Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

December 31 & January 1, 2017

P.O. Box 130 ~ 411 Ware St., Groom TX - 79039.
Tele. & Fax: 806-248-7584, Cell Phone: 806-316-4146

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Arokia Raj Samala ~ Parish Council Chair : Ron Kuehler
Finance Council Chair: Rodney Bohr, Altar Society President: Debbie Ollinger
RCIA: Ron Kuehler DRE: Nicole Kuehler Youth Director: Kathleen Barkley, Bookkeeper : Sherri Wieberg
Parish E-mail: immaculateheartgroom@gmail.com Website: immaculateheartgroomtx.com

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

The Holy Mother of God

"They went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in the manger; once they saw, they understood what had been told them concerning this Child."
—Luke 2:16-17

For a moment, put aside the centuries of religious interpretation of the Nativity, and picture the scenario through the lens of 21st century Western culture. A modern couple denied civil conditions for birth might well be furious over this injustice. They would likely be planning a lawsuit against the "hospital" that sent them away (see Lk 2:7). The visitors at the manger might well be eager lawyers rather than humble shepherds!
Scripture tells us that Mary reflected in her heart about the injustices she, Joseph, and her Child were required to endure (Lk 2:19). Such reflection can sometimes lead people to self-pity, anger toward God, or bitterness. However, Mary embraced her situation and humbly "treasured" these events (Lk 2:19).

Mary's holiness led her to strive to see all things from God's perspective instead of a human one. Mary thereby proved herself a member of God's family, for God the Father also embraced His Son's lowly birth into the human condition (Gal 4:4).
Many crosses await us in 2017. Right now, make a New Year's resolution to "treasure" all the crosses that come into your life and see how the Lord will use them to transform your

Prayer: Father, look kindly on us and grant us peace (Nm 6:26).

Masses & Information

Monday, Thursday, Friday .....7:30 AM
Saturday: ..... 5:30 PM
Sunday :..... 8:30 AM
ednesday: ..... 6:00 PM
Confession: Saturday.....4:30-5:15 PM
Sunday .....7:55-8:15 a m or by appointment
First Wednesday Adoration ..... 7 PM - 10 PM

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Contact Father Raj at least six months in advance.

BAPTISMS: Call the rectory for appointment.

COMMUNION to shut-ins and the ill, call Fr. Raj @ 248-7584 or 316-4146.

Anyone who cannot come to the communion rail during Mass should let Father Raj know before Mass.

Those who are ill or shut in should contact Bill Homer if you would like communion brought to your home during the week or on weekends.

Masses Intentions

Sunday, January 01----------8.30 a.m.
NEW YEAR
Monday, January 02----------7:30 a.m.
+Barbara Fowkes by Alice Kuehler
Wednesday, January 04----------6:00 p.m.
+Barbara Fowkes by Alice Kuehler
Thursday, January 05----------7:30 a.m.
+Don Williams by Tom & Doris Britten
Friday, January 06----------7:30 a.m.
For the Intentions of Johnny and Doris Homer
Saturday, January 07 ----------5:30 p.m.
For the Intentions of Johnny and Doris Homer

Stewardship Reports

Stewardship Report

Individual.....$2,940.00
Loose.....$1,615.00
Children.....$ 51.00
Total.....$4,606.00

Building Fund

Individual & Total.....$2,670.00

Pray for Our Sick:

Brandi Sustaire, John Detten, Emma Detten, Tammy Bivens, Celeste Connelly, Conner Homer, Daniel Hinson, Schellon Major, Ralph Hutsell, Donna Burton, Shamara Husemann, Bill Becker, Shawn Meidinger, Dorothoy Weller, Jim Eakin, Charlene Weller, Leonard Koetting, Alina Becker.

Please let us know when to take someone off the above list.

Please Pray for the souls of the faithful departed. Pray for those in the armed services, for the sacrifices their family is making. Pray that our leaders will make good decisions for world peace. Pray for victims of natural disasters all over the world.

