



## ***St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church***

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

***January 7, 2024 The Epiphany of the Lord***

### **Parish Office Hours**

Tuesday—Friday 8:00 to 4:00

Website: [www.saintstans.org](http://www.saintstans.org)

1511 Hwy 90 S \* Anderson, TX 77830

Mailing Address: P O Box 210 \* Anderson, TX 77830

Phone: 936-873-2291 \* [ststan@embarqmail.com](mailto:ststan@embarqmail.com)

### **WEEKEND MASS**

Saturday Vigil: 4:15pm

Sunday: 10:00am

### **WEEKDAY MASS**

Wednesday & Friday noon

### **ROSARY**

Saturday: 3:45pm

Sunday: 9:30am

### **RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION**

Wednesday & Friday noon mass

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00

### ***Pastoral Staff***

***Pastor Rev. Giovanni Hung Nguyen***

*Russell Pasket, Permanent Deacon*

*Garry Janota, Permanent Deacon*

***Secretary / Bookkeeper : Carol Serres***

***Altar Society President : Ella Richmond***

***Baptism Classes : Thomas Sechelski & Crockett Womack***

***Cemetery : Charles Posinski & Susie Homeyer***

***Coordinator of Religious Education : Kirby Borski***

***Finance Council : David Borski, Susie Homeyer,***

*Russell Pasket, Larry Sechelski Jr.*

*Susan Wisnoski, Wayne Weaver*

***Music Coordinator : Leo Hock***

***Pastoral Leadership Team : Jerome Klawinsky,***

*Daniel Otto, Russell Pasket, Marcus Reaves,*

*Thomas Sechelski, Gail Sowell, Linda Toler,*

*Dana Wagner*

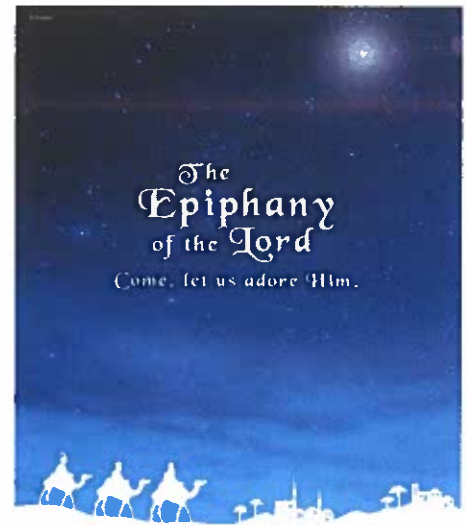
***RCIA : Jaime Diehl***

***RCIC : Dana Wagner***

**January 7, 2024**

With Christ's help we can be his light for others

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah promises that Jerusalem will be a light for all nations. In the Letter to the Ephesians, Saint Paul explains the revelation that the Gentiles are members of the same body of Christ. In the Gospel, *magi from the east* look for the newborn king, finally finding the child with his mother, Mary.



**Mass Time & Intentions**  
**Wednesday January 10th noon**

Christine & Eric Millet

**Friday January 12th noon**

Bonnie Heyman

**Saturday January 13th 4:15**

Floyd & James Pasket,

John & Maggie Pasket

Willie, Christine & Frank Sechelski

**Sunday January 14th 10:00**

Frank & Alice Grupa

**Father Giovanni Nguyen**  
duyanhungnguyen@yahoo.com

Ststanskoka.flocknote.com/ or  
Text STSTANS to 84576

**NEW email:**  
**office@saintstans.org**

Please contact the parish office if you  
wish to become a register member  
936-873-2291

