

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH of CORN HILL



Pope Francis
Vatican City State



Bishop Joe Vásquez
Diocese of Austin



Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, A.D. 2018

Mass Schedule & Intentions



Saturday	Dec 8	5:00 PM	Liv/Dec Members of KJZT #15 St. Agnes Society †Calvin Blackman, Jr.
Sunday	Dec 9	8:30 AM	†Robert & Leona Brenek
Sunday	Dec 9	10:30 AM	Pro Populo
Monday	Dec 10	12 Noon	†Maria Luisa Aguillan de Castillo
Tuesday	Dec 11	6:00 PM	†Larry Keller †Msgr. Emilián Foltyn
Wednesday	Dec 12	6:30 PM	Virgil Tonn (for healing) †Pete & Eleanora Schwertner
Thursday	Dec 13	7:00 AM	†Paul Chevalier †Emil Sherek
Friday	Dec 14	6:00 PM	†Lonnie Bruce Allen †Paul Nemec
Saturday	Dec 15	7:30 AM	Craig & Krystle †Richard Emge
Saturday	Dec 15	5:00 PM	Pro Populo
Sunday	Dec 16	8:30 AM	†Frances Nemec †Msgr. Gideon Stram
Sunday	Dec 16	10:30 AM	†Johnnie Simek †John & Betty Emge

Altar Flowers

To donate altar flowers – return an 'Altar Flower Envelope'.

Remember: no flowers are needed during the Advent or Christmas seasons (thru January 13).

Last Week's Collection(s)

December 2: First Sunday of Advent: \$4,777.25

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Come spend some time with the Lord!

Vocations Crucifix Prayer Campaign

December 9 – 15: **Pinto & Lucille Nemec**

December 16 – 22: Josh & Steffani Jacobs

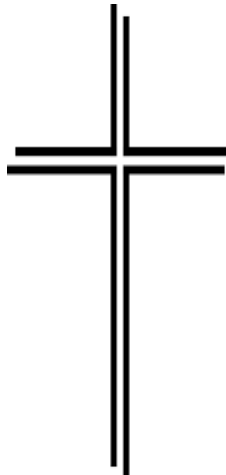
Rosary for Life

December 9 – 15: **Brandon & Rosie Fonville**

December 16 – 22: Jeff & Stephanie Wright

Religious Articles Cabinet

Looking for a stocking stuffer or gift for Christmas?
Visit our cabinet (in the foyer) for religious articles.
Contact the parish office, Louise Straka (512-746-5322),
or Janine Nemec (512-289-9242) to make a purchase.



✠ Fr. Stephen Nestrsta ✠

Address: 8626 FM 1105, Jarrell, Texas 76537

Phone: 512-863-3020 Email: holytrinitycc@yahoo.com

Website: www.holytrinityofcornhill.org

Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 3 pm

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Klepac (512-863-3020)

Bulletin Announcement Deadline: Tuesdays @ 3:00 pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday @ 5:00 pm
Sunday @ 8:30 am & 10:30 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

Director of Faith Formation: Lucille D'Elia 737-215-1042

Financial Bookkeeper: Laura Soto 317-767-9782

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

Cemetery Information: Parish Office

Cemetery Director: Johnny Martinka 512-966-4301

Cemetery Maintenance: (Position Vacant)

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

Finance Council: Tommy Sladeczek 512-746-5881

Pastoral Council: Pete Zenner 512-863-4038

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

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

Conf. of Christian Mothers: Lucille Nemec 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

CEF Enrollments: Janine Nemec 512-289-9242

Mass Ministry Reminders

Wednesday, December 12, 6:30 PM:

Altar Servers: Carter Marquis, Lucas Beyer, Preston Snook

Lector: Jennifer Marquis

EMHC: Kelly Godfrey

Gift Bearers: 3/4 Grade

Saturday, December 15, 5:00 PM:

Altar Servers: Matthew & Nathan Klepac, Natalie Mason

Lector: Lupe Bernal

EMHC: Jennifer Klepac, Brandi Bernal, Janine Nemec

Gift Bearers: Johnny & Bernice Hernandez

Head Usher: Donald Tschoner

Sunday, December 16, 8:30 AM:

Altar Servers: Carter Marquis, Lucas Beyer, Shelby Hutchinson

Lector: Pete Zenner

EMHC: Johnny Martinka, Nancy Zenner, Brandon Danek

Gift Bearers: Pinto & Lucille Nemec

Head Usher: Tommy Sladeczek

Sunday, December 16, 10:30 AM:

