



St. Mary Catholic Church ~ St. Joseph Catholic Mission

July 2026



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

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

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.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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 Walters 281.701.4177

ACTS Retreat

Diane Pasket 936.232.0864

Adult Bible Study & Spiritual Enrichment

Suiki Boardman 713.254.6943

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

GriefShare

Pam Milek 281.686.7552

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 Salisbury 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)

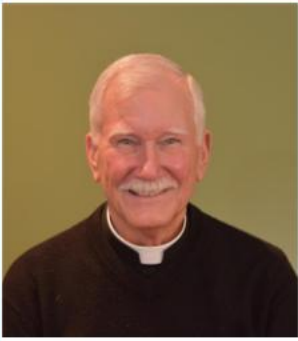
Jacob Martinez 936.703.0483

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...



It seems that summer has hit with a vengeance. No need to pray for rain in the near future. At least I'm off the hook for a little while.

One thing to keep in mind these summer months (which for us lasts until end of September) is that air conditioning is working its hardest and often cannot keep up with demand. Also, it's almost inevitable that a unit will break down and finding a part can take time or even a minor miracle. So, patience and forbearance will come in handy. Dress a little lightly, but with decorum...lol. If and when we have an issue, we'll send a Flocknote alerting you to the situation. Pray that nothing major happens until the first northern comes in... possibly October.

You'll be reading this as we are celebrating the 250th year of our nation's declaration of independence from England. It is definitely a time to reflect how blessed we all are to be part of a Nation so blessed by God. Every nation, I would presume, believes itself to be blessed by God but our Nation, from its inception, based ourselves on the principle of the God-given gift of life, liberty and justice for all. The Declaration of Independence declares that all men are created equal. Given, we as a Nation are still a work in progress but we firmly believe that this God-given gift is possible and achievable. It's not just a lofty dream but what we as disciples of Jesus and citizens of this great Nation hold firmly to be our purpose and wish to be a guiding light for other nations.

When our Nation was founded, Christianity was the core belief on which our Founding Fathers built upon. Christians were as diverse then as we are now... Puritans, Evangelicals, Episcopalians, Baptists, Methodists, Lutherans, Non-denominational and a spattering of Catholics. Because our Catholic worship was in Latin, we had a treasury of Latin hymnody but a very limited what might be called 'American Catholic' hymnody.

The other denominations were keen to develop a hymnody that would eventually be considered 'American'. During conventions of National Pastoral Musicians (a Catholic organization of Catholic musicians, cantors, choir members, you-name-it) it was often pointed out that American hymnody was often written for and sung in the forests without instrumental accompaniment except maybe a mouth-harp. I often jokingly remark that, with Vatican Council II, we 'borrowed' hymnody from other churches 'fair-and-square! That was over 66 years ago. We, as a thoroughly American-based Catholic community, have now come into our own and have developed a hymnody uniquely American and Catholic. On that score, we have a lot to be proud of. As Catholic communities of St. Mary and St. Joseph, we are shining examples of how that hymnody is enthusiastically sung each Sunday.

With that as background, during July, as we celebrated our Nation's Independence, we're going to sprinkle our Sunday celebrations with typical early American hymns. I might even say that, during July, we're going to enjoy 'Revival' Sundays...celebrating our Christian-based American heritage. Sing as if you were in a forest.

SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

July 12: St. Vincent de Paul - Black Bag Annual Collection

Please support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Annual Black Bag Collection. Donations will help the Society provide food and financial assistance to families struggling to make ends meet. With the increasing cost of living, your support can make a difference.

*This is not our local parish collection.



CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be heard
July 1 & 15



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, July 1**

July 3 First Friday Mass

The Parish Office will be closed Friday,
July 3 in observance of
Independence Day.



Father Ed Kucera

July 1, 1999 - July 1, 2026

Join us in thanking our Shepherd, Fr. Ed, for his 27
years of ministry at St. Mary and St. Joseph.

Thank You!

THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

Pope's Intent on: For respect for human life

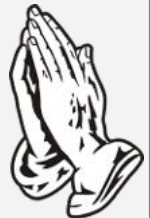
Let us pray for the respect and protect on of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gif from God.



St. Joseph Mass Intentions July 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intentions</u>	<u>Requested by</u>
Sun., Jul. 5	7:30am	Louis Posinski, Jr. Dorothy Breaux Randy Nicholson	Mary Posinski Tom & Kaky Wetuski Susanne Nicholson
Sun., Jul. 12	7:30am	Wm. Lebeck & All Decsd.Lebeck Fam	Manuel & Barbara Lebeck
Sun., Jul. 19	7:30am	Gerald Galik Grady M. Drawdy, III Caroline/Anthony/ Anthony Jr. Grazino	Nora Galik Sandra D. Rios Carol & Harold Wishkoski
Sun., Jul. 26	7:30am	Ginny Lampasas	Helen Caves

Please keep our sick in your prayers:



Carol Anderson, MaryAnn Benitz, Bernie & JoAnn Borski, Courtney Boyett, Delores Boyett, James & Meredith Buck, Charlie Burzinski, Jr., Francis "Frank" Bushey, Gary Carmouche, Florence Corolla, Jay Creighton, Melissa Duffy, Asher F, Don Faughn, Jeff Faughn, Beckham Fox, Liliana Fredo, Carol Fryman, Jeffery Gehring, Col. James Gensheimer, Holly Gilstrap, Russell Grasshoff, John Grupa, Cassy Guillory, Jamie Hafla, Hudson Hall, John Hannemann, 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, Grant Larson, Jack Letobitz, Chris Lobue, Kayla Reneé Luck, Fritz Manuel, Amanda Martinez, Natalie Mattern, Kerri McLeod, Mike Meador & Janie Houser Meador, Linda Merdian, Hailey Minor, Chad Mock, John M. Mock, Tammy Rabun, CeCe Ray, James Riley, Josephine Shannon, David Shrader, John Simmons, Fred Smith, James & Ann Smith, Brian Stehling, Marie Staples, Craig Strickler, Daniela Syzdek, 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

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.

St. Mary Mass Intentions for July 2026

Date	Time	Intent on	Requested by
Wed., Jul. 1	9:00am	(Thomas Swonke)	Bet y Swonke
Thur., Jul. 2	9:00am	Charles & Dorothy Smith	Smith Family
Fri., Jul. 3	9:00am	Bill Malek	Malek Family
Sat., Jul. 4	5:00pm	Charles A. Mock	Aleen Mock
Sun., Jul. 5	7:00am	John Simmons	Bet y Fuchs
	8:30am	For the People	---
	10:00am	Jacob Diehl	Mart n Diehl
	11:30am	Jessica Shelledy	Linda Walker
Mon., Jul. 6	9:00am	John Kolodczak	Holly & John Kolodczak
Tue., Jul. 7	9:00am	Grady M. Drawdy, III	Sandra D. Rios
Wed., Jul. 8	9:00am	Teddy Hof art	Laveta Malek
Thur., Jul. 9	9:00am	Mary Ann Kimmey	---
Sat., Jul. 11	5:00pm	Henriet a Anderson Hiot	Kathy & Ron Arnoldi
Sun., Jul. 12	7:00am	Carl Galka	Galka Family
	8:30am	Bernice Ubnoski	Pat Feldman
	10:00am	For the People	---
	11:30am	Rose Cullen	Brenda & Margaret Wishkoski
Mon., Jul. 13	9:00am	Sr. Mariet a Walsh	---
Tue., Jul. 14	9:00am	Robert Fuchs	Bethy Fuchs
Wed., Jul. 15	9:00am	Billy & Yvonne Wirzberg	Theresa Rausheck
Thur., Jul. 16	9:00am	Thomas Diehl	---
Sat., Jul. 18	5:00pm	Barbara & Pauline Swonke	Rita & Charles Swonke
		William Bailey	Catherine Rudel
			& Mildred Rosenberg
Sun., Jul. 19	7:00am	Lisa Seigle	JD Seigle
	8:30am	John & Annie Hof art	Laveta Malek
	10:00am	Jan Rose Hardin	Mike & Michelle Maerz
	11:30am	For the People	---
Mon., Jul. 20	9:00am	Mark Schwartz	---
Tue., Jul. 21	9:00am	Gay Imhof	Charlie Kubeczka
Wed., Jul. 22	9:00am	Joe & Verna Kaminski	Family
Thur., Jul. 23	9:00am	Annie Mary LaRue	---
Sat., Jul. 25	5:00pm	Frank Mock	Linete Mock
		Frank & Dolores Hof art	Family
Sun., Jul. 26	7:00am	For the People	---
	8:30am	Al & Mary Swonke	Bet y Fuchs
	10:00am	Anton & Mary Mock	Family
	11:30am	Bob Riedle	Mary & Susan Riedle
Mon., Jul. 27	9:00am	Shirley Bailey	---
Tue., Jul. 28	9:00am	Buster Bowers	---
Wed., Jul. 29	9:00am	Dave Hollas	---
Thur., Jul. 30	9:00am	Louis Bohack	---

