



**SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Seymour, Texas

**SACRED HEART
PASTORAL CENTER
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SEYMOUR, TX 76380-2102
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**ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Megargel, Texas

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: JANUARY 08, 2023

DEACON JIM NOVAK
Parochial Administrator
Office—940-889-5252 Cell—940-733-3784

FR. BOSE JUJUVARAPU, HGN
Parochial Vicar
940-655-8037

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: (Reconciliation Room)

After each daily noon Mass; Wednesday's 6:30 -7:30 p.m.; Saturday 5 – 5:45 p.m. or by appointment

PARISH LITURGY SCHEDULE:

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK: (January 09 - 15)

Monday: 12:10 PM: For the Living & Deceased members of Catholic Life Branch #10 by Catholic Life Branch #10
Tuesday: **NO SERVICE**
Wednesday: 7:00 PM: +Alvin Jungman by Melvin & Shirlee Motl
Thursday: 12:10 PM: +Yvonne Boone by Sacred Heart Choir
Friday: 12:10 PM: +Robert Smajstrla by Deacon Jim & Rilda Novak
Saturday: 8:00 AM: +Gilbert Kotulek by Johnny & Jeanette Holub
6:00 PM: For the Special Intentions of Sandy & Danny Lane by Carol Vacker
Sunday: 8:00 AM: In Thanksgiving for our Children by Todd & Marianne McCartney (St. Mary)
10:00 AM: +Arvin & Rosalie Peters by Danny & Sandy Lane

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY FOR THE WEEKDAY MASSES: (January 09 - 14)

Mon.: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7	Matthew 3:13-17
Tues.: Hebrews 2:5-12	Mark 1:21-28
Wed.: Hebrews 2:14-18	Mark 1:29-39
Thurs.: Hebrews 3:7-14	Mark 1:40-45
Fri.: Hebrews 4:1-5	Mark 2:1-12
Sat.: Hebrews 4:12-16	Mark 2:13-17

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: (January 15)

Please prepare for worship by prayerfully reading the Scriptures for next weekend Masses:

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
Holy Gospel: John 1:29-34

At all Masses you should follow safe distancing and sanitize. Face mask/covering **are optional** at all times.

Sunday, January 08:

8:00 AM, St. Mary of the Assumption/Mass (Preceded by Holy Rosary)
9:40 AM, Sacred Heart/Rosary followed by Mass
All Weekend Liturgies: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
All Weekend Liturgies: Presider for Mass – Fr. Bose

Monday, January 09: 12:10 PM, Sacred Heart/Daily Mass

Wednesday, January 11:

6:00 PM, Pastoral Center/Faith Formation sessions for all grades until 6:45 p.m. or completion
6:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Holy Hour Adoration until Benediction at 6:50 p.m.
7:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Mass

Thursday and Friday: 12:10 PM, Sacred Heart/Daily Mass

Saturday, January 14: (Priest Care Fund)

8:00 AM, Sacred Heart/Blessed Virgin Mary Mass
5:45 PM, Sacred Heart/Rosary followed by 6 PM Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 15: (Priest Care Fund)

8:00 AM, St. Mary of the Assumption/Mass (Preceded by Holy Rosary)
9:40 AM, Sacred Heart/Rosary followed by Mass
All Weekend Liturgies: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
All Weekend Liturgies: Presider for Mass – Fr. Bose

Please signup for Flock Notes and also follow us on our Facebook or our website: <https://sacredheartseymour.org/>

For bulletins: go online to <https://sacredheartseymour.org/bulletins>. All past and present bulletins are posted.

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SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: MATTHEW 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet:

*And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel."*

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

ADULTS: When have you found the presence of Christ in an unexpected place?

CHILDREN: Where and in whom will you look for Jesus this week?

The Epiphany of the Lord

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Matthew 2:10-11

All of God's creation gives Him glory and praises Him by its very existence. Psalm 143 states, "Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all shining stars. Praise him, highest heavens, you waters above the heavens. Let them all praise the Lord's name; for he commanded and they were created..." Though creation gives praise to God simply by existing and thus, revealing its Creator, today's solemnity commemorates the one moment in time when God used a star to manifest His eternal glory.

