

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
VICTORIA, TEXAS



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Kristopher Fuchs - frkristopher@victoriadiocese.org

Pastoral Assistant: Dcn. Jim Koenig - jkoenig@stmvictoria.org

Resident Seminarian: Ryan Kapavik - ryankapavik@yahoo.com

Secretary: Cathy Fojtik - sec@stmvictoria.org

Accounting: Heather Zamykal - hzamykal@stmvictoria.org

CCD: Diana Starnes - ccd@stmvictoria.org

www.stmvictoria.org

Physical Address: 402 South Main Street Victoria, TX 77901-8123

Phone: 361-573-4328

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2448 Victoria, TX 77902-2448

Fax: 361-573-4308

NEW TO ST. MARY'S

Welcome! Please call or come by the parish office to let us know you are here. You can register online at www.stmvictoria.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

For Children not yet in school: Contact the parish office to inquire about baptizing your child. Parents and godparents will meet with Fr. Kristopher to prepare for the celebration. Godparents from another parish can participate in a baptism class at their own parish. Baptisms are scheduled at a mutually agreeable time.

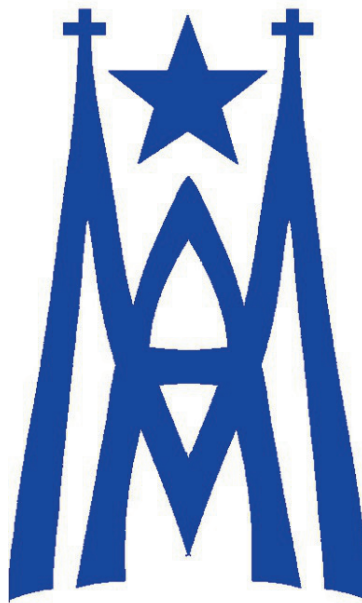
For those in school (age 5-18): Contact Diana Starnes to enroll in our CCD program.

For Adults: Contact Fr. Kristopher to enquire about RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults).

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Please contact the parish office to make arrangements. We are happy to resume bringing Holy Communion to the Homebound after the COVID disruptions.

1824



1840

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Congratulations on your engagement! We are happy to assist you in preparing for Holy Matrimony. Please schedule an appointment to meet with Fr. Kristopher at least 6 months before the desired wedding date to begin preparing.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

For high schoolers: Preparation is completed through our CCD program, Catholic School or through the home. CCD meets on Wednesdays from 6:00–7:15 pm in the Activity Center.

For adults: Contact Fr. Kristopher

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office and ask for a priest. If it is an emergency at a hospital and a priest from St. Mary's is unavailable, ask the nurse to call the Catholic chaplain.

BULLETIN NEWS

Please have any information for the parish bulletin in by noon on Monday. Contact Cathy at sec@stmvictoria.org or call 361-573-4328.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am
10:30 am

Monday - Friday 12:05 pm

CONFESSIONS

After all Masses:
Monday - Saturday
and upon request

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S**Saturday, November 28 Sat of the 34th Week in Ordinary Time**

10:00 am Williams/Gray Wedding

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

Mass Intention: Werner Von Minden †

5:00 pm Confessions

Bishop Brendan Cahill &
James Wearden (Birthdays)**Sunday, November 29****First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 am Sunday Mass

Mass Intention: Thomas M. O'Connor †
August Hermes †

10:30 am Sunday Mass

Mass Intention: People of the Parish

Monday, November 30**Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle**

12:05 pm Daily Mass

Mass Intention: Martha Hamel †

12:30 pm Confessions

Tuesday, December 1**Tuesday of the First Week of Advent**

7:00 am - 7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel

12:05 pm Daily Mass

Mass Intention: Living & Deceased Member
of Incarnate Word & Blessed Sacrament Sisters

12:30 pm Confessions

3:00 - 4:30 pm Divine Mercy Cenacle in the Chapel

7:15 pm KC Council #1329 Meeting at the KC Hall

Wednesday, December 2**Wed. of the First Week of Advent**

12:05 pm Daily Mass

Mass Intention: Ashley Gainer †

12:30 pm Confessions

6:00 pm CCD Adoration for all Students and Parents in the Church

6:00 pm Troops of St. George Meeting

Thursday, December 3**Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier**

9:00 a.m.—2:00 pm Quilt and Craft corner in the Annex

12:05 pm Daily Mass

Mass Intention: Sharon West Bauer †

12:30 pm Confessions

7:00 - 8:00 pm Hour of Prayer and Reflection for Women

8:00 pm Immaculate Heart of Mary Homeschoolers Mom's Evening

Friday, December 4**Friday of the First Week of Advent**

7:00 am - 7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel

11:00 am Hour of Reparation in the Church

12:05 pm Daily Mass

Mass Intention: Robert Kaye †

12:30 pm Confessions

12:30 pm Immaculate Heart of Mary Homeschoolers First Friday Events

Saturday, December 5**Friday of the First Week of Advent**

11:00 am Copeland Baptism

1:00 pm Canshola/Ordonez Wedding

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

Mass Intention: Robert J. Moore †

5:00 pm Confessions

Delois Kilgore †

Sunday, December 6**Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 am Sunday Mass

