

St. Mary Catholic Church ~ St. Joseph Catholic Mission

December 2024



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
 Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
 Fr. Edward C. Kucera, Jr. ~ Pastor
 Deacon David G. Garvis
 Deacon Anthony Olivieri



Parish Office
 PO Box 388, Plantersville, TX 77363
 936-894-2223
 Parish Fax ~ 936-894-3613
 Email: info@smsj.org
 Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
 Friday: 8:00 am - 12 pm
 Lunch: Closed from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

St. Mary - Plantersville
 Monday through Thursday & First Friday - 9:00 a.m.
 Saturday - 5:00 p.m. &
 Sunday - 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.

St. Joseph - Stoneham
 Sunday—7:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

1st & 3rd Wednesday: 10a.m.-12p.m. & 5-6p.m.
 Or by Appointment—Please Call the Office.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Please call the parish office for information concerning the Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony or Anointing of the Sick.

Church Organizations & Ministries at St. Mary's & St. Joseph's

Parish Administrator

Bill Jones 936.894.2223

AA

Deb Waters 281.701.4177

ACTS Retreat

Mike Fortunato 346.225.5105

Adult Bible Study & Spiritual Enrichment

Pam Milek 281.686.7552

Adult Confirmation

Sharon Skeans 281.467.0217

Annulments

Cindy Olivieri 713.206.0621

Art & Environment...etc.

Liz Torres 936.894.2223

Baptism Preparation for Infants to 6

Email: baptism@stmaryandjoseph.org

CCE / RE

Candace Hachtel 936.894.2223

Email: cce@stmaryandjoseph.org

Church Greeters

Call Parish Office 936.894.2223

Gabriel Project

Amy Schnell 904.556.3486

GriefShare Ministry

Mary Marshall 281.356.2497

Guardian Angels Senior Group

TBD 936.894.2223

Homebound Ministry

Bobby Williams 832.540.2250

Lectors

Richard Prokop 936.827.1125

Little Lambs Playgroup

Wanda O'Brien 936.597.6328

Marriage Preparation

Dcn. Anthony Olivieri 936.522.8146

Cindy Olivieri 713.206.0621

Music Coordinator

Meara O'Neill 936.894.2223

OCIA / Adult Faith Formation

Thomas Johnson 936.697.2821

Pro-Life Outreach

Nance Shaw 936.894.2512

Rummage Sale Coordinator

Lauren Twining 281.813.5355

St. Joseph - Altar Society

Marcy Pavlock 936.661.6662

St. Joseph - Cemetery

Justin Mock 979.777.4993

St. Mary - Altar Servers

Steve Twining 936.306.9188

St. Mary - Altar Society

Betty Hollas 713.419.6106

St. Mary - Cemetery

Rita Swonke 713.557.5817

St. Mary - Corner Shoppe

Devoni Wardlow 281.468.8784

St. Mary - Extraordinary Ministers -

Holy Communion & Sacristans

Kerry Masson 713.824.8599

St. Mary - Men's Club

Shanon Salsbury 936.444.5988

Stitchin' Sisters

Juli Murphy 936.206.0677

St. Vincent de Paul (for help. 936.894.2362)

Bob Daves 832.205.2791

Wedding Coordinator:

Martha Lucas 512.608.3519

Young Catholic Married Couples (YCMC)

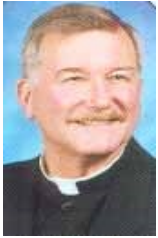
Michael Tann 346.373.0369

Youth Confirmation

Email: youthconfirmation@stmaryandjoseph.org

..... If you would like to become a member of our parish, please pick up a registration form in back of the church or complete online at www.smsj.org.

AND NOW A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR...



When appointed pastor of St. Mary/St. Joseph 25 years ago, Bishop Fiorenza mentioned that it was a 'nice' 'country' parish that he was sure I would enjoy. As the years have gone by, I have witnessed the transformation of the parish. The countryside is in process of disappearing with the development of so many subdivisions. Of course, this has been happening not only in our area but throughout our great State of Texas. The face is, the growth we have experienced falls short to the growth in other areas of our Archdiocese. Our growth, nevertheless, has been explosive.

Such a great situation to have! Many parishes are losing parishioners and struggling financially. Our growth has been phenomenal. And, as a result of the financial support and our working together, our parish community has been able to achieve so much as new families are welcomed with open arms and eagerly jump in to become part our parish thereby making it so special. I hope it's obvious that what we all do is for the honor and glory of the Lord. It's that volunteer spirit linked with joyful witness that has been blessed by God throughout the years.

As pastor, I am so proud of our communities of Faith. Priests throughout the Archdiocese envy me. Some are eagerly awaiting my retirement...lol. I have to remind myself how blessed I am and the responsibility I have as shepherd to such a great flock.

