

Since my arrival here, I have been working on the Bishop’s mandate to me at my installation as Pastor; "Keep making things more and more beautiful.” During my first year here, we painted the exterior of the Church and Parish Hall. Last year we finished the painting of the interior of the church, (using the same color as our predecessor, Fr. Dean, had wisely chosen when he began that project), and polished the concrete floor of the Nave, coloring it with a warm Burgundy glow. This year, we are replacing our old pews in the church.

The pews that we currently have were purchased very inexpensively (relatively speaking) and were used when we bought them. The upholstery on the pews is wearing out - many pews have holes or stains that make them unsightly. At first, we had it in mind to simply reupholster the old pews in a red color complementing the newly painted walls and the newly polished floor. We contacted the most-used vendor that does pew upholstery. The bid for simply reupholstering all the pews was substantial, and certainly more than we had anticipated.

There are also several pews which are themselves damaged (not just with torn upholstery) - some by water leaks, some by our restive younger parishioners, and some by the diligent cleaning that went on during Covid time. There are kneelers throughout the building that no longer work correctly. Some of this damage might be inexpensively repaired, but others would take some substantial work (and money) to fix. That cost of "fixing up”, added to the cost of the reupholstery, made us question whether it was worthwhile to just "fix up”, or whether we should consider replacement instead. Based on those questions, we reached out to several vendors of pews and woodworking, following helpful recommendations from our friends at the Cathedral, St. Philips in Lewisville, and F. C. Ziegler (our church supplies vendor).

We discovered that many vendors featuring pews do not actually do "traditionally styled" pews any longer. Their main business is with more modern styles. We had several estimates for this project from those vendors who did offer traditional

pews that varied widely. The craftsmen from Imperial Woodworks, a local firm based in Waco, showed significant interest in bidding for and working on our project and gave us a very competitive bid. In addition, they came in person to talk to us and bring us samples and hear our ideas. The Parish Council was on board with the contract being given to Imperial Woodworks. A significant guarantee from the company that swayed our decision was that the company has agreed to stain the pews with a stain that will **match** our beautiful side shrines.

We will have brand new pews with completely new padding in a gorgeous red upholstery that complements the chairs in the Chancel, as well as our side altars and aisle chairs. I therefore signed the contract on Wednesday.

We are now 90-120 days away from our new pews. This time frame largely depends on delivery of fabric we chose. We have not chosen an unusual fabric, however, so the company is very hopeful that we will be closer to the 90-day mark than the 120-day mark. Of course, there are no guarantees on that. They will let us know their best estimate in a week or two after talking to the fabric supply house.

Our old pews have served us well for over a generation, but it is time to upgrade the seating to match our beautiful woodwork elsewhere in our Church. It is time to carry the beauty that exists in the sanctuary out to our people.

And finally, the parish has the money on hand to pay for these pews.

Your generosity has made this possible. Thank you.

Faithfully,  
Your Friend and Pastor,  
Fr. Christopher C. Stainbrook

Prayer for Vocations

**Priest:** Please kneel for our prayer for vocations. / Let us ask God to give worthy priests, brothers and sisters to His Holy Church.

**All:** O God, / we earnestly beseech Thee / to bless this Ordinate / with many priests, / brothers / and sisters, / who will love Thee with their whole strength / and gladly spend their entire lives / to serve Thy Church / and to make Thee known and loved.

**Priest:** Bless our families. / Bless our children.

**All:** Choose from our homes / those who are needed for Thy work.

**Priest:** Mary Queen of the Clergy!

**All:** Pray for us. / Pray for our priests and religious. / Obtain for us many more. Amen.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam  
(For the Greater Glory)

- Flowers:** Helen Mitchell in loving memory of Helen C Mitchell  
**Sanctuary Light:** Hannah & Ben Workman for their forth coming wedding  
**Lamp at the Shrine of Our Lady:** Hannah & Ben Workman for their forth-coming wedding  
**Lamp at the Shrine of St. Joseph:** Skinner Family for Jack’s birthday  
**Lamp at St. Therese:** Brignac Family for Mary Pollice’s healing  
**Lamp at Blessed Karl:** Brignac Family for Elva Johnson’s healing  
**Lamp at St. Thomas More:** Hilburn Family for all families  
**Lamp at St. John Fisher:** Rease Parton for Justin Rodriguez in hospital  
**Lamp at the Altar of Relics:** Kelly Family for Lucy’s birthday



