

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH of CORN HILL



Pope Francis
Vatican City State



Bishop Joe Vásquez
Diocese of Austin



Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, A.D. 2016



Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday	Dec 10	5:00 PM	Kip Heuertz (healing)
Sunday	Dec 11	8:30 AM	Pro Populo
Monday	Dec 12	7:00 AM	Conner, Marshall & Brielle Cooke
Tuesday	Dec 13	7:00 AM	Members of the Hein family
Wednesday	Dec 14	6:30 PM	†Joan Schwertner
Thursday	Dec 15	7:00 AM	†Christian Hill
Friday	Dec 16	6:00 PM	†Johnnie Simek
Saturday	Dec 17	7:30 AM	Members of the Cook family
Saturday	Dec 17	5:00 PM	†Joe & Margaret Vrazel
Sunday	Dec 18	8:30 AM	Pro Populo

Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate Altar Flowers in memory or honor of loved ones, you may do so by turning in an Altar Flower Envelope (by bulletins or from website).
Please Remember: No flowers are needed during the Advent & Christmas Seasons.

Last Week's Collection(s)

December 4: Second Sunday of Advent: \$6,420.00
December 8: Immaculate Conception: \$1,341.75

Parish Prayer Campaign for Vocations

is open to all parishioners. To sign-up, contact the parish office.

December 11 - 17: Louis & Louise Straka

December 18 - 24: Tim & Gwyn Vrabel family

CEF - Spiritual Bouquets

make appropriate gifts for any occasion (birthday, anniversary, death, graduations, sacraments, etc). You can contact our parish CEF chairperson, Janine Nemeck (512-863-6892), for enrollments any time. Donations given benefit the education of our diocesan seminarians.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24: 5:00 p.m. and Midnight

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25: 8:30 a.m.

New Year's: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

New Year's Eve: Saturday, December 31: 5:00 p.m. & 11:30 p.m.

New Year's Day: Sunday, January 1: 8:30 a.m.

✠ Fr. Stephen Nestrta ✠

Address: 8626 FM 1105, Jarrell, Texas 76537

Phone: 512-863-3020

Email: holytrinitycc@yahoo.com

Website: www.holytrinityofcornhill.org

Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10 am - 3 pm

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Klepac 254-760-4436

Bulletin Announcement Deadline: Tuesdays @ 3:00 pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday @ 5:00 pm & Sunday @ 8:30 am

Reconciliation: Sat: 4:00-4:40 pm; Sun: 7:45-8:10 am;
& Wed: 5:45-6:10 pm (or by appt.)

Parish Contacts & Resources

Dir Rel Educ & Bookkeeping: Lucille D'Elia 512-746-4317

Parish Activity Center (PAC) Rentals & Info: Parish Office

Cemetery Information: Parish Office

Cemetery Director: Johnny Martinka 512-966-4301

Cemetery Maintenance: Ken Loudermilk 512-869-7351

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

Finance Council: Tommy Sladeczek 512-746-5881

Pastoral Council: Helen Havelka 512-869-8715

Pro-Life Prayer Group: Chris Garlasco 860-689-3021

Men's Prayer Group: Pete Zenner 512-863-4038

Conf of Christian Mothers: Lucille Nemeck 254-527-3615

K.J.T. Society #55: John Danek 512-746-4168

K.J.Z.T. Society #15: Dorothy Klepac 512-746-2902

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

Mass Ministry Reminders

Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 PM:

Altar Servers: Jenna D, Abby H, Joseph B, Preston S

Lector: Jennifer Marquis

EMHC: Heuertz

Gift Bearers: 2nd Grade

Saturday, December 17, 5:00 PM:

Altar Servers: John & Maria Bruce

Lector: Jill Horner

EMHC: Patsy Hightower, Irene Cavanaugh, Keith Youngpeter

Gift Bearers: Bill & Linda Montreuil

Head Usher: Donald Tschoerner

Sunday, December 18, 8:30 AM:

Altar Servers: Carter Marquis, Lucas Beyer, Caleb & Amy Stefek

Lector: Kelly Godfrey

EMHC: Johnny Martinka, James Nemeck, Ray Nemeck

Gift Bearers: Billy & Belinda Beyer

Head Usher: Jerry David

EM to Shut-ins: Sunday, December 18: James Nemeck

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Thursday in the church from 3:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Come and spend some time with the Lord.