Altar Servers: Thomas Clawson, Heron Rodriguez, Martin Ortiz

Lector: Kelly Godfrey

EMHC: Kelly Godfrey, Leslie & Linda Allen

Gift Bearers: Bill & Linda Montreuil

Head Usher: Jeff Voigt

EMHC to Shut-ins: Sunday, December 16: Brandon Danek

This Week at a Glance

Tuesday, December 11:

--RCIA Class

Wednesday, December 12:

--CCE Classes

--Adult Faith Enrichment

Thursday, December 13:

--Pro-Life Adoration

Sunday, December 16:

--K.J.T. #55 Meeting

--Advent Penance Service

We would like to thank the family of Theofil Zurovetz for the generous donation for our new Processional Candles (which we will use once the Altar Servers are trained). May God bless you for your kindness.

We will have a **second collection** this weekend (December 8/9) 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.

The Clerical Endowment Fund (CEF) has special **Christmas Enrollment cards (English & Spanish) for Spiritual Bouquets for the Christmas Season**, which make a wonderful gift for loved ones. Enrollments can be made this weekend (December 8/9) in the foyer of the church after all Masses. The usual offering is \$2 per person, per card, and benefits include prayers and Masses for the year. Enrollments can also be made by contacting Janine Nemecek at 512-289-9242.

RCIA: Class this Tuesday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the RE Bldg. Discussion: History of the Church. For questions, contact Lucille D'Elia.

CCE: Classes this Wednesday, December 12, at 6:15 p.m. Parents are encouraged to stay and attend Mass (which is always a good example for their children). For program questions, contact Lucille D'Elia.

Adult Faith Enrichment: Class this Wednesday, December 12, in the PAC Bldg, after the 6:30 p.m. Mass.

Pro-Life Adoration this Thursday, December 13, from 3:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the church. Come spend time with the Lord, present in the Holy Eucharist.

K.J.T. #55 will meet next Sunday, December 16, in the RE Bldg after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. All members are encouraged to attend.

We will have our **Advent Penance Service** next Sunday, December 16, at 5:00 p.m. (5 priests will be available for hearing confessions). An 'enhanced' version of the **Examination of Conscience** is available on the bulletin tables for your use in preparing.

KJT Food Drive Ends Next Weekend (December 9): 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. For questions, contact Helen Havelka (512-869-8715). *"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink ..."* Matthew 24:35

The **Pastoral Council will meet** on Thursday, December 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the RE Bldg. All parishioners are invited to attend. The meeting agenda is posted on the church bulletin board for your information and preparation.

Confraternity of Christian Mothers: Preparation of Christmas Goody Bags is scheduled for Thursday, December 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the RE Bldg. No business meeting will be held, but we will pray the monthly Conference Prayers and make tentative plans for the Austin DCCW Board Meeting coffee/lunch we provide. All members are encouraged to attend.

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 16.** All memorials will be announced in the December 23 bulletin.

Marriage Anniversaries: If, in 2018, 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 fill in all of the information and print clearly** so that we don't misspell your names! **Please sign-up by next Sunday, December 16.** The certificates will be presented on the weekend of the Feast of the Holy Family (Dec 29/30).

'Tis the season to help those in need, and you can do so by visiting our **Angel Tree** (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 next Sunday, December 16.** For questions, contact Debbie Klaus (512-869-7930). Thank you, in advance, for your generosity! (Donations to the Angel Tree will benefit the Annunciation Maternity Home residents and the WCWB (Williamson County Welfare Board) Rainbow Room, which supplies items needed by children who are removed from unsafe homes.)

The **2019 Collection Envelopes** are available in the church. 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.

If you would like a **2018 Donation Report** for tax, or other, purposes, please let the office know. If you received one this past year, you will automatically receive one again. Reports will be mailed out by January 31.

Looking for a good Christmas gift for a friend or family member? We still have Holy Trinity Cookbooks – containing more than 600 recipes - for \$10/book. Contact Marla Tonn (512-863-0755) or the parish office to purchase.

The Season of Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ.

Be ready to celebrate His birth with a clean heart and soul, through the mercy of God, in the Sacrament of Penance.

St. Mary – Taylor – Monday, December 10, 6:30 PM; St. Joseph – Manor – Tuesday, December 11, 7 PM;

Holy Trinity – Corn Hill – Sunday, December 16, 5 PM; St. William – Round Rock – Monday, December 17, 7 PM;

St. Patrick – Hutto – Tuesday, December 18, 7 PM; St. William – Round Rock – Wednesday, December 19, 1 PM – 6 PM;

Our Lady of Guadalupe – Taylor – Thursday, December 20, 7 PM; St. Helen – Georgetown – Friday, December 21, 7 PM

Dear friends in Christ,

Greetings to each of you in this holy Season of Advent. Preparation for Christmas is an important theme for Advent, but more is involved. Advent gives us a vision of our lives as Christians and shows us the possibilities of life. The vision of life that Advent gives us is twofold: it looks back to the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem, and it looks to the future when Christ will come again. In the interval between these two events we find meaning for our life as a Christian.

