

St. Mary Catholic Church ~ St. Joseph Catholic Mission

December 2025



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
 Archbishop Joe S. Vasquez
 Fr. Edward C. Kucera, Jr. ~ Pastor
 Fr. Paul Lockey - Visiting Priest
 Deacon David G. Garvis
 Deacon Anthony Olivieri
 Deacon Frank Ashley



Parish Office
 PO Box 388, Plantersville, TX 77363
 936-894-2223
 Parish Fax - 936-894-3613
 Email: info@stmaryandjoseph.org
 Website: 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: 10 a.m.-12 p.m. & 5-6 p.m.
 (Subject to change)

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

Bob Daves 832.205.2791

AA

Deb Waters 281.701.4177

ACTS Retreat

Diane Pasket 936.232.0864

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

Nicci Potter 936.894.2223

Email: cce@stmaryandjoseph.org

Church Greeters

Call Parish Office 936.894.2223

Gabriel Project

Amy Schnell 904.556.3486

Guardian Angels Senior Group

Teresa Swonke 979.450.2907

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

Quinceanera Coordinator:

Martha Lucas 512.608.3519

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. Joseph - Men's Club

Donovan Pavlock 936.900.4903

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

Lora Cox 254.216.3316

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)

Everette Johnson 713.204.3016

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...(page 1)



(Part 2 ... of my recent travels)

A quick recap ...

On my recent holiday (never a vacation ...I don't take vacations.), I, and a good friend of mine, flew into Istanbul and toured the city for several days. It's a city full of the history of the Eastern Church. It was formally known as Constantinople. If you've never visited, it would be well worth being on your bucket list. (Refer to November bulletin for details).

After our stay in Istanbul, we flew to Dubrovnik in Croatia. It's a city that I visited in the mid 1900's, It was the landing place for the four or five pilgrimages I led to Medugorje. (If you haven't made this pilgrimage, it's such a rich spiritual experience. The 'Alleluias we sing at Christmas and Easter I heard at during a World Youth Gathering in c. 2018)

On our arrival in Dubrovnik, we rented a car. It was our plan to drive throughout our travels in the Balkans. Here I have to confess I am a terrible driver. I am a careful, almost overly careful driver who probably drives other drivers crazy. I wouldn't trust myself driving in a foreign country. However, my traveling friend is an accomplished driver. He is very knowledgeable about cars, has driven on Europe-an autobahns, on auto racecourses and, ultimately, is someone I would completely trust in the driver's seat. (Although, I did hold tight to the handle above my passenger side window).

Having rented our vehicle (a compact car of some sort), we drove to the walls of the ancient city. We didn't have a room booked so we started to look at some possibilities we found online. Finally finding a parking space, we started the search. Now we were feeling like Joseph and Mary in Bethlehem! No vacancies. However, the old city where we wanted to stay was so crowded the pigeons couldn't find a place to land. It was very warm, sorta dusty and so changed from my last visit. The cruise ships have evidently discovered Dubrovnik, and each ship dumps 3,000 tourists. We finally found a place to have a drink and rest. I looked at Aaron and said, "I'm not feeling this." He agreed. We were sitting by a younger group who seemed rather native and mentioned we were not excited about staying in Dubrovnik, they actually encouraged us to go to Montenegro, to a town on the sea called Herceg-Novi. We put it into GPS and off we went.

We arrived rather late in the afternoon. It proved to be all and more than we thought it would be. Never would we have thought of going to Montenegro! Trying to find a room proved to be a bit of a challenge. Evidently, with Europeans, it's very popular. We were just a handful of Americans around. Actually, we were celebrities...lol. We did find a great hotel, a bit more than we had budgeted but, well, that or a park bench.

It's surprising how God leads one to discover a marvel of His creation.

Herceg-Novi is a beautiful seaside town (not a city) known for its charm and still maintaining its Montenegrin identity. The harbor is full of very luxurious yachts and sailboats. The hotel we stayed in was a renovated industrial building and was, we found out later, in the hub of activity. I can't remember exactly how, but the Porche auto company has a connection with the hotel. There were several Porches parked in the garden area. Of course, this was right up the alley of my friend. One evening, we discovered there was an exclusive party of Porche executives and dealership owners on the property. I thought they should have a chaplain in attendance. So, we dressed appropriately and casually walked into the party area. I met the head of the Porche Montenegrin dealerships. Plus, many of the associate personnel. We were the hit of the party even though we had nothing to do with Porche. That I was a priest, and Aaron knew more about Porches than many of the people there made us celebrities. Needless-to-say, the food and drink (all free) were greatly enjoyed.