Quinceañera

The celebration of a young lady's transition from childhood to adolescence. It begins with the celebration of a Mass of Thanksgiving for the gift of life and asking for a blessing from God for the coming years. It is an opportunity for family and friends to share in this important celebration. It usually ends with a dinner and/or dance. **Those who are considering having a Quinceañera in the upcoming year are asked to attend an informational meeting.** The meetings are planned for each January and June before the date of the celebration. Please contact Martha Lucas at (512) 608-3519 or emslucas@yahoo.com for more information.

St. Mary's Bazaar
September 6, 2026
Volunteer Chairs
Needed!

**Plant Booth
Chair**

To volunteer email:
karencath@live.com



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!

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>

GriefShare Ministry

GriefShare will have their next session in October. GriefShare volunteers are available in person, phone or text for any needs, questions, or comfort.

Please call Pam Milek 281.686.7552

St. Mary's Bazaar is quickly approaching!



Save the Date!

Labor Day Sunday
September 6, 2026
11:00 am until 6:00 pm

Come join us on this festive occasion where we have an old-fashioned country barbecue, games, live auction, silent auction, raffle and a heaping dose of fellowship.

Y'ALL COME AND HAVE A GREAT TIME!

BOUNTIFUL HARVEST?

Well, do we have a use for that!! Please can a few extra jars of jam, pickles, relish, etc. and donate to the
ST. MARY'S BAZAAR COUNTRY STORE!

Let's make this year's bazaar better than it has ever been.

HOMEcoming BAZAAR AUCTION UPDATE

It's that time again!

The 132nd Annual Homecoming Bazaar is right around the corner and your 2026 Auction Committee is already busy planning this year's exciting offerings!



We can't wait to share more about our Live and Silent Auctions so stay tuned for more information.

We invite you to play a vital role in our success by donating an item for our live and silent auctions. This year, our goal is ambitious, but with your support, we know we can reach it.

We are seeking unique items and experiences, gift certificates, handmade items, gift baskets and your contributions can make a significant difference!

We also welcome monetary donations which allows us to source unique items and experiences! Scan the QR code with your phone camera to make a donation directly to the church for use by the Auction Committee.



Contact Eric Gensheimer at (713) 416-5280 for more info.

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us on Sunday, September 6th, for all the Bazaar Day fun!
Donations can be dropped off at the church anytime until Sunday, August 23rd.

St. Mary's 132nd Annual Homecoming Bazaar
8227 CR 205, Plantersville, TX 77363
Sunday, September 6, 2026

Support St. Mary Catholic Church by entering to

WIN A 2026 LINCOLN CORSAIR!



2026 LINCOLN CORSAIR

**INCLUDES: WHITE EXTERIOR, EBONY INTERIOR, REMOTE START,
HEATED FRONT SEATS, BLIND SPOT MONITORING, AND MORE!**

The **Bayway**
AUTO GROUP



and the contributions of: Darryl Wischnewsky,
Martin Diehl, Bill & Earline Jones,
LOMA Construction, Shanon Salsbury,
and Butch's Bulkheading, Inc.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary!