At the time of Jesus' birth, it was commonly believed that a new star would appear whenever a new ruler was born. The Father in Heaven used this belief to honor His Son who was born as the new King. The three Magi from the East were astrologers. When they saw this "new star," they chose to follow it to discover the new King. Creation itself, in the form of a star, pointed the way, thus giving glory to the newborn King, manifesting Him to whole world as symbolized by the Magi.

The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation." Therefore, as we honor this moment in time when the Christ Child was made manifest to the world, we need to look into our own hearts. There, we discover Christ's ongoing manifestation to us so that we can worship Him Who has also chosen to be born within our hearts. We must diligently seek out that manifestation of God within us and respond to it in the same ways that the Magi responded. First of all, the Magi were determined. When they saw a sign from the heavens that pointed to a new King, they stopped everything and departed in haste to find Him. When God speaks to you and manifests Himself to you in some way, nothing could be more important than to be attentive to His voice and follow His manifestation with the same haste.

The Magi brought the Christ Child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. God was honored and glorified through His creation by the giving of these gifts. God created gold to manifest His beauty and dignity. It was a gift that symbolized kingship. When we ponder the natural gift of gold given to the Christ Child, we are inspired to give Him our own gift of symbolic gold by prayerfully acknowledging Him as our own King to whom we pledge our complete submission.

Made from the sap of trees found in India, northeastern Africa, and the Arabian peninsula, frankincense and myrrh are also fruits of God's creation. Used in worship to symbolize prayers rising to heaven, frankincense symbolizes the Christ Child's divinity. We offer frankincense to Christ when we acknowledge His divine nature, since He is God in the flesh. Often used in burial, myrrh honors the Christ Child Who came to give His life as a sacrifice for many. We offer myrrh to profess our belief in the saving power of Christ's death on the Cross and our need for that gift of salvation.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, try to see it as a historical event in which you are invited to share. God wants to manifest Himself to you today. When this happens, you must respond with faith and worship, giving God the greatest glory by giving Him your very life and offering Him your spiritual gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/january-6-epiphany>



PRAY FOR A GENEROUS RAIN FOR OUR FIELDS, CROPS & RESERVIORS!

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS: LAY LEADERS, PRIESTS, DEACONS AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

The word “**Epiphany**” comes from the Greek word ‘epiphanos’ meaning ‘revelation’, or ‘manifestation’. According to the tradition, “The Epiphany of the Lord” signifies – specifically, the manifestation of child Jesus to the entire world. In the Gospel, the Magi came with joy in their hearts to visit baby Jesus and God permitted them to see and experience wonders. An element of suspense and curiosity marked every moment in the journey of the Magi, who never knew what road the Spirit of God was going to lead them. The passage invites us to have the same curiosity as the explorers and the movie fans so that we may discover the “epiphany”, or manifestation, or Self-revelation of our God in every person, every being and every event that we encounter. In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah is consoling the people in exile. He speaks of the restoration of the New Jerusalem from which the glory of Yahweh becomes visible even to the pagan nations. St. Paul reveals God’s “secret plan” –the Gentiles also have a part with the Jews in the Divine blessings. He affirms the mystery of God’s plan of salvation in Christ for all. Jesus was born to be available for all of us. He became human and manifested Himself so we can have a meaningful and personal encounter with Him. **Pray and Practice:** *Lord Jesus, grant us the grace that we, too, like the magi, seek You sincerely and earnestly and be blessed and become blessings to others.* **Fr. Bose Jujvarapu**

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT!

The Epiphany of the Lord - Today we hear Saint Paul proclaim that he exercises stewardship of “God’s grace” for the benefit of the Christian community. Earlier in this letter to the Ephesians, he prayed they would come to realize the actual value of “these riches” of God’s grace they inherited. This letter was written to remind, encourage, and spiritually motivate this Eucharistic community to appreciate just how immeasurably wealthy they had become to inherit a life in Christ. What value do we place on our life in Christ? If someone asked us to put a price on this life in today’s currency, how would we respond? \$100 million? \$100 billion? Priceless? Do we live as though our life in Christ is priceless?

PRIEST CARE FUND – JANUARY 14/15

The patron saint of priests, Saint John Vianney, once wrote “*the priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus.*” A priest’s love also extends to the Catholic faithful as they lead parishes, teach and preach the Gospel and offer the Sacraments.

