



*The angel said to them,
“Do not be afraid; for behold,
I proclaim to you good news of great Joy
that will be for all the people.*

*For today in the city of David
a savior has been born
for you who is Messiah and Lord.*

Luke 2:10-11



Corpus Christi Cathedral

Diocese of Corpus Christi 505 North Upper Broadway
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401
(361) 883-4213

Dec. 24th, 2023 Fourth Week of Advent

The Most Reverend

WM. Michael Mulvey, STL, DD

Bishop of Corpus Christi

The Very Reverend Fr. James Stembler, Rector

Rev. Peter Thenan, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Michael Mantz

Deacon Adelfino Palacios

Deacon Amando R. Leal Jr.

Anointing of the Sick

Call Parish Office - By Appointment Only

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Call Parish Office - By Appointment Only

Sacrament of Matrimony

Call Parish Office six months before wedding date

Sacrament of Baptism

Call Parish Office (361) 883-4213 (ext. 4)

For New Parishoners:

Registration online or call Parish Office

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm

(www.CCCATHEDRAL.com)

(info@cccathedral.com)

MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday 7:00am (Emmanuel Chapel)

Monday - Friday 12:05pm (Main Church)

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30pm

SUNDAY MASSES

7:00am, 9:30am, 12:30pm

11:00am (Spanish)

9:30am & 11:00am Live Streamed

(www.CCCATHEDRAL.com)

(www.facebook.com/CCCATHEDRAL)

9:30am Mass Live Broadcast @ KDF-TV & KLUX Radio

Adoration	Joan Hamill	361-883-6650
St. Anne's Altar & Rosary Society	Mary Lawson	361-882-5725
Altar Servers	Parish Office	361-883-4213
Arts & Entertainment	Vicki Compian	361-944-5534
Catholic Daughters	Andrea Bell	361-799-0799
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Deacon Armando R. Leal Jr.	361-442-9947
Knights of Columbus	Fred Celaya	361-442-9254
Lectors	Mary Christmas	361-739-2415
Legion of Mary	Elida Lerma	361-232-6834
Music Ministry	Alex Oldroyd	883-4213 ext. 203
Religious Education	Nellie Serna	361-883-4213
Ushers	Raul Castillo	361-774-2645

THE C.C. CATHEDRAL BOOK STORE

Visit CC Cathedral Book Store today and let the sacred pages and elegant treasures unfold before you. Uncover the perfect balance of faith and refinement in the heart of our spiritual haven

Our compassionate and knowledgeable staff are devoted to assisting you in your spiritual journey, offering guidance on sacred readings and helping you choose meaningful gifts.

Monday - Friday
11 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

Saturday
Closed

Sunday
10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

MASS INTENTIONS



Mass Intentions for: December 25- December 31

Monday, December 25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

12:00 a.m. +Jose Angel Silva by Irene Silva
+Charles David Vasquez by Judith Perales
Deceased Members of the Cathedral Choir by Sally Jaime
+Pedro Elizardo, Sr. by Family
8:00 a.m. For the People of Corpus Christi Cathedral
10:00 a.m. +Romana Noyola & +Natividad Noyola by Orlando & Dee Noyola
+Blanca Dickinson by Dee Noyola
+Frederico Gonzalez, Jr. by Orlando & Dee Noyola

Tuesday, December 26 St. Stephen

7:00 a.m. Jerry Mathieu by Friends
12:05 p.m. Louis Garcia by Family

Wednesday, December 27 St. John

7:00 a.m. +Pablo & +Rose Trevino (Wedding Anniv.) by Gloria Trevino
12:05 p.m. Open Mass
+Helen C. Mueller by Patty Mueller
Jerry Mathieu by Friends
+Mary Fisher Bingleben by Claude D'Unger

Thursday, December 28 The Holy Innocents

7:00 a.m. For All Souls in Purgatory, Especially Deceased Members of FOSS by Joan Hamill
12:05 p.m. +Richard Ruiz by Sally Jaime

