

St. James Catholic Church

A living cell of the Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi

605 S. Alta Vista St. Beeville, Texas 78102

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December 10, 2017 - Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Mass

WEEKENDS

Saturday 6:00 PM (Vigil)
Sunday 7:30 AM - Spanish
10:00 AM - English

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday, Saturday
- 7:00 AM

Tuesday, Thursday
- 5:30 PM

Major Feast Days
(Holy Days): As
announced

CONFESSION

Saturday - 5:00 to 6:00 PM
and by appointment.

Warm welcome NEW PARISHIONERS

St. James parish welcomes all newcomers.
Please contact the parish office to register.



OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
Closed 1:00 - 2:00 PM

PAROCHIAL TEAM

Administrator
Rev. PAUL KOTTACKAL

Deacon
Juan Vasquez

Secretary/Director of
Religious Education
Juanita Martinez

Bookkeeper
Veda Lisa Blanton

Parish Council Chairman
Juan Jimenez

Finance Council Chairman
Carlos Salazar Jr.

Eucharist Ministry
Coordinator
Janie Maldonado

Altar Servers Coordinator
Roxanne Salazar

Lector Coordinator
Salvador Andrade

Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight 4th Degree
Albert Garces

Guadalupanas
Pres. Juanita Martinez

Cursillistas Vocal
Angelita Garcia

Faith Ministry
Pres. Yolanda Maldonado

Spanish Choir
Tony De La Rosa

English Choir
Margaret Smith

Bulletin
R. Anthony Hinojosa

Website
Bonnie Salazar, Irene Moreno



MISSION STATEMENT:

The Catholic community of St. James Church is made up of loving and sensitive members seeking to meet their spiritual needs, strengthen their faith, and affirm their continued existence as the church of Jesus Christ today and tomorrow. In their quest to evangelize, it is their mission to assist everyone toward a more abundant experience of the riches of their liturgy and sacraments, and to convince all of Christ's sheep that the Lord's Day is indeed for all.



Pastor's reflection on the Second Sunday of Advent

Advent through the Back Door!

It is not unusual to find our backyards unattractive and disorderly, and needing attention. No guests and strangers are expected to enter the house through the back door, unless there is a special occasion. The front yard is always maintained clean and tidy. The doors at the front are invitingly open, and guests are expected through it. Deserts are like backyards. They are barren and lifeless. Normally nobody wants to go there. Not much attention is given to it.

Mark's Gospel of this Sunday opens with a quote from the prophet Isaiah, and it is about a voice in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." It is about the advent of John the Baptist, the herald of the Messiah. Why did God choose an unproductive and lifeless place for his messenger to emerge from? God's ways are always like that. He makes his presence felt in places where he is least expected; he chooses strange ways to express himself. The first advent of God for our salvation was in the form of a helpless baby! It was the first Christmas. Many missed it because they waited at the front.

God, sometimes, prefers to enter into our life through the unexpected back door. History repeats; we wait for him at the front door keeping it clean and open ignoring the back door, and we miss God.

Advent is a period of preparation to receive God into our life. We might be very much preoccupied with the front door; doing shopping, illuminating our houses, wrapping gifts, etc., and perhaps, we ignore spiritual preparation. This time God may try to enter into our home through the backdoor, and we could miss his knock if we are too busy making the front yard more beautiful.

Preparation for Christmas must be total. Let us keep both sides ready to welcome Jesus. The best preparation will be to make a good confession.

Have a blessed week!

Fr. Paul

RECONCILIATION SERVICE



7:00 P.M. Monday

December 11th, 2017

Four priests in attendance to help.

