

**St. Stanislaus
Kostka
Catholic Church**

**Archdiocese of
Galveston-Houston**

Established
1866



December 20, 2020

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Rev. Elias Lopez

Permanent Deacon Walter Busa

Permanent Deacon Grant Holt

Seminarian Matthew Krusleski

Secretary / Bookkeeper Carol Serres

Altar Society

Delores Posinski President

Baptism Classes

EJ Maupin

Coordinator of Religious Education

Kirby Borski

Finance Council

David Borski President, Russell Pasket

Susan Wisnoski, Gary Klodzinski,

Susie Homeyer, Ben Leman, Larry Sechelski Jr.

Music Coordinator

Margaret McClosky

RCIA

Kim Ritchie

RCIC

Dana Wagner

Pastoral Leadership Team

Jerome Klawinsky, Daniel Otto,

Russell Pasket, Marcus Reaves,

Thomas Sechelski, Gail Sowell

Linda Toler, Dana Wagner

Mass Schedule

Tuesday Noon

Wednesday Noon

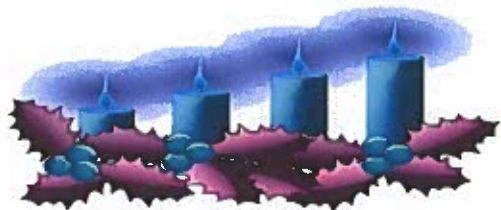
Christmas Eve 4:00

Christmas Day 10:00

Saturday 4:15 pm

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

December 20, 2020



4th Sunday of Advent

1511 Hwy 90 South

P O Box 210

Anderson, Texas 77830

936-873-2291

936-873-3304 Fax

Email: ststan@embarqmail.com

Web: www.saintstans.org

The Lord dwells among us.

The Lord reminds David that he, the Lord, chose David. He tells David that a kingdom will be established in David's name and endure forever. Saint Paul gives glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ. In the Gospel, the angel Gabriel tells Mary that she will conceive and bear a son, and – hearing that the Holy Spirit and the power of the Most High will be with her – she responds, *may it be done to me according to your word.*

Mass Intentions

Tuesday December 22nd noon

Monica Krause

Wednesday December 23rd noon

Deaven Szymanski, Daniel Sicinski

Anton & Geneva Sicinski

Thursday December 24th 4:00

Annie, Mary & Edward Coffman

Fred & Clara Wischnewsky & Frank Posinski

Friday December 25th 10:00

Patrick Busa & Rose Kimich

Saturday December 26th 4:15

Monica Krause

Sunday December 27th 8:00

Raymond Pasket

John & Maggie Pasket & John & Mary Lebeck

Sunday December 27th 10:00

Frank & Alice Grupa

ONLINE GIVING

go to www.saintstans.org

Click on Stewardship

Then click online giving.

Mail

P O Box 210

Anderson, Tx 77830

Father Eli

lopez.eli68@gmail.com

www.FORMED.org

Enter Parish code:

MVMZKF to register

Ststanskostka.flocknote.com/

or

Text STSTANS to 84576



If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement



Christmas Eve 4:00 pm & Christmas Day 10:00 am

Volunteers – Signup sheet

Saturday December 26th 4:15 pm

Lectors:

Leonard Szymczak & Dana Wagner

Rosary: Delores Posinski

Altar Servers:

Andrew Borski, Jacob Borski, Evan Borski

Ushers:

Danny Pasket, Darrell Wagner, Michael Wisnoski, Stephan Pasket

Sunday December 27th 8:00 am

Volunteers

Rosary: Barbara Dibello

Sunday December 27th 10:00 am

Lectors:

Margaret McClosky & Christi Leman

Rosary: Eugene Yanchak

Altar Servers:

Tyler Abraham, Hannah Abraham, William Abraham

Ushers:

Ben Leman, Gene Yanchak, Dennis Sechelski, Roger Vezurk

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

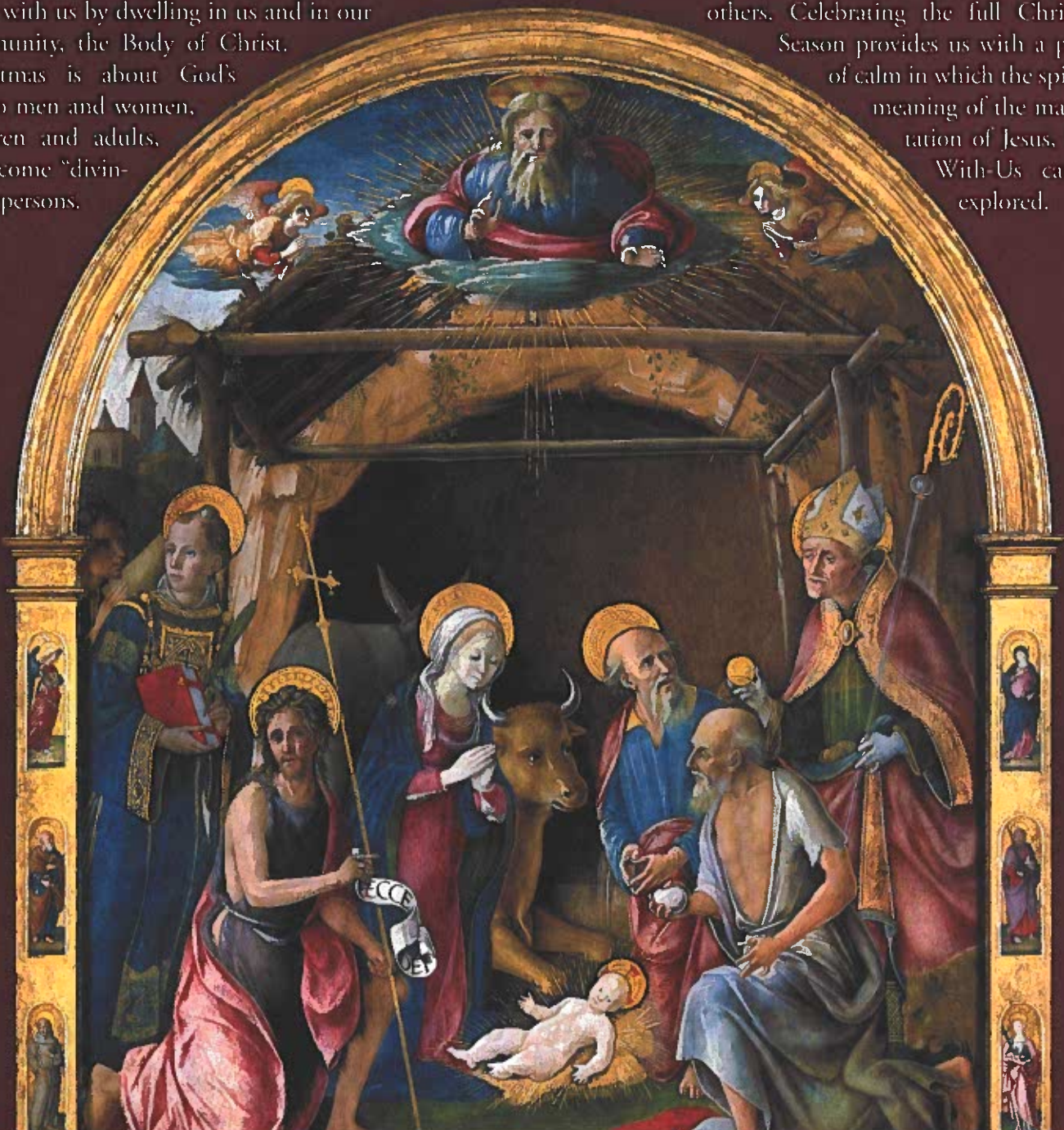
God is with Us

For the Church, Christmas is not just a one-day event but a full 12-day season that begins with the Christmas celebration of God's incarnation in Jesus of Nazareth and then progresses to the Epiphany as he is gradually manifested to John the Baptist, to his disciples, to the magi and finally to us and to the whole world.