Friday, December 29 St. Thomas Becket

7:00 a.m. For All Souls in Purgatory, Especially Deceased Members of FOSS by Joan Hamill
12:05 p.m. +Jon Michael Banda (Anniv.) by Gloria Trevino

Saturday, December 30

5:30 p.m. Celia Banda (Bday) by Gloria Trevino

Sunday, December 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:00 a.m. +Mr. & +Mrs. Gregorio Farias & +Ruben Moreno by Gonzales Family
9:30 a.m. Open Mass
Jerry Mathieu by Friends
+Pat Langenkamp by Langenkamp Family
+Marcelino B. Gonzales, +Jesusita J. Canales,
+Yomeida Gonzales by Gonzales Family
+Frank Garza, Jr. by Josie Garza & Family
+Pedro B. Elizardo, Sr. by Family
+Barbara Andrews by Ralph & Kay West
+Pola Hernandez & +Vicente Ramirez by Nina Ramirez & Letty Cortez
+Ramon J. Rios by Letty Cortez
+Paul Pineda by Wife, Myrna Pineda
+Isabel "Chavalita" Cruz by Orfie Hernandez
+Lily Valdez by Lamar Childress
+Lillie Villarreal by Marian B. Elder
11:00 a.m. For the People of Corpus Christi Cathedral
12:30 pm +John Paul Flores, II by Family

Sanctuary Lamps

Blessed Sacrament Chapel: +Esteban Cardenas
+Rodolfo Gonzalez
Emmanuel Chapel: Jerry Mathieu

Scripture Reading

For the week of December 24th, 2023



Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27
1 Thes 5:16-24; Lk 1:26-38

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12.; Ti 3:4-7
Lk 2:15-20

Feast of Saint Stephen, first martyr

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Feast of Saint John, Apostle and evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs

1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6;
Lk 2:22-35

The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; LK 2:22-40

Sponsor of the Week

Boarri

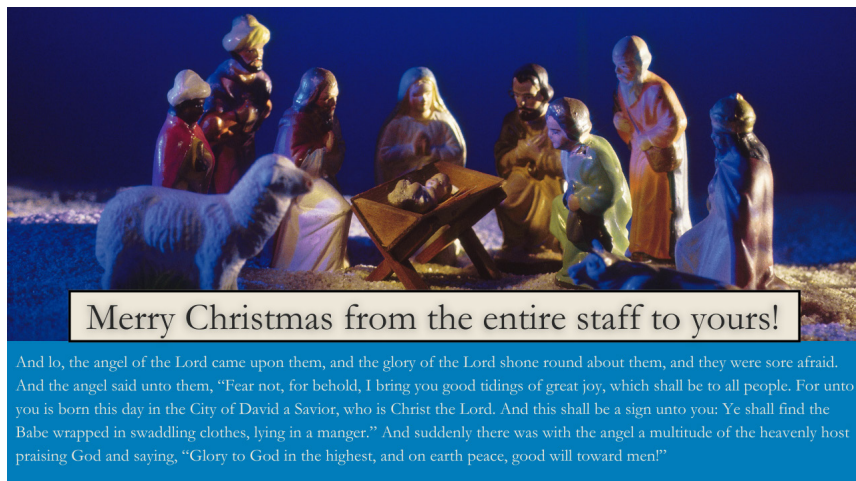
Stewardship for Sunday Dec. 17th, 2023

Thank you for your generosity!

Collection	\$14,454.65
Electronic Giving	\$754.10
Mother Theresa Shelter	\$722.73



Scan QR Code for online giving or go to
<https://osvhub.com/cccathedral/giving/funds>



2023-2024 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

December 24 Monday, December 25	NO CLASS Holy Day of Obligation	Fourth Sunday of Advent The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
December 31 Monday, January 1, 2024	NO CLASS Holy Day of Obligation	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Mary Mother of God LIVE NATIVITY (Presented by Religious Education Students) Session 13- Family Faith Activity
Saturday, January 6	6:30 pm	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Epiphany of the Lord Classes Resume Session 14
January 7	NO CLASS	
January 14	10:45 am – 12:00 pm	



SILVER AND GOLD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Those blessed by celebrating 25 or 50 years of Sacramental Marriage are invited to attend a special Silver & Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Mulvey on Sunday, February 11, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at Corpus Christi Cathedral. A light reception will follow in St. Joseph's Hall at the Cathedral.

