

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH of CORN HILL



Pope Francis
Vatican City State



Bishop Joe Vásquez
Diocese of Austin



Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, A.D. 2020



Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday	Dec 5	5:00 PM	†Rev. Alois Pavelka †Audrey Mitchell Tufts †Jacob & Marcella Lefner
Sunday	Dec 6	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Pro Populo †Fr. Robert Becker Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas Linda Allen
<u>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation</u>			
Tuesday	Dec 8	7:00 AM 12 Noon 7:00 PM	†John Obst †Alois Jansing Pro Populo †Stanley Havelka †Anita Galvan †Hubert Klepac †Norma Klaus & Frank Krenek
Wednesday	Dec 9	6:30 PM	†Robert & Leona Brenek †Theofil Zurovetz Paul Straka (healing)
Thursday	Dec 10	7:00 AM	†John & Betty Emge †Jerry & Mary Valenta †Cyril & Lucy Martinka
Friday	Dec 11	6:00 PM	†Richard Danek †Wanda Pustejousky
Saturday	Dec 12	7:30 AM	†Willie J Klepac †Albin & Janette Zurovetz Marshall, Brielle, & Connor
Saturday	Dec 12	5:00 PM	†Annie Janish Patricia Graham
Sunday	Dec 13	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	†Paul Chevalier †Janie Sue Blackwell Pro Populo

Last Week's Collection(s)

November 26: Thanksgiving: \$ 1351.00
November 29: Weekly Collection: \$ 5888.00
Online Donations: \$ 636.25
Social Ministry: \$ 597.00

Mass Ministry Schedule for December 8 – 13

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 8, 7:00 am:

Altar Server: Pinto Nemeč
Lector: Pinto Nemeč

12 Noon:

Altar Server: Leo Bringman
Lector & EMHC: Leo Bringman

7:00 PM: (incense)

Altar Servers: Jakob V, Brousseaus' (3)
Lector: Kitzi Crawford
EMHC: Kelly Godfrey
Head Usher: Stephanie Wright



Angel Tree donations are due today, Sunday, December 6! For questions, contact Debbie Klaus (512-940-1557). Thank you for your generosity, stewardship and participation in the corporal works of mercy!

† 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, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm
Administrative Assistant: Monica Snook 512-863-3020
Bulletin Announcement Deadline: Tuesdays @ 2:00 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: Stephanie Wright 512-470-5204
Pro-Life Prayer Group: Chris Garlasco 860-689-3021
Knights of Columbus: Josh Jacobs 612-212-9624
Conf. of Christian Mothers: Lucille Nemeč 254-527-3615
Religious Articles: Louise Straka 512-746-5322
K.J.T. Society #55: John Danek 512-819-4362
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)

Wednesday, December 9, 6:30 pm:

Altar Servers: Amy Stefek, Adelaide B, Martin O
Lector: Kelly Godfrey

Thursday, December 10, 7:00 am:

Altar Server: Leo Bringman
Lector: Leo Bringman

Friday, December 11, 6:00 pm:

Altar Server: Jakob Voigt
Lector: Jakob Voigt

Saturday, December 12, 7:30 am:

Altar Server: James Nemeč
Lector: Pinto Nemeč

Saturday, December 12, 5:00 pm:

Altar Servers: Nathan & Lucas Klepac
Lector: Lupe Bernal
EMHC: Brandi Bernal
Head Usher: Stephanie Wright

Sunday, December 13, 8:30 am:

Altar Servers: Carter M, Jenna D
Lector: Jennifer Marquis
EMHC: James Nemeč
Head Usher: Frank Knappek

Sunday, December 13, 10:30 am:

Altar Servers: Jakob Voigt, Abby & Isabella H.
Lector: Kelly Godfrey
EMHC: Pete Zenner
Head Usher: Jeff Voigt

EMHC to Shut-Ins: December 13: Ray Nemeč

**WE ASK THAT ALL WHO ATTEND MASS WEAR A MASK / FACE COVERING FOR THE HEALTH & SAFETY OF ALL PRESENT!
And we thank you, while our seating is limited, for moving, if possible, to make room for larger families that come in for Mass.**

If anyone is in need of a semi-electric hospital bed, please contact Marla Tonn (512-863-0755).

The **2021 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. 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 **2020 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.