AUDITORS

Team I, Sunday, December 10

Janie Maldonado, Sylvia Holmes, & Alice Sanchez

Team II, Sunday, December 17

Amy Gonzales, Diana Barrera

Team III, Sunday, December 24

Rosalinda Orozco, Maria Servantes, & Margaret R. Mesquita

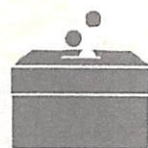
Team IV, Sunday, December 31

Juanita Martinez, Teodora Galvan, & Virginia Quintanilla

Team V, Sunday, January 7

Elfida Garcia, Juanita Cruz, & Angie Garcia

WEEKLY COLLECTION



December 3, 2017

Envelope collection \$2,475.83

Loose collection \$ 462.20

Total \$2,938.03

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, Dec. 9

7:00 AM + Londa Trial by Paul Trial

6:00 PM - Guadalupe & Santiago Villarreal

By Richard & Rosalinda Espinosa

+ Ofelia G. Garcia by M/M Joe Gonzales

Sunday, Dec. 10

7:30 AM - For the people of the Parish

10:00 AM + Francisco "Tony" Guerrero by Alice Cantu

+ Hector Arrisola by his wife

Monday, Dec. 11

7:00 AM + Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Tuesday, Dec. 12

6:00 AM + Londa Trial by Paul Trial

+ Daniel & Guadalupe Garces in Memory of their Birthday
By Their Sisters

Wednesday, Dec. 13

7:00 AM + Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Thursday, Dec. 14

5:30 PM + Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Friday, Dec. 15

7:00 AM + Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Saturday, Dec. 16

7:00 AM + Londa Trial by Paul Trial

6:00 PM + David M. Sanchez by his Family

+ Londa Trial by Paul Trial

- Mari Rojas for her Health by Lucille Garcia

+ Ofelia G. Garcia by Norma Arrisola and Family

Sunday, Dec. 17

7:30 AM + M/M Frank B. Maldonado in Memory of their Wedding

Anniversary by the Maldonado Family

+ Carmela Cruz in Memory of her 4th Anniversary by Family

+ Adelina Flores by Mary Lou Flores

10:00 AM + Hector Arrisola by his Wife

+ Justin Lee Pulido by Gabby Diaz

+ Felix Paredes by Margaret Smith

LECTORS

Saturday, December 9

6:00 PM Bonnie Salazar

Sunday, December 10

7:30 AM Rosario Cruz

10:00 AM Juan Jimenez

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 9

6:00 PM Lisa Blanton

Susana Moron

Sunday, December 10

7:30 AM Manuel Martinez

Shirley Martinez

10:00 AM Joe Gomez

Luis Hernandez

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, December 9

6:00 PM Ryan Martinez

Sunday, December 10

7:30 AM Serena Garza

10:00 AM Brandon Guerrero

Alizabeth Martinez

PRAY FOR THE SICK



With caring and compassion, we pray for:

Jewelina Beth Gonzalez, Rosa Orozco, Christopher Cardenas, Anthony Angel Cardenas, Guadalupe Benavides, Isabel Garcia, Albert Cardenas, Jr., Jim Nelson, Joe Adrian Moya, Catherine McKeown, Johnny Lee Lopez Sr., Mickey Wilson, Kristina Elena Garcia, Eva Dominguez, Chris Ulmer, Roxann Gleason, Frank Riojas, Delfina Huerta, Jessie Riojas, Joe Anthony Martinez, Armando B. Perez, Lino Garcia, Katy Rendon, Denice Hadwin, Geneive S. Trevino, Patty Stone, Ascension Carrizales, Lupe Abrigo, Lulu Martinez Watson, Tabitha Rendon, Mary Longoria, Jessie Martinez Jr., Jaime Salinas, Roman Flores, Santos Lopez, Caroline James Ries, Edward Silva, Dalia A. Salazar, Nene Trevino, Julia Ramos, Adrian Sampayo, Aurelio Guajardo, Tonya Sciba, Kenneth Sciba, Nieves Moreno Jr., Jessica Arrisola, Mary Carrizales, Norma Delgado, Juanita Maldonado, Dora Lopez Bernal, Richard Espinosa, Emo Aleman, Roger Cano, Robert Hernandez, Nieves Cardenas, Elena Garza, Domingo Garcia, Laurie Lawrence, Angie Garza, Mary Jane Lowry, Anselmo Garcia, Jr., and to all at Christus Spohn. Please call the office to add or to remove names from the prayer list.

Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2018 CHURCH ENVELOPES

Envelopes are at the back of the Church for parishioners to pick up. Mrs. Martinez will help you find your envelopes. If you do not find your envelopes, please let her know and she will get them to you the following week.

SECOND COLLECTION

We will have a second collection this weekend for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please be generous in supporting this Ministry.

BAPTISMAL CLASS

The next Baptismal Class will be on Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00 P.M.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/LECTORS/ALTAR SERVERS COORDINATORS

These Ministries will meet on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 P.M. in the Church. Please bring your bible. This is an important meeting.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

We will have a Christmas Musical on December 17th at 3:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

DECEMBER SCHEDULES FOR CCE CLASSES

There will not be any CCE classes on Sunday, December 17th, 24th, and 31st and Wednesday, December 13th, 20th and 27th.

PUBLIC MEETING FOR A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. at St. Joseph Catholic Church to discuss the possibility of a new Catholic middle/high school.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

For adults who need the sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation, please call the Parish Office to sign up to receive either one of these sacraments.