Registration is open to any validly married couple celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage in 2024.

To receive an anniversary certificate please submit registration by February 2, 2024. Visit

<https://diocesecc.org/anniversarymassregistration>

CORPUS CHRISTI
CATHEDRAL
**BLOOD
DRIVE**

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE DURING
NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Location: 505 N. Upper Broadway

Coastal Bend Blood Center
Giving so that others may live

A Cathedral Christmas PBS Air Schedule!

For the first time ever, PBS in partnership with the Diocese of Corpus Christi presents A Cathedral Christmas on KEDT TV & Radio. We are thrilled to announce the air dates:

Sunday, 12/17 at 3pm
Monday, 12/18 at 8pm
Sunday, 12/24 at 3pm
Monday, 12/25 at 8:30pm

[Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) [YouTube](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Pinterest](#) [Tumblr](#) [Snapchat](#) [Vimeo](#) [SoundCloud](#) [Spotify](#) [RSS](#) [Email](#) [Print](#) [Share](#)

CORPUS CHRISTI
CATHEDRAL

505 N. Upper Broadway
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
Parish Office: (361) 883-4213

Follow Us On Social Media!

@CorpusChristiCathedral

"The Sacrament of Reconciliation: A Divine Gift for Christmas Renewal"

As the Christmas season approaches, the hearts of Catholics worldwide turn towards the celebration of the birth of Christ. Amidst the joyous festivities and the warmth of family gatherings, there lies a profound opportunity for spiritual renewal—the sacrament of confession. In the Catholic faith, the act of going to confession holds a special significance, and during Christmas time, it takes on a deeper meaning that resonates with the spirit of the season.

"1. Cleansing the Soul: Preparing for the Arrival of Christ"

Christmas marks the miraculous moment when God became incarnate in the form of a vulnerable child, bringing hope and salvation to humanity. In preparation for the arrival of Christ, the sacrament of reconciliation provides a sacred space for believers to cleanse their souls. Confession allows individuals to acknowledge their shortcomings, seek forgiveness, and enter into the Christmas season with a heart made pure—a fitting dwelling for the Savior.

"2. Embracing Humility: Following the Example of the Holy Family"

The Holy Family, with Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus, embodies humility and simplicity. Going to confession during Christmas time allows Catholics to emulate this humility by acknowledging their imperfections before God. It is a humble recognition of the need for divine mercy and a sincere desire to grow spiritually, mirroring the virtues exemplified by the Holy Family.

"3. Experiencing God's Mercy: A Gift Beyond Measure"

Christmas is a celebration of God's boundless mercy and love. Through the sacrament of reconciliation, Catholics have the opportunity to experience this mercy firsthand. Confession is a conduit for the infinite compassion of God, a chance for believers to be reconciled with Him and receive the grace needed to live a more virtuous and Christ-centered life.

"4. Fostering Spiritual Joy: The True Spirit of Christmas"

While the secular world often emphasizes material gifts and external festivities, the true spirit of Christmas lies in the joy that comes from spiritual renewal. Confession allows Catholics to shed the burdens of sin, experience the joy of forgiveness, and approach the celebration of Christ's birth with a heart filled with gratitude and love.

"5. Strengthening Community Bonds: Rejoicing Together in God's Mercy"

Christmas is a time of communal celebration. Going to confession not only benefits individuals but also strengthens the bonds within the faith community. As Catholics come together to seek God's forgiveness, they share in the collective experience of divine mercy, fostering a sense of unity and solidarity among believers.

In conclusion, the sacrament of reconciliation holds a profound significance for Catholics, especially during the Christmas season. It provides an opportunity for spiritual cleansing, humility, and a firsthand experience of God's boundless mercy. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us embrace the sacrament of confession as a divine gift that allows us to enter into the joy of Christmas with hearts renewed and spirits uplifted.

