



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Sept 8th & Sept 9th

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: Joanie Kling

RCIA: Tabitha Eggemeyer, DRE: Nicole Kuehler,

Youth Director: Kathleen Barkley, Bookkeeper: Sherri Wieberg

Parish Email: immaculateheartgroom@gmail.com Website: immaculateheartgroomtx.com



23RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME - THE GRANDEST OPENING

"Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared." — Isaiah

35:5

Jesus emitted a groan and said: " 'Ephphatha!' (that is, 'Be opened!')" (Mk 7:34) Through this prayer, Jesus opened the ears and mouth of "a deaf man who had a speech impediment" (Mk 7:32). But there are greater and grander openings than these.

At the end of the Old Testament, the Lord promised that when we obeyed Him by tithing, He would open for us "the floodgates of heaven, to pour down blessing upon [us] without measure" (Mal 3:10). But there are greater and grander openings. The grandest opening is to open "the door of faith" (Acts 14:27), that is, to open our hardened hearts (see 2 Cor 6:13). In this way, the "door to heaven" is opened for us (Rv 4:1).

We speak of an open mind, open enrollment, open arteries, the open man, open bowling, open bar, etc. The word "open" is at the entrances of hundreds of thousands of businesses. Yet all these openings mean nothing unless we have hearts open to the Lord. If you open your heart when Jesus says "Ephphatha!", He will open the gates of heaven when you say: "Ephphatha!"

Prayer: Father, I will open my heart and You will fill it.

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

Sunday, Sep. 09 at 8:30 am Intentions of Doris B & Cari W by Mike & Marla B
Monday, Sep. 10 at 7:30am - Intentions of Doris B & Cari W by Mike & Marla B
Wednesday, Sep 12 at 6pm Intentions of Doris B & Cari W by Mike & Marla B
Thursday, Sep 13 at 7:30am Intentions of Doris B & Cari W by Mike & Marla B
Friday, Sep 14 at 7:30am Intentions of Doris B & Cari W by Mike & Marla B
Saturday, Sep 15 at 5:30pm Intentions of Doris B & Cari W by Mike & Marla B

Church Cleaning for September

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

Pray for Our Sick

Brandi Sustaïre, 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, Shirley Burgin, and Matthew Gary Britten

Family Chalice Program

Sept 8/9 Nick Weinheimer Family
Sept 15/16 Clifton and Susan Britten
Sept 22/23 Pam and Cassie Ashford
Sept 29/30 Alice Kuehler
Oct 6/7 Nick Kuehler Family
Oct 13/14 Mike and Marla Britten

Birthdays

Sept 9th Garrett Britten, Rita Poor, & Julie Friemel

Sept 10th Leonard Koetting & Eric Torres

Sept 11th Carolyn Brooks

Anniversaries

Stewardship Reports

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, Sept 8th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Alex and Tucker

Lectors: Ron Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, Sept 9th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Kacie and Saffron

Lectors: Jason Eugea

Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea,
Sharon Britten and Susan Britten

Saturday, Sept 15th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Halle and Hope

Lectors: Cliff Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Sandie Hickey

Sunday, Sept 16th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Jackson and Trace

Lectors: Nick Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Nicole Kuehler,
Marla Britten and Joannie Kling

Saturday, Sept 22nd, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Stephen and Damon

Lectors: Ron Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Jan Britten

Sunday, Sept 23rd 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: K'leigh and Carrigan

Lectors: Kay Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Michelle Bohr,
Melanie K Britten and Tabitha Eggemeyer

Saturday, Sept 29th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Madison and Ali

Lectors: Jason Eugea

Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea

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

Servers: Kate and Wesley

Lectors: Nick Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Barbara Homer,
Kay Britten, & Susan Britten

Announcements:

Second Collection:

Sept 9th Building Funds

Sept 16th Catholic Charities Appeal

Doris Britten expresses her appreciation for all the beautiful cards, messages, and the breakfast send off. She will be moving on the 20th of this month to Amarillo. Her new address is Park Place Towers, 1300 S. Harrison Rm #1300, Amarill, Tx 79101, Phone # 806-337-4300. She would love to have visitors in her new home.

St. Mary's Catholic Church to hold a fish fry.

The parishioners of St. Mary's are cooking and invite everyone to come join them. On Monday Sept 10, the Parish Hall is located on the corner of Montgomery & McLelland.

The fish fry is an All You Can Eat meal of deep fried fish, french fries, handmade hush puppies, cole slaw, beans, dessert and a drink. You may eat in or carry out for the same price – Adult \$12.00, children \$5.00 and preschoolers eat free. All proceeds go to the Parish Building Fund.

Announcements:

*Our Bishop is coming to Groom to celebrate Rural Life Mass for Groom and Clarendon on Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018. Kindly reserve the date and participate in the Mass.

*This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 16, 2018. The 2018 theme will be "Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ." Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

*Each Friday from September 14, 2018 until Friday November 30, 2018 will be a day of Fasting, Abstinence and prayer for Healing and Reconciliation for all victims of sexual abuse of minors. This is not to be under the penalty of sin; as a sign of our solidarity with all victims of abuse and our continued pledge to bring This scourge of evil to an end.

***Peter the Apostle:** Are you a leader or a follower? When Jesus met Simon, he recognized his leadership qualities. But he knew that Simon would need help. Jesus began by giving Simon a new name. He called him Peter, which means "rock." Later, Jesus told Peter that he was to be the rock on which Jesus would build his Church. Peter was the first Apostle to recognize that Jesus was the Messiah, the one promised by God to save his people. He gave up his life as a fisherman to lead others to Jesus, by being a fisher of men (Matthew 4:19) for Christ. He was a witness to the Transfiguration, when Jesus was revealed to be God's Son. He saw Jesus bring a dead child to life (Luke 8:40-56), and he was an eyewitness to Jesus' agony in the garden of Gethsemane. After he rose from the dead, Jesus appeared to his disciples and asked Peter, "Do you love me?" When Peter said that he did love Jesus, the Lord commanded him, "Feed my lambs...Tend my sheep" (John 21:16). Jesus was giving Peter the responsibility for caring for the Church and all its members. Although he had many strengths, Peter had weaknesses, too. He complained that he and the other Apostles had given up everything to follow Jesus and wanted to know what he would get for this sacrifice (Matthew 16:27). At the Lord's command, he walked on water, but then lost his faith in Jesus' power and sank in the sea (Matthew 14:31). At the Last Supper, Jesus told Peter that the time would come when Peter would deny knowing him. Peter angrily said it would never happen. Later that evening, Peter did deny three times that he knew the Lord or that he was one of his followers. When Peter recognized that the Lord's prediction had come true, he was overcome with sadness and tears. After the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost, Peter was filled with all the gifts he needed to lead the young Church. That Pentecost morning, he gave such a powerful speech about Jesus to the crowd in Jerusalem that three thousand people asked to be baptized immediately. Peter was the first Apostle to perform a miracle in Christ's name. Working with St. Paul, he recognized that the Church needed to be open to all people. Peter was also the first bishop of Rome, a title that has been given to every pope. Peter made Rome the home of the worldwide Church. Saint Peter's great love for Jesus made it possible for him to do everything that Jesus asked. The Lord asks the same of each of us. Like Peter, we can use our strengths to continue his work of

bringing love and peace to others. We can pray that Jesus will help us to overcome our weaknesses so that we can serve him every day. Jesus can and will work through us, as he did with Simon Peter, the Rock of the Church.