As faithful Catholics we have an opportunity to return to them, in love, a sense of security in their retirement years by making a gift to the **Priest Care Fund**. One hundred percent of the money donated to the **Priest Care Fund** special collection remains in the Diocese of Fort Worth to provide medical and long-term care over and above what is covered by our priests’ insurance and other resources.

Together, each year we are able to offset medical expenses for retired and infirm priests in the Diocese of Fort Worth. Please respond in love for their years of generous service by donating to the **Priest Care Fund** in our Sunday collection during **weekend Masses on January 14/15** or at <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections> (case sensitive). Thank you for honoring our retired priests’ lifetime of service.

REST IN PEACE!

We commend to your prayers Alan Bewley (husband of Debbie Bewley) whose Memorial Service was Thursday, January 5 in Pottsville, Arkansas. May he live forever in the eternal embrace of God’s love and may all the faithful departed rest in the mercy of God.

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP: January 01, 2023

SACRED HEART:

Amount in Checks/Envelopes & Loose: \$ 4,221.22
 Youth: \$ 368.00 Special: \$ 0 Holy Day: \$ 901.00
TOTAL: \$ 5,490.22

Envelope Use: 39 Regular; 15 Youth; 0 Special; 21 Holy Day

ST. MARY:

Amount in Checks/Envelopes & Loose: \$ 795.00
 Youth: \$ 70.00 Special: \$ 0 Holy Day: \$ 170.00
TOTAL: \$ 1,035.00

Envelope Use: 8 Regular; 2 Youth; 0 Special; 3 Holy Day

Attendance: Sacred Heart – Sat. 77 & Sun. 105 St. Mary – 36

SEVEN DAY LIGHTS:

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: For the Alvin & Glenna Jungman Family by Shannon & Barbie Donnell Family, For the Henry & Lillie Mae Novak Family, For the George & Margaret Holub Family, For the Jim & Janice Knezek Family, For Michael Wright & Family, For Hagan Anderson & his Family by Cathy Hostas.

FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS BY: Kay Flippin, Terry & Belinda Bench, Ricky & Charlotte Wright, Marilyn McGough, Tommy & Donna Carver. **If you would like to contribute to the Seven Day Lights, the cost is \$1 per week. Thank You.**

OFFICE HOURS & BULLETIN NOTICES:

Office Hours are Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10am – 3pm. All bulletin notices must be in by **12 noon on Wed.!**

The Baptism of the Lord: Monday, January 9th

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord.



This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to

beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world".

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin. —

Excerpted from Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar>

HELP US KEEP OUR PARISH MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

UP-TO-DATE. Please call our office to make any changes to your mailing address, email address, phone numbers or name.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & PENANCE FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN- JANUARY 23:

The over 60 million abortions since the 1973 decisions of *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* reflect with heartbreaking magnitude what Pope Francis means by a “throwaway culture.” However, we have great trust in God’s providence. We are reminded time and again in Scripture to seek the Lord’s help, and as people of faith, we believe that our prayers are heard.

And while, on June 24, 2022, the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* decision overturned *Roe v. Wade*, right now state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to preborn children. So, great prayer and advocacy is still very needed.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the “Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children”: “In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.”

SERVE THE POOR THROUGH THE 2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: A CALL TO GRATITUDE:

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” – 1 Peter 4:10 - Through the Annual Diocesan Appeal, we express our gratitude for God’s love in our lives by making a sacrifice to share what we have received with others, especially the poor and marginalized receiving assistance from Catholic Charities. Thanks to you our **Sacred Heart parish** has **pledged \$ 16,213.75** from **54 families**. We are striving for 100 percent participation. We are counting on every family to make a commitment in order to reach our **parish goal of \$18,500**. Please complete and return the commitment form that was mailed to you or donate online at bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal (case sensitive).

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION: Thanks to you our **St. Mary of the Assumption parish** has **pledged \$ 4,163.25** from **13 families**. We are striving for 100 percent participation. We are counting on every family to make a commitment in order to reach our **parish goal of \$4,200**. Please complete and return the commitment form that was mailed to you or donate online at bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal (case sensitive).

