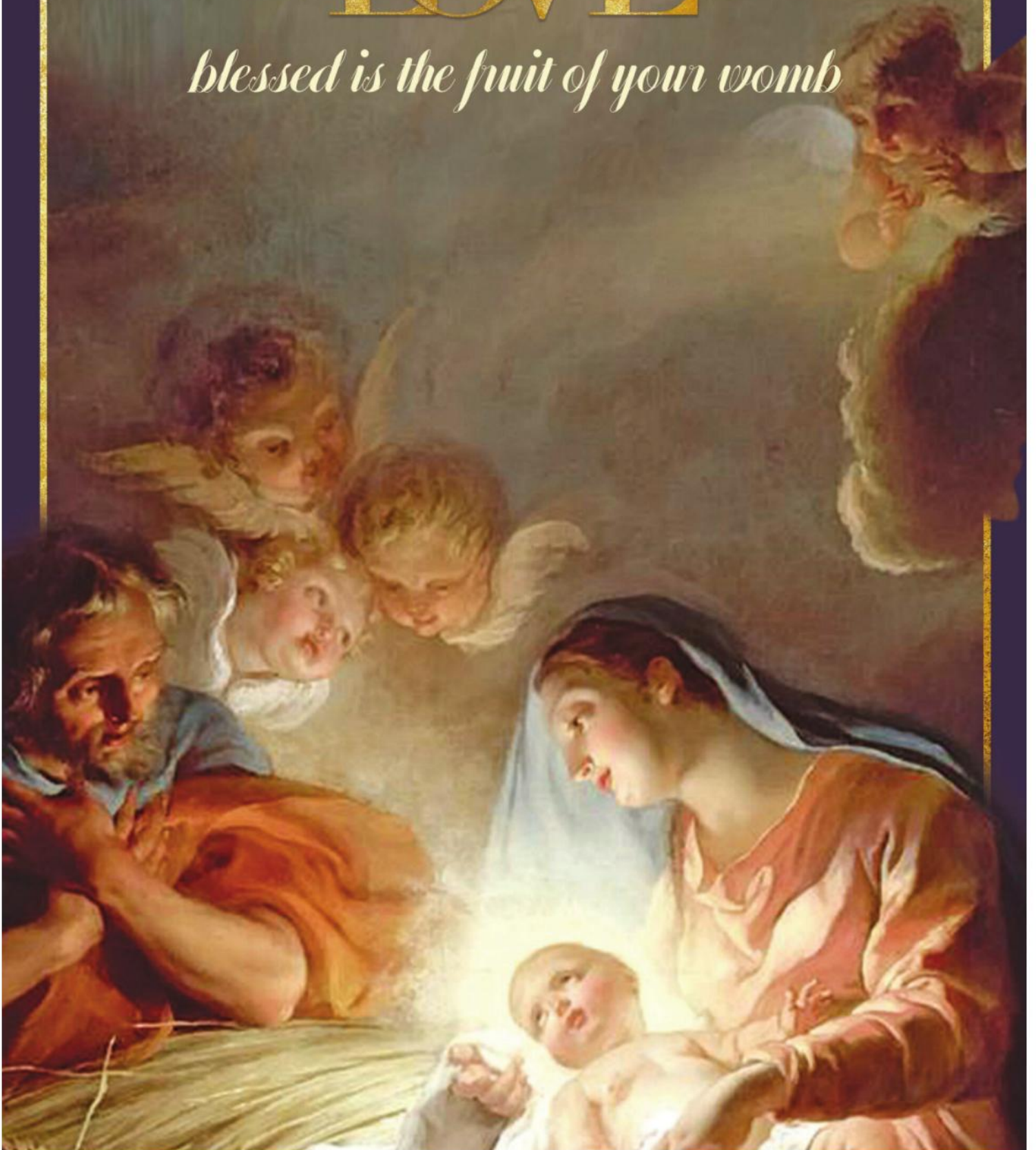


LOVE

blessed is the fruit of your womb



TODAY IS BORN OUR SAVIOR, CHRIST THE LORD.



WHAT'S INSIDE:

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Christmas Blessings

On behalf of
Father Pat, Father Ray, Father Lou
and the entire parish staff,
we wish all of our
parishioners and friends
a very
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!



