

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church

April 27, 2025

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the
Heart of Jesus as a Fountain of Mercy for us,

I Trust In You!



**DIVINE
MERCY**

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Archdiocese of Galveston Houston

816 Park Dr. La Porte, Texas 77571

281-471-2000 Fax:281-471-9365

Website:www.stmaryslaporteic.com

Email:stmaryslpcc@sbcglobal.net

Parish Office Hours ~ Mon.- Fri. 9:00 am -12:00 Noon 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Bookkeeper-Nelda Shealy
Bulletin/Sacramental Records-
Cheryl Frobenius
Maintenance- Steve Regan
Parish Secretary-
Jessica Jaramillo


Parish Staff
Rev. Tony A. Castro, Pastor
Deacon Stan Avallone
Deacon Hector Cantu
Deacon Greg Bremer

C.C.E. Director - Shari Davis
C.C.E.Coordinator -
Graciela Lopez
EDGE Coordinator-
Randy Tercero
Life Teen Director-Shari Davis
OCIA - Tracy Avallone

If you are in need of any information regarding Sacraments please visit our website or contact the office during regular office hours.

Vision Statement

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception is a Catholic Community of Believers called to serve Christ by gathering together at the Lord's Table in worship and praise, by serving our brothers and sisters in Christ, and by being a welcoming beacon of light to all. We are many parts, yet one body in Christ.

<u>Upcoming Mass Schedule</u>	05/05/25 Saturday 5:30PM	05/06/2025 Sunday 9:00AM	05/06/2025 Sunday 11:00AM (Spanish)	05/06/2025 Sunday 1:00 PM
Lector/ Commentator		Jason Woods	Rosa Harness	
Cup Minister				
Cup Minister				
Altar Server			Victor Velasquez	
Altar Server	***Please sign Up! For Ministry signups for next weekend, please use your phone to scan the QR or sign up through Flocknotes. If you have signed up after this past Tuesday, the above schedule does not reflect your sign up. Our bulletin goes to the publisher on Tuesday afternoon. Call the office if you are in need of assistance.			
Gift Bearer Family Name				

Catechism in a Year with Fr. Mike....
Sunday at 10am or Tuesdays at 6:15pm
You can join us at any time...

Tuesday evenings will be a repeat of the Sunday morning material. You can come to both sessions or just one. If normally you attend Tuesday and want to attend Sunday or vice versa, that's ok.

Questions contact Tracy stmarysrcia@yahoo.com.

Pope's Prayer Intention for April:
For the use of new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

Mon., Tues., and Wed., 9-11am

Drop-off Room Open Daylight Hours

Assistance Tues. & Thurs. By Appt.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please call or have them call the office to make an appointment.

We are still collecting rolls of black garbage bags for our sorting room. Please bring them by the office.



The Gabriel Project is

designed to help women and teenagers who are in a crisis pregnancy. If you are in need of assistance or know someone who is, please contact Belinda @ 713-805-4961 or the office.

Divine Mercy Sunday *April 27, 2025*

Date & Feast	Readings	Mass	Prayer Intentions
Saturday, April 26	Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21; Mk 16:9-15	8:30PM	Jesus Chavez Jr.†
Sunday of Divine Mercy, April 27	Acts 5:12-16; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31	9:00AM 11:00AM~ Spanish 1:00PM Mass	Delia Lopez† Special Intention for Samuel Rincan People of the Parish
Monday, April 28	Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Jn 3:1-8	No Mass	
Tuesday, April 29 Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15	12:00 Noon	Dobmier Family
Wednesday, April 30	Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21	12:00 Noon	The Souls in Purgatory
Thursday, May 1	Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36	8:30AM	Pope Francis†
Friday, May 2 Memorial of Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15	8:30AM	People of the Parish
Saturday, May 3 Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles	1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6-14	5:30pm	Leo Villarreal†
Sunday, May 4 Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Rev 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 or Jn 21:1-14	9:00AM 11:00AM~ Spanish 1:00PM	Edward Palacios† Rebeca Bernabe† People of the Parish

