante el día)
Alejandro González al
346-255-1163
 (después de las 4:00 pm.)

Si usted, su hijo o alguien a quien usted conoce, tiene entre 7 y 16 años de edad, no haya sido bautizado o ha sido bautizado en otra comunidad de fe, tenemos el proceso de RICA propio para cada grupo de diferentes edades. Las sesiones de Iniciación son todos los miércoles a las 6:30 pm. Por favor haga una cita en la oficina al teléfono 281-494-1156 para Registrar su Familia y los Niños antes de atender la primera sesión.

Papa: como los mártires, dejémonos consolar por Dios

El Señor nos consuela con la ternura, como hacen las mamás que acarician a sus niños cuando lloran. Lo subrayó el Santo Padre esta mañana en su homilía de la Misa celebrada en la capilla de la Casa de Santa Marta, en que exhortó a dejarnos consolar por Dios sin oponer Resistencia

**Debora Donnini – Ciudad del Vaticano
No oponerse al consuelo**

La Primera Lectura tomada del Libro del profeta Isaías (Is 40,1-11), en efecto, es precisamente una invitación al consuelo: “Consuelen, consuelen a mi pueblo, dice su Dios”, porque “su culpa está descontada”. Se trata, por lo tanto, del “consuelo de la salvación” – evidenció el Papa – de la buena noticia que “hemos sido salvados”. Cristo Resucitado, en aquellos cuarenta días, con sus discípulos hace precisamente esto: consolar. Pero “nosotros no queremos correr el riesgo” y “oponemos resistencia al consuelo” como si “estuviéramos más seguros en las aguas turbulentas de los problemas”: “Hagamos la apuesta sobre la desolación, sobre los problemas, sobre la derrota” mientras el Señor trabaja con tanta fuerza pero encuentra resistencia. También se ve esto con los discípulos la mañana de la Pascua: “Pero yo quiero tocar y asegurarme bien”. Esto sucede porque se teme otra derrota.



La ternura: una palabra que el mundo de hoy borra del diccionario

“Nosotros estamos apegados a este pesimismo espiritual”, dijo el Papa. Y después fue con su pensamiento a cuando en las audiencias públicas algunos padres les acercan a sus niños para que los bendiga y “algunos niños – dijo Francisco – me ven y gritan, comienzan a llorar”, porque viéndolo vestido de blanco, piensan en el médico o en la enfermera, que les ha dado las vacunas y piensan: “¡No, otra no!”. También nosotros somos un poco así, pero el Señor dice: “Consuelen, consuelen a mi pueblo”. ¿Y cómo consuela el Señor? Con la ternura. Es un lenguaje que no conocen los profetas de desventura: la ternura. Es una palabra borrada de todos los vicios que nos alejan del Señor: vicios cléricos, vicios de los cristianos un poco que no quieren moverse, tibios... La ternura causa temor. “He aquí, que Él, el Señor tiene consigo el premio, su recompensa lo precede”: Así termina el pasaje de Isaías. “Como un pastor Él apacienta a la grey y con su brazo la reúne. Lleva a los corderitos sobre su pecho y conduce dulcemente a las ovejas madres”. Éste es el modo de consolar del Señor: con la ternura. La ternura consuela. Las mamás, cuando el niño llora, lo acarician y lo tranquilizan con la ternura: una palabra que el mundo de hoy, de hecho, borra del diccionario. Ternura.

El consuelo en el momento del martirio

El Señor nos invita a dejarnos consolar por Él y esto ayuda también en la preparación a la Navidad. Y hoy, en la oración colecta – recordó el Sano Padre – hemos pedido la gracia de una sincera exultación, de esta alegría sencilla pero sincera: Es más, yo diría que el estado habitual del cristiano debe ser el consuelo. También en los momentos feos: los mártires entraban en el Coliseo cantando; los mártires de hoy – pienso en los buenos trabajadores coptos en las playas de Libia, degollados – morían diciendo “¡Jesús, Jesús!”: Hay un consuelo dentro; también una alegría en el momento del martirio. El estado habitual del cristiano debe ser el consuelo, que no es el optimismo, no: el optimismo es otra cosa. Pero el consuelo, esa base positiva... Se habla de personas luminosas, positivas: la positividad, la luminosidad del cristiano es el consuelo.