ST. CATHERINE
of SIENA
CATHOLIC CHURCH

4800 Convict Hill Rd
Austin, TX 78749

www.stcatherine-austin.org

Administration Office(512) 892-2420

Community Ministry Office ..(512) 892-2433

RE Office (Children & Youth) (512) 892-2426

Fax(512) 892-0488

Staff Email:

first_name.last_name@stcatherine-austin.org

Staff Directory

Pastor Rev. Patrick Coakley, M.S.C.

patrick.coakley@stcatherine-austin.org

Associate Pastor..... Fr. Ray (Rayapureddy)

ray.pothireddy@stcatherine-austin.org

Affiliated Priest Fr. Lou Brusatti

louisb@stedwards.edu

Deacons

Art Cavazos arthur.cavazos2331@gmail.com

Chris Schroeder

chris.schroeder@stcatherine-austin.org

Pastoral Associate Pam Neumann

Business Administrator Sue LeFevre

Administration: Diane Bily, Jeanette Britt

..... Jo Ann Campbell, Erin Hummel

Community Ministries: Rhonda Smith

Family Ministries: Kendall Antosh

Preschool Ministries: Camille Parker

Religious Education (Adult):

..... Pam Neumann, Jennifer Gamblin

Religious Education (Children & Youth):

..... Marti Salas, Sarah Pedrozo

..... Cynthia Rodriguez, Livia Telles-Rodriguez

Director of Music..... Eric Paul Carreiro

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm*

Sunday 7:30 am, 9:30 am*

..... 11:30 am*, 1:15 pm, 5:00 pm

Monday – Friday..... 12:00 pm*

Tuesday 7:00 pm

* Denotes live-stream Masses

Confession

Saturday 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Tuesday 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm

By Appointment (512) 892-2420

Organizations

ACTS Craig O'Brien 694-3337

Amigos Sandra Soto 921-2740

Bridge Club (Mondays)..... Dorothy Pereira

..... 448-0929

K of C Auxiliary..... Glenda Massey 560-2314

K of C Council #8156 Darrel Vinklerek

..... 423-9616

Krafty Ladies..... Rachel Lopez 565-1890

Ladies Club Sue Gartner 947-8512

Prayer Shawl Ministry... Kay Head 923-2167

Prime Timers Juanita Josel 394-1254

St. Vincent de Paul Irene Escobedo

..... 550-1560

Scouts Danny Martinez 633-8487

Special Needs... Ronnie Bratt (214) 435-9424

Marriage: Contact Diane Bily at (512) 892-2420 or diane.bily@stcatherine-austin.org at least nine months prior to the wedding date.

Baptism: Contact Jeanette Britt at (512) 892-2420 or jeanette.britt@stcatherine-austin.org.

Bulletin: Email joann.campbell@stcatherine-austin.org or send written notice to the parish office 15 days prior to publication date.



Celebrating Christmas at St. Catherine of Siena

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Friday, December 24, Vigil Masses

4:00 PM*, 6:00 PM, 8:00 PM*, 10:00 PM
(NO Midnight Mass)

Saturday, December 25, Holy Day Mass

10:00 AM*

(NO Reconciliation or evening Mass)

* denotes live-stream Christmas Masses

SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday, December 26,

9:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 1:15 PM
(NO 7:30 AM OR 5:00 PM Mass)

DAILY MASSES

(Regular Weekday Schedule)

Dec. 27, 28*, 29, 30, 31 12:00 PM

* NO Reconciliation or Evening Mass on Tues., Dec. 28

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, MASS

Saturday, January 1 at 10:00 AM

WEEKEND MASSES

(Regular Weekend Schedule)

Saturday, January 1

Reconciliation - 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Vigil Mass 5:00 PM

Sunday, January 2

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 1:15 PM, 5:00 PM

**The Parish Offices will be closed
December 22 through December 31.**

UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

The Telling of the Christmas Story

Sun., Dec. 19 at 3 p.m.

Come listen and participate in the telling of the story of Jesus's birth. Children can come dressed in simple costumes like angels, shepherds, and kings so they can be part of the story. Everyone is invited to this beloved event!



LET US
ADORE HIM
Christ the Lord

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT CHRISTMAS MASSES

Please understand that our Christmas Masses are usually extremely crowded so the social distancing we do each weekend in both the Church and Johnson Hall will not be possible.

The 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Masses on Christmas Eve have in the past been the most crowded. Those hopeful for any measure of social distancing should attend other Masses. We will live-stream our 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Masses on Christmas Eve and the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day.