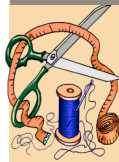
Lector/Commentator/Cup Minister/ Altar Server Training

Deacon Stan is currently doing trainings after Sunday Masses. We are desperately in need of your help. If you would like to be a Cup Minister, please speak to Deacon Stan. Once you have been trained with him a request letter will be sent to the Archdiocese requesting that you be commissioned to serve. After we receive the letter of approval back you will be able to sign up through Flocknotes. This method enables

- *Mass Intentions* can be scheduled by calling the office at anytime. If you are wanting a specific date, please be sure to call well in advance of the date you would like to request. The stipend to schedule a Mass is \$5.00.
- *The Sanctuary Candles in the Church/Chapel* can also burn in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. The Altar Society uses these funds in order to purchase candles and supplies for the church.
- *Votive Candles* are located in the foyer of the church. If you would like to light a candle in memory of someone or for a special intention, any monetary donation is greatly appreciated. The Altar Society uses these funds to purchase additional candles for the church and chapel.

Becoming Catholic Classes (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Who should do the full Becoming Catholic program? If you are not baptized or were baptized in another Christian denomination and are interested in possibly becoming Catholic, these classes are for you. If you are a baptized Catholic adult who needs First Holy communion and confirmation, then you should attend these classes to receive those sacraments. Coming once (or twice or more) obligates you to NOTHING. **For additional information call the office or email Tracy, stmarysrcia@yahoo.com.**



Come Join Us...

Consecrated Needle Sewing Group

We meet the 2nd Saturday of each month from 2-5pm and every Wednesday from 12-3pm.

Please join us anytime you are available. We have a lot of plans in the works and have other tasks besides sewing. Cutting, pressing, ironing etc.

Can you crochet or would you like to learn how? We recently received a large donation of yarn and would like to make some lap blankets for some of the our elderly homebound individuals. Also, if you can knit, we would love to have your help.

Contact Jan at 281-402-5401 or hughesjanice55@yahoo.com.

**Dear parish family,
Divine Mercy Sunday**

We join all Catholics and people of faith around the world as we mourn the death of our Holy Father Pope Francis.

Quoting a senior Vatican official's statement: "With immense gratitude for his example as a true disciple of the Lord Jesus, we commend the soul of Pope Francis to the infinite, Triune God."

"He taught us to live the values of the Gospel with faithfulness, courage, and universal love, especially for the poorest and most marginalized."

"His Holiness will be remembered for his compassion, his concern for the unity of the Church, and his tireless commitment to the common causes of all people of faith and those of goodwill who work for the benefit of others."

"His belief that care for Creation is an existential expression of faith in God resounded with many worldwide. Through his work and care for people and the planet, he profoundly touched the lives of so many."

Pope Francis' tenure as the leader of the Catholic Church was anything but conventional. He washed the feet of prisoners, scolded world leaders for their inaction on climate change, and fought to make the Church a place of mercy rather than exclusion.

Unfortunately, many of his critics saw him only through the lens of their political or social views or rigid rules rather than through his way of presenting the gospel message of Christ's love, compassion, care, and respect for others.

He leads the Church of the whole world on a different political spectrum across nations and states. He was loved and praised in third-world countries, while divisive views on him from the Western hemisphere, especially the USA. Critics politicized his views, forgetting that he represents Christ's views and ignoring that heaven has no politics. When we die, our final judgment will be based on "whatever we do to the least of my brothers, you did it to me, Jesus says." Pope Francis tried his best to follow Christ's lead.

It is unique in the papacy. He declared two Church Jubilees: in 2015, the Extraordinary (out of the cycle) Jubilee Year of Mercy, and this year, the Jubilee Year of Hope (normal cycle of 25 years). These are two themes very close to his heart: Mercy and Hope.

Pope Francis, often referred to as the "people's pope," served the highest honor and power of the Church with utmost humility, simplicity, and accessibility.