Raffle organized by St. Mary's Young Catholic Married Couples

Drawing to be held on Sunday, September 6, 2026. Winner responsible for applicable taxes and insurance. Must be 18 years of age to win. Need not be present to win. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Vehicle giveaway is subject to the Official Rules and vehicle availability. Registration, title, insurance, taxes, and any other applicable fees are the sole responsibility of the winner and will not be covered by Bayway Auto Group. Open to legal U.S. residents who are 18 years of age or older. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Vehicle may be a Lincoln Courtesy Vehicle (Exchange Vehicle) with low mileage. By participating, entrants agree to the Official Rules and release Bayway Lincoln, Bayway Auto Group, their affiliates, employees, agents, and representatives from any liability arising from or related to the promotion. See dealer for details.

2026 BAZAAR TICKET PRICING

TICKETS SOLD AFTER
ALL SUNDAY MASSES, AND SELECT SATURDAY MASSES
JULY 5 - AUG 30, AND AT BAZAAR
•WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, ONLY 1,500 TICKETS•

July 5 - July 19
\$100/ticket

**EARLY
BIRD
SPECIAL!**

July 20 - August 30
\$125/ticket or \$500/5 tickets

September 6, at Bazaar
\$150/ticket

Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary!

Raffle organized by St. Mary's Young Catholic Married Couples

AA MEETINGS:

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



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOANER PROGRAM

St. Mary's has a loaner program for anyone in need of durable medical Equipment (DME).

For equipment availability, and to set up a pick up time please contact the office at 936-894-2223.



Flocknote



Stay up to date!

Sign up today!

We send out a Flocknote each week to let you know what is coming up in the next week.

We also send out changes to the calendar, information about upcoming funerals, death notices, requests for volunteers, etc. Please consider signing up at smsjcc.flocknote.com or go to smsj.org and click on Flocknote. All that is needed to sign up is your name, your email, and your cell phone number.

Online giving is easy!

To set up recurring giving please create a login. This will allow you to change your payment type and donation amount whenever needed.

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/smsj>



Sister Thomas Ann Lacour, O.P.

HOUSTON -Sister Thomas Ann Lacour, O.P. (Evelyn Ann), a Dominican sister and founder of the School of Environmental Education (SEE) at Camp Kappe, died March 31. She was 85 years old.

Sister Lacour served as a teacher at Assumption School and Queen of Peace School and later served as principal of St. Jerome School. She went on to found and serve as principal of the SEE at Camp Kappe in Plantersville, which continues to provide environmental education to students in Catholic schools throughout the surrounding dioceses.

In 1992, she was recognized by former Texas Governor Ann Richards as one of 42 outstanding teachers serving as trainers for a statewide environmental education program. The following year, she was also recognized by Keep Texas Beautiful for her leadership and initiative approach to keeping the natural Texas environment clean and beautiful.

A funeral Mass was held April 7 at St. Dominic Villa Chapel. Interment is in Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery.

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

Marriage Preparation Retreat **September 19, 2026**

Couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage are invited to attend our upcoming Marriage Preparation Retreat on Saturday, September 19, 8am-5pm. This one-day retreat offers engaged couples the opportunity to step away from the busyness of wedding planning and focus on the deeper meaning of their vocation.

Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. Cost is \$150 per couple, paid in advance. For more information or to register, please contact Cindy Olivieri @ olivieri.cindy@gmail.com

We look forward to walking with you as you prepare for this beautiful sacrament.

Come join the adventure! ✨

OCIA for Children is a welcoming program for kids age 7 and up to learn about the Catholic faith, ask questions, and grow closer to God while making new friends.

If your child is unbaptized or baptized in another faith and ready to receive the sacraments, this is a great place to begin.

We meet once a month during CCE on Wednesday nights.

We'd love to have you!