Contact Information for Seminarian Trent Barton:

You can mail him at 401 Michigan Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20017 or email him at: Trent.barton@fwdioc.org. Please continue to keep him in your daily prayers.



SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Whenever you are ill or have been hospitalized, please call for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick immediately.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:

“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Husbands and wives, offer each other the treasures of your love by participating in an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is Jan. 27-29, 2023. To apply go to www.wwme.org. Questions – email apply@dfwme.org or call 469-444-0904. Para mas informacion de Encuentro Matrimonial en Espanol, escriba a mdgallegos06@gmail.com 214-497-0188.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:

Epiphany of the Lord - “Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” MATTHEW 2:11 The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A special thanks goes to Ronnie Hostas for his years of dedicated service to our parish as our plant manager. His volunteer duties include: ordering maintenance materials for the church, the pastoral center, Mosler hall’s kitchen and food supplies/products for CCD feeding and other events like the OWD and other monthly events; the rectory upkeep and maintenance; keeps up with the maintenance of all A/C and heating units in all our buildings and any other items that falls under maintenance and security. He has also been a faithful member of the parish finance council for over 20 years, Thanks again and God’s blessings to Ronnie as a faithful servant to our parish. Deacon Jim

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Rick Kieschnick, Briley Hostas, Melvin Kuhler, Cindy Cuba Boone, Carolyn Bertschy, Bessie Casillas, Joe Saitta, Jr., Donna Hampton, Cathy McElroy, Cora Shelton, Mary Myers, Olivia Wright, Keaton Hehl, Stella Glass, Bernie Thomas, Josiah Decker, Sheila Helton, Ofelia Garcia, Johnny Joe Pechacek, Michael Rodriguez, Bryker Fontenot, Adaline Urbanczyk, Kayley Lowder, Ralph Veitenheimer, Cheryl Hopkins, Cathi Patterson, Genevieve Hrcirik, Hailey Glass, Debbie Turner, Teagan Matthews, Christina Lambert, Hannah Green, Jim Cuba, Sharon Wright, Arleen Kuhler, Abigail Novak, Braxton Pierce, Andrew Amador, Billie McGough, Jason Gilley, Margie Psencik, Theresa Bruggeman, Andrea Sanchez, Ellen Schaefer Bruggeman, Machele Hass, Melvin Motl, Jeanie Evans, John Helton, Charlene Gajdos, Bart & Margarita Martinez, Emma Allbritton, Donovan Muharib, Blaise Decker, Rosario Cruz, Frank Garcia, Jr., Dorothy Matus, Karla Parker, Jeanelle Howell, Trina Hostas, Richard Latham, Coy Jakubicek, Arya Myers, Keely Willden, Larry Ballard, Michelle Martin, Donna Anders, Michael Wright, Ricky Wright, Judy Horn, Bill Harmel, Nick Bryant, Linda Willis, Ricky Moorhouse, Korbett Loftin, June Hrcirik, Cori Bohanon, Bobby Bohanon, Earl Carver, Tony Leal, Connie Rodriguez, Helen Rodriguez, Marilyn McGough, Mary Ann Redder, Mike Sullivan, Chris Christian, Charles Wright, Patsy Sosolik, Troy Glass, Justin Walker, Scott Christian, Judy Wheeler, Lane Hrcirik, Tamara Gann, Dale Peterson, Sharon Welsh Boyd, Anne Marie Vita, Billy Mac Howe, Deven Hall, Kim Novak, Lizzie Smith, Henrietta Styles, James Styles, Barbara Coltharp, Gary Coltharp, Jerry Kuhler, Deacon Jim Novak, Pat McWhorter, Frances Brown, Vivian Steinbach, Ashley Felty, Tommie Crawford & Diana Burnett.

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN: Ryan Holman, John George, Kyle Matus, Andrew Gelb, Tai Bandy, James Crawford, Sam Atwood, Josh Wright, Chance Freeman, Wayne Howard, Korey Bailes, Mitchell Lee, Zachary Hamilton, Trey Matus, Julien M. Wright, Donovan Palacios, Carson Pope & Isaak Estraca. ***Please call the office to update the prayer list for those to be added or removed.***