

# HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

of CORN HILL



Pope Francis  
Vatican City State



Bishop Joe Vásquez  
Diocese of Austin



First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, A.D. 2023



## Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday	Dec 2	5:00 PM	†Emma Ann Rodriguez, †Lucille DelSignore, †Johnnie Simek
Sunday	Dec 3	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Pro Populo †Dorothy Klepac, †Antonio Estorga, †James & Mary Ziegler
Tuesday	Dec 5	6:00 PM	†Kathleen Valenta, †Greg Maney, †Christopher Bigan
Wednesday	Dec 6	6:30 PM	Members & Mission of the Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas, †Virginia & William McMaster
Thursday	Dec 7	7:00 AM	Mark Lackey (healing), †Dolores Viktorin, †Fr. Victor Goertz
<b>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation</b>			
Friday	Dec 8	7:00 AM	Pro Populo
		12:00 Noon	†Stanley Havelka
		7:00 PM	†Paul Straka, †Terry Simonton
Saturday	Dec 9	7:30 AM	Asher Nicols & Family, Robert M. Williams (healing), †Robert & Leona Brenek
Saturday	Dec 9	5:00 PM	Pro Populo
Sunday	Dec 10	8:30 AM	†Dorothy Klepac, †Cyril & Eileen Rosipal, †Frankie & Barbara Simek
		10:30 AM	†Liv/Dec Members of Louis & Mary Zrubek, †Deacon Gene Davis

## Mass Ministry Schedule for Dec 5 – 10

**Tuesday, December 5, 6:00 PM:**

Altar Server/Lector: Leo Bringman

**Wednesday, December 6, 6:30 PM:**

Altar Server: Thomas & Ben C., Isaiah O.,  
Mikey B., Landon Benuck

Lector: Kitz Crawford

EMHC: Leslie Allen, Josh Jacobs

**Thursday, December 7, 7:00 AM:**

Altar Server/Lector: Pinto Nemece

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Holy Day of Obligation.**

**Friday, December 8, 7:00 AM:**

Altar Server: Leo Bringman

Lector: Monica Sherek

EMHC: Ray Nemece

Gift Bearers: Clawson Family

Head Usher: Bill Sherek

**12 Noon:**

Altar Server: Thomas & Ben C., Leslie Allen

Lector: Laura Hill

EMHC: Spencer Chaney

Gift Bearers: Spencer Chaney Family

Head Usher: Stephanie Wright

**7:00 PM: (Incense)**

Altar Server: Stefeks (3), Preston Snook

Lector: Chris Stefek

EMHC: Brandon Danek, Josh Jacobs

Gift Bearers: Snook family

Head Usher: Frank Knapek

**Saturday, December 9, 5:00 PM**

Altar Server: Martin & Isaiah O.

Lector: Monica Sherek

EMHC: Janine Nemece

Gift Bearers: Mike & Janine Nemece

Head Usher: Bill Sherek

**Sunday, December 10, 8:30 AM:**

Altar Servers: Joseph & Adelaide B,  
Ava H., Mikey B.

Lector: Louis Brousseau

EMHC: Brandon Danek, Maria Messing

Gift Bearers: Pinto & Lucille Nemece

Head Usher: Frank Knapek

**Sunday, December 10, 10:30 AM:**

Altar Servers: Michael & Jonah S.,  
Luke A., Arian Perez

Lector: Kitz Crawford

EMHC: Daniel & Hilda Perez

Gift Bearers: Jim & Margie Foley

Head Usher: Bill McDonald

**EMHC to Shut-Ins: Dec 10**

**Route 1: Brandon Danek**

**Route 2: Josh Jacobs**

## Vocations Crucifix Prayer Campaign

Open to all parishioners. To sign-up,  
call the parish office.

**Dec 3 – 10: Brousseau Family**

**Dec 10 – 17: Chaney Family**

✠ Fr. Stephen Nestrsta ✠

Address: 8626 FM 1105, Jarrell, Texas 76537

Phone: 512-863-3020

Email: mainoffice@holytrinityofcornhill.org

Website: www.holytrinityofcornhill.org

Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Administrative Assistant: Monica Snook 512-863-3020

Bulletin Announcement Deadline: Tuesdays @ 2:30 pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Reconciliation: Sat: 3:30–4:40 pm; Sun: 7:30–8:10 am

& Wed: 5:30-6:10 pm (or by appt.)