To register, contact: cce@stmaryandjoseph.org

July Music Ministry Announcements



Adult Choir

The Adult Choir is now on summer break. We are deeply grateful for your dedication, joyful voices, and generous service throughout the year. Your singing has greatly enriched our worship.

Cantors

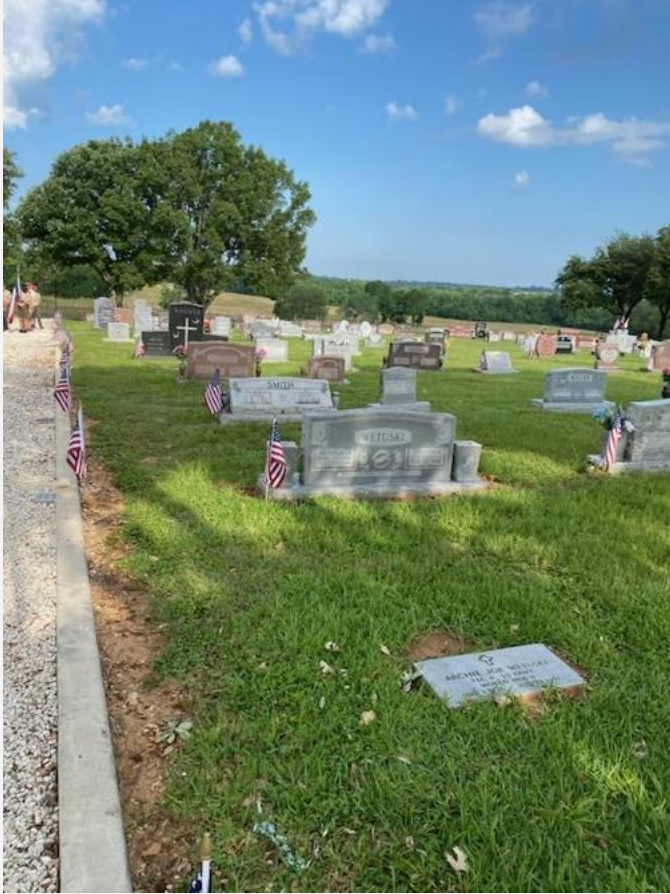
Rehearsals: Wednesdays 6:00–6:30pm in the church. Flexible Mass assignments. All levels welcome—your voice helps the assembly rejoice in the Resurrection!

Children's Choir

The Children's Choir is now on summer break. We are so grateful for every child's participation, energy, and beautiful singing. You have truly helped us celebrate the Resurrection.

St. Mary's Cemetery News

One of the special times in the cemetery is when we are able to honor our deceased veterans. Several volunteers come out and we place flags on each of their gravesites. The Memorial Day service is a very solemn ceremony with a local Boy Scout troop raising the flag. This event is led by parishioner, John Tryon, who brings a tear to everyone's eye by reading the History of Taps. God Bless America and God Bless those resting in St. Mary's Cemetery. For more information about the cemetery, please contact Rita Swonke at 713-557-5817.



RUMMAGE NEWS:

The Rummage Sale needs your stuff ! Donate your new or gently used household items. Bring us your toys, kitchen items, linens, clothing, home decor, furniture, craft items, outdoor furniture or items, tools, luggage, or anything else. We are open on Wednesday mornings 8-12. Carts are always under the pavilion.

If you need a furniture pick up, contact Lauren Twining at 281-813-5355.

(Note: There are some items no longer accepted: glass topped tables, exercise equipment, particle board furniture.)



St. Vincent de Paul Vehicle Donations Needs

In the area which we serve, the lack of dependable transportation is one of the major issues of concern we face. Because of this, many of those we serve are significantly limited in their ability to find and keep jobs sufficient to support their families.

As there is no public transportation in our area, our SVDP Conference is embarking on a mission to try to address this issue. Accordingly, we have formed a transportation committee with the task of accepting donated vehicles, no matter their condition, and gifting them to eligible families for work purposes.