AND NOW A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR...(page 2)

We stayed longer than we planned. Three days. The scenery, the food and the people were all awesome. We met fellow tourists from several countries and had lively discussions of religion and politics. Many were very interested about our American system of government and our present President. Got a little dicey sometimes. But I held my ground...lol.

Leaving Herceg-Novci, we were advised to go to Budva, a walled city on the Adriatic. The advantage of not having a planned itinerary is that plans can change quickly ... not that we had a plan. We did find an apartment rental (bnb)...no breakfast...very close to the walled city. Finally, two bedrooms, a full kitchen AND a washer and dryer!

Budva is a city that resembles Dubrovnik in many ways. Walled ... narrow street ... lots of shops ... great restaurants But no cruise ships! It was a great stay of 3 days. I would definitely suggest it as a place to visit. Quiet, less touristy, great restaurants, and an interesting history. It was truly enjoyable and without incident.

We, again, were advised to go to another seaside city of Petrovac. It seems we always arrived late in the afternoon and the search for a room was an adventure. We finally found, praying to St. Christopher, the perfect room....overlooking the water. Tiny, but had a balcony. A fantastic restaurant was next door. Wandering up-and-down the beach and waterfront was so relaxing and an insight into the beauty of God's creation. We had a hard time deciding to keep moving on.

Just when all is going so wonderfully well Guess what happens?!

Tune in next month...

(to be continued)

JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I APPRECIATE YOU ALL ALLOWING ME TO TRAVEL AS LONG AS I AM ABLE. THE DAY WILL COME WHEN I'LL BE IN THE RESTHOME, THANKING YOU. I'LL HAVE NO REGRETS OR BE BITTER LIKE MANY PRIESTS WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING PARISHIONERS/FRIENDS.

Special Collection Retirement Fund for Religious Weekend of December 13 & 14

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 provides care, medicine, and other necessities.



Please give generously.

Please keep our sick in your prayers:

Carol Anderson, MaryAnn Benitz, Bernie & JoAnn Borski, Courtney Boyett, Delores Boyett, Blanca Bradley, James & Meredith Buck, Charlie Burzinski, Jr., Francis "Frank" Bushey, Gary Carmouche, Carol Clary, Florence Corolla, Jay Creighton, Melissa Duffy, Don Faughn, Jeff Faughn, Beckham Fox, Liliana Fredo, Carol Fryman, Patricia Gehring, Melody Gensheimer, Holly Gilstrap, Russell Grasshoff, Frances Griffith, Cassy Guillory, Jamie Hafla, Hudson Hall, Briana Herzog Burns, Timothy & Catherine Hoffart, Irene Hoffpauir, Barbara Hyde, Michele Imhoff, Alice Johnston, Will Kaus, Jason Keasling, Hiltraud "Hillie" Keller, Deborah Kennamore, Ruth Kolek, Jimmy Kubeczka, Shirley Kuzma, Greta La Fluer, Grant Larson, Jack Letobitz, Tina Lewandowski, Chris Lobue, Kayla Reneé Luck, Laveta Malek, Fritz Manuel, Amanda Martinez, Natalie Mattern, Frankie McIntosh, Kerri McLeod, Mike Meador & Janie Houser Meador, Linda Merdian, Hailey Minor, Chad Mock, John M. Mock, Fred O'Connor, Tammy Rabun, CeCe Ray, Josephine Shannon, David Shrader, John Simmons, Fred Smith, Brian Stehling, Marie Staples, Craig Strickler, Daniela Syzdek, Dr. Linda Ann Walker, Clara Walkoviak, Jessica Weisenbach



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 3 & 17

10:00am-noon & 5:00-6:00pm

(Subject to change)



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

December 3

First Friday Mass

December 5

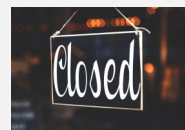
AA MEETINGS:

Every Monday evening @ 8 p.m. in St. Mary's Kelly House (KH)



The Office will be closed on Monday, December 8, in observance of the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

We will also close at noon on Wednesday, December 24 & all day December 25 & 26 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.



