



**Rector: Rev. Tony Neusch**

frneusch@gmail.com

**Parochial Vicar: Father Avitus K. Siriwa**

siriwaavitus@gmail.com

**Deacon: Patrick Griffin**

pgriffin@stmarysamarillo.com

**Deacon: Ronald Herr**

herr@stmarysamarillo.com

**Deacon: Robert Aranda**

raranda@dioama.org

**Deacon: Kevin Morris**

morris@stmarysamarillo.com

**Office 806.376.7204 • Rectory 806.803.1613**

**1200 S. Washington St.,**

**Amarillo, TX 79102**

**Office hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm**

**Parish website: [www.stmarysamarillo.com](http://www.stmarysamarillo.com)**

**St. Mary's Cathedral School**  
**Montessori Preschool through 5th Grade**

**Principal: Lydia O'Rear**

orear@stmarysamarillo.com

**Office: 806.376.9112**

**School website: [www.stmarysamarillo.org](http://www.stmarysamarillo.org)**

**[www.facebook.com/StMarysCathedralSchool](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCathedralSchool)**

### **Celebration of the Mass**

Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm

Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am (livestreamed),  
12:00 pm (interpreted for the Deaf)

### **Daily Mass (In the Chapel)**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 7:00 am  
Tuesday and Thursday: 5:30 pm

### **Sacrament of Penance**

Saturday: 3:00—5:00 pm

Wednesday: 5:30-7:00 pm

### **Sacrament of Marriage**

Please contact parish office. Couple must speak with  
Father Tony Neusch at least six (6) months before the wedding.

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

Parents must be a member of St. Mary's for at least six (6)  
months. Baptismal preparation program is required.

### **Sacrament of Anointing of The Sick**

Please contact the parish office.

### **Homebound and Hospital Visits**

Please contact the Parish Office.

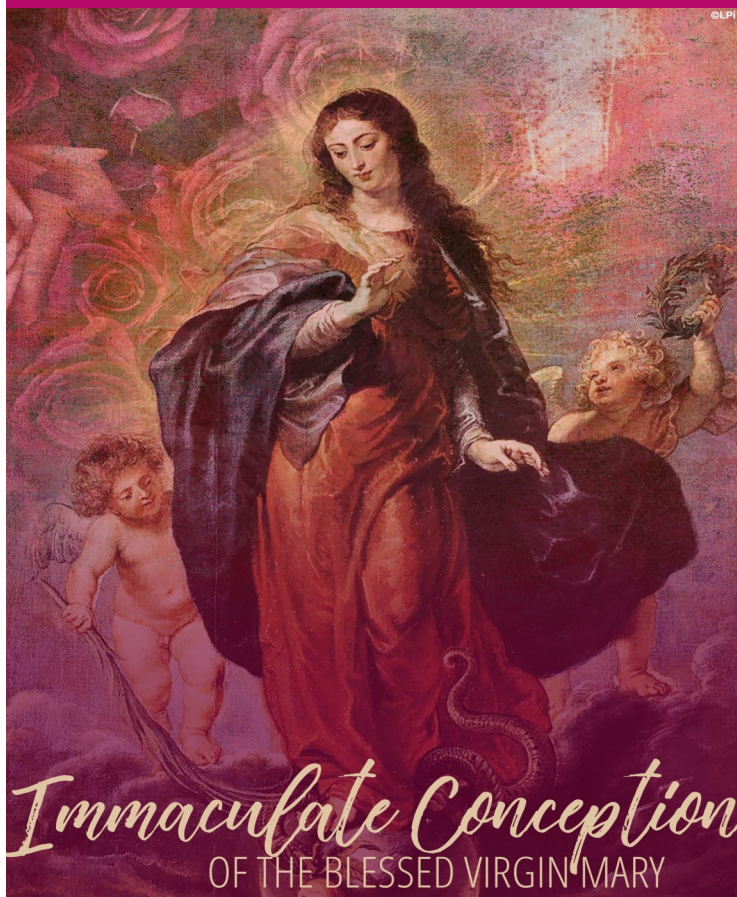
### **Vocation Crucifix**



Crucifix & sign-up sheet are on the podium in the Narthex.  
Each week an individual or family takes home the Crucifix  
and puts it in a place of honor. Our Diocesan Vocations  
prayer is attached. It may be prayed, along with other  
prayers, each day the Crucifix is in your home.

Please return it the following weekend to the podium.