El Señor llama a la puerta con las caricias

En los momentos en que se sufre, no se siente el consuelo, pero un cristiano no puede perder la paz “porque es un don del Señor” que la ofrece a todos, también en los momentos peores. La invitación del Papa ha sido, por lo tanto, la de pedir al Señor en esta semana de preparación a la Navidad no tener miedo y dejarnos consolar por Él, haciendo referencia también al Evangelio propuesto por la liturgia del día (Mt 18,12-14): Que también yo me prepare a la Navidad al menos con la paz: la paz del corazón, la paz de Tu presencia, la paz que dan Tus caricias. “Pero soy tan pecador...” – sí, ¿pero qué nos dice el Evangelio hoy? Que el Señor que consuela como el pastor, si pierde a uno de los suyos va a buscarlo, como aquel hombre que tiene cien ovejas y una de ellas se ha perdido: va a buscarla. Así hace el Señor con cada uno de nosotros. Yo no quiero la paz, yo me resisto a la paz, yo me resisto al consuelo... pero él está en la puerta. Él llama para que nosotros abramos el corazón para dejarnos consolar y para estar en paz. Y lo hace con suavidad: llama con las caricias.



SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL -THE GRIFFIN NEWS-

Saint Theresa Early Childhood students helped decorate our school Christmas tree with handcrafted ornaments.



Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Tuition covers about 75% of our expenses at STCS. We therefore rely on the generous financial gifts that come at the end of the year.

As you review your yearly finances, please remember our school in your gift giving. Your end-of-the-year gift allows us to continue providing an excellent education for each student. Gifts of cash, IRA Charitable Rollovers, appreciated stocks as well as honoraria, remembrance in wills and trusts will help advance the work of our outstanding school.

If you have questions about the types of gifts accepted, please contact our Business Manager, Toni Goldak, at 281-494-1157.

Saint Theresa Catholic School
on the Sea of Galilee!



STCS Advisory Board member, **Ray French** and his wife, **Linda**, brought their school spirit all the way to the Holy Land, proudly flying their Griffin Colors.

NOW ON SALE

Saint Theresa Spirit Wear, blankets & cookbooks!
Contact the STCS school office: 281-494-1157



UPCOMING SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

Friday, January 18, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 27, 2019 at
11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

Applications for new families are now available.

For more information,
contact Betty Pruski at 281-494-1157 or
Bpruski@StTheresaCatholicSchool.org



The Blessing of Belonging to a Family

This Sunday we celebrate ‘The Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph’, the perfect loving family that all of us admire and in a humble way, aspire to emulate. Like Mary and Joseph, who were stressed and worried when Jesus stayed behind in the Temple, we believe that most of us here today have worried and stressed over the well being of our children, but have had the blessing of knowing that a spouse, grandparent or a sibling was always there to help and support us, no matter what. Imagine how difficult it would be if you were the only family to your children. No spouse or extended family willing to help you feed, clothe or provide shelter for your children. Many of the friends and neighbors that we try to help are trapped in this very situation. They need to work but are unable to hold down a job because they are caring for infants and small children at home. Daycare isn’t an option because the jobs available to them don’t pay well enough to afford it. Their family support network is usually a friendly neighbor, probably in the same situation, and ministries like our Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

Please remember these broken families and also the Vincen-tian volunteers throughout the Galveston/Houston Diocese who work tirelessly to give them hope at this time of Advent, they surely need your prayers.

We gratefully thank all of our loving donors; individuals, ministries and organizations too many to list. Your support, spiritual and financial throughout 2018 enabled us, on your behalf, to make a positive difference in so many lives and families. All of our volunteers wish you and your family a blessed, peaceful and successful 2019.

