

A red Christmas ornament with a silver cap and a silver ring. The ornament features a white illustration of the Nativity scene, including the Virgin Mary, the infant Jesus in a manger, and the three wise men. A bright star is visible in the background of the scene.

Nativity OF THE LORD

Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord



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Sunday, December 24, 2023

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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
Director of Music Eric Paul Carreiro
Liturgy Coordinator Katheryn Daniel

Administration:

..... Evelyn Amador, Rossana Barrios, Jo Ann
..... Campbell, Erin Hummel, Monica Sanchez
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, Danielle Nepustil
...Laura Niebauer Palmer, Cynthia Rodriguez,
Livia Telles-Rodriguez

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 online livestream Masses

Confession

Saturday 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Tuesday 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm
By Appointment (512) 892-2420

Adoration

Monday - Friday 9:00 am – 11:30 am
in the Day Chapel

Organizations

ACTS Gloria Rodriguez 771-6881
Amigos Sandra Soto 921-2740
Bridge Club Dorothy Pereira 448-0929
K of C Auxiliary Wilma Martinez 565-5372
K of C Council #8156 Jim Gamblin 925-8365
Krafty Ladies Rachel Lopez 565-1890
Ladies Club Betty Jo Summers 301-2564
Lay Dominicans at St Catherine
..... Christopher Cregar 521-4263
Lay Missionaries of Charity ... Alison Manzer
..... 745-7206
Prayer Shawl Ministry ... Kay Head 923-2167
Prime Timers Juanita Josel 394-1254
St. Vincent de Paul Irene Escobedo
..... 550-1560
Scouts David Pesek 970-1218
Special Needs ... Ronnie Bratt (214) 435-9424

Marriage: Contact Monica Sanchez at
monica.sanchez@stcatherine-austin.org or
(512) 892-2420 at least nine months prior to
the wedding date.

Baptism: Contact Jennifer Gamblin at
jennifer.gamblin@stcatherine-austin.org or
(512) 892-2420.

Bulletin: Send email to Jo Ann Campbell at
joann.campbell@stcatherine-austin.org.

From the Pastor's Office

4th Sunday of Advent

From ancient times we have come to believe that it is God who watches over us. In the first lesson, God speaks to King David through Nathan the prophet. It was I the Lord your God who took you from your pasture. It was I who took care of you. I have been with you always. I have destroyed your enemies. I will send you my Heir to take care of you. The heir, Messiah, the Prince of Peace will come from such a lowly place when everyone else expected him to come from Jerusalem. His coming into the world would be small and quiet. It makes us wonder how such a lowly beginning can make a difference to a world that is constantly at war. At the time of this prophecy, Jerusalem was under siege. The lowly birth of Jesus contradicts our tradition of storytelling. We are accustomed to telling stories about handsome princes living in palaces full of bravery, and great heroes who are valiant in wars. They expected their Messiah to be a warrior King. He would drive out the invading armies

once and for all and peace would come again. This is the mythology of making peace. We believe that peace will come by winning the war. The great powers do their dance on the battlefield. They fight for peace but instead, there is more war. Look at Israel and Gaza today. We the believers recognize that lasting peace will only come when we allow the peace of God to enter our hearts. God's peace comes about through a conversion of the heart. This quiet revolution begins with the story of the Annunciation. We believe that something great is about to happen. We look towards Bethlehem and with the eyes of faith we see God's peace coming into the world. Our world is distracted with wars and threats of war. After years of practicing War, we still don't know how to make peace, so we make war some more. We wonder when war and destruction ever lead to lasting peace. The price of peace is too great when we witness death and destruction. We see the innocent being killed. We see great civilizations and cultures being destroyed all in the name of victory. We look towards our leaders

and generals to bring us peace and they fail and they fail and they fail.



The birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace invites me and challenges me to cross the divide that keeps me apart and to shake hands in peace. I greet those I once called my enemies and now they are my friends.