**December 3, 2023**



*Immaculate Conception*  
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

## **Mission Statement**

**St. Mary's Cathedral Parish and School**  
**...forming families for eternity**

# WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH

## **Pastoral Staff**

### Rector

**Father Tony Neusch**

Ext.3005/frneusch@gmail.com

### Parochial Vicar

**Father Avitus K. Siriwa**

Ext. 3007/siriwasavitus@gmail.com

**Deacon Robert Aranda**

raranda@dioama.org

**Deacon Patrick Griffin**

Ext. 3035/pggriffin@stmarysamarillo.com

**Deacon Ronald Herr**

Ext. 3036/herr@stmarysamarillo.com

**Deacon Kevin Morris**

Ext. 3010/morris@stmarysamarillo.com

## **St. Mary's Cathedral School**

**Principal—Lydia O'Rear**

Ext. 3031/orear@stmarysamarillo.com

## **Parish Program Staff**

**Music and Liturgy Director-Dr. Greg Onofrio**

Ext. 3003/onofrio@stmarysamarillo.com

**Music Ministry for Noon Mass**

**Michelle Correa ~ correa@stmarysamarillo.com**

**Coordinator of Sacramental Prep-Yvonne Vasquez**

806-350-2924/ vasquez@stmarysamarillo.com

**Youth Coordinator-Amy Ramsey**

806-250-2926/ ythdir@stmarysamarillo.com

**Baptismal Preparation-Ron And Levina Herr**

Ext. 3036/ herr@stmarysamarillo.com

**Marriage Prep and Annulments-Father Tony Neusch**

Ext.3005/frneusch@gmail.com

**Sacramental Records/Safe Environment**

**Bernice Noggler ~ Ext. 3010/**

noggler@stmarysamarillo.com

## **Parish Service Staff**

**Receptionist-Jeannie Friddell**

Ext.3001/ jfriddell@stmarysamarillo.com

**Bulletin—Shelley Jones**

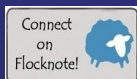
sjones@stmarysamarillo.com

**Business Manager—Dean Frigo**

Ext. 3004/ frigo @stmarysamarillo.com

**Maintenance/Buildings & Grounds— Jose Gonzalez**

Ext. 3012/ gonzalez@stmarysamarillo.com



Sign up for Flocknote at:  
[www.stmarysamarillo.com](http://www.stmarysamarillo.com)



## **St. Mary's Cathedral Parish Masses**

*Facial Masks are optional. A section of pews on the far left facing the altar is reserved for those who wish to wear masks.*

## **Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Confessions are in the Chapel.

## **Reminder: Livestream of the 9:30 am Sunday Mass**

- The Stream starts 2:00 mins before Mass starts.
- The links do change from week to week.
- Don't forget to sign up for Online Giving.

Please Subscribe to the YouTube Channel

For your Smart TV's and Devices

[youtube.com/@StMarysCathedralAmarillo](https://youtube.com/@StMarysCathedralAmarillo)

For Smart Devices and Computers

[venue.streamspot.com/e...](https://venue.streamspot.com/e...)

## **Sacrament Information**

### **Sacrament of Baptism at St. Mary's**

1. Complete a registration form available online/Hospitality Desk (Narthex) or the Parish Office.
2. Parents who have completed the form must be active members of St. Mary's Cathedral Parish for at least six months. Godparents must be active in a Catholic Parish. Parents/Godparents are required to attend Baptism Saturday Orientation. Orientations will be held in November, February, May, and September.

**Deacon Ron and Levina Herr, Ext. 3036**  
**herr@stmarysamarillo.com**



**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**  
**Interested in Becoming Catholic?**  
**Or do you know someone who is?**

The process is known as the  
*Catechumenate*, or  
*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)*

**Contact the church office for more information.**  
**806-376-7204**

### **WEDDINGS**

Contact the office at least six months in advance of the date you have chosen. Please call the office to set up an appointment with Father Tony.

### **QUINCEAÑERAS (not a sacrament)**

Must have attended Faith Formation for 2 consecutive years prior to celebration and contact office at least 6 months in advance. Please call the office to set up an appointment with Father Tony.



Find us, like us, and follow our news and updates! @St.MarysAmarillo



# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of December 3, 2023

### Sunday:

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16,  
18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

### Monday:

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/  
Mt 8:5-11

### Tuesday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

### Wednesday:

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/  
Mt 15:29-37

### Thursday:

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

### Friday:

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

### Saturday:

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/  
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

### Next Sunday:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14  
(8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in  
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Lately I've been listening to a science-based podcast on healthy daily living. The host frequently discusses the wide range of health benefits of sleep. So, each night I'm trying to get more, and better, slumber, and it's helping me feel energized. So, why in the world should we follow Christ's advice this week? **"Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come ... lest he find you asleep."** Isn't sleep, especially at midnight and cockcrow, a good thing?