This Week at a Glance

Sat/Sun, December 10/11:	--Second Collection
Sunday, December 11:	--Advent Penance Service
Monday, December 12:	--Men's Prayer Group
Tuesday, December 13:	--RCIA Class
Wednesday, December 14:	--CCE Classes
Thursday, December 15:	--Pro-Life Adoration
Sunday, December 18:	--Decorate Church for Christmas

Please take the time to make a good confession during Advent. The following are several opportunities in our area:

Holy Trinity – Corn Hill – Sun, Dec 11, 5 PM; St. Mary – Taylor – Sun, Dec 11, 6 PM
St. Joseph – Manor – Wed, Dec 14, 7 PM; St. John Vianney – Round Rock – Thurs, Dec 15, 7 PM
St. William – Round Rock – Mon, Dec 19, 7 PM and Wed, Dec 21, 1 PM – 6 PM

Catholic Services Appeal Update for our Parish

Our Parish Goal: \$22,000.00 vs. Our Parish Pledges: \$15,987.26

To date, 76 of 250 of our parish families have made a pledge ... with an average pledge amount of \$210.36.

As you can see, we have not met our CSA goal for this year. Only 76 pledges have been received from our parish. Let us meet our goal and have 100% participation from our parish. Please make your pledge if you have not already done so.

Catholic Social Teaching Corner: December 10/11 - Third Sunday of Advent: This Sunday, the readings tell us where to look for the Lord's coming: when the blind see and the lame walk; and when the dead are raised to life and the poor have good news preached to them., In our day, the Lord's presence is seen when walls of oppression fall, when enemies seek avenues of fellowship and trust, when the poor and homeless find care and the forgotten are included. The Kingdom is among us, are we acting as Kingdom people?

We will have a **second collection this weekend for the Retired Religious & Clergy Medical Fund.** Aging religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals and agencies — often for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide prescription medications, nursing care and more.

K.J.T. #55 will meet today (Sunday, December 11) in the **RE Bldg**, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. They will be having election of officers.

The **Men's Prayer Group will meet** this Monday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the RE Bldg. Contact Pete Zenner (512-863-4038).

RCIA: Class this Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the RE Bldg. Discussion: the Sacraments.

CCE: Class this Wednesday, December 14, from 6:15 – 8:00 p.m. For more information, contact Lucille D'Elia (512-318-5149 or htdre@yahoo.com). **ATTN: Confirmation 1 & 2 Students:** we will be decorating the church for Christmas next Sunday, December 18, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Please make every effort to be there to help.

Join us for **Pro-Life Adoration** this Thursday, December 15, from 3:00 – 9:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come – when they can and for however long they can stay – to spend some time with Our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament.

Thank you to all who are participating in our **Advent Giving Tree** Program. Please remember to bring your gifts UNWRAPPED & with the tag - by the due-date written on the tag. For questions, contact Lucille D'Elia (512-318-5149). Thank you for your generosity.

Food Drive Ends Next Weekend (Sunday, December 18): You can help area families have a Hunger-Free Christmas by placing a non-perishable item in the food drive boxes located in the foyer and at the south entrance of the church. Every can, box or bag of food makes a difference. Monetary donations are also accepted. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Havelka (512-869-8715).

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 NEXT Sunday, December 18. Memorials will be announced in the Christmas bulletin.

Sign up by NEXT Sunday, December 18, for Marriage Anniversaries: If, in 2016, you celebrated your 10, 15, 20, 25, etc., 50th or more, wedding anniversary, the Austin DCCW, together with our Bishop, Joe Vásquez, will honor these couples with a certificate. There is a (blue) sign-up sheet in the foyer of the church. Please make sure you **fill in all of the information and print clearly** so that we don't misspell your names! The certificates will be presented the weekend of the Feast of the Holy Family (Dec 31/Jan 1).

ATTN: ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS! The annual **Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)** will be held at the Waco Convention Center on January 27-29, and you are invited! Cost is \$100 and includes your hotel stay plus most of your meals. Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church and are due by NEXT December 18. For information, or to turn in registration forms, contact Monica Sherek (512-864-4748).

The **Confraternity of Christian Mothers will meet on Wednesday, December 21**, at 6:00 p.m. in the RE Bldg to pray the monthly Conference Prayers and prepare Christmas 'Goody Bags'. No business meeting will be held, but they will break to attend the 6:30 p.m. Mass together before preparing the bags. All ladies are invited to join them.

The **2017 Contribution Envelopes are now available** in the foyer of the church. If you are not currently using these envelopes and would like to, please write your name on the sheet provided and we will put one out for you.