Christmas is thus not just about a baby in a manger but about how the God who promised to be with us comes to be with us in Jesus, our "Emmanuel, which means God is with us" (Mt 1:23), and even more how God continues to be with us by dwelling in us and in our community, the Body of Christ. Christmas is about God's call to men and women, children and adults, to become "divinized" persons.

By uniting divinity and humanity in himself, Jesus invites us to participate in this incarnational mystery. Our lives are Christmas in miniature. We are invited to let God be born in us so that we become "divinized" persons, full of the divine life and called to realize God's vision of a world of justice, love and peace. Through us, God makes an appeal to all humanity to enter into this new life.

During this blessed season, then, we are constantly reminded of God's love and desire to be with us so that we can share in the divine life and also share this life with others. Celebrating the full Christmas Season provides us with a period of calm in which the spiritual meaning of the manifestation of Jesus, God-With-Us can be explored.



CELEBRATING THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS AT HOME

To celebrate these 12 days in your household, gather each day, perhaps around a meal, light a candle, read the suggested biblical passage, then share what you can do to make Jesus' presence more real in our world. As Vatican Council II reminded us, "Christ is the Light of nations. Because this is so, by proclaiming the Gospel to every creature, [we] bring the light of Christ to all persons." (*Constitution on the Church*, #1).

1st Day of Christmas (Lk 2:1-18)

Both Mary and the shepherds see in this child the revelation of God's love for all, especially the poor. *How might each of us recognize and respond to the needs of the poor?*

2nd Day of Christmas (Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59)

St. Stephen models our call to witness to Jesus' message of love despite the cost to us. *How might each of us reach out to love and help the poorest among us?*

3rd Day of Christmas (Lk 2:22-40)

Simeon's message to Jesus' parents reminds us that sorrow is part of every life. *How might each of us respond to the sorrow that so many are experiencing in their lives and relationships?*

4th Day of Christmas (Mt 2:13-18)

Jesus' birth threatened King Herod, who murdered many innocent children to remain king. *Where are innocent persons being persecuted today and how might we try to help them?*

5th Day of Christmas (1 Jn 1:1-4)

God has been revealed and become visible in Jesus. *How might each of us act today to make God visible in ourselves and to recognize God's presence in those around us?*

6th Day of Christmas (Mt 2:13-15, 19-23)

When the holy family becomes refugees fleeing Herod's persecution, Joseph must trust God's plan to protect Jesus and Mary. *How might we respond to help refugees and immigrants find a better life?*

7th Day of Christmas (Jn 1:1-18)

Jesus, God's Word made flesh, invites us to embody in ourselves the loving, forgiving, nurturing ways of God. *How might each of us better model these godly ways in our relationships?*

8th Day of Christmas (Jn 1:19-28)

John the Baptist prepares the way for others to discover and draw near to Jesus. *How might we "make straight the Lord's way" in our daily activities?*

9th Day of Christmas (Jn 1:29-34)

John the Baptist knows that God's Holy Spirit is at work in Jesus. *How might each of us show our trust that through the Holy Spirit God is also working in us?*

10th Day of Christmas (Jn 1:35-42)

Jesus asks his would-be disciples "What are you looking for?" *How might each of us answer this same question to better understand who Jesus is and who we are as his disciples?*

11th Day of Christmas (Jn 1:43-51)

Inspired by his experience of Jesus, Philipp invites Nathanael to come and meet Jesus too. *How might we reach out to share what we know and love about Jesus with someone else?*

12th Day of Christmas (Mt 2:1-12)

The Gentile magi follow the star as the sign of God's inclusive love for all peoples. *How might we make real God's inclusive love in our society, especially the most vulnerable and excluded?*

A REFLECTION FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

We do not dare to believe or trust the incredible truth that God could live in us, and live there out of choice, out of preference. Whether you understand or not, God loves you, is present to you, lives in you, dwells in you, calls you, saves you, and offers you an understanding and light which are like nothing you ever found in books or heard in sermons. If you dare to advance without fear into the solitude of your own heart, then you will truly understand what is beyond words and explanations because it is too close to be explained: the intimate union in the depths of your own heart, of God's spirit and your own secret inmost self, so that you and God are in all truth One Spirit.