St. Joseph Mass Intentions December 2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intentions</u>	<u>Requested by</u>
Sun., Dec. 7	7:30am	Dorothy Breaux Rose Calhoun	Tom & Kaky Wetuski Carol & Margaret Wishkoski
Sun., Dec. 14	7:30am	Ramon Langley Tom Kobza	Joette & the Late Harlan Jochen Wetuski Family
Sun., Dec. 21	7:30am	Ginny Lampasas Leon Vasek	Cliff & Pat Conrey James & Julie Miller
Sun., Dec. 28	7:30am	Frances Langley King Andrew Wishkoski	Joette & the Late Harlan Jochen Wetuski Family

THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Pope's Intention: For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



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

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,
& other durable medical devices.



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!



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!!

St. Mary Mass Intentions for December 2025

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by
Mon., Dec. 1	9:00am	Matthew Wishkoski	Harold & Carol Wishkoski
Tue., Dec. 2	9:00am	Annie Mary LaRue	---
Wed., Dec. 3	9:00am	Theresa Smith	Leonard Busa
Thur., Dec. 4	9:00am	Sylvester Pavlock, Jr. & Kira Kimich	Robert & Patricia Kimich
Fri., Dec. 4	9:00am	Manny Bustillo	Family
Sat., Dec. 6	5:00am	William Lebeck	Thomas & Francis Kowis
		Jack Demny	Denise Durel
		Bill Chapman	Ron & Kathy Arnoldi
Sun., Dec. 7	7:00am	For the People	---
	8:30am	Ron Michno	Pauline Michno
	10:00am	Leland Fougeron	Nicholas Grupa
	11:30am	Frances Imhoff King	Jim & Tammy Ward
Mon., Dec. 8	9:00am	Jack, Ruby, Frances, Thomas, Jacob, Philip, Christy & Theresa Diehl	Martin J. Diehl
Tue., Dec. 9	9:00am	Gay Imhoff	Clara Fridye
Wed., Dec. 10	9:00am	Shirley Bailey	---
Thur., Dec. 11	9:00am	Helen "Alice" Mock	Juanita Klovenski
Sat., Dec. 13	5:00pm	Dolores Hoffart	St. Mary's Altar Society
		Patti Lott Stafford	Harry & Nita Leschinger
Sun., Dec. 14	7:00am	Willie Mae Kubiak	Rick & Lisa Atkinson
	8:30am	Sammy Blair	The Blair Family
	10:00am	Lester Tomkivits	Family
	11:30am	For the People	---
Mon., Dec. 15	9:00am	Charles & Dorothy Smith	Smith Family
Tue., Dec. 16	9:00am	Niels Nielsen	Jackie Nielsen
Wed., Dec. 17	9:00am	Bill Malek	Laveta Malek
Thur., Dec. 18	9:00am	Rufus Uilkie	---
Sat., Dec. 20	5:00pm	John & Mary Lebeck & Family	Jerry & Martha Vickery
		William Bailey	Catherine Rudel & Mildred Rosenberg
Sun., Dec. 21	7:00am	Joe & Verna Kaminski	---
		Lisa Seigle	Pct. 1 Recycle Ctr. Friends
	8:30am	For the People	---
	10:00am	Jacob Diehl	Martin Diehl
		Frank Mock	Linette Mock
	11:30am	Bob Riedle	Mary & Susan Riedle
Mon., Dec. 22	9:00am	Norma Deneen	---
Tue., Dec. 23	9:00am	(Manuel Molina)	Family
Wed., Dec. 24	3:00pm	Terry Gabriel	Gabriel Family
		William Mock	Mock Family
	5:00pm	Kimberly Delgado	Eddie & Dianne Delgado
		Mrs. Holt	Kathy & Don
Thur., Dec. 25	10:30am	Grady M. Drawdy III	Sandra Rios
		Sharon Hatter	Hatter Family
Sat., Dec. 27	5:00pm	Larry Sechelski	Steven Husfeld
Sun., Dec. 28	7:00am	Mary Claire Winter	Family
	8:30am	For the People	---
	10:00am	Daniel J. Harris	Friend
	11:30am	Benton Clary	Family
Mon., Dec. 29	9:00am	Ray Solcher	Anonymous
Tue., Dec. 30	9:00am	Joseph Foa	---
Wed., Dec. 31	9:00am	Roland Gulke	Eddie & Dianne Delgado

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+

Hayes, Edward. Prayers For The Domestic Church. Forest of Peace Books, Inc.,
April 1993

The Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Monday, December 8, 2025
Mass at 9:00am



You can find the bulletin on
our website [www.smsj.org/
bulletins](http://www.smsj.org/bulletins)

Food Pantry Donation Request

As we begin our **St Vincent de Paul**, Christmas for Friends initiative, we invite you to join us in the spirit of compassion and generosity by donating non-perishable food items to our local food pantry.

