

# SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

## 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](http://WWW.SUGARLANDCATHOLIC.COM)

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**  
**MISA ENTRE SEMANA**

Monday—Friday  
6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m.

**NOTICE:**

**There will be no  
evening Masses on  
Tuesday and Thursday  
temporarily due to  
shorted of Priest.**

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:**

Francisco Herrera the Elder.  
*Epiphany*. 1653, oil on canvas.  
Museu Nacional d'Art de  
Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain.

**THE EPIPHANY OR LITTLE CHRISTMAS**

Father James J McGovern. “The Epiphany or Little Christmas, 6 January”. Light from the Altar, 1906. CatholicSaints.Info. 31 October 2019.

Our Christmas Day! For we were once represented by the Gentiles – the people which were not God’s particular own. So we stood rather aside on the first Christmas Day, and watched the angels call the Jewish shepherds into the manger and bring them to adore the newborn Babe. We were touched by their loving simplicity, their ready faith, and we felt that those who came did their best to give Him a loving welcome. But the Jewish reception of the Messiah was a sad fulfillment of prophecy – “His own received Him not.”

Days rolled on, and months. The Holy Family moved from the stable into the town when the census-visitors had gone home again. Joseph worked at his carpenter’s bench for a livelihood. The shepherds and their kin kept up reverent intercourse with the Child and His Mother, but seemingly their circle of acquaintance did not widen much, and they were only known in Bethlehem as poor but respectable people from Nazareth.

A day came, however, when the dull little place witnessed an unusual sight. A company of travelers, evidently from the East, were seen rapidly riding down the Jerusalem road. They guided their camels with decided fingers, they looked neither right nor left, they asked no directions, but made straight for the western gate and entered the town. Then the idlers came out of their dark dwellings and watched the new arrivals curiously, the little children ran by their side shouting, the more respectable waited with what patience they could muster for a sign that would make their direction clear. Had they looked up into the heavens they would have seen the star, “His star.” But they did not look up and they did not see it.

More blessed than the Jewish townsfolk were the Gentiles from the East. “Seeing the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And entering into the house, they found the Child with Mary His Mother; and falling down, they adored Him. And opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

Thus did the Gentiles come to Our Lord. A glorious coming it was, with pomp, and majesty, and generosity, and love. For they came from a great distance, with much labor, with much self-denial; with immense faith; with rich gifts. So must we Gentiles come to Our Lord. We may live but a step from His crib, yet business and distraction make our coming as it were from afar. Self-denial, too, is required for the putting aside of amusements, business, and self-interest. Immense faith we need likewise, for the Eucharistic accidents are as swathing bands upon our hidden King. And the rich gifts! Have we any for Him? Or are we going to plead poverty? But such an excuse will not hold good. For the gifts the Christmas Child loves are not bought with gold, but with good will, and that all men can have. If I have not gifts I must buy them at once – golden charity in deed, if not in bounties; quick ascending prayer from a heart burning with love, and health-giving mortification. Such gifts must be mine. It will never do to degenerate from the generosity of our Eastern ancestors.

Just one other thought from this beautiful Feast. The Gentiles were brought to Our Lord in His earliest childhood, and He received them with all graciousness and love. He admitted them into His family, accepted their offerings, and filled them with exceeding great joy. There are Gentiles about us now, those who are not Our Lord’s particular own. Let us open wide our hearts to these, meet them with charity on every bit of common ground we can find. And there is much common ground for us and for them – the love of God, of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love for His poor, purity of intention, unselfish devotion to duty. Fellow feeling working with fellow interests will make us wondrous kind, will warm our hearts, and melt our stiffness, strangeness, and our prejudices, and so perhaps by bright and cheering ways we may become a star, leading men whose hearts are aching, whose eyes and ears are eager for the truth, to find “the Child with Mary His Mother in the One Church of God.”



**¿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.

### EPIFANÍA O PEQUEÑA NAVIDAD

Padre James J. McGovern. "La Epifanía o Pequeña Navidad, 6 de enero".  
Luz del altar, 1906. CatholicSaints.Info. 31 de octubre de 2019.

