



CHRISTMAS, 2016 - VIGIL THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - SOLEMNITY (Vigil Mass)

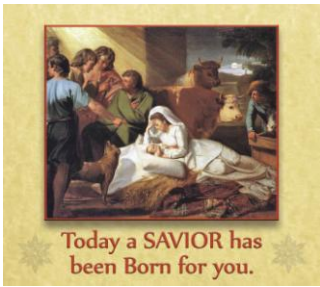
- 1) Isaiah 62:1-5
- 2) Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
- 3) Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

FOCUS: *God is with us.*

In Celtic tradition, "thin places" are places of magnificence and wonder where the veil that separates heaven and earth is lifted; we are able to receive a glimpse of the glory of God. Tonight we celebrate one such moment. Emmanuel is born. God is with us. Through Jesus Christ, God reveals himself. Tonight is indeed filled with magnificence and wonder. We pause, and with heightened awareness, bow our heads in reverence.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading proclaims that God will bestow many blessings on the people of Israel. In a synagogue in Antioch, Saint Paul proclaims that God's promise of a savior from the House of David has been fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. The Gospel demonstrates Jesus' Davidic lineage and recounts the details of his birth



CHRISTMAS, 2016 - NIGHT THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - SOLEMNITY (Mass at Night)

- 1) Isaiah 9:1-6
- 2) Titus 2:11-14
- 3) Luke 2:1-14

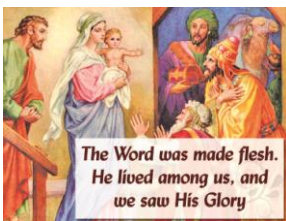
FOCUS: The event of Jesus' birth continues to unfold in our hearing.

The humble event of the birth of an infant outside the city of

Bethlehem goes almost totally unnoticed. This newborn child would go on, however, to change the course of history by shedding the light of the Father's endless love on all of creation.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Isaiah tells of a birth of the Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. The second reading exhorts us to live temperately, justly and devoutly. In the Gospel, curious shepherds rattled by God's messenger and serenaded by a chorus of angels check out the birth of an unknown child in a stable outside an obscure city.



CHRISTMAS, 2016 - DAY THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - SOLEMNITY (Mass During the Day)

- 1) Isaiah 52:7-10
- 2) Hebrews 1:1-6
- 3) John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

FOCUS: Today, we celebrate the

good news of our salvation: the birth of Jesus Christ as one of us, a human being.

God has always shown his love for us in numerous ways: through the beauty of creation and the love of our families and friends. Today, he shows that love in a very special way: in the birth of his beloved Son into our world – God's gift to all of us!

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah speaks to us today of the beauty of the one who brings us glad tidings: Jesus coming to tell of God's love. Hebrews goes further, describing Jesus as the one who fully reveals the depths of God's love for humanity. Finally, the Gospel reminds us that Jesus is the very Word of God, the one from the beginning – God born into human history.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Saturday, December 31, Mass at 5:00 p.m. and **Sunday, January 1, 2017** at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF DECEMBER 10-11

Sunday Collection.....	\$5,061.00
Loose Collection.....	\$ 764.00
On-line giving.....	\$ 175.00
Total.....	\$6,000.00

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

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 during this Christmas season 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.



The Quarterly Bunco Party hosted by the Altar Society of Holy Family Catholic Church will be Wednesday, January 11, 2017, from 9:30am to Noon. It will be held at St. Peter's Parish Hall. A free lunch will be served, and game prizes and door prizes will be awarded.

Please invite a friend, and enjoy visiting with the ladies from our five local Catholic Churches.

For information and reservations contact Olivia Blanchard at 570-7107; Ginger Wagner at 550-6444, or Betty Frederick at 573-5850

The Rectory will reopen on Monday, January 2, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. If you need a priest please call the rectory.

St Mary's Altar Society will be celebrating a Mass on Jan 8 at 10:30 a.m. for all members, living and deceased. Following the Mass the Altar Society would like to provide a meal for the Parish. There is no charge and everyone is invited. At this time the Altar Society will be collecting donations of baby items for the Gabriel Project. The menu will be Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Salad and many luscious home baked desserts provided by Altar Society Members. Come join us and enjoy the fellowship.

CHRISTMAS DAY



Benefit Dinner for Missionary Catechist of the Scared Hearts of Jesus and Mary

Sunday, January 15, 2017

CWV Hall -1007 S. Main Street

Victoria, Texas 77901

Carne Guisada Dinner -\$9.00 per plate

Time: 10am to 2pm -Live Auction starting at 11:45am

Please join in supporting the work of our Sisters

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #369 will meet on Monday, January 2, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Prayer will precede the meeting at 6:10. Special business to be conducted includes the election of delegates to the State Convention, and the annual shower for the Gabriel Project. Start the new year by becoming a new member in one of the leading organizations for Catholic women!

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 not meet this week.

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 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Before attending please call Sharon at 578-7572.

Class Time: 6:00 – 7:15 pm January 11, 18, 25

2017 CALENDARS

Calendars compliments of, **Brown's Air Conditioning Co., Ideal Aluminum Siding and Roofing Co., Texas Drive Inn, Margie Neumann, and Arlon & Patricia Zamzow and Anchor Lumber Yard, Inc.** and will be available at all Masses this weekend. We would like to say a Big Thank You to these very generous people! Please pick up only one per Family

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK
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Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve

7:00 No Mass
5:00 †Dr. & Mrs. George Tyng - George & Vivian Tyng
12:00 Midnight Father Dan Morales

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

8:00 People of the Parish
10:30 Priest Intentions

Monday, December 26, Saint Stephen

6:30 †Ernest Innocenti
12:05 No Mass

Tuesday, December 27, Saint John

6:30 Lisa Roach
12:05 †Frances & Jerry Patton

Wednesday, December 28, The Holy Innocents

6:30 †Hedwig Smolka (ANNIV)
12:05 †Marjorie Stefka

Thursday, December 29

6:30 †David Yeary
12:05 †Benito & Irene Menchaca

Friday, December 30, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

6:30 †Vickie Moody
12:05 †Deacon A. R. Wearden - Debra Hampton

Saturday, December 31, New Year's Eve

7:00 †James Zimmerhanzel Family
5:00 †Josephine Sala

Sunday, January 1, 2017, New Year's Day

8:00 People of the Parish
10:30 †Raymond Leita (ANNIV)

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.

December 21, 2016-Jan. 3, 2017--Christmas and New Year Holidays.

