



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 1) Isaiah 2:1-5
- 2) Romans 13:11-14
- 3) Matthew 24:37-44

**FOCUS:** The Jesus who is born in time and history is also the Christ who will come in glory to judge all.

The season of Advent begins today with a call to perseverance and vigilance, as we prepare, not just to celebrate the historical event of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, but also to celebrate our central belief that

Christ will come again in glory to judge all humanity. Our readings are chosen to help us reflect on this great truth and to be prepared for the coming of Christ.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Our readings speak to us about eternal life and the fulfillment of the kingdom. Isaiah, the Old Testament prophet of consolation, describes a pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord where the faithful will be instructed in his ways. Paul calls us to wake up and to *throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light*. Our Gospel echoes this, describing the need to be prepared for the unexpected coming of Christ in glory.

Readings for the following Sunday

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 1) Isaiah 11:1-10
- 2) Romans 15:4-9
- 3) Matthew 3:1-12

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF NOVEMBER 12-13**

Sunday Collection.....	\$5,294.00
Loose Collection.....	\$ 528.85
On-line giving.....	\$ 125.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$5,947.85</b>

**DIRECTORY OF MINISTRIES**

Altar Servers	Emily Janak	573-1874
Altar Society	Stella Silva	550-0387
Baptism Prep.	Diana Starnes	550-9533
Bereavement Group	Geraldine Jurica	573-3949
Vacation Bible School	Marie Immenhauser	572-3863
Disciples on the Journey	Pam Fanelli	578-1145
Festival Committee Chairs	Kevin & Joan Pfister	576-9638
Funeral Meals	Adele Donalson	573-4455
Liturgical Ministers	Deacon Jim Koenig	935-3811
Marriage Prep Foccus	Deacon Jim Koenig	935-3811
Music Ministry	Cathy Lowe	935-1068
Natural Family Planning	Annie & David Coffey	579-8464
Adoration Chapel	Germaine Wearden	235-1812
Quilters	Jo Ann Bone	578-7629
RCIA	Sr. Frances Cabrini	573-5304
Religious Education	Diana Starnes	550-9533
Rentals	Deacon Jim Koenig	935-3811
St. Vincent De Paul Society	Faye Culak	649-0614
Wedding Coordinator	Cathy Lowe	935-1068
Weekly Rosary & Divine Mercy		
Cenacle	Tina Rabalais	541-9295

**Class Time: 6:00 – 7:15 pm Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14**

**RCIA (the Rite CCD NEWS: of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

The sessions are held in the AV Room of St. Mary's Activity Center from 7:00 -8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 29, Advent and Church organization (Sr. Frances Cabrini)

Tuesday, Dec. 6, Baptism (Diana Pagel)

Tuesday, Dec. 13, Ten Commandments (Diana Pagel)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 Penance Services**

**Mon. Dec. 12th - 6:30 p.m.- Our Lady of Victory Cathedral**

**Wed. Dec. 14th, - 6:30 p.m. - Holy Family**

**Thurs. 15th - 6:30 p.m. - St. Mary's**

**2017 Festival Update-MARK YOUR 2017 CALENDARS  
 \*2-12-17 ST. MARY'S FESTIVAL\***

Our church welcomes and invites all Parish members and all Family and Friends to our 2017 Festival. Be sure to ask your family and friends to mark their calendars as well. We would like the festival to be a special occasion for you, your family and friends to enjoy food, fun, relaxation, visiting and maybe even find that special item to purchase as a gift or for you. We welcome all donations to the Festival. **Our next festival meeting will be on Mon. Dec. 12 at 7:00 p.m.**

**SAVE THE DATE**

Annual Fundraiser with the Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill and Bishop Emeritus David E. Fellhauer. You're invited to the Bishop's Advent BBQ dinner at the Spiritual Renewal Center, 718 Gussie Schmidt Road, Victoria, on Dec. 3, 2016. Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by social at 6:45, dinner at 7:30. Donation \$160.00 per couple. For reservation : renewalcenter@victoriadiocese.org., Deacon Joe Duplan 572-0836. All proceeds benefit The Spiritual Renewal Center Overnight accommodations available at \$30 per person / double occupancy



**Knights of Columbus  
 SQUIRES  
 Youth Organization.**

**Columbian Squires  
 Victoria #2366** will be selling homemade stew by the Quart **Sunday**

**Dec. 11 from 10:00 am till 1:00 pm. Where:** KC Hall 3610 N. Ben Wilson Street **Cost: \$10/Quart** Tickets may be purchased at St. Mary's Rectory or from Joe Rainosek at 361-550-3113 or Donald Shellenbarger 361-649-9956. Proceeds to benefit various youth projects.



**KJZT #101 and KJT #115 will have a joint Christmas Party** Sun. Dec. 4 at Our Lady of Victory Cafeteria 2 p.m. Eat at 3 p.m. Meat will be furnished. Please bring a covered dish RSVP 573-2669.

**THANKS**

Funeral Meal Committee would like to say a Big Thank You to the St. Mary's Parish Family members that have helped by donating desserts and side dishes and to my helpers for serving and cleaning up after the funeral meals. Parish Family members please say yes to the funeral; Meal Committee when asked to help with a dessert or side dish. It is very important to say yes they provide support to the family members in their time of need. Thanks again, Adele Donalson

**All Hallows' Eve THANK YOU**

This year's Family Fun Night was an incredible success thanks to many volunteers and helpers!