In today's Gospel we hear how John the Baptist received his call to preach directly from God. His mission was to proclaim a baptism of repentance as a sign that the people were willing to change their ways and be faithful to God. This, he said, would prepare them for the coming of the Messiah. Jesus was not the warrior Messiah that many people expected. He was a humble teacher who preached love and peaceful reconciliation rather than war. Claiming God as his Father, Jesus said He had come to bring good news of salvation to the people, and even insisted that John baptize Him.

Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for the coming of Jesus, so to, we who are followers of Jesus, must continue to bring the same message to the world. In this Advent season, we recall His coming into our world to bring the light of salvation into the darkness of sin. By first reforming our own lives and then living in accord with Christ's teaching of unconditional love for all people, we can "prepare the way of the Lord" in our own day.

In the history of our salvation destruction and chaos entered the human race when sin came into the world. Through His life, death, and resurrection, Christ triumphed over sin and made it possible for us to participate in the blessings of God's eternal love. We can share in Christ's victory and extend its embrace to others by believing in Him and dedicating our lives to His way of love. To do this we must prepare ourselves as John the Baptist tells us. A good way to begin is by going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Confession. Our Communal Penance Service will be on Sunday, December 16, at 5:00 pm. Prepare yourselves for Jesus and you too will be victorious over sin and death.

Here is a little mediation on the need to experience Jesus in our lives:

Otázka na tělo: těšíš se doopravdy na setkání s Kristem? Asi moc ne, že? Proč? To je jednoduché: Ježíše znáš (a známe) tak málo! Jak se můžeme těšit na někoho, koho osobně neznáme, koho jsme nikdy nepotkali tak jako jiné lidi! Těšíme se vždycky na někoho, kdo je nám sympatický, blízký, příjemný. Těšíme se na toho, s kým je nám dobře – protože se cítíme "jako doma", uvolnění, bez křeče a zábran. My lidé potřebujeme učinit osobní zkušenost, setkat se s druhým. A kdo z nás se může "pochlubit" takovou zkušeností s Ježíšem? A pak není divu, že se na něj nemůžeme kdovíjak těšit!

Bez studu si můžeme přiznat, že se těšíme spíš na návštěvu dlouholetého přítele než na Krista. Nemusíme být v rozpacích, když uznáme, že je nám tak příjemně v blízkosti takového člověka... Klidně si to přiznejme... a přiznejme si také to, že "je to tak dobře", že s takovým člověkem jsme tak rádi! Ano, vždyť všechno autenticky lidské (přijetí, objetí, pohlázení, pozorné naslouchání, vcítění se) je... Boží! Právě skrze druhé lidi můžeme už teď poznávat a zakoušet (a to je velmi důležité – my lidé potřebujeme zakoušet) Boží přijetí. Toto objevil už sv. Augustin: "Bůh je všechno pro tebe. On je všechno to, co miluješ". Všechno to, co milujeme, je vlastně samotnou Boží dobrotou (vylitou ve stvoření). Takže když toužíme po blízkosti dobrého přítele... toužíme vlastně po přítomnosti Boží. To dobré, co prožíváme v autentickém vztahu, je předchutí toho, co jednou naplno prožijeme s Bohem... až ho uvidíme tváří v tvář. A není tedy tak úplně pravda, že se skoro nikdo netěší na Krista. Spíš platí: všichni se na něj těší. (From Pastorage.cz)

This week, we will celebrate some important feast days. Wednesday, we will celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe; Thursday, St. Lucy; and Friday, St. John of the Cross. I encourage you to look up the story of each of these saints and try to attend Mass on any, or all, of these days.

May the peace and love of our Lord be with you in this holy season.

Fr. Stephen Nesrsta, farář

8 Ideas for Celebrating Advent

--Brandon Harvey

Each December brings the same temptation for Catholics: Join one's daily focus with the commercially oriented Christmas frenzy in nearly every corner of modern American society or avoid it for the sake of focusing on living and breathing the meaning of Advent in preparation of the *real* Christmas season. The tension between the movement of society and Christmas is perhaps not too different than what occurred at the time of Jesus.