—Thomas Merton
The Monastic Journey



Our Parish COMMUNITY

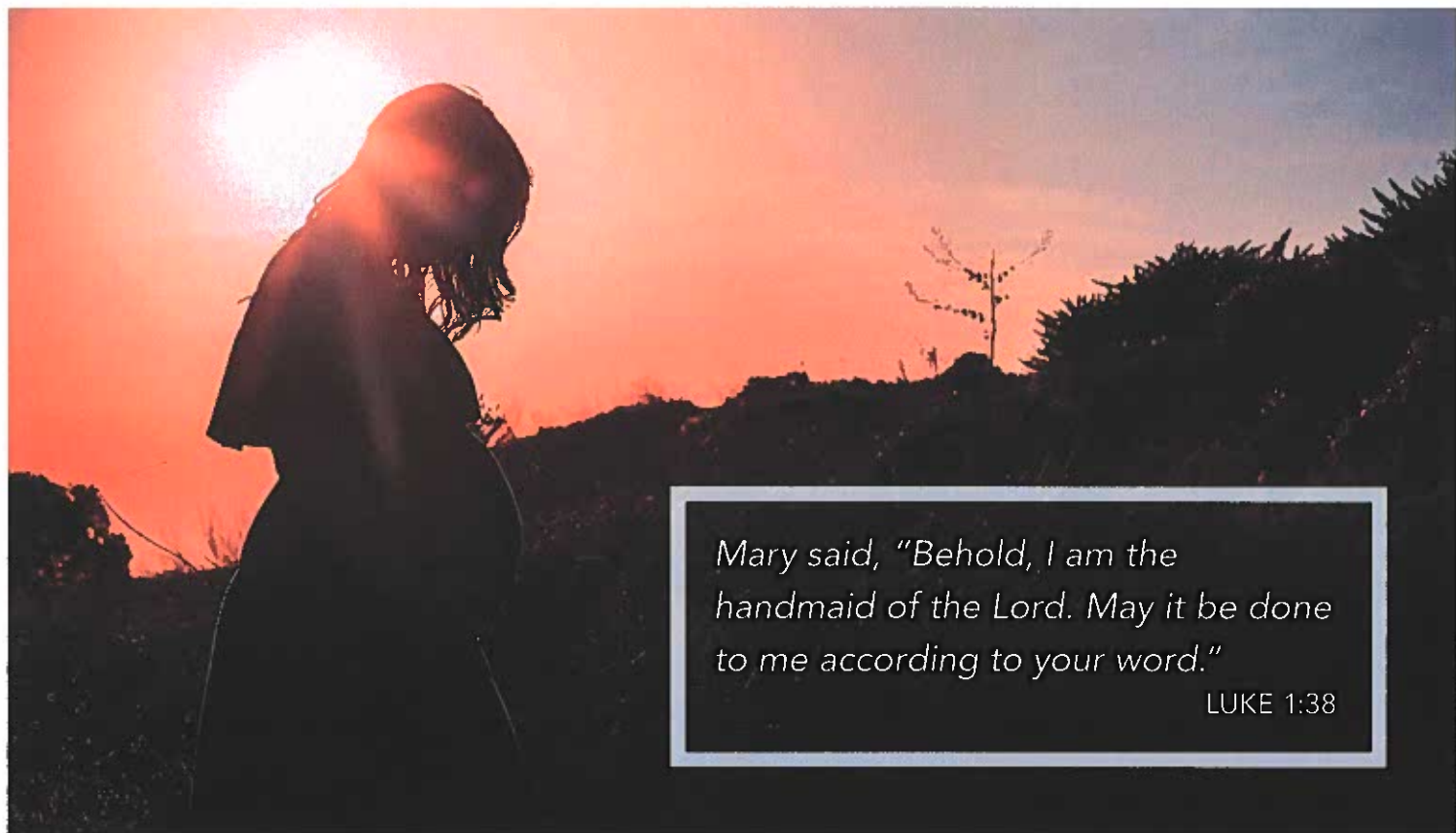
December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)

2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16

Rom 16:25–27

Lk 1:26–38



Mary said, "Behold, I am the
handmaid of the Lord. May it be done
to me according to your word."