From the Pastor's Office

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19

So, we are very close now. The house is in full swing. So far we have watched ten Christmas movies. Tonight will be number eleven. Lots of blankets and snacks. The fire is lighting. The tree is all lit up. One thing I love at Christmas is that the markets stock extra Christmas things for us to enjoy. I quite enjoy my German Stollen cake. I also love my Italian Panettone. I can't eat all those chocolates because now I am an older man and lots of things don't agree with me anymore. But I love watching other people enjoy their treats. At this time of the year people make a bit of an effort. Mom and Dad become magicians in the kitchen creating exotic meals from scratch. None of your macaroni and cheese from a box for us. This year we will make our own pasta. Suddenly, homemade cakes appear. The truth is about every celebration, the thing demands a bit of an effort. Don't believe for one moment we love wearing those

ridiculous Christmas sweaters. But it is Christmas. We want to get into the spirit. I love when all the family is flopped about on the couch and chairs. The lights are off except for the glow of the Christmas lights. We are all watching Elf on television while wrapped in blankets. The fireplace is lit. People are eating their snacks, and there is no other place we would rather be. In the blink of an eye time passes and those days will pass as well. We must make the most of our memories while we can. I love the joy of children at Christmas. I love the amazement in their eyes. Lots of people drive about the neighborhood to see the Christmas lights in other people's houses. Ginger, from the Church choir, will go mad again this year with her extravagant display. I went to visit her lights last year and she told me that every year they add something more and it never stops. But it was lovely to see people drive up and pause to take a look. That reminds me that Christmas is not just for us and our family. Christmas is a time when we all reach out to other people as well. We



make Christmas nice for the people in our own neighborhood also. Christmas brings out the best in us. We are all such busy people. It is nice to pause for a while and just enjoy being together. Thank you for that, Jesus. That awful mantra comes to mind. "Jesus is the reason for the season." I hate that, but there is truth in it as well.

With love,
Fr. Pat

The Holy Family, December 26

Because Christmas this year falls on a Saturday, the next day Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family. This jamming together of church feasts reminds us about the fast pace of life we live. We have only just begun and we are moving on already. I know that tomorrow lots of you will return to work. Two days after Christmas and you are back at your desk. If we could only organize our own schedules. Properly we would like to have a few more days to enjoy Christmas with the family. As we all get older we only see the family a few times in the year. Wouldn't it be lovely to have a few more days together? We do live at a ferocious rate today. All those extra curricular activities rob every spare time when we could be together as a family. Do we need to be at band practice, swimming, track and field a couple of days after Christmas? I guess if you want your child to be an Olympic athlete and play with the Philharmonic, you have to

put in the hours. Mom and Dad, you asked for this. Life just seems to dictate how we live. We don't get to have an opinion, and that seems unfair. Given the situation, we have to value every opportunity we get to be together. When it comes to family and being together, nobody gets to make excuses. You live your life now and then you realize that you have aged and the family is far from you. Christmas is a time to renew and cement relationships that will last forever. We don't have the luxury of picking and choosing. On the Feast of the Holy Family, we take the time to appreciate our own families by appreciating the family of Jesus. We are asked to make them our role models. They didn't have the stresses and strains of family life today. Fundamentally, they loved each other. They gave each other love and support when it was needed. They enjoyed being together. Society today splinters up the family in all kinds

of ways. Lots of us enjoyed the solitary dinner that was kept warm in the oven. We came home late to a house where all the lights were off and everyone was in bed. We got up for breakfast with the family and ten minutes later, everyone was off to do their own thing for the day. Because of work responsibilities, because of the kid's hobbies and past times, because everyone just wanted to get away, we can't take for granted that the family is close and joined together. We can easily forget what family means. Today we are being dragged to work in the morning. That is going to happen a lot during the year. Maybe it is time to commit to something that matters. I want to spend time with my family. I want us to build memories of our times together. I want us to be close, and I promise to make an effort.