Above the stove in the kitchen in St. Mary's hall there is a prayer: "Dear Lord, help us to serve You with an open mind, a loving heart and willing hands. In Your name we pray. Amen." This prayer summarizes what we all struggle to do as we volunteer to work together as the Lord's servants/workers. Sometimes we need to be reminded that we are all volunteers in His service. In Baptism we were incorporated into His service. We pledged ourselves to work together as loyal, joy-filled and considerate servants. 'Considerate' is what we often forget or excuse ourselves when we choose to be a bit forceful or even rude when dealing with each other. I find that even I have on occasion been a bit hard-handed when correcting behavior when a more gentle, Christ-like reminder would have achieved the desired result. I apologize for that. It's that Christ-like consideration that we need to cultivate in our dealing with one another. Feelings are so easily hurt/bruised. Awareness of that Christ-like consideration and charity when working together is critical in our witness to the Lord. Otherwise, we are just an organization doing some good stuff, sitting on a lot of land.

Let us all be mindful how we ask, how we question, and the tone we use with one another. This includes especially when dealing with our office staff and those serving in ministries. We're all running around like chickens-with-our-heads-cut-off. There are times when what is asked *won't* be granted, *can't* be granted, *could* be granted but not now *or will he considered*. An attitude of 'you're here for what I want' and what 'I want it now' is the work of the devil who wants to cause division, discord, hurt feelings, gossip and make us UN-Christ-like. We need to be so careful that as we grow both in numbers and as we grow in deepening our love of Christ that we also grow in deepening our love of each other [and how we treat each other]. Just saying....a gentle reminder.

We are so blessed. I sincerely hope that every one of you who reads this, especially if you're new to the parish, appreciates and relishes the many opportunities the Lord is inviting you and even challenging you to embrace and be an active, conscious and joy-filled participant/worker/witness to Him in our area of Texas entrusted to us. What a wonderful parish community we have been privileged to say is 'my faith home'! I'm proud of each and every one of you!!

**Lord, make us all
Instruments of Your Peace**



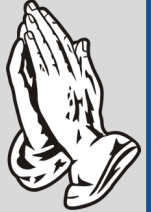
THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Pope's Intention: For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Please keep our sick in your prayers:

MaryAnn Benitz, Lisa "Roahde" Bohack, Bernie & JoAnn Borski, Courtney Boyett, Delores Boyett, James & Meredith Buck, Charlie Burzinski, Jr., Gary Carmouche, Jay Creighton, Melissa Duffy, Jeff Faughn, Liliana Fredo, Melody Gensheimer, Holly Gilstrap, Russell Grasshoff, Jamie Hafla, Kenneth Harris, Briana Herzog Burns, Timothy & Catherine Hoffart, Irene Hoffpauir, Barbara Hyde, Alice Johnston, Hiltraud "Hillie" Keller, Deborah Kennamore, Ruth Kolek, Jimmy Kubeczka, Shirley Kuzma, Grant Larson, Jack Letobitz, Chris Lobue, Kayla Reneé Luck, Patti Lott Stafford, Kelly Mason, Natalie Mattern, Kerri McLeod, Mike Meador & Janie Houser Meador, Hailey Minor, Chad Mock, Fred O'Connor, CeCe Ray, Josephine Shannon, John Simmons, Fred Smith, John Snyder, Brian Stehling, Marie Staples, Craig Strickler, Daniela Syzdek, Clara Walkoviak



We need your help to clean up our prayer list. Please get in touch with the office if there is anyone we can remove from the prayer list, if there is a loved one you would like to remain on the list, or if you would like to add someone to the list. Contact at info@smsj.org or 936-894-2223

CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be heard on
Wednesday, December 4
5:00-6:00pm only



Wednesday, December 18
10:00am-noon & 5:00-6:00pm

Otherwise, if available, Fr. Ed would be happy to hear confessions.

Call the office for an appointment at 936-894-2223.

Anointing Mass for the Sick and Elderly

Wednesday, December 4

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## **First Friday Mass**

**December 6 at 9:00am**

The Parish office will be **closed** Tuesday afternoon December 24, all day Wednesday & Thursday, December 25 & 26 in observance of Christmas. The Parish Office will be **closed** on Wednesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day.



## St. Joseph Mass Intentions December 2024

| <u>Date</u>    | <u>Time</u> | <u>Intentions</u>                                                     | <u>Requested by</u>                                                      |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun., Dec. 1   | 7:30am      | Cecilia Billimek<br>Theresa Killen                                    | Debbie Nugent<br>Carol & Harold Wishkoski                                |
| Sun., Dec. 8   | 7:30am      | Wm. & Frances Tomkivits<br>Elaine Grochett                            | Mary Ann Gurka<br>----                                                   |
| Sun., Dec. 15  | 7:30am      | Ramona Langley<br>& Frances Langley King<br>Leland & Barbara Fougeron | Imhoff Family<br><br>Tom & Kaky Wetuski                                  |
| Sun., Dec. 22  | 7:30am      | Clara Fridye<br>Grady M. Drawdy III                                   | Susan Vaculik<br>Sandra Drawdy Rios                                      |
| Tues., Dec. 24 | 7:00pm      | Jeff Wetuski<br>The Busa & Phillips Families                          | Tom & Kaky Wetuski<br>Debbie Nugent                                      |
| Sun., Dec. 29  | 7:30am      | Shirley Bailey<br>Frances Tomkivits<br>Anton Fridye                   | Mary Ann Novakosky<br>Wm & Mary Gorney<br>The Late Clara Fridye & Family |

### *Please visit:*

<https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>

### *For today's Liturgical Readings*



### **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOANER PROGRAM**

St. Mary's has a loaner program for anyone in need of Medical equipment. For equipment availability, and to set up a pick up time please contact the office at 936-894-2223.

