

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
S A I N T T H E R E S A P A R I S H
ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON—HOUSTON



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

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE
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)

**Monday & Friday
(Latin, 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. (Latin,
Extraordinary Form)**On the cover:**

El Greco

The Annunciation.

1576, oil on canvas.

Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum,
Madrid, Spain.
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On December 8th of this month, Pope Francis issued an apostolic letter, *With a Father's Heart*, marking the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph being named patron of the Universal Church and declaring 2021 the Year of St. Joseph. Blessed Pius IX named St. Joseph patron of the universal church on December 8th, 1870 and Pope Francis notes that after the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph is the saint most referenced by popes throughout history.

Pope Francis judged it opportune to remind us of St. Joseph at this time and to encourage our devotion to him. He writes:

we experienced, amid the crisis, how “our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked... Doctors, nurses, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caregivers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests, men and women religious, and so very many others....” Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all.

Pope Francis has also made available a number of plenary indulgences for the Year of St. Joseph. A plenary indulgence is extended

- To those who meditate on the Our Father prayer for at least 30 minutes or take part in a spiritual retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph
- To those who perform a corporal or spiritual work of mercy
- To families or engaged couples who recite the rosary together
- To those who entrust their daily work to St. Joseph and those who ask St. Joseph to intercede for the unemployed
- To those who recite a prayer to St. Joseph (the litanies of St. Joseph in Latin rite, or Akathistos to St. Joseph in the Byzantine rite, or any other prayer to St. Joseph) for the relief of Christians persecuted both inside and outside of the Church
- To faithful who recite “any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph,” with an encouragement to do so on the March 19 and May 1 feasts of St. Joseph, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the Byzantine celebration of St. Joseph’s Sunday, and on the 19th of every month and on every Wednesday, which has been dedicated to St. Joseph in the Latin rite
- To the elderly, sick, dying and those legitimately unable to leave the house, who recite an act of piety to St. Joseph under his title of Comfort of the Sick and Patron of a happy death, provided they offer their discomfort to God and fulfill the conditions for the indulgence “as soon as possible”

The other normal requirements to obtain a plenary indulgence remain. These are:

1. have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
2. receive the sacrament of confession (within several days (about 20) before or after);
3. receive the Holy Eucharist;
4. and recite prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father (an Our Father and Hail Mary are suggested).

May God bless you,
Fr. David Angelino



**¿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!

Debido a la **pandemia de COVID 19**, no podemos reunirnos en persona. Sin embargo, sabemos que el llamado del Espíritu Santo no se detiene. Si usted está interesado en creciendo en su relación con Jesucristo o simplemente tenga algunas preguntas acerca de Dios y la Iglesia Católica, estamos aquí para caminar con usted.

**Póngase en contacto con:
Elsa Galindo al
713-534-7395**

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.

DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

El 8 de diciembre de este mes, el Papa Francisco emitió una carta apostólica, Con un corazón de padre, marcando el 150 aniversario de la designación de San José como patrón de la Iglesia Universal y declarando al 2021 el Año de San José. El Beato Pío IX nombró a San José patrón de la iglesia universal el 8 de diciembre de 1870 y el Papa Francisco señala que después de la Santísima Virgen María, San José es el santo más referenciado por los papas a lo largo de la historia.

El Papa Francisco juzgó oportuno recordarnos a San José en este momento y alentar nuestra devoción por él. El escribe:

experimentamos, en medio de la crisis, cómo “nuestras vidas están entrelazadas y sostenidas por personas comunes, personas a menudo pasadas por alto ... Médicos, enfermeras, tenderos y trabajadores de supermercados, personal de limpieza, cuidadores, trabajadores del transporte, hombres y mujeres que trabajan para brindar servicios esenciales servicios y seguridad pública, voluntarios, sacerdotes, religiosos y religiosas, y tantos otros...”. Cada uno de nosotros puede descubrir en San José, el hombre que pasa desapercibido, una presencia cotidiana, discreta y oculta, un intercesor, un apoyo y un guía en tiempos de angustia. San José nos recuerda que los que aparecen ocultos o en las sombras pueden jugar un papel incomparable en la historia de la salvación. A todos les debemos una palabra de reconocimiento y gratitud.