The greeting between Mary and Elizabeth was a small event but to the faithful ones it announced that the great moment of salvation has come. We are about to give birth. This is a time of vigil and waiting. It is a time for Mary and Elizabeth to give strength and encouragement to each other. This is a time of looking forward. Nothing will ever be the same again. New life is kicking in the womb. It is bursting forth. The valleys and mountains have been made level to prepare the way for the Messiah to come.

With love,
Fr. Pat

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

I try to imagine Mary and Joseph and their new baby Jesus. According to Jewish Law, they were expected to present their baby to God for a dedication and a blessing at the Temple in Jerusalem. According to the Law, they had to buy their sacrificial offering when they went to the Temple, a pair of doves. Jerusalem was the great pilgrimage city. The streets were full night and day with all kinds of exotic people from many parts of the Roman world, pilgrims and tradespeople. These new parents must have been very guarded to protect their vulnerable baby. They had baby snatchers in the ancient world just like we do today. Be careful. Be vigilant. Imagine Mary and Joseph's shock when they came upon the prophet Simeon. He was another one living on the edge like John the

Baptist. No doubt he wore his camel coat and lived on locusts and wild honey as well. Before they knew it Simeon had the baby in his arms prophesying about the destiny of this child. He told Mary that a sword would pierce her heart. What a terrible thing to tell a vulnerable young mother. Mary and Joseph must have been terrified. Bad enough one crackpot stopping them on the streets, when Anna came forth as well. The world of ancient Judaism among the streets of Jerusalem must have been a terrifying place for a young family. On the feast of the Holy Family, let us all cling together just a little bit closer. We the family must watch out for each other. There is danger on the outside. Inside our house may there always be love and warmth. Let our house be a place we call home.



This is our safe place. God's blessing on all Christian families today. May we all be inspired by the Holy Family to cling closely to our loved ones. May the Lord send his divine cloak over us to cover us and protect us. Amen.

With love,
Fr. Pat

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 23

5:00 pm Mercedes Dacayan †

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve Priest Intention

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day Priest Intention

Tuesday, December 26

12:00 pm Liz Aoalin †

Wednesday, December 27

12:00 pm Rosemary Carter †

Thursday, December 28

12:00 pm Kevin Maldonado †

Friday, December 29

12:00 pm Alyson Anderson †

Saturday, December 30

5:00 pm Ivor Joseph Charles †

Sunday, December 31

7:30 am Priest Intention

9:30 am Consuelo Rodriguez †

11:30 am People of the Parish

1:15 pm Olivia Casarez †

5:00 pm Amador Rivas Family (SI)

Monday, January 1

10:00 am Tom Rhodes †

Tuesday, January 2

12:00 pm Joaquina Fuentez †

7:00 pm Felisa Real †

Wednesday, January 3

12:00 pm Eugenia Hricay †

Thursday, January 4

12:00 pm James De La Rosa †

Friday, January 5

12:00 pm Tom Litkenhus †

† = Deceased

SI = Special Intention

Sanctuary Lamp & Adoration Candles

Week of December 24

- **Adoration Chapel** - donated by **Gloria Rodriguez** for AP Solis, may he rest in peace
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine** - donated by **Gloria Rodriguez** for AP Solis, may he rest in peace
- **Sacred Heart Shrine** - donated by **Rhonda Smith** in loving memory of Diane Bily
- **St. Joseph Shrine** - donated in memory of Malachy McGettrick
- **St. Jude Shrine** - donated by **Jo Ann Campbell** in loving memory of Shirley Botello

Week of December 31

- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine** - donated by **Ignacio Zamarron** in memory of Leonor Zamarron Rodriguez
- **St. Joseph Shrine** - donated by **Digna Cavazos Weems** in memory of Jesus H. Cavazos
- **St. Jude Shrine** - donated by **Digna Cavazos Weems** in memory of George K. Finan

