

O Holy Night



DECEMBER 25TH, 2016 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 31ST – JANUARY 1ST

5:30 PM MASS

No Deacon

Lector: HM Kreitz
Lay Ministers: L. & M. Lockhart & P. Thrift
Greeters: B. Goonan & C. Ramm
Altar Servers: T. Lockhart, H. Musquiz,
A. Marin & M. Ramm

7:30 AM MASS

No Deacon

Lector: R. Schigut
Lay Ministers: P. & K. Cameron & P. Proctor
Greeters: J. Hattemer, R. & J. Bruggman
Altar Servers: R. McNeill, D. Nguyen,
A. & V. Lucksinger

9:15AM MASS

Deacon Barney

Lector: B. Dolgener
Lay Ministers: R. & L. Luna
Greeters: A. Pechal, W. & E. Wilde
Altar Servers: J. & R. Dolgener, T. Bennett &
J. Garcia

11:00 AM MASS

No Deacon

Lector: JA Mason
Lay Ministers: P. Engbrock, J. Oakes, J. Dudley
Greeters: D. & K. Frei & N. Moreno
Altar Servers: A. Atkins, A. Lambert, MB Garcia,
A. Tavernier

COMMUNION CALLS January 1ST, 2016

R. Schigut, P. Engbrock, P. Proctor, J. Dudley,
L. Lockhart, C. Hussey, R. & L. Luna, C. Oakes

December 26TH – January 1ST

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	12:10PM †Donald Viator
Wednesday	7:00AM †Donald Viator
Thursday	7:00AM †Pearlie Faichtinger
Friday	12:10PM †Andrew Mireles
Saturday	7:30AM †Ervin Jansing 5:30PM †Antone & Mary Kubacak
Sunday	7:30AM †1 st Lt. David Britt 9:15AM Sr. Apalonia Benevidez 11:00AM For the People

YOUR GIFT TO GOD

December 18, 2016

Sunday Collection	\$	6744.01
Children's Collection	\$	25.00
Retired Clergy	\$	110.00
Generations to Come	\$	150.00
Flower Donations	\$	295.75
School Fund	\$	180.00
Building Fund	\$	60.00
CCHD	\$	69.00
Holy Christmas	\$	75.00
Total	\$	7708.76

Our second collection today is for Holy Christmas.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

God could have come among us in any way he chose, but his great love for us led him to be born within a family in humble circumstances. This can give great hope to us in our trying times. Our celebration of Christmas reminds us that even though this world can still be oppressed by the darkness of war, poverty and injustice, the peace of God's Kingdom is really here. The light of the Messiah shines through our words and acts of compassion, love, and faithfulness. We could not know God as God until He revealed Himself to us by sending His Son. Jesus Christ came to all who would believe in him. He is the exact representation of his Father's being, hidden from us through the ages. Today we celebrate the comfort and salvation coming from God to us and people everywhere.

In Luke's account of the birth of Jesus, the good news is first proclaimed to lowly shepherds, visited by an angel of the Lord. It is the nature of this child, Jesus Christ, who was born in history, to reverse the orders of power. The one who is the mighty warrior and conqueror of the nations is a child, one who rules with peace and integrity. It is the child as the weak and voiceless one, the one who has neither power nor legal rights, who will shake the empire. It is through the gift of this child who is given to us in the middle of the night that we have hope and we continue to pass this hope from generation to generation. May God always find us waiting and longing for his return, and may you have a very blessed Christmas and peace filled new year.

God bless,

Fr. Steve

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

For unto us is born this day a Savior! In response to so great a love, only the gift of my whole self will do. You have given us Yourself, dear Lord: in love and thanksgiving, I commit myself afresh to you. today.



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

For staff to celebrate Christmas with family & friends, the Parish Office will be closed: Dec. 26th & 27th

CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Thank you to the following families who are taking the chalice to their homes for a week to pray for vocations.