¡Nuestro día de Navidad! Porque una vez fuimos representados por los gentiles, el pueblo que no pertenecía en particular a Dios. Así que nos hicimos a un lado el primer día de Navidad y vimos a los ángeles llamar a los pastores judíos al pesebre y llevarlos a adorar al bebé recién nacido. Nos conmovió su amorosa sencillez, su pronta fe, y sentimos que los que vinieron hicieron todo lo posible para darle una amorosa bienvenida. Pero la recepción judía del Mesías fue un triste cumplimiento de la profecía: "Los suyos no le recibieron".

Pasaron los días y los meses. La Sagrada Familia se mudó del establo al pueblo cuando los visitantes del censo se habían ido a casa nuevamente. Joseph trabajaba en su banco de carpintero para ganarse la vida. Los pastores y sus parientes mantuvieron una relación reverente con el Niño y su Madre, pero aparentemente su círculo de amistades no se amplió mucho, y solo se les conocía en Belén como gente pobre pero respetable de Nazaret.

Sin embargo, llegó un día en que el pequeño y aburrido lugar presenció un espectáculo inusual. Se vio a una compañía de viajeros, evidentemente del Este, cabalgando rápidamente por el camino de Jerusalén. Guiaron a sus camellos con dedos decididos, no miraron ni a derecha ni a izquierda, no preguntaron direcciones, sino que se dirigieron directamente a la puerta occidental y entraron al pueblo. Entonces los holgazanes salieron de sus moradas oscuras y miraron con curiosidad a los recién llegados, los niños pequeños corrieron a su lado gritando, los más respetables esperaron con toda la paciencia que pudieron reunir una señal que aclarara su dirección. Si hubieran mirado a los cielos, habrían visto la estrella, "Su estrella". Pero no miraron hacia arriba y no lo vieron.

Más bendecidos que los judíos del pueblo fueron los gentiles de Oriente. "Al ver la estrella, se regocijaron con gran alegría. Y entrando en la casa, encontraron al Niño con María su Madre; y postrándose, lo adoraron. Y abriendo sus tesoros, le ofrecieron presentes: oro, incienso y mirra".

Así vinieron los gentiles a Nuestro Señor. Fue una venida gloriosa, con pompa, majestad, generosidad y amor. Porque vinieron de muy lejos, con mucho trabajo, con mucha abnegación; con inmensa fe; con ricos dones. Así que nosotros los gentiles debemos acercarnos a Nuestro Señor. Puede que vivamos a un paso de Su cuna, pero los negocios y la distracción hacen que nuestra venida venga como si fuera de lejos. La abnegación también es necesaria para dejar de lado las diversiones, los negocios y el interés propio. También necesitamos una fe inmensa, porque los accidentes eucarísticos son como bandas sobre nuestro Rey oculto. ¡Y los ricos regalos! ¿Tenemos alguno para él? ¿O vamos a alegar pobreza? Pero tal excusa no será válida. Porque los regalos que ama el Niño de Navidad no se compran con oro, sino con buena voluntad, y que todos los hombres pueden tener. Si no tengo regalos, debo comprarlos de una vez: caridad de oro de hecho, si no en recompensas; oración rápida ascendente de un corazón ardiente de amor y mortificación que da salud. Tales regalos deben ser míos. Nunca servirá degenerar en la generosidad de nuestros antepasados orientales.

Solo un pensamiento más de esta hermosa fiesta. Los gentiles fueron llevados a Nuestro Señor en Su más tierna infancia, y Él los recibió con toda bondad y amor. Los admitió en su familia, aceptó sus ofrendas y los llenó de gran gozo. Hay gentiles a nuestro alrededor ahora, aquellos que no son los propios de Nuestro Señor. Abrámos de par en par nuestro corazón a ellos, encontrémonos con ellos con caridad en todos los puntos en común que podamos encontrar. Y hay muchos puntos en común para nosotros y para ellos: el amor de Dios, de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, el amor por sus pobres, la pureza de intención, la devoción desinteresada al deber. El sentimiento de compañerismo que trabaja con otros intereses nos hará maravillosamente amables, calentará nuestro corazón y derretirá nuestra rigidez, extrañeza y nuestros prejuicios, y así tal vez por formas brillantes y alentadoras podamos convertirnos en una estrella, hombres líderes cuyos corazones están doloridos, cuyo los ojos y los oídos anhelan la verdad, para encontrar "al Niño con María, su Madre en la única Iglesia de Dios".