Let the Holy Spirit decide who'll succeed him. And on this Divine Mercy Sunday, we say, "Jesus, I Trust in You."

**Blessings to all and have a good week.
Fr. Tony**

**Querida familia parroquial,
Domingo de la Divina Misericordia**

Nos unimos a todos los católicos y personas de fe en todo el mundo mientras lloramos la muerte de nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco.

Citando una declaración de un alto funcionario del Vaticano: "Con inmensa gratitud por su ejemplo como verdadero discípulo del Señor Jesús, elogiamos el alma del Papa Francisco al Dios infinito, Triuno".

"Él nos enseñó a vivir los valores del Evangelio con fidelidad, coraje y amor universal, especialmente para los más pobres y marginados".

"Su Santidad será recordada por su compasión, su preocupación por la unidad de la Iglesia y su compromiso incansable con las causas comunes de todas las personas de fe y aquellos de buena voluntad que trabajan para el beneficio de los demás."

"Su creencia de que el cuidado de la Creación es una expresión existencial de fe en Dios resonó con muchos en todo el mundo. A través de su trabajo y cuidado por las personas y el planeta, tocó profundamente la vida de tantos".

El mandato del Papa Francisco como líder de la Iglesia Católica fue todo menos convencional. Lavó los pies de los prisioneros, regañó a los líderes mundiales por su inacción sobre el cambio climático y luchó para hacer de la Iglesia un lugar de misericordia en vez de exclusión.

Desafortunadamente, muchos de sus críticos lo vieron solo a través de la lente de sus puntos de vista políticos o sociales o reglas rígidas en lugar de a través de su forma de presentar el mensaje evangélico del amor, la compasión, el cuidado y el respeto de los demás hacia Cristo.

Dirige la Iglesia de todo el mundo en un espectro político diferente entre naciones y estados. Fue amado y elogiado en los países del tercer mundo, mientras que las opiniones sobre él eran divisivas desde el hemisferio occidental, especialmente desde los Estados Unidos. Los críticos politizaron sus puntos de vista, olvidando que él representa los puntos de vista de Cristo e ignorando que el cielo no tiene política. Cuando muramos, nuestro juicio final se basará en "lo que sea que le hagamos al más mínimo de mis hermanos, tú me lo hiciste a mí, dice Jesús". El Papa Francisco hizo todo lo posible para seguir el ejemplo de Cristo.

Es único en el papado. Declaró dos Jubileos de la Iglesia: en 2015, el Año Jubileo Extraordinario (fuera del ciclo) de la Misericordia, y este año, el Año Jubileo de la Esperanza (ciclo normal de 25 años). Estos son dos temas muy cercanos a su corazón: Misericordia y Esperanza.

El Papa Francisco, a menudo referido como el "Papa del pueblo", sirvió al más alto honor y poder de la Iglesia con la máxima humildad, simplicidad y accesibilidad.

Deja que el Espíritu Santo decida quién le sucederá. Y en este Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, decimos: "Jesús, confío en ti."

**Bendiciones a todos y que tengan una buena semana.
Fr. Tony**

St. Mary's Stewardship Corner

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 27 Catholic Home Missions

Thank you!

April Offerings	
April 19/20	\$10,090.00
Online Giving	\$11,406.77
Monthly needed	\$60,000.00
Total Received	\$37,085.77
Still needed	\$22,914.23

Holy Week Contributions:
Holy Thursday.....\$741.00
Good Friday.....\$1,088.00

Second Collection
Stained Glass Loan Debt Reduction:
\$1,958.00



Make the switch from envelopes to online giving. If you prefer to participate in online giving, both one-time and reoccurring options can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting: www.stmaryslaporteic.com



STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME



Close to 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered "home mission dioceses," meaning that local conditions such as small, widely dispersed Catholic populations and economic hardships prevent those dioceses from operating their ministries without outside support. For example, with the smallest Catholic population in the 48 continental United States, spread across 66,800 square miles of mountainous terrain and rugged Oregon desert, the Diocese of Baker is so extensive that many parishes are a minimum of 50 miles from each other, and only one town has more than one parish.