El Papa Francisco también ha puesto a disposición una serie de indulgencias plenarias para el Año de San José. Se extiende una indulgencia plenaria

- A quienes mediten en la oración del Padre Nuestro durante al menos 30 minutos o participen en un retiro espiritual de al menos un día que incluya una meditación sobre San José
- A quienes realizan una obra de misericordia corporal o espiritual
- A familias o parejas de novios que recen juntos el rosario
- A los que confían su trabajo diario a San José y a los que piden a San José que interceda por los desempleados
- A quienes reciten una oración a San José (las letanías de San José en rito latino, o Akathistos a San José en el rito bizantino, o cualquier otra oración a San José) por el alivio de los cristianos perseguidos tanto en el interior como fuera de la iglesia
- A los fieles que reciten “cualquier oración o acto de piedad legítimamente aprobado en honor de San José”, con el ánimo de hacerlo en las fiestas de San José, el 19 de marzo y el 1 de mayo, la Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María, y José, la celebración bizantina del domingo de San José, y el 19 de cada mes y todos los miércoles, que se ha dedicado a San José en el rito latino.
- A los ancianos, enfermos, moribundos y legítimamente incapaces de salir de casa, que reciten un acto de piedad a San José bajo su título de Consuelo de los Enfermos y Patrón de una muerte feliz, siempre que ofrezcan su malestar a Dios y cumplan las condiciones para la indulgencia "lo antes posible"

Los otros requisitos normales para obtener una indulgencia plenaria permanecen. Estos son:

1. tener la disposición interior de total desprendimiento del pecado, incluso del pecado venial;
2. recibir el sacramento de la confesión (dentro de varios días (unos 20) antes o después);
3. recibir la Sagrada Eucaristía;
4. y recitar oraciones por las intenciones del Santo Padre (se sugiere un Padre Nuestro y Ave María).

Que Dios los bendiga,
Padre David Angelino

MASS INTENTIONS AND OFFERTORY

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 21, 2020

Weekday in Advent

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| 6:45 a.m. | ✖ Lourdes Ceferino Vivares |
| 8:30 a.m. | ✖ Fantina Cantú |
| 5:30 p.m. | Barbara Medina |

Tuesday, December 22

Weekday in Advent

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| 6:45 a.m. | Darrell & Judy Pavlicek |
| 8:30 a.m. | ✖ Jan Karwowski |
| 5:30 p.m. | ✖ Cajetan Almeida |

Wednesday, December 23

Weekday in Advent

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------|
| 6:45 a.m. | ✖ Leroy Urbanek |
| 8:30 a.m. | ✖ Francisco Yu |
| 7:00 p.m. | ✖ Candelario Salazar |

Thursday, December 24

Weekday in Advent

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| 6:45 a.m. | Martinez Gurrola Family |
| 8:30 a.m. | Special Intention |
| 5:00 p.m. | ✖ Rosie Velasquez |
| 5:15 p.m. | Anthony Barajas |
| 7:00 p.m. | Freeman Family |
| 9:00 p.m. | Rivas Family |

Friday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

- | | |
|------------|---------------------|
| 12:00 a.m. | Parish Family |
| 6:30 a.m. | Lay Family |
| 8:00 a.m. | Celebrant Intention |
| 10:00 a.m. | Debbie White |
| 12:00 p.m. | Susie Sykes |
| 5:00 p.m. | Felipe Guerrero |

Saturday, December 26

St. Stephen

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| 8:30 a.m. | ✖ Julio Francisca Gonzalez |
| 5:00 p.m. | ✖ Jacqueline Wright |