Our most needed items include hearty canned soup, canned fruit, canned chicken/tuna, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, and powdered milk. Please ensure all donations are unopened and within their expiration dates, so that we may serve others with dignity and care. Donations may be dropped off in the back of the church.

We are grateful for your continuous donations of food; they have been a true blessing to our community.

Peace and grace to you,

The St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Team



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.

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.

St. Mary's Holiday Parish Dinner
is set for the weekend of
DECEMBER 6 & 7.



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

CALLING ALL KIDS !

Fr. Ed will hand out Candy Canes at St. Mary's & St. Joseph's on December 6 & 7 during all Sunday Masses to celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas. Come on down for your candy cane!



St. Joseph

CALLING ALL KIDS ~ YOUNG & OLD!

Join Santa for Breakfast after the 7:30am Mass on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025 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.



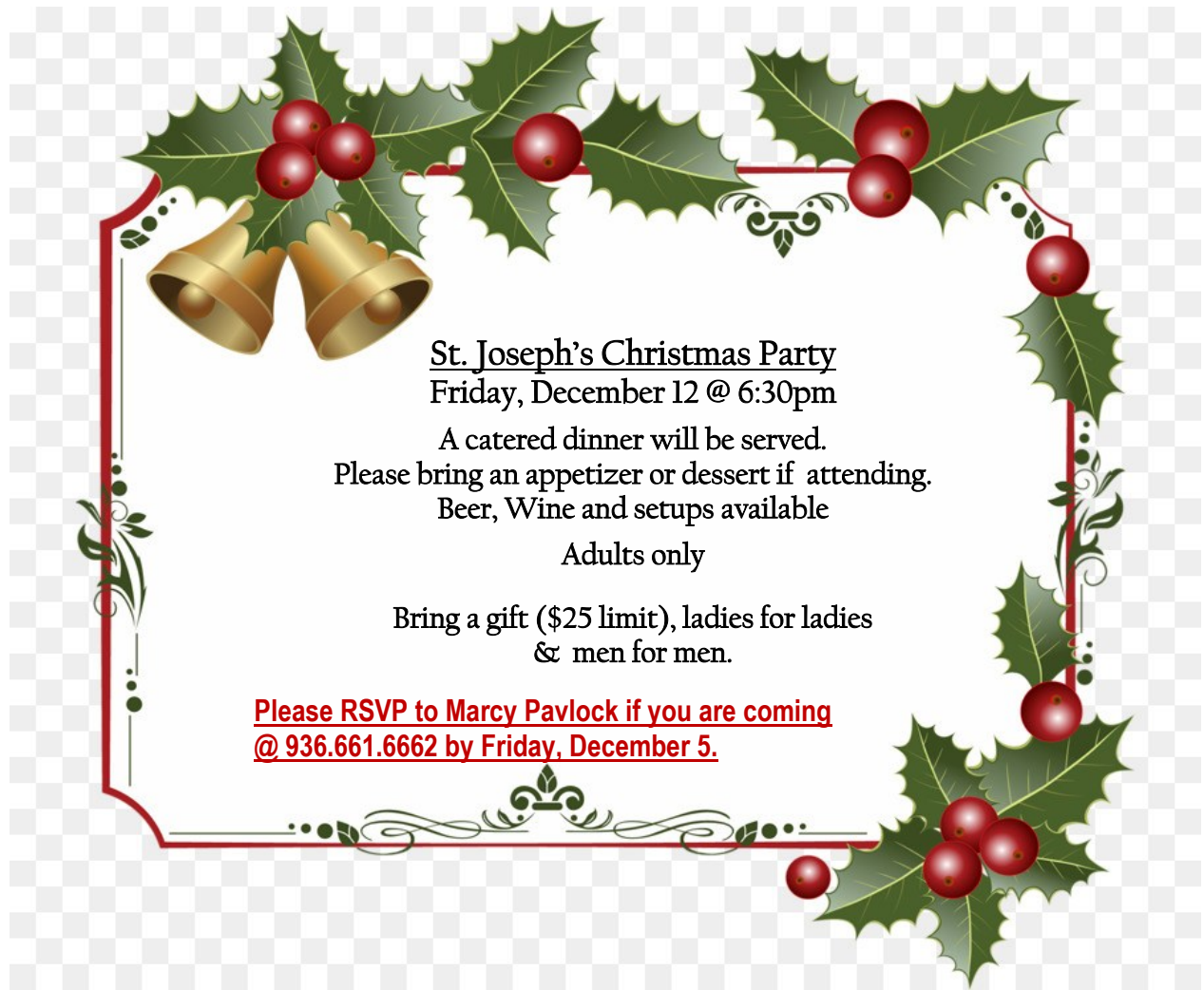
CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY / ST. JOSEPH

