

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

VICTORIA, TEXAS



The voice of John the Baptist crying out in the wilderness and gathering great crowds invites us into the second Sunday of Advent. Pieter Brueghel the Younger's painting: *John the Baptist Preaching*, captures this moment, as he presents a wooded wilderness embracing a colorful crowd. Left of center is John the Baptist, clad in camel hair, but one must search the scene to find him. Instead of standing as a dominating figure, John is one of the crowd, one of the people, who serves his peers with prophetic passion. For Brueghel, the crowd itself seems to be the dominant figure. It fully saturates the landscape as one body that reveals its diversity only upon closer inspection. A chief way Brueghel shows that diversity is through hats, hoods, and headdresses, each signifying the different culture, vocation, or profession. Brueghel shows not only the mix of people that might have been present in the region, but the great diversity of all mankind as the intended recipients of the Good News that John is heralding. John prepares the way of the Lord to go beyond boundaries starting with the colorful cavalcade of people who come to hear the prophetic message. The body of the crowd becomes vertical as people all around the perimeter climb the trees to get a better view. Sitting on branches, they foreshadow the story Zacchaeus, the tax collector, a figure of conversion and repentance from the Gospel of Luke. Thus, the tree climbers also underscore the message of conversion that John is preaching. And the ascending of trees also foreshadows the cross itself as the ultimate place of reconciliation. In the background we see a clearing in the woods that presents a vista of a river, a walled castle, and misty mountains. This is an invitation to see beyond the immediate message to the possibilities of God's ultimate home for us. The river, evocative of baptism, is especially important as it winds like a road into this mysterious beyond. We too are called to look beyond and see ourselves as part of a body of people who are gathered by the Good News. Like John, we are also sent to share the Good News to help open the horizon of possibilities that lead us into God's eternal love. ~from *Arts & Faith* by Loyola Press

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 6, 2020

CLERGY AND STAFF

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

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

Pastoral Assistant: Dcn. Richard Evans -

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.

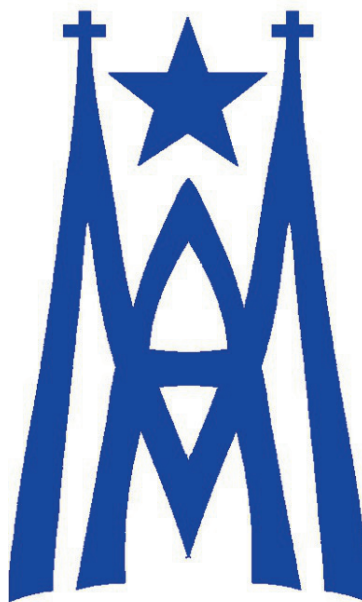
For Adults:

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

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

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.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S**Saturday, December 5 Sat. 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 †
 9:00 am - Noon - Troops of St. George Kettle Cooked Stew Sale
 at KC Hall (3610 N Ben Wilson) - \$10 a quart
 10:30 am Sunday Mass Mass Intention: People of the Parish

Monday, December 7 Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor

12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Mark, Louis & David Migl †
 12:30 pm Confessions
 6:00 pm Catholic Daughters of the Americas Meeting - KC Hall
6:00 pm Holy Day Vigil Mass Intention: Bill & Clara Berkman

Tuesday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

7:00 am - 7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel
12:05 pm Holy Day Mass Intention: Rose Lee Harker †
 12:30 pm Confessions
 3:00 - 4:30 pm Divine Mercy Cenacle in the Chapel
 3:30 - 5:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Food Distribution - Annex Porte-cochère
6:00 pm Holy Day Mass Intention: People of the Parish

Wednesday, December 9 Wed. of the Second Week of Advent

12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Martha Hamel †
 12:30 pm Confessions
 6:00 pm CCD Classes—1st Communion and Confirmation Students Only
 6:30 pm Advent Penance Service at Our Lady of Sorrows

Thursday, December 10 Thurs. of the Second Week of Advent

9:00 a.m.—2:00 pm Quilt and Craft corner in the Annex
 12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Noreen Pfister †
 12:30 pm Confessions
 1:30 pm Altar Society Board Meeting

Friday, December 11 Friday of the Second Week of Advent

7:00 am - 7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel
 12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: U. S. Servicemen J.M.S.F.S.J †
 12:30 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Saleh/Trevino Wedding
6:30 pm Vigil Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Patronal Feast)
 Mass Intention: Bennie Walker

Saturday, December 12 Our Lady Guadalupe (Patronal Feast)

4:00 pm Vigil Mass Mass Intention: Marcus Janak †
 5:00 pm Confessions Vivian Tyng †

Sunday, December 13 Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Sunday Mass Mass Intention: Jerry & Frances Patton †
 Richard Fritz †
 10:30 am Sunday Mass Mass Intention: People of the Parish

† symbol indicates the deceased

Regular Offertory Gifts**November 17-23**

Sunday Collection.....\$3,962.00
 On-line giving.....\$960.00
Total.....\$4,922.00