Mass Intention: Jodie Vahalik †

Chester P. Lyssy †

10:30 am Sunday Mass

Mass Intention: People of the Parish

† symbol indicates the deceased

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**Regular Offertory Gifts***The collection totals will be posted in
next week's bulletin.*

Amount needed weekly

to meet budget: \$8,085.00

MASS ATTENDANCE*The Mass attendance will be posted
in next week's bulletin.***THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING THE MISSION
OF THE CHURCH**Contributions can be made through
our website: stmvictoria.org

or by mail to:

P.O. Box 2448
Victoria, TX 77902or dropped off in the secure
mailbox at the parish office.**THERE ARE NO FLOWERS
IN THE SANCTUARY
DURING THE
ADVENT SEASON,
DUE TO IT BEING A
PENITENTIAL SEASON.****THE SANCTUARY CANDLE**
in the church burns this week
in memory of
Bertice Tipton
by
Patrick Tipton**THE ADORATION CANDLES**
in the chapel burn this week
in memory of
Bernice & Tricia Yanta
by
their family**THE CANDLE
IN COMMEMORATION OF
THE DECEASED**
(No Intention)**To sponsor the candle intentions,
please contact Cathy
at the parish office.**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CCD ADORATION FOR ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS

THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND AT 6:00 PM

This Wednesday, from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, we will have an hour of prayer and reflection for all out CCD families in the church. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a spiritual talk, time for reflection, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

TROOPS OF SAINT GEORGE

THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND AT 6:00 PM

The Troops of Saint George is a Catholic nonprofit organization for priests, fathers and sons looking for a life of adventure coupled with virtue. Troop #18 in Victoria is sponsored by St. Mary's and is gearing up for another year of camping and activities to help us grow in the Faith, seeking to become men of God. We will have a planning meeting for fathers on Wednesday, October 28th at 6:00 pm at St. Mary's Annex. For more information, contact Ryan Staten at 361-649-3305 or Ty Meyer at 361-550-5390.

HOOR OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION FOR WOMEN

THIS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

On the first Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, we will have an hour of prayer and reflection for women in the church. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a spiritual talk, time for reflection, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Women of all ages are welcome.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY HOMESCHOOLERS

THIS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3RD AT 8:00 PM & FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH AT 12:30 PM

Do you homeschool your children? Are you considering homeschooling your children? If so, consider coming to one of the events put on by the Immaculate Heart of Mary Homeschoolers. On Thursday, November 5th, there will be a gathering of homeschool moms at 8:00 pm in the Activity Center after the Hour of Prayer and Reflection. On Friday, November 6th, after the 12:30 pm Mass, there is play time and fun musical learning for elementary aged students. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy! For more information, contact Valerie Barton at 361-580-0626 or Marie Immenhauser at 361-572-3863

GIVING TREE PROJECT

RETURN GIFT CARDS BY NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

As with so many areas of our lives in 2020, the parish's Giving Tree Project is taking a different direction this year due to COVID-19; however, we will not let this virus take the Christmas Spirit of giving away from our parish. Instead of the usual gift tags, there are small decorated envelopes hung on St. Mary's Giving Tree starting. These envelopes contain gift card requests that are noted on the front of the envelope.

After taking an envelope from the Tree and purchasing a gift card, please place the sealed envelope in the collection basket at Mass or drop it off at the Parish Office.

Please return the gift cards by next Sunday, December 6th.

For those who would like to make a monetary donation for us to purchase the requested gift cards, donation for us to purchase the requested gift cards, donations may be sent to the Parish Office (402 S. Main Street) designated for "Giving Tree". If you have any questions please contact the Cathy at the rectory 573-4328. Thank you for your generosity in helping to make Christmas a little brighter for some of our parish families and others who have been referred to us for assistance this year.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

FORMS ARE AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH

St. Mary's Altar Society is now accepting Christmas Flower Donations of any amount in honor or memory of loved ones. Forms and envelopes are located on the back of the last pews in our church. Thank you always for your generosity in decorating our beautiful church for the celebration of Christ's birth.

YEAR OF THE FAMILY**DECEMBER**

Bishop Cahill has announced a special Year of the Family! You are invited to join in monthly themes where we will explore an area of our faith and participate in activities that will help us to **Pray, Eat, and Play** together.

For the Month of December: THE GREATEST GIFT: God comes to us.

What was the best gift you ever received? Why was it the best? Did you know that Jesus being born on earth was a gift from God? Yes, God's "gift" to us was that through Jesus, God became like us (human), so that He could show us how to live in love, peace, and joy. This is one of the reasons why Advent and Christmas is so important to us as Christians.

Pray:

1. Celebrate the Immaculate Conception by attending Mass on December 8th. (It is a Holy Day of Obligation)
2. Pray a "Glory Be" prayer every time something doesn't quite go your way.
3. Pray a prayer of blessing over your Christmas tree. The prayer can be found on the USCCB website (usccb.org). The link is also available on the Diocese of Victoria website.