Greetings to one and all as we enter the Fourth Sunday of Advent. This liturgical year, Advent is as short as it can be. After all we light the four Advent candles at the Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning and early afternoon Masses, and then we will be celebrating the Vigil of Christmas (Christmas Eve) this very Sunday night at 5:30 p.m. Now, to make it clear, both Saturday evening/Sunday morning and early afternoon, December 23 and 24 a.m. is a holy day of obligation as it is a Sunday Mass; and Sunday evening December 24th and Monday morning, December 25th is a holy day of obligation because it is Christmas. There is no way that you can go to one Mass and take care of both holy days of obligation.

Please note that January 1st, which is a holyday of obligation most years, is not a holy day of obligation as 2024 begins because January 1st falls on a Monday. In the late 20th century, the Bishops of the United States requested permission from the Vatican office of Divine Worship and the Sacraments, which is proper for them to do, to rescind the obligation of attending Mass on the Solemnities of Mary, Mother of God; on the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and on All Saints' Day when those Solemnities fall on a Monday or on a Saturday. The Vatican gave permission for this, so now that is law in the United States. Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral at 7:00 a.m. and at 12:05 p.m. on January 1st; however, it is not a holy day of obligation in 2024 as it falls on a Monday.

As you can easily see, it is beginning to look a lot like Christmas in the sanctuary and around the Cathedral. Many thanks to the Knights of Columbus; and the Arts and Environment team and helpers on Sunday, December 17th who put all of this together. I was able to help a little bit myself – I moved just one thing, as well as talked to several people and then left for a meeting – and I know that they were in the Cathedral throughout the afternoon. I am sorry I could not help further. Sorry about that! There are wonderful and helpful workers around here, which is very much appreciated by all of us! Thank you so much! The proof will be in the pudding, so to speak. When you see the results, I lit up as we begin the Christmas Season, be sure to thank Vickie, Donald, the Knights of Columbus, and all the others who were incredibly instrumental in putting it all together. Sorry I do not have all the names but do understand that you are all greatly appreciated! God sees all!

Just a reminder that due to the Church's understanding of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and our desire to be in line with the mind and heart of the Church, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will no longer be offered following Mass on the First Friday of each month beginning in January. From the Catechism of the Catholic Church #1527: "The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick has as its purpose the conferral of a special grace on the Christian experiencing the difficulties inherent in the condition of grave illness or old age. The word used in the Instruction for this Sacrament is 'periculose,' which is officially translated into English as 'serious.' It is not a Sacrament of general healing; it is a Sacrament for those who are experiencing serious illness due to a grave condition or old age. You can call the Rectory and request that one of the priests give you the Sacrament of the Sick if the time has come for it to be received. This will be in keeping with Scripture, from the Letter of James: 'Is any among you sick? Let him, or her, call for the priest of the church, and let them pray over him or her, anointing him, or her with oil in the name of the Lord...' James 5: 14-15). The Cathedral priests will be happy to celebrate this Sacrament with you.

I would like to begin the custom of reciting the Litany of the Sacred Heart on First Friday, as we recall those devotions which are important to many Catholics on First Friday, namely that on nine consecutive First Fridays, one goes to Confession, receives the Eucharist, and in the recitation of the Sacred Heart Novena, we are all reminded of the Sacred Heart: Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make our hearts like unto thine! That would be a wonderful thing if our hearts were like the Sacred Heart.

More about this in the coming weeks. Please have patience as we get a routine unfolding on First Fridays, but I am convinced that the Good Lord will guide us as we move forward as the Cathedral parish community.

In these last few hours of Advent, a blessed Advent to one and all and when it comes: a Happy and Merry Christmas to all of you! May the gift of Jesus the Christ help us understand beyond a shadow of a doubt that God loves us immensely. We see this in the tiny little child in the manger at Bethlehem!

Blessings,
Fr. James Stembler
C.C. Cathedral Rector