# MASS INTENTIONS AND OFFERTORY

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Monday, January 4, 2021

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

- 6:45 a.m.      Celebrant Intention
- 8:30 a.m.    ✕ Marie Therese Medard
- 5:30 p.m.    ✕ Isabel Sulit

### Tuesday, January 5

*St. John Neumann*

- 6:45 a.m.    ✕ Francis Xavier
- 8:30 a.m.    ✕ Hannah Hornby

### Wednesday, January 6

*Christmas Weekday*

- 6:45 a.m.    ✕ Jesus Luspo
- 8:30 a.m.    ✕ Fr. Joseph & Sr. Rosemary
- 7:00 p.m.    Laura Liliana Cortez

### Thursday, January 7

*Christmas Weekday*

- 6:45 a.m.    Joseph Ramos
- 8:30 a.m.    ✕ Patrick & Carol Parshall

### Friday, January 8

*Christmas Weekday*

- 6:45 a.m.    ✕ Angelina & Manuel Castro
- 8:00 a.m.    Brousseau Family
- 5:30 p.m.    Alejandra Sulit

### Saturday, January 9

*Christmas Weekday*

- 8:30 a.m.    ✕ Ramon & Estefatalen Ulibas
- 5:00 p.m.    ✕ Anita & Brian Almeida

### Sunday, January 10

*Baptism of the Lord*

- 6:30 a.m.    ✕ Matthew Odili
- 8:00 a.m.    Parish Family
- 10:00 a.m.    ✕ Dr. Erik Garcia
- 12:00 p.m.    ✕ Ryan Sparkman
- 2:00 p.m.    ✕ Pedro Antonio Parada
- 5:00 p.m.    Celebrant Intention

*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
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
Dec. 7 - Dec. 13	\$22,426	\$13,598	\$36,024
Dec. 14 - Dec. 20	\$20,019	\$12,703	\$32,722

## PARISH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2017

*Totals as of December 27, 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 \$2,433,956

Adjustments \$3,000

Balance of Pledges \$794,292

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 : \$2,081,194**

## DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2020

*Totals as of December 27, 2020*

Goal	\$ 205,000
Pledged	<b>\$ 155,047</b>
Payments	\$ 183,954
Balance	\$ 21,045

736 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](mailto: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](mailto:paul@sugarlandcatholic.com)) prior to attending your first session.



# SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

[www.sttheresacatholicschool.org](http://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](mailto:bpruski@sttheresacatholicschool.org)

### Upcoming Open House Dates

Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> @ 11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.



Dear Parish Family,

New Year's blessings to all of you! Having prepared for and been witnesses to "the dawn of Redeeming Grace," in the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, this is an important time to reflect on the challenges and blessings of the past year. We have been through local storms, national political unrest, and a global pandemic. We have had our lives altered in dozens of ways, from face coverings to social spacing. Throughout all of this, however, God has remained kind, gracious, and giving, and your support and encouragement to the School has been unwavering. Thank you!

In this year of trials, we have also had several key triumphs for your parish school: STCS won a coveted **National Blue Ribbon School Award** for 2020—one of only 367 schools in the nation, and the only Catholic school in Texas, to do so. We have received commendations on this achievement from the President of the United States, the U.S. Secretary of Education, and Senator John Cornyn. The Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor of Sugar Land have also recognized Saint Theresa Catholic School in 2020 for our achievements in academic excellence. In the area of faith formation, STCS won another national award when were named a **Theology of the Body Campus** by the Ruah Woods Institute in December of 2020—the second school in the state of Texas to reach this milestone! We will also meet a key strategic plan initiative this spring when we host on our campus one of the Dominican Sisters of Mary Immaculate Province, raising our students' awareness of the splendors of consecrated religious life.

