



**SACRED HEART  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Seymour, Texas

**SACRED HEART  
PASTORAL CENTER  
206 N. CEDAR ST.  
SEYMOUR, TX 76380-2102  
OFFICE (940) 889-5252 FAX (940) 889-2136**



**ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Megargel, Texas

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 17, 2023**

**DEACON JIM NOVAK**

**Parish Life Coordinator**

**Office—940-889-5252 Cell—940-733-3784**

**FR. BOSE JUJUVARAPU, HGN**

**Parochial Vicar**

**940-655-8037**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: (Reconciliation Room)  
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: (December 18 -24)**

Monday:	12:10 PM	+Robert Smajstrla by Sacred Heart Choir
Tuesday:		No Service
Wednesday:	6:00 PM	Special Healing Intentions for Scarlett Morrison by Sacred Heart Parish
Thursday:	12:10 PM	+Yvonne Boone by Sacred Heart Choir
Friday:	12:10 PM	+Bertrand Danos, Jr. by Sacred Heart Choir
Saturday:	8:00 AM	+Sterling Martinez by Sacred Heart Choir
	6:00 PM	For the Special Intentions of Fr. Bose and his Family by Terry & Belinda Bench
Sunday:	8:00 AM	For the Special Intentions of Brandon Lane and Family by Sam & Connie Boone (St. Mary's)
	10:00 AM	For the Special Intentions of Deacon Jim and his Family by Terry & Belinda Bench
	6:00 PM	+Ben Sumner by Melvin & Shirlee Motl (SM—Christmas Eve)
	10:00 PM	For the Special Intentions of Cathy Hostas by Sam & Connie Boone (SH-Christmas Eve)

**PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY FOR THE WEEKDAY MASSES: (December 18 -23)**

Mon.: Jeremiah 23:5-8	Matthew 1:18-25
Tues.: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a	Luke 1:5-25
Wed.: Isaiah 7:10-14	Luke 1:26-38
Thurs.: Song of Songs 2:8-14	Luke 1:39-45
Fri.: 1 Samuel 1:24-28	Luke 1:46-56
Sat.: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24	Luke 1:57-66

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: (December 24)**

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

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

**Sunday, December 17: (Second Collection – Angel Tree Family Collection)**

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: Third Sunday of Advent

All Weekend Liturgies: Presider for Mass – Fr. Bose

**Monday, December 18:**

12:10 PM/Sacred Heart/Daily Mass

**Wednesday, December 20: (Faith Formation Classes suspended –Holidays) (Angel Tree Gifts/Donations to be completed)**

6:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Mass followed by Holy Hour Adoration with Benediction concluding at 7:30 PM

(Day of Fasting and Prayer – Rosary will be prayed for healing of Scarlett Morrison during Adoration)

**Thursday & Friday: 12:10 PM, Sacred Heart/Daily Masses**

**Saturday, December 23:**

8:00 AM, Sacred Heart/Blessed Virgin Mary Mass

9:00 AM, Sacred Heart/Christmas decorating by committee/volunteers until completion

5:45 PM, Sacred Heart/Rosary followed by 6 PM Vigil Mass

**Sunday, December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve Masses**

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: Fourth Sunday of Advent and The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass

All Weekend Liturgies: Presider for Mass – Fr. Bose

**5:50 PM, St. Mary of the Assumption/Blessing of Lights preceded by musical selections by musicians**

**6:00 PM, St. Mary of the Assumption/Christmas Eve Mass**

**9:50 PM, Sacred Heart/Blessing of Lights & Manger preceded by musical selections by musicians**

**10:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Christmas Eve Mass**

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Monday, December 25: Christmas Day...Merry Christmas!**

10:00 AM, Sacred Heart/ The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Mass

**Please sign-up 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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### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ."

So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said:

*"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,  
make straight the way of the Lord,"*

as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

**ADULTS:** What work of fasting and prayer could you do this Wednesday to help bring hope to the Steve Dreyer family and especially to Scarlett Morrison's healing?

**CHILDREN:** What could you do for someone this week to make them happy?

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the "joy" which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Today is known as *Gaudete* Sunday. The term *Gaudete* refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments may be worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

### Thank You for Supporting the Annual Diocesan Appeal

**Love one another as I have loved you:** *"I give you a new commandment says the Lord: love one another as I have loved you."* – John 13:34 - Thank you to everyone who responded generously to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Your gift makes a difference to the people whom we will accompany in our shared journey of faith, hope and charity as one Church united in Christ. Thanks to you our **Sacred Heart parish** has **pledged \$ 12,621** from **45 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 \$18,900**.

