



# Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Feb 10th- Feb 11th

P.O. Box 130 – 411 Ware St., Groom, TX 79039

Tele. & Fax: 806.248.7584,

Cell Phone: 806.316.4146

## PARISH STAFF:

Pastor: Arokia Raj Samala – Parish Council: Jason Eugea

Finance Council Chair: Rodney Bohr, Altar Society President: Debbie Ollinger

RCIA: Tabitha Eggemeyer, DRE: Nicole Kuehler,

Youth Director: Kathleen Barkley, Bookkeeper: Sherri Wieberg

Parish Email: [immaculateheartgroom@gmail.com](mailto:immaculateheartgroom@gmail.com) Website: [immaculateheartgroomtx.com](http://immaculateheartgroomtx.com)



## **6th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME - AN EPIDEMIC OF LEPROSY**

"A leper approached Him with a request." —Mark 1:40

Our society and churches are filled with lepers. These people don't have physical leprosy, which is Hanson's disease, but the spiritual leprosy of self-hatred. They continually "cry out 'Unclean, Unclean!' " (Lv 13:45) They do things to turn people away from them. They even tell God to stay away from them. They wallow in depression and degrade themselves through self-destructive compulsions such as overeating, alcoholism, gambling, TV addiction, sexual promiscuity, masturbation, gossip, etc.

Only one Person can cure leprosy — Jesus. In our leprous condition, we must kneel down and make an act of faith in Jesus, saying: "If You will do so, You can cure" us (Mk 1:40). He will have mercy on us, stretch out His hand, touch us, and say: "I do will it. Be cured" (Mk 1:41). Then we will be freed from years of self-hatred and self-destruction. We will no longer be degraded by the tyranny of doing what feels good. We will be truly free and fully alive.

Then we should tell the good news of our healing to whomever the Lord leads us. These people may also be lepers. They may have been discouraged by the lepers in their family and church. By sharing our healing, we will open them to Jesus. They will no longer tell Jesus to stay away from them, but will let Him touch them.

***Prayer: Father, may I repent of self-hatred and let Jesus touch me in Confession.***

## Masses & Information

Monday, Thursday, Friday.....7:30 a.m.  
Saturday:.....5:30 p.m.  
Sunday:.....8:30 a.m.  
Wednesday:.....6:00 p.m.  
Confession: Saturday.....4:30-5:15 p.m.  
Sunday:.....7:55-8:15 a.m. or by appointment  
First Wednesday Adoration.....7:00 – 10:00 p.m.  
MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Contact Father Raj at least six months in advance.  
BAPTISMS: Call the rectory for an appointment.  
COMMUNION to shut-ins or the ill, call Fr. Raj at 248.7584 or 316.4146

Anyone who cannot come to the communion rail during Mass should let Father Raj know before Mass. Those who are ill or shut in should contact Bill Homer, if you would want communion brought to your home during the week or on weekends.

## Masses Intentions

Sunday, Feb 11--8.30 a.m. Earl Britten By Loretta Britten

Monday, Feb 12--7:30 a.m. Earl Britten By Loretta Britten

**Ash Wednesday, Feb 14--7:30a.m.** Earl Britten By Mike and Marla Britten

**7:00pm** Earl Britten By Mike and Marla Britten

Thursday, Feb 15--7:30 a.m. Earl Britten By Mike and Marla Britten

Friday, February 16--7:30a.m. Earl Britten By Mike and Marla Britten

Saturday, Feb 17--5:30 p.m. Earl Britten By Mike and Marla Britten

## Church Cleaning for February

Marla Britten, Debbie Ollinger, Sandra Britten, Mary Treadwell, Pam Ashford, Tami Keesee, Cara Ashford, Sharon Britten, Sherri Wieberg, Waymth Britten, Lori Connelly, Nicole Kuehler, Loretta Britten, Tabitha Eggemeyer, Shelley Britten and Britney Britten

## Pray for Our Sick

Brandi Sustaire, John Detten, Emma Detten, Tammy Bivens, Celeste Connelly, Daniel Hinson, Schellon Major, Ralph Hutsell, Shamara Husemann, Bill Becker, Jim Eakin, Charleen Weller, Leonard Koetting, Alina Becker, Anna Marie Wink, Gary Collins, , Willie Mae Barnett, Dylan Stafford, James Weinheimer, Alice Britten, Alan Acker, David Swieres, Sherry Koetting, and Brynlee Longbine

## Family Chalice Program

February 10/11 Rita Poor  
February 17/18 Brad and Tabitha Eggemeyer  
February 24/25 Pam and Cassie Ashford  
March 3/4 Keith, Kathleen, and Halle Barkley  
March 17/18 Mike and Marla Britten  
March 24/25 Jerry, Melanie, and Trent Britten  
March 31/ April 1 Cobb and Kay Britten

## Birthdays

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> Collins Koetting  
Feb 15<sup>th</sup> Mary Kuehler  
Feb 16<sup>th</sup> Alex Kuehler

## Anniversaries

Feb 13<sup>th</sup> Mike and Stephanie Friemel  
Feb 14<sup>th</sup> Fabian and Tonda Torres

