

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUSTIN

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Pope Francis
Rome, Italy

January 3, 2016

The Epiphany of the Lord



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
17370 Sweed Road
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

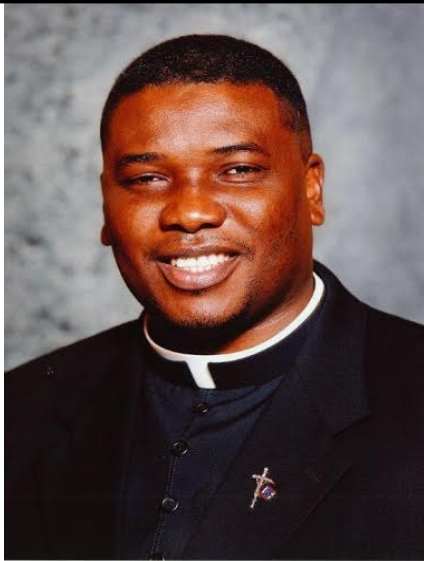
Director of Youth Ministry

Margaret Thomas

Business Manager

Limas Sweed, Sr

Pastor's Corner



Father Uche Obikwelu

Parish Administrator

Solemnity of Mary, (The Holy Mother of God) Jan. 1, 2016

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year to everyone! What a great blessing that as we are coming out from such a great celebration of Christmas, and God has also endowed us with the gift of the New Year - 2016! Indeed, we are glad and grateful!

Today, my brothers and sisters, with glory to the Most Holy Trinity and Honor to The Mother of God, to whom the Holy Mother Church celebrated Her Solemnity Friday, January 1, 2016, I wish to officially declare my autobiography, "Mary, The Mediatrix of God's Grace. - My Call to the Roman Catholic Priesthood", which I wrote as part of my own promise of the covenant with our Blessed Mother who assisted me to become priest of Her Son, by moving from Nigeria, through Belgium in Europe to Austin, Texas in the United States of America.

Theotokos is a Greek word which means God bearer or one who gives birth to God. In 431 A.D., around the 5th century, at the council of Ephesus, the Church Fathers of the East met and discussed the role of the Virgin Mary in the Salvation of mankind, especially with regard to her being chosen by God to be the Mother of His only Begotten Son. At this Council, the Church Fathers agreed that if God the Father had chosen Mary to be the Mother of the God the Son, it is appropriate and in order that Mary should assume the title of the Mother of God, because the baby she carried in Her womb is God. Hence, we celebrate and honor her today, not only in the United States of America, nor in the world, but also in my covenant book with Her. Amen!

Happy and Blessed New Year 2016 to you all!

The Epiphany of the Lord - Jan. 3, 2016

The manifestation of the Baby Jesus in a manger to the Magi and to the Universe is called Epiphany. The three kings or wise men from the East is both significant and important. Significant because only a king could be paid a homage by fellow kings,

but most importantly were the gifts that these kings presented to the Baby Jesus during their visit: Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh - the three gifts represented the kingship, priesthood, and passion of Christ. Amazingly, at the manger the totality of the Gospel is told right there before the very presence of our Blessed Mother, Mary, the Mother of God, Joseph, her spouse, the Magi, the shepherds and others present.

Having accomplished their mission, the Magi went the other way, so that Herod did not have his evil wish as he had intended.

My brothers and sisters, today's celebration reminds us that our Lord manifests Himself to us daily in our lives, but we need to stop from the noise around us to hear or see him, most particularly at the Eucharist, in his word proclaimed at Mass and around our lives daily - in silence and in listening.

The Magi remained gazed to the star and not to the charlatan and noise of Herod, and that was how they saw the Messiah lying peacefully in the manger. Let us therefore follow in the footsteps of the magi.

God bless you!

