

*St. Mary Catholic Church
Windthorst, TX*

St. Mary / St. Boniface Vision Statement

To serve Christ and
promote
His teachings
through Worship,
Education,
Training, Service,
and
Community
Involvement



*St. Boniface Catholic Church
Scotland, TX*

Father Michael Moloney, O. F. S., PASTOR

"There's no such thing as a bad priest, just priests whose people don't pray enough for them." St. John Vianney

Mailing Address for Both Churches

PO Box 230, Windthorst, Texas 76389
Phone (940) 423-6687 * Fax (940) 423-6657
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 am-5 pm
Closed on Tuesdays
www.stmarysstboniface.org
e-mail : mmmoloney@comcell.net
e-mail: windscot@comcell.net

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

on the **3rd Sunday** of the month at 9:15 A.M.
contact the office for dates and to register for classes

Marriage Preparation

contact the office at least **nine to 12 months prior**
to wedding date

RCIA

contact Fr. Michael at 423-6687
e-mail: mmmoloney@comcell.net

Funerals

in the case of a death in the family, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Ministry to the Sick

contact the office immediately if you know of anyone who is sick, hospitalized or home-bound

Confession

Every Saturday 3:00 – 4:00 pm at the Rectory & Anytime, Any Day by Appointment at the Rectory

Hispanic Ministry

Tuesday & Thursday in Convent
Call Oscar or Alma Contreras at 423-6918 or 940-224-8183

Protecting Our Children Sessions

Call Suzette Schreiber @ (940) 631-6301

Mass Schedule for the Week

Please practice social
distancing at all Masses.

All Sunday Masses will be
live-streamed

Monday
6:00 pm

December 6 – St. Mary's
†Leona Koetter
by Gloria Schroeder

Tuesday
-

December 7 – St. Mary's
Intentions of Father Michael

Wednesday
8:00 am

December 8 – St. Boniface
†Paul Schenk
by Cherry & Grady Schenk Sr.

Wednesday
6:00 pm

December 8 – St. Mary's
Living & Deceased Members
by Knights of Columbus #1824

Thursday
6:00 pm

December 9 – St. Boniface
†Shawn Sargent & Jean Costello
by Family

Friday
3:00 pm
Saturday
12:00 noon

December 10 – St. Mary's
†Floyd Hilbers by Kenny Wolfs
December 11 – St. Mary's
†Debbie Hoff by JoAnn Hoff

5:00 pm
-
7:00 pm

†Alfred Berend Jr.
by Cordella Berend & Family
Parishioners

Sunday
8:00 am

December 12 – St. Boniface
†Joe Stallcup by Family

Sunday
10:30 am

December 12 - St. Mary's
†Bobby Lindeman
by Chuck Berends

ST. MARY'S MINISTERS

Monday December 6-Sunday December 12, 2021

MONDAY DECEMBER 6TH

Reader - Volunteer

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8TH

Reader - Ted Neeb

Eucharistic Ministers-Mark Veitenheimer (choir)
Craig Anderle

Ushers- Julie & Roy Koetter, Robert Baumer, Doug Wolf

SATURDAY DECEMBER 11TH

Reader - Gina Wolf

Ushers - Julie & Roy Koetter, Doug Wolf, Robert Baumer

Eucharistic Ministers-June & Michael Schroeder

SUNDAY DECEMBER 12TH

Reader - Brenda Doyal

Ushers - Donnie Fleitman, Terry Schroeder, 2 Volunteers

Eucharistic Ministers - Shelley Schlumpf, Ted Neeb(choir)

Children's Liturgy - Sydney Hoegger & Amie Milhollon

Eucharistic Minister to Homebound- Kristi & Mark
Veitenheimer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Two ministers will be assigned at the weekend Masses. One will serve in the middle aisle along with Father at first. When the Choir/Elderly Minister returns, both ministers please go to the middle of the front pew and continue to distribute Holy Communion. If you have any questions please call the office at 940-423-6687.

Eucharistic Ministers will be required to wear a mask while distributing the Eucharist. Masks are available in the front pew if one is needed in case one is broken or forgotten.

SUPPORT-Envelopes \$5983.00 Loose \$350.50 Children\$21.50
Bldg. Fund \$125.00 Campaign for Human Development \$25.00
Thanksgiving \$591.00

FAITH DIRECT - Oct. Support \$2200.00 All Saints \$70.00
Building Fund \$20.00 Human Development \$20.00
11/01-11/15 \$1230.00

ST. BONIFACE MINISTERS

Monday December 6-Sunday December 12, 2021

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8TH

Reader - Pat Hemmi

Ushers - Volunteers

Eucharistic Minister - Patsy Stallcup

SUNDAY DECEMBER 12TH

Reader - Missy Brown

Ushers - Brad Wolf & Dan Smith

Eucharistic Ministers - Patsy Stallcup & Cassidy Koetter

Eucharistic Ministers will be required to wear a mask while distributing the Eucharist.

SUPPORT- Envelopes \$730.00 Loose \$46.00

FAITH DIRECT - Oct. Support \$200.00
Human Development \$20.00 11/01-11/15 \$425.00

ST. MARY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY LIGHT WILL BURN THIS WEEK for Joyce Moer's better health by Ann Veitenheimer.

READER'S WORKBOOKS: Please pick up the new workbooks as soon as possible.

BAPTISMAL CLASSES are offered on the third Sunday of the month at 9:15 a.m. Classes need to be attended by Parents and Godparents. Baptismal classes need to be refreshed every three years. You may attend the class before the baby is born. Please call the office at 423-6687 or Diane Hubbard at 631-1803 to register. Thank you. **Next Baptisms will be Dec. 26th.**

WINDTHORST SR. CITIZENS meet every Tuesday at 1pm at the Berend Family Center for bingo & games. All are welcome.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation (meaning one should attend Holy Mass). Masses will be celebrated in honor of the Blessed Mother on December 8th as follows:

St. Boniface at 8 AM and at **St. Mary's at 6PM**, both December 8th.

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH: The 33 day Consecration to St. Joseph will close with a final Consecration prayer during the 6 PM Mass at St. Mary's on December 8th. Please make plans to attend the 6 PM Mass on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and honor St. Joseph.

THE THIRD DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, KETTELER COUNCIL #1824, will meet on **Wednesday, December 8th** after Mass & Novena services.

ST. MARY'S-POINSETTIAS: Orders for St. Mary's poinsettias will be taken until 5 pm on Wednesday, Dec. 15th. Price will be \$10.00 each. When placing your order, please include number of plants wanted, name of person (s) to be remembered or honored and money to cover the order. Thank you for helping us to celebrate Christ's birth with flowers in our sanctuary.

THANK YOU: St. Mary's wishes to thank Margaret & Jerry Smith for their generous donation to St. Mary's Cemetery Fund in memory of Janice & Leona Koetter.

THANK YOU: St. Mary's wishes to thank Lois & Jim Wolf for their generous donation to St. Mary's Improvement Fund in memory of Paul Schenk.

THANK YOU: Thanks to the following for their donations on GivingTuesday: Peggy & James Poirot to St. Mary's

Pauline Wolf to St. Mary's Improvement Fund

STEWARDSHIP/SUPPORT envelopes for 2022 are on a table in the entrance to the Church. Those who signed up for Faith Direct will not be getting envelopes (unless you request them). (This year - St. Mary's is not issuing envelopes to the school children. The cost keeps rising and not many families use them.) Please pick your box of envelopes up as soon as possible. If we have overlooked someone please call the office @ 940-423-6687 and let us know. Thanks!