Sunday, December 27

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 6:30 a.m. | Parish Family |
| 8:00 a.m. | ✖ Jesus Hernandez Padilla |
| 10:00 a.m. | ✖ Amanda Archibong |
| 12:00 p.m. | ✖ Erwin & Eugene Matura |
| 2:00 p.m. | ✖ Mario Gonzales, Pedro & Martin Garcia |
| 5:00 p.m. | ✖ Helen & Clara Nowak Dullea |

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

Saint Theresa Catholic Church

Offertory Comparisons During Pandemic

Weekly Offertory Goal \$42,049

Week	Offertory	Online	Total
June 22 - June 28	\$11,676	\$9,405	\$21,081
June 29 - July 5	\$19,865	\$13,469	\$33,334
July 6 - July 12	\$15,716	\$11,664	\$27,380
July 13 - July 19	\$13,157	\$9,437	\$22,594
July 20 - July 26	\$14,450	\$14,369	\$28,819
July 27 - Aug. 2	\$16,328	\$14,505	\$30,834
Aug. 3 - Aug. 9	\$18,991	\$12,647	\$31,638
Aug. 10 - Aug. 16	\$15,526	\$9,685	\$25,211
Aug. 17 - Aug. 23	\$16,960	\$10,335	\$27,295
Aug. 24 - Aug. 30	\$15,293	\$11,972	\$27,265
Aug. 31 - Sept. 6	\$18,676	\$14,239	\$32,915
Sept. 7 - Sept. 13	\$19,368	\$11,877	\$31,245
Sept. 14 - Sept. 20	\$24,890	\$10,112	\$35,002
Sept. 21 - Sept. 27	\$24,117	\$9,734	\$33,851
Sept. 28 - Oct. 4	\$18,558	\$13,786	\$32,345
Oct. 5 - Oct. 11	\$17,083	\$11,700	\$28,783
Oct. 12 - Oct. 18	\$14,805	\$9,492	\$24,297
Oct. 19 - Oct. 25	\$14,752	\$8,642	\$23,394
Oct. 26 - Nov. 1	\$24,824	\$12,991	\$37,815
Nov. 2 - Nov. 8	\$20,922	\$13,949	\$34,871
Nov. 9 - Nov. 15	\$16,031	\$11,843	\$27,874
Nov. 16 - Nov. 22	\$17,996	\$10,077	\$28,072
Nov. 23 - Nov. 29	\$14,999	\$12,739	\$27,738
Nov. 30 - Dec. 6	\$21,415	\$13,770	\$35,185

PARISH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2017

Totals as of December 13, 2020

910 Participants

\$2.2 million Celebrated Goal - REACHED

\$3.2 million Challenge Goal - REACHED

\$5 million Victory Goal - Short \$1,768,751

Pledged \$3,231,249

Payments \$2,431,086

Adjustments \$3,000

Balance of Pledges \$797,162

Thank you to all who has participated in our **2017 Capital Campaign**. We are proud to announce that the \$1,272,290 ADGH IGNITE goal for our parish has been met and paid in full.

Current Parish Debt : \$2,190,911

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2020

Totals as of December 13, 2020

Goal	\$ 205,000
Pledged	\$ 153,817
Payments	\$ 180,529
Balance	\$ 24,470

714 Participants

PREPARACIÓN PARA BAUTISMO INFANTIL

¡Les felicitamos por el nacimiento de su hijo/hija!
Por favor llamen a la oficina para inscribirse al
281-494-1156 ext. 228.

PREPARACIÓN PARA EL MATRIMONIO

Las personas que deseen contraer matrimonio aquí en la Iglesia de Santa Teresa son invitados a asistir a una entrevista de preparación matrimonial. Esto es obligatorio para comenzar el proceso de preparación. Es para las parejas que no están casadas 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 a las 7:00 p.m. **El próximo seminario es el Jueves 14 de Enero** en el Salón FLC-A.