CHRISTMAS EVE ~ WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

3:00PM	ST MARY	PAVILION	TRADITIONAL/CHILDREN'S MASS
5:00PM	ST MARY	PAVILION	TRADITIONAL
7:00PM	ST JOSEPH	CHURCH	TRADITIONAL

CHRISTMAS DAY ~ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:30AM	ST MARY	CHURCH	TRADITIONAL
---------	---------	--------	-------------



St. Joseph's Christmas Party
Friday, December 12 @ 6:30pm

A catered 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
& men for men.

Please RSVP to Marcy Pavlock if you are coming
@ 936.661.6662 by Friday, December 5.

St Vincent De Paul - Christmas for Friends 2025

As we prepare for the holiday season, we invite you to reflect on the joy of giving and the impact your kindness can have on our community. Our annual Christmas for Friends, initiative brings together neighbors, friends, and parishioners to ensure that no one is left behind during Christmas. Your participation can make a meaningful difference in the lives of families and individuals facing hardship during this festive season. Your contribution will be used to provide gift cards, Christmas food baskets, and assist with utility bills and rent payments for our friends in need. Every donation, no matter the amount, helps spread hope and happiness to those who need it most. We invite you to join us in sharing the true spirit of Christmas by extending a helping hand to our neighbors.

How to Donate

If you wish to contribute, please consider the following options:

*Use the QR Code:

*Make a check payable to SVdP St. Mary/St. Joseph Conference, or to St. Mary Catholic

Church with a notation indicating it is for the **SVdP Christmas fund**.

*You may drop your donation in the Sunday collection basket, mail it to the church, or deliver it to the Parish Office.



Contact Information

For more information, please call Everette Johnson at 713-204-3016.

On behalf of our Vincentian members, thank you for your kindness and support.

Wishing you a most Merry and Blessed Christmas.

December Music Ministry Announcements

Adult Choir

You're warmly invited to join our Adult Choir as we prepare beautiful music for the Advent and Christmas season. We rehearse on **Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00pm**, and we typically sing at the **8:30am and 10:00am Sunday Masses**, as well as for special liturgical celebrations. Anyone **15 and older** with a love for sacred music is welcome to become part of our choir family!

Cantors

If you feel called to lead our congregation in sung prayer, we welcome you to consider becoming a cantor. Rehearsals take place on **Wednesdays from 6:00–6:30pm**, and cantors may choose the Masses they prefer to serve at. We also offer **quarterly cantor workshops** following choir rehearsal to help you grow in confidence and skill. All are invited to explore this meaningful ministry!

Children's Choir

Our Children's Choir is open to all young singers **ages 6–15**, and we would love to have your child join us! Rehearsals are held on **Wednesdays from 5:30–6:30pm** before CCE. The choir usually sings at the **11:30am Mass** and for special parish celebrations throughout the year. For major feasts, our young voices join with the Adult Choir, creating a beautiful expression of our parish community united in song!

St. Mary's Cemetery News



As we approach the season of giving, please consider a donation to St. Mary's cemetery. Some of you may not be aware that for a donation of \$500, a memorial stone can be purchased and inscribed in the honor or memory of family members. These 6" x 12" stones are placed to the left of the driveway in Section D, the northernmost section of the cemetery. This is a great way to honor your family, living or deceased. Should you like to purchase a memorial stone, place the donation in an envelope, clearly marked Cemetery, and either place it in the collection basket at mass or drop it off at the office. With your donation, add what you would like inscribed on the stone. Also add your phone number in case we have any questions. We hope to place the order with the engraving company mid December.



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	\$380,743.29		
Rummage Sale	<u>67,158.69</u>		
Total	\$447,901.98		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.

Thank You!!!!

