



Holy Family Catholic Church

210 St. Joseph St.
P.O. Box 100
Nazareth, TX 79063
Phone: 806-945-2616
Fax: 806-945-2564
CCD Building: 806-945-2244
Holy Family Inn - 806-945-2605



Pastor : Arokiaraj “Raj” Samala
806-316-4146

Deacons

Dcn. Bob Birkenfeld806-627-8253
Dcn. Joe Hochstein806-627-7026

Parish Staff

Office:	Barbara Schulte..... 806-392-7019
	Mary Verkamp..... 806-410-6074
Christian Formation:	Stephanie DeMoss..... 806-632-6871
	Diane Heitschmidt 806-543-3985
Lay Minister:	Vanessa Welps..... 806-683-3452
Youth Director:	Allison Kleman..... 325-226-3999
Sacramental Records:	Theresa Birkenfeld.....806-627-7939
Mass Intentions:	Monette Schilling.....806-290-2560
RCIA:	Dcn Joe Hochstein.....806-627-7026
Holy Family Inn:	Karleen Hoelting.....806-671-1839
	Mandy Schilling.....806-945-5471
Church & CCD	Esmeralda Sepeda..... 210-347-2898
Cleaning:	Dolores Quintana..... 806-240-8986
Church Grounds:	Doyle Kleman..... 806-943-9812
Religious Articles:	Dorothy Kleman..... 806-945-2396
Parish Council Char:	Garrett Kleman806-369-5525
Finance Council Char:	J.C. Pohlmeier..... 806-647-6295
Prayer Chain:	Lenora Braddock..... 806-367-3445
Saturday Choir:	Lisa Schulte..... 806-240-3632
Sunday Choir:	Darlene Schulte..... 806-647-7556

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - No Mass
Tuesday - Thursday - 5:30pm
Friday - 7:00am
Saturday - 5:30pm
Sunday - 9:15am

Confessions on Saturday
1 hour before Mass

Office Hours: M - W 10 - 4pm
Th - Fr 9 - 1pm

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; Luke 1:46-50, 53-54
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

The mysterious figure of John the Baptist, introduced in last week's readings, comes into sharper focus today. Who he is, we see in today's Gospel, is best understood by who he isn't.

He is not Elijah returned from the heavens , although like him he dresses in the prophet's attire and preaches repentance and judgment. Not Elijah in the flesh, John is nonetheless sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to fulfill his mission;

Neither is John the prophet Moses foretold, although he is a kinsman and speaks God's word. Nor is John the Messiah, though he has been anointed by the Spirit since he was in the womb.

John prepares the way for the Lord. The baptism he performs is symbolic, not sacramental. It is a sign given to stir our hearts to repentance.

John shows us the One upon whom the Spirit remains the One who fulfills the promise we hear in today's First Reading Jesus' bath of rebirth and the Spirit opens a fountain that purifies Israel and gives to all a new heart and a new Spirit.

John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the One who comes at Christmas. As we sing in today's Responsorial, the Mighty One has come to lift each of us up, to fill our hunger with bread from heaven.

And as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle, we should rejoice, give thanks, and pray without ceasing that God will make us perfectly holy in spirit, soul, and body—that we may be blameless when our Lord comes.

Liturgical Ministers**Saturday, Dec 23, 2023 at 5:30pm****Servers:** Zane Schulte, Addie Schulte, Knox Schulte**Lectors:** Ronnie Hoelting, Jim Hoelting**Hospitality:** Rocky & Dianne Wilhelm**Gift Bearer:** Greg & Karen Schulte**Ushers:** Parish Council**Sunday, Dec 24, 2023 at 9:15am****Servers:** Pierce, Kennedy & McKinley Wilhelm**Lectors:** Vera Huseman, Samantha Fulkerson**Lector:** Lisa Braddock, Judy Lange**Gift Bearer:** The Adam Schulte Family**Ushers:** Parish Council**Sunday, Dec 24, 2023 at 4:00pm - Christmas Eve****Servers:** Daniel Schacher, McKinley Moore,

