

STEWARDSHIP

November 25th.....\$1,464 Campaign for Human Dev.....\$595

Bobcat Catholics like you provide more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to Christ. Contact Tom Deming, Development Director, anytime to join our mission at 512-738-5920 or tdeming@txstatecatholic.org



The Immaculate Conception is a complex dogma that has interested theologians more than the ordinary faithful. Many people still wrongly assume that the Immaculate Conception refers to the conception of Christ. In fact, it refers to the belief that Mary, by special divine favor, was without sin from the moment she was conceived. The main stumbling block for many Catholics is original sin. Today we are simply less and less aware of original sin. And without that awareness, the Im-

maculate Conception makes no sense. Through the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, God was present and moving in Mary's life from the earliest moments. God's grace is greater than sin; it overpowers sin and death. When we honor the Mother of God under the title "Immaculate Conception", we recognize in her a model of purity, innocence, trust, childlike curiosity, reverence, and respect, living peacefully alongside a mature awareness that life isn't simple. It's so rare to find both reverence and sophistication, idealism and realism, purity, innocence and passion, inside the same person as we find in Mary. Something inside us yearns always for innocence, purity, freshness and trust. If we lose these we find ourselves cynical and disillusioned with an unhappiness that comes precisely from having been around, from having had our eyes opened, from having knowledge without innocence.

We need to hold that innocence and experience in a proper tension. Mary, Mother of the Lord teaches us how to do just that. In Mary we have an image of humanity and divinity at home. God is indeed comfortable in our presence and we in God's. As we celebrate Mary under the title of "Immaculate Conception," let us give thanks to God for the graces, blessings, messages and meaning of Lourdes. They continue to work many miracles throughout the world today.

-Fr. Thomas Rosica, CSB
CEO Salt and Light Catholic Television Network

SECOND COLLECTION

12/2-12/9

MATCHING GIFT WEEK



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Saturday, December 8th

12/7 Vigil Mass at 5:15pm
12/8 Mass at 10am

Community Christmas Party

Fri., Dec. 7th at 6pm in our Lobby. Everyone is welcome! B.Y.O.B. The main dish will be provided by a generous parishioner. Please bring a side or dessert item to share. Don't forget your White Elephant gift! (\$15 limit)

WOW: WOMEN OF WISDOM

Meets today Sun., Dec. 2nd at 11:30am in the Library. All women are welcome!

AVERAGE SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE

NOVEMBER

10AM, 196, 5PM, 127 & 7:30PM, 138

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Advent begins Dec. 3rd
Penance Service at

Our Lady of Wisdom
Mon., Dec. 3rd

ALL services begin at 7pm

Buda, Wed., Dec. 5th
(Santa Cruz)

Johnson City, Thu., Dec. 6th
(Good Shepherd)

Blanco, Tue., Dec. 11th
(St. Ferdinand)

Dripping Springs, Thu., Dec. 20th
(St. Martin De Porres)

thank you

A Heartfelt thanks to those of you who helped gather and distribute clothing and food to our homeless here in San Marcos. We gathered many bags of clothes and food and distributed them to smiling faces, handshakes and many tears. Thank you for your help.

-Alyssa & Lena

Stewardship Update

There is a lot of good news in our fall newsletter (find one in your mailbox)

Matching Gift Week
Dec. 2nd- 9th
GOAL \$25,000

If you have any questions about how to maximize your year end giving, or how to make matching gift week an even bigger, contact Tom Deming tdeming@txstatecatholic.org or 512-738-5920.

FORMED

Online platform providing access to Catholic resources from providers including Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press, Catholic Answers, etc. To login. txstatecatholic.formed.org mobile app access code: PFNKTF

Bulletin Submissions
bulletin@txstatecatholic.org

Send content, questions, suggestions, etc.
Deadline: Wednesdays 5pm

WE PRAY

Please join us in prayer for the members of our parish in need of healing and spiritual support.

"Pray for one another...effective prayer can accomplish much." James 5:16