**Website: www.saintstans.org**



**Liturgical Ministers Schedule**



**Saturday January 13th 4:15 pm**

Leonard Szymczak & Dana Wagner

**Lectors:** Michael & Susan Wisnoski

**EMHC:** Susan Wisnoski

**Rosary:** Maggie Borski, Myles Borski, Anna Prado

**Altar Servers:** Michael Wisnoski, Danny Pasket, Johnny Pasket Jr., Stephen Paskett

**Sunday January 14th 10:00 am**

**Lectors:** Blake Vezurk & Mandi Wroblewski

**EMHC:** Linda LaSalle, Dianne Sechelski, Don & Gail Sowell

**Rosary:** Rosanna Molina

**Altar Servers:** William Abraham, Jessica Abraham, Breanna Stewart

**Ushers:** James Busa, Stan Sechelski, Jerome Klawinsky, Ian Campbell

**If you cannot be present, please find a replacement**

# Epiphany Blessing of the Chalk

## *Description:*

*It is traditional for parish priests to bless chalk for each family so that they may mark the names of the three Magi over their doors, in the blessing of homes as a witness of their faith and protection against evil. This blessing is from the 1952 version of the Roman Ritual, translated by Philip Weller.*

*Take (blessed) chalk and mark on the lintel of your front door*

*20 + C + M + B + 24*

*saying:*

*The three Wise Men,*

*C Caspar, M Melchior, B and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who became human 20 two thousand 24 and twenty-four years ago.*

*++ May Christ bless our home*

*++ and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.*

*The chalk is a type of memento mori or literally, Memento homo ("Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return.") image, a reminder of the dust of the earth from which man was made. See Genesis 3:19.*

*Note that any color of chalk is valid for this blessing.*

*The feast of manifestation, or Epiphany, is traditionally celebrated the 12th day after Christmas, January 7th.*

*The chalk is sprinkled with holy water.*

## HOUSE BLESSING

P: Let us Pray. O Lord, Almighty God, bless this house + that it may become a shelter of health, chastity, self-conquest, humility, goodness, mildness, obedience to the commandments, and thanksgiving to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Upon this house and those who dwell herein my Your blessing remain forever, Through Christ our Lord. AMEN

The father of the family and the three "kings" take blessed chalk (one piece each) and proceed to the front door, accompanied by the priest. While all look on, the father reads the corresponding words as the kings inscribe their initials onto the lintel. (CMB also stand for **Christus mansionem benedicat**: May Christ bless this house)