SVDP Report for November 2018

Utility assistance	\$4,251.10
Housing assistance	\$2,153.54
Food Pantry	\$2,609.18
SVdP Solidarity	\$165.00
Total	\$9,179.82
Client family members served	544
Bags of food distributed	376
Volunteer hours donated	280

The SVDP ministry can always use your help with donations of non-perishable foods like breakfast cereals, canned fruits, canned vegetables and meats, 2lb sizes of flour and sugar, 1lb sizes of rice and pinto beans. We also need donations of baby

wipes and diapers sizes 1 through 5 as well as personal care items like body wash, shampoo and toothpaste. Please leave food and diapers in the donation boxes located just inside the Church and Chapel entrances. Clothing items should be put in the large blue SVDP donation box located in the parking lot area between the Family Life Center and the Emmaus Chapel. Our business hours are Mondays and Fridays between 10:00am. and 1:00pm. Please do not leave donated items near the office entrances as the office is not manned 24/7. Unfortunately we cannot accept donations of used electrical or electronic items for safety reasons, if you leave them we may have to pay to recycle them.

Please continue to support our SVDP ministry financially and with your prayers, we firmly believe that all positive changes that we make in someone’s life are the result of God working through us on your behalf.

May God bless our loving donors and volunteers, and the friends and neighbors to whom we help and give hope.

-SVDP Staff

St. Vincent de Paul ministry will be closed
on **Monday, December 31, 2018** in
observance of the Holiday Season.
The office will re-open on
Friday, January 4, 2019.

MORNING OF RECOLLECTION FOR WOMEN



The ladies of the parish are invited to a morning of prayer on **Wednesday, January 2, 2019** from 10:00 a.m. until noon in the chapel.

The day includes adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, preached meditations, time for private prayer, and the opportunity for confession.

FAITH FORMATION

ELEMENTARY

During the CCE school year (Sept.-May) classes are offered at the following times:

Preschool CCE is in rooms B3 – B5 during the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Kindergarten CCE is available on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. or Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.

Elementary CCE is on Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Children are asked to go directly to the classrooms.

Sacrament Sunday is for all children in formation to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Any questions can be directed to Paul Stoessel, Director of Elementary CCE, at paul@sugarlandcatholic.com or at 281-830-3804.

Catholic 101 is for all parents of first-year CCE children who are preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. This is for parents only. Children are invited to attend CCE during this time.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Questions or comments, please contact Paul Stoessel, the director of Middle School CCE, at paul@sugarlandcatholic.com

Middle School Faith Formation meets on Tuesdays & Wednesdays (Sept.-May) at 6:45 - 8:00 p.m. in the Education Building/School

HIGH SCHOOL

Contact our Director of Youth Ministry and High School Faith Formation, Gabriel Castillo: Gabriel@sugarlandcatholic.com with any questions or if you'd like to get involved!



building disciples by loving God and others

SAINT THERESA YOUTH EVANGELIZATION

We are having an excellent time in Sunday Faith Formation!
 High School (Grades 9-12) Faith Formation Classes:
 Sundays at 2:45 p.m.

Confirmation classes are completely full.

For info or questions about youth Faith Formation, contact Claire Aalerud:
Claire@sugarlandcatholic.com



What is unique about the Catholic Church? Come and See.

If you are seventeen years of age or older and are: unbaptized, baptized in another faith community, or a baptized Catholic who has never received your First Holy Communion, then the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is for you!

The next Inquiry Gathering will be Wednesday, **January 9, 2019** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. **You may begin the process at any time during the year.** These informal gatherings are structured to answer your questions about the Catholic Church. The RCIA team is ready to walk your journey of faith with you.

Contact Lynda Knoche at 281-450-1400 or by e-mail: lynda@sugarlandcatholic.com.

If you, your child or someone you know is between the ages of seven and sixteen, not baptized or baptized in another faith community, we have an RCIA process suited to your age group. Inquiry sessions are every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Please schedule an appointment with Paul Stoessel via phone (281-494-1156) or e-mail (paul@sugarlandcatholic.com) prior to attending your first session.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 31, 2018

Octave of Christmas

- 6:45 a.m. ✕ Marvin Hedd
- 8:30 a.m. ✕ Tommy Hale
- 5:00 p.m. Lay Family

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

- 6:45 a.m. Celebrant Intentions
- 8:30 a.m. Celebrant Intentions
- 5:30 p.m. ✕ Luis Victor Cardozo Guevara
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Family

