



Most Reverend Patrick J. Zurek

Roman Catholic Diocese of Amarillo

Rector: Rev. Tony Neusch

frneusch@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar: Father Avitus K. Siriwa

siriwaavitus@gmail.com

Deacon: Patrick Griffin

pgriffin@stmarysamarillo.com

Deacon: Robert Aranda

raranda@dioama.org

Deacon: Ronald Herr

herr@stmarysamarillo.com

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

**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

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 17, 2023



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**"I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."
- Jn 1:26-27**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

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

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

For Smart Devices and Computers

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)

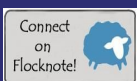
**Contact the church office for more information.
806-376-7204**

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.



Sign up for Flocknote at:
www.stmarysamarillo.com



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

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
(Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/
Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday:

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday:

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and
14/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5,
27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



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

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: **"There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him."** The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a pattern at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist's spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.

— Father John Muir

Our Rector's Ramblings

Every study of Americans who self-identify as non-churchgoing, indicate that they are willing to accept an invitation to attend a church service with someone they trust. Not only are they willing to attend a service with someone they trust they are willing to have discussions about faith with someone they trust. There are two important words here, trust and discussion. When I trust someone I know that they have my best interests at heart, they desire my good, they desire our friendship to grow, and they are acting out of care, compassion, and love. A discussion is an exchange of ideas with the goal of greater understanding for both. Just like trust is not ever one-sided a discussion is not one-sided either.

As people of faith, we can use this information to inform our life this Holy Season. Perhaps we can invite someone we know to come to a Christmas Mass with us. It may mean that we go to the time that works best for them, not following our preferences. It could look like carpooling, or meeting for coffee to talk about what to expect. It may mean finding a little monthly booklet with the readings and how Mass moves along, so that our guest doesn't feel overwhelmed by what is normal for us and strange for someone else. It may look like having a question for dinner like, "What does Christmas mean for me?" or "What is my favorite holiday memory?" And listening and sharing and honoring our different experiences. Practically speaking it means a little preparation to be the hospitable host who reflects Jesus to the world. Imagine that our radical welcome and invitation filled our Church to overflow and if only one of our guests experiences the Love of Jesus in a tangible and real way. Or our tables filled with food and drink becoming filled with understanding and deep life giving conversation. May Jesus be born in us all. ~ Blessings, Fr. Tony~.



Peek at the week

Monday, December 18

7:00 am: Mass—Chapel

6:00pm: SMCCW Christmas Party—????

Tuesday, December 19

7:00 am: NO MORNING MASS

8:00 am: Garden Ministry—Garden Beds

5:30 pm: Mass—Chapel

6:00 pm: Pastoral Council—Reception Room

7:00 Knights of Columbus Social Meeting—KC Room

Wednesday, December 20

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

5:30 pm: Confessions—Chapel

6:00 pm: EDGE—Gym

Thursday, December 21

5:30 pm: Mass—Chapel

6:30 pm: Gospel of Mark—Room 2

Friday, December 22

7:00 am: Mass—Chapel

8:15 am: School Mass—Church (Parishioners are welcome)