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to:

All those who help set up and clean up

All the teens who helped run the games

All the adults who covered all the necessary jobs

All the Altar Society members who prepared and served the food and cleaned up afterwards

Dee Garza, Emily Janak, and Dr. Ty Meyer for being our "Live Saints" for the night

May God bless you all and we hope you will join us next year!

**Giving Tree Project**



Thank you to everyone who took an ornament off the Christmas Giving Tree again this holiday season. Please return wrapped gifts to St. Mary's Church by Sun. Dec. 11. Tags should be securely taped to the gifts. We are again asking for gift cards for the junior high and high school students. Many of the students are asking for clothes for school so we must follow VISD uniform guidelines. Jeans and shoes are also hard to fit so for these reason we often will has for a gift card.

## FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

### LECTORS

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

5:00 p.m. Faye Culak

**Sunday, Dec. 4**

8:00 a.m. Diana Starnes

10:30 a.m. Donald Shellenbarger

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

5:00 p.m. Denise Bednorz, Becky Coleman, Henry Schramek

**Sunday, Dec. 4**

8:00 a.m. Michael Cuellar, Loyd & Georgia West

10:30 a.m. Bertha McDowell, Kevin & Joan Pfister

### MASS SERVERS

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

5:00 p.m. Tyler & Tanner Coleman

**Sunday, Dec. 4**

8:00 a.m. Willie & Alec Immenhauer, Luke Hernandez, John Paul Pilkington

10:30 a.m. Johnna, Juliet, Everett Rangnow, Jakob Ward

### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

5:00 p.m. Steve & Lorraine Hebert, Larry & Linda Luna

**Sunday, Dec. 4**

8:00 a.m. Henry Petrash, David, Johnson, Stella Silva, Paul Janacek

10:30 a.m. Beverly Fox, Greg & Pam Fanelli, Carolyn McConnell

**PARISH CHOIR:** regular practice after the 8:00 am Sunday Mass, 9:15-9:45 a.m. in St. Mary's Church.

**QUILT AND CRAFT CORNER** will meet on Thursday, Dec. 1 at 9:00 a.m. in the Annex.

**Altar Care for December will be - Stella Silva**

**Grief Group:** An on-going Grief Group meets at Holy Family Catholic Church, in the Conference Room, at 7:00 pm, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month. Before attending please call Sharon at 578-7572.



"Christmas flower donations are now being accepted. Donation forms are located on the back pews of the church as well as on the back table in the Chapel. Your donations will enable us to decorate beautifully for the birth of Christ. Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Altar Society. Thank you for your generosity."

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**  
use Lisa Heinrich-Nulls Ad



**Saturday, November 26**

7:00 †Hattie Zajicek

5:00 †Helen Schramek

**Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 People of the Parish

10:30 †Marjorie Stefka

**Monday, November 28**

6:30 †Edwin Orsak, Sr.

12:05 †Henry, Sr. & Margaret Dove

**Tuesday, November 29**

6:30 †Evelyn Heibel

12:05 †Margaret LeJune

**Wednesday, November 30, Saint Andrew**

6:30 †Edward Miller

10:30 †Raymond Leita - Retama South

12:05 †Deacon A. R. Wearden - Debra Hampton

**Thursday, December 1**

6:30 †Edith Krenek

12:05 †Ed Thurman

**Friday, December 2**

6:30 †Kenneth Bianchi

12:05 †Dennis Ohrt

**Saturday, December 3, Saint Francis Xavier**

7:00 †Sharon West Bauer

5:00 †Jodie Vahalik

**Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 †Robert Moore

10:30 People of the Parish

### Amor Meus Spirituality Center

As we, the *Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament*, continue our Celebration of 150 Years here in Victoria, we invite you to an **OPEN HOUSE** at 1101 N. E. Water Street on December 17, 2016 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. All are welcome!

**Advent Vespers: November 27, December 4, 11, & 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.** Incarnate Word Convent Chapel. This liturgical evening prayer of the church focuses on praying the psalms, giving thanks for the day and offering praise to God. Solemn evening praise closes with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**GUIDED ONE-DAY ADVENT RETREAT:** December 10, 2016—9:30 am-3:30 p.m. Deacon Leo Sharron from St. Michael's in Cuero will present a day retreat entitled, My Soul in Stillness Waits at Incarnate Word Convent 1101 N. E. Water Street in Victoria. This retreat provides retreatants with an opportunity to encounter God in the silence of their hearts. Two conferences on a spiritual topic are presented. The retreat schedule provides for Eucharist liturgy or prayer service with ample time for prayer, walking, reflecting, spiritual guidance and reconciliation. All are welcomed. **Incarnate Word Convent 1101 N. E. Water St. Victoria - 361-575-7111.**

**Lead Me Retreat by God's Embrace!!** God's Embrace Ministries invites you to attend the new Team-Based retreat experience. Come from wherever you are to experience a deeper walk with Jesus. The Retreat will be held at God's Embrace Ministries Retreat Center located at 1601 High Hill Rd, Schulenburg, TX. The weekend begins 5:00pm Friday, December 9, and concludes Sunday, December 11 with 12:30pm Mass held at St. Mary Catholic Church in High Hill. Open to couples and singles - men and women. Space is limited so register soon online at [www.godsembrace.org](http://www.godsembrace.org) or call 979-561-8883.