Parish Registration: If you are new to our parish and would like to become a member, please complete and turn in a Registration Form (yellow sheets by the bulletins, or print one from our website). AND ... if you are a parishioner and you change your address, phone number, etc, please let us know so that our records are up to date. For any questions, don't hesitate to contact the parish office.

Please remember: your status as a registered parishioner (or member) of our parish is dictated by the following: completing and turning in a Registration Form (located by bulletins or from our website) to be kept on file in the parish office; your spiritual and physical contributions to the parish; and your financial contributions to the parish (either by check or by contribution envelope). Be aware that some of our parishioner "benefits" (i.e. discounted rental rates and/or free facility use, free cemetery burial, etc) are directly linked to your parishioner status. Questions / Concerns ? ... call the parish office.

We are in need of a **Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) Coordinator**. This would be a perfect opportunity for a husband and wife, or maybe a couple of friends who could tag team, to minister to the youth (high school students) of our parish. If you are interested or would like more information, please talk to Fr. Stephen.

We are also always in need of more **Mass Ministers** (altar servers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of holy communion – both at Mass and to shut-ins, and head ushers). For more information, or to volunteer, please contact the parish office.

Dear friends in Christ,

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent. "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice! The Lord is near!" (Philippians 4:4-5) This verse, taken from today's entrance antiphon and from today's second reading, expresses the theme of this Sunday's readings.

Listed in this bulletin are the Penance Services of the parishes in our deanery. Please plan on going to Confession sometime before Christmas. **Here at Holy Trinity, we will have our Penance Service this Sunday, December 11, at 5 pm.** It is one of the best ways that you can prepare your soul to celebrate the birth of the Savior. Our being cleansed of all sin in the Sacrament of Reconciliation brings joy to all the saints and angels in heaven. When we go to confession, we not only please God, but we make it possible for us to experience joy on a much deeper level and we experience the love and grace of God.

In the second reading, James tells us to be patient, as a farmer who patiently waits for the coming of the winter and spring rains. We are also asked to follow the example of the prophets, who were patient in the midst of suffering and hardships. The message of the prophet Isaiah in today's first reading is that we are to be patient because God Himself will come and save us. And, James also tells us to remain patient until the coming of the Lord. However, patience is not one of the virtues that most people possess today, especially during this busy shopping season, or in the line at the bank, or in the line at the local restaurant or fast food establishment. This lack of patience tells us that we are not living in the fullness of the Spirit - - - that we are not willing to let God be in control of things in our life.

James tells us that we are not to grumble against one another. But how many of us, who claim to be preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ, avoid grumbling about someone or something every day? It has become a part of our everyday life. When in prison, John knew that his purpose here on this earth was coming to an end. John knew that he must begin to fade from the scene, that he must decrease and that Jesus must increase in popularity. That is why John sent his disciples to Jesus in today's gospel. John knew who Jesus was -- for it was John who said: "There is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." He knew Jesus was the Messiah and was not going to be just an earthly king. John sent his disciples to Jesus so that they might believe in Him and become Jesus' followers. Many of those who began to follow Jesus were not very patient with Him. They wanted Jesus to be an earthly king and to raise up an army to defeat the Romans. However, Jesus had someone far more powerful to defeat than the Romans, and that was Satan.

As followers of Jesus, we are asked to wait patiently for His Second Coming and also to be patient with one another. During this Season of Advent, what are we doing to help ourselves to grow in this virtue of patience. Are we spending more time in prayer, or reading the Bible? Have we gone to confession? Have we taken the time to learn more about our faith, about Jesus Christ? Have we taken the time to grow in our Spiritual life? Are we planning to keep Jesus as the main part of our Christmas celebration? We have only two weeks of this Advent Season left before we celebrate Christmas. Let us see what we can do to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ at Christmas and for His Second Coming. Receiving Jesus Christ in this Eucharist today will help you prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christmas on December 25. On the news, all they speak about is how much money everyone is, or is not, spending. It seems the Advent Season is all about money and the economy. You never hear anything on TV about how we should prepare spiritually for Christmas. So, as we continue in this Season of Advent, I encourage you to take more time for prayer and less time for shopping. Remember that the greatest gift we can give is the gift of ourselves, both to our Lord and to one another. Remind others to read the daily readings and to pray together and attend daily Mass when possible. Spending more time in prayer is the best gift we can give to ourselves any time of the year.

Fr. Stephen Nesrsta, farář

Reflect on this...