Support provided to the diocese from the Catholic Home Missions Appeal covered the cost of having a priest in residence for two rural parishes.

Without this support, more than 400 parishioners would not be able to receive the sacraments regularly. The work of Catholic Home Missions in the diocese extends beyond such basic support to includes its family life enhancement program, which helps parishes overcome the isolation that families experienced during the pandemic, isolation that has become an ongoing challenge in rural communities.

You can make a positive impact in the lives of Catholics in the Diocese of Baker and other home mission dioceses across the United States and its current and former territories by supporting the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. For more information about Catholic Home Missions, visit www.usccch.org/home-missions.

What Is a "Home Mission" Diocese?

Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and lay people. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered home mission dioceses.

Altar Society

Flower Dates Available

May 24/25 June 21/22, 28/29 July 26/27
Contact Rose ~713-202-3283 to reserve a date.

May Altar Duty Assignments

Church/Altar ~ Adrienne, Evarist, Gloria, Valerie
Laundry ~ Sofia Garza

Catholic Clerical Student Fund Mass Enrollments

What began as a way to meet the basic needs of Seminarians the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women created the Catholic Clergy Student Fund. Today, Catholic Clerical Student Fund (CCSF,) is used to raise funds to be used in the education of young men to the Priesthood.

You can help fund the education of our future Priests by enrolling your loved ones for their Birthdays, First Communion, Baptism, Confirmation, Wedding, or Anniversary. You may also enroll a deceased loved one. Spiritual favors for those enrolled, as well as the donors to the fund are many. Both will be remembered often in Masses at St. Mary's Seminary, as well as in the prayers of the Seminarians, and by those assisted by the fund.

We have recently received some new cards that feature some of the stained glass windows in our church. You can come by the office to purchase cards or contact Jan Hughes at 281-402-5401 or hughesjanice55@yahoo.com for more information. The cards range in cost from \$5.00 to \$25.00, depending on if it is for an individual or family.

Sharon Ramos, President 281-451-9593

Anointing of the Sick

will be held on Friday, May 2 after the 8:30am Mass held in St. Joseph's Chapel. If you are seriously ill, suffering from a terminal illness or going to have a life-threatening surgery, this sacrament is for you. If, however, you are going to have a routine surgery, Father will be glad to give you a blessing. If you are unable to attend this Mass, but would like to be anointed, please call the office and make an appointment to come by at your earliest convenience or request a visit.

Spiritual Direction

Feeling stuck in your faith? Deeper intimacy with Our Lord Is possible. With gentle encouragement from a spiritual director and your commitment of 30-60 minutes a day you can enter into a deeper relationship with Our Lord than you ever thought possible. Spiritual direction can help you learn to pray better. **Contact Tracy:** stmarysraia@yahoo.com

Stay Connected ~ Join Flocknotes

In order to sign up for Flocknotes, go to the link below and scroll down to St. Mary's website page to the sign up form. If you have any problem with signing up, please send an email to Randy at stmaryslaporte@gmail.com.

Flocknotes website link: www.stmaryslaporteic.com

Activities for the Week

Sun. April 27: Masses 9am, 11am (Spanish) EDG/LT
Baptisms (English) 2pm, LT Fundraiser/Pulled Pork
Mon. April 28: Adult Confirmation 6:30pm
Tues. April 29: Rosary 11:30am Chapel before Mass
Wed. April 30: Rosary 11:30am Chapel before Mass
Consecrated Needle 12Noon RH Conf. Rm
Thurs. May 1: KNIGHTS RH 6:30pm
Fri. May 2: Spanish Prayer Group RH
Sat. May 3: KC Garage Sale 7am
Confessions 4pm, Mass 5:30pm
Sun., May 4: Mass 9am & 11am/Spanish, 1pm
EDGE/Life Teen 2pm



Please Pray for Our Troops, Active Military, First Responders and...