## Parish Contacts & Resources

Director of Faith Formation: Virginia Loza-Lee 737-215-1042

Financial Bookkeeper: Rebecca Melend 512-863-3020

Parish Activity Center (PAC) Rentals: Parish Office

PAC Manager: Vacant position

Cemetery Information: Parish Office

Cemetery Director: Johnny Martinka 512-966-4301

Cemetery Maintenance: Scott Templeton 512-845-0221

Music Ministry / Choir: Ronnie Simek 512-630-5074

Finance Council: Tommy Sladeczek 512-635-3496

Pastoral Council: Brandon Danek 512-948-5292

Pro-Life Prayer Group: Kathryn Streadwick 254-721-4530

Knights of Columbus: James Von Der Vellen 512-868-6415

Catholic Daughters of the Americas: Monica Sherek 512-864-4748

Conf. of Christian Mothers: Kitz Crawford 512-635-5967

Religious Articles Cabinet: Deanna Fojtik 254-217-2268

CEF Enrollments: Janine Nemece 512-289-9242

K.J.T. Society #55: John Danek 512-819-4362

KJZT Society #15: Belinda Beyer 254-760-0255

Catholic Life Insurance #50: Tommy Sladeczek 512-635-3496

Marriage Preparation: Contact the priest before setting a  
wedding date and at least 9-12 months before the desired date.

Baptisms: Contact Virginia Loza-Lee for questions and  
requirements (737-215-1042)

## Last Week's Collection(s)

Thanksgiving	\$ 1,715.00
Weekly Collection	\$ 5,183.13
Online Donations	\$ 1,029.00
Building Fund	\$ 2,957.00

## Altar Flowers

**Reminder: No flowers are needed during the  
Advent or Christmas Seasons (Dec 3 – Jan 9).**

## This Week at a Glance

Sat/Sun, Dec 2/3 – CEF cards available after all Masses

Sun, Dec 3 – Hospitality Sunday Breakfast after 8:30 am Mass in PAC

Mon, Dec 4 – Senior Citizens Supper @ 6:30 in PAC

Tues, Dec 5 – Holy Hour of Reparation @ 4:30 pm in church

Tues, Dec 5 – RCIA @ 7:00 pm in RE Bldg

Wed, Dec 6 – CCE classes begin 6:15 pm

Saint Nicholas Celebration following Mass in PAC

Wed, Dec 6 – Choir practice @ 7:00 pm in church

Thurs, Dec 7 – Adoration 3:00 – 9:00 pm

Fri, Dec 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Masses at 7 AM, 12 Noon & 7 PM

Sat/Sun, Dec 9/10 – Priest Retirement Fund second collection

## Rosary for Life

Open to all parishioners. To sign-up, call the  
parish office.

**Dec 3 – 10: Janet Havelka**

**Dec 10 – 17: Helen Havelka**

*The Season of Advent – our time of preparation for the birth of our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ – has begun.*

**St. William – Round Rock** – Wednesday, December 6, 7 - 9 PM; **Sts. Cyril & Methodius – Granger** – Wednesday, December 6, 7 PM  
**Holy Trinity of Corn Hill – Sunday, December 10, 5 PM**; **St. Mary's – Taylor** – Thursday, December 14, 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON  
**St. Joseph – Manor** – Thursday, December 14, 6:00 – 8:30 PM; **St. John Vianney – Round Rock** – Friday, December 15, 7 PM  
**Our Lady of Guadalupe – Taylor** – Sunday, December 17, 6:00 – 8:00 PM  
**St. Helen – Georgetown** – Tuesday, December 19, 9:00 - 11:00 AM & 7:00 – 9:00 PM  
**St. William – Round Rock** – Wednesday, December 20, 1 – 6:00 PM  
**St. Elizabeth – Pflugerville** – Thursday, December 21, 7 PM; **St. Patrick – Hutto** – Friday, December 22, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

**Catholic Services Appeal update!** We have been informed by the diocese that our parish has exceeded our goal of \$32,000 and have a current total pledge of \$33,638. We have reached 105% of our parish goal! Thank you and may God bless you all for your generosity!

We congratulate and welcome **Riley Cole Danek** (son of Brandon & Mariah Danek) into the Catholic Church and the parish family through the Sacrament of Baptism.

All visitors and parishioners are invited for **Hospitality Sunday** this weekend, Sunday, December 3 in the PAC Bldg after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. We appreciate the Marquis Family for preparing the breakfast.