Thanks to you our **St. Mary of the Assumption parish** has **pledged \$ 3,205** from **12 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 \$4,800**. Please complete and return the commitment form that was mailed to you or donate online at [bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal](http://bit.ly/DiocesanAppeal) (case sensitive). **Your gifts before December 31 may be eligible for charitable deductions on your taxes.**

**CALLED TO WITNESS HIM** - The Third Sunday of Advent reminds us that Christmas is near and Our Lord is going to be born. Amidst all our daily joys and sorrows, Christmas should help us to prepare our hearts to welcome new hope and joy. In the reading from the book of Isaiah, we hear the good news announced to us. Jesus has come to fulfill this promise, to bring the Kingdom of God. He has come to proclaim the year of the Lord, to bring hope and freedom to the brokenhearted and oppressed. He has come to give sight to the blind and heal the sick. In the Gospel of John, we see John the Baptist preparing everyone for the coming of Jesus and His Kingdom. He has come to testify to the light. Similarly, God is also calling us today like John the Baptist. We are called to proclaim the Christ whom we have experienced in our life. We are also called to build this Kingdom of God in the lives of others. With an open heart let us welcome Jesus into our lives. Our personal experience of Jesus will transform us to be prophets of our times. We are called to build His Kingdom here and now. **Pray and Practice:** *Lord Jesus, as we are preparing for Your coming, help us to experience the joy, hope and liberation that You give us, so that we may partake in building Your Kingdom here and now.* **Fr. Bose**

#### **A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:**

**Third Sunday of Advent:** In today's second reading Paul concludes his letter to the Christian community at Thessalonica by providing it with actions to take as its members wait for the return of the Lord. The first action is to rejoice always and give thanks in all circumstances. This sounds easy but it's not. The two words that make this task difficult are "always" and "all". This means giving thanks and rejoicing even when our circumstances are not always moments of joy and thanksgiving, or when we are confronted with a broken world. Prayerful stewards rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances because they are people of hope. A good reflection this week would be how the season of Advent can give you reason to hope.

**ANGEL TREE FAMILY – 2023:** The Angel tree collection will be this weekend as a second collection and it will be used for gift cards from our local stores. **Please** have all gifts under the tree and all money donations into the office by this **Wednesday, December 20.** Thank you in advance for your generous "Spirit of Giving" during this special time of the year! **Please add your Angel tag to your gift so we will know which gift goes to which Angel.**

BOY – Age 7, shirt: 6/7; pants 6/7; shoes: 12/1

GIRL – Age 9, shirt: 12/14; pants: 10/12; shoes: 3 ½/4

BOY – Age 10, shirt: 14/16; pants: 14/16; shoes: 6

#### **KOLACHE BAKING FOR THE DREYER FAMILY:**

We are in need of helpers for the making of Kolaches and Cinnamon rolls for the Dreyer family fund raiser. We will be baking this weekend, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 9 AM each day at Mosler Hall. Please make plans to attend and help on at least one of these dates, if not all! A free lunch is provided as well as a learning experience, fun, and fellowship. Please come help support the Dreyer Family. Thanks!

#### **2024 COLLECTION ENVELOPES**

There are **still some envelopes with names** on them in the back of the church, Please pick them up before we start decorating for Christmas. If you do not see your name, please contact the office. All Families who are members of our Parish should have a box, unless you draft from your bank and don't need a box. Thank you!

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS HOSTED BY ZACHARY SCHERTZ:** Will be suspended until after the Holidays.

#### **OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP: December 10, 2023**

##### **SACRED HEART:**

Amount in Checks/Envelopes & Loose: \$ 4,523.00  
Youth: \$ 15.00 Special: \$ 879.00 Holy Day: \$ 598.00  
**TOTAL: \$ 6,015.00**

Envelope Use: 40 Regular; 2 Youth; 20 Special; 12 Holy Day

##### **ST. MARY:**

Amount in Checks/Envelopes & Loose: \$ 809.00  
Youth: \$ 0 Special: \$ 180.00 Holy Day: \$ 176.00  
**TOTAL: \$ 1,165.00**

Envelope Use: 6 Regular; 0 Youth; 4 Special; 3 Holy Day

**Attendance: Sacred Heart – Sat. 69 & Sun. 88 St. Mary – 47**

##### **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 the Ricky Wright Family, For the Living & Deceased members of the Ermis & Simaichl Family by Judy Ermis Holden & Family.

**FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS BY:** Kay Flippin, Terry & Belinda Bench, Ricky & Charlotte Wright, Marilyn McGough, 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:**

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

##### **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Thanks to all who have been praying and donating your time, talents and efforts to the Steve Dreyer Family, especially to Scarlett Morrison's recovery. This upcoming Wednesday, Dec. 20, all parish denominations in Seymour are asked to donate that day to fasting and prayer for healing for Scarlett. Select a prayer time and prayer focus for her healing. Fast from your TV or your phone or any food especially if it will cause you to remember Scarlett needs for our prayers. Come to Mass that evening at 6 p.m. for Mass, Adoration and then stay praying the Rosary with Benediction concluding at 7:30 p.m. Scarlett really needs God's healing power.

##### **CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL SERVICES**

Monday, December 25, is the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) – **A Holy Day of Obligation.** In the Catholic Church, **Holy Days of Obligation** or **Holidays of Obligation**, less commonly called **Feasts of Precept**, are the days on which, as canon 1247 of the Code of Canon Law states; *the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass. Moreover they are to abstain from those works and affairs which hinder the worship to be rendered to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, or the suitable relaxation of mind and body.*

All are welcome to join us for our Christmas Schedule of Services at Sacred Heart Church in Seymour and St. Mary's Church in Megargel. A Blessed and Merry Christmas to All!

##### **Christmas Eve/Sunday, December 24**

5:50 PM - Blessing of Lights & Manger-St. Mary in Megargel

6:00 PM - Mass at St. Mary in Megargel

9:50 PM - Blessing of Lights & Manger- Sacred Heart in Seymour

10:00 PM - Mass at Sacred Heart in Seymour

##### **Christmas Day/Monday, December 25**

10:00 AM - Mass at Sacred Heart in Seymour

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

### **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](mailto:Trent.barton@fwdioc.org). Please continue to keep him in your daily prayers.

**MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE FUND DRIVE:** Please consider a donation to help our annual drive to raise funds for the Ministerial Alliance. In the month of December the community churches ask for your support to replenish our funds so that we can help those needy within our local community. You may simply drop off a donation or place a donation in the weekly collections marked “Ministerial Alliance.” There are also boxes in our Seymour stores for your convenience.

### **Be a Good Steward of the Advent and Christmas Seasons!!!**

December is such a busy time of year, and a month that tempts us to lose sight of the profound spiritual importance of the Advent and Christmas seasons. The best way to stay focused on the coming of Jesus Christ is to be good stewards of his presence in our daily lives. Here are simple ways to exercise good stewardship of this sacred time of year.

- **Give God a very special gift this year:** Let this gift be something personal that no one else needs to know about, and let it be a sacrifice. Perhaps your gift will be to commit to spending more time with God daily. Perhaps there is a habit you know you should give up. Why wait for a New Year’s resolution? Start now.
- **Set aside a special time to read the Christmas story in the Gospel of Saint Luke 1:5-56 through 2:1-20:** Consider reading this account with your family and discussing it together.
- **Plan a project to help someone this Christmas:** Identify someone with a genuine need, involve your whole family and see how happy you can make someone this Christmas. Participate in your parish Adopt-a-Family program or call Catholic Charities or another charity and find a family through their programs. Make sure your children take part in shopping for a family who needs extra help and make them aware of the needs in your community.
- **Give a surprise gift of service to each member of your family:** The idea of giving an unexpected gift of service to members of your family reveals your own love and concern for them. You might consider giving your spouse a day away, running an errand for your brother, or cleaning out a closet for your mother. Make it personal and meaningful.
- **Attend Christmas Mass together with your family:** December 25 falls on Monday this year so enrich your Christmas weekend at the Table of the Lord. If you are alone this Christmas or don’t have family living near you, invite a friend or a neighbor to join you.

**Year-End Giving:** As this year draws to a close, you are likely to be reviewing your important financial matters, including your charitable giving for 2023. Now is certainly a good time to think carefully about *what* to give and *when* to give it. It is also an important time to reflect on the call to Stewardship – to give back to God in gratitude. Please remember the parishes, schools and many ministries of the Diocese of Fort Worth now and in the future. Gifts of cash, IRA distributions, securities, insurance policies, bequests, annuities and trusts can make a lasting difference.