Tim Avallone, Nicky Avallone, Chris Avallone, Rodney Martinez, Theresa Wheeler, Jason Gibling, Emma & Mickey Logan, Bruce Norman, Lisa Gonzalez, Junior Gomez, Paul Mark, Margaret Hancock,, Nicole McNair, Jared & Hailey Stockman, Jose Guerrero,

Continue to Pray for David Mossor, Frances Zann, Nell & Patrick Wheeler, Ron & Theresa Nowetner, Cynthia Marie Pena, Deliya Martinez, Juan Vela, Micah Shay Nelson, Brigitte Barrera, Dianna, John Hanson, Rene Reyes, Agnes Rushing, Ines Torres, Carlos Martinez, Rosie Molina, Beatriz Gamboa, Graciela Lopez, Gavin Binkley, Suzi Kruchin, Mike Holland, Julie Sosa, Debbie, Ernestine Garcia, Emily De Leon, Mark McBride, Tim Hughes, Monica Lesenski, Norma Benisch, Michael Melton, Gertrude Williams, Herlinda Robles, Ann Mullins, Ernie Molina, Rey & Isabelle Salas, Virginia Perez, Teresa Gallant, Tom Davies, Lea Katherine Tennyson, Steve & Amy Farley, Maria, Miranda, Britton Phillips, Tim Hellstein, Maria Garcia, Charlie Jenkins, Fr. Gary Rickles, Teresa Mills, Rosa Harness, Jeanette Tilley, Marisol Leyva & family, Pete & Juanita Sanchez, Humberto Villalobos, Robert & Margaret Espinoza, Romela Nolan, Preston Wolf, Ben Munoz, Diana Ortiz, Janet Hoffpauir, Nick Martin and those requesting prayer via our website.
Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Daniel Mann

Our Sympathy to Carmen Mann and family on the loss of her husband, Daniel

Remember Our Shut-Ins Albert Palacios, Lydia Rubio, Trinidad Arrindon, Elida Peterson and those battling terminal illness and the residents of La Porte Care Center and Parson's House

***Prayer request names are placed in our bulletin for four weeks. If someone needs to be put back on the prayer list or added, please call the office.



Children's Liturgy of the Word Sunday @ 9a.m. Mass

****K-5th grade. Younger children can attend if accompanied by an adult/parent.**

Children's collection at 9am Offertory.

If you would be willing to help us, contact Vanessa @281-253-9405 or call the office.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Joseph's Adoration Chapel

St. Joseph's Chapel Adoration is from Tuesday 12 noon until Friday morning at 8am. We currently are in need of someone to fill an hour on Wednesday mornings at 3-4am. Please call the office if you would like to sign up for a specific hour or would like to be placed on our sub list..



VBS July 7th-10th

SAINTS IN THE BATTLE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR VBS
JULY 7TH-10TH
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

A call for times in need

email leannmariebonnette@gmail.com for more information



KC ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Saturday, May 3, 2025

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
816 PARK DR. LA PORTE, TX

SPRING CLEANING? CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSETS
AND DONATE YOUR TREASURES TO THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. DONATIONS WILL BE
ACCEPTED BEGINNING APRIL 22ND.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
RUBEN SALINAS 713-858-0154



LIFE TEEN
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

A transformational opportunity to form teen leaders in our parish.

At the heart of the Life Teen Leadership Conference is a generation of teens
that crave depth,

substance, and relationship in their faith.

**Our Goal is to send six teens and two chaperones to Benedictine
College for a faith filled week!**

**It will cost approximately \$1,000 per person for travel,
Food, and lodging for the week.**

Please, prayerfully consider making a donation.

Scan the QR code

You will have the option to make a onetime donation or consider making a recurring
donation to support activities throughout the year. (Conferences, retreats, food for
life nights, camps and confirmation)

*If you are unable to give at this time please pray for the teens and the
adults who are leading them.*

We are extremely grateful for your support!



We will be back...

CLASS 4/27/25

2:00—3:30



We will be back...

CLASS 4/27/25

2:00—3:30