Our monthly **Senior Citizens' Supper** will be held this Monday, December 4 at 6:30 pm. in the PAC Bldg. Thank you to the Sherek Family for preparing the meal.

The **2024 Collection Envelopes** are available in the new Choir Room (where the temporary confessional was). If you do not have a box in there and want one, please put your name on the list provided. If you are now making your donations online and no longer need a box of envelopes, please let the office know.

**Clerical Endowment Fund (CEF) Christmas Cards** will be available after all Masses on the weekends of December 2 & 3 and December 9 & 10. Cost of each card per person is \$2.00. You may also contact Janine Nemecek at 512-289-9242 for more information.

We will have a **second collection** next weekend (December 9/10) for the **Priest & Religious Retirement Fund**. This collection allows the opportunity to "give to those who have given a lifetime". This annual appeal benefits 32,000 elderly Catholic priests, sisters and brothers whose religious congregations lack adequate retirement funding.

**Marriage Anniversaries:** If, in 2023, you celebrated your 10, 15, 20, 25, etc., 50<sup>th</sup> or more, wedding anniversary, the Austin DCCW, together with our Bishop, Joe Vásquez, will honor these couples with a certificate. **Please sign-up by Sunday, December 10**, on the (gold) sheets in the foyer of the church and please **print clearly!** The certificates will be presented on the weekend of the Feast of the Holy Family.

**Holy Trinity Angel Tree** - 'Tis the season to help those in need, and you can do so by visiting our Angel Tree (which will be located in the church foyer). To participate, you will get a tag from the tree – purchase the item(s) listed – and then bring them to the church or the parish office – UNWRAPPED & with the tag - by the due-date of Sunday, December 10. For questions, contact Stephanie Wright (512-470-5204).

**Knights of Columbus (KC) – Holy Trinity Council:** There will be a KC meeting Thursday, December 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the PAC Bldg. All members are invited. All men interested in becoming a member of the KC, , are also invited and encouraged to attend. For questions or more information, contact James VonDerVellen (512-868-6415 or vondervellen1958@gmail.com).

**Food Drive:** You can make an impact on the lives of those in need in our immediate area. **The KJT is collecting food for the Jarrell Community Food Pantry.** Drop your food items in the boxes located in the foyer or south entrance of church. Monetary donations are also accepted and will be split between the food pantry and The Caring Place unless specified. Contact Helen Havelka (512-925-8371) if you have any questions. **The food drive ends next weekend.**

**If you would like to help decorate the church for the Christmas Season** with beautiful poinsettias --- in memory or honor of loved ones --- you may do so by completing and returning a "Christmas Flower Envelope" (located by the bulletins). Please turn in your envelope by Sunday, December 17th. All memorials will be announced in the December 24th bulletin.



Let the Youth make your  
**DECORATED CHRISTMAS COOKIES**  
\$15 a dozen  
Pick Up: Dec. 10  
to order:  
[htcdre@holytrinityofcornhill.org](mailto:htcdre@holytrinityofcornhill.org)



*it's a wrap*  
Let the Youth wrap your presents.

DROP OFF YOUR GIFTS AFTER THE  
8:30 OR 10:30 MASSES,  
DEC. 10. PICK UP BEFORE THE  
PENANCE SERVICE AT 5:00PM  
A GOOD WILL OFFERING WILL BE ACCEPTED

**December 31/January 1 Mass schedule change** – With the New Year beginning on a Monday, the Sunday, December 31 Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family will be at the regular 8:30 & 10:30 am times. The Masses for the Solemnity of Mary will be Sunday night, December 31 at 12:00 Midnight this year and Monday, January 1 8:30 & 10:30 am. There is NO vigil Mass on Sunday afternoon.

**Dear friends in Christ,**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Our new confessional in the back of the church is ready for use. When the green light is “on” it means the priest is in the confessional. When the red light is “on” it means that someone is going to confession at that time, so please do not enter the confessional. You may enter when red light is “off” or the door is open.

This weekend we begin the Season of Advent. The Advent Season is from Sunday, December 3, through the beginning of the Vigil Mass of Christmas on December 24. The Advent Season is a time of watching and waiting for the Birth of the Lord. It is a time of preparation. How are you going to prepare yourself during this time of Advent? **Our Advent Penance Service will be next Sunday, December 10 at 5:00 pm.** Four priests will be hearing confessions. Be sure to plan to make a good confession before you celebrate the Birth of the Lord at Christmas. Please check this bulletin for the **Penance Services** that have been scheduled at various parishes in our deanery. Try to attend with your family together to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation sometime during the Advent Season.