Brynli & Jaxton Schilling

Lectors: Bryan Charanza, Dana Kleman**Hospitality:** High School Youth Group**Gift Bearer:** The Kit Schulte Family**Ushers:** Parish Council**Sunday, Dec 24, 2023 at 6:00pm - Christmas Eve****Servers:** Jett Ramaekers, Spencer Acker, Zac Huseman, Riley Ramaekers**Lectors:** Dwight Acker, Jeanie Birkenfeld,**Hospitality:** Harold & Kay Venhaus**Gift Bearer:** The Landon Schulte Family**Ushers:** Parish Council**Monday, Dec 25, 2023 at 9:15am**
CHRISTMAS DAY**Servers:** Blaise Snead, Olivia & Noah Raef, Charlie DeMoss**Lectors:** Joshua Raef, Stephanie DeMoss**Hospitality:** Joel Gerber, Judy Lange**Gift Bearer:** The Michael Snead Family**Ushers:** Parish Council**This Week's Mass Intentions****Monday - Dec 18, 2023**
No Mass**Tuesday Dec 19, 2023**
5:30pm - Donna Birkenfeld, RIP
(Leslie Birkenfeld)**Wednesday - Dec 20, 2023**
5:30pm - Edna Rae Schilling, RIP
(Rodger Schilling)**Thursday - Dec 21, 2023**
5:30 - Brad Klein, RIP
(Family)**Friday - Dec 22, 2023**
7:00am - Chris Venhaus, RIP
(Family)**Saturday - Dec 23, 2023**
5:30pm - Jeanette Brockman, RIP
(Family)**Sunday - Dec 24, 2023**
9:15am - Father Raj, Good Health**Christmas Eve**
4:00pm - Shane Kleman, RIP
(Family)6:00pm - Olen Schulte, RIP
(Family)**Monday, Dec 25th, 2023**
Christmas Day
9:15am - Jerry Wilhelm, RIP
(Nellie Wilhelm)**STEWARDSHIP****December 9th & 10th, 2023**

Identifiable Contributors - \$5,610.00

Children Collection - \$107.00

Votive Collection - \$82.75

Total Collection - \$5,799.75***Please Pray For . . .*****All our sick and elderly**Georgianne McCormick, Kirkland Sperry,
Joshua Moore, Floyd Birkenfeld,
B J & Madelyn Kern & baby Jane,
Jimmy Huseman, Rita Kern, Cory Walls,**all those in Ministry, especially**Our Parish Vocations: Father Raj Samala, Father Bala,
Fr. Nick Gerber and Fr. John Dalton, Father Bhaskar;
Dcn Bob Birkenfeld, Dcn Joe Hochstein and
All Religious from Holy Family Parish**And for our deceased loved ones**
CECIL HOELTING, RIP

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, Dec 17, 2023

9:15am - Mass

Monday, Dec 18, 2023

No Mass

Tuesday, Dec 19, 2023

5:30pm - Mass

Wednesday, Dec 20, 2023

8am-1am - Adoration at the Chapel in the Inn

11:30am Wed Meal - **No Meal**

5:30pm - Mass

6:30pm - No CCD

Thursday, Dec 21, 2023

5:30pm - Mass

Friday, Dec 22, 2023

7:00am - Mass

Saturday, Dec 23, 2023

5:30pm - Mass

Sunday, Dec 24, 2023

9:15am - Mass

Christmas Eve

4:00pm - Mass

6:00pm - Mass

Monday, Dec 25, 2023

9:15am - Christmas Mass



Religious Article Store

The Holidays are near,
come check us out for your
early holiday shopping!

Open after each Weekend Mass
Call Dorothy Kleman 806-945-2396
or Vera Hoelting

NAZARETH LIBRARY

Open Monday 10am - 12pm

Thursday - 4pm - 6pm

Contact Bev Schulte 806-647-8217
Rita Hoelting 806-781-8888



Announcements

Senior Citizens Meeting time has changed to 5:30pm for future meetings. Please make note of changes.

The Wednesday Meal is canceled through the month of December. Will start up again in January!

CCD is needing helpers for the next semester (January 17 - May 1st) Please consider joining this fulfilling ministry! Call Stephanie or Diane if you'd like more information. We couldn't do this without you! Thanks!!

Jesse Acker will be holding a bake sale on December 16th and 17th to raise money for his BSA Eagle Scout Project. This will take place in the church foyer.