Alongside many of you, we are very grateful to be able to look ahead to a new year, leaving behind the many distressing things we have all had to face in 2020. We do so, however, knowing that we have been richly blessed and are stronger for those trials, as we look ahead to 2021. God love you for your support, cooperation, generosity, and prayers through it all.

Yours in Christ,  
**Mark Newcomb**

*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.*

# THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH PRAYER



To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions,  
and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,  
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate  
Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you  
embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the  
inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and  
with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of  
Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error  
and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us  
and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect  
God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity;  
shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported  
by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously,  
to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

**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*



## Knights of Columbus Contest Winners

The **Knights of Columbus** would like to thank all the students that participated in our youth contests and would also like to extend our congratulations to our first place winners.

### **Catholic Citizenship Essay Winners**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Dylan Tran  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ikeobasi Ezike

### **Keep Christ in Christmas Winners**

Age Group 5 - 7 - Kalina Dementyev  
Age Group 8 - 10 - Thomas Hayes  
Age Group 11 - 14 - Jaclyn Khong





## SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM CHANGE

The CMG (Catholic Mutual Group) online training is replacing VIRTUS. The training consists of 3 vignette style training videos that are approximately 60 minutes. A criminal background check is included and must be completed.

The training is available in English and Spanish.  
**We will no longer offer live training. All Safe Environment training will only be available online.**

- All new employees and volunteers will complete the Safe Haven online training program instead of VIRTUS PGC training.
- All individuals must complete the training and complete a background check prior to the start of employment and/or volunteer service.
- The 5 year anniversary date is still in place. Individuals who recently attended VIRTUS will not be due to complete refresher training until they have reached their 5 year anniversary date.
- As the 5-year anniversary is reached, individuals will need to log into CMGConnect with their previous personal VIRTUS user Id and 1234 as the password. **Once you log into the CMGConnect account, you will be able to change your password.** If you do not remember your user Id, you may contact the following:
  1. Rosa Michel, 281-494-1156 or [rosa@sugarlandatholic.com](mailto:rosa@sugarlandatholic.com)
  2. Daphne Woods, 1-800-6108 ext. 2375 or [dwoods@catholicmutual.org](mailto:dwoods@catholicmutual.org)
  3. CMG at [cmgconnect@catholicmutual.org](mailto:cmgconnect@catholicmutual.org)

The following individuals below will now be required to complete Safe Haven online training as well:

1. Individuals who have never attended training.
2. Individuals who are now due to refresher training and had not attended VIRTUS training.
3. Individuals who are currently due and have not attended VIRTUS training.
4. Individuals who are out of compliance or past due.



## WEEKLY READINGS

Have you been missing the weekly readings? We are making some edits to the bulletin in order to make more space for our events.

If you would like the readings emailed to you daily go to the Catholic Bishop's website <http://www.usccb.org/bible/index.cfm>, click on "Today's Readings" and subscribe at the bottom of the page.



If you are using our on-line option for contributions and would like your envelopes to be discontinued, please inform the parish office.  
**281-494-1156.**

**Find a Mass  
anywhere in the  
world with**


**masstimes.org**

"Come to me all of you." -Matthew 11:28



## 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  
 Camila Cortez  
 June Crader  
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 Martina Spacek  
 Mateo Alexander Sparkman  
 Baldemar Torres

Anthony Valchar  
 Anthony Valicke  
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## 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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## SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory.

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.

