



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

June 23rd – June 24th

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 Website: immaculateheartgroomtx.com



THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST *FREEDOM-FIGHTER*

"Look for the One Who comes after me." —Acts 13:25

When John the Baptizer saw Jesus, he didn't say: "There's Jesus" or "There's the Savior" or "There's the Messiah." Rather, he said: "There is the Lamb of God" (Jn 1:29). The Church does the same thing right before Holy Communion. The priest holds up the Host, but he doesn't say: "This is Communion" or "This is Jesus." Instead, he proclaims: "This is the Lamb of God." The Jewish people think of a lamb differently than we do. For them, a lamb is primarily the Passover lamb, the ultimate symbol of freedom (Ex 12:3). This lamb was used by the Lord to free the entire Israelite nation from hundreds of years of slavery. Today we celebrate the birthday of John the Baptizer. John still points us to Jesus, the Lamb of God. When we believe in Jesus, we will be freed from discouragement (see Is 49:4ff) and spiritual paralysis (see Lk 1:64) by being freed from sin, the cause of these evils (Acts 13:24). We don't have to wait till the Fourth of July for Independence Day. We can have Independence Day, that is "Freedom Day," today when we repent and believe in Jesus, the Lamb of God. "If the Son frees you, you will really be free" (Jn 8:36). Prayer: Father, use me to free others from sin, Satan, and hell.

And also today's feast proclaims the importance of life in the womb and birth. In our culture of death, we need constant reminders of the great plans God has for all life, including life before birth. Our culture, inspired by the kingdom of darkness, emphasizes: The womb is tomb. If life starts there, kill it. A pregnancy is a problem, not a blessing. Children are burdens both financially and to your lifestyle. The more children you have, the bigger your problems.

The kingdom of Jesus, the Life (Jn 11:25; 14:6), emphasizes: The womb is a place for God to anoint His servants (Is 49:5). In the womb, God's servants work in power (Lk 1:41, 44). Those like Mary, who have what the world calls "problem pregnancies," bring life and joy to others (see Lk 1:44). Those like Elizabeth, who have what the world calls "high-risk pregnancies," lead others to praise and magnify the Lord (see Lk 1:46). Babies, "the fruit of the womb" (see Lk 1:42), are not limited by their confinement in the womb, but evangelize others in a mighty way (Lk 1:41, 44).

The more children you have, the greater your blessings. Jesus welcomed children (Mt 19:14). Let us do the same.

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 PREPARTION: 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

Pray for Our Sick

Brandi Sustaire, John Detten, Emma Detten, Tammy Bivens, Celeste Connelly, Schellon Major, Ralph Hutsell, Shamara Husemann, Bill Becker, Jim Eakin, Charleen Weller, Leonard Koetting, Alina Becker, Anna Marie Wink, Gary Collins, Willie Mae Barnett, Alice Britten, Alan Acker, Dale Brooks, Pam Bouse, and Dorothy Britten

Family Chalice Program

June 30/July 1 Mike and Marla Britten

July 7/8 Alice Kuehler

July 14/15 Jerry Britten Family

July 21/22 Ron Kuehler Family

Birthdays

June 23rd Brock Britten

June 24th Brin Bueno Burgin

June 26th Dorothy Weller

June 29th Kate Kuehler

Anniversaries

Church Cleaning for June

Sandie Hickey, Marcia Conrad, Donna Barnett, Melanie Britten, Janice Koetting, Michele Bohr, Rita Lister, Connie Britten, Susan Britten, Rita Poor, Vanessa Eugea, Krista Johnson, Marissa Clement, Melanie King Britten, Lucita Hinson, and Dayna Britten

Stewardship Reports

06-17-18

Individual	\$1,490.00
Loose	\$ 266.00
Children	\$ 5.00
Total	\$1,761.00

06-17-18 Building Fund

Individual & loose	\$1,850.00
--------------------	------------

06-17-18 St. Peter's Pence

Individual	\$ 315.00
Loose	\$ 155.00
Total	\$ 470.00

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, June 23rd, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Saffron and Kacie

Lectors: Jason Eugea

Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea

Sunday, June 24th, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

Servers: Kate and Carrigan

Lectors: Kay Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Marla Britten,
Nicole Kuehler, and Susan Britten

Saturday, June 30th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Damon and Alex

Lectors: Ron Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, July 1st, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Braxton and Zadyn

Lectors: Marcia Conrad

Extraor. Com. Minister: Barbara Homer,
Joannie Kling, Michele Bohr

Saturday, July 7th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: K'Leigh and Madison

Lectors: Kay Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Jan Britten

Sunday, July 8th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Derek and Owen

Lectors: Cari Weinheimer

Extraor. Com. Minister: Marla Britten,
Tabitha Eggemeyer, Susan Britten

Announcements:

Second Collection:

Contact: Cara Ashford at
ashfordcar@gmail.com, if you have
information for the bulletin.

Announcements:

The Sacred Heart: Your heart pumps about 100,000 times a day to keep your lifeblood flowing through you. For this reason it has become a symbol for our very selves. We say, “I put my heart into it” and “I want that with all my heart.” The heart also is a symbol for love, perhaps because it seems to beat faster when we are in love. The biblical image of the heart means the depth of our selves where we decide for or against God. God, who always speaks to us using our own experiences, has chosen our symbol of the heart to represent Jesus.

The heart of Jesus was a human heart like ours. It stopped beating the day Jesus was crucified. According to the Gospel of John, after Jesus had died a soldier made sure of his death by piercing his side with a lance. Blood and water ran out (19:34). Jesus’ pierced heart became a sign of the completeness of his love for us, a love that compelled him to die for us and that prompted him to remain with us in the bread and wine of the Eucharist. The physical heart of Jesus is the symbol of the total love of Jesus, divine and human.

Jesus said that from within him would flow streams of living water (John 7:38), referring to the Holy Spirit. The water from the side of Christ on the cross was the water of salvation, the Holy Spirit.

In art the Sacred Heart is pierced, surmounted by a cross, and encircled with thorns. Light radiates from it to show that it is a burning furnace of love. The Heart of Christ summarizes the paschal mystery—the death and resurrection of Jesus that were prompted by divine love.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart began in the twelfth century. Saints such as Bonaventure, Gertrude, Catherine of Siena, and John Eudes were attracted to the Sacred Heart. It was St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a sister in France, who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus (with the support of St. Claude de la Colombiere, S.J.). She had visions of the Sacred Heart from 1673 to 1675. For instance, in 1675 on the Feast of Corpus Christi (the Body and Blood of Christ) Christ showed her his wounded heart. He said, “Behold this heart burning with so great a love for men.” In 1856 a feast in honor of the Sacred Heart was set for the Friday after the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. In 1899 Pope Leo XIII dedicated the world to the Sacred Heart.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart focuses not only on the love and mercy Jesus has for us but on reparation for sin. In St. Margaret Mary’s visions, Christ requested that a Communion of reparation be made on the first Friday of every month. An organization called the Apostleship of Prayer furthers the devotion to the Sacred Heart through activities such as the enthronement of the Sacred Heart in homes. We pray that our hearts may become like the Heart of Christ. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in you!