

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUSTIN

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Pope Francis
Rome, Italy

December 20, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*(December 25: The Nativity of the
Lord—Christmas*



Joe S. Vasquez, Bishop
Diocese of Austin



St. Ann Catholic Church

P.O. Box 99
333 Thornberry Drive
Somerville, Texas 77879
Office 979-596-1966
Fax 979-596-2857



Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

P.O. Box 485
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Washington, Texas 77880
Church & Office 936-878-2910

Reverend Father Uche Evaristus Obikwelu
Administrator

Email pastor_stannsomerville@yahoo.com

Deacon Don Sims

Deacon Limas Sweed Sr.

Maggie Orozco, Office Administrator—Office Email secretary.stanns@gmail.com

Office Hours: 11:00a—4:00p Wednesday & Friday

Web Site Address: www.saintann-somerville.org

ST. ANN MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30p

Sunday 9:00a

Weekdays

Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 6:00p

Wednesday 9:00a

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday – 4:00p to 5:00p or by Appointment

Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament

Friday – 7:00a to 5:30p

Deacon Don Sims

simsdon@rocketmail.com

Finance Council Chair

Fran Thomas

Pastoral Council Chair

Lynda Mendizabal

Director of Religious Education

Deacon Don Sims 979-596-1966

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 11:30a

Weekday

Wednesday 5:00p

Sacrament of Reconciliation after Mass

Deacon Limas Sweed, Sr

Finance Council Chair

Limas Sweed, Sr

Pastoral Council Chair

Mary McCorvey

Director of Religious Education

Limas Sweed, Sr

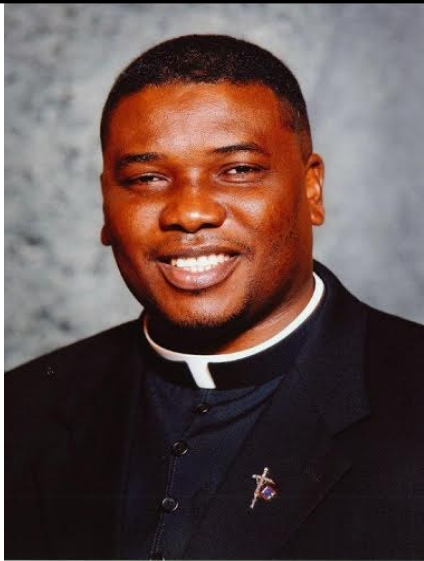
Director of Youth Ministry

Margaret Thomas

Business Manager

Limas Sweed, Sr

Pastor's Corner



Father Uche Obikwelu

Parish Administrator

Fourth Sunday of Advent - 2016

The Fourth Sunday of Advent is the last Sunday before we celebrate the birth of our Savior, our Lord, Jesus Christ. What a blessing! What an honor! And what a privilege! As the readings of this Sunday prepare us for the upcoming Christmas, I have chosen to dwell on Mary's visitation to Elizabeth taken from the Gospel of Luke. In this visit, Elizabeth's greetings shared all the graces that God has endowed Mary and the Divine Power of the Child she carries in her womb. Here, Elizabeth says, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

Let us reflect on what is going on with Elizabeth here. She knows Mary. She has heard about the visitation of God to her through the Angel Gabriel, and was so impressed at Mary's amazing faith and unqualified trust in God, which is called the "FIAT". Elizabeth was so joyful at Mary's humility, hence, God allowed her to experience the glimpse of God's grace, by letting John the Baptist in her womb leaped for joy. But, this is not the end of the story. The Divine grace empowered Elizabeth to discern that it was Jesus Christ in the womb of Mary that made the movement in her own womb to take place. Therefore, she sings with a great joy and an unimaginable feeling of gratitude, 'Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

My brothers and sisters, on this Fourth Sunday of Advent, the last Sunday before Christmas, we are invited to be joyful like Elizabeth in our lives because we are so blessed that the Savior is born for us. Emmanuel - God is with us.

Friday, December 25: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Today, my dear brothers and sisters, a Savior is born for us and his name is Jesus, let us rejoice and be glad. Prophet Isaiah puts this joy in perspective in the first reading when he says, "How

beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!" Who else is the Prophet speaking about, but the baby Jesus, born for us today in Bethlehem, let us rejoice and be glad. Today, God has visited man so that humanity can be divinized and divine be humanized and Adam and Eve and their children have hope of reconciliation with God once again. My people, this indeed calls for gratitude to God.