12:00 pm: Seven Sorrows Rosary—Chapel

Saturday, December 23

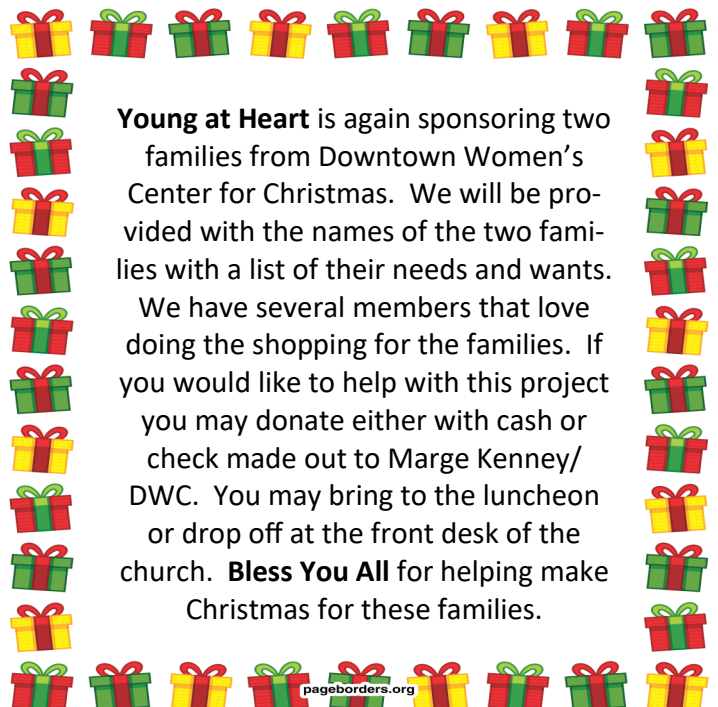
3:00 pm: Confessions—Chapel

5:30 pm: Mass—Church

Sunday, December 24

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

**For Christmas Mass schedule,
please see next page!**



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 18

7:00 am: Misty Dawn Sandoval by
Christina, Torry & Virginia Mendez
Norma Salazar by
Richard & Lucy Jalbert

Tuesday, December 19

5:30 pm: Jackie Gray by
The Gray Family

Wednesday, December 20

7:00 am: +Lea Reynolds by
Deacon Robert Smith

Thursday, December 21

5:30 pm : +C.L. Dunivan & +Karolina Dunivan by
Vianna LaRue

Friday, December 22

7:00 am: +Vivian Duesterhaus by
Davlyn Duesterhaus
8:15 am: Father Tony Neusch by
Richard & Lucy Jalbert

Saturday, December 23

5:30 pm: Ron Connelly, Jr. by
Family of John Connelly, Sr.

Sunday, December 24

8:00 am: Parish Family
9:30 am: +C.L. Dunivan & +Karolina Dunivan by
Vianna LaRue
12:00 pm: +John Connelly, Sr by
The Family of John Connelly, Sr.



Faith and Action Apostolate Project

Help the Homeless Community served by the
Guyon Saunders Resource Center by donating any of the
following items. The items be collected at all the Masses
January 6 through January 21:

- ◆ Adult warm coats, scarves, gloves, hand warmers and hats
- ◆ Coffee, jars of creamer, bulk sugar
- ◆ Instant oatmeal packets (brown sugar maple is desired)
- ◆ Top Cup Ramen noodles (must have cup)
- ◆ Antibiotic ointments, cough drops, band aids, extra strength acetaminophen
- ◆ GSRC has an Amazon page that includes these items as well as others that can be shipped directly to their location at 200 S. Tyler, 79101

THANK YOU FOR CARING!



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

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 24
 9:30am Mass | 12:00pm Mass
Christmas Vigil Mass
 5:30pm Carols and Children's Choir
 6:00pm Vigil Mass and Children's Choir
Christmas Night Mass
 8:30pm Choir/Orchestra Songs and Carols
 9:00pm Mass with Bishop Zurek
 9:00 pm Mass
Christmas Day Mass
Monday, December 25
 9:30am Mass-Combined Choirs

St. Mary's
Catholic Cathedral

Holy Cross



THE HOLY CROSS CORNER

BELIEVE. DESIRE. DO.

Varsity Mustang Basketball

Coaches:

Varsity Boys-Ray Barbosa & Carlos Ramos

Varsity Girls-Angela Seidenberger & Tiffany Williamson

Athletic Director-Tim Gallegos

Come out and support our Varsity Mustang Basketball.

Visit our HCCA website for complete schedule.

<https://holycrossama.org/athletics>

Holy Cross Catholic Academy

4110 S. Bonham St.

Amarillo, TX 79110

(806) 355-9637

Youth



Life Teen: December 17th!

Edge: December 20th!

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

Faith Formation



Due to your generous contributions and purchases, the youth bake

sale was very successful!

We hope you enjoyed every item and look forward to providing yummy goodies next year.



“Who can add to Christmas?

THE PERFECT MOTIVE IS THAT GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD.

THE PERFECT GIFT IS THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON.

THE ONLY REQUIREMENT IS TO BELIEVE IN HIM.

THE REWARD OF FAITH IS THAT YOU SHALL HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.”

-CORRIE TEN BOOM-

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 5th, 6th and 7th
- ◆ 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.