Family Chalice Program

December 31/January 1: Tom & Doris Britten
January 7/8: Ron and Laura Kuehler family
January 14/15: Cliff and Susan Britten
January 21/22: Pam and Cassie Ashford
January 28/29: Mike and Marla Britten family
February 4/5: Rita Poor

Birthdays

January 1 - Tanner Britten, Cody Kling
January 3 - Whitt Ward, Nick Weinheimer
January 4 - Sherri Wieberg, Daniel Hinson
January 6 - Ron Kuehler

Anniversary

January 3 - Coby & Lainie Eilenberger

Church Cleaning for January

Marla Britten, Debbie Ollinger, Sandra Britten, Mary Treadwell, Pam Ashford, Tami Keesee, Cara Ashford, Sharon Britten, Shelly Britten, Sherri Wieberg, Waymth Britten, Lorri Connelly, Nicole Kuehler, Loretta Britten and Tabitha Eggemeyer

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 31, 2016:

Extraor. Com Minister:

Sunday, January 1, 2017:
Servers: Damon and Stephen

Extraor. Com Minister:

Saturday, January 7, 2017:
Servers: Lauren and Stephen
Lector: Kay Britten
Extraor. Com Minister: Ron Kuehler

Sunday, January 8, 2017:
Servers: Owen and Cody
Lector: Ciff Britten
Extraor. Com Minister: Joannie Kling

Saturday, January 14, 2017:
Servers: Derek and Ryan
Lector: Gary Britten
Extraor. Com Minister: Nick Weinheimer

Sunday, January 15, 2017:
Servers: Kate and Saffron
Lector: Nick Kuehler
Extraor. Com Minister: Nicole Kuehler

Saturday, January 21, 2017:
Servers: Phineas and Kacie
Lector: Jason Eugea
Extraor. Com Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, January 22, 2017:
Servers: Madison and Ali

Extraor. Com Minister:

Parish Announcements

***New Year Day Mass**
Saturday, December 31st at. 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 01st at 8:30 a.m.

January 4th:
Play Practice (all students) - 5:30 - 7:45
January 8th: Christmas Program

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH WORLD DAY OF PEACE JANUARY 01, 2017

3. Jesus himself lived in violent times. Yet he taught that the true battlefield, where violence and peace meet, is the human heart: for "it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come" (Mk 7:21). But Christ's message in this regard offers a radically positive approach. He unfailingly preached God's unconditional love, which welcomes and forgives. He taught his disciples to love their enemies (cf. Mt 5:44) and to turn the other cheek (cf. Mt 5:39). When he stopped her accusers from stoning the woman caught in adultery (cf. Jn 8:1-11), and when, on the night before he died, he told Peter to put away his sword (cf. Mt 26:52), Jesus marked out the path of nonviolence. He walked that path to the very end, to the cross, whereby he became our peace and put an end to hostility (cf. Eph 2:14-16). Whoever accepts the Good News of Jesus is able to acknowledge the violence within and be healed by God's mercy, becoming in turn an instrument of reconciliation. In the words of Saint Francis of Assisi: "As you announce peace with your mouth, make sure that you have greater peace in your hearts".[3]

To be true followers of Jesus today also includes embracing his teaching about nonviolence. As my predecessor Benedict XVI observed, that teaching "is realistic because it takes into account that in the world there is too much violence, too much injustice, and therefore that this situation cannot be overcome except by countering it with more love, with more goodness. This 'more' comes from God".[4] He went on to stress that: "For Christians, nonviolence is not merely tactical behaviour but a person's way of being, the attitude of one who is so convinced of God's love and power that he or she is not afraid to tackle evil with the weapons of love and truth alone. Love of one's enemy constitutes the nucleus of the 'Christian revolution'".[5] The Gospel command to love your enemies (cf. Lk 6:27) "is rightly considered the magna carta of Christian nonviolence. It does not consist in succumbing to evil…, but in responding to evil with good (cf. Rom 12:17-21), and thereby breaking the chain of injustice".[6] At the birth of Jesus, the angels gave glory to God and wished peace on earth to men and women of good will (cf. Luke 2:14). Le "All of us want peace. Many people build it day by day through small gestures and acts; many of them are suffering, yet patiently persevere in their efforts to be peacemakers".In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and to building nonviolent communities that care for our common home. "Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be an artisan of peace".