Please pray for

The Sick

Viola Cleo Bradshaw

Debra Borrego

Robert Cabrera

Mindy Cavazos

Kyle Cravens

Manuel Cruz

Patricia Gerber

Kay Head

Ed Kaloustian

Philomena Leinen

Tracy Leinen

Carolyn Massey

Theresa Massey

Yoli Muniz

John Naftanel

Rose Ogilvie

Ken Otte

Samuel Rios

June Stewart

Betty Stone

Christina M. Tovar

Carol Walschlager

Our Service Members

Randall Davis

Kevin Goodlett

Josiah Griffin

Louis Hause

Whitman Jones

Susanna Jordan

Ricky Martinez

Michael Mazurek

Robert Monroe

Michael Pace

Nick Rocha

Andrew Sanchez

The Repose of the Souls of Loved Ones

recently called home by our Savior,

especially **John Endres**, husband of Pat Endres;

Dorothy Hinojos, mother of Armando Hinojos;

Malachy Patrick McGettrick, husband of Margaret McGettrick;

Alfred Moreno, father of Joanne Rosas;

and **Pat Rivera**, mother of Gilbert Rivera, Jr. and Jackie Fushille.

Collection Amounts

Sunday, December 3 \$29,183*

* includes \$12,591 in online donations

Children's Collection \$128

Sunday, December 10 \$56,952*

* includes \$20,351 in online donations

Children's Collection \$47

Second Collection: St. Vincent de Paul \$12,882*

* includes \$5,298 in online donations

Sunday, December 17 \$35,164*

* includes \$15,302 in online donations

Second Collection: Retired Clergy \$3,176*

* includes \$348 in online donations

The collection amounts for December 24, December 31, and January 7 will be published in the January 14 bulletin.

The Parish Offices will be closed December 21 through January 4.

Weekday Masses on December 26*, 27, 28, & 29 will be at 12:00 p.m. No Adoration in Church on these days

* No Reconciliation or Evening Mass
on Tuesday, December 26



Liturgy

In addition to the Nativity of the Lord, we have much to celebrate during this Christmas season!

On Sunday, December 31, 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. May we aspire to cultivate that same love in our own lives.

On Monday, January 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. Mother Mary, please pray for us to be able to love our Lord with the same faithfulness that you demonstrated!

On Sunday, January 7, 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!

On Monday, January 8, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This feast is a bridge between Christmas and Ordinary Time. We extend our Epiphany celebration by continuing to focus on the manifestation of Christ into the world. In the Gospel reading we hear God say of Jesus, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." This reading invites us to spend time treasuring our role as a beloved child of God.

A special thank you to all of our priests, deacons, choirs and musicians, lectors, ushers, Mass coordinators, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, altar servers and altar linen ministry members who give of their time and talents 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 celebrate in a beautifully decorated church. You have our deepest gratitude and may God bless you all!

Thank you

Adult Faith Formation

The Art of Being Catholic: Have you been thinking about the Catholic Church? Are you curious about what Catholics believe, how we pray, and how we relate to the world? Join us on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in the Cenacle. Contact Pam at pam.neumann@stcatherine-austin.org to find out more.

RCIA Sponsors Needed

We need a few more sponsors to accompany people inquiring about the Catholic Church. There is no need to teach, the gift of your presence is the most important thing. To get involved, contact Pam at pam.neumann@stcatherine-austin.org.

Women's Bible Study

Walking With Purpose: Opening Your Heart Sessions meet on Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., January 18 through April 18, 2024. We are eager to get back to our Bible study and community of friends who encourage us to become the image of God. You are welcome here!

For details and to register, please visit stcatherine-austin.org/walking-with-purpose



New MOMS Alumna Bible Study in January

We invite all of our MOMS alumna to join us for new Bible Study starting January 16! We'll meet on Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. in the Cenacle. We will be studying Women of the Old Testament and would love to have you join us! Contact Pam Neumann at pam.neumann@stcatherine-austin.org for more information.



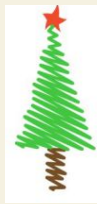
A LIGHT WILL SHINE ON US THIS DAY:
THE LORD IS BORN FOR US

PSALM 97:11

Community Ministries

The Giving Tree: Thank You for your generous support!

Thank you all so very much for your amazing support of the Giving Tree Project! Through your generosity, we were able to make the holidays much happier for many children. You have made a huge difference for these children and organizations. God bless you all.



Do You Have Concerns About Falling?

