

# SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## VICTORIA, TEXAS



### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD ~ CHRISTMAS ~ DECEMBER 25, 2022

*The Nativity Window at St. Mary's Church*

This window was placed in 1909 and  
dedicated October 29, 1911.

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# THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD ~ CHRISTMAS

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

*The Mass begins with the Processional Hymn.  
The celebrant and other ministers enter in procession and reverence the altar with a kiss.  
The altar is a symbol of Christ at the heart of the assembly and so deserves this special reverence.*  
STAND

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* HYMN 200

BLESSING OF THE CRÈCHE (*Midnight only*)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON 4:30 & 8:00 pm: page 68  
Midnight: page 70  
8:00 & 10:30 am: page 75

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (*Midnight only*)

℣. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ℞. **Amen.**  
℣. The Lord be with you. ℞. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT Pew Missal, page 4

*The Penitential Act follows the greeting. At the very beginning of the Mass,  
the faithful recall their sins and place their trust in God's abiding mercy.*

KYRIE *Sancta Maria Magdalena* Pew Missal, page 30

*The Act of Penitence includes the Kyrie Eleison,  
a Greek phrase meaning, "Lord, have mercy."*

GLORIA *Heritage* Pew Missal, back page

*The Gloria begins by echoing the song of the angels at the birth of Christ:  
"Glory to God in the highest!"  
In this ancient hymn, the gathered assembly joins the heavenly choirs  
in offering praise and adoration to the Father and Jesus through the Holy Spirit.*

COLLECT

*The Introductory Rites conclude with the Opening Prayer, also called the Collect.  
The celebrant invites the gathered assembly to pray and, after a brief silence,  
proclaims the prayer of the day. The Opening Prayer gives a context for the celebration.*

SIT

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

*In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word.  
The Scriptures are the word of God, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.  
In the Scriptures, God speaks to us, leading us along the path to salvation.*

READINGS 4:30 & 8:00 pm: page 68  
Midnight: page 71  
8:00 & 10:30 am: page 75

HOMILY

CREED Pew Missal, page 9

STAND

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL ℣. Let us pray to the Lord. ℞. **Lord hear our prayer.**

*The Liturgy of the Word concludes with the Prayer of the Faithful.  
The gathered assembly intercedes with God on behalf of the Church,  
the world, and themselves, entrusting their needs to the faithful and loving God.*

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS Pew Missal, back page

SIT

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The Liturgy of the Eucharist begins with the preparation of the gifts and the altar.*

*As the ministers prepare the altar,  
representatives of the people bring forward the bread and wine that will become the Body and  
Blood of Christ. The celebrant blesses and praises God for these gifts and places them on the altar.*

OFFERTORY HYMN *Once in Royal David's City* Hymn 224  
STAND

ORATE FRATRES Pew Missal, page 11

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

PREFACE DIALOGUE Pew Missal, page 11

*After a brief introductory dialogue, the celebrant begins the Preface.  
The Preface tells of the wonderful actions of God, both throughout history and in our lives,  
giving thanks to God for all these things.*

SANCTUS *Sancta Maria Magdalena* Pew Missal, page 35

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *Prayer I - page 11; II - page 14; III - page 15*  
KNEEL

*We have entered the most important part of the Mass. This sequence of prayers contains the  
**consecration** which is the heart of the Mass. By the power of the Holy Spirit, through the words  
and actions of these prayers, the priest accomplishes the great work of the Mass: bringing Christ  
Himself down upon our altar, so that we may offer Him to God. Our gifts of bread and wine,  
representing ourselves, are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. Then the priest offers  
Christ, and ourselves in union with Christ, to God.*

MEM. ACCLAMATION *ICEL Chant- Save us...* Pew Missal, page 39

STAND

COMMUNION RITE

*The Communion Rite begins with the Lord's Prayer. Jesus taught this prayer to his disciples when they  
asked how to pray. In this prayer, the people join their voices to pray for the coming of God's kingdom.  
We ask God to provide for our needs, forgive our sins, and bring us to the joy of heaven.*

OUR FATHER Pew Missal, page 17

THE PEACE Pew Missal, page 18

AGNUS DEI *Sancta Maria Magdalena* Pew Missal, page 36

KNEEL

BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD Pew Missal, page 18

*Guidelines for the Reception of Holy Communion are inside the front cover of the Pew Missal.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON 4:30 & 8:00 pm: page 70

Midnight: page 73

8:00 & 10:30 am: page 77

COMMUNION HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem* Hymn 210

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION STAND

CONCLUDING RITES

BLESSING & DISMISSAL Pew Missal, page 19

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL Pew Missal, page 534

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Joy to the World* Hymn 176

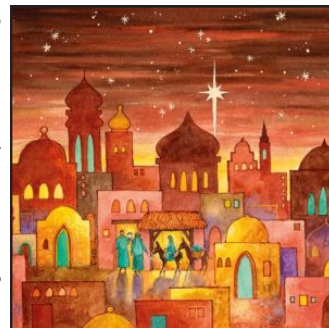
POSTLUDE



# The Shape of the Liturgy

Offertory Hymn: *Once in Royal David's City*

Our offertory hymn for Christmas this year - Once in Royal David's City – was actually written as a children's hymn by Mrs. Cecil Frances Alexander in 1848. As wife of the Anglican Bishop of Ireland, she showed her concern for the disadvantaged people there by traveling many miles each day to visit the sick and the poor, providing food, warm clothes, and medical supplies. As a Christian lady and as a poet, Mrs. Alexander wrote poetry to help explain the Christian Faith, especially the Apostle's Creed, to children. In our Offertory Hymn for today, Mrs. Alexander turned into poetry the section of the Creed which tells us of Jesus as one "Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary." Each stanza explores part of the contrast between Jesus' divinity and humanity. For instance, the first and second verses contrast the glory of heaven, from where He came, with the poverty of earth to which He came. The third verse speaks of the humanity of Jesus, that he shared our pains and sorrows. The hymn ends by reminding us of the love of God we see reflected in His Son Jesus, for each of us, and of our calling to share that love with whomever God sends into our lives not just at Christmas, but each of the other 364 days of coming year.