INSCRIPCIÓN EN LA PARROQUIA

Solicitamos amablemente que todas las familias de nuestra parroquia estén registradas antes de registrarse para CCE o clases de preparación sacramental. Los formularios de registro y cambio están disponibles en el vestíbulo de la iglesia y en la oficina parroquial. Para actualizar la información en la parroquia, llame a la oficina parroquial de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. Lunes a Viernes.

Altar flower sponsorship opportunities are available for the new year.



*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

BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR INFANTS

We congratulate you on your birth of your child!
Please call the office to register at
281-494-1156 ext. 228

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 9, 2021**. For more information please contact Deacon James Anderson at 281-224-9986.

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.



**It is always a good time to explore the Catholic faith,
even in a pandemic!**

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!

Because of the **COVID 19 pandemic**, we are unable to gather in person, yet we know the call of the Holy Spirit does not stop. If you are interested in growing in your relationship with Jesus Christ or just have some questions about God and the Catholic Church, we are here to walk with you. Contact Kelsey Pena at (281) 494-1156 ext. 222 or by e-mail: kelsey.pena@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. Please contact Paul Stoessel at e-mail (paul@sugarlandcatholic.com) prior to attending your first session.



SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

www.sttheresacatholicschool.org

- THE GRIFFIN NEWS -

We are now accepting New Student Applications for the 2021-2022 School Year. For information or to schedule a family tour, please contact Betty Pruski at 281-494-1157 or bpruski@sttheresacatholicschool.org

Upcoming Open House Dates

Thursday, January 7th @ 6:00 p.m. & Sunday, January 31st @ 11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

JOHN CORNYN
TEXAS



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 1, 2020

Saint Theresa Catholic School
705 St. Theresa Boulevard
Sugar Land, Texas 77498

Dear Friends:

Congratulations to Saint Theresa Catholic School for being recognized as a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program rewards schools based on student achievement and reflects the principles and values you instill in each of the members of your academic community. Recipients of this prestigious award are national models of excellence for other schools around the country.

This standard of distinction was achieved by the persistence, hard work, and positive attitude of everyone at Saint Theresa Catholic School. I salute each of you on this fine achievement, and I send my best wishes for this academic year.

Sincerely,


JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator

Saint Theresa Catholic School's Mission is to furnish students with an outstanding Classical education informed by the wisdom of the Catholic intellectual and spiritual tradition.

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



Fundraiser for:
St. Theresa Catholic Church
Sugar Land, TX

For each promo code redeemed during the 2020 Sugar Land Holiday Lights season, purchasers save \$2.00 off each adult ticket price, and \$2.00 is given back to the nonprofit.

Promo Code: STCC

To purchase tickets, visit SugarLandHolidayLights.com or mention **St. Theresa Catholic Church** in the TDECU Ticket Office at Constellation Field.

For more information, visit SugarLandHolidayLights.com or call 281-240-4487

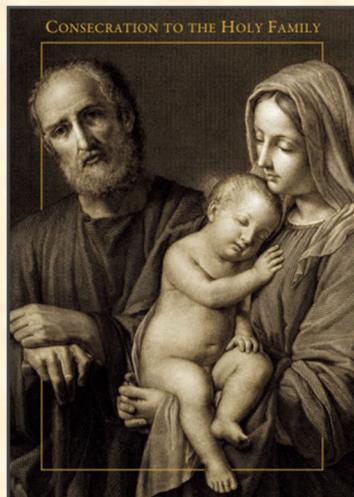
*This offer cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion.

ATTENTION BEER LOVERS!

Even though the Great Pandemic swept away Bazaar 2020, you can still purchase the Bazaar beer shirt(s) at www.stbeershirt.com now in three beautiful colors.



The cost is \$12.00 plus tax. Due to Covid-19 safety restrictions the shirts have to be ordered and paid via the website (just like ordering on Amazon) and will be delivered to St. Theresa office. Shirts can also be mailed to your address for a fee directly from our printer. Both men and women sizes are available. All proceeds from the sale will go to St. Theresa church. Order your shirt soon before the year is over. Questions? Please contact Blanka at hblanka@yahoo.com.