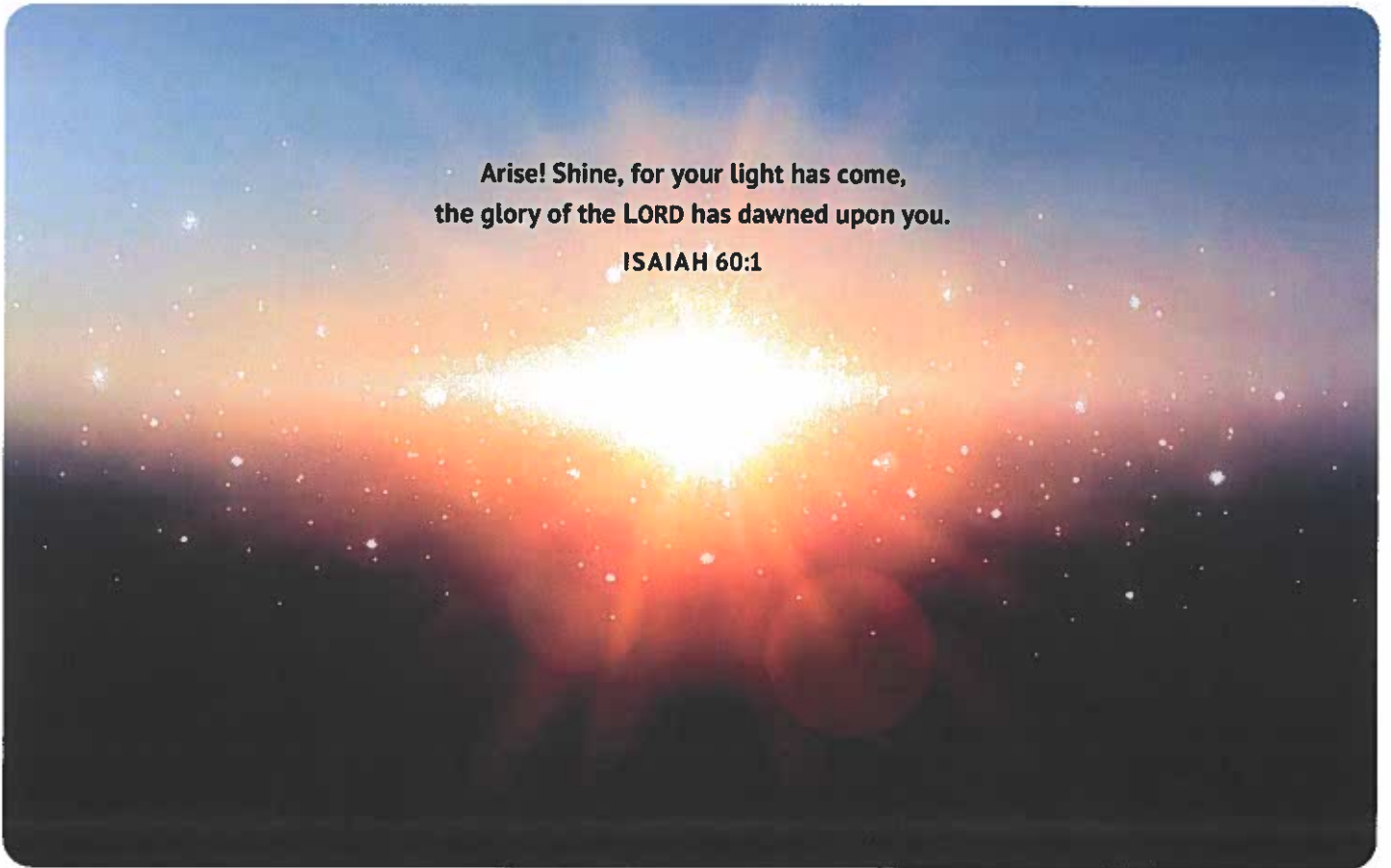
## The Seekers

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I** live at a parish in downtown Milwaukee. From my window I watch the world pass by, everyone below in search of one thing or another. Students from the local university seek an education, business folk look for a sale, street people often look for a place to spend the night, teenagers hope to find love. Yet beneath all of those longings, in each one there is a deeper hunger that wonders what life is all about and the hope that they might find it. Hidden amidst it all, the real hunger is for God, a longing sewn into our being, sometimes recognized but too often not.

The story of the *Magi* is a story of seekers making their way from afar in hopes of finding the promised one, a newborn king. Perhaps they knew of this child's divine nature, more likely not, yet it was ultimately that same hunger that exists in all of us that drove them, a deep desire to know God.

Every serious religion seeks to experience God in life and tells the stories of those who have done so. There are Christian mystics like St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Ávila, Jewish mystics of the Kabbalah tradition, the Sufis of Islam, Native Americans who go on vision quests, the Hindus who practice yoga, as well as the Buddhists and Taoists and Confucians. Like the Magi, we all seek to find God. ●



Arise! Shine, for your light has come,  
the glory of the LORD has dawned upon you.

ISAIAH 60:1

### Reflect

***Does it make sense to you to say that your deepest hunger is for God?***



# Dear Padre,

***On what date was Jesus born? Was it December 25 or some time between December and April, when shepherds watched over their sheep?***

Due to the complexity of history's various calendars and ways of calculating time, we cannot be sure of the date. Matthew and Luke, the two Gospels that detail the birth of Jesus, do not give a date.

Early Christians observed an annual feast to remember Jesus' death and resurrection, focusing on the paschal mystery rather than on his birth. As Christianity grew and spread, however, Christians wanted to celebrate more events from Jesus' life. The celebration on December 25 has more to do with an expression of faith in Jesus as Emmanuel, "God with us," than with establishing the exact date of his birth.