May I wish each and every one of you a Happy Christmas and a most blessed and good New Year of 2023. Don't forget to always put yourself in God's Hands, and in all things to count your blessings and to thank the Good Lord for them – and especially today – for the gift to us of His son Jesus.

-Fr. James Ramsey

Catholic Daughter's St. Ann Court #369 invites you to their meeting on Monday, January 2, 2023 at the Knight of Columbus Hall. Social starts at 5:30 pm. They will elect delegates that night for the State Convention in April 2023.



**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THROUGH SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. A PRIEST WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ANY PASTORAL NEEDS. PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.**

## **ST. MARY'S PARISH FESTIVAL** **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023**

The Parish Festival is a little over a month away! 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.**

**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.

**Auction Items** - This year again we will have both a live auction and an online auction. If you would like to donate an item, make a monetary donation for an item, or have any ideas for auction items, contact Maggie Schaar at 361-212-2452.

**Jewelry Items** -The Jewelry booth is in need of jewelry used and new jewelry and workers for the day of the Festival. Contact Rose Curtis 361-655-5634.

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.

# *Pray in the New Year!*

**JOIN US NEW YEAR'S EVE**

**11PM - MIDNIGHT**

**ADORATION WITH BENEDICTION**

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**

101 W Church St, Victoria, TX 77901

*Followed by a Potluck Celebration in the Parish Hall*

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Bring an Appetizer or Treat AND Beverage to share**

***Questions? Call or text Conchita Mannella 570-807-6878***



# THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD ~ CHRISTMAS

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

### **Saturday, Dec. 24** **The Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)**

4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass Intention: Dr. & Mrs. Geo Tyng and George & Vivian Tyng †  
 8:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass Intention: Deceased Members of the Fojtik & Vahalik Families

### **Sunday, Dec. 25** **The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

12:00 am Christmas Midnight Mass Intention: Fr. Kristopher's Intentions  
 8:00 am Christmas Day Mass Intention: Fr. Tran's Intentions  
 9:30 am Holy Face Devotions—Chapel  
 10:30 am Christmas Day Mass Intention: People of the Parish

### **Monday, Dec. 26** **Feast of Saint Stephen**

#### **Parish Office Closed**

7:00 am—7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel  
 12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Benito & Irene Menchaca †  
 12:35 pm Confession and Communal Rosary

### **Tuesday, Dec. 27** **Feast of Saint John**

#### **Parish Office Closed**

7:00 am—7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel  
 12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Tonia Fojtik  
**Blessing of Wine after Mass (Bring your wine to be blessed!)**  
 12:35 pm Confession and Communal Rosary  
 3:00—4:30 pm Divine Mercy Cenacle in the Chapel  
 6:30 pm Choir Practice in the Church

### **Wednesday, Dec. 28** **Feast of the Holy Innocents**

#### **Parish Office Closed**

7:00 am—7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel  
 11:45 am Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in the Church  
 12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Wayne Dierlam †  
 12:35 pm Confession and Communal Rosary

### **Thursday, Dec. 29** **Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

7:00 am—7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel  
 9:00—2:00 pm Quilt and Craft Corner in the Activity Center  
 12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Joyce Beyer †  
 12:35 pm Confession and Communal Rosary

### **Friday, Dec. 30** **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

7:00 am—7:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel  
 12:05 pm Daily Mass Mass Intention: Bohumil & Hedwig Smolka †  
 12:35 pm Confession and Communal Rosary

### **Saturday, Dec. 31** **7th Day within the Octave of Christmas**

4:30 pm Vigil Mass Mass Intention: Edward & Barbara Miller †  
 Josephine Sala †  
 5:30 pm Confession  
 11:00 pm - Midnight Holy Hour for the New Year in the Church  
 Midnight Celebration in the Activity Center

### **Sunday, Jan. 1** **The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**

8:00 am Sunday Mass Mass Intention: Louise Orsak †  
 9:15 - 10:00 am Confession Mary Hood †  
 9:30 am Holy Face Devotions—Chapel  
 10:30 am Sunday Mass Intention: People of the Parish

† symbol indicates the deceased

## OFFERTORY GIFTS

*The collection total will be posted in next week's bulletin.*

## MASS ATTENDANCE

*The Mass attendance will be posted in next week's bulletin*

## THANK YOU!

We give a big "Thank You" to everyone who helped decorate the church for Christmas and to all who have contributed to making the Christmas liturgies beautiful by their time and talents. Many blessing to everyone!



## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

in the church burns this week in memory of  
**Bohumil & Hedwig Smolk**  
 by  
 Frank Smolka

## THE ADORATION CANDLES

burn this week memory of  
**Vrana & Janacek Families**  
 by  
 Paul & Mary Ann Janacek

## THE CANDLE IN COMMEMORATION OF THE DECEASED

burns this week in memory of  
**Adriene Bonorden**  
 by  
 Paul Bonorden

**THE CANDLE AT JOSEPH'S ALTAR**  
 burns this week in honor of  
**Chris Fojtik**  
 by  
 Tonia & Cole Fojtik

**THE CANDLE AT MARY'S ALTAR**  
 burns this week in honor of  
**Tonia Fojtik**  
 by  
 Chris & Cole Fojtik



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 from the Janak Family

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 from Joe Sr. & Joyce Morris & Family

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