*We have walkers, bedside commodes,  
medical beds & other durable  
medical devices.*



**Please note: you can find the bulletin  
on our website [www.smsj.org](http://www.smsj.org)**

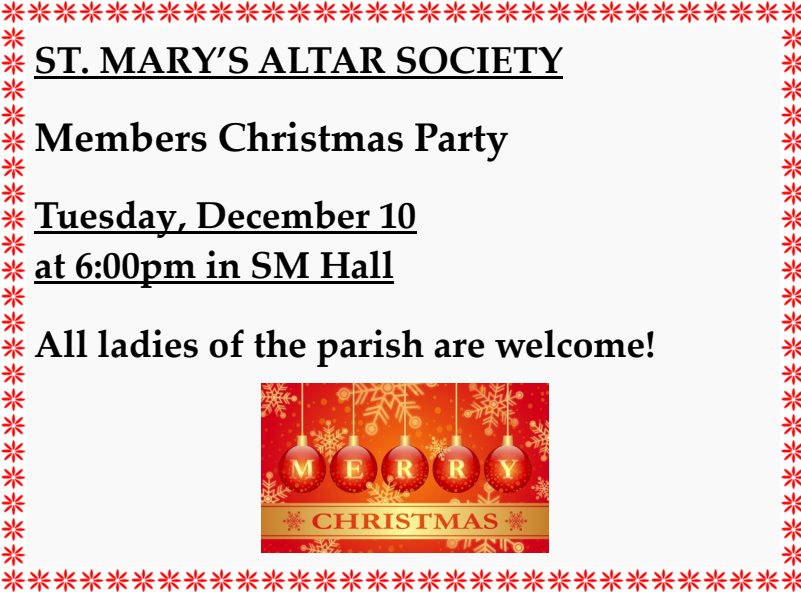
### *Volunteers Needed*

If you are new to our Parish or have been thinking about getting involved with one of our many Church Organizations or Ministries, please refer to the front page of the bulletin. You will find a list with the contact information of the person that can get you signed up. If you don't see what you are looking for please ask. We always need helping hands!!