Readings for the Epiphany of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

Reading for The Baptism of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 104: 1b-4, 24-25, 27-30

2nd Reading: Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7

Gospel: Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

Next Week's Ministers

	Sat—Jan. 9 5:30p	Sun—Jan. 10 9:00a
Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion	Tom Hodges Maggie Orozco	Sr. Rocio Angelita Munoz
Greeters/Ushers	David Jimenez Leo Schubert	Zapalac Family
Lectors	Lynda Mendizabal	Kimberly Camarillo
Altar Servers	Richard Sifuentes	Benjamin Zapalac Briana Hernandez

Apostolate

	Wed.-Jan. 6	Wed.-Jan. 13
Collection Counting	Fran Thomas Tom Hodges	Lynda Mendizabal Tom Hodges

Finances—St. Ann

12/25/2015 Christmas Collection	\$ 843.50
12/27/2015 Sunday Collection	\$ 1,406.00

Year of Mercy
Dec. 8, 2015-Nov. 20, 2016

CHURCH LIFE...one body-many members.

Bishop Vásquez' Prayer Intention for this Week

For the Church, that by perseverance in seeking and following the light of God, she may serve as a beacon of God's love and mercy to all people.....

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



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: Jan. 2- 10

Sat. Jan. 2	5:30p	†Alma Rodriguez
Sun. Jan. 3	9:00a	For the People
Tues. Jan. 5	6:00p	No Mass; No Communion Service
Wed. Jan. 6	9:00a	Communion Service
Thurs. Jan. 7	6:00p	No Mass; No Communion Service
Fri. Jan. 8	6:00p	Communion Service after Adoration
Sat. Jan. 9	5:30p	For the People
Sun. Jan. 10	9:00a	†Patricia Thomas †Carmen Negrete

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Wed. Jan. 6 6:00p Communion Service

Sun. Jan. 10 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. Jan. 6 4:00p to 4:45p **Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament**



**Happy Birthday
&
God Bless You!**

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

Katherine Jones **Marilyn Rylander**
Dontavia Taylor **Nathiel Shelton**
Ruth Banks **Sabrina Green** **Margaret Thomas**

If your name is not on this list, please call the office and let us know. (979-596-1966)

Finances — BVM

12/27/2015 Sunday Collection \$ 271.00

The Pastoral Plan

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. Ps 72: 12

One of the principles in the Pastoral Plan describes an outcome of our celebrating Mass as going forth to serve our sisters and brothers who are on the periphery of society. In this way we can live out our Catholic faith in everyday life. How can you serve those in need and respond to their cries for help? Read the Pastoral Plan here: http://www.austindiocese.org/sites/default/files/DOA_PastoralPlan_English_web.pdf

Men's Discernment Dinners

Men's discernment dinners are for single Catholic men (high school-adult) with an openness to discerning a priestly vocation. The evenings include dinner and evening prayer with discussions about the priesthood, seminary and discernment. Dinners are on separate Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The high-school men's group meets on first Wednesdays of the month in the Religious Education Building of St. William Parish in Round Rock. The group for men 18 and older meets on second Wednesdays of the month at the St. Charles Borromeo House of Discernment, 905B Duncan Lane in Austin. For more information or if you know of someone who may be interested in attending, visit www.austinvocations.com.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

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

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

SAMPLE



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

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In memory of

†Milady Kristof

For her generosity to St. Ann

*"May perpetual light shine
upon her"*



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Special Events at St. Ann

Jan. 2-3: SAMM Food Collection Weekend

Jan. 7: KC Meeting, 7pm, Family Center

Jan. 10: Pick up KC BBQ dinner plates;
10am-1pm

Jan. 15-17: Confirmation Retreat

**Jan. 22: No adoration; No Communion
Service**

Jan. 26: ECCW Meeting, St. Mary's,
Brenham, 9:30 am

Adopt a Seminarian Project

....Jan. 3

....Jan. 10....

....Jan. 17....

....Jan. 24....**Dorothy Woods**

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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Somerville, Texas 77879
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Email:
secretary.stanns@gmail.com