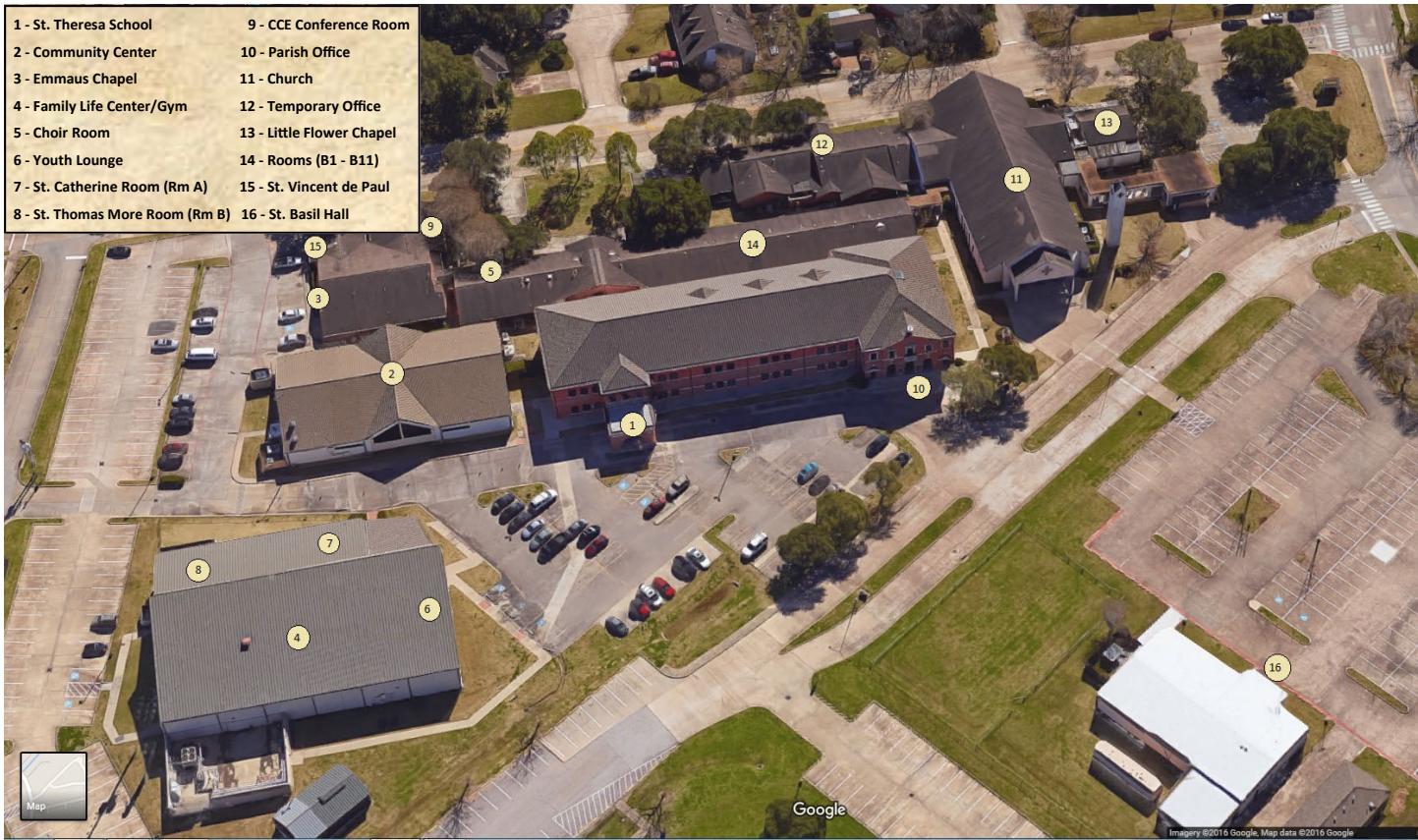
**Amen.**

*“They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh” (Matthew 2:12).*

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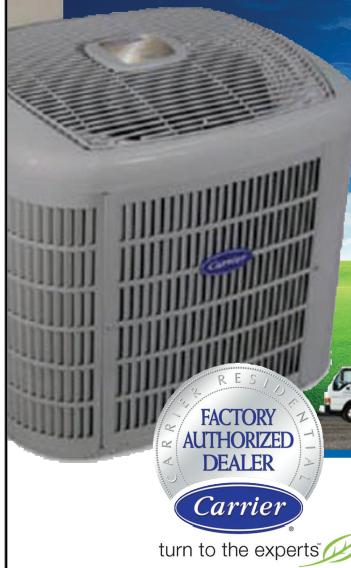


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