Thank you to all who supported the Bake Sale sponsored by the Confraternity of Christian Mothers, held on November 21/22. Through your generosity, proceeds in the amount of \$ 894.00 was collected of which \$500 will be sent to Catholic Relief Services, the service project of the Austin DCCW for 2020-2021. We are grateful for your support.

The **parish office will be closed** for the Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation this Tuesday, December 8.

We will celebrate the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** on Tuesday, December 8. Masses will be held at 7:00 a.m., 12 Noon and 7:00 p.m. **In preparation, please pray the following prayer, daily, this week (November 30-December 8):**

Novena Prayer to Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception

*Most Holy Virgin, who was pleasing to the Lord and became His Mother, Immaculate in body and spirit, in faith and in love, look kindly on us who implore thy powerful patronage. The wicked serpent, against whom the primal curse was hurled, continues fiercely to attack and ensnare the unhappy children of Eve. Do thou, Mary our Blessed Mother, our Queen and Advocate, who from the first instant of thy conception did crush the head of our enemy, receive these special prayers (**mention your requests here**) that we unite single-heartedly to thine and beg thee to offer at the throne of God. Help us, that we may never fall into the snares that are laid for us, and may all arrive at the port of salvation; and in the midst of so many dangers, may holy Church and the fellowship of Christians everywhere sing once more the hymn of deliverance, victory and peace.*

Food Drive: "For I was hungry, and you gave me food..." Matthew 24:35. Providing help to an area family has never been easier. 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. Please contact Helen Havelka (512-869-8715) if you have any questions.

RCIA: No class this Tuesday, December 8. Please attend Mass at 7 p.m. for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. For more information, please contact Lucille D'Elia (737-215-1042 or htcdre@yahoo.com).

Holy Hour of Reparation every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. (after the 7 a.m. Mass), in the presence of the Lord, inside the church. We follow a beautiful, timeless, relevant Catholic Church approved booklet that will be provided for you each week. This is a good opportunity to pray for the world and for our families. Give the Lord your time and spend an hour in His presence to pray to His Heart.

Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration every Thursday from 3–9 p.m. in the church. Come and spend some time with the Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament.

We will have a **second collection** next weekend (December 12/13) 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.

We will have our **Advent Penance Service** next Sunday, December 13, at 5:00 p.m. (4 priests will be available for hearing confessions). **Examination of Conscience** pamphlets are available on the bulletin tables for your use in preparing.

Marriage Anniversaries: If, in 2020, 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. Please sign-up by Sunday, December 13, on the (blue) sheets provided in the foyer of the church and please **print clearly** so that we don't misspell your names! The certificates will be presented on the weekend of the Feast of the Holy Family.

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 20. All memorials will be announced in the December 27 bulletin.

THE CZECH CATHOLIC FOUNDATION OF TEXAS (CCFT) will hold its Annual Membership Meeting, virtually, on Saturday, January 9, 2021 at 10 a.m. The mission of CCFT is "to document, study, preserve, celebrate and perpetuate all elements of the Czech Catholic faith transplanted to Texas by immigrants from the Czech lands, and to strengthen ties with the Czech Catholics of the ancestral homeland evangelized by Saints Cyril and Methodius." To participate in the Zoom (virtual) meeting please send your email address to marek1212@gmail.com.

The **Clerical Endowment Fund (CEF)** has special 'Christmas' Enrollment cards (English & Spanish) for Spiritual Bouquet Gifts for the Christmas season. These will be available in the foyer of the church the weekend of December 12/13 for the usual \$2 offering per card (per person enrolled). All offerings go to the CEF and benefit the education of our Austin Diocesan seminarians.



The Diocese of Austin has announced that it **WILL** have DCYC this year. It will be a one day event on January 30, 2021 at the Dell Diamond in Round Rock. All teens in grades 9 through 12 are invited to come worship and celebrate our great Catholic faith. The speakers and presenters promise to be a dynamic and exciting group. All COVID protocol will be practiced and masks will be mandatory throughout the event. The cost is \$50 per attendee and includes the registration fee, a t-shirt and lunch. If you would like to attend, please contact our Faith Formation office as all registrations must be in by December 2. If there are any questions, please contact our office at 737-215-1042 or htcdre@yahoo.com or Kelly Godfrey at klgodfrey12@gmail.com.