With love,
Fr. Pat

In Loving Memory

THE BEAUTIFUL POINSETTAS IN OUR SANCTUARY HAVE BEEN CONTRIBUTED AS MEMORIALS
TO LOVED ONES BY FAMILY AND FRIENDS. PLEASE REMEMBER THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Arthur Aguayo
Jessica Alvarez
Kathy Andre
Eloisa Anguiano
Domingo & Olivia Arenas
John Arenas
Ann Marie Armstrong
Dianne Armstrong
Roxana Arredondo
Joseph Arseneau
Tyler Benjamin Athey
Doug Beacom
Martin & Joan Beacom
Mick Beacom
The Belgrado/Dusek Families
The Bergen Family
Claire Berube
James & Stella Boltz
Debbie Boman
Guadalupe Botello
P. Genoveva Brito Herrera
Lori Brown
Edith J. Brusatti
Louis J. Brusatti
Robert Bundy
Virgil & Martha Byrd
Bertha Cantu
Tommie Cardenas
Emil & Gloria Cardiel
Cristina G. Castillo
Roberto Castillo
The Cavazos Family
Alfredo Chagoya
Mr. Andre Charron
Mrs. Lise Charron
Morris Clint
Elvira Clougherty
Floyd Clougherty
Omar Codina
John Cohan
The Cruce Family
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Dauer
Leonard B. Davis, Sr.
Hilario De La Pena, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Arturo De Luna
Martha Patricia De Luna Taylor
Modesto de Silva
Rudy & Lorraine DeCabooter
Ann Dewitt
Leonard Dewitt
Teresa Diaz
Dr. David A. Dick
Ethel Disher
Ralph R. Disher, Jr.
Gwendolyn Disher-Raymond
Patricia Dittmar
Joshua Draper
Louis & Victoria Driml
Jackson Eng
Lorene & Herman Enloe
Winifred & Joseph Ennis
Roy Escobar
Patti Gail Fair
Robert L. Fair
Bleckinger Family
The Bouda Family
David Farley

Armando Fernandez
Francisco Fernandez
The Fernandez Family
Muriel Fitzgerald
Terry Foltz
Frank & Carolyn Foppiano
The Foppiano Family
William R. Foreman
Estelle Fransway
Julie Freshwater
Mary Jo Froelich
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Furman
Albert Galvan
Irene Galvan
Mr. & Mrs. Alonzo Galvan
Adela & Arnulfo Garcia
Carlos Garcia
Amanda C. Garza
Leonel Garza
Selina Garza
Leonel Garza, Jr.
Mark Glubczynski
Ralph Elton Goddard
Reynaldo Gomez
Santos Gomez
Ernest Gonzales
Mr. & Mrs. Joe L. Gonzales
Ricky Gonzales
Elvia S. Gonzalez
Freddie Gonzalez
Pepe Gonzalez
Jose Gonzalez Barragan
Frances Griego
Frank Griego
Frank Griego, Jr.
Joe Grossman
Carl Grotzinger
Colleen Grotzinger
Rita Gubbels
Gloria Guerra
Hipolito Guerrero Gonzalez
James Gutierrez
Ann Marie Haberer
Francis Haberer
Thomas Haberer
William Haberer
Jerry Hall
KC Harris
George Hawkins
Michelle Hawkins
John & Jan Heidenreich
Mary Heidenreich
Mary Hein
Raymond Hein
Ruth Hein
Benjamin Hermoso
Nieves Hermoso
Mary Hernandez
Dr. Ana Maria Hernandez de Lopez
Mary Hethcock
Dan Hickey
Albert & Emma Hoffman
John Humenay
Mildred Humenay
John Hummel
Muriel Hummel
Bill & Marilyn Husch

Clay Husch
Khuong Huynh
Elliott Jaskula
H.L. & Sue Johnson
Msgr. Adam J. Junghans
Freda Kadura
MacDuffy & Leah Keating
Elsworth W. Kent
Donny Kinney
Kathleen & Corky Knock
Fran Langen
The Langen/Kenjura Families
Jim Laplace
Marie Laplace
Matt Lattavo
Joe Leonard
Jim Leonard
Carmen Lizcano
Lain Lizcano
Pedro Lizcano
Luis Lopez
Max & Minerva Lopez
Earl Lowary
Jean Lowary
Dora Luna
Jane Lynch
Etienne & Olympe Madere
Glenn Madere
Paul & Shirley Madere
Carolyn Baxter Maguire
Jaynelle Manley
Smokey Mast
George Maurer
Jason Mayorga
Charles Mock
Bessie & Lloyd Sr. Monroe
Rosalie Moreno
Terri Moser
Stan Mostowski
Verna Mostowski
Pablo Munguia
Petra, Alfonso, & Vicente Munguia
Tito Munoz
Amador Munoz, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Munsch
Kathryn Munson
Sidney Munson
Ed & Nell Narro
Susie Navarro
Mary Alicia Neel
Mary Ngo
Margaret Nieto
Amelia Ochoa
Betty Odom & Family
Carlos Ortega L. de Guevara
Gert & Red O'Shea
Fidel Padilla
Gloria G. Padilla
Lucy Padilla
Johnny L. Palmer
Patty Sue Parker
Elizabeth Pehl
Jesse & Phyllis Perales
Mitchell Perales
The Perez Family
Herbert Lee Perrydore
Peter & Nellie Petersen