It is this gratitude that John captures in his Gospel this Christmas when he says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John helps us to understand that the love of God for us, is not an accident. It was love that has been with the Most Holy Trinity from the eternity. It is this love that God shared with our fore parents Adam and Eve, which they lost due to the sin of disobedience. But God still does not want the people He created in their image and likeness to be damned, so, he sent His only Begotten Son to be born of the Virgin Mary, (The Incarnation), been like us in everything but sin.

Merry Christmas to you all!

God bless you!

Retirement Fund For the Religious

Religious give thanks. "We cannot begin to repay all who contribute," writes a Catholic sister. "So we pray to God, who is never outdone in generosity, to reward you." heartfelt thanks for your donation to last week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. May God bless you for your goodness!

Next Week's Ministers

	Sat—Dec. 26 5:30p	Sun—Dec. 27 9:00a
Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion	Maggie Orozco Lucy Hodges	Sr. Rocio Cynthia Munoz
Greeters/Ushers	David Jimenez Leo Schubert	James Bacak Frank Vittonel
Lectors	Dee Turner	Irene Bacak
Altar Servers	Richard Sifuentes	Benjamin Zapalac Briana Hernandez

Apostolate

	Wed.-Dec. 23	Wed.-Dec. 30
Collection Counting	Fran Thomas Tom Hodges	Fran Thomas Tom Hodges

Finances—St. Ann

12/13/2015 Sunday Collection	\$ 1,227.00
12/13/2015 Retired Religious	\$ 288.00

CHURCH LIFE...one body-many members.

Bishop Vásquez' Prayer Intention for this Week

May all the faithful continue to listen to and follow God's will,
so we might give birth in our lives to Christ, who is peace for
all the world.....

The sanctuary lamp is given for the honor and glory
of God and in memory of Milady Kristof.....



**Please pray for the needs of our
parishioners & friends**

Theresa Sweed	Truman Sweed Sr.	Jacqueline Mouton
Amanda Walhoviak	Margaret Thomas	Mario Munoz
Jo Thomas	Mark Pollard	Lucy Jimenez
Jim Turner	Allen Labay	Morris Burlin
Michael Sweed	Marilyn Smith	Jean Hlavaty
Ricky Hines	David Jimenez	Sr. Theresa
Melinda Scott	Annie L. Henderson	Sr. John
Carol Winkler	Johnnie Sweed Jr.	Patricia Sweed
Pete Zedlitz	Michael Sees	Betty Labay
Maxine Sweed	Sally Sees	Edna McGee



John Brown	Brandon Osburn
Kevin Davis	Tommy Polansky
David Dominguez	Joseph Ramirez
Neil Frerick	Matthew Reynolds
Robin Frerick	Charlie Richardson
Jason Grace	Cesar Rodriguez
Jerry Gutierrez	Michael R. Rodriguez
Christina Marie Hahne	Stephen Ruth
Paul Jimenez	Justo Suarez
Dane Kidd	Brandon Thomas
Matthew Lee	1LT Christopher M. Torres
Annalisa Lujan	Alan Turner
John Maldonado	Jennifer Hlavaty
Jacob McDonald	Jarrett Hlavaty

Mass Intentions: Dec. 19-27

Sat. Dec. 19	5:30p	†John Murphy
Sun. Dec. 20	9:00a	For the People
Tues. Dec. 22	6:00p	†Milady Kristof
Wed. Dec. 23	9:00a	†Domingo Arredondo
Thurs. Dec. 24	5:30p 12:05a	For the children John Polanco III
Fri. Dec. 25	7:00p	†Thomas Stavinoha
Sat. Dec. 26	5:30p	For the People
Sun. Dec. 27	9:00a	†Robert Lee Perez J†uan Rodriguez

**BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH LIFE...
consider yourself at home!**

MASS SCHEDULE

Wed. Dec. 23 5:00p **No Mass**

Sun. Dec. 27 11:30a **For the People**

Altar Servers—Delvin Taylor

Lector—Ocia Sweed

Ministers need to be at church at least 15 minutes before Mass.