St. Vincent de Paul Society:



St. Augustine's Christmas Prayer

"Let the just rejoice, for their justifier is born. Let the sick and infirm rejoice, for their Savior is born. Let the captives rejoice, for their Redeemer is born. Let slaves rejoice, for their Master is born. Let free men rejoice, for their Liberator is born. Let All Christians rejoice, for Jesus Christ is born. Amen."

As we travel our way through another holiday season, we all need to take pause and reflect on what it truly is all about. Thank you everyone for all you have done to support our St Vincent de Paul organization throughout the past year and may you and your family have a truly Blessed Christmas Season.

Everette Johnson

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 27 at 10:00 am in the parish hall.

**If you or anyone you know is in need of assistance from the
St. Vincent de Paul Society, call: (936) 894-2362**

ST. MARY'S MEN'S CLUB

There will not be a meeting in December. We look forward to you coming out to join us for our monthly dinner & meeting on Tuesday, January 20, at 6:00pm in St. Mary's Parish Hall.

We welcome all visitors.

The Corner Shoppe

St. Mary's Religious Articles Store

Stop in after all Weekend Masses and also on Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to shop for:

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

BIG SALE! All items in the Corner Shoppe will be on sale for 20% off during the month of December. We will have Wassail and Gingerbread on December 13th and 20th. Please stop by and register to win a Nativity Statue and to see the new items: Baby Gifts, Wall Art and Christmas decorations.

If you are interested in volunteering to work in the Corner Shoppe, please contact any of our volunteers.

St. Mary's Men's Club Blood Drive & Breakfast Sunday, January 11

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



✨ CCE Schedule ✨

Wednesdays: December 7 & December 14

Sundays: December 10 & December 17

Thank you for a wonderful semester!

Wishing all our families a blessed and joy-filled Christmas break! 🎄 ✨

 * ST. MARY'S ALTAR SOCIETY *
 * MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! *
 * No December Meeting *
 * Tuesday, January 13 at 10:00am *
 * In the parish hall. *
 * Come and check us out! *



ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR SOCIETY

Meeting in the parish hall on
December 2 at 6:30pm

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

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.

The current needs are:

- Diapers sizes 5 and 6**
- Tissues - Kleenex**
- Warm Clothing - all sizes like sweat shirts and sweat pants**
- Twin sheets**

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>

We must remember that God has no other hands but ours, no other feet but ours, no other mouth but ours. Therefore, God is still going to work miracles of love, miracles of freedom and liberation through people like you and me.”

~Blessed Mother Theresa

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 9-11am on Friday, December 19.



ST. MARY'S GUARDIAN ANGELS SENIOR GROUP NEWS

Next meeting on Tuesday, December 2 @ 10:00am in the Fr. Kelly House (KH)

Christmas party & BINGO December 16 @ 10:00am to 2:00pm in SM parish hall.

Please bring a dish to share.

The Domino Club will play 42 on Tuesdays in the Family Life Center Kitchen.

We are looking for more players. Please bring a dish to share with everyone.

A JOB WELL DONE!

Kudos to St. Mary's Men's Club in organizing and, again, cleaning up the road side between Hwy 105 and our road of 1774 to St. Mary's. It was particularly trashy this clean-up. Special thanks to Dan Macholan, the Men's Club clean-up organizer. Thanks to all who came out and made the day a success! Think about coming out next clean-up and lending a hand. You'll enjoy driving 1774 more....

SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

December 7: Christmas Flower Collection

December 14: Retirement Fund for Religious Collection (Sisters)





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 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 for assistance.

Save the Dates & Get Involved:



Women's Retreat: February 26 - March 1, 2026

The retreat leadership team has officially formed and begun preparations for our upcoming Women's ACTS Retreat! **Registration is now open** and will remain open **until all spots are filled** (*registration is on a first-come, first-served basis*).

Please share this exciting opportunity with your friends and family!
To register, use the provided QR code or visit:

<http://smsj.org/grow-in-faith/retreats>



If you have any questions regarding the retreat, please contact Teresa at teresawommack@gmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars – We Need Your Help!

ACTS Bake Sale: December 20 & 21

We need donations of baked goods and volunteers to help sell at all Masses.



Thank you for supporting the ACTS Ministry!

Young Catholic Married Couples (YCMC)

Young Catholic Married Couples (ages 21-49) will not meet in December.

Contact Michael Tann with any questions:

936-306-2342 or email michaelj_tann@hotmail.com.