### **POINSETTIAS FOR THE CHURCH**

In keeping with our tradition, we ask you to donate Poinsettias in memory of your loved ones, living & deceased. All Poinsettias need to be delivered to the church by Friday, December 22, in good time for our volunteers to decorate for the Christmas season.

### **NEW YEAR’S LITURGICAL SERVICES**

**Reminder:** Monday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God (New Year’s Day) – **A Holy Day of Obligation!** In the Catholic Church, **Holy Days of Obligation** or **Holidays of Obligation**, less commonly called **Feasts of Precept**, are the days on which, as canon 1247 of the Code of Canon Law states; *the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass. Moreover they are to abstain from those works and affairs which hinder the worship to be rendered to God, the joy proper to the Lord’s Day, or the suitable relaxation of mind and body.*

All are welcome to join us for Schedule of Services at Sacred Heart Church in Seymour and St. Mary of the Assumption in Megargel:

#### **New Year’s Eve/December 31**

5:00 PM Mass at Sacred Heart in Seymour

#### **New Year’s Day/January 1**

8:00 AM Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption in Megargel

10:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart in Seymour

#### **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, Troy & 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, Genevieve Hmrcirik, Hailey Glass, Debbie Turner, Teagan Matthews, Hannah Green, Jim Cuba, Sharon Wright, Arleen Kuhler, Abigail Novak, Braxton Pierce, Andrew Amador, Billie McGough, Jason Gilley, Margie Psencik, Andrea Sanchez, Ellen Schaefer Bruggeman, Machele Hass, Jeanie Evans, John Helton, Charlene Gajdos, Margarita Martinez, Donovan Muharib, Rosario Cruz, 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, Nick Bryant, Linda Willis, Sandra & Ricky Moorhouse, Korbett Loftin, June Hmrcirik, Rickey Bohanon, 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, Justin Walker, Scott Christian, Judy Wheeler, Tamara Gann, Dale Peterson, Anne Marie Vita, Billy Mac Howe, Deven Hall, Kim Novak, Lizzie Smith, Henrietta & James Styles, Deacon Jim Novak, Gary Coltharp, Jerry Kuhler, Vivian Steinbach, Ashley Felty, Deidra Groves, Melvin & Shirlee Motl, Jaime & Jim McLarty, Justin Elliott, Lana Studer, Robert Torrez, Waylan Wyatt, Levi Bourland, Chris Scott, Ashley Wright-Burke & Family, Phyllis Molina, Betty Hernandez, Larry (Pero) Elliott, Ruby Robertson, Lane Hmrcirik, Logan Hmrcirik, Jaime Hmrcirik, Mike Flippin, Patsy Groves, Karen Bruggeman, Manny Perez, Eric Hostas, Chris Allen, Loy Studer, Leon Lagesse, Jr., Kaylan Carter, Peggy Brown, Scarlett Morrison, Steve & Katrina Dreyer, Jennifer Roy & Karissa Gill.

**SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN:** 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, Sebastian Mabry, Tyrel Hart & Tylor Don Chism. *Please call the office to update the prayer list for those to be added or removed.*

### **PRAY FOR RAIN FOR OUR FIELDS, CROPS, RANGELANDS AND RESERVOIRS!**

## **Prayer Focus for Scarlett Morrison**

1. Pray that God will heal so that she can breathe on her own.
2. Pray that God will continue to heal her spinal cord so she can move her legs.
3. Pray that she can regain the use of her fingers.
4. Pray against any and all infections.
5. Pray for wisdom and discernment for the doctors and nurses.
6. Pray for any all procedures that will take place.
7. Pray a hedge of protection around Scarlett and her family.
8. Pray that God would be glorified and exalted in her healing.
9. Pray for strength for Scarlett.
10. Pray that her pain would be minimal.

Select a prayer time or times and set an alarm on your phone to remind you to pray. Make plans to fast from food for the entire 24 hours on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. If you cannot fast from food due to a medical condition, then plan to fast from something, TV, your phone, etc. Of course, pray as you think about it all through the day and night.



## **Prayer and Fasting Vigil for Scarlett Morrison**

Wednesday December 20, 2023

6:00 - 6:15 PM
6:15 - 6:30 PM
6:30 - 6:45 PM
6:45 - 7:00 PM
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11:45 - 12:00 AM