## Stewardship Reports

<b>02-04-18</b>	
Individual	\$1,740.00
Loose	\$ 339.00
Children	\$ 8.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,087.00</b>

<b>Building Fund 2/04/18</b>	
Individual	\$21,580.71
Loose	\$ 4.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,584.71</b>

## *Liturgical Ministers*

### **Saturday, Feb 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.**

Servers: Damon and Alex  
Lectors: Ron Kuehler  
Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

### **Sunday, Feb 11, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.**

Servers: Owen and Braxton  
Lectors: Cari Weinheimer  
Extraor. Com. Minister: Michelle Bohr,  
Nichole Kuehler, Marla Britten

### **Saturday, Feb 17, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.**

Servers: Saffron and Kacie  
Lectors: Jason Eugea  
Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea

### **Sunday, Feb 18, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.**

Servers: Derek and Trace  
Lectors: Marcia Conrad  
Extraor. Com. Minister: Kay Britten, Tabitha  
Eggemeyer, Susan Britten

### **Saturday, Feb 24, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.**

Servers: Halle and Hope  
Lectors: Ron Kuehler  
Extraor. Com. Minister: Sandie Hickey

### **Sunday, Feb 25, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.**

Servers: Zadyn and Ali  
Lectors: Nick Kuehler  
Extraor. Com. Minister: Nicole Kuehler,  
Melanie K Britten, Joannie Kling

## *Announcements:*

### **Second collection Feb 11<sup>th</sup> for the Building fund.**

#### **All: Heaters in the Hall**

Thermostats are set at 60 degrees. If more heat is needed they may be increased to achieve comfort level. Settings DO NOT automatically re-set to 60 degrees. IF you change the setting you MUST manually re-set so that the heat is not wasted.

**Faith Formation Classes** for Ash Wednesday Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> will be from 6:00p.m. until 6:50p.m., followed by Ash Wednesday services at 7:00p.m.

**Friday Feb 16<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry in Clarendon:** St. Mary's Parish Hall 5:30p.m. to 7:30p.m. All you can eat!! Fish, French fries, hushpuppies, cole slaw, beans, dessert and drink. Adults 12 and up \$12.00, Children 5yrs to 12yrs \$5.00 and Children 4yrs and under are free

#### **Christian Mothers:**

Dues of \$15 are collected in September. If you have not paid yours yet, please give to Pam Ashford or Debbie Ollinger or send it to Christian Mothers Box 293 Groom, Texas 79039. This really just covers the bare necessities of every week expenses of religions classes and funeral dinners and special dinners. Thank you for your support of this important part of our church community.

The Groom Christian mothers will be hosting the Spring East deanery meeting sometime in March or April, I hope you will make plans to attend.

New Officers and committee chairmen are needed for the upcoming elections in April. Please consider helping out. We have a great group of women, but we need some leaders to guide us into the next two years.

### **Announcements:**

**Ashes:** The Church has long used ashes as an outward sign of grief, a mark of humility, mourning, penance and morality. The Old Testament is filled with stories describing the use of ashes in such a manner. In the Book of Job, Job repented before God: “Therefore, I disown what I have said, and repent in dust and ashes” (42:6). Daniel “turned to the Lord God, to seek help, in prayer and petition, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes” (Dn 9:3). Jonah preached conversion and repentance to the people of Nineveh: “When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in the ashes” (Jon 3:6). And the Maccabees army prepared for battle: “That day they fasted and wore sackcloth; they sprinkled ashes on their heads and tore their garments” (1 Mc 3:47).

Ashes were imposed on the early catechumens when they began their preparation time for baptism. Confessed sinners of that era were also marked with ashes as part of the public penitential process. Other baptized Christians began asking to receive ashes in a manner similar to catechumens and penitents. Christian men had ashes sprinkled on their heads while ashes were used to trace the cross on the forehead of women. Thus the use of ashes as the sign of penance, in readiness for Easter, was becoming a Church wide practice. During the papacy of St. Gregory the Great, the practice was further expanded and is mentioned in the sixth-century Gregorian Sacramentary. Around the year 1000, Abbot Aelfric of the monastery of Eynsham, England, wrote: “We read in the books both in the Old Law and in the new that men who repented of their sins bestowed on themselves with ashes and clothed their bodies with sackcloth. Now let us do this little at the beginning of our Lent, that we strew ashes upon our heads, to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten feast” (“Aelfric’s Lives of Saints,” 1881, p. 263). This same rite of distributing ashes on the Wednesday that begins Lent was recommended for universal use by Pope Urban II at the Synod of Benevento in 1091.

So when we go to that early Mass on Ash Wednesday morning and receive the blessed ashes on our forehead, we are repeating a somber, pious act that Catholics have been undergoing for over 1,500 years. Like all those before us, we unhesitatingly embrace this invitation to sanctity, this time to turn away from sin. We are part of that great cloud of witnesses who through all the ages have donned the ashes, publicly acknowledging that we are Christians, Christians who have sinned and seek to repent. We acknowledge that “we are dust and to dust we shall return.”