John Peterson
Joan Pettibone
Raphael Ponce
Ysidora Ponce
Esther Quintanilla
Al Ramos
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Rankin
John Rasmussen
Mary Rasmussen
Viola Renick
Robert Bruce Ritchart
Ramona Rocha
Anthea Rodriguez
Mr. & Mrs. Baldomero Rodriguez
Jorge Rodriguez, Sr.
Marina Ruiz
Benito Salinas, Sr.
Luciano Sanchez
Lucie Sanchez
Vickie Sanchez
Andrew J. Santangelo
Lawrence A. Santangelo, Jr.
Lawrence A. Santangelo, Sr.
Raul Saucedo
Herbert & Viola Schoener
Regina Ann Scott
Bonnie Garza Sendejo
Jesus Serna
Sara Serna
Greg Sigmon
Larry Sigmon
Nancy Sigmon
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Smaistrila
Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Smaistrila
Bill Smith
Gary Smith
Mary Sorensen
Roger Sorensen
John & Mae Sosnosky
Don Steinbarger
Randy Lee Stephen
Bob Stone
David Taylor
Paul Tiley
Yvonne Tran
Julius & Pauline Trevino
Mary Ann Trowbridge
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Tucker
Adam Kelly Turner
Luis R. Valenzuela
Edgar, Louise & Marie Vallee
Joseph Benoit Buu Van-Dinh
Mr. Luis Vega
Mrs. Lucila Vega
Zoila G. Villarreal
Albert Vu
Jeannine Washburn
Joseph Washburn
Eric Watts
Dotty White
Lloyd White
Thomas Mark Williams
Trenton (Trent) D. Willis
William & Julie Willis
Annalisa Willwhite
Mr. & Mrs. David Wolter
Lucille Zamora



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 18

5:00 pm Mary Eyth †

Sunday, December 19

7:30 am People of the Parish

9:30 am Claire Berube †

11:30 am Enrico Reedy †

1:15 pm Amador Munoz, Sr. †

5:00 pm Priest Intention

Monday, December 20

12:00 pm Dorothy Bienek †

Tuesday, December 21

12:00 pm Larry Juergens †

7:00 pm Margaret O'Shea †

Wednesday, December 22

12:00 pm Linda Bowne †

Thursday, December 23

12:00 pm Charmaine Gaines †

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve Priest Intention

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day Priest Intention

Sunday, December 26

9:30 am Priest Intention

11:30 am People of the Parish

1:15 pm Gliceria Aoalin †

Monday, December 27

12:00 pm Karl Kunz (SI)

Tuesday, December 28

12:00 pm Priest Intention

Wednesday, December 29

12:00 pm Sister Jean Snyder, M.M. †

Thursday, December 30

12:00 pm Bob Sykora †

Friday, December 31

12:00 pm Mary Aileen Hodges †

† = Deceased

SI = Special Intention

Please Pray For

The Sick

Theresa Allen

Debra Borrego

Robert Cabrera

Sheila De King

Patricia Gerber

Kay Head

Ed Kaloustian

Fr. Jim McDonough

Darlyne Merrell

Michelle Merrell

Mirta Mir

John Muniz

Rose Ogilvie

Carole Psak

Jaxson Rivera

Barbara Saizan

Betty Stone

Carol Walschlager

Our Service Members

Randall Davis

Kevin Goodlett

Josiah Griffin

Louis Hause

Whitman Jones

Susanna Jordan

Dalton Knight

Ricky Martinez

Robert Monroe

Michael Pace

Nick Rocha

Andrew Sanchez

Julianna Snow

Daniel Suarez

The Repose of the Souls of Loved Ones

recently called home by our Savior, especially **Ian Good**, grandson of Carole Psak, and **Christopher Lozano**, husband of Tina Lozano.

Collection Amounts

Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8 \$957

Sunday, December 12 \$62,870*

* includes \$19,267 in online donations received

2nd Collection: St. Vincent de Paul \$*

* this was not available at print time, will be published in January.

The December 19 & 27 Collections amounts were not available by the print deadline. They will be published in January.

Upcoming Second Collections:

Dec. 19: Retirement Fund for Retired Clergy & Religious

Elderly religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies—often for little pay. Their sacrifices leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift helps provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more.

