307 W. Main Street • Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 • Phone: (830) 997-9523 • Fax: (830) 997-1037



January 2, 2022 • The Epiphany of the Lord

Cover Photo by Witold Photography

Very Rev. John P. Nolan VF, Pastor Rev. Fr. Cajetan Amaechi Anyanwu, CMF Deacon Patrick Klein Deacon Francisco De La Torre Deacon Marty Robertson

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE AT ST. MARY'S

Saturday 5 p.m., 7 p.m. (Spanish) Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m.

The Epiphany of the Lord

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Website: www.stmarysfbg.com

Who We Are

As disciples of Jesus, we commit ourselves to building community as the body of Christ through the commission given to us at Baptism and reaffirmed in the sacraments of initiation and service. By appreciating, celebrating and sharing the gift of who we are, and what we have, we can establish a hospitable community that welcomes and cares for the needs of those who join us on our journey of faith.

SACRAMENTS



Baptism

Required classes for parents /sponsors, both Spanish and English, are held during odd numbered months. Classes & Mass are required. For more information contact Wesley at 997-9523, or visit our website.



Marriage

A minimum of six months are needed in order to schedule a wedding at St. Mary's. Destination weddings are granted on a case by case basis. No weddings are scheduled during Advent or Lent. Call Amy in the church office for more information.



Reconciliation

Saturdays from 4-4:45pm at St. Mary's Church.



Communion

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are available to bring Holy Communion to the sick and elderly of the parish.



Holy Anointing

Do not hesitate to call the priest in case of serious illness, injury or upcoming surgery. Call 830-997-9523.



Wednesday mornings

from 8:30-10am, our office is closed for our staff meeting. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience!

CONTACT US

Parish Office (830) 997-9523 Fax (830) 997-1037

t. 226
xt. 222
xt. 231
t. 221
t. 228
xt. 230
t. 236
t. 233
t. 223
t. 229
xt. 232

St. Mary's School 202 S. Orange, (830) 997-3914

Cristi Ahern, Principal D'Ann Tatsch, Assistant Principal Christine Duecker, Office Administrator Susan Nixon, Registrar Kaitlyn Burg, Development Director

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

HOMEMBOUND/NURSING HOMES

If someone you love is homebound or in a nursing home and would like to take communion, please contact Amy at (830) 997-9358.

SOMEONE IN THE HOSPITAL?

If a member of your family is ill and would like to see a priest, please call the parish office (830) 997-9523.

GABRIEL PROJECT/RESPECT LIFE

Stacy Jenschke, Coordinator (830) 998-9074

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING (NFP)

If you would like more information, please contact Amy at the parish office, (830) 997-9523.

ALCOHOL & DRUG AWARENESS

If you or a loved one is affected by alcohol or drug abuse, we can help. Call John or Joy at 990-1720 or 456-3566. Your anonymity will be protected.



SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Monday, January 3

7:30 a.m. Trevino family & Mears family

Tuesday, January 4

12 p.m. †Victor Eckhardt

Wednesday, January 5

6 p.m. †Lalo Ontiveroz Jr.

†Leonel Valdez

Thursday, January 6

8:15 a.m. †Ann Denise Wilson

Friday, January 7

12 p.m. Children of Josie Eckhardt

Saturday, January 8

5p.m. St. Mary's Parishioners

†Jerry Örsak †Joseph Valigura Familia Herrera Neri

Sunday, January 9

7p.m.

7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members & Benefactors of

St. Vincent de Paul

Our Confirmation Candidates

9 a.m. † Susie Schneider

Living & Deceased Members of St.

Ann's Society

11:15 a.m. †Domitila Cedillo

†Etta Louise Blanchet

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

for the weekend of Dec. 19th, 2021

Offertory	\$24,792.84
Our Lady of Guadalupe	
Adopt-A-Student	
Preservation & Pride	
Building Improvement	
Family Center	
Catholic Youth Groups	
Archdiocesan: Retired Religious	
Total	\$26.047.84

Thank you for your continued generosity & support of St. Mary's!

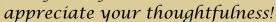
SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection for this weekend is for the Adopt-A-Student Fund.

The second collection for the weekend of January 9, 2022 will be for the Holy Family Center.

Thank you from the Office!

On behalf of Fr. John, Fr. Cajetan and the office staff, we would like to say a great big Thank you! For all of you who took time to bring cards, gifts and yummy treats we



Jesus Is the Reason for the Season

The Annual Church Walk Returns!

