

# HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH of CORN HILL



Pope Francis  
Vatican City State



Bishop Joe Vásquez  
Diocese of Austin

## Third Sunday of Advent December 15, A.D. 2019

### Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday	Dec 14	5:00 PM	†Stan Lange †Norma Klaus
Sunday	Dec 15	8:30 AM	Pro Populo
		10:30 AM	†Otha (Palousek) Whitaker †Jackie Albert
Monday	Dec 16	7:00 AM	†Msgr. Joseph Hybner †Henrietta Gerik
Tuesday	Dec 17	7:00 AM	†Stanley Havelka †Anita Galvan
Wednesday	Dec 18	6:30 PM	†Johnnie Simek †Jacques Brousseau
Thursday	Dec 19	7:00 AM	†Jerry & Mary Valenta †Cyril & Lucy Martinka
Friday	Dec 20	7:00 AM	†Doris Nesrsta †Annie Janish
Saturday	Dec 21	7:30 AM	†Albin & Janette Zurovetz †Fr. Oliver Johnson
Saturday	Dec 21	5:00 PM	Virgil Tonn (for healing) †Lavinia Anne Lobit Herr
Sunday	Dec 22	8:30 AM	†Frances Nemeč †Joe & Wilma Zgarba
		10:30 AM	Pro Populo

### Altar Flowers

**Reminder:** No flowers are needed during the Advent or Christmas Seasons (thru Jan 12)

### Last Week's Collection(s)

**December 8:** Weekly Collection: \$4,157.83  
Priest Retirement: \$1,703.50  
Online Donations: \$ 657.90  
**December 9:** Immaculate Conception: \$1,109.00

### Rosary for Life

**December 15 – 21: Frank & Lucille D'Elia**  
December 22 – 28: Michael & Diana Hovatter

### Vocations Crucifix Prayer Campaign

**December 15 – 21: Bill & Monica Sherek**  
December 22 – 28: Chris & Sora Garlasco

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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



The parish office holiday  
schedule is as follows:

**CLOSED** December 24 – January 1  
and re-opens on January 2.

Announcements for both the  
December 22 and 29 bulletins  
must be turned in by this  
Tuesday, December 17, 3:00 p.m.

† Fr. Stephen Nesrsta †

**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: 3:45–4:40 pm; Sun: 7:30–8:10 am;  
& Wed: 5:30–6:10 pm (or by appt.)

### Parish Contacts & Resources

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

**Financial Bookkeeper:** Steffani Jacobs 512-863-3020

**Parish Activity Center (PAC) Rentals:** 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 512-635-3496

**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 Nemeč 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 Nemeč 512-289-9242

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

**Baptisms:** Classes are scheduled based on need. Contact Lucille D'Elia for questions and requirements (737-215-1042)

### Mass Ministry Reminders

#### Wednesday, December 18, 6:30 PM:

**Altar Servers:** Caleb Stefek, Martin Ortiz, Isabella Hodgson

**Lector:** Zenner

**EMHC:** Zenner

**Gift Bearers:** Confirmation 1

#### Saturday, December 21, 5:00 PM:

**Altar Servers:** John & Maria Bruce

**Lector:** Janine Nemeč

**EMHC:** Jim Heuert, Jennifer Klepac, Patsy Hightower

**Gift Bearers:** Johnny & Bernice Hernandez

**Head Usher:** Donald Tschorner

#### Sunday, December 22, 8:30 AM:

**Altar Servers:** Jenna Danek, Caleb & Amy Stefek

**Lector:** Monica Sherek

**EMHC:** James Nemeč, Cynthia Edgar, Ray Nemeč

**Gift Bearers:** Billy & Belinda Beyer

**Head Usher:** Bill Sherek

#### Sunday, December 22, 10:30 AM:

**Altar Servers:** Jakob V, Samuel Williams, William Fonville

**Lector:** Duane Blakeslee

**EMHC:** Duane & Gwen Blakeslee, Kelly Godfrey

**Gift Bearers:** Hodgson family

**Head Usher:** Jeff Voigt

**EMHC to Shut-ins: December 22:** Monica Sherek

To volunteer for a Mass Ministry, please contact the parish office. All types are very much needed and appreciated.

We will have our **Advent Penance Service** today (Sunday, December 15) at 5:00 p.m. (5 priests will be available for hearing confessions). **Examination of Conscience** pamphlets are available on the bulletin tables for your use in preparing.