Dec. 26: Diocese Family Services

This collection will support family and Pro-Life activities in the Diocese of Austin. These include: Annunciation Maternity Home in Georgetown, Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter in Temple and the diocesan Office of Life, Marriage, and Family.

Jan. 2: Parish Center Debt Reduction

This is our bi-monthly collection to support paying off the parish debt. Your help and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support.



Religious Education

Adult Education

Adult Confirmation Classes: Are you getting married soon? Have you been asked to be a godparent? Have you been baptized and made your First Communion but were never confirmed? Classes will be offered for adults over the age of 18 and out of high school. Classes will meet online on Tuesdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Confirmation will be celebrated in mid to late February 2022. Sign up at stcatherine-austin.org/adult-confirmation.

Check out our Adult Education Webinars Page: You will find Adult Education video presentations on the Construction of the Gospels by Fr. Lou, Storytelling by Fr. Pat, insights into St. Catherine's support of Fr. Ray's ministries in India. There are other presentations from the past year. Take some time after the holiday rush, grab a cup of coffee and enjoy the richness of St. Catherine at stcatherine-austin.org/adult-education-webinars.

Faith Formation for Children and Youth

YOUTH MINISTRY: The *Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)* will be held on Feb. 4 - 6, 2022, at the Waco Convention Center. If you have a high school student interested in attending, contact Livia Telles-Rodriguez at livia.telles-rodriguez@stcatherine-austin.org by Dec. 27. We will also need volunteer chaperone drivers.



The 2022 Altar Flower Sign Up List is now available online.

You may donate flowers in memory of a loved one or special occasion for a specific weekend. We ask for a donation of \$90 for the altar flowers, \$75 for the ambo flowers or \$165 for both. Visit stcatherine-austin.org/altar-flower-sign-ups to request available weekends. The donation may be paid online, dropped off at the parish office or placed in the collection basket noting "Altar Flowers." If you do not have internet access, please call the Parish Office at (512) 892-2420 to sign up.

Liturgy

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent!

This is the week we celebrate love. Although God our Creator is in so many ways beyond our understanding, what we do know is that God is love. As God sends us his only Son, Jesus, our manger scene gives a vivid image of God's love for each one of us. This week, take time out to ponder God's love for you – and to reflect that love to family, friends and all whom you meet!

We are offering the following opportunity to celebrate a hope-filled Advent at St. Catherine:

- **The Telling of the Christmas Story**, Sun., Dec. 19 at 3:00 p.m. in the Church. Come listen and participate in the telling of the Christmas story. Children can come dressed in simple costumes like angels, shepherds, and kings so they can be part of the story. Everyone is invited to this annual event!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: The church is in great need of your ministry at our Christmas Masses! There are many open positions, especially the less-crowded Masses on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. If you plan to attend Mass at Christmas, please consider committing to serving at a specific Mass. Sign up today!

On Sun., Dec. 26, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family

With this feast, we celebrate the love and unity made manifest in the family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus, and to aspire to that same love in our own lives.

On Sat., Jan. 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Mary is the model of holiness for us in her willingness to hear and obey God's will. This year, this is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be held Sat., Jan. 1 at 10 a.m.

On Sun., Jan. 2, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord

We remember the gifts that the Three Kings brought to the baby Jesus. Epiphany packets will be available at the church doors. Please take one home and bless your home for the New Year!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all our priests, deacons, choirs and musicians, lectors, ushers, Mass coordinators, and Ministers of Communion who give of their time to serve the community throughout the year and through this very holy season. A very special thank you to all the members of the Arts and Environment Committee for returning again and again this season, enabling us to celebrate in a beautifully decorated church. Blessings and gratitude to all!

Preschool Ministries

Happy Birthday Jesus!

At St. Catherine's Preschool we have been playing with nativity sets, retelling the story of the birth of Jesus, and talking about the gifts that God has given us. The Preschool is closed for Christmas Break. School will resume on January 5th.

We have a few available spots in our 3 year-old and Pre-K classes. Contact Camille Parker at (512) 892-2420, ext. 319 for more information or visit stcatherine-austin.org/preschool. We would love to give you a tour!

Preschool Mondays are here!

We are opening St. Catherine's Preschool on Mondays for our Pre-K class starting in January. All Pre-K students will have the option of attending 3 or 4 days a week for the 2022 Spring semester. Mondays will be offered as an additional day of supplemental play-based learning. Contact Camille Parker at camille.parker@stcatherine-austin.org for more information.