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Families today face many struggles, both through cultural pressures and through personal struggles. Despite these struggles families have a great capacity for love and joy, a joy that is strengthened through the peace and truth found in Christ.

To help strengthen families and revitalize our parish, Fr. David Angelino and the Knights of Columbus are inviting each family in our parish to **consecrate** themselves to the Holy Family and to devote themselves to the ideal model of familial love set by Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

PROCESS / SCHEDULE**December 19th – 26th**

1. **Daily Family Prayer** – Each family should pray together each day for a week.
2. **Fasting** - Families are strongly encouraged to fast from something during this week. Fasting should be from something that is normally consumed or an activity that is regularly done.
3. **Reconciliation** - Families are strongly encourage to go to confession prior to the Consecration (Sunday, December 27th)

December 27th

- Attend Mass and recite the “**Consecration to the Holy Family**” prayer together as a parish family.

**Please make a commitment
to consecrate your family
to the Holy Family.**



**The parish office will be closed
Friday, December 25 and
Monday, December 28, 2020
in observance of Christmas.**



St. Vincent de Paul office will be closed on
Friday, December 25th
in observance of Christmas.

Office will re-open on
Monday, December 28, 2020.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



FAREWELL FATHER MARTINS!

Beginning January 1, 2021 Cardinal DiNardo has assigned Fr. Martins as the parish administrator of St. Monica Church in Houston. St. Monica's had been served by a religious community that is leaving the diocese.



We have been blessed to have Fr. Martins here, even for a short time. Please pray for Fr. Martins and best wishes as he moves on to his next priestly assignment.

SIMBANG GABI 2020

It is with a heavy heart for all of us to cancel the 2020 Simbang Gabi Mass @ St. Theresa this year, but in consideration of the spiking numbers of the Covid-19 pandemic in our counties and the rest of the state, we came to this difficult decision.

As a committee, we felt that although we have a tradition here at St. Theresa since December of 1994 to celebrate Simbang Gabi, the Traditional Filipino Christmas Mass, it is also our obligation to take care of one another by not exposing our Filipino and parish community to the risk of contracting Covid 19 during this highly attended Christmas gathering.

We look forward to a bigger and safe celebration of the Simbang Gabi next year, Christmas, 2021. We wish everyone a safe, joyful, and blessed Christmas Season!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



CHRISTMAS EVE Thursday, December 24

5:00 p.m.
5:15 p.m. (Community Center)
7:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. *Misa de Noche Buena*

Midnight of Christmas

11:00 p.m. Office of Readings & Motets
12:00 Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY Friday, December 25

6:30 a.m.
8:00 a.m. (español)
10:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m. Noon
5:00 p.m. (Latin, Extraordinary Form)

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Normally Holy Day of Obligation

December 31, 2020

5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
7:30 p.m. (español)

January 1, 2020

6:45 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
5:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m. (Latin, Extraordinary Form)



EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

If guilty of serious (mortal) sin, one should go to confession right away, especially before receiving Holy Communion. A mortal sin consists in serious matter, that is known to be serious, and freely committed.