LUKE 1:38

JOSH BEAN / UNSPLASH

How Can This Be?

The reading from Samuel assures us that the leader we are awaiting will be of the royal house of David. We presume this means personal power and political leadership, and recognition of this from others.

The Gospel turns us in a different direction. In it Mary asks, "How can this be?" (Luke 1:34) This question can be understood in two different ways. One means: How is it going to happen? The other suggests: You've got to be kidding! When told she will bear a child, this virgin asks: How is this going to happen? Her visitor

explains the unfolding of an unbelievable event. While stories in pagan religions described how gods took on human form, such wondrous events supposedly happened in royal families—not in the life of an unassuming girl promised to a modest carpenter. In the Incarnation, a singular historic event, Mary did not say: "You've got to be kidding!" She replied: "If that's what you want, I'm willing."

Advent readings have traced God leading the people to salvation and a new way of living, to an outline of an individual chosen by God to lead them, to the realization that this leader will be a descendant of David. However, none of this happens as we might expect. Rather, it unfolds in such an unpretentious way that many people did not even realize it was happening. Who could blame anyone for saying: You've got to be kidding! But God was not kidding.

Now we are ready for Christmas.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Advent readings show God working in mysterious ways. Where is God working in your life?
- ★ How prepared are you for the deeper meaning of Christmas?

Dear Padre,

Does God call me, like God called Mary? Can the angel Gabriel speak to me as he did to Mary?

Perhaps God has already spoken to you! In the great calls in Scripture, God doesn't seem to care about age. God doesn't care about gender, race, talents, poverty or wealth, strengths or weaknesses. God calls each of us because we are God's daughters and sons. God's call is personal (to you and no other!), and this call is to always be Christian and serve the Lord. Most often



the call won't be dramatic, like it was for Moses. More likely, your call will be quiet and personal. Remember what God said: "Be still, and know that I am God!" (Psalm 46:11).

In these hectic days before Christmas, find a peaceful place and quiet time. Be still and say to God, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:9). In this place, God will reveal your call to you, a call that was present long before your birth.

God has already spoken to us in our life's vocation. We are planted in friendships, relationships, marriages, jobs, families, a community, and a nation. In each place, we listen to hear what God is calling forth from us.

Then, like Mary, we say yes! We reach into our most generous spirit and proclaim "yes" to even the most difficult, mundane, or boring aspects of our vocation.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The angel Gabriel calls Mary "full of grace": in her there is no room for sin, because God chose her from eternity to be the mother of Jesus and preserved her from original sin....We too are asked to listen to God who speaks to us, and to accept his will....The Lord is always speaking to us!

—SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, DECEMBER 8, 2014

Calendar

Monday

DECEMBER 21
Advent Weekday
Sg 2:8–14 or
Zep 3:14–18a
Lk 1:39–45

Tuesday

DECEMBER 22
Advent Weekday
1 Sm 1:24–28
Lk 1:46–56

Wednesday

DECEMBER 23
Advent Weekday
Mal 3:1–4, 23–24
Lk 1:57–66

Thursday

DECEMBER 24
Advent Weekday
2 Sm 7:1–5,
8b–12, 14a, 16
Lk 1:67–79

Friday

DECEMBER 25
Christmas
Is 52:7–10
Heb 1:1–6
Jn 1:1–18 or
Jn 1:1–5, 9–14

Saturday

DECEMBER 26
St. Stephen, First Martyr
Acts 6:8–10, 7:54–59
Mt 10:17–22

Sunday

DECEMBER 27
The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14 or
Gn 15:1–6; 21:1–3
Col 3:12–21 or 3:12–17
or Heb 11:8, 11–12,
17–19
Lk 2:22–40 or
2:22, 39–40

December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16 | Rom 16:25-27 | Lk 1:26-38