The Christmas Season begins on the evening of December 24 and continues until Monday, January 9, when we will celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. So, after Christmas Day on December 25, please do not say that Christmas is over, because, it has actually just begun. Too many Catholics and other Christians have given into the secular celebration of Christmas, a celebration that is completely absent of the presence of Jesus Christ, whose birthday we celebrate. Celebrate Advent as a time of preparation, make a good confession and spend extra time in prayer with your family.

During the Season of Advent we usually begin decorating our homes for Christmas. I always recommend that you wait until the Third Sunday of Advent, *Gaudete Sunday*, before you turn on your Christmas lights. Also, I encourage you to leave your tree and decorations up and your Christmas lights shining until the end of the Christmas Season on January 9. Let us truly celebrate Christmas during the entire Christmas Season. I also encourage parish organizations to have their Christmas parties during the Christmas Season and not during Advent. In the USA Santa Claus has only become an advertising gimmick. Instead of Santa coming to our parties, we should live the truth of our faith and have St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, come to our celebrations. His feast day is Wednesday, December 6. He is the one who brought gifts to the poor and needy of his day. Our faith is filled with wonderful traditions that have been handed down to us during the past 2000 years. The more we present our faith in the spirit and truth it is meant to teach, the more people will have a conversion of heart and think about the faith they have received. Try to celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas in your home. You may want to exchange a small gift on that day or maybe put a stocking up the night before and put a gift in it for your children before morning. You could put fruit in it and maybe a gold coin. Think of various ways you can celebrate this feast day. You can find a lot of ideas on the internet also. I know that you may be getting tired of my repeating this every year, but I feel that this is something that needs to be said and needs to be thought about.

In today's Gospel Jesus says: “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” Jesus is telling us that we must always be prepared for His Second Coming into the world and also for the day when we will leave this earth by our bodily death to stand before Him in judgment. As we all know, either one of these two events can happen at any second, any hour or any day. Are you ready? Are you watchful? Are you alert? Our Opening Prayer, the Collect, for this Mass says: “Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.” We all need a greater resolve to run forth to meet Jesus. We all need a greater resolve to be faithful to Him and to all His teachings. Many things in this world distract us from the Truths Jesus proclaimed. May we have the courage to accept His Truth and try to live it day-by-day. To be watchful and ready, and, to avoid the dangers of our distractions, we must pray daily, from our hearts, seeking a closer relationship with our Lord. Only then will we be ready to meet Him when he comes again.

Please pray for all the priests of the Diocese of Austin as we have an Advent Day of Prayer together this Tuesday, December 5.

**May all of you have a very blessed Advent Season.**

**In Christ, Fr. Stephen Nestrta, farář**

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**K ZAMYŠLENÍ:** V Markově evangeliu ukončuje Ježíš své veřejné vystoupení výzvou: „Bděte!“ V pěti závěrečných verších zazní třikrát. Pán z podobenství světil služebníkům příslušný úsek práce a moc či autoritu, aby své úkoly mohli plnit. Zvláštní důraz je položen na vrátného, u něj nejvíce záleží, aby na strážci neusnul. Mnohým z nás se vícekrát stalo, že jsme „usnuli na vavřínech“. Kristus těsně před svým zatčením burcuje, aby jeho následovníci nežili v naivním pocitu, že je všechno v klidu, že oni nenesou odpovědnost, že oni nemusejí nic... Ježíš nevolá po strachu, ale po připravenosti. Kola dějin se dala do pohybu a mohlo by se snadno stát, že pomyslňný vůz událostí nám ujede. (Vira.cz)

**Primer Domingo de Adviento:** El Adviento nos invita a esperar la llegada del Señor: a estar despiertos y vigilantes. El Señor llega a nuestro mundo y a nuestras vidas de maneras inesperadas, tal como lo hizo en Belén. Hoy, Él puede estar llegando a través del rostro, la voz, la necesidad de un extraño o un niño, de los pobres, o de nuestra propia familia. Nos ponemos en este día y durante esta temporada, en actitud de silencio y quietud, en expectativa llena de esperanza y en oración, para que en medio del ruido acelerado de la vida, no nos perdamos la llegada del Maestro ¿Qué puede usted hacer esta semana para estar despierto y vigilante esperando por el Señor?