**Please pray for all of our men & women  
in the military.**

## St. Mary Mass Intentions for December 2024

| <b>Date</b>    | <b>Time</b> | <b>Intention</b>                 | <b>Requested by</b>           |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sat., Dec. 1   | 7:00am      | Gertrude Tepera                  | Charles & Elizabeth Schott    |
| Sat., Dec. 1   | 8:30am      | Pauline Filippone Padgett        | Susan Riedle                  |
| Sat., Dec. 1   | 10:00am     | Lyle Hamm                        | Patrick Pfertner              |
| Sat., Dec. 1   | 11:30am     | Bob Riedle                       | Mary & Susan Riedle           |
| Mon., Dec. 2   | 9:00am      | McKinley Johnson, Jr.            | McKinley & Mary Johnson       |
| Tues., Dec. 3  | 9:00am      | Raymond Solcher                  | ---                           |
| Wed., Dec. 4   | 9:00am      | Johnny Dale Fain                 | ---                           |
| Thur., Dec. 5  | 9:00am      | John & Agnes Ubnoski             | Pat Feldman                   |
| Fri., Dec. 6   | 9:00am      | Jack Demny                       | Denise Durel                  |
| Sat., Dec. 7   | 5:00pm      | Jacob Diehl                      | Beatrice Diehl                |
| Sun., Dec. 8   | 7:00am      | Gilbert Ubnoski                  | Pat Feldman                   |
|                |             | Lisa Seigle                      | James & Barbara Seigle        |
| Sun., Dec. 8   | 8:30am      | For the People                   | ---                           |
| Sun., Dec. 8   | 10:00am     | Bernice Watson                   | Debbie Austin                 |
| Sun., Dec. 8   | 11:30am     | (Carol Fowler)                   | The Fowlers                   |
|                |             | Sharon Hatter                    | The Hatter Family             |
| Mon., Dec. 9   | 9:00am      | NO MASS                          | ---                           |
| Tues., Dec. 10 | 9:00am      | NO MASS                          | ---                           |
| Wed., Dec. 11  | 9:00am      | NO MASS                          | ---                           |
| Thur., Dec. 12 | 9:00am      | NO MASS                          | ---                           |
| Sat., Dec. 14  | 5:00pm      | Louis Lebeck                     | Jerry & Martha Vickery        |
|                |             | Sam Blair                        | The Blair Family              |
| Sun., Dec. 15  | 7:00am      | Dolores Hoffart                  | ---                           |
|                |             | Frank Hoffart                    | ---                           |
|                | 8:30am      | Leonard Sumbera                  | Patrick & Ann Pfertner        |
| Sun., Dec. 15  | 10:00am     | Ted Stephen                      | Arlene Stephen                |
| Sun., Dec. 15  | 11:30am     | Jack Moser                       | Mary Jo Villa                 |
| Mon., Dec. 16  | 9:00am      | Robert & Annie Mazock Pfertner   | Patrick & Ann Pfertner        |
| Tues., Dec. 17 | 9:00am      | Tommy Hoffpauir                  | Linette Mock                  |
| Wed., Dec. 18  | 9:00am      | Anna Smith                       | Dianne Stanley                |
| Thur., Dec. 19 | 9:00am      | Ray Poole                        | ---                           |
| Sat., Dec. 21  | 5:00pm      | Frank Mock                       | Linette Mock                  |
| Sun., Dec. 22  | 7:00am      | David & Billy Podraza            | Joy & Greg Walkoviak          |
| Sun., Dec. 22  | 8:30am      | Averi Lucas                      | Ron & MaryAnn Kloster         |
|                |             | Norma Deneen                     | ---                           |
| Sun., Dec. 22  | 10:00am     | Patty Jones                      | Bill Jones                    |
| Sun., Dec. 22  | 11:30am     | For the People                   | ---                           |
| Mon., Dec. 23  | 9:00am      | Annie & Oscar Demny              | Pat Feldman                   |
| Tues., Dec. 24 | 3:00pm      | Thomas Diehl                     | ---                           |
| Tues., Dec. 24 | 3:15pm      | William Mock                     | The Mock Family               |
| Tues., Dec. 24 | 5:00pm      | Dcn. William & Lorraine Pfertner | Wagner Patrick & Ann Pfertner |
|                |             | Kimberly Delgado                 | Eddie & Dianne Delgado        |
| Wed., Dec. 25  | 10:00am     | Bill Malek                       | Dan & Dianne Malek            |
| Thur., Dec. 26 | 9:00am      | For the People                   | ---                           |
| Sat., Dec. 28  | 5:00pm      | Lavail Lott                      | Betty Lott                    |
| Sun., Dec. 29  | 7:00am      | Sylvia Galloway Corolla          | ---                           |
| Sun., Dec. 29  | 8:30am      | Grady M. Drawdy III              | Sandra Drawdy Rios            |
| Sun., Dec. 29  | 10:00am     | For the People                   | ---                           |
| Sun., Dec. 29  | 11:30am     | John & Mary Lebeck               | Jerry & Martha Vickery        |
| Mon., Dec. 30  | 9:00am      | Neil Rosenberg & Manuel Bustillo | ---                           |
| Tues., Dec. 31 | 4:00pm      | Thomas Schwartz                  | ---                           |



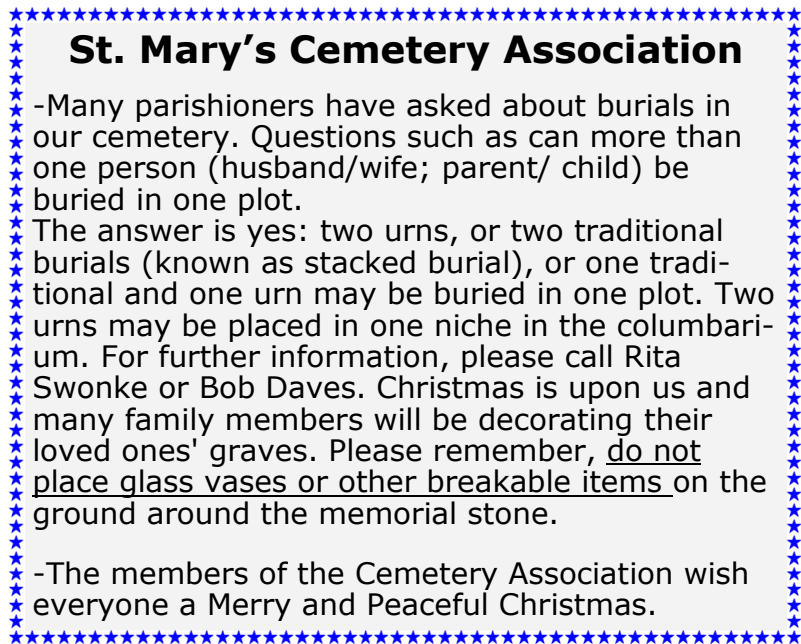
**ST. MARY'S ALTAR SOCIETY**

**Members Christmas Party**

**Tuesday, December 10**

**at 6:00pm in SM Hall**

**All ladies of the parish are welcome!**



**St. Mary's Cemetery Association**

-Many parishioners have asked about burials in our cemetery. Questions such as can more than one person (husband/wife; parent/ child) be buried in one plot.