The Catholic Church of  
ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

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Fr. Christopher Stainbrook, Pastor

Welcome to The Catholic Church of St. Mary the Virgin. We are a parish of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter authorized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012 for Anglicans seeking to become Catholic. Ordinate parishes are fully Catholic, while retaining elements of their Anglican heritage and embracing the roots of the Catholic faith’s rich tradition through reverent liturgy and historical music. All Catholics are invited to participate in our Divine Worship liturgy and receive communion by kneeling (if able) at the altar rail and receiving our Lord on the tongue.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the parish for details regarding the preparation program. Under Ordinate policy, couples should contact a member of the parish clergy at least six months prior to their proposed wedding date.

Liturgical Ministers  
September 17, 2023

8:00 am	Altar Server	Jon Carr
	Ushers	Muguel Uribe/Adam Muller
10:30 am	Master of Ceremonies	Brandon Gunnip
	Thurifer	Anthony Gunnip
	Crucifer	Carlo paulo Granados
	Torchbearers	Rafael Gutierrez/Ayden Estrada
	Boat Boy	Benjamin Hull
	Ushers	Chris Taylor/Kevin Vina
1:00 pm	Altar Server	Theo Irlbeck
	Ushers	Jeff Nelson/Lonnie Jones

Divine Worship Order of Holy Mass

Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity  
September 17, 2023

Music of the Mass

Mass Setting: Missa Parochialis

Asperges Me  
Please see separate hymn sheet

Entrance Hymn.....*How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*  
English Creed  
Offertory Hymn.....*Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace*  
Mystery of Faith.....*O Savior of the World*  
The Lord’s Prayer  
Communion Hymn.....*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*  
Closing Hymn..... *Now Thank We All Our God*

Adult choir meets on Thursdays at 7 p.m.  
Youth choir meets on Sunday immediately  
after the 10:30 Mass until 1:15 pm.  
New Children are welcome.

Collect

Keep, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy: and, because the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall; keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Scripture of the Mass

First Reading

Sirach 27:30-28:7

Anger and wrath, these also are abominations, and the sinful man will possess them. He that takes vengeance will suffer vengeance from the Lord, and he will firmly establish his sins. Forgive your neighbor the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray. Does a man harbor anger against another, and yet seek for the healing from the Lord? Does he have no mercy toward a man like himself, and yet pray for his own sins? If he himself, being flesh, maintains wrath, will he then seek forgiveness from God? Who will make expiation for his sins? Remember the end of your life, and cease from enmity, remember destruction and death, and be true to the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not be angry with your neighbor; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook ignorance.

Gradual

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord: and to sing praises unto thy Name, O Most Highest.  
V. To tell of thy loving-kindness early in the morning: and of thy truth in the night season.

Second Reading

Romans 14:7-9

Brethren: None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Alleluia

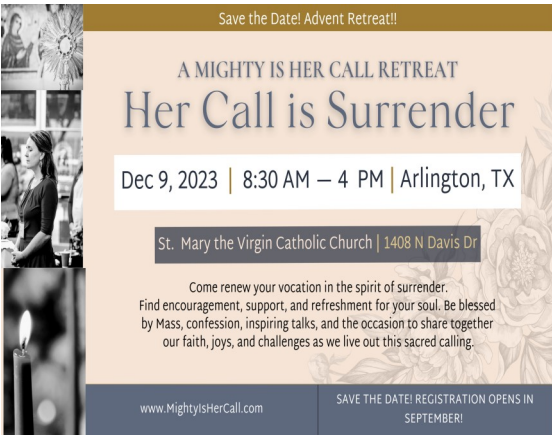
For the Lord is a great God:  
and a great King over all the earth.  
Alleluia

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

At that time: Peter came up and said to Jesus, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."



The Parish Offering

Weekly Offering Forecast.....	\$7,000.00
Sunday Offertory.....	\$8,716.68
Variance.....	.\$1,716.68
Attendance:.....	463

Thank you for your generosity!