## Are You Ready for Advent?

by Haley Stewart

**For most Americans, the days between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day are a time to be with family**, to be thankful for all we have, and to give whatever we can to those in need. There's certainly nothing wrong with that! But it's not news that Christmas has been secularized. For Christians, this season should be about so much more than what our culture offers us. Every year, I hear Christians bemoaning the secularization of Christmas—yet, the solution seems so simple. If we want Christmas to be a religious holiday for our families, the way to get beyond the red and green M&Ms and the hustle and bustle is to take the time to prepare ourselves spiritually. **To make Christmas mean something, we must observe the traditional season of Advent.**

The Church has such a beautiful rhythm of celebrating the various seasons of the Christian story. The four weeks before Christmas (a little after Thanksgiving until December 25th) is the season of Advent. Advent (not New Year's) is the beginning of the Christian Year and it's considered a 'little Lent.' It's quiet. It's somber. It's full of waiting and hoping. Just as there can be no real celebration of the Resurrection without the pain of Good Friday, there can be no real Christmas without the expectation of Advent.

St. Charles Borromeo writes, "Each year, as the Church recalls this mystery, she urges us to renew the memory of the great love God has shown us. This holy season teaches us that Christ's coming was not only for the benefit of his contemporaries; his power has still to be communicated to us all...The Church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come again. When we remove all obstacles to his presence he will come, at any hour and moment, to dwell spiritually in our hearts, bringing with him the riches of his grace."

Isn't that beautiful? But that kind of preparation doesn't just happen *to* us. We have a part to play. We have to offer this time to ready our hearts for Our Lord. If you really commit to observing Advent, your December is going to look very different.

For most American families, by the evening of December 25th, we have been eating, buying, Christmas music-listening, gift-giving, gift-receiving, tree-trimming, and cookie-baking for over a month. We're sick to death of it: *Get the tree out by the road! Take the decorations down the day after Christmas! Turn that blasted music off!*

If you observe Advent, before Christmas Day arrives you might not be tree-trimming and you might not be holiday-cheering. But, you will know every verse of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" by heart and you'll be itching to belt out "Joy to the World!" on Christmas morning. You'll be reflecting, reading, praying, and waiting. It will be a sacrifice. What will it look like for your family? You might decide to forego all the Christmas parties that happen during Advent. You might avoid the malls, which blare Christmas music starting in October. You might decide to keep gifts super simple, so that you're not doing any scrambling during the quiet of Advent and can, instead, focus on waiting for Jesus. The practicalities of how you decide to observe Advent will vary from family to family. But if you do set aside this time as a holy preparation, it's a surefire thing that in comparison to the bustle around you, your family will look quite odd.

Before you label me as the modern Ebenezer Scrooge, let me tell you a secret: We don't delay the merry-making because we hate the Christmas season: we observe Advent because we *love* Christmas.

If we observe the quiet Advent Season of expectation, then on Christmas Day, it will feel like CHRISTMAS! And it lasts for *twelve* days. It's a Christmas-lover's dream come true! We've been waiting and waiting and waiting. We've been lighting candles and watching the wax melt a little lower each night. We've been setting up a Jesse Tree and remembering God's story of Redemption for the world and how the Incarnation is the point on which it all spins. The tree-trimming, the carol-singing, the feasting, the celebrating — there are twelve whole days of it! We wait and wait through the long days of Advent like a pregnant woman in her last month. Then, when we celebrate the joyous Birth of Our Lord, it's time to kick up our heels! And we do. We really do.

As you contemplate what Advent will look like in your home, consider this inspiration from St. Charles Borromeo: "Beloved, now is the acceptable time spoken of by the Spirit, the day of salvation, peace and reconciliation: the great season of Advent. This is the time eagerly awaited by the patriarchs and prophets, the time that holy Simeon rejoiced at last to see. This is the season that the Church has always celebrated with special solemnity. We too should always observe it with faith and love, offering praise and thanksgiving to the Father for the mercy and love he has shown us in this mystery."

**Make your Advent season one of focus: Ignore the rushing and the bustling. Prayerfully prepare yourself for Jesus' coming. Christmas Day is approaching. Have you made room in your heart for the Christ Child?**