"A Matter of Balance" is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels in adults 60 years or older. We have an upcoming class beginning Wednesday, February 7. This series of 8 weekly classes is free and will meet in the Parish Center from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Registration is required, and class size is limited to 12 participants. Register online at stcatherine-austin.org/a-matter-of-balance. For any questions, contact Rhonda Smith at rhonda.smith@catherine-austin.org.

Freeze Shelter Volunteers Needed: St. Catherine's belongs to the Oakhill Community Alliance, a group of south Austin churches and non-profits who operate a freeze shelter for the homeless each winter. The shelter is located at Oakhill United Methodist Church and/or Austin Oaks Church. We need volunteers to help set up, serve dinner, help in the kitchen/hang out in the evening, stay overnight, serve breakfast, and clean up the next morning. You can help in any area you want. If you're new, don't worry, because we always have experienced volunteers on shift, and it's never, ever a solo act. Donations of clean coats and winter clothing are needed for men and women. For questions or more information, contact Rhonda at rhonda.smith@catherine-austin.org.

Food Drive for Abiding Love in January

Our next Food Drive for Abiding Love begins January 21. Please pick up a grocery bag in the Narthex with the list of items needed. You may return donations to the Narthex by Sunday, February 4 or drop off to Abiding Love on Sundays, January 28 and February 4 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. when the Knights will host a Drive-Thru Food Drive in the Abiding Love parking lot.

Caregiving Café –Support Group for Caregivers

This is free and all family caregivers are welcome. Join us for educational presentations by professionals & insightful conversations on topics that are important to you. Please RSVP to Lynn Greenblatt at ccafemail2@gmail.com or (830) 837-3162. We will meet next on Thursday, January 11, 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Parish Center.

Spiritual Adoption: Month 5

Mommy felt me kick today! Half-way there and just over one pound! If born today, I would have a chance of surviving...with lots of help of course. Your prayers have helped my mother with her pregnancy and helped her seek the support she needs the past few months since she learned about me.

Free Rides for Folks 60+

Chariot is the new name for *Drive a Senior*. Volunteer drivers provide rides for adults 60 and over for medical appointments, grocery shopping and other errands. Service is available 7 days a week and requests can be one-way or round trip. Weekly scheduled group rides are provided by their driving staff to area grocery stores, fitness and wellness classes and other planned outings. Volunteer drivers are needed. To learn more, visit Chariot.org to learn more.

Volunteer at Saint Louise House

Saint Louise House is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the success of women and their children moving from homelessness to healthy independent lives. They are always in need of volunteers. Please visit saintlouiseshouse.org to learn how you can help.

Donations Needed: You may leave your donations in the east entry wicker basket or take to the Community Ministries Office. Thank you for your help!

- **St. Catherine's Gabriel Project** needs diapers sizes 3-6.
- **Freeze Shelter supplies needed:** clean blankets, coats, scarves, hats, gloves, hoodies, new men's and women's underwear, socks and shoes.
- **Socks & Toiletries:** We need men's white tube socks and hotel-sized toiletries for the hygiene kits we prepare for our homeless brothers and sisters to distribute through our Mobile Loaves & Fishes Ministry.
- **Fabric Needed for Baby Blankets (cotton and other fabrics):** We have several ladies who create beautiful blankets for baby's and young children to donate to Carrying Hope (carryinghope.org), an amazing organization that helps foster children, and for nursing home residents in wheelchairs to use as lap blankets.

Attention Bridge Players: The Bridge Club meets in the Parish Center on Mondays from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Experienced players are always welcome.

Creative Ministries

Cross Stitch Group

We will begin meeting again on Wednesday, February 7. We meet weekly on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. upstairs in the Parish Center. All levels are welcome. We have projects for those with little experience and a potential challenge for some of the more experienced stitchers! No reservation needed.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you know of someone in need of prayer (grieving, illness, new baby, etc.), contact Kay at scprayershawl@yahoo.com or (512) 923-2167 for a complimentary prayer shawl. Our next meeting is on Thursday, January 11, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in room 231-232 in the Parish Center. Experienced crocheters and knitters are always welcome.