RUMMAGE NEWS:

Thank you for helping us have the most successful rummage sale to date. We served dozens of Gabriel project mothers and friends of St. Vincent de Paul. And, we raised a lot of money for the church. Once again, parishioners of St. Mary's stepped up for us. Thank you.

If you have furniture that needs to be picked up, let Lauren Twining know. We will be picking up furniture all year. Just furniture.

The barn will closed until next March. Keep an eye on the bulletin for our re-opening date.



News Years Eve & New Years Day Masses

Wednesday 12/31 - 4:00pm @ SM

Thursday 01/01 - 10:30am @ SM

Happy
New Year!



Infant Baptism Information

Interested in infant baptism at St. Mary? Join us for an in-person information session where we will discuss requirements, parent and godparent roles and responsibilities, the Rite, and Q&A.

At least one parent is required to attend an Information Session, and godparents are encouraged to attend. Information Sessions will be held at 1PM in the Family Life Center on the following Sundays:

February 1, 2026
March 1, 2026
April 5, 2026
May 3, 2026
August 2, 2026
October 4, 2026
November 1, 2026



We look forward to serving you and your family in preparation for this blessed sacrament. Please send us an email if you plan on attending -

FORMED: Dive into the treasures of the Church, from daily reflections to small group studies, all designed to nourish your faith journey. To sign up or sign in go to <https://formed.org/signup>


December 2025

Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 (SM)

Sunday: 7:30 (SJ)

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 *9:00am – Mass *8:00pm – AA Mtg. - KH	2 *9:00am – Mass *10:00am – Guardian Angels Mtg. – SM Kelly House *11:00am – Domino Club – FLC Kitchen 6:30pm – SJ Altar Society – SJ Hall	3 *9:00am – Anointing Mass *9:30am – Sitchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall *10am-noon & 5-6pm - Confessions	4 *9:00am - Mass	5 *9:00am – First Friday Mass	6 *5:00pm – Mass After Mass – All Church Christmas Dinner Christmas Flower Collection
7 Regular Mass Schedule After Masses – All Church Christmas Dinner *10:00am – CCE – FLC *10:00am – OCIA – FLC Kitchen Christmas Flower Collection	8 *9:00am – Mass The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary *8:00pm – AA Mtg. – KH Parish Office Closed	9 *9:00am – Mass *No SM Altar Society *11:00am – Domino Club – FLC Kitchen	10 *9:00am – Mass *9:30am – Sitchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall *6:45pm – CCE - FLC	11 *9:00am - Mass	12 No Mass *6:30pm – St. Joseph’s Christmas Party—SJ Hall	13 *5:00pm – Mass Retirement Fund for the Religious Collection (Sisters)
14 Regular Mass Schedule SJ After Mass – Breakfast w/ Santa *10:00am – CCE – SM FLC *10:00am – OCIA – FLC Kitchen Retirement Fund for the Religious Collection (Sisters)	15 *9:00am – Mass *8:00pm – AA Mtg. - KH	16 *9:00am – Mass *10:00am – Guardian Angels – Christmas Party & Bingo – SM Hall *11:00am – Domino Club – FLC Kitchen *No Men’s Club Mtg	17 *9:00am – Mass *9:30am – Sitchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall 10am-noon & 5-6pm - Confessions *6:45pm – CCE - FLC	18 *9:00am - Mass	19 No Mass *9am - 11am - Little Lambs - SM Hall	20 *5:00pm – Mass ACTS Bake Sale – After Mass @ SM
21 Regular Mass Schedule ACTS Bake Sale – After Masses @ SM *10:00am – OCIA – FLC Kitchen	22 *9:00am – Mass *8:00pm – AA Mtg. – KH	23 *9:00am – Mass *No Domino Club *No St. Vincent de Paul Mtg.	24 *3:00pm – Mass/SM Pavilion Children’s Mass/Traditional *5:00pm – Mass/SM Pavilion Traditional 7:00pm – Mass/SJ Church/Traditional *Parish Office Closed	25 *10:30am – Mass/SM Church Parish Office Closed 	26 No Mass Parish Office Closed	27 *5:00pm - Mass
28 Regular Mass Schedule	29 *9:00am – Mass *No Young Catholic Married Couples Mtg. *8:00pm – AA Mtg. - KH	30 *9:00am – Mass *No Domino Club	31 *4:00pm – New Year’s Eve Mass	January 1, 2026 *10:30am – New Year’s Mass <i>Happy New Year</i>		