Once a vehicle is offered for donation the committee will:

- *Have any mechanical work done to make sure the vehicle is in safe operating condition.
- *Provide the donor with any documentation needed for a tax deduction.
- *After a sufficient vetting process, of the friends we serve as SVDP, we will find an acceptable recipient for the vehicle.

The SVDP Conference will cover all expenses for any repair needed and all of the title and registration expenses and fees.

Several of our parishioners and their friends might be contemplating transitioning to a single vehicle family and thus may seek to dispose of one of their current vehicles. If you or anyone you know is in this position, please ask them to consider supporting SVDP with this transportation issue for those in our area.



All supplies must be new items

Gift cards
Index Cards
School box
Ear buds or headphones
Composition Notebooks
Post its
Wide rule loose-leaf paper
Hand sanitizers
Manila paper
Rulers
Markers
Dividers for binders

Pencil Sharpener
Pencil pouch
Pencil Boxes
1" 3-ring binders
Erasers
Pocket folders (assorted colors)
graph paper
Construction paper (assorted colors)
Pens (blue, black and red)
Colored pencils
Glue sticks

Backpacks
Scissors
2" 3-ring binders
Copy paper
Spiral notebooks
Dry Erase markers
College rule loose-leaf paper
Kleenex
Pencils
Crayons
Highlighters

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to
MONTGOMERY COUNTY WOMEN'S CENTER.
AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know.
Same products, same prices, same service.

Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com

St Vincent De Paul Society

Sesquicentennial



In colonial days, it is noted that there were fewer than 40,000 Catholics in the 13 Colonies and it seems that the colonies had imported a dislike of the Roman Church from their English roots – they were after all “Englishmen”. Yet, for 250 years, the Catholic Church has walked alongside the United States, helping to shape the moral and spiritual foundation of our nation. From the earliest days of American history, Catholics have built churches, schools, hospitals, and charitable institutions that have strengthened communities and served the common good. In times of peace and in times of trial, the Church has stood as a witness to faith, freedom, and the God-given dignity of every human person.

With our country reaching the age of 69 yrs old, (just 12 years after its founding in France), the Society of St. Vincent de Paul established roots in the United States. On November 20, 1845, the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul was established in St. Louis, Missouri at the Basilica of St. Louis, King of France, popularly called “The Old Cathedral.”

Several people were instrumental in the Society’s growth and development in the U.S., including Father John Timon, an American Vincentian priest from Pennsylvania who brought copies of the Rule of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul from Dublin, Ireland, to St. Louis. Timon spoke with various people about the Society’s work with the poor, including Bishop Peter Richard Kenrick. Kenrick asked Father Ambrose Heim, known for extraordinary zeal and ministry with the poor, to establish the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and be its spiritual advisor. Father Heim became known as “The Priest of the Poor.”

As we give thanks for our nation’s history, we also remember Father Heim and the countless Catholics-priests, religious sisters and brothers, and faithful lay men and women-who helped build this country through sacrifice, service, and prayer. Their love for God and neighbor enriched American life and helped make our nation stronger, more compassionate, and more hopeful. May this 250th Anniversary inspire us to cherish both our Catholic faith and our responsibilities as citizens, so that we may continue to be a people who serve, who unite, and who seek liberty and justice for all under God.

WE PRAY:

“Father of all nations and ages, we recall the day when our country claimed its place among the family of nations; for what has been achieved we give you thanks, for the work that still remains we ask your help, and as you have called us from many peoples to be one nation, grant that, under your providence, our country may share your blessings with all the peoples of the earth.”
Amen. Happy Fourth!

We sincerely appreciate the ongoing generosity of our Parish. Your donations and continued commitment to our pantry allow us to serve those who need it most in our community. Thank you for your meaningful contributions and for fostering an environment of care and support.

Everette Johnson

[Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 28 at 10:00 am in SM 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 Blood Drive & Breakfast

Sunday, July 19 @ 8:00am - 1:30pm

SM Parish Hall

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



The Gabriel Project of St. Mary's is partnering with a USCCB program called Walking With Moms in Need. We will continue to provide the same hands-on, concrete assistance that we have been providing to our local area for 25 years.