Preschool Ministries

December at the Preschool

Our little learners have been immersed in engaging activities, including playing with nativity sets, retelling the story of Jesus' birth, and discussing God's wonderful gifts bestowed upon us.



As a reminder, St. Catherine's Preschool will be closed for Christmas Break, allowing our staff and students to enjoy a well-deserved rest. We look forward to welcoming everyone back as school resumes on January 8. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with warmth, love, and blessings!



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

Six-Week Grief Support Group Begins in January

All of us grieve in our own way, but often coming together to share our grief and accept the support of others can facilitate our healing. If you have lost a loved one, you are invited to join a six-week grief support group starting on Wednesday, January 17, 2024. We will meet from 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the Parish Center. Sessions will include a time to learn about grief, time to share your sorrow, and time to recognize and pray for healing. The group will be led by Lori Kruczek. To attend, contact Evelyn at (512) 892-2420 ext. 315 or register at stcatherine-austin.org/bereavement.

Prime Timers (age 50+)

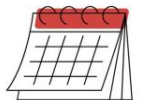
Don't miss the **Brown Bag Lunch** on Wednesday, January 10 at 12:30 p.m. Attorney Virginia Sampson will discuss strategies to help seniors, veterans, and persons facing a life changing illness or the aging process. Bring a brown bag lunch. We'll provide the beverage. RSVP to primetimers20@gmail.com by Monday, January 8. See the *Prime Timers EVENTS* located in the narthex or the parish website for more information. If you're a young-at-heart senior and want to participate in a variety of activities with other friendly people, this group is for you.



Knights of Columbus Monthly BBQ, Sunday, January 21

The Knights of Columbus Council 8156 will hold its monthly BBQ of chicken, pork tenderloin, ribs and sausage in support of the Warrior & Family Support Center Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio. The Knights will be in the Courtyard beginning at 8:30 a.m. to serve your meal needs! Want to learn more about the Knights of Columbus? Go to kofc.org!

2024 Religious Calendars will be available for purchase in the Church Office in January. Cost is \$5. Quantities are limited.



Christmas is joy,
religious joy,
an inner joy of
light & peace

POPE FRANCIS

Out of Parish

Catholic Charities of Central Texas Programs

St. Gabriel's Pregnancy and Parenting Program

Inspired by the Nativity and the Holy Family, Catholic Charities works to strengthen families, starting at the very beginning of their parenting journey. The St. Gabriel's Pregnancy and Parenting Program focuses on providing mentorship, advocacy and support to new and expectant mothers and fathers as they work to provide a safe and healthy start to life for their children. For more information or to schedule an appointment call (512) 651-6100.

St. Michael's Veteran Services

Catholic Charities is working to end veteran homelessness across Central Texas. The St. Michael's Veteran Services program works individually with veterans to help them solve their unique challenges and ultimately ensure they are housing stable. To learn more, call (512) 651-6100 or visit www.ccctx.org/st-michaels-veteran-services.

Men: Are you being called to serve as a Deacon?

Project Stephen provides an opportunity to actively engage men who are discerning their call to a deeper relationship with God through service as a deacon. This is a time of prayer and reflection, and an opportunity to discuss one's call with others. Hear witness from a deacon, his sense of call and life of service, and learn about the qualities, characteristics, charisms, and aspects of the diaconate and of formation. The next Project Stephen meetings will be held on January 18 at the Diocese of Austin Pastoral Center from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and January 21 at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Marble Falls, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. For more information, please visit austindiocese.org/projectstephen.

Cedarbrake Retreat

Rest in Me, a weekend retreat, will be offered January 19 - 21 at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Temple. This retreat is a weekend of rest for moms/female caregivers of children with physical, mental, or intellectual disabilities and/or chronic medical issues. This weekend is a time for each caregiver to share and find strength in each other and God. Mass, adoration plus praise and worship will be part of the retreat. Cost is \$225 for a private room; \$200 for a shared room; \$100 for commuters. For more information, visit austindiocese.org/cedarbrake or call (254) 780-2436.