The Prayers of the People  
For Those in Special Need

Fr. Stainbrook, our pastor; Fr Kennedy; Fr Allan; Mike; Kathy; Carol; Bob; Ronald; Marilyn; Christopher; Polly; Van; Kathi; Echo; Elva; Joanne; Mary; Hayley; Denise; Michael; Jose Luis; Tom; Bill; Alton; Farley; Gary; Marianne; Sharon; Jameson; Ben; Bethany; Stephanie; Sandra; Jason; Kate; Tracy; Naois; Colleen; Carol; Nathan; Virginia; Jim; Mark.

For Those Serving in the Armed Forces  
Kris; William; Brett; Brandon; Erich.

For First Responders  
Marcus.

For Those Expecting Children  
Emma & Matthew; Sandy & Christian; Adele & Philip; Mary & Peter, Julie & John; Hailey & Sam; Shannon & Brian; Kristin & Jonny; Becca & Paul; Maddie & Peter; Chelsea & Ryan.

For the Faithful Departed On the Anniversary of Their Deaths  
Sunday: Jesse Joe Patrick; James Sharpe; Monday: Ann Stornello; Andrew Myers; Thursday: Gerard Norbert Woll; Helen Cunningham Mitchell; Edith Vaca; Friday: Lucille Ballance.

For Those Celebrating Birthdays  
Monday: William Horan; Tuesday: Christopher Taylor; Wednesday: Ibolya Howard; Taylor Gundlach; Thursday: John Skinner; Macie Delgado; Patrick Landry; Friday: Elaine Chapman; Dorothea Malloy; Sarah Keller; Saturday: Jean Deats; Jullian Idl William.

While SMV does **not** have a “dress code” (except for Altar Servers and Ushers), this is God’s home, and we come before the King of Kings in the Holy Eucharist at **each** celebration. Parishioners are encouraged to wear what we used to call our **"Sunday best"** when attending Mass, and choose modest clothing when attending weekday Masses. **Veils** are encouraged for women. Extra veils can be found in the Narthex. Donations of new or cleaned veils are welcome, please place them in the container in the Narthex. Please **(PLEASE!)** put one’s **cell phone** on “silent mode” before entering the church, or better yet, turn it **off**, or leave it in the **glove compartment of the car**.

Youth Group Kick Off Meeting

Our youth group kickoff meeting for this year will be Saturday Sept. 23rd from 5-7 pm at the home of the Granados family, 6008 Terrace Oaks Ln. Come for a fun social time, to hear our events for the year, and give your ideas for the event.

This Week at St. Mary the Virgin

**Sunday, September 17**  
Low Mass at 8:00 a.m.  
High Mass at 10:30 a.m.  
Low Mass with hymns at 1:00 p.m.

**Monday, September 18**  
Mass at 12:00 p.m.  
(Mass Intention: For the Donors to the Catholic Gentleman and their intentions)

**Tuesday, September 19**  
Mass at 12:00 p. m.  
(Mass Intention: Hallene Dillier RIP)

**Wednesday, September 20**  
Confessions at 11:00 a.m.  
Mass at 12:00 p.m.  
(Mass Intention: Dawn Smith )

**Thursday, September 21**  
Mass at 12:00 p.m.  
(Mass Intention: Patrick Landry’s birthday)

**Friday, September 22**  
Mass at 12 p.m.  
Adoration 1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.  
(Mass Intention: Christina Juarez RIP)

**Saturday, September 23**  
Mass at 9:00 a. m.  
Confessions at 10:00 a.m.  
(Mass Intention: Ryan Rubalcaba)

Please RSVP to [carolckelly1108@gmail.com](mailto:carolckelly1108@gmail.com)

Hymn Sing & Spaghetti Supper

Save the date! Saturday October 7th we will meet in the Parish Hall at 7 pm to share a meal. Then we will gather together in Song. You don’t have to be a singer to enjoy an evening of food, friendship and music. Make plans to attend.

Flower Guild Note

Dead/wilted flowers will be removed from the side altars and columbarium. The empty vases will be in a basket in the parish hall. If you’d like these back please feel free to take them. Vases left in the basket will be picked up and donated at the end of the month. Thank you!

Coming Soon– 40 Days Rosary

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a guided rosary inside the church every Friday at 7 pm starting from Friday September 29 to November 3rd as part of the 40 Days for Life. Everyone is encouraged to come and join the Knights in the Rosary for life.