On Dec. 15th, in the spirit of Christmas, a wide variety of Fredericksburg residents

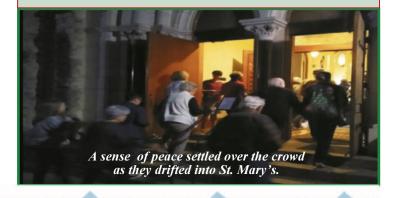


came together to participate in a lovely tradition, the Annual Church Walk.

Walking along Main Street with the others, listening to the laughter and joyful murmur of families and friends was a delightful experience. People joined in for the first time since 2019 to share this evening's event. The only thing missing was the traditional cookie buffet at the end of the trail...it's on the prayer list!

At St. Mary's, Amy led everyone in a beautiful round of hymns followed by a talk from Pastor John Cruz. The other stops were Zion Lutheran, Holy Ghost Lutheran and Bethany Lutheran, where there were featured speakers and choirs to inspire us all and warm our hearts!

Thank you Ministerial Alliance of Fredericksburg for bringing us all together again!





PRAYER LIST

OUR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE ILL

SONDRA ADAMS, FELIX ALEMAN, ANGEL ARREDONDO, WILLIAM BEHRENDS, JUSTIN BILBO, KYLE BILBO, JOHN BOYERS, JESSE CORONA, ZOEY CRENWELGE, RHODA DALES, MIKE & SONDRA ELVIR, INEZ GARZA, JOE HENRY GONZALES, ARLYSS GREENWOOD, GARRETT GROBE, DICK & DELORES GRUBB, TODD HERBER, CLAUDETTE HOLLIS, JENNY IMMEL, KIRK KINLEY, AGNES KNOPP, CINDY KOTHE, PAM LUKENBACH, DEACON GREGORIOR MARTINEZ, SHIRLEY MEIER, ALICE MORALES, JOSE MORQUECHO, JAVIER MUNOZ, LANA & EUGENE NETTLES, ALLEN PETSCH, DAVE PYLATE, LARRY REAVIS, GIL ROEBUCK, JESSE SALINAS, EVELYN SCHAETTER, JAMES SCHONEFELD, JIMMY & KATHRYN STEPHENSON, ANNIE MAE STONE, RAYETTE WAHL, DOUGLAS WEHMEYER, CAMRY WEINHEIMER, DOROTHY WEINHEIMER. STEVEN WEINHEIMER THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS!



ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Do you already have an hour of Adoration and are looking to help a little more?

Eucharistic Adoration is in need of some volunteers to help. If this is of interest to you, please call Andy Reyes at 210-632-3408.

Did you know...

Question: What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?



Answer: This a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: How should the minsters respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled? If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, the minister would use the purificator (and additional purificators if needed) to clean the spill and then the area should be reverently washed as soon as the Mass is over and the water poured into the sacrarium (a special sink that is located in church sacristies for reverently disposing of holy water, the water used to clean sacred vessels, etc.).

©LPi



Starts this week!

Discover the Epic Story of The Early Church

Join us for *Epic: The Early Church* at St Mary's Catholic

Church starting January 3, 2022. The cost will be about \$30 (financial assistance is available). For info or to register please contact charlotte.belsick@gmail.com. Please join us in lively discussions of first 500 years of the Church and fellowship during your spiritual journey.

Save the Date: <u>Jan. 22, 2022 : 9am-4pm</u>



St. Ann's Society presents a:

Women's Retreat w/
Bonnie Adabie

More details to come!



Prayer Line

If you wish to be a part of the prayer line or are in need of prayers, please call Diane Reeh at 830-456-0751.





Our Helpers Need Helpers!

St. Vincent de Paul: We would be grateful for more help sorting items! *Call Dotty Duecker at (830) 997-5002*

Hospitality Ministry needs You!

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE !!!!!!
Volunteers needed for all five Masses.
Call Amy 997-9523 or Joby at 997-5043

Loving Our Homebound Neighbors!

Providing Holy Communion to nursing homes & homebound is a wonderful way to show our love! *Contact Amy 997-9523*

Seeking Bereavement Ministers!

February we will be starting a ministry to assist widows & widowers. Twice monthly *Please call Lazaro at 997-9523!*

Rebuilding Hospital Ministry Team!

We are rebuilding the Eucharistic team for the hospital & looking for help with Sunday afternoons. *Lazaro* 997-9523

Loving Care rebuilding their Teams!