Wednesday, January 2

Sts. Basil & Gregory

- 6:45 a.m. Emmanuel Abadilla
- 8:30 a.m. Kathy Wachel

Thursday, January 3

Christmas Weekday

- 6:45 a.m. ✕ CK Mathai
- 8:30 a.m. Joan & Tommy Nguyen
- 5:30 p.m. ✕ Brandon Freeman

Friday, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

- 6:45 a.m. All the Souls
- 8:30 a.m. Brown Family
- 11:00 p.m. Celebrant Intentions

Saturday, January 5

St. John Neumann

- 8:30 a.m. ✕ Joseph Varkey
- 5:00 p.m. ✕ Epigmenia Gonzalez

Sunday, January 6

The Epiphany of the Lord

- 6:30 a.m. Pro-Life Intentions
- 8:00 a.m. ✕ Maximiliano Ybarra
- 10:00 a.m. Club Unidad
- 12:00 p.m. Toni Osifo
- 2:00 p.m. Parish Family
- 5:00 p.m. Ellamae Sophia Kim

PARISH EVENTS

Monday, December 31

NO Events

Tuesday, January 1

- 7:00 p.m. Holy Trinity Prayer, Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. Franciscanos de María, B4

Wednesday, January 2

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Recollection, Chapel
- 7:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Group, FLC-B
- 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 3

- 9:30 a.m. Rosary Group, B6
- 4:30 p.m. Flos Cantum (Children's choir)
- 7:00 p.m. Encuentro Matrimonial, B6
- 7:00 p.m. Carismático de Renovación, Capilla
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study, FLC-Lounge
- 7:00 p.m. Carmelites Meeting
- 7:15 p.m. Ensayo Coro Fraternidad

Friday, January 4

- 9:00 p.m. First Friday Vigil

Saturday, January 5

- 9:30 a.m. Rosary Group, B6

Sunday, January 6

- 9:00 a.m. Spanish Bible Study, C.C.
- 9:30 a.m. Catequesis/Catecismo, Escuela
- 9:30 a.m. RCIA Catechumens, FLC
- 9:30 a.m. RICA para Niños
- 10:00 a.m. RICA para Adultos, B1/7
- 10:00 a.m. CCE-Pre-K, B3, B4, B5
- 2:45 p.m. Faith Formation/High School, C.C.
- 3:30 p.m. Jubilate Deo Rehearsal
- 3:30 p.m. String Orchestra Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Rosary Group, Emmaus Chapel

SUNDAY OFFERTORY

December 16, 2018	\$ 32,126
Online Giving	\$ 6,000
Total	\$ 38,126

PARISH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2017 Totals as of December 16, 2018

Next Goal	\$ 5,000,000
Pledged	\$ 3,231,949
Payments	\$ 962,055

907 Participants

Current parish debt \$ 2,890,929

Amount still owed to
Archdiocesan Capital
Campaign (*IGNITE*) \$ 1,040,964

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2018 Totals as of December 16, 2018

Goal	\$ 205,000
Pledged	\$ 147,483
Payments	\$ 141,225

419 Participants

ONLINE GIVING

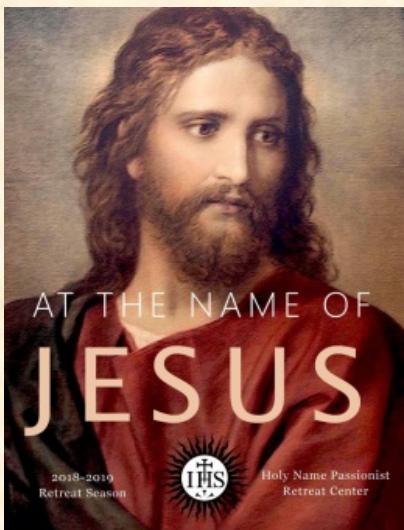
The parish website has instructions on how to register for convenient on-line giving. You will have full control of your contribution account and scheduling. This option can be a great way to support the church more consistently and strengthen your commitment to charity.

If you would like to begin online giving, visit the link on our website or call Diane Senger: 281-494-1156.

www.SugarLandCatholic.com

One may request Mass intentions through our website or by visiting the parish office during regular business hours. Mass intentions are available two (2) months in advance only.