The answer is yes: two urns, or two traditional burials (known as stacked burial), or one traditional and one urn may be buried in one plot. Two urns may be placed in one niche in the columbarium. For further information, please call Rita Swonke or Bob Daves. Christmas is upon us and many family members will be decorating their loved ones' graves. Please remember, do not place glass vases or other breakable items on the ground around the memorial stone.

-The members of the Cemetery Association wish everyone a Merry and Peaceful Christmas.



**The Montgomery County Women's Center** is an outreach of the St. Mary's Altar Society. The Center offers support to women and families experiencing difficult circumstances with domestic violence.

If you are so inclined the shelter needs the following items:

- Paper plates**
- Paper cups**
- Paper towels**
- Toilet paper**
- Bleach**
- Liquid detergent**

Please place your donations in the baskets provided in the church and hall.

Thank You from the Women's Center for all of your donations.

For more information about the Women's Center go to <https://mcwctx.org>



**ST. MARY'S GUARDIAN ANGELS SENIOR GROUP NEWS**

**Meeting on Tuesday, December 3 @ 10:00am in the FLC Rm 201**

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**BINGO** will be Tuesday, December 17 at 10am - 2pm in St. Mary's Hall. Entrée will be provided, please bring a side dish. Bring a friend and enjoy the fun.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Domino Club** will play **42** on Tuesdays, in the Family Life Center Kitchen. They are looking for more players.

*Remember, please bring a dish to share with everyone*

## Special Collection Retirement Fund for Religious Weekend of December 7 & 8

This collection is specifically for the Sisters who have devoted themselves to the Church.

**Please give to those who have given a lifetime.**



**Elderly religious need your help.** Nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer and ministry educating the young, tending the sick, aiding the needy, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a profound shortage in retirement savings. Your support of the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish care, medicine, and other necessities.

*Please give generously.*

### UPCOMING SECOND/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

December 1: Christmas Flower Offering

December 8: Retirement Fund for Religious (Sisters)

December 25: My Christmas Gift to My Church

January 1: Solemnity of Mary



## Christmas Day Table Prayer

Lord God of Life,  
together with the beautiful traditions  
of decorating the Christmas tree,  
of singing carols and giving gifts,  
this Christmas dinner is an important part  
of our celebration of the birth  
of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Come, Lord our God,  
and surround our feast day table  
as we delight in this joyous season of Christmas.

Gift us in this meal with the taste of happiness  
as we savor this coming together  
of family and friends.

As sparkling stars and singing angels rejoiced  
at the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem,  
so may we take great joy  
in this our Christmas dinner-celebration.

May You, our God, bless it and us  
in Your holy name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Amen+

## LITTLE LAMBS PLAYGROUP

Are you looking for a playgroup for your children to get together with others? Moms or Dads, are you looking to connect with other parents and visit while your children play? Homeschool families, are you looking for a few hours of socialization for your children and conversation with adults? If the answer is YES, then come and join us this month in the hall at St. Mary's from 9:00am-11:00am on Friday, December 13.



## SUNDAY FUNDAY

Children of all ages - join in the FUN during SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP in the corner of the HALL EVERY SUNDAY after every Mass. Fun things to PLAY with and FRIENDS to meet. Let's enjoy our CATHOLIC FAITH together!



## JOIN THE STITCHIN' SISTERS



Are you interested in bringing back a lost art?

Are you interested in having a good time with a great group of ladies?

Think about joining the Stitchin' Sisters. Hand quilting seems to be a lost art that we are trying to keep alive. We are a group of ladies that hand quilt three donation quilts a year. One for the Plantersville Fire Department Auction, one for St. Joseph's Bazaar Auction and one for St. Mary's Bazaar Auction.

If time permits between those quilts, we will quilt a member's quilt for a nominal fee. If you do not know how to quilt, we will do our best to help you out. We all have opinions! We can show you how to put up a quilt on a frame, how to mark it, how to quilt it, and how to finish it.

**We meet every Wednesday from 9:30 to 2:00 at the St. Joseph Hall. Bring your own lunch.**

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

**For more info, Juli Murphy: at 936-206-0677 or email julimurphy1988@gmail.com.**





Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center  
Houston, TX

# Holy Name Passionist Retreats 2025

## Jubilant Pilgrims

It comes but every 25 years 'Jubilee 2025' don't miss this reverent opportunity to join fellow parishioners as pilgrims on a Jubilee Retreat. Journey together on a weekend retreat here at Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center where we will explore what it means to become Jubilant Pilgrims: Prepare, Pray, Profess, and Praise.