BAPTISMAL REQUIREMENTS

Parents - need to be registered members of St. James. Godparents - need to have received the sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation and, if married, need to have been married in the Catholic Church. To register for the Baptismal Class, please bring the birth certificate of the person being baptized.



ABIGAIL WIFE OF KING DAVID

(1 Samuel:25)

Abigail was the wife of a very rich man Nabal who lived in the north of Israel. She had considerable clout with her husband, and had great social standing, too. Nabal was "a hard man and an evildoer". In contrast she possessed beauty, intelligence, political shrewdness, etc. Abigail's encounter with David a fugitive was a turning point in her life, and in the history of Israelites. He was on the run when King Saul, who had rightly discerned that David was a threat to him. He decided to do away with him.

David was camping out in the wilderness and was trying to build up some followers. He was in need of supplies, and sent men to seek provisions from Nabal. It was in return to a favor that David and his band did by protecting Nabal's shepherds in the wilderness. David's request was rejected with contempt. In response David ordered his men, "to gird on your swords" to take provisions from Nabal. However, having heard this development Abigail decided to act differently. She gathered supplies and rode out to meet David herself riding a donkey.

While approaching David she heard him cursing Nabal for his stinginess, and swearing vengeance against all of Nabal's extended family. She prostrated herself before David and begged him to take his anger at Nabal out. She apologized for Nabal's behavior. Besides, she blessed him, and assured him that he had God's favor, and it would keep him from harm, and would give him the throne of Israel. David was captivated by Abigail's beauty and wisdom. He accepted the food she brought, and sent her home with a promise that he would remember her good counsel and her kindness. Abigail reported to her husband everything that figured out in her encounter with David. Though boor, Scripture says that at this point, "his courage failed him, and he became like a stone. About ten days later, the Lord struck Nabal, and he died". Abigail inherited Nabal's fortune.

As soon as David heard that Nabal had died, he sent a proposal of marriage to Abigail. He recognized what an asset she would be to him as a wife, since she was clearly someone who managed well, protected her husband's interests, and could recognize dangers in time to avert disaster. They got married. Both acknowledged in one another their mutual strengths and weaknesses, a realization that probably made their union inevitable and successful.

Complementarity is one of the keys to success in family life.

Fr. Paul Kottackal

She is funny!



Two lady social workers after giving an orientation class were returning home. They saw a man crying for help from a back alley. He was a semi-conscious man in a pool of blood. "Help me, I've been mugged and viciously beaten." he pleaded. They turned and walked away saying to one another, "You know it is the person who did this cruelty that really needs help."



MANANITAS TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

We will have Mananitas to Our Lady of Guadalupe on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:00 A.M., and at 6:30 A.M. Rosary followed by Mass at 7:00 A.M. After Mass, we will have pan dulce and chocolate at the Parish Hall.

Mahatma Gandhi's Confession!

Mahatma Gandhi was the leader who led India against British colonial rule. He was born in a Hindu priestly class who were pure vegetarians. Eating meat was sinful for them. As a boy he was called Mohandas Gandhi.

While in school, the student Gandhi got into bad company and took to meat-eating, smoking and even stealing. Then his conscience deeply troubled him and he wrote a confession to his father. In Gandhi's own words:



"I wrote it on a slip of paper and handed to him myself. In this note, not only did I confess my guilt, but I asked adequate punishment for it, and closed with a request to him not to punish himself for my offence.

I was trembling as I handed the confession to my father. He was ill with fistula and was confined to bed. I sat beside him.

He read it through, and pearl-drops trickled down his cheek, wetting the paper. For a moment he closed his eyes in thought and then tore up the note. He had sat up to read it. He again lay down. I also cried. I could see my father's agony. I still vividly remember the entire scene today.

Those pearl-drops of love cleansed my heart, and washed my sin away. Only he who has experienced such love can know what it is. This was for me an object lesson in Ahimsa (nonviolence). When such Ahimsa becomes all-embracing, it transforms everything it touches. There is no limit to its power.

This sort of sublime forgiveness was not natural to my father. I had thought that he would be angry, say harsh words and strike his forehead. But he was so wonderfully peaceful, and this was due to my clean confession. A clean confession, combined with a promise never to commit the sin again, when offered before one who has the right to receive it, is the purest type of repentance. I know that my confession made my father feel absolutely safe about me, and increased his affection for me beyond measure."

Excerpted from Gandhi's autobiography, "My Experiments with Truth...."