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL - Thank you to everyone who responded generously to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Your gift makes a difference to the people whom we will accompany in our shared journey of faith, hope and charity as one Church united in Christ. **As of November 19, 2021, 72 families have donated for a total of \$8,912.00** We are counting on every family to make a commitment in order to reach our parish goal of \$21,800.00. Please return a pledge card soon.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS FOR RESIDENTS OF UNIVERSITY PARK MANOR, WICHITA FALLS, TX:

St. Mary's will once again sponsor & be collecting items for the residents that reside in University Park Manor. With that being said, there will be some changes made again this year. Instead of having an angel for each resident, we are asking for general toiletry items and snacks. You will see a box in the back of Church for your donations. As in the past no aerosol cans, only the pump kind. Items that are needed include sugar free candy and sugar free snacks. The toiletry items include body washes, body sprays, colognes, lotions, shampoos, conditioners, deodorants (roll on kind or stick) for men and women. Also needed are room calendars, socks and slipper socks for men and women. Please have all donations delivered no later than Sunday, December 20, 2021. We need time to have the gifts delivered so the staff has the chance to label or mark all items with the resident's name. Not all of these residents have families that can provide some of the basic items or extra special treats that we take for granted. We are truly blessed to live in our community where we are looked after by family and friends. Your generosity to these residents is most appreciated. If you have any questions, contact Joyce Vieth at 940-423-7741 or Melinda Schneider at 940-423-6731 or 940-733-7741. Please help us in this charitable endeavor. A box has been placed in the back of Church. Many thanks in advance.

ST. BONIFACE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY LIGHT WILL BURN THIS WEEK: For the welfare of Cassey Schenk, Monica & Lonnie Buerger, successful surgery for Sharlotta Connally and the welfare of all the sick and homebound of both parishes by Bertha Mae Schenk.

7 DAY LIGHTS: Special Prayers for all our sick & hurting by Joyce Moer; All those in pain or suffering, Our Country & Military, In Thanksgiving for Our Family & Friends by Laurie & Kenneth Veitenheimer & Family; A successful surgery & speedy recovery for Yvette Smith by St. Boniface Christian Mothers' Society.

ST. BONIFACE WISHES TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING INTO OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Emma Marie Gonzalez, the daughter of Jose Angel Gonzalez Jr. & Sarah Beth Krahel Gonzalez, Baptized November 21, 2021.

READER'S WORKBOOKS: Please pick up the new workbooks as soon as possible.

SCOTLAND SR. CITIZENS will meet on December 5th at noon. Please come for turkey & dressing with all the trimmings meal. We will have door prizes followed with games. See you there.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation (meaning one should attend Holy Mass). Masses will be celebrated in honor of the Blessed Mother on December 8th as follows:

St. Boniface at 8 AM and at **St. Mary's at 6PM**, both December 8th.

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH: The 33 day Consecration to St. Joseph will close with a final Consecration prayer during the 6 PM Mass at St. Mary's on December 8th. Please make plans to attend the 6 PM Mass on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and honor St. Joseph.

ST. BONIFACE THIRD DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #1715 will meet **Wednesday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m.**

ST. BONIFACE POINSETTIAS: Orders will be taken until 5 pm on Wednesday, Dec. 15th. Price will be \$10.00 each. Please include name of person to be honored or remembered and the money for each plant. Thank you for helping us to celebrate Christmas with a beautifully decorated Church for this special season.

THANK YOU: St. Boniface wishes to thank Margaret & Jerry Smith for their generous donation to St. Boniface Cemetery Fund in memory of Ester Schenk.

STEWARDSHIP/SUPPORT envelopes for 2022 are on a table in the entrance to the Church. Those who signed up for Faith Direct will not be getting envelopes (unless you request them). Please pick your box of envelopes up as soon as possible. If we have overlooked someone please call the office @ 940-423-6687 and let us know. Thanks!

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: Thank you to everyone who responded generously to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Your gift makes a difference to the people whom we will accompany in our shared journey of faith, hope and charity as one Church united in Christ. **As of November 19, 2021, 14 families have donated for a total of \$2,915.00** We are counting on every family to make a commitment in order to reach our parish goal of \$5,300.00. Please return a pledge card soon.

CHRIS HEMMI'S ADDRESS: If you would like to send a card or letter to Chris, his address is 1306 Dwyce Dr. Austin, TX 78757-2608. This is his daughter's address as he is still in Houston and will be having surgery Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR BOTH PARISHES

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 8TH IN OBSERVANCE OF THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

ACTS OF CHARITY: Please use hand sanitizer upon entering Church. This is an act of charity to our neighbors

THE PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE will be in the home of Joey Schroeder Family the week of December 12th. They as well as all of us are asked to pray for world peace, military and vocations.

December 19th Pat & James Zotz

December 26th Stella & Ron Hoffman

Confessions: Father Michael will be hearing confessions on Saturdays at the Church Office from 3:00 to 4:00pm or by appointment.

MASS TIMES: Friday Masses will be at 3:00 pm. Monday Masses will be at 6:00 pm. **Masses on December 8th will be at 8:00 am at St. Boniface at 6:00 pm at St. Mary's. PLEASE WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR ANY MASS TIME CHANGES THROUGHOUT THE MONTH.**

CCD CLASSES are Monday thru Thursday @ 7:25am for grades K to 5. On Friday mornings @ 7:25 there will be a Word Service. 6-12th grades meet @ 6:45pm on Wednesday evenings. There will be **NO** class December 8th due to Holyday and there will be no classes over the Christmas School break.

RCIA CLASS: Sundays at 7 pm in the parish hall.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: Sundays at 4:00pm - 5:30pm. There will be no class December 5th since students will be helping with the CCD Play. Students should arrive at the gym at 5:00 pm to help set up for the play. There will be no classes during Christmas School break.

CCD CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Sunday, December 5th @6:30 pm in the High School Gym. All those helping and participating should arrive at 5:00 pm. See flyer for more details.

ATTENTION SENIORS 2021-2022: If you are a member of the JCDA or a son/daughter, grandson/granddaughter, or nephew/niece of a CDA member, you are eligible for the Texas CDA State Memorial Scholarship. The postmark deadline for the scholarship is January 31, 2022. For more details or an application, please contact Whitney Schreiber at 940-631-8328 or Darla Tackett at WISD 940-423-6608.

THANK YOU: Thank you to Father Michael for his blessings & phone visits. For all the Mass enrollments, prayers, lights, cards, food & visits. The group cards from Church made my day. I am fortunate to live among such caring people. May God bless all of you with good health & happiness. Pat Hemmi

THANK YOU: We at the Northwest Campus of Catholic Charities Fort Worth would like to thank everyone that recently donated Thanksgiving baskets for our client families in-need. Your thoughtful donations provided support to poverty-stricken families that are working hard with our organization to improve their lives. We also appreciate the Knights of Columbus #1824 for spear-heading this fundraising project that benefitted so many in our community. A special note of gratitude to Brian Anderle for his continuous efforts to better the lives of others that are less fortunate. Catholic Charities Fort Worth sends our prayers and wishes to you and yours for a blessed holiday season.