For more information and to register go to <https://holynameretreatcenter.com/catholic-weekend-retreats>

### Women's Retreat Dates:

May 16-18, 2024  
June 20-22, 2024

St. Mary's / St. Joseph's



Men's Retreat

**FEBRUARY 6-9, 2025**

*"At Thy Word I Will Let Down My Nets"*  
*Luke 5: 1-11*

**Register Now:**



**Retreat Director:**

Luis Martinez-Gallaro  
936-231-0345  
[luismgworks@gmail.com](mailto:luismgworks@gmail.com)

[www.smsj.org/events](http://www.smsj.org/events)



ACTS is hosting a **Bake Sale Fundraiser** after Masses

**December 21 & 22.** Let our ministry bake your Christmas goodies this holiday season so you can relax. We will have cakes, pies, fudge, brittle, cookies, pastries and breads. This fundraiser will help our ministry with expenses related to future retreats, as we continue to grow and serve our parish.

We kindly ask for the help of our ACTS brothers and sisters in baking goods for the bake sale. Please contact Kim Kleimann at 936-788-3520 with questions or if you would like to volunteer after a Mass that weekend to help sell. We will have tables at both exits of the church and greatly appreciate your support in making this fundraiser a success.

## ST. MARY MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club members will be joining the St. Mary's Altar Society for a Christmas celebration, Tuesday, December 10 at 6:00pm.

The Men's Club wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### St. Vincent de Paul Society:

The members of St. Vincent de Paul would like to express our deepest appreciation for your generosity during this past year. We have been able to help many people during these hard times. If you would like to continue to help our friends during this upcoming Christmas Season, any amount you would like to donate would be greatly appreciated. From all of us at the St Mary/t Joseph Conference and from our many friends, we wish everyone a most Holy and Blessed Christmas.



*Sirach 4:1-6 "My child, do not cheat the poor of their living, and do not keep needy eyes waiting. Do not not grieve the hungry, or anger one in need. Do not add to the troubles of the desperate, or delay giving to the needy. Do not reject a suppliant in distress, or turn your face away from the poor. Do not avert your eye from the needy, and give no one reason to curse you; for if in bitterness of soul some should curse you, their Creator will hear their prayer."*

**Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 28 at 10:00 am.**

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**If you or anyone you know is in need of assistance from the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call: (936) 894.2362**



THE  
GABRIEL  
PROJECT

**The Gabriel Project** is the pro-life apostolate offering assistance to a woman and her family during and after her pregnancy. We offer the following to ALL parishioners and those in the surrounding community:

- Maternity clothing
- Baby & Infant clothing from size 0 thru 2T
- Diapers/wipes/toiletries
- Crib/car seat/toys/other baby needs

We have a **well-stocked storage room** of new and very gently used items **waiting to be gifted** to our parish families and those in the area who are pregnant or have little ones!

Contact Amy Schnell 904.556.3486 or Karen Smith 936-689-3618(text) to set up a time to pick up the items needed or to visit with us for any special needs.

The GABRIEL PROJECT will accept your BABY/TODDLER items (clothes, car seats, infant toys, etc.). Drop off on the porch of THE GABRIEL STORAGE ROOM or contact Amy Schnell or Karen Smith for assistance.



# The Corner Shoppe

## St. Mary's Religious Articles Store

Stop in after all Weekend Masses to shop for:

20% OFF

Catholic Gifts \* Catholic Devotional Items \* Sacrament Gifts  
Wedding and Anniversary Gifts \* Greeting Cards \* Rosaries

All items in the Corner Shoppe are 20% off during the month of December.

The Shoppe is also open on Wednesdays  
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Are you looking for a fun and easy ministry to get involved with at St. Mary's? **The Corner Shoppe needs a few volunteers to work one Sunday a month for about 30 minutes after the 11:30 a.m. mass on Sundays.** If you are interested in learning more about participating in this ministry, please contact Devoni Wardlow at [mrs.wardlow@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.wardlow@gmail.com).

## St. Mary's Men's Club Blood Drive & Breakfast Sunday, January 12

Please make plans to donate.  
If you are unable to, please encourage a friend or family member to do so.



## Faith Formation & Children's Sacraments



December 1st/8th - CCE class #8

December 8th/11th - CCE class #9

December 15th/18th - CCE class #10

January CCE classes resume on January 12th/15th for CCE class #11

## Infant Baptism Information

Baptisms are scheduled quarterly and usually occur on Saturday mornings. Available dates will be provided upon completion of all requirements.

Parents must take a preparation course (if they have not completed one within the past 3 years).

Parents will be required to upload a copy of their child's birth certificate during registration

If not a registered parishioner, you will need to provide a Letter of Assurance from your current parish.

Parents will be required to attend an informational session (see below)

### Baptism Information Sessions

At least one parent is required to attend an Information Session, and godparents are encouraged to attend. Dates are below and will be held at 1pm in the Family Life Center:

January 5, 2025

February 2, 2025

March 2, 2025

April 6, 2025

May 4, 2025

We look forward to serving you and your family in preparation for this blessed sacrament!