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

During Advent, we await the One who is perfect grace, light, and joy. The Christ Child's arrival during a time when darkness has been increasing each day, and our anticipation of that arrival, emphasize his salvific role. For if even the smallest light is a glimmer of hope in the night, how much more is Christ's perfect and all-consuming light a life-saving flare in the darkness of sin and death. As we hear the angel Gabriel say of Christ, in his visitation to Mary: "He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High ... and of his kingdom there will be no end." Emmanuel, God with us, is the reason for our hope, and the reason for our joy.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I don't know about you, but despite my best intentions, I have been known to get a little swallowed up in the commercialism of Christmas. But this last week of Advent feels like a chance to reorder my mind and heart. One way to do this is by focusing on the "O Antiphons," prayed during the Church's evening prayer from December 17-23. Each antiphon begins with the word "O," and is followed by a title for the Messiah, found in Scripture, and a petition for him to come and save his people. Although this may sound overly complicated, you most likely know of these without realizing it: they have been transposed into the verses of the hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*. Today's first reading speaks of David, who thought he could build a place for God to dwell, but he can't. Instead, for us, whom God created and fashioned in his own image, God created a dwelling for his Son, so that he might enter into our human history as one of us; and in doing so, dwell among us and within us forever. Come, Lord Jesus.

INVITE When lighting the final candle on your Advent wreath, invite your family to help you make the prayer interactive. Focus on the lesser-known verses of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, such as the one below – it is an ancient prayer still very relevant today.

O King of the Nations

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
And be for us our King of Peace.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*



Altar Society : Meets the first Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be Thursday January 7th at 6:00 in the rectory. All Catholic ladies are welcome.

Baptism: Classes are necessary for baptism. Please contact the parish office to make needed arrangements.

Birthdays & Anniversaries : On the 1st weekend of every month Fr. Eli will bless anyone with a birthday or wedding anniversary during that month following each Mass.

Cemetery Guidelines: If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to the cemetery, please contact Charles Posinski at 936-873-2113. If work needs to be done you must call Charles Posinski first.

Choir Practice: Do to COVID-19, No practice at this time.

Counseling: Gratia Plena is a nonprofit organization that provides mental and spiritual health services for mental illnesses, addictions, and marriage/family problems. All counselors are Catholic and provide services in a way that is faithful to the teachings, values and traditions of the Church. Their closest office is near The Woodlands, but counselors are also available by video session. For more information, see their website at www.gratiaplenacounseling.org or call (832) 532-0129, or email info@gratiaplenacounseling.org

Divine Mercy: Every Friday after the noon Mass . Everyone is welcome to join us.

Gabriel Project: Pregnant. Scared. Need to talk! Gabriel Project offer assistance to women experiencing difficult circumstances. Please call Wanda O'Brien 936-597-6328 or St. Mary's Catholic Church 936-894-2223

Knights of Columbus : KC Council #4054 meets at the KC Hall every 2nd Tuesday at 7pm. Please join us. All Catholic men are welcome. **Next blood drive January 24th, 2021**
Contact Deen Miller 936-524-1700 for membership information.
And James Moran 936-825-7866 for rental information .

Marriage: There is a required preparation process that must be completed prior to one being married in the Catholic Church. Please call the office for more information.

RCIA & RCIC: Anyone seeking the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults / Children or adult confirmation. Please call the church office at 936-873-2291

Reconciliation: 30 Minutes before Wednesday & Friday Masses (Please call ahead to let the Priest know) and 3:00 to 4:00 on Saturdays

12 Hour Adoration: Our church is open every Monday 8 am to 8 pm.
Everyone is welcome to join in the worship with the scheduled persons.



Welcome to St. Stanislaus Kostka

Please contact the parish office if you wish to register or know someone who would like to become a member of our parish.

936-873-2291

Our Holy Father's Prayer Intentions December

For a life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished
by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Announcements

All names on the ill and/or homebound list will be removed at the first of the year. Please let the office know if you would like to keep someone on the list.