**TODAY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 – IS YOUR LAST DAY TO:**

- turn in your non-perishable food items for the **K.J.T. Food Drive** in the 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, please contact Kathleen Valenta at 281-507-5636.
- turn in your **Angel Tree donations**. Please bring the item(s) UNWRAPPED & with the tag. If giving a gift card, please write the \$ amount on it. For questions, contact Debbie Klaus (512-940-1557). Donations will benefit the Annunciation Maternity Home residents and 4 area families.
- turn in a **Christmas Flower Envelope** to donate poinsettias in memory or honor of loved ones. Memorials will be announced in next weekend's bulletin.
- sign up for a **Marriage Anniversary Certificate**, if, in 2019, you celebrated your 10, 15, 20, 25, etc., 50<sup>th</sup> or more, wedding anniversary. Print your names clearly on the (blue) sheets provided in the foyer of the church. The certificates will be presented on December 28/29, the Feast of the Holy Family.

**Knights of Columbus (KofC) – Holy Trinity:** There will be a meeting to discuss the formation of the new KofC Council here at Holy Trinity this Tuesday, December 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the PAC Bldg. All men interested in becoming a member of the KofC, or in transferring into the Holy Trinity Council from another, are invited and encouraged to attend. For questions or more information, contact Josh Jacobs (612-212-9624 or jacobs817@gmail.com).

**RCIA:** Class this Tuesday, December 17, at 7 p.m. in the RE Bldg. Discussion: The Sacraments. For more information, contact Lucille D'Elia.

**CCE:** Classes this Wednesday, December 18, from 6:15 – 8:00 p.m. Parents are encouraged to stay for the 6:30 p.m. Mass. For questions or information about our program, please contact Lucille D'Elia (737-215-1042).

**Pro-Life Adoration** this Thursday, December 19, from 3:00 – 9:00 p.m. Come and spend time with the Lord, present in the Holy Eucharist.

The **Pastoral Council will meet** this Thursday, December 19, 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.

**ATTN: Members of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers:** There will be no monthly business meeting in December, but you will gather for 'Confraternity Prayers' and to prepare Christmas goody bags this Friday, December 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the RE Bldg. All members are encouraged to help.

We will have our monthly **Faith Formation Collection** next weekend (December 21/22) which allows us to provide necessary resources for the education of children in our CCE program, participants in the RCIA program, the continued education of adults, etc.

**The catastrophic legalization of Doctor Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia**, which has spread to many areas of the world, **now includes a growing number of states here in the USA!** The threat posed by doctor assisted suicide is a Pro-Life issue that many of us may have heard of but may not know much about. So-called "death with dignity" laws actually *destroy* human dignity in what Pope Francis called "false compassion". While most of us are fully aware of the well-known atrocity of abortion, death will touch all of us personally and these laws present a growing threat to the elderly, the disabled, and even those dealing with depression. The need to educate ourselves on the more little-known issue of doctor assisted suicide, and the extreme need to pray for an end to yet another demonic version of destroying the life that God has given us, has never been greater. This is especially true now that the lobby effort has begun here in our own state of Texas. To learn about doctor assisted suicide and how to become, as children of God, 'prophets of hope' in the lives of those around us, **mark your calendars to hear Kevin Dunn, international (pro-life) filmmaker and speaker, here at Holy Trinity!** Kevin's award-winning films and testimonies have touched thousands throughout the world, opening people's eyes to, and educating them about euthanasia. Join us in the PAC Bldg on Saturday, January 11, at 6:30 p.m., and invite your family and friends! We would like to thank all of our sponsors and advertisers who gave so generously in order to promote the sanctity of LIFE!

**We still have Christmas Cards and Gift Bags available for purchase, which will support our youth and their attendance of the annual Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)!** You can get them at the CCE office during business hours or contact Lucille D'Elia.

The **2020 Collection Envelopes** are available in the church sanctuary. If you do not have a box in there and want one, please put your name on the list provided and check back the next weekend. If you are now making your donations online, or no longer need a box of envelopes, please let the office know.

If you would like a **2019 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.

**FROM THE DIOCESE OF AUSTIN:** It has recently come to our attention that individuals have received emails that appear to be from the Bishop, requesting gift cards or other monetary items. These messages are form of phishing called "CEO Fraud". **They are fraudulent and should be ignored.** Basically, the hacker creates an email address and defines the properties (display name, from and reply-to addresses) to appear as though they are from the domain in question, in this case making it appear the message came from bishop@austindiocese.org. When this is done properly it isn't until you click reply (or look at the email headers) that you'll see the email came from a gmail / yahoo / etc. account and not from austindiocese.org. Below are links to some pertinent resources from KnowBe4, an end-user security training company, that add insight to the way we can police this situation. The Diocese is already partnering with KnowBe4 to provide training to all employees at the Pastoral Center and is currently strategizing a way to offer this service to the whole diocese.