Holy Trinity Painting Restoration Update: The restoration is being done by Brown Mountain Art and Antique Restoration in Dallas. It should take about 12 weeks to complete the work. Cost is \$12,100.00. As of today, we have received a total of \$ 6,690.00. Thank you for your generosity! If you would like to donate, please put your donation in an envelope and mark on it "Holy Trinity Painting Restoration" and either mail it to us, put it in the collection basket or bring it to the office. Thank you!

The Season of Advent – our time of preparation for the birth of our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ – begins next weekend.

Corn Hill – Sunday, December 13, 5 PM; St. Patrick – Hutto – Monday, December 14, 6 PM

St. Mary's – Taylor – Monday, December 14, 7 PM; St. Elizabeth – Pflugerville – Wednesday, December 16, 6 PM

St. William – Round Rock – Wednesday, December 16, 7 PM; St. Helen - Georgetown – Thursday, December 17, 7 PM

St. William – Round Rock – Monday, December 21, 1-6 PM

Dear friends in Christ,

Greetings to each of you in this holy Season of Advent. In today's Gospel reading Mark tells us how John was called to proclaim the coming of the Messiah. His message was one of repentance and the need to reform one's life. He was called to prepare the way of the Lord. The prophets and John the Baptizer preached that the Messiah would come, yet, very few recognized Him when He did come into the world. They were not prepared spiritually because they were too focused on their earthly well-being. How are we preparing the way of the Lord during this Season of Advent? Are we praying at home with our families and reading the Scriptures together? Will we recognize Jesus when He comes again? Will we recognize His Divine Presence to us at Christmas or will we only be thinking about the Christmas gifts and decorations? How are we preparing ourselves and others so that we all can recognize Him in our lives every day? Are we planning on going to Confession before Christmas? The Penance Service schedule for the parishes in our deanery is in this bulletin. Please plan now to come with your family to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation together. **Our Advent Penance Service will be next Sunday, December 13, at 5:00 pm.** There is no better way to prepare oneself than making a good Confession and then receiving our Lord in Holy Communion with purity of heart and soul.

This Advent, are we ready to give up, to repent, of those things that stand in God's way of drawing himself closer to us? We believe that Jesus will come again. This belief is the source of great joy. But it also is a promise that should make us nervous. What are we going to do to change and improve our lives and prepare ourselves for our meeting with Jesus? Let's take time to think about it very seriously.

I also recommend that you try coming to Mass sometime during the week as another way of helping you to prepare for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. When we come to Mass, whether it be on Saturday evening or Sunday morning and also on a weekday, we should come early enough to prepare ourselves through prayer for what we celebrate at Mass. If we rush in and have not quieted ourselves mentally and spiritually we will miss out on the true experience of what the Mass is all about. The rosary helps us to prepare by focusing us on the life of Jesus. Also, other private prayers that come from your heart should be prayed before Mass so that you are truly in communication with our Lord. Pray the prayers that best express your inner sentiments. **There is a good selection of prayers on pages 170-177 in the Today's Missal that is in the pew.** These prayers are good to pray anytime, whether before Mass or after Mass in the church or at home.

This Tuesday, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation as we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Immaculate Conception in the womb of her mother St. Anne. All Catholics are obligated to attend Mass on this Holy Day. However, during this coronavirus pandemic all Catholics who are 65 years of age or older, or, those with compromised immune systems, still have a dispensation from attending Mass on this Holy Day or on Sundays. For the rest of us, let us gather together to reflect upon how Mary was prepared from the time of her conception in the womb of her mother to be the mother of the Savior. Check the Mass schedule in this bulletin so that you can attend one of the three Masses that will be offered for this Holy Day.

Saturday, December 12, we will celebrate the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** at the 7:30 am Mass. Come and give honor to Mary on this special feast day which commemorates Mary's apparition to St. Juan Diego in Mexico in 1531. After this apparition, millions of the native peoples accepted the faith. Mary truly is the great evangelizer.