November 24-30

Sunday Collection.....\$7,584.00
 On-line giving.....\$1,335.00
Total.....\$8,919.00

Amount needed weekly
 to meet budget: \$8,085.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

Sat., Nov. 21st at 4:00 pm.....104
 Sun., Nov. 22nd at 8:00 am.....92
 Sun., Nov. 22nd at 10:30 am.....144
Total.....340

Sat., Nov. 28th at 4:00 pm.....89
 Sun., Nov. 29th at 8:00 am.....98
 Sun., Nov. 29th at 10:30 am.....171
Total.....358

**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 77902

or dropped off in the secure
 mailbox at the parish office.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

in the church burns this week
 in memory of

Ernest Innocenti

by

Mary Ann Innocenti

THE ADORATION CANDLES

in the chapel burn this week
 in memory of

Benito & Irene Menchaca

by

Benny Menchaca

**THE CANDLE
IN COMMEMORATION OF
THE DECEASED**

(No Intention)

To sponsor the candle intentions,
 please contact Cathy
 at the parish office.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TROOPS OF ST. GEORGE KETTLE STEW FUNDRAISER

THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH AT THE KC HALL FROM 9:00 AM - NOON

Please support the Troops of St. George by buying delicious Kettle Cooked Stew for \$10.00 per quart this Sunday from 9:00 am - Noon at the Columbus Hall (KC Hall) at 3610 N Ben Wilson St. 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 includes opportunities for camping and activities to help us grow in the Faith, seeking to become men of God.



GIVING TREE PROJECT

RETURN GIFT CARDS BY THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

Thank you to everyone who took an ornament off the Christmas Giving Tree. 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.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS COURT ST. ANN #369 MEETING

THIS MONDAY, DECEMBER 7TH AT THE KC HALL AT 6:00 PM



Join us for our Holiday Meeting and Award Celebration on December 7th at 6:00 at the KC Hall. We will have a Christ Kitchen Pantry Shower and a Silver Drill Snack Sale. We hope to see you all there. New members are always welcome. Give yourself the Gift of CDA.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

VIGIL MASS - MONDAY, DECEMBER 7TH AT 6:00 PM

MASS - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH AT 12:05 PM & 6:00 PM

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, when Mary was conceived in the womb of her mother, St. Ann. is the feast of our National Patroness, making this feast particularly important for Catholics in the United States.



OUR PARISH'S PATRONAL FEAST OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

VIGIL MASS ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AT 6:30 PM

St. Mary's Church was originally titled, the Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Although, now officially titled, St. Mary's, the feast of her title *Guadalupe*, remains the parish's feast day. We will have a special Mass to implore Mary's intercession through this historic and esteemed title.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

BEGINS AT 6:30 PM AT ALL LOCATIONS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH AT OUR LADY OF SORROWS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH AT OUR LADY OF VICTORY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17TH AT HOLY FAMILY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18TH AT ST. MARY'S

Multiple priests will be available at each parish at 6:30 pm on the above dates to hear individual confessions in preparation for the Christmas Feast. Please take advantage of this opportunity! God's mercy endures forever!

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who attended our newly ordained Deacon Richard Evans's parish celebration meal the weekend of Nov. 22. St. Mary's Altar Society wishes to acknowledge all those who attended and/or assisted in any way. You reflect the love and oneness of our parish family. It is truly our honor and blessing for the gift of your presence and participation. May we all continue our prayers for Deacon Richard and Karen in this new journey in their lives.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT 4:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT 8:00 PM

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS AT MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS AT 10:00 AM

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. MARY'S PARISH FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

The Parish Festival is less than two months away! With the 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 sell 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 \$4,120.00 from 13 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, 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

THIS SATURDAY, 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!

DeTar

FAMILY MEDICINE CENTER

Providing specialized care for the entire family, including obstetrics and gynecology.

501 E. Colorado St.

361.579.8300

Renken's
NURSERY **576-5657**

LANDSCAPE DESIGN • TREES • SHRUBS • LANDSCAPING

2701 Salem Rd. @ Loop 463

KOENIG
CONSTRUCTION, LLC

2424 N. Navarro

Butch Koenig **649-2888**
Zak Koenig **649-3456**

"We Build to Last - Not Just to Build"

IDEAL ALUMINUM

578-3892 • FM 1685 • 578-0641

In Loving Memory of
FR. DAN MORALES

A&A Bail Bonds

Payment Plans Available
Willing to Negotiate

Open 24 Hours

203 N. Moody **578-9197**

We Deliver!