Walking with Moms in Need is a nationwide, parish-based initiative to increase support for pregnant and parenting mothers in need. It works to ensure that any woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant, or parenting in difficult circumstances, can turn to her local Catholic Church and be connected with the resources she needs. It increases our scope to not only help women with babies but to help parenting mothers with children of all ages.

Walking with Moms in Need was launched by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on March 25, 2020, in honor of the 25th anniversary of St. John Paul II's encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life). In that landmark encyclical, St. John Paul II challenged the Church:

"With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth". (EV 95)

Pope Francis likewise reminded us that our parishes are called to be "islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference."



Calling all ADULT Catholics (18 years of age or older) who have celebrated the Sacraments of Baptism and First Eucharist, but somehow missed Confirmation!

If you are interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in **January 2027 and becoming a "fully initiated Catholic," the SMSJ Adult Confirmation Team is ready to accompany you in that part of your faith journey!**

For more information, email Dr. Sharon Skeans skeans@consolidated.net.

Father Edward C. Kucera, Jr., and the parishioners of St. Mary and St. Joseph congratulate our parishioner **Sergio Marquez** who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, May 30, 2026, at St. Anthony de Padua Catholic Church. His sponsor was his wife's grandfather. The presider of this regional liturgical celebration was Archbishop Joe S. Vasquez. More than **3,000 adults** were confirmed this spring at similar archdiocesan liturgies. [See "A Modern Day Pentecost," page 14, by Matt Kiernan, *Texas Catholic Herald*, 5.26.26]



If you are a practicing Catholic and have not yet celebrated Confirmation, contact Dr. Sharon Skeans skeans@consolidated.net by mid-August. The catechetical team will begin preparation early this fall for liturgies in January 2027 by our archbishop.

ST. MARY'S MEN'S CLUB

If you're an adult male looking for a way to plug into our parish we would love to have you join us on the 3rd Tuesday of the Month. We meet in the hall at 6:15pm for fellowship, dinner at 6:30pm then meeting to follow. Monthly dinner & meeting on Tuesday, July 21 in St. Mary's Parish Hall.

Young Catholic Married Couples - YCMC (ages 21-49)

July 30 @ 6:00pm-8:00pm in SM Hall.
Please email ycmc@stmaryandjoseph.org
or call Jacob Mart nez 936.703.0483 for
more details.

We are looking for more assistance with childcare.
Please email us if you are interested.

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,

ST. MARY'S ALTAR SOCIETY

We are on summer break.

Our next meeting is on
Tuesday, September 8
10:00 am in SM Hall

All ladies of St. Mary are welcome.
We hope to see you there.

ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR SOCIETY

We are on summer break.

Meeting in the parish hall on
September 1 at 6:00pm

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:

Cleaning
Disinfectant wipes
Disinfectant spray
Detergent
Car seats
Toddler seats
Leggings (all sizes)
Dish wash 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>

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 god-
parent roles and responsibilities, the Rite, and
Q&A.

At least one parent is required to attend an
Information Session, and godparents are en-
couraged to attend. Information Sessions will
be held at 1:00pm in the Family Life Center on
the following Sundays:

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 -

baptism@stmaryandjoseph.org

Faith Formation & Children's Sacraments

Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is NOW OPEN. CCE is for
anyone in grades Kindergarten through High School. Please go to the St.
Mary/St. Joseph website: <https://smsj.org/sacraments-children-teens>
or use the following QR Code to register your child/ren.



Please consider volunteering with our CCE program and contact
cce@stmaryandjoseph.org

We look forward to another wonderful year!



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, July 17 & 31.



ST. MARY'S GUARDIAN ANGELS SENIOR GROUP NEWS

Next Monthly Meeting September 1 @ 10:00am - Kelly House

Enjoy your summer! See everyone in September.

The Domino Club will play 42 on Tuesdays @ 11:00am in the Family Life Center Kitchen. We are looking for more players. Please bring a dish to share.

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.