Ethics in Ministry (EIM) Update

EIM COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

EIM compliance is required for persons active in most ministries in the diocese. Do you need to be compliant? New to the EIM process? Already have an EIM account? Please visit austindiocese.org/eim to learn about compliance policies, how new applicants get started, and how active users maintain compliance. Contact eim@austindiocese.org for further assistance.

REPORT ABUSE

Report abuse of a minor, elderly adult, or an adult with a disability to local law enforcement or to the Texas Abuse Hotline at txabusehotline.org or (800) 252-5400 and to the diocese at austindiocese.org/report-abuse or (512) 949-2447.

HAVE YOU, OR HAS SOMEONE YOU KNOW, EXPERIENCED ABUSE?

Bishop Joe S. Vásquez and the Diocese of Austin are committed to providing compassionate care to persons who have experienced abuse, particularly if committed by clergy or a church representative. If you or someone you know have experienced such abuse, contact the diocesan Coordinator of Victim Assistance and Pastoral Support at (512) 949-2400.

REPORT UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR

Report unethical behavior by a person serving in ministry to the diocese at (512) 949-2447.

welcome
we are glad you are here!
to our church





In Loving Memory



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

Paul Ackermann
Carmen Aguilar
Pauline Alvarez
Guadalupe Alvarez Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Domingo Arenas
Ann Marie Armstrong
Dianne Armstrong
Bruce Bacia Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Baker
James Balconi-Lamica
Jane Baran
Martin Bass
Tom Bass
Bergen Family
Diane Marie Bily
The Bleckinger Family
Jere Blue
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Boada
Alex & Shirley Botello
Guadalupe & Alejandro Botello
Dale & Marlene Bowman
Juan Camou Sr.
The Campanile Family
Maria del Socorro Cano
Vicente Cantu
Bertha Cantú
Theresa Evelyn Cantu-Harkless
Tommie Cardenas
Gloria & Emil Cardiel
Anthony Casarez
Mr. & Mrs. Julius Casarez
Olivia & Efram Casarez
Yolanda Casarez
Mr. & Mrs. Narciso Castilleja
Roberto & Cristina Castillo
Alfredo Chagoya
Constancia Chamberlain
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Ciehoski
Morris Clint
The Cognetto Family
John Cohan
Lucas Colmenero
Ernesto Sr. & Elida Contreras
Earl, Betty & Denise Cruce
Mr. & Mrs. William Dales
Rick Davis
Leonard B. Davis Sr.
Hilario De La Peña Sr.
Rudy & Lorraine DeCaboater
Arnold Sr. & June Derrickson
Dr. David A. Dick
Andrew Dickens
Ethel Disher
Gwen Disher
Mr. Ralph Disher Jr.
Patricia Dittmar
Joshua Draper
Lou & Victoria Driml
Ted Ehlers
Karan Ernat
Roy Escobar
Joseph Martin Evoy
Dorothy B. Fair
Patti G. Fair
Robert L. Fair
Fernandes Family
Jose Ferrara

Muriel Fitzgerald
Crescencio Fonseca Alcan
Frank, Carolyn & Randy Foppiano
Foppiano Family
William Foreman
Estelle Fransway
Janice & William Friske
Mary Jo Froelich
Anna Fulchiero
Edith & Frank Furman
Albert Galvan
Alonzo & Guadalupe Galvan
Irene Galvan
Benigno & Irene Garcia
Fernando Garcia
Gloria J. Garcia
Jose Luis Garcia
Robert Garcia
Leonel & Amanda Garza
Selina Marie Garza
Leonel Garza Jr.
Bonnie Garza Sendejo
Mr. & Mrs. Luis R. Garza Sr.
Joseph Gerber
Bert & Elaine Gibson
Felix Jr. & Patricia Girod
Elsa "Mimi" Gomez
Reynaldo Gomez
Anthony Gonsalves
Nisha Gonsalves
Renny Gonsalves
Tony Gonsalves
Victor Gonsalves
Ernest Gonzales
Freddie Gonzales
Consuelo Gonzalez
Elvia Gonzalez
Peppe & Jose Gonzalez
Linda Garza Gould
Sara Gomez Grajales
Margaret Green
Gloria Guerra
James Gutierrez
Ann Marie Haberer
Bill Haberer
Frank Haberer
Tom Haberer
Beatrice Hage
Jerry Hall
Evelyn Harkless
KC Harris
Helen Helm
Mr. & Mrs. Pablo Hernandez
Florenda Hidrogo
Dorothy Hinojos
Albert & Emma Hoffinan
Clyde Hoffman
Mr. & Mrs. John Hoffman
Raymond Hoffman
Mrs. Cui Wei Huang
Clay Husch
Marilyn & Bill Husch
Richard Huver
Mr. Khuong Huynh
Msgr. Oliver F. Johnson
Lawrence & Freda Kadura
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Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 6