THANK YOU: Thanks to the students of Windthorst ISD for their donation of non-perishable foods for the local food pantry. The members of the National Honor Society along with their sponsor Melanie Beisch, spear headed the food drive. There was a competition among the classes with the winner bringing the most items being awarded an ice cream party. There was a tie between 4th & 5th grades so both classes received a party. The students collected a total of over 1157 items. The NHS members collected the food, delivered it to the parish hall food pantry and also sorted the items. That was a real act of love and much appreciated by the food pantry workers. Thanks everyone for this act of love and charity. "Family Life & Mission Outreach" committee.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: DECEMBER 11TH & 12TH

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: Give in gratitude.

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith. "Show thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously to today's second collection.

Dar en gratitude. Un donante al Fondo de Religiosos Jubilados escribe: " Todavía recuerdo las lecciones que nos dieron las hermanas y como nos inculcaron el amor de nuestra fe." Muestre su agradecimiento por el servicio de oracion de las hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes mayores catolicos de ordines religiosas. Su donativo para la segunda colecta de la proxima semana ayuda a brindar cuidado, medicamentos y mas. Por favor sea generoso.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING SOON. A Vigil Mass will be held at **St. Boniface** at **4PM** with Fr. Jerry Ward celebrating on Christmas Eve. The Vigil Mass at **St. Mary's** will be at **4 PM** on Christmas Eve. (December 24th) and the Mass on Christmas Day (December 25th) will be at **9 AM** at **St. Mary's**, both celebrated by Fr. Michael. Christmas is on a Saturday this year 2021. When Christmas day falls on a Saturday, all Masses celebrated on Christmas Day are deemed to be Christmas Masses and are only for the Christmas obligation. Therefore, there will **NOT** be a 5 PM Vigil Mass on December 25, 2021 which can meet the Sunday obligation. Sunday Masses for December 26th will be as usual, **8 AM** at **St. Boniface** and **10:30 AM** at **St. Mary's**. If you have any questions please call the office at 940-423-6687.

NEW YEAR'S MASSES:

St. Mary's Vigil Mass at 6 PM and New Year's Day at 10:30 AM on New Year's Day.

St. Boniface New Year's Day Mass at 8:00 AM

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Sign up today to prepare your marriage to follow the Lord by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is Jan.28-30, 2022. To apply go to www.wwme.org. Questions - e-mail apply@dfwme.org or call 469-444-0904.

"Preparen el camino del Senor, ábranle un camino recto". Regístrese hoy para preparar su matrimonio para seguir al Senor asistiendo al la próxima Experiencia del Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial. Para mas información de Encuentro Matrimonial el Espanol, escriba a mdgallegos06@gmail.com or 214-497-0188.

FAITH DIRECT

Looking for a great stewardship habit? Try **eGiving** – it streamlines your generosity and lets you do even more to help St. Mary's/St. Boniface Churches grow our ministries that share the Good News of God's love. You can make the switch today! Signing up is easy from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and you can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Recurring gifts sustain our parish throughout the year, and provide consistent support that helps us always be at the ready with programs, services, and ministries for church families and for those in need in our communities.

Sign up today by visiting Faith.Direct/FD2 or by completing the forms at the back of Church.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

God Bless You, Father Michael

ST. MARY'S 7 DAY LIGHTS: Happy 91st Birthday +Leroy, Marsha Anderle & Girls, +Jerry Anderle, All the sick and shut-ins, My Family by Caroline Anderle; Ralph & Clara Veitenheimer, Paul Schenk Family, Joyce Moer, Cordella Berend, David McCann, Lizzy Pitts, Jim & Lois Wolf, Marie Veitenheimer, Anna Mae Veitenheimer, Carolyn Berend Family, Yvette Smith, Charlie Morath, Nelda Schreiber, Frances Hoffman, Our Family by Betty & Doug Wolf; +Russell Williams by Shirley Williams; Healing for Jim, My Children by Mom; Healing for Ryan, Brady Vieth & Rick Fleitman, All My Granchildren by Grandma; Our Sick Members, For an increase in Priestly & Consecrated Life Vocations by CDA #296

YEARLY LIGHTS: Terry & Carol Sales by Ray & Dorothy Berend; +Jerry Anderle by Marsha, Victoria & Rachel; +Leroy Anderle by Caroline & Family; +Bill Wolf by Vinie; +Dale Barrett by Family; +Clarence & +Dorothy Wolf by Family; Ed & Alvina Veitenheimer by Family; +Gus Berend, +Nell Vieth by James & Deana Vieth; +Joe & +Magdalena Lindemann by Family; For Fr. Michael, For +Henry & Mildred Pennartz Family by Hillary & Roy; For all battling cancer by Charles & Joyce Vieth; In memory of +Janice, +Ed & +Catherine, +Lois Luig, +Nancy Luig Carr & +Geraldine Lindemann by Eddie Luig Family; For World Peace & safety of our Military, especially for Damian Hoffman (Army), David Ogura (Army), & Zachary Zotz (Army) by Grandmommy; For Jeanne & Family, Ray & Myra & Family, Chuck & Diane Zotz Family, Terry & Kathy & Family, Dolores Sumner & Family by Frances Hoffmann; Living & Deceased Members of Catholic Life Insurance Branch #30; Our Family & For The Safety of Our Military by Ralph & Clara; For +Joe Schreiber & +Joseph Schreiber by Agnes Schreiber; For Mom by Johnnie & Alice; For Students of W.I.S.D. & C.D.A. #296 Members by C.D.A. #296; The Holy Spirit's Daily Guidance in Endeavors for each member of my family by Donor; For +Lawrence & +Helen Berend Family by Terry & Carol Sales; For Our Family by Joe & Lugenia Zotz; +Arnold & +Lillian Lindeman by the Family; +Thomas & +Leona Schlumpf by Danny Schlumpf Family; Ben's safety by Mom & Dad; For our Family by Frank & Joyce Wolf; For all our Family by Don & Benita Essler; For Our Family by Bernard & Pat Scheffe; Sick & Hurting of St. Mary's Christian Mother's Society by the Christian Mothers; For my Family & for Bruce by Anna Mae Veitenheimer; Safety of Volunteer Firemen, Safety of Ben Wolf, Gina Loran, Brett Hoff, Corey George, Greg Schlumpf, Holly Villa, Sabrina Johnston, Living and Deceased Members of Charles & Mary Lindemann family by Benny Lindeman; Thank you for all the graces & blessings received for our Country, Community & Family by Bert & Elizabeth Hoff; Living & Deceased Members of Alphonse & Caroline Zotz by the Family; For our Family by George & Juanita Martin; My Family by Margaret Beaman; Living & Deceased members of Himmels Family, For my family & For +Al Veitenheimer by Ann Veitenheimer; Dad & Mom by Nubbin & Angela; +Floyd & Betty Humpert by the Family; For Our Family & In Memory of +Alfred Berend by Cordella; Guidance & Protection for our Military Service Men & Women by V.F.W.

REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS!