“At the Name of Jesus” *a Women’s Retreat*



Join the ladies of Saint Theresa's for spiritual renewal at Holy Name Retreat Center the weekend of
February 22-24, 2019.

The theme of the retreat will be:
“At the Name of Jesus”

For more information, contact Holy Name Retreat Center (713-464-0211), Carla Anderson at 337-849-4707, Gladys Zamora at 832-212-2251, or visit HolyNameRetreatCenter.com/Catholic-Retreat-Registration-Home/ for details and registration information.

GIFT BEARERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES



Are you able to bring the gifts to the Altar on behalf of the assembly?

Special birthdays and anniversaries are a great time to serve the parish.

See the sign-up book located in the vestibule.

PRAYER BEFORE MASS

Almighty and ever-living God, I approach the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son Our Lord Jesus Christ. I come sick to the doctor of life, unclean to the fountain of mercy, blind to the radiance of eternal light, and poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness, wash away my defilement, enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness. May I receive the bread of angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords, with humble reverence, with the purity and faith, the repentance and love, and the determined purpose that will help to bring me to salvation. May I receive the sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood, and its reality and power. Kind God, may I receive the Body of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary, and so be received into His mystical body and numbered among His members. Loving Father, as on my earthly pilgrimage I now receive Your beloved Son under the veil of a sacrament, may I one day see him face to face in glory, who lives and reigns with You for ever. Amen.

Saint Thomas Aquinas

THANKSGIVING AFTER MASS

I thank you, holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, who deigned to feast me, sinful and unworthy servant, with the precious body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, not for any merit of mine, but only because of your merciful goodness. And I pray that this Holy Communion, far from condemning me to punishment, may bring about my pardon and salvation, encompassing me with the armor of faith and the shield of a good will. By it let my vices be done away, all lustful desires extinguished. May it advance me in charity, patience, humility, obedience, and every other virtue. Let it be strong defense against the wiles of all my enemies, visible and invisible, allaying for me every disturbance of flesh and spirit, binding me firmly to you, the one true God, and bringing my last hour to a happy close. I pray, too, that it may be your pleasure to call my sinful self one day to that banquet, wonderful past all telling, where you, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, feast your saints with the vision of yourself, who are true light, the fulfillment of all desires, the joy that knows no ending, gladness unalloyed, and perfect bliss: through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saint Thomas Aquinas

MINISTERS NEEDED TO BRING HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK



We need your help! Saint Theresa's asks you to consider a wonderful and rewarding way to share your time and gifts.

Our parish needs Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to serve the three hospitals and ten assisted living facilities under our care. The patients and residents are unable to join us for Mass, so WE go to THEM. Each week, we visit these facilities, bringing the Eucharist and the latest bulletin to each small Catholic population. We need more volunteers. We need you!

Requirements: Be a practicing Catholic, baptized & confirmed.

Time involved: Approximately one hour twice a month; weekend or weekday.

Training: Will be conducted as you can join our coordinator as she conducts a Communion Service on **Wednesday, January 23rd in the church at 11:00 am and 6:30 pm**. You will see first-hand how to provide this important service, ask questions, and "shadow" one of our volunteers until you feel confident to take on this ministry solo. (You and a partner can do this together if you prefer.)

Goal: It is our goal to have enough volunteers assigned to each facility so that the schedule can be spread out and no one is expected to do more than he/she can comfortably cover. We need substitutes as well, so if you can't commit to a regular schedule, please receive the training so you can assist when we need someone to cover. If everyone does something, no one has to do everything.

Please call or text Kate Barton at (281) 250-1347 with any questions you may have, or to set up a time to join her at a Communion Service (her number is also in the bulletin under Pastoral Care).

Thank you!

Save the Date!