Wed. Dec. 23 4:00p to 4:45p **No Adoration**



**Happy Birthday
&
God Bless You!**

The following Blessed Virgin Mary Parishioners will
celebrate a birthday in **December**

Jontavia Bellard Limas Sweed, Jr. Keith Coleman

Charles R. Sweed, Sr. Davien Sweed

Dalvin Taylor Madison Rylander Louis Green

Joseph Rylander Regina Shelton Troy Green

Dyan Brooks Patricia Cross Catherine Coleman

Veronica Green Timikia Coleman

Finances — BVM

12/13/2015 Sunday Collection \$ 288.00

Mass for December 25 at Blessed Virgin Mary

11:30 a.m.

**Parishioners of Blessed Virgin Mary are also invited to
attend the 12:05 a.m. Mass at St. Ann on December 24**

Schedule for December 24 at St. Ann

5:30 pm: (Children's Mass): Extraordinary Ministers of
the Holy Communion: Sr. Rocio, Janet Zapalac,
Mary Moreno, Cynthia Munoz; Altar Server: Benja
min Zapalac; Ushers: Miguel Bonilla, Frank Vittonel;
Lectors: RE students

12:05 am: Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion:
Sr. Rocio, Maggie Orozco, Rosie Guerra, Alice
Perez; Altar Server: Richard Sifuentes; Ushers: Da-
vid Jimenez, Leo Schubert; Lector: Fran Thomas

Schedule for December 25

9:00 am: Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion:
Sr. Rocio, Lucy Hodges, Tom Hodges, Angelita
Munoz; Altar Server: Richard Sifuentes; Ushers:
James Bacak, Debbie Zaharis; Lector: Christine
Hernandez

Year of Mercy

Chef Shane McCue

Bee Keeping Services Remodeling/Repair
Project Consultant Custom Landscaping

Rhythm Oaks Ranch

Somerville, TX 979-450-3866
rhythmoaksranch.com
shane@rhythmoaksranch.com



Burns & Reyes-Burns

Attorneys At Law

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205 S. Hill St. P.O. Box 429
Caldwell, TX Somerville, TX

Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Micah 5: 1-4a
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-10
Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45



Slovacek Sausage

2 locations to serve you
979-272-3333 254-826-4525
9423 Hwy 60 W I-35-exit 353
Snook, Texas West, Texas

SAMPLE

Readings for the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

1st Reading: 1Samuel 1:20-22; 24-28
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 84: 2-3, 5-6, 9-10
2nd Reading: 1John 3:1-2,21-24
Gospel: Luke : 41-52

In memory of

†Milady Kristof

For her generosity to St. Ann

"May perpetual light shine upon her"



Area Penance Services

Dec. 20: St. John - Fayetteville, 7:30pm
Dec. 21: St. Margaret - Giddings, 7pm
Dec. 21: St. Thomas Aquinas - CST, 7pm
Dec. 22: St. Joseph - Dime Box, 5pm
Dec. 22: Holy Family - Lexington, 7pm
Dec. 22: St. Stanislaus - Chappell Hill, 7pm



Red C Radio
KEDC 88.5 FM

603 Church St.
College Station, TX 77840
979-255-2633

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Special Events at St. Ann

Dec. 24: Mass at 5:30 pm. & 12:05 am
Dec. 25: Mass at 9:00 am; No adoration
Jan. 1: Mass at 9:00 am; No adoration
Jan. 7: KC Meeting, 7pm, Family Center
Jan. 10: Pick up KC BBQ dinner plates:
10am-1pm
Jan. 15-17: Confirmation Retreat
Jan. 26: ECCW Meeting, St. Mary's,
Brenham, 9:30 am

Adopt a Seminarian Project

....Dec. 20...RE Students
....Dec. 27...Mary Ralya
....Jan. 3
....Jan. 10....

Deacon Amado Ramos
Notre Dame Seminary
2901 South Carrollton Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70118

Sign-up Sheet in Entryway

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

\$180 for 12 months
\$45 for 3 months
\$7.50 for one week

St. Ann Catholic Church
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secretary.stanns@gmail.com