Contact: [baptism@stmaryandjoseph.org](mailto:baptism@stmaryandjoseph.org)



## Rowan's Prayer

*One day God will Bring us back together, United with your child, you'll cry no more.*

*Till then, may we draw strength from each other, knowing that they wait by Heaven's door.*

If you have or you know of someone who just experienced a miscarriage, still birth or infant loss or you know someone with a neonatal diagnosis.

Contact Bonnie Haytcher: by calling  
941-302-6310,  
or emailing haytcherb@gmail.com



## GRIEFSHARE

The Holiday Season can be Stressful after the loss of a loved one

Here are a few tips to help you through the season:

Acknowledge & Recognize things may be different this year.

Don't stress over the little things.

**Make a Plan:**

1 - Decorate or not that is Your choice

2 - Decide which gatherings You want to attend

3 - Stay as long as You want

4 - Give yourself permission to say No

Start a new Holiday tradition by finding a way to honor Your loved one.

Journaling - express Your feelings.  
Give Yourself time to rest.

*"Trust in Him at all times, pour out your heart before him" Psalm 62:8*

## ST. JOSEPH ALTAR SOCIETY

Altar Society Meeting in the parish hall

**Tuesday, December 3  
6:30 pm - SJ Hall**

Anyone who is not currently a member of the Altar Society, but would like to be, please plan on attending.

### ALTAR CARE:

**Theresa Rausheck & Dianne Phillips**

### COFFEE SERVERS:

**Dec. 1: Theresa Rausheck**

**Dec. 8: Angie Imhoff & Josey Imhoff**

**Dec. 15: Breakfast w/Santa/ KofC**

**Dec. 22: Donut Day**

**Dec. 29: Donna Burzynski & Kathy Burzynski**

## Young Catholic

## Married Couples

### (YCMC)

Young Catholic Married Couples (ages 21-49) will be meeting in the St. Mary's Hall for dinner and social on Monday, December 30, 2024. Join us 5:30-8 PM for food, drinks, and socializing. Childcare is provided.

Contact Michael Tann for any questions:

346-373-0369 or email

michaelj\_tann@hotmail.com.

We will feed you, we will feed your kids, and we will have a chance to form authentic Catholic friendships.

# St. Joseph

## CALLING ALL KIDS ~ YOUNG & OLD!

Join Santa for Breakfast after the 7:30am Mass on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024 in the St. Joseph's Parish Hall.

*Take a picture with Santa too!*

*Hosted by the St. Joseph's Altar Society. Breakfast cooked by the Knights of Columbus.*



## AA MEETINGS:

**Every Monday evening @ 8 p.m. in St. Mary's FLC Kitchen.**



## CALLING ALL KIDS !

*Fr. Ed will hand out Candy Canes at St. Mary's & St. Joseph's on December 8 during all Sunday Masses to celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas.*

*Come on down for your candy cane!*



We are such a Blessed Parish, the generosity of our parishioners of their time and financial support is amazing. It takes thousands of manhours to organize and execute our annual bazaar and our rummage sale. These events don't just get done overnight; they take months of planning by our dedicated volunteers and our staff. The results of all this effort are unbelievable.

|              |                  |                    |  |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|--|
| Bazaar       | \$320,321.58     |                    |  |
| Rummage Sale | <u>80,894.44</u> |                    |  |
| Total        | \$401,216.02     | Net after expenses |  |

The above numbers may change slightly as invoices may still come in. A Big Texas sized thank you to all our parishioners who supported our events.



**St. Joseph's Christmas Party**  
***Friday, December 13 @ 6:30pm***

A catered fajita dinner will be served.  
Please bring an appetizer or dessert if attending.  
Beer, Wine and setups available  
Adults only

Bring a gift (\$25 limit), ladies for ladies and men for men.  
Please RSVP to Marcy Pavlock if you are coming @ 936.661.6662  
by Friday, December 6.



**St. Mary's Holiday Parish Dinner**  
**is set for the weekend of**  
**DECEMBER 7 & 8.**

**Come to the Hall after ALL the**  
**Masses for a delicious meal and**  
**good hospitality!**  
**Plan on coming hungry, a fantastic**  
**traditional Christmas meal**  
**will be served.**



## CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

AT ST. MARY / ST. JOSEPH

### CHRISTMAS EVE ~ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

3:00PM....St. Mary/Church - Traditional

3:15PM....St. Mary/SM Hall - Children's Mass

5:00PM....St. Mary/Church - Traditional

7:00PM....St. Joseph/Church

### CHRISTMAS DAY ~ WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:30AM...St. Mary/Church

## Sunday, News Years Eve, and New Years Day Masses

**Happy  
New Year!**

Tuesday, 12/31 - 4:00pm @ SM

Wednesday, 01/01 - 10:30am @ SM

## **DEEPEN YOUR ROOTS IN CHRIST THIS ADVENT USING FORMED.ORG**

Embark on a powerful journey with *Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree*.

In just 7 minutes a day experience meaningful Advent Reflections that connect faith to your daily life.

**All** parishioners have **free** access to FORMED.ORG where you will find inspiring Catholic content for you and your family. Go to FORMED.ORG to sign up. There is **no password** to remember. Sign up by using our parish zip code: 77363.