December 25 is listed as the date of Jesus' birth in a fourth-century calendar of martyrs, but how this date was chosen is unclear. Some scholars believe Christians in Rome chose December 25 to counteract the celebration of the pagan sun god Emesa. Another theory follows the influences of the seasons: early Christians believed John the Baptist was conceived on the autumnal equinox and born at the summer solstice. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus' conception took place six months after John's. That time line would place Jesus' birth at the winter solstice, December 25 on the Julian calendar. A third theory says Jesus' birth would have occurred on the same date as his death, which we believe to be in the spring at Passover. Regardless of the exact date, we celebrate Jesus as the true Son of God who came to enlighten us and, by his death and resurrection, to give us life. ●

**Fr. John Schmidt, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### MONDAY

January 8  
*Baptism of the Lord*  
Is 55:1-11  
1 Jn 5:1-9  
Mk 1:7-11

### TUESDAY

January 9  
*Weekday*  
1 Sm 1:9-20  
Mk 1:21-28

### WEDNESDAY

January 10  
*Weekday*  
1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20  
Mk 1:29-39

### THURSDAY

January 11  
*Weekday*  
1 Sm 4:1-11  
Mk 1:40-45

### FRIDAY

January 12  
*Weekday*  
1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a  
Mk 2:1-12

### SATURDAY

January 13  
*Weekday*  
1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a  
Mk 2:13-17

### SUNDAY

January 14  
*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19  
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20  
Jn 1:35-42



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Like a rising star (see Numbers 24:17), Jesus comes to enlighten all peoples and to brighten the nights of humanity. Today, with the Magi, let us lift our eyes to heaven and ask: "Where is the child who has been born?" (Matthew 2:2). Where can we find and encounter our Lord?*

**HOMILY, ROME,  
JANUARY 6, 2023**

# Welcome to St. Stanislaus Kostka

## Our Holy Father's Prayer Intentions January

### For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church:

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

## Adoration

1st Adoration of 2024 will be on January 8th. 8:00am to 3:00pm.

If you would like to get involved with adoration, please talk with Charles or Delores Posinski.

## Christmas Eve Meal

Thank you to everyone who has graciously volunteered to help with the Christmas Eve Meal, it has been a true blessing! Whether you made donations, volunteered your time, or helped spread the word, we appreciate all that you did. We delivered close to 120 plates this year! It was a great day of fellowship and feeding those in need, homebound, or sick. We look forward to continuing this tradition again next year. Merry Christmas and may God bless you all!

## Growing Into Our Future ~ With Faith and Grace

Campaign for a new education and administration building.

Fundraising Goal \$2 million

Pledged \$118,445

Received \$105,975

As of 12/31/2023



To donate online, please scan this QR code that will take you to St. Stanislaus online giving, select CCE Building Fund. You will be able to make a one donation or setup a recurring donation.

We are not the source of the light that a world in darkness needs desperately. Instead, we must *receive* Jesus, the Light of the World, so that we can in turn share it. And as we heard in the first reading: *Then you shall be radiant ... your heart shall throb and overflow.* Jesus has come to give all the love we need, all the wisdom called for, all the virtue necessary to be a light to others.

*The Church is open for daily prayer during office hours.*

*Tuesday—Friday 8:00 to 4:00*

Mail donation to :  
St. Stanislaus Kostka  
P O Box 210  
Anderson, TX 77830



—SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING—

go to [www.saintstans.org](http://www.saintstans.org)

Click on Stewardship, Then click online giving.  
You will be taken to our online donation portal,

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

Laverne Backhus, Barbara Dibello, John Faust, Marilyn Frenzel, Dolores Holler,  
Sheri Jankowski, Linda Moore, Helen Moriarty, Henry Ostermann, Adam Pasket, Tina Pasket,  
Ray Reaves, Robin Reaves, Christy Smythe, LaNell Szymczak,  
Melissa Vargas, Dana Wagner, Joanne Willis

*Lord-hear our prayers*

**Please pray for those in active military duty**

Andrew Anderson, Lukas Diorio, Hayden Fontaine, Stash Kurten

**2nd Collection**

**January 28th**

Latin America

**February 14th**

Social Ministries

**Weekly  
Collections**

December 30th & 31st

\$3,949.00

New Years Day

\$834.70



# The Magi Come to Worship Jesus

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, which is when the Magi, or wise men, of the East came to find and worship Baby Jesus. They travelled for many weeks across harsh country to find the new King, bringing their best treasures to give to Him.