We are looking for Substitute Teachers

If you are interested in applying, send a resume to Camille Parker at camille.parker@stcatherine-austin.org. Include a cover letter that briefly summarizes your experience and education, how your philosophy about teaching young children matches ours, and how this part-time teaching position fits into your life. You will also need to apply on the Diocese website at austindio-ceseaparishes.isolvedhire.com.

St. Catherine's Preschool



**Where Children
Learn to Play
and Play to Learn**



www.stcatherine-austin.org/preschool



Community Ministries

THE GIVING TREE 2021: A HUGE AND HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

The Giving Tree was a big success this year. Donations were a bit slow, but we made our goal. We were able to help 111 families, which included 497 individuals. We were also able to assist the families at St. Louise House, Casa Marianella, Posada Esperanza, The Gabriel Project, Carrying Hope and Mary House Catholic Worker. Thank you all for your very kind generosity.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you would like to give a prayer shawl to someone in need of a prayer shawl, call or text Kay Head, (512) 923-2167 or scprayershawl@yahoo.com.

Coming in 2022:

- **Matter of Balance Classes** will begin meeting in-person early next year. Please stay tuned.
- **Care Giving Café** will begin meeting in-person early next year. More information will be in the January bulletin.

Services Available at Catholic Charities of Central Texas

Counseling Services: Catholic Charities of Central Texas counselors promote the social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of their clients. For health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, counseling sessions are offered both in-person or through a "virtual therapy" portal. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (512) 651-6150.

Financial Services: Catholic Charities of Central Texas offers financial stability services to help prevent homelessness and achieve financial security through case management, education, and emergency financial assistance. For more information, call (512) 651-6100.

Veteran Services: Catholic Charities of Central Texas offers case management and more resources are available through the St. Michael's Veterans Services Program to help veteran and military families thrive. Learn more by calling (512) 651-6100 or visit ccctx.org/st-michaels-veteran-services.

A Special Note for our Community Ministry Volunteers

THANK YOU to all who have volunteered throughout the year in Community Ministries. You are such a blessing. God bless you all and Merry Christmas!





Sanctuary Lamp and Candle Intentions

Week of December 19

- **Adoration Chapel** - donated by **M.S.** for special intentions.
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine** - donated by **Rhonda Smith** for a special intention.
- **Sacred Heart Shrine** - donated by **M.S.** for special intentions.
- **St. Joseph Shrine** - donated by **Alicia Whitaker** in memory of all IRS IT Techs.
- **St. Jude Shrine** - donated by **Mary Dean** in celebration of the birthday of Stephen Edward Dean, Sr.

Week of December 26

- **Adoration Chapel** - donated by **M.S.** for special intentions.
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine** - donated by **Ignacio Zamarron** in loving memory of Leonor Zamarron Rodriguez.
- **Sacred Heart Shrine** - donated by **Rhonda Smith** for a special intention.
- **St. Joseph Shrine** - donated by **Jo Ann Campbell** for special intentions.
- **St. Jude Shrine** - donated by **Paula Willis** for the special intentions of Jennifer Mardere.

SANCTUARY LAMPS: We have Sanctuary Lamps near the Sacred Heart Shrine, St. Jude Shrine, St. Joseph Shrine, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine. Sign up [online](#) to have a Sanctuary Lamp lit for a week in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Your name and intention will be published in the weekly bulletin. The suggested donation is \$10 and may be paid online, dropped off at the parish office or placed in the collection basket noting "intention candles."

Family Ministries

A Family Christmas Blessing

Loving God,
during this holy season
of Christmas
we ask for your blessing
on our all families.
Let Mary's openness to
your wondrous ways
be an inspiration to
place all trust in you.
Let Joseph's courage provide
hope during times of
anxiety and uncertainty.
Let Jesus' life ignite all
families
with a spirit of light and love.
May the grace that
encircled the Holy Family
widen to embrace
all families.



General Parish

Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary (KOCA)

All Knights of Columbus Ladies – wives, mothers, widows, daughters and sisters (18 yrs. +) of Knights of Columbus members – are cordially invited to our next meeting on Mon., Jan. 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Rooms 212 and 213 in the Parish Center. We will have a square dancing demonstration! (Masks are recommended.) If interested in participating, please contact Glenda Massey at (512) 560-2314 or m4force@aol.com for details.

Want to learn more about the Knights of Columbus?

Visit Knights.net! Learn how the Knights of Columbus lead with our faith to protect the family, serve others, defend our values. The benefits of being a Knight are numerous. Go to Knights.net and join us!