So often, we hear and/or think, "Ugh, it's already Christmas time and I haven't done my shopping, I have to clean the house for guests, so much to do ... so little time. I just wish it would hurry up and be done with already!" We must remember, Christmas is more than what we do; it has everything to do with what we are. It has to do with our very identity. Holiness is characterized by our relationship with the Lord. We are waiting for Christ, but the reality is that Christ is waiting for us. God loves us; knowing and responding to that love is holiness. St. Teresa of Calcutta may have said it best when she stated, "It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at someone and offer them your hand."

"Women of Faith," a day of reflection, will be held on Friday, January 13, at the Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. Participants will spend this day reflecting on the gifts of five women (Sojourner Truth, Thea Bowman, Maya Angelou, Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman), whose courageous actions impacted the world. Their fearlessness and faithfulness changed lives because they embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Come and learn about these incredible women; who they were and what they did. Beverly Collin will facilitate this day. The cost is \$40 and includes lunch. To register, or for more information, visit www.cedarbrake.org or contact Cedarbrake at (254) 780-2436 or cedarbrake@austindiocese.org.

Discernment dinners: Men's discernment dinners are for single Catholic men (high school-adult) with an openness to discerning a priestly vocation. The evenings include dinner and evening prayer with discussions about the priesthood, seminary and discernment. Dinners are on separate Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The high school men's group meets on the first Wednesday of each month in the Religious Education Building of St. William Parish in Round Rock. The group for men 18 and older meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the St. Charles Borromeo House of Discernment at 905B Duncan Lane in Austin. For more information, visit www.austinvocations.com; date exceptions will be posted online.

Advent Revival: Holy Cross Parish in Austin will host its 2016 Advent Revival on Sunday, December 11, at 6:00 p.m., Monday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. Josephite Father Anthony Bozeman will be the presenter of the revival, which is entitled "Come, Thou Almighty King." Everyone is welcome!

Retreat designed for men discerning priesthood: The annual Heart of Jesus Men's Discernment Retreat will be held December 16-18, at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. This retreat is for Catholic men (ages 17 to 45) with openness to a priestly vocation and at varying stages of discernment. The weekend will include silence, prayer, meals and talks by priests and seminarians. This is a great opportunity to spend time with other men who are seeking God's will for their lives. Men are invited to discover the key to their identity as a man and their vocation in the Heart of Jesus. For more information, visit www.austinvocations.com or contact the Vocations Office at (512) 949-2430.

Consider The Catholic Foundation – Diocese of Austin in your Will - a non-profit organization established in 2007 to provide a means for individuals and organizations to provide long-term financial stability for the diocese and its churches, schools, agencies and organizations. Through the creation of individual endowments, the Foundation provides a means to generate income to help sustain the long-term strength and viability of Catholic institutions in Central Texas. For more information about how to include the Foundation in your will or estate plan, please visit www.catholicfdn.org, or contact Scott Whitaker (scott-whitaker@austindiocese.org or 512-949-2441).

Relevant Radio, 970 AM, in Austin area: Grow in your faith and change your life with Relevant Radio 970 AM - Austin's "Talk Radio for Catholic Life." This non-profit, listener-supported Catholic radio station bridges the gap between faith and everyday life - covering topics of the day from a uniquely Catholic perspective. Relevant Radio 970 can be heard on the radio, on the Internet at www.relevantradio.com, or on the mobile app, available for Apple or Android devices. Take your faith with you wherever you go - tune in today!

Ethics & Integrity in Ministry (EIM): Are you aware of sexual or physical abuse or neglect of a child or vulnerable adult? The Diocese of Austin is committed to preventing harm from happening to any of our children or vulnerable adults. If you are aware of sexual or physical abuse and/or neglect of a child or vulnerable adult, state law requires you to report that information to local law enforcement or to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or www.dfps.state.tx.us. Additionally, if the suspected abuse is by clergy or an employee or volunteer of any diocesan parish, school or agency, a Confidential Notice of Concern should be submitted to the diocesan Ethics and Integrity in Ministry Office at (512) 949-2400. The Confidential Notice of Concern can be found at www.austindiocese.org (click on the link HOW TO REPORT ABUSE). Reports may be made anonymously.

If you participate in – or are thinking of becoming part of – any ministry in the parish, you must be certified in the Diocesan Ethics & Integrity in Ministry Program – which is free and only takes a couple of hours of your time, once every three years. For information on EIM and attending a workshop, please visit the diocesan website (www.austindiocese.org) and go to their Ethics & Integrity in Ministry page, or contact the Diocese of Austin at 512-949-2400.