- 1. I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD, YOU SHALL NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.** Did I fail to love God, to make God first in my life, to thank Him and to trust Him as He deserves? Did I fail to pray each day? Have I deliberately doubted or denied my faith? Have I been involved in the occult or superstitious practices? In any of my previous confessions, did I deliberately conceal sins out of shame or pride?
- 2. YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD IN VAIN.** Did I curse or swear? Did I use God's name without respect, as a curse or to blaspheme? Have I used foul language or jokes?
- 3. REMEMBER TO KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH DAY.** Have I deliberately missed Mass on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation (this is serious matter)? Did I leave Mass early without a good reason? Am I regularly late for Mass? Did I receive Holy Communion in the state of mortal sin (this is serious matter)? Did I do unnecessary work on Sunday?
- 4. HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.** Have I obeyed my parents? Do I respect others with lawful authority, especially teachers? Have I talked back? Did I fail to help at home or to spend time with my family?
- 5. YOU SHALL NOT KILL.** Did I give in to feelings of anger, jealousy, or hatred? Did I fight, give a bad example or cause scandal? Have I abused alcohol or drugs (this is serious matter)? Have I had or in any way permitted or encouraged abortion (this is serious matter)? Have I thought about suicide?
- 6. YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.** (These are usually serious matters). Did I consent to impure thoughts or glances? Passionate Kisses? Sinful touches? Was I immodest in dress or behavior? Did I look at pornography, impure books, magazines or videos? Am I guilty of masturbation (impurity with self)? Fornication (premarital sex), adultery (sex with a married person) or contraception (by pills, devices, etc.)? Do I avoid laziness, gluttony, idleness and the occasions of impurity?
- 7. YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.** Have I taken what is not mine? What or how much? Did I return it or make up for what I have stolen? Have I cheated on tests or home-work? Did I waste time at work?
- 8. YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR.** Have I lied or gossiped? Do I always tell the truth? Did I reveal secrets that should have been kept confidential? Am I critical, negative or uncharitable in my speech?
- 9. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE.** Have I consented to impure thoughts? Have I encouraged them by stares, curiosity or impure conversations? Did I neglect to control my imagination or desire other people?
- 10. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S GOODS.** Am I greedy? Am I jealous of others for who they are or what they have? Am I moody? Do I work, study and keep busy to counter idle thoughts? Am I critical, negative, or uncharitable in my thoughts of others? Is my heart set on earthly possessions or on the reassures of Heaven?

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy."

— Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium: The Joy of the Gospel

HOW TO GO TO CONFESSION

In order to make a good confession, we first examine our conscience, asking God's help that we might know our sins and repent of them.

Rite of Reconciliation

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitent: Amen.

Penitent: **Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been (how long?) since my last confession. My sins are: (confess your sins). And for these, and all the sins of my life, I am truly sorry.**

Priest: (gives you spiritual counsel and assigns a penance for your sins)

Penitent: (Pray an *Act of Contrition*. For example):

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

—or—

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven, and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

Priest: The priest prays the formula of absolution. At the conclusion, say, "Amen."

Priest: Go in peace.

Penitent: **Thanks be to God (do your penance as soon as possible).**

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.

Enrique Barajas
 Evelyn Bartos
 Lillie Beserra
 Patricia Beserra
 Daniel Billman
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 June Crader
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 Billie Jean Eimer
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 Amanda Schuster
 Martina Spacek
 Mateo Alexander Sparkman
 Baldemar Torres
 Anthony Valicke

Shirley Westbrook
 Harriet Wolda

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, David Brittain, Galli Cribbs, Sr., Mike Reyes, Barbara Baker, Alex Cava, María de Jesús Sanmiguel, Jane Haygood, Jeannine Scates, Ariana Cortez, Benjamin Ejiofor, Edgardo Peralta, James Arnold, Fernando Caycedo, Enrique Avellaneda Jaimes, Jennie Mendoza, Monsignor Gerry Cernoch, Julian Villarreal, Jr., Clara Nowak Dullea, Doris Gijon, Rosie Velasquez, John Wolda, Patrick Accrocco, Mariano Saldua Mora, Thuy Hong Phan, Charles Lafond, Erik Thomas Garcia, Jerelyn Walker, Ana Luisa Gomez, Paul Veselka, Rolando Edralin, Luis Baez



**I believe in Thee, I hope in Thee, I love Thee,
 I adore Thee, O Blessed Trinity, one God;
 have mercy on me now and at the hour
 of my death and save me.**

-Indulgence. 300 days

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pour Forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.

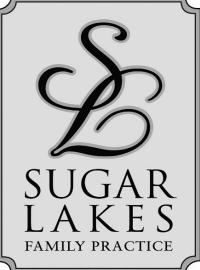
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you." (Luke 1:26-38)

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