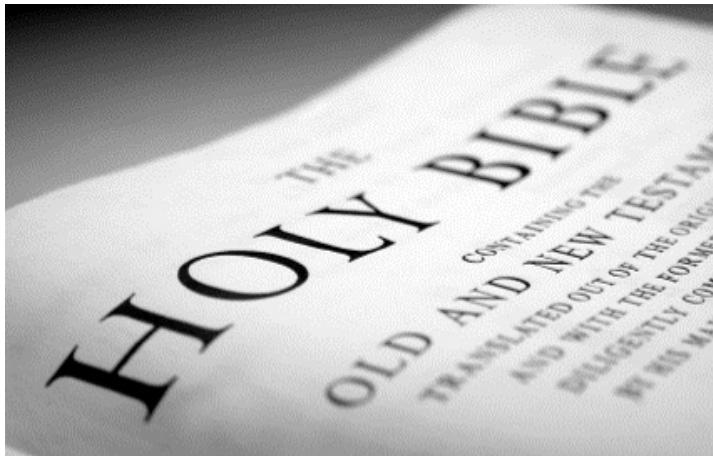
When:
Saturday, January 12, 2019
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Where:
Saint Theresa Church
705 St. Theresa Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77498

- ★ Winner per category (Chicken & Sausage, Seafood)
- ★ People's Choice Award
- ★ Team Spirit Award

Www.SUGARLANDCATHOLIC.COM
281-494-1156

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WEEKLY READINGS

December 31, 2018 through January 6, 2019

Monday:	1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday:	Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:29 -- 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
Friday:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
Saturday:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128; or Ps 84; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

LECTURAS SEMANALES

31 de Diciembre del 2018 al 6 de Enero del 2019

Lunes:	1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
Martes:	Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lc 2:16-21
Miércoles:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Jueves:	1 Jn 2:29 -- 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
Viernes:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
Sábado:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
Domingo:	Is 60:1-6; Sal 72 (71); Ef 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 o 1Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Sal 128 o Sal 84; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] o 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lc 2:41-52

PARISH REGISTRATION: We kindly request that all families of our parish be registered before registering for CCE or sacramental preparation classes. Registration and change forms are available in the vestibule of the church and in the parish office. To update your parish information, please call the parish office from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.

BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR INFANTS: Parents are asked to register their child for Baptism, to bring a copy of the child's birth certificate and to register for the pre-Baptism class. Parents and Godparents must attend the class. Godparents must be at least sixteen years of age, practicing Catholics, have received their Initiation Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation, if married, married through the Catholic Church. Classes are offered the first Friday of every other month, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Parents are kindly asked not to bring their children to the class. Certificates of attendance for the baptism preparation are provided at the end of the class for those who are not baptizing at St. Theresa Church. Please call the office to register for the class at 281-494-1156. **The next class will be on Friday, February 1, 2019.**

PRE-MARRIAGE SEMINAR: This pre-marriage seminar is to commence the marriage preparation for all couples who wish to be married within St. Theresa's Catholic community. It is held on the second Tuesday of every other month at 7:00 pm. It provides an opportunity for couples to learn about the Catholic Church's theology of matrimony and begin the process to properly receive this great sacrament of the Church. Couples will learn details of how to plan and prepare for their wedding day and matrimony thereafter. Please pre-register by calling 281-494-1156. The next seminar will be **Tuesday, February 12, 2019.** For more information please contact Deacon James Anderson at 281-224-9986.

PRAYER FOR MY FAMILY

Loving God, I offer thanks for the gift of my family. Help us to work together for peace and harmony in our relationships.

Grant us the grace to accept each other's faults and weaknesses. Protect us from harsh words and hurt feelings. Assist us to encourage one another's strengths and abilities. Lead us to mutual understanding and support.



May we always forgive each other's failings and rejoice in one another's successes.

Watch over my family, Dear Lord. Bless us with good health and happiness. Fill our hearts with love, patience and kindness for one another, now and always. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bulletin Announcements: Submissions to the bulletin are due on the Friday (10 days) before the Sunday of publication. Send bulletin notices to Michelle Rivas at michelle.rivas@sugarlandcatholic.com or FAX: 281-242-1393.

E-Blast: Visit our parish website (sugarlandcatholic.com) and click on the link to sign up for our bi-monthly e-blast. Every two weeks, an e-mail will be sent directly to your computer or smart phone with updated information about parish schedules, events, and more. Sign up today!

Gabriel Project: Gabriel Project is seeking monetary or material donations for pregnant women in need. Please contact Pina at 281-650-1225 or sttheresa.prolife@gmail.com

Marriage Encounter: Are you looking for a new way to let your spouse know you love them in the midst of your jobs, carpooling the kids, and trying to keep up with your house, pool, and yard? Tell him or her they're still #1 in your life... share a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend with each other. Contact Brian & Tina Little at 281-773-4014 or on-line at www.houstonme.org.