Saints Elizabeth and Zechariah heard the news that the birth of Jesus was coming (Luke 1:39-45). Mary and Saint Joseph alone traveled to Bethlehem, where Jesus would be born, for the census (Luke 2:1-5). Jesus was not born in a home or inn surrounded by others; it was a modest event to the human eye with the Holy Family alone being present (Luke 2:6-7). There were some shepherds (Luke 2:8-20) and Magi (Matthew 2:1-12) that later arrived to participate in the blessed event. As we can see, from the very beginning the birth of Christ went unnoticed by most of the corporeal world. We too should not fear having a different rhythm and set of habits for the upcoming holiday season as we prepare through Advent for the true meaning of Christmas: The Nativity of our Lord.

The Directory of Popular Piety and the Liturgy provides us many insights into celebrating Advent with the heart and mind of the Church. It provides three key themes for the celebration of Advent: "a time of waiting, conversion and of hope" (No. 96). The theme of waiting is to remember the initial coming of Jesus 2,000 years ago in the city of Bethlehem as well as our current waiting for "his final, glorious coming as Lord of History and universal Judge" (No. 96). Conversion is at the heart of the Advent celebrations as we too seek to repent and be ready for the coming of Christ. Hope speaks of our hope of all that is possible by Christ's grace as we grow in holiness.

Perhaps it might be beneficial to revisit some less often quoted words concerning Advent and Christmas. In the period of Advent, for instance, the Church arouses in us the consciousness of the sins we have had the misfortune to commit, and urges us, by restraining our desires and practicing voluntary mortification of the body, to recollect ourselves in meditation, and experience a longing desire to return to God who alone can free us by His grace from the stain of sin and from its evil consequences.

With the coming of the birthday of the Redeemer, she would bring us to the cave of Bethlehem and there teach that we must be born again and undergo a complete reformation; that will only happen when we are intimately and vitally united to the Word of God made man and participate in His divine nature, to which we have been elevated.

Returning to the *Directory* mentioned above, here are some of the suggested, although not exhaustive, means of celebrating Advent with the mind and heart of the Church:

- 1. *The Advent Wreath*** is a four-candle wreath used to solicit a sense of waiting and progression while recalling the "various stages of salvation history" that culminates with the coming of Christ (No. 98).
- 2. *Advent Processions*** have either been to announce the birth of Jesus Christ to the world or to recall the journey of the Holy Family to Bethlehem (No. 99). This is seen in many parishes and neighborhoods under the name *posadas*.
- 3. *Marian Devotion*** throughout the season of Advent recalls both the "women of the Old Testament who prefigured and prophesied her mission" (No. 101) and recalls Mary's faith and role in the events preceding the birth of Christ. Some examples of such devotion include: the Novena of the Immaculate Conception that progresses through the Marian passages from Genesis 3:15 to Luke 1:31-33, and devotions to Our Lady of Guadalupe. These devotions are rooted in and flow towards their corresponding liturgical celebrations (No. 102).
- 4. *Vespers [Evening Prayer] from the Liturgy of the Hours*** is a means of preparing for Christmas through the daily rhythm of the Church's liturgical prayer and in a special way through Vespers from December 17th-23rd with the "major antiphons" (No. 103). There are many apps for smart phones for accessing the Liturgy of the Hours easily and the clergy are already praying these liturgical prayers (Code of Canon Law 1174 §1).

In the hope of promoting the themes of waiting, conversion, and hope, I would like to humbly add some additional ideas for celebrating Advent:

- 5. *The Sacrament of Confession*** to renew and deepen our conversion to Christ. Confession is also called the Sacrament of Conversion (CCC 1423).
- 6. *Daily Reading of Scripture*** to recall the major events of salvation history and prophecies related to the coming of Christ by reading these passages, within their broader context. Some examples: Genesis 3:15, Genesis 49:10, Numbers 24:17, 2 Samuel 7:16, Isaiah 11:1, Isaiah 7:14, Jeremiah 23:5, Micah 5:2, Luke 1:1-80. The Jesse Tree is also a wonderful tool in this practice.
- 7. *Eucharistic Adoration*** to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament, the Sacrament of the Presence of Christ. This is an excellent opportunity to contemplate the mystery of Jesus as Emmanuel, "God with us" (Matthew 1:23).
- 8. *Increased Care for the Poor*** to remember Jesus who was born in the humblest of circumstances and "emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:7).

There is not a person on earth that does not hunger for the gift of joy, hope, and meaning. Especially in the times we find ourselves in, we hunger for it even more. Nothing will bring us a better sense of these gifts during the Advent Season than celebrating Advent with the heart and mind of the Church, basking in the grace of God as we prepare for Christmas Mass and Christmastide.