5:00 pm Larry Sanchez †

Sunday, January 7

7:30 am Sandra Kay Ring †

9:30 am People of the Parish

11:30 am Omar Codina †

1:15 pm Diane Bily †

5:00 pm Priest Intention

Monday, January 8

12:00 pm Bob Huchsprung †

Tuesday, January 9

12:00 pm Nancy French †

7:00 pm Dorothy "Dottie" Ann Willis Armstrong †

Wednesday, January 10

12:00 pm Fred Estrello †

Thursday, January 11

12:00 pm Robert † & Lilia † Taylor

Friday, January 12

12:00 pm Katie & Dominic Axelson (SI)

† = Deceased

SI = Special Intention

Altar and Ambo Flowers

The 2024 Altar Flower List is now available.

Donate flowers in memory of a loved one or special occasion for a specific weekend. We ask for a donation of \$150 for the altar flowers, \$100 for the ambo flowers, or \$200 for both. To sign up, visit stcatherine-austin.org/altar-flower-sign-ups to check which weekends are available, or contact the Parish Office at (512) 892-2420.



Sanctuary Lamps: We have Sanctuary Lamps in the Adoration Chapel and 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 bulletin and the weekly Flocknote. The suggested donation is \$10.

From the Pastor's Office

The Epiphany of the Lord

"Where is the newborn King of the Jews? We saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage." That is our quest after Christmas. We want a chance to see the baby. We want to hold him in our arms and tell everyone what a beautiful baby He is. The three Wise Men, the Magi, are a mystery. Who are these people and why have they come so far to find this baby? I can give some scholarly answers. Some say they come from the Middle East from a tribe that specialized in star searching and astronomy. They were probably astrologers interpreting the pathways of the stars. Maybe they were astronomers who saw something unusual in the Heavens. Scientists tell us that they can track star activity from the time of Jesus. They testify that something funny was going on in the heavens at that time. Spiritual writers will say that the Wise Men were symbolic figures representing us, people from the Gentile world. The Messiah did not come just for Judaism, for the Chosen people. The Messiah came for all people. Gentile people from the Middle East wanted to see the beautiful baby as well. The coming of the Magi from the East spelled danger for the baby Jesus because King Herod was sniffing around. Nobody was going to take his throne away from him. Who is this royal baby he heard about? If he could get his hands on this baby we know that he would have the baby killed to secure his own throne. Not a nice man. The prophecy of Simeon comes to mind. He told Mary that a sword would pierce her heart. This child would be responsible for the rise and fall of many. The great drama begins straight away. Baby Jesus is in great danger. Strangers from the East have come to visit. Are they assassins sent by Herod? Will Herod have the Magi followed so that he can trace where this baby is? The principal message of this feast day is to say that the baby Jesus came into this world as the Messiah for all people. We all need a bit of saving. The presence of Jesus in our world is a wonderful gift to us. It is sad to say that many people don't understand. A memory comes to mind from last September. On our parish tour we visited Cologne Cathedral in Germany. They actually have the relics of the Three Wise Men in that Church. The truth of it is all lost in the mists of time, but it is all very interesting. God bless the baby, Jesus, and may He keep you safe and well.



With love,
Fr. Pat

Happy New Year!

We will not publish a printed bulletin until January 14, 2024. We will distribute our weekly Flocknote, an electronic version of the weekly announcements on January 7, 2024. 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.

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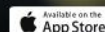


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