

St. John Parish

126 Hickory Street
Strawn, TX 76475

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m. (English),
Reconciliation: Before Mass

++Feast Day of the Week++

St. Bernadette was born in Lourdes, France on January 7, 1844. Her parents were very poor and she was the first of nine children. She was baptized at St. Pierre's, the local parish church, on January 9. As a toddler, Bernadette contracted cholera and suffered extreme asthma. Unfortunately, she lived the rest of her life in poor health.

On Thursday, February 11, 1858, fourteen-year-old Bernadette was sent with her younger sister and a friend to gather firewood, when a very beautiful lady appeared to her above a rose bush in a grotto called Massabielle (Tuta de Massavielha).

The woman wore blue and white and smiled at Bernadette before making the sign of the cross with a rosary of ivory and gold. Bernadette fell to her knees, took out her own rosary and began to pray. Bernadette later described the woman as "uo petito damizelo," meaning "a small young lady. Though her sister and friend claimed they were unable to see her, Bernadette knew what she saw was real.

Three days later, Bernadette, her sister Marie, and other girls returned to the grotto, where Bernadette immediately knelt, saying she could see "aquero" again. She fell into a trance and one girl threw holy water at the niche and another threw a rock that shattered on the ground. It was then that the apparition disappeared.

On February 18, Bernadette said "the vision" asked her to return to the grotto each day for a fortnight. With each visit, Bernadette saw the Virgin Mary and the period of daily visions became known as "la Quinzaine sacrée," meaning "holy fortnight." When Bernadette began to visit the grotto, her parents were embarrassed and attempted to stop her, but were unable to do so. On February 25, Bernadette claimed to have had a life-changing vision.

The vision had told her "to drink of the water of the spring, to wash in it and to eat the herb that grew there" as an act of penance. The next day, the grotto's muddy waters had been cleared and fresh clear water flowed.

On March 2, at the thirteenth of the apparitions, Bernadette told her family the lady said "a chapel should be built and a procession formed."

During her sixteenth vision, which Bernadette claims to have experienced for over an hour, was on March 25. Bernadette claimed she had asked the woman her name, but her question was only met with a smile. Bernadette asked again, three more times, and finally the woman said, "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Though many townspeople believed she had indeed been seeing the Holy Virgin, Bernadette's story created a division in her town. Many believed she was telling the truth, while others believed she had a mental illness and demanded she be put in a mental asylum. Some believed Bernadette's visions meant she needed to pray for penance.

Church authorities and the French government rigorously interviewed the girl, and by 1862 they confirmed she spoke truth. Since Bernadette first caused the spring to produce clean water, 69 cures have been verified by the Lourdes Medical Bureau, and after what the Church claimed were "extremely rigorous scientific and medical examinations," no one was able to explain what caused the cures.

-Visit catholic.org for more on St. Bernadette

St. Rita Parish

1109 Blackwell Road
Ranger, TX 76470

Sunday Mass: 8:00 a.m. (English)
Reconciliation: Half Hour before Mass

St. Francis Xavier Parish

Halbryan and Foch Street
Eastland, TX 76448

Sunday Mass: 9:45 a.m. (Spanish)
Reconciliation: Half Hour before Mass

<http://stfranciseastland.org/>

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish

1108 Avenue F
Cisco, TX 76437

Sunday Mass: 11:30 a.m. (English)
Reconciliation: After Mass

www.cisoholyrosary.com



Parochial Administrator: Father Reehan Antony

Parish Office Telephone: 254-647-3163.

If you need a priest (Fr. Reehan) in an emergency (hospital, etc.),
please call 682-207-8557



Weekday Events in Your Parish/Eventos Durante la Semana de su Parroquia

St. Francis, Eastland	Monday – Rosario (Rosary in Spanish), 7 p.m. Tuesday – Estudio Biblico (Bible Study in Spanish), 7:30 p.m. Friday – Oracion (Evening Prayer), 7 p.m.
Holy Rosary, Cisco	Wednesday – Rosary 9 a.m., then coffee & donuts 1 st Wednesday – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Rosary Sunday – Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew, 5 p.m.



Calendar of Events/Calendario de Eventos

April 16	Easter Sunday. See note for mass times.
April 22	6 th Annual North Texas Catholic Men's Conference, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Grapevine. Please visit www.ntxcmc.org .
May 6	St. Rita's Altar Society Garage Sale

THANK YOU!!!

A big thank you to all the group who helped with the way of the cross during lent. Persons who helped during Holy Week and Easter. God Bless.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday- St. Rita- 8am
Wednesday- St. John- 6:45pm
Thursday- St. Francis Xavier- 7pm
Friday- Holy Rosary- 9am

Second Collection

Next weekend we have a second collection. It is for CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL. Please be generous.

HOUSE BLESSING

IF YOU LIKED TO HAVE YOUR HOUSE BLESSED PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.

STEWARDSHIP

April 8-9, 2017

St. Francis.	933.00
St. John.	693.00
St. Rita.	1,366.00
Holy Rosary.	1,439.00

May God bless you for your generosity.

Mass Intentions

Holy Rosary—For the repose of the Soul of Ernest Hubnik. Requested by: Paulett Foster.
St. Rita—For the repose of the Soul of Mary Wachsmann. Requested by: Pauline Scheuren.
Holy Rosary—For the repose of the Soul of Tommy Brock. Requested by: Pauline Scheuren.
St. John—Mass requested for Anton Frerich. Requested by: Pauline Scheuren

St. Rita Altar Society Garage. Sale

When: Saturday, May 6th 7:30 to 4:00
Where: St. Rita Church Hall
Donations Accepted: Items in usable condition If possible, please price. Will pick up. Please call Janie 631-5622 or Martha 433-9393

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter egg hunt after each mass on Easter Sunday!

'So it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead'

-Luke 24:46