Bernadine Berend, Chuck Berend, Gerald Berend, Nellie Berend, Patience Blake, Toni Blaze, J.C. Birkenfield, Teresa Lindeman Birkenfield, Mabel Bowlden, Lonnie Buerger, David Carcaño, Bill Cardin, Jesús Colchado, John Deeson, Don Defoor, Danielle Mueller Fontenot, Emily Foster, Jeanne Fischer, Annette Fleitman, Rick Fleitman, Cindy Frerich, Kimberly Fulford, Tootsie Gardner, Jerry Green, Jim Green, Louise Green, Sister Marie Green, Artie Hallenbeck, Stan Hammack, **Chris Hemmi**, Betty Hilbers, Terry Hoffman, Melissa Hogan, Pat Humpert, Billie Hoff, Ernie Hoff, Joyce Moer, **Ida Hoff**, Marvin Hoff Sr., Pauline Hoff, Willie L. Hoff, Myra Hoffman, Libby Ingram, Amy Jackson, Donnie Johnson, Gary Julian, JoAnn (Schenk) Klein, Elsie Koetter, Russell Koetter, Robert W. Krah, Misty Lindley, Brian Lucore, Tyler Marlar, Annette Meurer, Jess Meurer, Hans Meyer, Charles Morath, Skylar Mueller, Kim Nelson, Travis Nelson, Rita Pearson, Nancy Pennartz, Colby Peterson, Gina Phillips, Ernie Prescher, Phillip Rafferty, Bradley Rodgers, Mary Jo Russe, Cassey Schenk, Frank Schenk, Roch Schenk, Rosalie Schenk, Madi Scogin, Agnes Schreiber, Fern Schreiber, Gerald Schreiber, Nelda Schreiber, Roxanne Schreiber, Alex Schroeder, Lauren Schroeder, Linda Schroeder, Margaret Schroeder, Mary Lou Schroeder, Rosalee Schroeder, Ryan Schroeder, Helen Seigler, Henri Seto, Debbie Shifflett, Geneva Simpson, Jim Simpson, Lisa Smith, Yvette Smith, Weldon Snyder, Sue Steinberger, Kate Talley, Margaret Green Tift, Trent Tipton, Randy Townsend, Ann Veitenheimer, Anna Mae Veitenheimer, John Veitenheimer, Ralph Veitenheimer, James Vieth, Tim Vieth, Paul Wachsmann, David Williams, Debbie Williams, Charles Winkles, Joe Witten, Sarah Witten, Jim Wolf, Kenny Wolf, Martha Wolf, Pauline Wolf, Alphonse Zotz Jr., Bruce Zotz, Chuck Zotz, Harola Zotz.

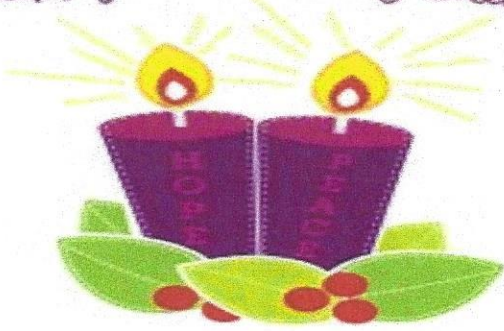
Prayer of the Faithful: Lord Jesus, we lift those on our weekly list to you; You are the healer of the sick and we keep praying and hoping for those who are ill. May we continue to pray for all who are sick and hurting and may your peace come to each and every one of us. Amen

MILITARY PRAYER LIST – Taylor D. Anderson (Army),

Charles Berend, Jr. (Navy), Fermin Estrada Jr., (Army), Sgt. Bill Foster, Capt. Sean Fuhrmann (Marines), Lt. Colonel Tony Garcia (Navy), Cpl. Kellen Green (Marine), Luke Grotelueschen (Army), Captain Brian Hoff (Marine), Tracey Hoff (Navy), Damian Hoffman (Army), Master Sgt. Nicholas Klein (Army), Stephen Koetter (Army), Adam Lambert (Army), James Devon Lindeman (Army), PVT Miguel Luna Jr., Jess Martinez (Army), Joshua Millican (Navy), Sgt. Kenneth (K.J.) Nichols (Army), Major David Ogura (Army), Kyle Page (Marine), Frank Prokop, (Colorado Air National Guard), Sgt. Robert Rhinehart, Private Trey Schenk (Marine), Tracy Hoff Schmitt (Army), 1st Class Craig Slaten (Air Force), Staff Sgt. Ricky Smith (Air Force), Judy Solorio (Navy), Staff Sgt. Matthew Tubbs, Sgt. Ann Schreiber Turner (Air Force), Cpl. Logan Veitenheimer (Marine) Josh Winter (Army), Major Audrey Wolf (Army), Zachary Zotz (Army). (If there are any changes or additions please call the office.) Dear Heavenly Father, please protect our troops as they protect us. Bless them and their families for all that they are doing for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus. AMEN.

**This bulletin compliments of Catholic Life Insurance
Union Branch #30 of Windthorst and
Branch #36 of Scotland.**

Happy 2nd week of Advent!



Second Sunday Advent Prayer

Leader: O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds.

Through Christ Our Lord. **All:**
Amen

Two candles are allowed to burn during the evening meals of the second week.

December- Month of the Divine Infancy

During this month of December, as we look forward to Christmas, we recall the Divine Infancy of Christ. This month, let the paradox of Christ's birth & childhood strike us anew. Let us pray with Mary in the words of an ancient hymn by Saint Ephrem the Syrian: "I am your Mother but I will give honor to you. I have engendered you, but you are older than I am. I have carried you in my womb, but you sustain me on my feet. You have been born of me like a little one, but you are as strong as a giant. The height of the heavens are filled with your majesty & yet my womb has not been too small for you."

And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."
Philippians 1:9-10

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

"Esto es lo que pido en oracion: que el amor de ustedes abunde cada vez mas en conocimiento y en buen juicio, para que discernan lo que es mayor..."
Filipenses 1:9-10

Durante la temporada de compras navidenas es facil quedar inmerso en el frenesi de la compra de los regalos. Sin embargo, es ese "regalo" una verdadera expresion de su amor por la otra persona? O, simplemente esta cumpliendo con su "obligacion" de darle algo? Para aumentar la Amistad con alguien, usted necesita pasar tiempo con ellos, aprender que es de valor para ellos. Quizas este ano, compre menos "cosas" y pase mas tiempo con aquellos que ama.

St. Mary's & St. Boniface's CCD Classes

Presents

2021 CHRISTMAS PLAY



SUNDAY

DECEMBER 5, 2021

6:30 PM

WINDTHORST HIGH SCHOOL GYM

Come and support our children and help celebrate the

Reason for the Season!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

NOTE TO PARENTS:

Please have your child(ren) at the High School Gym by 5 pm for a quick run thru, costume change & to line up for their parts. Make sure you child is wearing the required clothes for the event. Also, 1st- 4th grade will be asked to remove their shoes once they are in the gym & you will be required to keep them with you. We will briefly allow pictures following the event & then the students will return to the Boys Locker Room to remove any costumes that are Church owned property. If your child initially enrolled to be in the play but for whatever reason your child is now unable to participate, please let us know as soon as possible. We have certain roles that are needed & a replacement may be needed for their part.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Gina & Mitzi

ST. MARY'S/ST. BONIFACE YOUTH GROUP
CHRISTMAS CAROLING



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12th

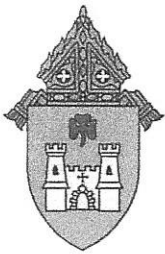
5:00 PM

Youth Bldg.