Of course, it is. But the wakefulness the Lord calls us to is a deep, personal orientation to Him. A nightly vigil is therefore a metaphor for this, but it's not just that. We should give up real sleep in order to pray, too. This difficult practice is a time-tested way to foster wakefulness of heart. When we give up sleep to pray, it focuses us. We learn that life is not an endless series of days. You and I belong to the Lord — awake or asleep, in life and in death. Sooner or later, even our need for our physical sleep will pass away. And our attentiveness to God — that is, whether we are awaiting Him to meet us — will be all that matters.

May I challenge us this week and this Advent to intentionally give up at least one hour of sleep each week for prayer? Stay up later, wake up in the middle of the night, or an hour earlier, and pray. Will we be a bit more tired the next day? Yes. But we'll be amazed at the spiritual wakefulness that results, too.

— Father John Muir

## Our Rector's Ramblings



### Advent Wreath Blessing for the Home

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.  
R/. Who made heaven and earth.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who lived in a land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing; They rejoice before you as people rejoice at harvest, as they exult when dividing the spoils.

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful. Upon David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains By judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God,  
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:  
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,  
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,  
he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,  
let your blessing come upon us  
as we light the candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light  
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.  
May he come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
R/. Amen.

*The Wreath and Candles can be sprinkled with Holy Water*

Leader: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

## Peek at the week

### Monday, December 4

7:00 am: Mass—Chapel

6:30 pm: Faith and Action—St. Joseph Room

### Tuesday, December 5

7:00 am: Mass—Chapel

8:00 am: Garden Ministry—Garden Beds

5:30 pm: Mass—Chapel

7:00 pm: Knights of Columbus Council Meeting—KC Room

### Wednesday, December 6

7:00 am: Mass—Chapel

9:30 am: St. Anne's Sewing Circle—KC Room

11:00 am: Day of Reconciliation

6:00 pm: Sign Language Class—RCIA Room

### Thursday, December 7

5:30 pm: Mass—Chapel

6:00 pm: Sycamore—Gym

6:00 pm: Sycamore Prayer Group—Chapel

6:30 pm: Gospel of Mark—Room 2

### Friday, December 8

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Mass at 7:00 am, 8:15am, 12:15 pm, and 7:00 pm

12:00 pm: Seven Sorrows Rosary—Chapel

### Saturday, December 9

3:00 pm: Confessions—Chapel

5:30 pm: Mass—Church

### Sunday, December 10

Mass times are 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 12:00 pm

10:45 am: Adult Faith Formation—CR 6 and 7

10:45 am: RCIA—Classrooms 1 and 3

5:30 pm: LifeTeen

### *FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CON- CEPTION*

*Friday, December 8*

*Mass Times*

*7:00 am; 8:15 am; 12:15  
pm; 7:00 pm*

### *DAY OF RECONCILIATION*

*Wednesday,  
December 6*

*11:00am –9:00 pm*



## Around our Parish/Diocese

**Daily Mass** at St. Mary's Cathedral is celebrated by our priests. Please request Mass Intentions for loved ones, both living and deceased..

### Monday, December 4

7:00 am — John and Sara Walsh by  
George and marge Kenney

### Tuesday, December 5

7:00 am — + Andrew Hernandez by  
Anonymous  
5:30 pm — + Shirley & Bob Mager by  
The Lee Family

### Wednesday, December 6

7:00 am — +Andrew Rettenmaier by  
John Gulde

### Thursday, December 7

5:30 pm —+Norma & Mary Salazar by  
The Salazar Family

### Friday, December 8

### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

7:00 am; 8:15 am; 12:15 pm; 7:00 pm

- Intentions of the Parish Family

### Saturday, December 9

5:30 pm— Dolores Austin by  
Iris Upchurch

### Sunday, December 10

8:00 am \_ +Mary Joanne Rocca by  
Barbara Gray

9:30 am \_ + Mary Joanne Rocca by  
Barbara Gray

12:00 pm—Parish Family

**Mass Stipends are \$5**  
**Contact the Parish Office 806.376.7204**

"The more you **read**  
the more **things** you know.  
The more that you **learn**  
the more **places** you'll go."  
-Dr. Seuss

The Advent Season begins Sunday, December 3rd. For the 6<sup>th</sup> year, St. Mary's Cathedral Parish and School are **collecting new books, wrapping paper, ribbon and tape** as Christmas gifts for the women and children of the Downtown Women's Center's Abba, Gratitude and Haven Houses. There will be a table in the gathering area the first three weekends in December, December 2-3, 9-10, and 16-17 for your donations. The donations will be delivered to the DWC office, Monday, December 18, with plenty of time for the families to wrap their gifts for their love ones. Thank you for your generosity and love to those in need.



*Let us not grow tired of doing good...  
let us do good to all." Galatians 6:9,10*



**Young at Heart** is again sponsoring 2 families from Downtown Women's Center for Christmas. We will be provided with the names of the two families with a list of their needs and wants. We have several members that love doing the shopping for the families. If you would like to help with this project you may donate either with cash or check made out to Marge Kenney/DWC. You may bring to the luncheon or drop off at the front desk of the church. **Bless You All** for helping make Christmas for these families.