- <https://blog.knowbe4.com/red-flags-warn-of-social-engineering> - Red Flags to look for in emails.
- <https://www.knowbe4.com/phishing> - General info on Phishing.
- <https://www.knowbe4.com/ceo-fraud> - An in-depth explanation of CEO Fraud and what to look for.

**The Season of Advent – our time of preparation for the birth of our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ – begins next weekend. Below are opportunities to cleanse your heart, mind and soul, through the mercy of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

**Holy Trinity – Corn Hill – Sunday, December 15, 5 PM;**

**St. William – Round Rock – Monday, December 16, 7 PM; St. Elizabeth – Pflugerville – Tuesday, December 17, 7 PM;**

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

**Our Lady of Guadalupe – Taylor – Thursday, December 19, 7 PM; St. Helen – Georgetown – Friday, December 20, 7 PM**

### **Dear friends in Christ,**

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 15, 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.

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 is taken from today's entrance antiphon. It expresses the theme of this Sunday's readings.

It seems that most of us seem to be a very forgetful people. Sometimes we are so forgetful that we even forget to be happy. It seems that so much of our lives is taken up with looking at problems, that we barely have time to sit back and just relish what is good about it all. It is so easy to get ourselves into a way of looking at life that the first thing we look for are the problems. There is so much that is good and beautiful, but the problems always seem to get our attention. Sometimes we forget to be happy. We look at the weeds in our lawn, rather than pay attention to the few beautiful flowers that are so wonderful to look at. Problems have a way of taking over. One problem reminds us of another problem. Sometimes one problem seems to cause another problem and so on, until that's all there is. But that's not the truth of how things are.

We can even get into this way of seeing things when we think about our faith and the Church. If every time you think or talk about the Church, the first thing that comes up are all the problems, then maybe it's time to stop and remember all of the wonderful gifts we have in the Church. It is so important for us as a community to remember our blessings. If we don't, then we lose the proper perspective of things within the Church and within our life.

On this third Sunday of Advent we are given a reminder and a promise of joy that comes from the God who has come and is coming. Isaiah is full of the promise of joy. He calls for the wilderness and the wasteland to bloom and bring forth flowers. He even says that it should be rejoicing and singing. And then in the Gospel, Jesus reminds the disciples of John that the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor. Jesus is the one who has brought all of the promises of Isaiah to completion. During this Advent Season we are celebrating the fact that Christ has already come. Evil no longer rules the world. Christ does. We are called upon to believe that God is the God of life and joy, not of death and gloom.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, the coming of the Prince of Peace and the source of our joy, perhaps we should think of creating some gesture that would reflect in some small way the meaning of this feast. There is no better gift to give to Jesus than the gift of your own self. See what you need to do to make some sign that you believe that Christ has come and is still present in our world. If you do this, then when Christmas arrives, you will know in a very real way that some of the wilderness in our world has been allowed to flourish and bloom.

K úvaze: Je možné, aby ten, kdo přináší dobré věci, byl odmítnut? Možné to je, když se nám to "nehodí do krámu", do našich představ. Odmítnout Krista, protože neodpovídá našim "očekáváním", je tím nejčastějším kamenem úrazu? Včera jako dnes. A dokonce tak velký prorok jako Jan Křtitel měl "s Kristem problémy": kdo by tedy neměl? Vždyť Kristus nás stále vyvádí z konceptu: Jan očekával okamžitý konec, rázné zakročení vůči hříšníkům, a Kristus koná něco jiného. Jiný příklad: u kříže lidé chtěli zázrak, a Kristus opět jedná jinak - žádný zázrak neudělá. Šťastný ten, kdo se nepohoršuje nad Kristem, kdo nad ním nezlomí hůl! Ano, je možné opustit Krista, protože se nám nelíbí, protože je jiný, než bychom chtěli. Přijmout ho vyžaduje stále novou otevřenost, schopnost překročit svoje schémata. Kristus je dnes jiný než včera? Od nás se proto vyžaduje velká důvěra, doslova slepá důvěra, která často není schopná vidět, pochopit: uvěříme spíš Kristu nebo svým "představám"?