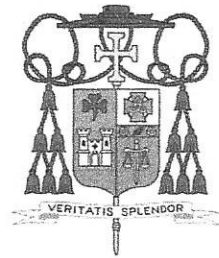
**BRING FLASHLIGHTS. COOKIES AND HOT
COCOA IN THE YOUTH BLDG AFTER CAROLING.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SHELLEY SCHLUMPF 237-6676.

No Religious Education on Wednesday Dec 8th



DIocese OF FORT WORTH
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP



5 de diciembre de 2021

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

El Papa Francisco a menudo destaca el papel que juegan los adultos mayores en la transmisión de la fe de una generación a la siguiente. Recientemente, señaló que "no hay edad de jubilación para la obra de proclamar el Evangelio." Al acercarse la colecta anual del Fondo para Religiosos Jubilados el próximo fin de semana, recuerdo que los religiosos mayores nunca se jubilan de sus votos. Esta colecta especial beneficia a unas 26,000 hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes católicos de edad avanzada pertenecientes a órdenes religiosas. Les animo a continuar apoyándolos.

En cambio, la oración y el ministerio de los religiosos mayores son un testimonio continuo del Evangelio. En su juventud, sentaron las bases para escuelas católicas, hospitales y obras de misericordia. Hoy en día, muchos sirven en el ministerio voluntario. Otros son frágiles y necesitan ayuda. Sin embargo, todos permanecen totalmente comprometidos con sus vocaciones, aceptando las limitaciones del envejecimiento y aprovechando la oportunidad de pasar más tiempo orando por nuestra Iglesia y el mundo.

Una parte significativa de su donación ayudará a las necesidades de las hermanas jubiladas de la Provincia Occidental de las Hermanas de Santa María de Namur. El trabajo diligente y desinteresado de estas hermanas en toda la Diócesis de Fort Worth ha traído instrumentalmente el Reino de Dios en las vidas de tantos niños en edad escolar a quienes han educado, tantos inmigrantes a los que han enseñado inglés y les han dado la bienvenida, tantos hombres y mujeres en la cárcel y sus familias a quienes han dado esperanza.

La mayoría de los religiosos mayores trabajaban por poco dinero y ahora sus comunidades religiosas no tienen suficientes ahorros para la jubilación. Su donación al Fondo para Religiosos Jubilados ofrece apoyo que ayuda a las comunidades religiosas a brindar un cuidado amoroso a los miembros mayores y, al mismo tiempo, garantizar que los más jóvenes puedan continuar las buenas obras de sus mayores. Su donación proporciona fondos vitales para medicamentos, atención de enfermería y más.

En estos días difíciles, es posible que sienta que su generosidad se ha agotado. Solo pido dos cosas. Primero, únase a mí para orar por la continua bendición de Dios sobre las hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes mayores de órdenes religiosas en nuestra nación. En segundo lugar, por favor apoye la colecta del Fondo para Religiosos Jubilados en la medida de sus posibilidades, y sepa que las religiosas y los religiosos de todo el país le sostienen a usted y a sus seres queridos en oración de agradecimiento.

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

+ Michael F. Olson

Reverendísimo Michael F. Olson, STD, MA
Obispo de Fort Worth

THE CATHOLIC CENTER

800 West Loop 820 South • Fort Worth, Texas 76108-2919 • (817) 560-3300 • Fax (817) 244-8839 • www.fwdioc.org

officeofthebishop@fwdioc.org

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

December 2021

St. Mary's/St. Boniface
Fr. Michael Moloney, O.F.S., Pastor

One Minute Meditations

The gift of Advent

The season of Advent began on November 28 and continues until

Christmas Eve.

The Church offers us this time as a gift to slow down, quiet down, and reflect on God's love for us. Consider setting aside quiet time each day to be with Him.



Celebrate birth

December is the month in which we celebrate the birth of the infant King. This has become a time to reaffirm our respect for life from conception to natural death. We pray that all babies are given the gift of life.

"Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything."

(Our Lady to St. Juan Diego, December 9, 1531)



Make this Christmas your own

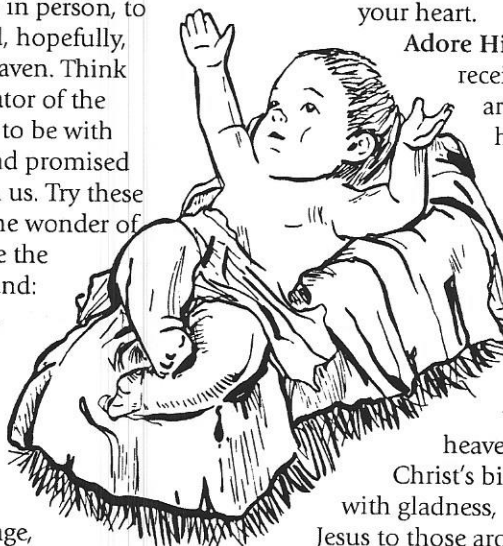
Each year at Christmas, we celebrate an amazing truth. God came to Earth, in person, to be with us and, hopefully, bring us to Heaven. Think of it – the Creator of the universe came to be with you and me and promised to remain with us. Try these ways to keep the wonder of Christmas alive the whole year round:

Receive Him with Mary's open heart. When the angel Gabriel delivered God's stunning message, Mary accepted God's will completely. She kept her heart open to His will throughout her life. We can imitate her by letting nothing come between us and God. Go to

Confession regularly. Pray daily. Attend Mass at least weekly. Receive Jesus in your heart.

Adore Him like the Magi. After receiving Communion, you are literally heart-to-heart with Jesus. Thank Him, praise Him, or just rest in Him. Give Him the gift of your full attention. Receive the graces of His love.

Proclaim Him like the Angels. Just as the heavenly host announced Christ's birth to the shepherds with gladness, so we are to proclaim Jesus to those around us. We do this when we join in worship at Mass each Sunday, and give Him credit for our blessings and gifts. His presence in our hearts becomes evident when we live with love and Christmas joy.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe Jesus really came?

That Jesus lived in first century Israel is well documented by both Christian sources and non-Christian sources. The Old Testament, which was known to Jews many years before Christ's birth, predicted the coming of the Messiah.



Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection fulfilled those prophecies. The Gospels name eyewitnesses as sources for the miracles Jesus worked. Another compelling argument for Jesus' reality, however, is the witness of the martyrs through the centuries, who remained faithful to Christ even to death.

Develop an Advent frame of mind

The holiday season can seem more like a test of endurance than preparation for a celebration. In the midst of the seasonal stress, we are asked to reach into ourselves and bring out only what is kind, generous, and loving. It may help to remember that the real reason for the season is the celebration of unimaginable Love.

Try to see with a Father's eye. Our Heavenly Father delights in our creation and loves us for exactly who we are. During Advent, try to see yourself through His eyes. Not the flawed human visible to



humanity, but the spectacular product of God's divine love and the reflection of His glory.

Prepare your gift. Make your gift to Jesus an open heart, ready to receive the love He has for you. *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16).