Area Farm Auction: Date: February 3, 2024
Advertising deadline: January 3; Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus; To list items, contact Alan Birkenfeld 806-570-6328

Remember when making your 2023 donations at the end of the year; we have several options for you: The Cemetery Fund, Youth Fund, Building Fund, Holy Family Charity, Mary Untier of Knots Project, any of these will be so appreciated. Thanks in advance!

The Children's choir will be singing at the December 23rd Mass.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
& CHRISTMAS MASSES

The 4th Sunday of Advent falls on Sunday, December 24th,
which is Christmas Eve. **How many Masses do I go to?**

Pick one Mass for 4th Sunday
Saturday - December 23 @ 5:30pm
or
Sunday - December 24 @ 9:15am

Pick one Mass for Christmas
Sunday - December 24
@ 4:00pm (Children's Mass)
6:00pm Mass
or
Monday - December 25, @ 9:15am

The Christmas Story

by Leanne Guenther

Once upon a time,
A long, long time ago.
Begins the story of a baby,
That most of you should know.

His daddy's name was Joseph,
And Mary was His mom,
This babe was very special
He was God's only Son.

Some angels came from heaven,
And they began to sing.
To the shepherds in the fields below,
"Glad tidings do we bring!"

A bright star lit the heavens,
To light the magi's way,
To the baby in the manger
Who was born on Christmas day.

And all who gathered round Him,
Rejoiced and praised His birth.
For the babe, the King, named Jesus,
Is our Saviour here on earth!



NAZARETH COMMUNITY HALL NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER & DANCE

Live Music by Danny Cadra Band
Sunday, December 31, 2023
Nazareth Community Hall

Happy Hour 5:00-6:00
Meal 6:00- 8:30
Dance 9:00

\$150 per ticket - Includes 2 steak Dinners, drinks
and a chance to win a Raffle Prize
(Must be present to win)

Several Items to be sold on Live Auction

Venmo: @Nazhalltx
(Proceeds go toward improvement for the
Community Hall)

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2024!

Pray for moisture
good weather
and for peace around the world.

Welcome Visitors!!

Please feel right at home.
We are glad to have you.

Like to Join Our Church:
Call the Parish Office 806-945-2616
or Dcn Joe Hochstein 627-7026

**For Baptisms, Marriages,
Home Blessings
Sick, Hospital Visits, or Funerals**
Call Father Raj
806-316-4146 or the
Office 806-945-2616

Baptism - One sponsor must be
Catholic, confirmed & 14 years old

Marriage - contact office
6 months in advance
Engaged Encounter &
Natural Family Planning
classes needed.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Wed 10:am - 4pm
Thurs- Fri 9am - 1pm

Bulletin Deadline:
Wed by noon

Parish Website: hfpn.org

Parish Email:
Holyfamilynaz@gmail.com

To Book Community Hall:

Alyssa Barton
806-367-3438

Book Home Merc
Kamber Kleman
806-240-5594

Book Senior Citizens
David Olvera - 945-2249

Book Rooms at the INN
Karleen Hoelting
806-671-1839

Guadalupe Catholic Radio Network

Nazareth - 105.5 FM
1010 AM

Hart -102.3 FM (Spanish)

THE RELIGIOUS ARTICLE STORE

In the foyer of Church
Open after Mass
on Weekends.

Call: Dorothy Kleman
806-945-2396
Vera Hoelting
903-450-7742

RESPECT FOR LIFE PRAYERS

during Blessed Sacrament
Adoration

8:00am Wednesday thru
1:00am Thursday
The Chapel of the
Holy Family Inn

THE FOOD PANTRY

Open every other Saturday
at the Boy Scout Building
Donations and volunteers
are welcome!

WEDNESDAY - NOON MEAL

Every Wednesday
Senior Citizen's Bldg
\$10.00 a plate - 11:30am -12:30pm
No Noon Meal till January

NAZARETH LIBRARY

Open Mondays 10am - 12pm
and Thursdays 4pm - 6pm
Come Check Us Out!

Contact: Bev Schulte 806-647-8217
or Rita Hoelting 806-781-8888

MEALS ON WHEELS

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Holy Family Inn 945-2605
Christine Acker 945-2683