<><>

Christmas Bread now available

<><>

Christmas Eve Mass 4:00 ~ Christmas Day Mass 10:00

<><>

If you have lost a debit card, please contract the office.

<><>

The church office will close at noon on Christmas Eve
and be closed Christmas Day.

<><>

2021 Envelopes now available

David worries that the ark of God dwells in a tent; Mary doesn't hesitate to allow the ark of God to dwell within her. God is not bound by human constraints, and yet he asks us to participate with him, and cooperate with his grace, that the ark of the covenant – and the arc of salvation history – may be made available to all.

January 2021

December '20

S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31

February '21

S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	4 NO MASS	5 NO MASS	6 NO MASS	7 NO MASS	8 NO MASS	9 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
10 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	11	12 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	13 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	14 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam	15 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	16 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
17 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 8am COL Fr. Eric Petree 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 1pm COL Fr. Eric Petree	18	19 NO MASS	20 NO MASS	21 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam	22 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	23 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
24 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	25	26 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	27 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	28 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam	29 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	30 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
31 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	Notes					

Weekly Collections:

December 12th & 13th

\$3,840.00

Upcoming 2nd Collections:

January 24, 2021

Bishops' for Latin America

Our Church is open for daily prayer during office hours.

Office hours are Tuesday-Friday 8 to 4

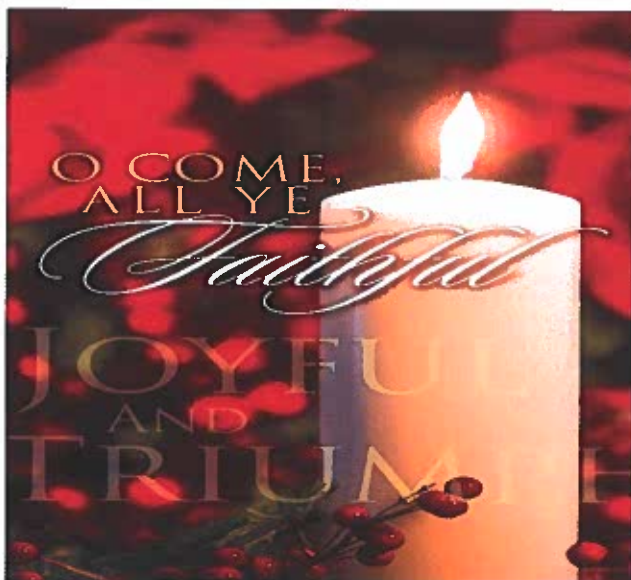


Please pray for those in active military duty:

Andrew Anderson, Austin Barnes, Andrew Burzynski,
Don Fontaine, Travis Hayes, Cody Klawinsky,
Travis Klawinsky, Joe A. Lopez,
Matthew Macejewski,
John McKnight, Phillip Walkoviak

Please pray for our parish family who are ill and/or homebound:

Laverne Backhus, Sheila Blinka, Pat Davis, Don Dobiyanski, Donna Emmette, Margaret & Praslin Fann, John Faust, Paul Henry III, Dolores Holler, Mae Dell Izard, Kellyanne Katkoski, Tammy Kitchen, Thomas Kitkoski, John Koch, Caroline Kolbasinski, Barbara Kurtin, Bibian Loukanis, France Loukanis, Desiree Oliver, Mathew Oliver, Regan Oliver, Henry Ostermann, Ashley Paskett, Charlie Pasket, Tina Pasket, Marcus Reaves, Kenny Sechelski, Katie Smith, Chris Szymczak, LaNell Szymczak, Bobby Torres, Philip Vezorak, Anna Mae Vezurk, Ann Wesolick, Rocky Weller, Fr. Louis Sikorski



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Columbus



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7PM ~ KC Hall



Bryan, TX 979-775-7171

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All Seasons Kitchen LLC

Theresa Guidry Owner

832-515-4261

www.allseasonskitchenLLC.com

allseasonskitchen@yahoo.com

**LaRae
Whorley**
REALTY GROUP

Brian Marshall Realtor

281-413-5505

brian@bkmarshall.com

Magnolia, Texas