K ZAMYŠLENÍ: Přichází! Nevíme přesně kdy, kam, jak. Jen víme, že nový král přichází a přináší vysvobození. Kolikrát lidé čekali na nového krále (ředitele, předsedu, prezidenta...) s nadějí, že právě on je zachrání. Mnohdy přišlo zklamání, protože lidé jsou limitováni svými schopnostmi, mnozí dokonce poškodili svěšené hodnoty. Tak možná vyhlížíme příchod Ježíše skepticky, bez očekávání. A přeci víme, že pro nás zemřel, vydal úplně všechno! Dnes se můžeme s důvěrou opřít o Boží moc a očekávat skutečného zachránce, Krále přinášejíciho život do našeho, do mého světa. (Vira.cz)

Segundo Domingo de Adviento: En el Evangelio de hoy escuchamos el mensaje de Juan el Bautista llamándonos a cambiar nuestro corazón y recordándonos que la verdadera luz y gloria de la tierra es Jesucristo. Mientras estamos ocupados con los árboles de navidad, los regalos y las decoraciones, debemos estar, especialmente enfocados y atentos a Cristo quien se presenta ante nosotros en aquel que no tiene un hogar que decorar, un lugar para un árbol ni esperanza de recibir regalos ¿Podemos nosotros darles el regalo de hacer contacto visual con ellos, o preguntarles su nombre o, platicar con ellos por algunos momentos? ¡Este puede ser el regalo más importante que podemos dar este año ya que no conocemos el disfraz de necesidad que Jesús puede que use para acercarse a nosotros! Have a most blessed week.

In Christ,

Fr. Stephen Nesrsta, farář

The History of the Advent Season

FR. WILLIAM SAUNDERS

The liturgical season of Advent marks the time of spiritual preparation by the faithful before Christmas. Advent begins on the Sunday closest to the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30). It spans four Sundays and four weeks of preparation, although the last week of Advent is usually truncated because of when Christmas falls.

The celebration of Advent has evolved in the spiritual life of the Church. The historical origins of Advent are hard to determine with great precision. In its earliest form, beginning in France, Advent was a period of preparation for the feast of the Epiphany, a day when converts were baptized; so the Advent preparation was very similar to Lent with an emphasis on prayer and fasting which lasted three weeks and later was expanded to 40 days. In 380, the local Council of Saragossa, Spain, established a three-week fast before Epiphany. Inspired by the Lenten regulations, the local Council of Macon, France, in 581 designated that from November 11, the feast of St. Martin of Tours, until Christmas, fasting would be required on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Eventually, similar practices spread to England. In Rome, the Advent preparation did not appear until the sixth century, and was viewed as a preparation for Christmas with less of a penitential bent.

The Church gradually more formalized the celebration of Advent. The Gelasian Sacramentary, traditionally attributed to Pope St. Gelasius I (d. 496), was the first to provide Advent liturgies for five Sundays. Later, Pope St. Gregory I (d. 604) enhanced these liturgies composing prayers, antiphons, readings and responses. Pope St. Gregory VII (d. 1095) later reduced the number of Sundays in Advent to four. Finally, about the ninth century, the Church designated the first Sunday of Advent as the beginning of the Church year.

Despite the “sketchy” history behind Advent, the importance of this season remains to focus on the coming of our Lord. (Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning “coming.”) The *Catechism* stresses the two-fold meaning of this “coming”: “When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for His second coming” (No. 524).

Therefore, on one hand, the faithful reflect and are encouraged to celebrate the anniversary of the Lord’s first coming into this world. We ponder again the great mystery of the incarnation when our Lord humbled Himself, taking on our humanity, and entered our time and space to free us from sin. On the other hand, we recall in the Creed that our Lord will come again to judge the living and the dead and that we must be ready to meet Him.

A good, pious way to help us in our Advent preparation has been the use of the Advent wreath. (Interestingly, the use of the Advent wreath was borrowed from the German Lutherans in the early 1500s.) The wreath is a circle, which has no beginning or end; so we call to mind how our lives, here and now, participate in the eternity of God’s plan of salvation and how we hope to share eternal life in the kingdom of heaven. The wreath is made of fresh plant material, because Christ came to give us new life through His passion, death and resurrection. Three candles are purple, symbolizing penance, preparation and sacrifice; the pink candle symbolizes the same but highlights the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, when we rejoice because our preparation is now half-way finished. The light represents Christ, who entered this world to scatter the darkness of evil and show us the way of righteousness. The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our Lord. Each family ought to have an Advent wreath, light it at dinner time and say the special prayers. This tradition will help each family keep its focus on the true meaning of Christmas. In all, during Advent we strive to fulfill the opening prayer for the Mass of the First Sunday of Advent: “Father in Heaven...increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth.”