Where did these men find the baby King? Not in Jerusalem in the palace, with riches and servants! They found Him in a little town, in a house with just His mother, Mary. But they still knew Who the Baby was, so they bowed down to Him and gave Him their treasures.

The wise men teach us that we can honour God in all sorts of places. Jesus is there when you help ordinary people and poor people. He is honoured when you pray at a little nativity scene. Like the wise men, we should give our very best to Jesus no matter where He is.





Answers to Cross-Word: Across: 4.myrrh 6.to 8.East 9.star 11.find 14.secretly 15.king 16.gold 18.Bethlehem Down: 1.frankincense 2.Jesus 3.at 4.Mary 5.Herod 7.overjoyed 10.they 12.as 13.its 17.lie

[thekidsbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:thekidsbulletin@gmail.com)


# The Kids' Bulletin

**Epiphany Sunday**  
**January 7th, 2024**

*Here is the story of the Wise Men, with pictures to make it fun to read!*

Long ago,  saw a special  in the

sky. They followed it to find the

newborn . But first they came to

Herod, and asked him if he knew where the



would be born. He asked the priests,

who told him the  would be born in



Bethlehem. So the  went, and found the



where the  and His mother,



were staying. They knelt before the



baby  and gave him their  of gold,

frankincense and myrrh.



# Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

## January 12

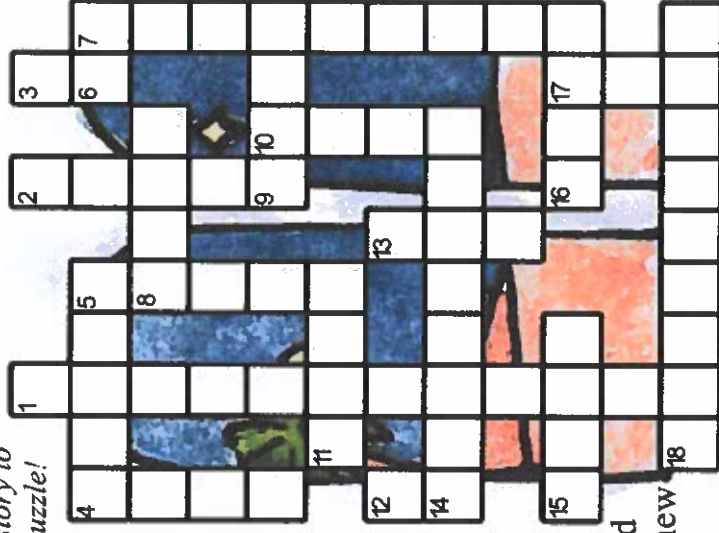


SAINT MARGUERITE DIED AT THE AGE OF 80. SHE HAD HELPED THE PEOPLE OF THE NEW SETTLEMENT SO MUCH THAT THEY CALLED HER "THE MOTHER OF THE COLONY." SHE TAUGHT THE FAITH TO THE MOTHERS BECAUSE SHE KNEW THAT THEY WOULD BE THE FIRST ONES TO TEACH THE FAITH TO THEIR CHILDREN.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

# ΕΠΙΦΑΝΥ CROSS-WORD

Fill in the blanks in the story to find the words for the puzzle!