Out of Parish

Couples invited to experience Marriage Encounter

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is a weekend opportunity for married couples to focus on their marriage, improve communication, deepen intimacy and spend quality time together, free of distractions. Every marriage deserves such tender, loving care. Come and experience the beauty of the sacrament of matrimony in a whole new way! The weekend retreat will be held on Jan. 7 - 9, 2022, at the Wyndham Hotel in Round Rock. Early registration is recommended. For details, visit austinme.org, send email to wwwmeaustin@gmail.com or call (512) 677-WWME (9963).



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 1

10:00 am Patsy Fowler †
5:00 pm Olivia Casarez (SI)

Sunday, January 2

7:30 am Nathalie Dancik (SI)
9:30 am Priest Intention
11:30 am People of the Parish
1:15 pm Dr. Edward Massey †
5:00 pm Antonio Diaz De Leon (SI)

Monday, January 3

12:00 pm Delores Pedley (SI)

Tuesday, January 4

12:00 pm Mary Jane Barrack †
7:00 pm Emilio † & Felicitas † Cantú

Wednesday, January 5

12:00 pm Joseph Evoy †

Thursday, January 6

12:00 pm Maria Graciela Fuentes (SI)

Friday, January 7

12:00 pm Santa Teresita † & Jose Gregorio †
Hernandez

† = Deceased

SI = Special Intention

From the Pastor's Office

The Epiphany of the Lord

This week Christmas is over for another year. Lots of devout Catholics think Christmas begins in July and it ends the day after Christmas. Thank the mighty dollar for all the confusion. It is time to make money. That is a surprising thing about human nature. Even in the midst of tragedy somebody wants to make a quick buck out of it. Remember last year there were carts in the Mall selling all kinds of variations of Covid masks to buy. A couple of weeks before Christmas, I presided at a wedding. Mother of the Bride was resplendent in her bedazzled black evening gown. Her hair was perfect. To finish off the effect she wore a black Covid mask with her initials emblazoned in diamonds on the front. That is what I mean. People will try to make money out of everything. Well, that is Christmas for another year. I hope it brought good memories to you. No doubt some family came to visit that we haven't seen for a couple of years. The modern way now is for everyone to get out their smartphones and record the greetings at the door. Then it downloads to our social apps and the whole world has to trek through thousands of videos capturing the event. I love watching them, but there are thousands of them out there. So, now we have January to look forward to. Will there be snow again? Will there be shortages in the supermarket? It is likely that Covid will be coming to visit us again during the year, if it has not come already to your neighborhood. I hope you will all be safe.

Before Christmas I announced that we are opening fully as a parish. The first question, a lady asked, "does that mean we don't have to wear masks anymore?" I never said that. From the place where I stand I think we will have to learn to live with Covid for a long time. In an ideal world, we would all stand in line and get ourselves vaccinated and embrace this concept called "herd immunity." That is not how it has played out. For good and bad reasons lots of people have chosen not to be vaccinated. At this point I am beyond arguing with them. But yes, properly we should wear our masks. Brutal reminder, we are in a pandemic. People all over the world are battling hard against it. Just once again, may I express my deep appreciation for those working in the hospitals. They are not in our line of sight but they quietly go to work trying to save lives from this nasty disease. I so appreciate them. So, let's move forward. We will battle Covid all the way, but the parish will be opened and we will see you again in the Church. Come and say hello.

With love,
Fr. Pat

Happy New Year!

We will not publish a printed bulletin for the weekend of January 2, 2022. The next bulletin will be published on January 9, 2022. We will distribute our weekly Flocknote, an electronic version of the weekly announcements on January 1, 2022. If you do not currently receive our weekly Flocknote email, sign up today. You can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! To sign up, text CATHERINE to 84576 or visit stcatherineofsiena27.flocknote.com.



Stay Connected!

We want to communicate more effectively with you and make it easy for you to control what announcements you receive and how you are notified. We are now using a service called **FLOCKNOTE**. It is totally free to use and it makes it easy for you to stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about, all by text message or email. Your information will be completely safe and secure. You can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! To sign up, text **CATHERINE** to 84576 or visit stcatherineofsiena27.flocknote.com!

Thank You for Your Continued Support

We are grateful to this community for giving so greatly and regularly at home through online and mail contributions. Please also try to include St. Vincent de Paul in your giving. St. Vincent continues to try to meet the need of a growing group due to the economic effects of the virus and will need your continued financial support to meet this challenge.

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