Anticipating an eternity of unimaginable love is absolutely the right Advent frame of mind.

from Scripture

Luke 2:41-52, Finding in the Temple

The Feast of the Holy Family (December 26) includes the story of finding Jesus in the Temple, a story of love and obedience. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover, as was the custom for Jews of that time. They traveled in a large group for protection against bandits who infested the hill country. So it wasn't surprising that His parents didn't miss Jesus as they started the return trip. Upon discovering Him missing, they hurried back to Jerusalem.

On the third day of searching, they found Jesus in the Temple. He was



questioning the priests and amazing them with his understanding. However, Mary asked how He could have caused

His parents so much worry and Jesus replied, "Did you not know I must be in my Father's house?"

Though they were puzzled by His answer, Mary and Joseph took Jesus back to Nazareth. He

remained there in obedience to His parents until it was time for his public ministry. We learn from this story to obey not only God but also those in authority over us.

Q & A Do we have to return to Mass in person?

When we love someone, we don't want to just call or send an email. We want to be together in person, growing in love and friendship. Then, too, when we love Jesus, we want to be with Him



in body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist. "It is a substantial presence by which Christ...makes

himself wholly and entirely present" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1374).

The Eucharist is a gift we can only fully receive in person. It is spiritual food for the journey. In it we receive not just graces, but Jesus, Himself. Nowhere else on Earth and in no other way can we be so closely united to Him who loves us most.

It is possible – and required – to attend Mass in person unless there is a grave reason to stay away. Still, let nothing keep you from Jesus in the Eucharist. Go to Confession regularly and never miss Mass. Do whatever you can to receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Remember, God is never outdone in generosity.

Feasts & Celebrations

December 2 – St. Bibiana (363). Virgin and martyr, St. Bibiana was the daughter of a Roman official who converted to Christianity and was martyred for his faith. Bibiana was tortured and executed for her Christianity, as well.

December 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On this day we commemorate that Mary was conceived in St. Anne's womb without Original Sin. In addition to attending Mass for this Holy Day of Obligation, praying a joyful Rosary is a wonderful way

to celebrate.

December 12 – Gaudete Sunday. This Sunday marks the halfway point of Advent. We light the rose candle in the Advent wreath for joy. During the last two weeks of Advent, the Church prepares to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas.

December 29 – St. Thomas Becket (1170). As Archbishop of Canterbury, King Henry II tried to pressure him and the other bishops into agreeing to unjust laws, but St. Thomas refused to sign his approval for them. He was eventually martyred for his faith.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC

Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™

(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax

<http://www.growinginfaith.com>

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

© Copyright 2021 Success Publishing & Media, LLC

Creciendo en la Fe

Descubriendo esperanza y gozo en la fe católica.

Diciembre de 2021

St. Mary's/St. Boniface
Fr. Michael Moloney, O.F.S., Pastor

Meditaciones breves

El don del Adviento

El tiempo litúrgico de Adviento empieza el 28 de noviembre y continúa hasta Nochebuena.

La Iglesia nos ofrece este tiempo como un don para sosearnos, aquietarnos y meditar sobre el amor de Dios por nosotros. Dediquen cada día unos momentos tranquilos para estar con él.



Celebren el nacimiento

Diciembre es el mes en el que celebramos el nacimiento del Niño Rey. Se ha convertido en un tiempo para reafirmar nuestro respeto por la vida desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural. Rezamos por que todos los bebés reciban el don de la vida.

"Que tu corazón no se turbe. No temas ni esa enfermedad ni ninguna otra enfermedad o aflicción. ¿No estoy aquí yo, que soy tu madre? ¿No estás bajo mi protección? ¿No soy yo tu salud? ¿No estás felizmente donde mis brazos se cruzan? ¿Qué más puedes desear? Que nada te aflija ni te altere".
Nuestra Señora a Juan Diego, 9 de diciembre, 1531.



Haga suya esta Navidad

Cada año en Navidad celebramos una verdad asombrosa. Dios vino a la Tierra, en persona, para estar con nosotros y con la esperanza de llevarnos al Cielo. Medítenlo: el Creador del universo vino para estar con nosotros y prometió quedarse con nosotros. Pongan a prueba estas formas de conservar vivo el asombro de la Navidad durante todo el año:

Recíbanlo con el corazón generoso de María. Cuando el ángel Gabriel le comunicó el sorprendente mensaje de Dios, María aceptó por completo la voluntad de Dios. Abrió su corazón a su voluntad durante toda su vida. Nosotros podemos imitarla procurando que no se interponga nada entre nosotros y Dios. Acudan a confesar con regularidad.



Recen a diario. Vayan a misa semanalmente. Reciban a Jesús en su corazón.

Adórenlo como los Magos. Tras recibir la comunión literalmente hablamos con Jesús con el corazón en la mano. Denle gracias, alábenlo o simplemente reposen en él. Concédanle el regalo de su completa atención. Reciban las gracias de su amor.

Anúncienlo como los ángeles. Del mismo modo que el mensajero celestial anunció con alegría el nacimiento de Cristo a los pastores, así tenemos que proclamar a Jesús a quienes nos rodean. Hacemos esto cuando participamos en la misa cada domingo y otorgamos reconocimiento a las bendiciones y dones de Jesús. Su presencia en nuestros corazones se hace evidente cuando vivimos con amor y la alegría de la Navidad.

¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

¿Por qué creen los católicos que Jesús realmente vino?

Fuentes cristinas y no cristianas documentan bien que Jesús vivió en Israel durante el siglo primero. El Antiguo Testamento, conocido por los judíos muchos años antes del nacimiento de Cristo, había profetizado la llegada del Mesías. La vida, la



muerte y la resurrección de Jesús cumplieron esas profecías. Los evangelios dan como fuentes testigos presenciales de los milagros que obró Jesús. Otra razón de peso para la realidad de Jesús es, además, el testimonio a lo largo de los siglos de los mártires que permanecieron fieles a Jesús hasta la muerte.

Desarrollen un estado de ánimo de Adviento

Las fiestas pueden parecernos más una prueba de resistencia que la preparación para una celebración. En medio del estrés de esta temporada, se nos pide que miremos en nuestro interior y saquemos lo amable, lo generoso y lo amoroso. Quizá ayude recordar que la razón real de este tiempo es la celebración de un amor inimaginable.

Procure ver con los ojos del Padre. Nuestro Padre celestial se deleita con su creación y nos ama por lo que somos. Trate de verse a través de sus ojos. No el lado visible de nuestra



imperfecta humanidad sino el espectacular producto del amor divino de Dios y el reflejo de su gloria.

Prepare su regalo. Haga un regalo a Jesús con un corazón generoso, listo para recibir el amor que él siente por usted. *"Sí, Dios amó tanto al mundo, que entregó a su Hijo único para que todo el que cree en él no muera, sino que tenga vida eterna"* (Juan 3:16).

Esperar una eternidad de amor inimaginable es el estado de ánimo perfecto para el Adviento.

de las **E**scrituras

Lucas 2:41-52, El encuentro en el templo

La fiesta de la Sagrada Familia (26 de diciembre) incluye la historia del encuentro de Jesús en el Templo, una historia de amor y de obediencia.

Jesús, María y José viajaron a Jerusalén para la Pascua, como era costumbre entre los judíos de aquel tiempo. Viajaban en caravana para protegerse de los bandidos que infestaban las colinas de la región. Por esa razón no

sorprende que los padres de Jesús no lo encontraran al empezar el viaje de regreso. Pero cuando descubrieron su ausencia, volvieron deprisa a Jerusalén.