St. Joseph's 117th Bazaar

Congratulations to all those that helped make St. Joseph's annual bazaar such a resounding success. The preliminary numbers are in and at this point St. Joseph netted \$173,551.54. The attendance was great, food was delicious and the weather was shockingly cooperative; all together it made for a great day. A huge "Thank You" to all participants.

Bazaar 2026 Preliminary

Past Bazaar Net Cash

	Revenue	Expenses	Donat ons
Auct on	\$80,043.88	\$3,351.33	\$3,600.00
Beer Booth	\$3,637.00	\$1,877.51	\$0.00
Cake Booth	\$2,611.55	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fruit Booth	\$3,563.00	\$0.00	\$1,175.86
Dinner	\$11,440.00	\$12,890.31	\$7,378.63
Dominoes	\$2,810.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Flower Booth	\$3,224.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sno Cones	\$543.25	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grocery Booth	\$1,822.85	\$0.00	\$0.00
Raf e	\$101,486.50	\$49,031.10	\$0.00
Over/Under	\$2,468.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Meat to Go	\$3,562.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ham & Sausage Booth	\$5,392.50	\$24.90	\$0.00
Dinner to Go/ Sandwiches	\$1,368.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Poker Chip Booth	\$5,112.00	\$1,086.83	\$0.00
Face Paint ng	\$576.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Toy Booth	\$1,032.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Babusia's Porch	\$1,937.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bazaar Overall	\$6,988.00	\$10,459.00	\$500.00
Start up cash		\$5,450.00	
Returned start up cash	\$5,450.00		

Year	Net Prof t
2014	\$88,913.10
2015	\$77,248.72
2016	\$86,265.03
2017	\$85,780.07
2018	\$94,266.47
2019	\$111,561.07
2020	\$85,774.26
2021	\$125,508.91
2023	\$86,215.39
2024	\$95,684.41
2025	\$90,884.62
2026	\$173,551.54

Total	\$245,068.03	\$84,170.98	\$12,654.49
Total Revenue	\$245,068.03		
Expenses	\$84,170.98		
Net	\$173,551.54		

July 2026					
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
			1	2	3
			*9:00am – Anointing Mass *10:00am – Noon – Confessions – SM *9:30am – St tchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall *5:00pm-6:00pm – Confessions - SM	*9:00am - Mass	*9:00am – 1 st Friday Mass Parish Office Closed
					 *5:00pm - Mass Happy Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10
Regular Mass Schedule	*9:00am – Mass *8:00pm – AA Meeting – KH - SM	*9:00am – Mass *11:00am – Domino Club	*9:00am – Mass *9:30am – St tchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall	*9:00am - Mass	No Mass
					*5:00pm – Mass St. Vincent De Paul Black Bag Collect on
12	13	14	15	16	17
Regular Mass Schedule St. Vincent De Paul Black Bag Collect on	*9:00am – Mass *8:00pm – AA Meeting – KH - SM	*9:00am – Mass *11:00am – Domino Club	*9:00am – Mass *10:00am – Noon – Confessions – SM *9:30am – St tchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall *5:00pm-6:00pm – Confessions - SM	*9:00am - Mass	No Mass *9:00am – 11:00am – Lit le Lambs – SM Hall
					*5:00pm - Mass
19	20	21	22	23	24
Regular Mass Schedule	*9:00am – Mass *8:00pm – AA Meeting – KH - SM	*9:00am – Mass *11:00am – Domino Club *6:15pm – SM Men’s Club Dinner & Meeting – SM Hall	*9:00am – Mass *9:30am – St tchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall	*9:00am - Mass	No Mass
					*5:00pm - Mass
26	27	28	29	30	31
Regular Mass Schedule	*9:00am – Mass *8:00pm – AA Meeting – KH - SM	*9:00am – Mass *10:00am – SVdP – SM Hall *11:00am – Domino Club	*9:00am – Mass *9:30am – St tchin’ Sisters – SJ Hall	*9:00am – Mass *6:00pm – YCMC – SM Hall	No Mass *9:00am – 11:00am – Lit le Lambs – SM Hall