Eat:

1. Enjoy a picnic outside (or inside) this month.
2. Donate food or money to your local food bank.
3. Try a new recipe for a weekend meal.
4. Ask everyone at the table the best part of their day during the meal conversation.
5. While at the table, discuss what it might have been like on the night Jesus was born... Might it have been cold? Was it dark? Who might have been with Mary & Joseph?

Prayer after Meals:

*We give you thanks, almighty God, for all your benefits, who loves and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Play:

1. Consider making a Jesse Tree or adding ornaments to your own tree that reflect the faithfulness of God found throughout the Bible.
2. Celebrate these December feast days: St. Nicholas, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the Feast of the Holy Family!
3. Set up an Advent wreath in your home. Find out more on how to do this on the Diocese of Victoria website.
4. Make your Christmas decorations Jesus-centered.

Want More? Visit www.victoriadiocese.org

DONATION INFORMATION**NONPROFIT CARES ACT CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION CHANGES**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which became law on March 27, 2020, made several changes to charitable contribution limitation rules for individuals and corporations. Here are the details:

FOR INDIVIDUALS:

- Individuals who take the standard deduction on their tax return (non-itemizers) can contribute up to \$300 cash to most 501(c)(3) charitable organizations and claim a new "above the-line" deduction on their 2020 taxes. Previously, there was no charitable contribution tax deduction available for taxpayers who did not itemize deductions.
- Individuals who itemize their deductions can deduct up to 100% of their adjusted gross income (AGI) for cash contributions to most 501(c)(3) organizations for 2020. The deduction was previously capped at 60% of AGI for cash contributions.

FOR CORPORATIONS:

- Corporate donors may also make charitable contributions, and in 2020, corporations may increase their corporate tax deduction from 15% to 25% of taxable income.
- Corporations that donate food inventory during 2020 may increase their charitable contribution deduction from 15% to 25% of taxable income.

Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to assist our parish, especially in these challenging days of this pandemic and as we prepare for the end of this calendar year. As always, thank you for your generosity.

ST. MARY'S PARISH FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

The Parish Festival is two months away! With the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays within that time, our preparations are in full swing. Here is an update:

Raffle - Raffle Tickets have been mailed out and tickets are available at the entrance of the church and at the parish office. Please help us to sale as many of the raffle tickets as possible. With restrictions on the festival itself, the raffle is even more important now than in previous years.

Meal Expenses - Donations are still welcomed to offset the expenses of the Meal. With your donation towards the meal expenses, the sale of these plates will give us a greater profit! You can drop off your meal donation at the parish office or in the collection plate with a note on it.

**We currently have received \$2,870.00 from 9 people for the Meal Expenses.
Our goal is \$12,500.00**

Live Auction - With the possibility of a briefer, smaller, in-person event, we will limit our live auction items to include those that have greater appeal. If you would like to donate an item, make a monetary donation for an item, or have any ideas for a live auction item, contact Maggie Schaar at 361-212-2452. If, for some reason we cannot have the festival in person, we will still use these items for an online auction.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our festival chairmen: Lisa and Zach Kainer at (361)676-3264 / (361)571-8774 or Joan and Kevin Pfister at (361)676-0439 / (361)676-0425.

ADVENT VESPERS - LIVE STREAMED

FROM AMOR MEUS SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Despite the pandemic, Amor Meus Spirituality Center is still here for you. Please join us in a Virtual Advent Solemn Vespers at the Incarnate Word Convent on the four Sundays of Advent at 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm. You can join us by "liking" our Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/iwbs.victoria> on Sunday, November 29, December 6, 13, and 20.

Solemn Vespers consists of chanting the psalms, singing the hymns and canticles with a brief talk based on the Advent Sunday Scripture readings.

Advent is a liturgical season of expectation, blending together a penitential spirit, preparation for the second and final coming of the Lord while joyfully getting ready to celebrate the birth of Christ. We joyfully invite you to celebrate these themes with us during the four Solemn Vespers.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES ARTS & CRAFTS AND BAKE SALE

DECEMBER 12 FROM 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will have an arts and crafts sale along with a bake sale on December 12, 2020 from 8:30 - 3:00 in the church basement Hall. There will also be mementos from the rectory and church available. Raffle tickets will also be sold with the drawing held at 3:00 p.m.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #1329 WEDNESDAY NIGHT BINGO

EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 7:30 PM

The Knights of Columbus has BINGO every Wednesday evening. The Hall opens 5:30 pm; Bingo starts at 7:30 pm and goes until 10:00 pm. Entry fee is \$10.00 (sheet pack for 10 games) You can purchase more. Food and drinks are available. No outside food and drinks are allowed. City and state mandated face coverings, social distancing and maximum occupancy will be enforced. Location is Airline at Ben Wilson. Proceeds benefit various council charity projects. For information, call the hall on Wednesday evening at 575-9214. Come out, have fun and meet friends!

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