VICTORIA GLASS
361-550-4864

Commercial & Residential
GLASS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Lorenzo Hinojosa, Owner

The Inn on Main
Yesterday's Charm, Today's Convenience

Daily • Weekly • Monthly

James Wearden, Host

315 N. Main **580-2794**
www.The-Inn-On-Main.com

361-649-9611

- Engine Repair & ReBuild
- AC Repair
- Brakes
- Tune-Ups
- Vehicle State Inspections
- Fleet Vehicle Maintenance & Management

Vallejo MOTORS

www.VALLEJO-MOTORS.COM
303 E. Juan Linn, Downtown Victoria

ORESTES ROMERO, MD, PA

FAMILY PRACTICE & PEDIATRICS

Diplomate, American Board of Family Practice

601 San Antonio St., Ste. 205W

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS **570-1200**

Compliments of

Eli, Jennifer & Emiliano Garza

\$9 T-SHIRT SALE
EVERY SHIRT! LIMITED TIME ONLY!

diocesan.com/shop

NOOT'S THAI KITCHEN

Curries • Seafood • Stir Fry • Salads
We Have Vegan & Gluten Free Options

Open Tuesday-Sunday 11am - 9pm

(361) 578-THAI (8424)
6360 N. Navarro
in the Whispering Creek Center
www.NootsThaiKitchen.com

MONUMENTS
of Victoria

Granite & Bronze Memorials
Custom Designs • 2108 N. Laurent St.
361-579-0744
monumentsofvictoria@gmail.com

BROWN'S Air Conditioning Co.

We still make house calls

ACTS **573-1983**

James Brown, Owner
Our Lady of Sorrow Parishioner

catholicmatch
Texas

CatholicMatch.com/goTX

myParish

The App for
Catholic Life Every Day

www.myParishApp.com

Available on the App Store

ANDROID APP ON Google play

FRED L. SANCHEZ, CRB, GRI
Broker Associate

THE RON BROWN COMPANY **COLDWELL BANKER**

361-575-1446 ext 220 • 361-571-0261

2505 N. Navarro • fsanchez@ronbrown.com

In Loving Memory of

Chad A. Slavik

from Allen, Karol, Tabitha & Chris

In Memory of

SHARON WEST BAUER

BY LOYD WEST FAMILY

In Loving Memory of

Charles & Lillie Bomersbach

TNT Restaurant M-F 5am-2pm
Sat 6am-12noon

Homemade Tortillas, Tacos & Tamales • 15 Kinds of Tacos
Reyna Herrera, Owner
908 E. RIO GRANDE • 576-9950

MIORI PLUMBING CO.

Mark Miori, Owner
575-3761
3605 MIORI LN.

Schroeder Carrier
Refrigeration Co., Inc.

Air Conditioning & Heating
TACLA #001293C • 578-3201

The Inn on Main
Yesterday's Charm, Today's Convenience

Daily • Weekly • Monthly
James Wearden, Host
315 N. Main 580-2794
www.The-Inn-On-Main.com

LA ROSITA BAKERY

Fresh Bread Daily
Breakfast Tacos • Cookies
Sausage Rolls
206 W. Water 575-5271

McAdams FLORAL

1107 E. Red River
575-2307

Sumbera Family DENTAL 361-576-6118

DR. MARK J. SUMBERA & DR. MALCOLM J. SUMBERA
1401 Victoria Station Drive, Victoria, Texas 77901

DR. JAMES OMECINSKI DDS

FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
www.drovictoria.com • 573-4701

In Memory of
Frank and Marjorie Stefka

★ **QUALITY TREE SERVICE**
Tree Trimming or Removal at its best
Hard to get to places - Power Lines & Roofs
Gutter clean up & haul off
361-652-9211
James & Rika McDonald
Free Estimates • Reasonable Prices
Insured

Your Church is closer than you think...

Bulletins
Directions
Mass Times
Local Businesses

Visit
DISCOVERMASS.com


MacBev Properties


Michael A. Cuellar
Parishioner
220-0646

In Loving Memory of
George A., George B. & Charlotte Sartor
From John Sartor

★ **Mitchell GLASS CO.**


Serving the Victoria Area Since 1947
Residential • Commercial
Robert Mueller & David Seale
361-573-4337


NOE R. OLVERA MD
Board Certified in Rheumatology

★ **Compliments of Lone Star Car Wash**
Victoria, TX

In Loving Memory of
Gilbert & Helen Janak
from the Janak Family

www.noeolveramd.com
2705 Hospital Drive • Suite 210
574-1893

"The man who stopped advertising to save money is like the man who stopped his clock to save time."

THOMAS JEFFERSON

ANCHOR LUMBER YARD
DEALERS IN Building Materials

Serving Victoria Since 1911
307 West Water Street • 575-1421

COMPLIMENTS OF
Joe & Joyce Morris & Family

★ **NAZARETH ACADEMY**

206 W. Convent St., Victoria, TX 77901
361-573-6651
www.nazarethacademy.org

LISA HEINRICH-NULL DDS
CREATING HEALTHY SMILES

6701 N. Navarro Street
361-575-8735
www.DrLisaHeinrich-Null.com

Compliments of
Maggie & Bobby Schaar

Buhler Roofing
576-1317

Knights Of Columbus
Council #1329
Chartered 1908
Service – Charity – Fraternity
361-649-2023

Oscar's Pest & Termite Control
The Only Name You Need to Know in Pest Control

Oscar Torres 578-PEST (7378)
Owner, Parishioner

★ **Fossati's Delicatessen**
Est. 1882 • OLDEST IN TEXAS
302 S. Main St. • 576-DELI