### Need a Nativity?


*If you do not own a Nativity  
but would like one, there have  
been Nativities donated for you.*

*These Nativities will be in the hallway between the Gathering Area and the Parish Office AFTER Masses the weekend of December 9-10. It's first come first serve but we hope no family will take more than one to accommodate others. Some boxes will be available.*

*If you have Nativities to donate, please put them out on these tables BEFORE any Mass.  
There will not be a Physical Nativity Display this year.*



## Holy Cross



### THE HOLY CROSS CORNER

BELIEVE. DESIRE. DO.  
HCCA Orchestra

Did you know that Holy Cross Catholic Academy offers Orchestra as an extracurricular activity?

Mrs. Stephanie Littlejohn joined our HCCA family this year and has brought our orchestra program to another level.

They have put in the time and effort to deliver an awesome Fall Concert and will continue to do so for our upcoming Christmas Concert. They will perform Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00pm at our Holy Cross Event Center. Everyone is invited and there is no cost to enter.

Holy Cross Catholic Academy  
4110 S. Bonham St.  
Amarillo, TX 79110  
(806) 355-9637

### Bulletin Reminder

**Submissions Due NO LATER than Friday at Noon, (9) nine days prior to the Sunday you wish to have your announcement included.**

Bulletin editor reserves the right to adjust all submissions due to print space available. Email requests to:  
[sjones@stmarysamarillo.com](mailto:sjones@stmarysamarillo.com)

## Advent Mission



**St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral**

### ADVENT MISSION

*Telling Our Story In Christ*

**Spanish Session**  
Sunday Only

**English Session**  
Sunday and Monday

**ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL WELCOMES**  
*Father Guadalupe Mayorga and Father Jim Schmitmeyer*

**1200 South Washington, Amarillo**  
**Sunday, Dec. 3-Monday, Dec. 4 | Both evenings at 7:00**  
**Live Streamed and In Person**

**Sunday Evening:** How stories can bring healing and hope in challenging settings marked by doubt and fear.

**Monday Evening:** Sharing stories in the context of family life, friendship, the work-a-day world and casual encounters with strangers.

## Youth



Life Teen: December 3rd!

Edge: December 6th!

Meet in the Gym.....

Edge meets Wednesday's from 6:30-8:00 pm

Middle school 6th-8th grade

Life Teen meets Sunday's from 5:30-7:30 pm



### MAXWELL'S MAGICAL CHRISTMAS

**3RD DEC**

**CONTACT**  
**AMY RAMSEY**  
806-350-2926  
[YTHDIR@STMARYSAMARILLO.COM](mailto:YTHDIR@STMARYSAMARILLO.COM)

**JOIN US FOR A FUN LIFE NIGHT! RSVP TO AMY FOR TICKETS. WE WILL EAT AT 5:00 AT THE CHURCH AND THEN RIDE TO MAXWELL'S TOGETHER. BUS WILL BE BACK AT THE CHURCH AT 10:00PM**

## Faith Formation



**G.I.E.T.**

**December 3rd OR December 10th**



## Stephen Ministry



### Divorce Care/Grief Share

In the past, Stephen Ministry has offered Divorce Care and Grief Share for those going through tough times.

Many people have families and jobs and cannot commit to the 13-week program for those meetings. If you are struggling with the effects of a divorce or have questions about what to do, or if you are having trouble dealing with the loss of a loved one or a traumatic lifestyle change, Stephen Ministers are available to talk with you. A Stephen Minister can meet you in the chapel after any Mass. A Stephen Minister can meet with you for a week, or a month, or for however long it takes. Fill out a blue card and drop it in the box in the narthex or the chapel or call 806-350-2930 and leave a message. Someone will return your call.



## Eucharistic Adoration

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

*"Come, let ME love you."*

- ◆ Adoration begins December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Continues each week into 2024
- ◆ Each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
- ◆ Hours of Adoration are 7:00 AM through 9:00 PM
- ◆ Drop-ins are welcome
- ◆ 7:00 am - 9:00 am – Enter through Chapel door
- ◆ 9:00 am – 5:00 pm – Enter through Parish Office
- ◆ 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Enter through Chapel door

**\*Confidentiality form must be signed before receiving the code to the chapel door. Please do not share code with anyone!**

**Binder is available in the chapel to check being present each week**

**Subs - please check in with your name or as a Substitute**

**Suggestions for Adoration in the binder**

**If no one comes for the next hour please contact Fr. Tony at 806 570-5706. The Blessed Sacrament is not to be left unattended or put elsewhere. Thank You.**