Monthly Pro-Life Rosary: The first Sunday of each month we pray the Rosary to end abortion. **Sunday, January 6, 2019** we will pray the Rosary after the 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Masses in front of the Right to Life Monument.

Nursery: The nursery is open during the 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & Noon Sunday Masses. Children from 18 months to 4 years of age are welcome. No reservation is necessary. For more information, contact Andrea Ramsey at 281-725-0127.

Project Rachel: If you are grieving from a past abortion, contact a member of our Pro-Life team (see page 15) or our diocesan Project Rachel ministry coordinator, Julie Fritsch, for confidential help (713-741-8728).

St. Theresa's Mothers' Playgroup: Mothers and children welcome! We meet at 10:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in the church nursery. Contact Karen Jesko at 281-787-1539 for more information.

Loving Embrace Infertility Support Group: Meets the 3rd Thursday, each month, 7:30-9pm. Monthly meeting rotation: Couples Dinner, Ladies Dinner, and Couples Discussion. *Loving Embrace* is a Catholic educational support group for couples who have endured or are presently enduring the pain and suffering of infertility. The group provides support for coping with infertility and explores resources, methods, and options that are morally faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church. For rotation information contact Erin Colaco at infertilitysupporthouston@gmail.com

Military Bulletin Board: Please contact Cheryl Pospisil (c.pospisil@yahoo.com) with any updates to the Military bulletin board in the narthex. This includes adding new pictures or updating the information currently on the board. Photos (with accompanying descriptions) can also be dropped off at the church office.

Grief Support Ministry: The hopelessness and sadness that comes from experiencing the loss of a loved one can leave us frozen in place, just trying to cope with everyday life. Support groups are an important tool for finding hope and coping tools on this journey. We are a group of compassionate lay people who also have experienced the death of someone we dearly loved. Join us to listen and share, because no one should grieve alone! For more information please contact Sandy Barber at 832-451-9117 or walkthroughgrief@gmail.com.

Perpetual Adoration Ministry: The perpetual adoration ministry is a Eucharistic devotion where people commit to taking an hour to praise and worship Jesus before the Most Blessed Sacrament. The hour you sign up for is spent in silent prayer and meditation. You may bring your own prayer books, use the books in the chapel, read the Bible, pray the rosary, or just sit and enjoy the peace that comes from simply being in the Presence of God. Adoration is in the Emmaus Chapel; it is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. For more information, contact Rebecca Freeman at 281-844-4616.

Club Unidad: Our vision is to be a service ministry organization, effectively using our gifts and talents to serve the needs within and outside our community. Our mission is to actively encourage involvement in church activities by members of our Spanish-speaking community, to take the lead in celebrating religious feasts, to be available and lend a helping hand to both the church and fellow parishioners, and to promote higher education by granting scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are registered parishioners. For more information, please contact George Morales, Jr. at 281-565-5469.

Lay Carmelites Ministry: The Lay Carmelites are an order, not an organization. They are one of the oldest religious orders that follow the contemplative life. They live their daily lives in a secular society, evangelizing, serving, and following the examples of the many Carmelite Saints. For more information please contact Tonie Arizpe at 832-715-6281.

Pastoral Council: The Pastoral Council is made up of 12 members elected to three-year terms who represent parishioners, parish ministries, and parish organizations. The Council serves in a consultative capacity with the Pastor by bringing forth concerns from the community and working with the Pastor to resolve them. The Council also coordinates parish events and helps the parish meet the needs of the parishioners. The Council meets monthly.

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic: The Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic (a.k.a. Dominican Laity) are Lay Catholic men and women, single and married, who serve God in the world as members of the order of preachers (Dominicans). We constantly seek to develop a spiritual life rooted in the pillars of prayer, study, community, and preaching in to the lay state. We meet as a group once a month at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in midtown Houston. If you have been a practicing Catholic for at least two years and would like to discern whether you have a Lay Dominican vocation, we'd love to hear from you! For more information, please e-mail Alan Phipps, O.P. at alanphipps@gmail.com or call 281-410-1856.