- Jan. 8 B. & D. Hickman 7:30am
- Jan. 15 J. & J. Hutka 9:15am
- Jan. 22 D. & J. Shepard 7:30am



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration is canceled for Wednesday, December 21st and December 28th. The normal schedule will resume on January 4th. Consider setting aside this special time as part of your New Year's resolution. There are several times throughout the day we have need for attendees. Please call the Parish Office to sign up for an hour. On the First Friday of each month Adoration is from 7:00pm to 8:00pm



St. Mary's Week Ahead

Date	Event	Location	Time
Monday Dec. 26 th	Quilting Angels	Ave Maria Building	9:00am
Tuesday Dec. 27 th	Knitting & Crocheting	Ave Maria Building	12:30pm
	Men of Joseph	Ave Maria Building	7:00pm
Wednesday Dec. 28 th	NO Adoration	Church	7:30am
	Religious Education	NO Classes	6:30pm
Thursday Dec. 29 th	Choir Practice (9:15am Mass)	Church	6:15pm
	Choir Practice (5:30pm & 7:30am Masses)	Church	7:00pm
	RCIA	NO Class	7:00pm

GRAB YOUR CALENDAR SAVE THESE DATES

Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter

15th Annual Fundraising Banquet is Jan. 27 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at St. Paul Chong Hasang Catholic Church, Parish Hall. See <http://ladyoftheangels.org/> for updates and additional information.

Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day is Jan. 28. The day will include a prayer vigil, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church at 10am, March and Rally. For more information, contact Luisa De Poo at (512) 949-2487 or luisa-depoo@austindiocese.org.

FOCUS ON FAITH FORMATION



Classes resume Wednesday Jan. 11th at 6:30 pm.

This is a change in the original calendar.

Sacrament Prep. Parent & Child Mtg. Sunday, Jan. 8th, 1:00 – 3:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Bring your book with ALL chapters completed. If your child is in Religious Education and is still in need of Baptism, call Patricia St. Amour as soon as possible so arrangements can be made.

To Everyone, Merry Christmas! What does Christmas mean? Of course, it means that our loving God gave us the greatest gift possible: his own Son. God gave us a savior, the Prince of Peace, the promise of eternal life -- and all the wisdom, peace and comfort the little child Jesus would grow to give us as a very way of life and a pathway to God.

This gift that changed humanity forever came to a couple without much means, without the ability to lavish presents on anyone, in the form of an innocent child born in a simple manger full of animals and straw. All they really had was each other and a love that gave them the drive and confidence to endure all, and to do God's will. There is a lesson for us all in this. God could just as well have chosen a rich woman to give birth to Jesus, but he chose a poor one. God could just as easily have ensured Jesus was born in the finest beds surrounded by silk sheets and servants. God could just as easily have chosen to make life easy for Mary and Joseph, but instead they faced many obstacles and hardships before and after Jesus was born.

I think the lesson of this first Christmas is that the trappings of this world do not really matter in the end. Yes, we are blessed to have them and should be grateful for every comfort and for the security they bring, but none of that matters in the larger scheme of things. Just ask any modern-day family struggling to make ends meet and who survive on little but the warmth of their love for each other. May Our Savior Lord Jesus Christ bless you and your family today and always.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark

<http://catholiccourier.com/commentary/bishops-column/dont-lose-sight-of-christmas-true-meaning/#sthash.Jg1qjP5Y.dpuf>



FALCON'S CORNER

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, students and families of St. Mary's Catholic School I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. We are so grateful to our parish for your continued support and love for our school. You are our Christmas gift!

With the beginning of 2017 comes the opening of enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year. If you are interested in quality Catholic education, please give us a call and we can set up a tour. School reopens on January 4th. Allow us to share the good news of Catholic education with you. You'll be glad you did!

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year begins on February 1st.

God bless you.

Theresa Wyles, Principal 254.778.8141

Merry Christmas!



The Office staff wishes our Parish family a peaceful Christmas celebration. May the "tidings of great Joy" announced to shepherds by the angels two thousand years ago, live in your hearts today.

Amanda Arney and David Alexander



CEDARBRAKE RETREAT CENTER HIRING FOR CARETAKER

Full time position is responsible for setting up rooms, greeting guests, facility maintenance and security of buildings. Living quarters for caretaker are provided. To apply or for more information, see austindiocese.applicantpro.com/jobs/

Transformed by Faith at Cedarbrake

Spend the day reflecting on the gifts of five women whose courageous actions impacted the world. Their fearlessness and faithfulness changed lives because they embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Learn about Sojourner Truth, Thea Bowman, Maya Angelou, Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman. Contact Cedarbrake Retreat Center at 254.780.2436 for more information or to register.

A New Way to Begin a New Year

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held Dec. 31 from 11:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Marian Shrine of Our Lady of Schoenstatt in Austin. Visit www.schoenstatt.us for more information.

Dates: Saturday, December 31, 2016 - 11:30pm

End Time: Sunday, January 1, 2017 - 12:30am