Tras tres días de búsqueda encontraron a Jesús en el Templo. Hacía preguntas a

los sacerdotes y los asombraba con su inteligencia. Sin embargo, María le preguntó cómo había sido capaz de angustiar tanto a sus padres y Jesús

respondió: "¿No sabían que yo debo ocuparme de los asuntos de mi Padre?"

Aunque no entendieron lo que les decía, María y José regresaron con Jesús a Nazaret. Él permaneció allí obedeciendo a sus

padres hasta que llegó el día de su vida pública. Aprendemos de esta historia no sólo a obedecer a Dios sino también a quienes tienen autoridad sobre nosotros.



Fiestas y celebraciones

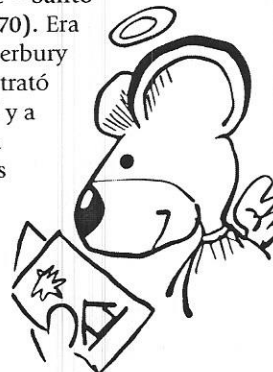
2 de diciembre – Santa Bibiana (363). Virgen y mártir, santa Bibiana era la hija de un oficial romano que se convirtió al cristianismo y fue martirizado por su fe. Bibiana fue también torturada y martirizada por su fe cristiana.

8 de diciembre – Inmaculada Concepción de la Virgen María. En este día conmemoramos que María fue concebida en las entrañas de santa Ana sin pecado original. Además de ir a misa en este día de precepto, rezar un Rosario gozoso es una maravillosa forma de celebrar la festividad.

12 de diciembre – Domingo de

Gaudete. Este domingo hace un alto a medio camino en el Adviento. Encendemos la vela rosa en la guirnalda de Adviento como señal de gozo. Durante las dos últimas semanas del Adviento la Iglesia se prepara para celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús en Navidad.

29 de diciembre – Santo Tomás Becket (1170). Era arzobispo de Canterbury y el rey Enrique II trató de presionarle a él y a otros obispos para que apoyaran leyes injustas, pero santo Tomás se negó a firmar su apoyo. Fue martirizado por su fe.



P & R ¿Tenemos que volver a misa en persona?

Cuando amamos a alguien no queremos simplemente llamar o enviar un correo electrónico. Queremos estar juntos en persona, creciendo en amor y amistad. De igual forma, cuando amamos

a Jesús, queremos estar con él en cuerpo, sangre, alma y divinidad en la Eucaristía. "Esta presencia ... es



substantial y por ella Cristo, Dios y hombre, se hace totalmente presente" (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, #1374).

La Eucaristía es un don que sólo podemos recibir por completo en persona. Es alimento espiritual para el viaje. En ella recibimos no sólo gracias, sino a Jesús en persona. En ningún otro lugar de la Tierra y de ninguna otra forma podemos unirnos tan estrechamente a él, que nos ama en extremo.

Es posible—y obligatorio—asistir a misa en persona a menos que exista una razón seria para no hacerlo. Pero procuren que nada los aparte de Jesús en la Eucaristía. Vayan a confesar con regularidad y no falten nunca a misa. Hagan lo posible por recibir a Jesús en la Eucaristía. Recuerden, nada sobrepasa a Dios en generosidad.

Nuestra misión

Proporcionar ideas prácticas que fomenten la vida en la fe católica

Success Publishing & Media, LLC

Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™

(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax

<http://www.growinginfaith.com>

(Salvo advertencia, las citas y referencias bíblicas son de la Biblia de la Biblioteca de Autores Cristianos o de la Nueva Biblia de Jerusalén.)

Sunday, Dec 05, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In praise of community service

Consider him an early volunteer. John the Baptist preached and baptized through the countryside, preparing the community for the way, truth, and life about to open to them. He wasn't paid for these services, which is probably why his diet was locusts and honey, and his clothing coarse. Today on International Volunteer Day, we give thanks for all who helped their neighbors with grocery runs and check-ins during the long season of sickness. We can continue this spirit of social engagement: giving blood, organizing group clean-ups, shoveling a neighbor's sidewalk. Volunteering builds empathy!

TODAY'S READINGS: Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6 (6). "A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'"

Monday, Dec 06, 2021

MEMORIAL OF NICHOLAS, BISHOP

The wonder of it all

Very little is known about the historical Saint Nicholas, but he evolved into a legendary figure so intertwined with Christmas, it's almost as if he were part of the Nativity story. The actual Nicholas lived 300 years after the birth of Jesus. Whether he secretly gave gifts to children or not, the spirit of his story is real. Centuries later as presents are wrapped in mystery and kept under the tree in anticipation, emotions of waiting for the Christ Child heighten as we ponder a miracle we can't fathom. Thank you, Saint Nicholas, for a tradition that helps incarnate our joy and wonder!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26 (181). "We have seen incredible things today."

Tuesday, Dec 07, 2021

MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Wage peace

Advent anticipates the Prince of Peace. But as we recall Pearl Harbor, Catholics also embrace a tradition that includes just war theory—sketched out by the likes of Saint Augustine, fleshed out by the likes of Saint Ambrose. King David "never waged war unless he was driven to it," Ambrose observed, illustrating that wars should be fought only as a last resort. Further, war should be waged selflessly—to help and protect others. War that "preserves one's country [or] defends the weak . . . is full of justice." Pray for those in the armed services who sacrifice and protect, and also pray for peace.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 (182). "Comfort, give comfort to my people."

Wednesday, Dec 08, 2021

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (PATRONAL FEAST DAY OF THE U.S.A.)

A day of pure celebration

Today we celebrate the Immaculate Conception, the church's teaching that Mary was preserved from original sin from the moment of her conception. It is one of only two dogmas proclaimed infallibly by a pope. All of today's readings are related: They trace the tale back to the Fall, followed by a celebration of the "marvelous deeds" of God's salvation, culminating in the gospel reading of the Annunciation, where Mary learns she will bear a son who will reverse the curse of sin. Today, honor our Blessed

Mother and thank God for her preservation from sin so that she might bring Christ into the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689). "... he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him."

Thursday, Dec 09, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN

Be a witness to the miracle of God's love

We are told that Saint Juan Diego was undistinguished before he became the person to whom the Virgin Mary appeared at Tepeyac, Mexico in 1531. Juan Diego had an opportunity to open himself to God's grace—Mary's appearance and miracle. He responded in faith by listening to the Virgin and persistently communicating her message, even though as an indigenous person, his word was at first discounted. His part in the miracle at Tepeyac has had enduring impact by opening other indigenous and mestizo Mexicans to the gospel message, and by opening church leaders—albeit slowly, in fits and starts—to the message indigenous peoples have for the wider church. Are you ready to receive God's grace, as did Juan Diego?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15 (184). "Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Friday, Dec 10, 2021

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF LORETO

Jesus makes his presence known

Emmanuel, "God is with us," is our guiding truth. Christians find many ways to remind ourselves of God's Real Presence. Of course, the primary way is through the Eucharist. But shrines and relics are also a very Catholic way of pointing to the reality of Christ in our lives. Take for example the shrine of Our Lady of Loreto, which resides in Loreto, Italy, a small town on the Adriatic coast. It is there that the original home of Mary is said to have been moved, either by angels or more probably by a wealthy Italian merchant, after the late 13th-century siege of Jerusalem. At this shrine we can presumably touch the same stones that Jesus touched as a boy. What a remarkable reminder that the Word was made flesh and lived among us. Pray to Our Lady of Loreto for continued reminders of God's abiding presence.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185/689B). "The virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us!'"