Očekávat Krista znamená někdy pasivně čekat, ale někdy vyjít - jak se o tom mluví v prvním čtení. A někdy to opět znamená udělat skok? Víry, důvěřovat Kristu, který mi zrovna ukazuje svoji novou, mně dosud neznámou tvář. Vidíme tedy, že očekávat není tak snadné, vyžaduje to neustálou bdělost, vnímavost pro ten či onen krok, který se ode mě v tuto chvíli vyžaduje. Jan Křtitel zvládl "perfektně" první kroky: hlásal příchod Mesiáše, rozpoznal ho při křtu. Pak už začal mít s Kristem "problémy": je to opravdu on? Nespletl jsem se? I tak velký prorok jako on potřeboval pomoc "zvnějšku", aby se neztratil ve svých "úvahách" a názorech. Nějak podobně můžeme být na tom i my: na začátku svého prvního či druhého obrácení (v dospělosti) jsme asi velkoryse přijali Krista, se širokým srdcem, s naprostou poddaností jeho slovům, jeho vůli ("jak on chce"). Postupem času jsme možná narazili na "zádrhele", začali jsme narážet na Kristovo evangelium: ono je totiž nebezpečné, protože dělá křížek přes rozpočet? A šťastný ten, kdo má odvahu dát Kristu šanci, neskoncovat s ním. Málokdo z nás se asi rozhodne pro jednoznačné odmítnutí Krista jako někteří farizeové, spíš se vydáme na cestu, spíš "necestu" indifferencie, netečnosti. A pokud jsme v takovém stavu, tak advent volá: Probud' se! Zkus to s Kristem ještě jednou!

Tercer Domingo de Adviento: Este domingo, las lecturas nos dicen dónde buscar la venida del Señor: cuando los ciegos vean, los cojos caminen; cuando los muertos sean levantados a la vida y a los pobres les sean anunciadas buenas noticias. En nuestros días, La presencia del Señor es vista cuando caen los muros de la opresión, cuando enemigos buscan avenidas de compañerismo y confianza, cuando los pobres y las personas sin hogar encuentran cuidados y los olvidados son incluidos. El Reino está entre nosotros ¿Actuamos como personas del Reino?

May all of you continue to have a most blessed Advent Season.

**Fr. Stephen Nesrsta, farář**

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# Holy Trinity Catholic Church CCE News

## December 2019

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### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:30 PM Class 7:00 PM

**Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Teens decorate church

**No class on Dec 25 or Jan 1  
Back in session on Jan 9!**

On December 7, our second grade class celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. We would like to thank the Christian Mothers for preparing and hosting a very delicious breakfast for the students and their families. Father Stephen makes the Sacrament very special for the children. His First Penance Service even contains a treat from St. Nicholas. What a great experience for the children for their very first time in participating in this special Sacrament.

Our St. Nicholas celebration was held the other evening and by all accounts, a great time was had by all. There were lots of games, crafts and even a visit by St. Nicholas himself. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade class came in and helped the Kindergarten, First and Second Graders with all of the activities. When we were done celebrating, all grades had a wonderful visit from our own "Mr. & Mrs. Cookie" who brought special homemade cookies to each and every class. We thank Mr. & Mrs. Heuertz for making our Advent celebration so very special every year.



During my first Christmas here at Holy Trinity, I was absolutely amazed by the beautiful way the church was decorated. As a newcomer, I asked who decorates the church for Christmas. When I was told that the teenagers of the parish decorated the church, no one was more astonished than me. Let teenagers decorate a sacred and old-fashioned church for a major holy day?? Whose idea was that? No matter whose idea it was, they do a great job each year, and it remains a wonderful, true tradition here at Holy Trinity.

After the last Mass on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, the current Confirmation classes will gather for the task of preparing our church for our Christmas celebrations. First, they go to the attic and bring down all of the various boxes full of wreaths, trees and all sorts of Christmas decorations. The Confirmation II class is in charge and they take the lead on where things should go. It is so amazing to hear the kids discussing what looks good where and how, where some wreath should go, does it look the same as last year or what they remember from when they were younger. The older (and taller) boys usually climb the ladders and put the hanging decorations up. While standing below them and handing them items, the other teens are providing direction.

The manger, which is quite heavy, is put on the altar by some of our handy gentleman parishioners, but the placement of the figures requires the special touches of the girls of the Confirmation classes. Father Stephen keeps Baby Jesus in the Sacristy with him until Christmas and the three wise men are kept on the other side of the Altar so that they can journey slowly to the Christ child. Placing animals and shepherds in the manger requires a lot of concentration and much discussion.

Finally, when all of the trees are wired, the wreathes are hung, the communion rail is decorated, the pews are adorned with greenery, and the manger is complete with figures and straw, the Christmas lights are turned on for a brief moment to make sure they all work. A sense of wonder and awe fills the room and the teens know they have set the stage for a beautiful liturgical celebration.

This tradition is one that truly is so very meaningful here at Holy Trinity as it gives the teens a real sense of ownership and purpose. They know that the parish is their home, too, and they take pride in making it look beautiful ... not only for themselves and their families, but for all who come to visit this very special place called Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Corn Hill, Texas.

In Christ, Lucille D'Elia, DRE