# December 2024

## Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00pm (SM)

Sunday: 7:30am (SJ)

7:00, 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30am (SM)

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Monday                                                                                                                   | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                 | Wednesday                                                                                                                           | Thursday                                     | Friday                            | Saturday                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2                                                                                                                        | 3                                                                                                                                                                       | 4                                                                                                                                   | 5                                            | 6                                 | 7                                                                                                                                      |
| *Regular Mass Schedule<br>*10:00am – CCE – FLC<br>*10:00am – OCIA – FLC<br>Kitchen<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection - Christmas<br>Flower Offering                                                              | *9:00am – Mass<br>*8:00pm – AA Meeting – FLC<br>Kitchen                                                                  | *9:00am – Mass<br>*10:00am – Guardian Angels<br>Mtg. – FLC Rm 201<br>*11:00am – Domino Club –<br>FLC Kitchen<br>*6:30pm – SJ Altar Society<br>Mtg. – SJ Hall            | *9:00am – Mass<br>*9:30am – Stitchin' Sisters –<br>SJ Hall<br>*5:00-6:00pm – Confessions<br>*6:45pm – CCE – FLC                     | *9:00am – Mass                               | *9:00am – Mass                    | *5:00pm – Mass<br>*After Mass – SM Holiday<br>Parish Dinner<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection – Retirement<br>Fund for Religious (Sisters) |
| 8                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 9                                                                                                                        | 10                                                                                                                                                                      | 11                                                                                                                                  | 12                                           | 13                                | 14                                                                                                                                     |
| *Regular Mass Schedule<br>*After Masses – SM Holiday<br>Parish Dinner<br>*10:00am – CCE – FLC<br>*10:00am – OCIA – FLC<br>Kitchen<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection – Retirement<br>Fund for Religious (Sisters) | NO MASS<br>*8:00pm – AA Meeting – FLC<br>Kitchen                                                                         | NO MASS<br>*11:00am – Domino Club –<br>FLC Kitchen<br>*6:00pm – St. Mary Altar<br>Society & Men's Club Christ-<br>mas Party – SM Hall                                   | NO MASS<br>*9:30am – Stitchin' Sisters –<br>SJ Hall<br>*6:45pm – CCE – FLC                                                          | NO MASS<br>NO MASS<br>*9:00am – Little Lambs | NO MASS<br>*9:00am – Little Lambs | *5:00pm – Mass                                                                                                                         |
| 15                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 16                                                                                                                       | 17                                                                                                                                                                      | 18                                                                                                                                  | 19                                           | 20                                | 21                                                                                                                                     |
| *Regular Mass Schedule<br>*After 7:30am SJ Mass –<br>Breakfast with Santa<br>*10:00am – CCE – FLC<br>*10:00am – OCIA – FLC<br>Kitchen                                                                        | *9:00am – Mass<br>*8:00pm – AA Meeting – FLC<br>Kitchen                                                                  | *9:00am – Mass<br>*10:00am – Guardian Angels<br>– BINGO – SM Hall<br>*11:00am – Domino Club –<br>FLC Kitchen                                                            | *9:00am – Mass<br>*9:30am – Stitchin' Sisters –<br>SJ Hall<br>*Confessions – 10am – noon<br>& 5:00-6:00pm<br>*6:45pm – CCE – FLC    | *9:00am – Mass                               | NO MASS                           | *5:00pm – Mass<br>*ACTS Bake Sale<br>After Mass @ SM                                                                                   |
| 22                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 23                                                                                                                       | 24                                                                                                                                                                      | 25                                                                                                                                  | 26                                           | 27                                | 28                                                                                                                                     |
| *Regular Mass Schedule<br>*ACTS Bake Sale<br>After Masses @ SM                                                                                                                                               | *9:00am – Mass<br>*8:00pm – AA Meeting – FLC<br>Kitchen                                                                  | *3:00pm – Mass @ SM<br>*3:15pm – @ SM Hall<br>Children's Mass<br>*5:00pm – Mass @ SM<br>*7:00pm – Mass @ SJ<br>Parish Office Closed<br>Half Day<br>Christmas Eve Masses | *10:30am – Christmas Day<br>Mass @ SM<br>Parish Office Closed<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection<br>My Christmas Gift<br>Merry Christmas | *9:00am – Mass<br>Parish Office Closed       | NO MASS                           | *5:00pm – Mass                                                                                                                         |
| 29                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 30                                                                                                                       | 31                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                     |                                              |                                   |                                                                                                                                        |
| *Regular Mass Schedule                                                                                                                                                                                       | *9:00am – Mass<br>*5:30pm – Young Catholic<br>Married Couples Mtg. – SM<br>Hall<br>*8:00pm – AA Meeting – FLC<br>Kitchen | *4:00 pm - New Year's<br>Eve Mass                                                                                                                                       |                                                  |                                              |                                   |                                                                                                                                        |