Saturday, Dec 11, 2021

MEMORIAL OF DAMASUS I, POPE

By the book

By the fourth century of the Christian era there were 20 or so gospels floating around the early church communities along with the familiar four. Dozens of epistles existed in addition to the 21 we now recognize. It was today's saint, Pope Damasus I (c. 305–384), who presided over the Council of Rome in 382 that determined the canon, or official list, of the Bible. He also encouraged Saint Jerome to produce a translation of the existing Greek and Hebrew texts into Latin, the common language of the day. Inexpensive versions of the Catholic *New American Bible Revised Edition* make great Christmas gifts for friends and family looking to deepen their faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186). "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



©2021 TrueQuest Communications. TakeFiveForFaith.com; mail@takefiveforfaith.com. All rights reserved. Noncommercial reprints permitted with the following credit: Reprinted with permission from TakeFiveForFaith.com. Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition. For more information about TAKE FIVE and our regular contributors, go to PrepareTheWord.com. Free daily email and app available online at TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe.

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Including the Passion Play of Oberammergau

11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 5 - 15, 2022

Visiting

ROME * ASSISI * FLORENCE * VENICE
INNSBRUCK * MUNICH

Hosted by

FR. MICHAEL MOLONEY O.F.S.

\$4599 PER PERSON FROM DALLAS

(Air/land tour price is \$4149 plus \$450 government taxes/airline surcharges)



QUALITY TOURS SINCE 1949

COVID TRENDS IN WICHITA FALLS

DATE	NEW CASES	ACTIVE CASES	HOSPITALIZED	HOSPITALIZED CRITICAL	NEW DEATHS	POSITIVITY RATE
07/02	42	65	13	5	0	7%
07/30	231	335	14	10	4	21%
08/13	402	628	51	15	2	30%
08/27	802	1358	76	54	4	31%
09/10	762	2032	85	27	7	28%
09/24	515	1747	63	27	19	23%
10/01	434	1378	64		14	18.45%
10/29	106		32	16	12	10%
11/05	117	341	22	9	5	11.4%
11/12	102	330	19	6	5	6.8%
11/19	68	207	13		3	5.2%
11/26	91	209	12		3	11%

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness."
At your command, the sick were made well.
Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus.
May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus.
May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve.
Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks.
May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare.
In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us. Amen.

Prayer written by Kerry Weber, executive editor of America.

www.americamagazine.org

December 4, 2021 – December 31, 2021

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SATURDAY DEC. 4 1ST SATURDAY St. Mary's Mass 8:00AM Confessions 3:00 – 4:00 At the Church office St. Mary's Mass 5:00PM St. Mary's Spanish Mass 7:00PM Please use hand sanitizer	SUNDAY DECEMBER 5 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT St. Boniface Mass 8:00 AM St. Mary's Mass 10:30 AM Both Masses will be live-streamed K of C Sausage Meal 11-2 CCD Christmas Play 6:30pm in High School New Gym No Confirmation 4:00pm – 5:30pm Class will be helping with CCD Christmas Play arrive at the Gym at 5:00	MONDAY DEC. 6 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 St. Mary's Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer	TUESDAY DEC. 7 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 Mass St. Mary's Church Office closed Sr. Citizens 1pm	WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 Church Office Closed St. Boniface Mass 8:00am St. Mary's Adoration 5:45 Mass & 6:00pm Consecration to St. Joseph Novena 6:30pm Please use hand sanitizer No CCD 6-12 th grades 6:45pm 3 rd Degree K of C #1824 after Mass 3 rd Degree K of C # 1715	THURSDAY DEC. 9 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 St. Boniface Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer	FRIDAY DEC. 10 Word Service 7:25 Mass St. Mary's 3:00pm Please use hand sanitizer
SATURDAY DEC. 11 St. Mary's Mass 12:00 Confessions 3:00 – 4:00 At the Church office St. Mary's Mass 5:00PM St. Mary's Spanish Mass 7:00PM Special Collection for Retired Religious Please use hand sanitizer	SUNDAY DECEMBER 12 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT St. Boniface Mass 8:00 AM St. Mary's Mass 10:30 AM Both Masses will be live-streamed Special Collection for Retired Religious Please use hand sanitizer Scotland Sr. Citizens 12:00 noon Youth Caroling Confirmation 4:00pm – 5:30pm 2 nd Sunday RCIA 7:00pm	MONDAY DEC. 13 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 St. Boniface Fatima Prayer Hour 10:00am St. Mary's Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer VFW/VFW Ladies Aux. 7pm	TUESDAY DEC. 14 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 Mass St. Mary's Church Office closed Sr. Citizens 1pm	WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 Poinsettia orders due! St. Mary's Adoration 5:45 Mass 6:00pm Novena 6:30pm Please use hand sanitizer CCD 6-12 th grades 6:45pm CDA #296 after Mass	THURSDAY DEC. 16 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 St. Boniface Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer	FRIDAY DEC. 17 Word Service 7:25 Mass St. Mary's 3:00pm Please use hand sanitizer
SATURDAY DEC. 18 St. Mary's Mass 12:00 Confessions 3:00 – 4:00 At the Church office St. Mary's Mass 5:00PM St. Mary's Spanish Mass 7:00PM Please use hand sanitizer	SUNDAY DECEMBER 19 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT St. Boniface Mass 8:00 AM St. Mary's Mass 10:30 AM Both Masses will be live-streamed Please use hand sanitizer Confirmation 4:00pm – 5:30pm RCIA 7:00pm	MONDAY DEC. 20 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 Bulletin notices are due by noon St. Mary's Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer	TUESDAY DEC. 21 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 Mass St. Mary's Church Office closed Sr. Citizens 1pm	WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22 CCD class grades K-5 begins @7:25 St. Mary's Adoration 5:45 Mass 6:00pm Novena 6:30pm Please use hand sanitizer CCD 6-12 th grades 6:45pm	THURSDAY DEC. 23 St. Boniface Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer	FRIDAY DEC. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE Mass St. Boniface 4PM Mass St. Mary's 4PM Church Office Closed Please use hand sanitizer
SATURDAY DEC. 25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD St. Mary's Mass 9:00AM Please use hand sanitizer	SUNDAY DECEMBER 26 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY JOSEPH St. Boniface Mass 8:00 AM St. Mary's Mass 10:30 AM Baptism Both Masses will be live-streamed Please use hand sanitizer	MONDAY DEC. 27 Bulletin notices are due by noon St. Mary's Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer	TUESDAY DEC. 28 Mass St. Mary's Church Office closed Sr. Citizens 1pm	WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 29 St. Mary's Adoration 5:45 Mass 6:00pm Novena 6:30pm Please use hand sanitizer CCD 6-12 th grades 6:45pm	THURSDAY DEC. 30 St. Boniface Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer	FRIDAY DEC. 31 New Year's Eve St. Mary's Mass 6:00pm Please use hand sanitizer