Around the time that \_\_\_\_\_ (2d) was born, some wise men from the \_\_\_\_\_ (8a) saw in the sky a special \_\_\_\_\_ (9a) at \_\_\_\_\_ (13d) rising, and followed it to \_\_\_\_\_ (11a) the new-born Saviour. First they came to Jerusalem where \_\_\_\_\_ (10d) went to ask \_\_\_\_\_ (15a) Herod if he knew where the new \_\_\_\_\_ (12d) King would be born.

\_\_\_\_\_ (12d) Herod did not know, he called the priests and scribes, who told them that the Baby would be born in \_\_\_\_\_ (18a). Then Herod told a \_\_\_\_\_ (17d) and said that he wanted to go and honour the Baby King too, and told the men to return once they had found him and tell him where the Baby was. The men were \_\_\_\_\_ (7d) when they found Jesus with his mother \_\_\_\_\_ (4d), and they did him homage, giving their gifts of \_\_\_\_\_ (16a), \_\_\_\_\_ (1d) and \_\_\_\_\_ (4a). But \_\_\_\_\_ (3d) night an angel appeared \_\_\_\_\_ (6a) them and told them to \_\_\_\_\_ (14a) go home by another road, since King \_\_\_\_\_ (5d) wanted to kill Baby Jesus.



### Altar Society:

Meets the first Thursday,  
September to May.  
The next meeting will be  
February 1st at 6:00 in the  
rectory. All Catholic ladies  
are welcome.

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

On the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of every  
month Fr. Giovanni will  
bless anyone with a  
birthday or wedding  
anniversary that month.

### Next Blood Drive February 11th 2024

in the parish hall

### 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](http://www.gratiaplenacounseling.org)  
or call (832) 532-0129, or  
email  
[info@gratiaplenacounseling.org](mailto:info@gratiaplenacounseling.org)

### Anointing of the Sick

The anointing of the sick will  
be held after the 3rd Sunday  
mass each month.

### Choir Practice:

Choir practice is on  
Thursday evenings at 6:15pm  
in the church.

### Divine Mercy:

Every Friday after the noon Mass

### 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

### 12 Hour Adoration:

Our church is open every  
Monday 8 am to 8 pm.  
September 11th to the end of  
May. Everyone is welcome to  
join in the worship with the  
scheduled persons.

### RCIA & RCIC:

Anyone seeking the Rite of  
Christian Initiation of Adults/  
Children or adult  
confirmation. Please call the  
church office at 936-873-2291  
RCIA classes to start in  
the fall.

### Baptism:

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

### Cemetery Guidelines:

If you have any questions of  
concerns pertaining to the  
cemetery, please contract  
Charles Posinski at 936-873-2113.  
If work needs to be done you must  
call Charles Posinski first.  
*The first week of February ALL  
flowers will be removed, and in  
August, a light cleaning.*

### Knights of Columbus:

KC Council #4054 meets at the  
KC Hall every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at  
7pm. Please join us.  
Contact Deen Miller  
936-524-1700 for membership  
And James Moran  
936-306-9663 for rental  
information .

### Marriage:

There is a required preparation  
process that must be completed  
prior to one being married in the  
Catholic Church. Call the office  
for more info.

### Reconciliation:

30 Minutes before Wednesday  
& Friday Masses (When the  
Priest is available) and 3:00  
to 4:00 on Saturdays

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference

### "Christ the Good Shepherd of Navasota and Anderson"

For more information call 936-873-5002

Thank you for your continued generosity, prayers, and support of our neighbors in need.

Bulletin deadline is

Wednesday at noon.

Announcements deadline is

Friday at noon.

Bulletin are on the website weekly



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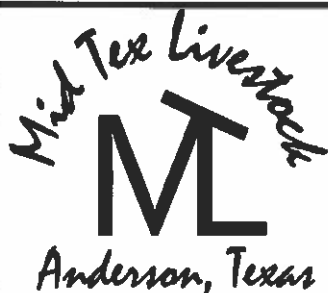
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Gail Sowell -Local Representative

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gailsowell@yahoo.com

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In Memory of  
**Patrick**  
**Busa**

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