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Omnipotent and eternal God, the everlasting Salvation of those who believe, hear us on behalf of Thy sick servant, **N.**, for whom we beg the aid of Thy loving mercy, that, with his bodily health restored, he may give thanks to Thee in Thy church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

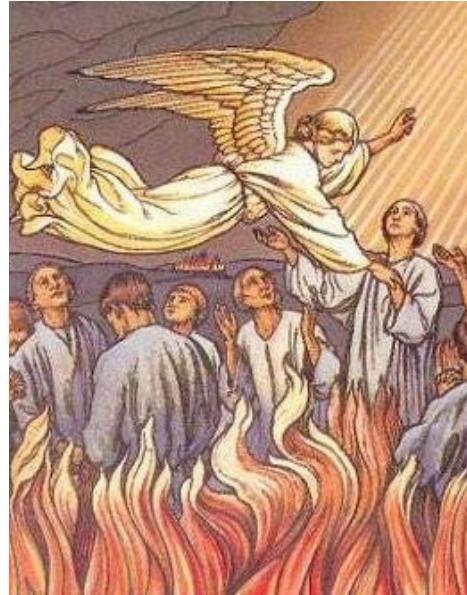
Sandra Aguilar	Janne Perez-Quila
Enrique Barajas	Joe Puga
Evelyn Bartos	Mary Lou Ramsey
Rita Beckey	Bernadette Roberts
Servando Bermudez	Barbara M. Saenz
Matthew Cortes	Gwen Salisbury
Karen Cromer	Nigel Smith
Raul De Freitas	Ava Stone
Dennis Deruytter	Gary Sudela
Brittany Dodson	Baldemar Torres
Gerry Doyle	Daniel Santiago Villasana
Maria Elvira	Jerelyn Walker
Maria Ewah	Frank Williams
Paula Flores	
Andrea Catalina Garcia	
Maria Elena Garcia	
Fr. Sean Garrity	
Doris Gijon	
Fernando Gomez	
Martha Gonzalez	
Bernice Guess	
Wilda Guidry	
Deacon Glenn Haller	
Ann Hamilton	
Edith Hartensteiner	
Wayne Heitman	
Sylvia Hernandez	
Tyler Hill	
Augustine Hoang	
Larry Klaus	
Arnold Knoche	
Shirley Kreimeyer	
Debbie Kutra	
Alfredo Hernandez Lara	
Carlos Alberto Lopez	
Dick Memmer	
Hertha Meyer	
Jesus Meza	
Julia G. Moreno	
Tom Nauck	
Jun & Wilma Narvacan	
Rita Nauck	
Mildred Netardus	
Fr. Roy Oggero	

PRAYER FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

We remember with gratitude, and pray for God's mercy upon:

Deacon Frank Cromer, Deacon Don Senger, Deacon Joaquin Garcia, Mary Camacho, Arturo Trujillo, John McDonald, Annette O'Shea, Carmen Luz Santiago, Julio Gonzalez, Emma G. Torres, Karen Lowery, Geralyn M. Blanchette, Chris Bordonaro, Ryan Sparkman, Richard O'Grady, Patricia Shannon, Helen DeRegil, Harry Richards, Robert Lee Byrd, Ulvio Lamar, Theodore Patrick Gahan, Jr., Silvino Martinez, Daniel Lee Garcia, Judy Lancaster, Paul Matocha, JoAnn Duncan, Hector Garza, Pablo Gurrola, Maria Avitia, Jean Toner, Mary Covarrubias, William Louviere, Linda Casey, Alice Hicks, Brandon Freeman, Mark Rychlik, Angel Marcucci, Ralph Leal, Teresinha B. Bittinger, Max Ybarra, Ramon Bondoc, Kitty Burney, Ann Guerrero



Teach me, O Lord, to do Thy will, for Thou art my God (Psalm 142:10).

-Indulgence. 500 days



HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

*"Whoever reveres his father will live a long life;
he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother." (Sirach 3:6)*

Saint Theresa Catholic Church

705 Saint Theresa Boulevard
Sugar Land, Texas 77498