We are always looking to build our teams. We need bakers and servers! For more information call Dotty 456-9638



Schedule for Jan. 2- Jan.8, 2022

January 2, 8am Youth ACTS Returns -East Hall January 3, 4:30pm Catholic Daughters' Meeting-East Hall, 5pm Bible Study-PH8

January 4, 9am Facts following ACTS-PH6, 9am Heart of Mary Bible Study-PH8, 6pm EDGE-East Hall January 5, 6pm Life-Teen East Hall, 6pm RCIA-PH8, 6pm RCIC-PH6

January 6, 5:30pm 4th Degree Knights-East Hall January 7, 10am The Visit of the Magi-East Hall January 8, 9am Baptism Class- PH 8

Please verify through our website, as times change.





Friendly Reminder...

Remember to check out your key from the office *Monday -Friday*, 8am-5pm.



St. Mary's Catholic Daughters' Luncheon & Style Show

Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 11:00am, at the Holy Family Center

There will be a Silent Auction & Bottle Grab fun fundraiser!

Tickets are \$25. and are for sale now!

Please contact Susan Schaefer at 830-669-2785 to purchase tickets.

Come have a blast with us!



St. Mary's Catholic Daughters of the America,

Court John Fitzgerald Kennedy #1907 will meet Monday, January 3, 2022 at 6:00pm at the Holy Family Center.

The Texas State Court Catholic Daughters of the Americas Memorial Scholarships are due to the State CDA January 31, 2022.

Numerous scholarships are awarded from \$3000. to \$500. Those eligible to apply are graduating senior girls and boys in accredited high schools who are related to a living Texas CDA member.

Our Court's next St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store workday is Saturday, February 5 from 10:00am - 1:00pm. Contact Joan Vorauer at 830-456-2231 if you can help.

St. Mary's Catholic Daughters Luncheon & Style Show is Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 11:00am at the Holy Family Center. (See ad)

Contact Teresa Weber, Regent, if you have questions or interested in becoming a member at 830-998-7115. Peace, Teresa Weber Regent St. Mary's CDA Court JFK #1907

We're building a Bereavement Ministry

Is it in your heart to help those in our Parish who have suffered the loss of a loved one? If you have experience in this area or would just like to be a part



of this very valuable team, please contact Lazaro. Drop by or call the office 997-9523,or email lleal@stmarysmail.com

Music & Liturgy Notes Understanding the Psalm and readings:

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Merriam-Webster defines the word epiphany as: "a moment in which you suddenly see or understand something in a new or very clear way". We celebrate "Epiphany" (with a capital E) as the day that the wise men arrived to worship and bring gifts to Jesus. The second definition of epiphany also works here. These men, learned philosophers, possibly Persian astronomers, were looking to the stars for a sign. According to Living Liturgy 2022 "It was a widespread belief that heavenly portents marked the birth of great leaders, and so they came to Jerusalem to look for a baby whom they described as the "newborn king of the Jews" (LL 2022, pg.36). I always wondered why they were looking for a star and knew to follow it, so this bit of information was a bit of an eye opener for me.

What I love the most about all of the readings today are that they point to the fact that God is calling to all of us. One of the big controversies in the early church for some of the Jews was that God called to them specifically. Yes, it's true that God made a covenant with the Jewish people and yes, the Messiah came from a Jewish family, but that does not mean that God doesn't wish to make a covenant with us all. In the early church some of the Apostles were preaching that the Gentiles needed to undergo circumcision in order to follow the faith that Jesus began. In fact, the first ever meeting of the Pope with his Bishops occurred in the early church to discuss this very topic, and it was decided that converts did not need to undergo circumcision. Paul, in the second reading today, makes it very clear that "Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and partners in the promise in Christ Jesus". This was a radical notion to the Jews of the time and it's a lesson we can continue to carry with us today.

I am amazed at how God still can create epiphanies for me today when I think I've learned everything I can about my faith. This Epiphany Sunday we celebrate the arrival of the magi, who brought prophetic gifts of gold (for a king), frankincense (that was used to fragrance the temple sacrifices) and myrrh (used in embalming practices). That these men, who were the earliest converts to the church came from afar, to honor and worship Jesus as the heavenly king who would save us all, amazes me each year. Let us this year, continue to be open to the individual epiphanies that God has in store for us and work to aim for a time when "every nation on earth, will adore [him]" (Psalm 72).

<u>Children's Choir:</u> Rehearsal Mondays in the church from 4:00-5:00. (Sings on the 4th Sunday, 9am Mass) <u>Youth choir:</u> (Sings on the 3rd Sunday, 11:15am Mass) Rehearsal Thursday evenings from 6:30pm-7:15pm (Youth singers and instrumentalists needed!)

Adult choir: (Sings on the 2nd Sunday 9am Mass and 4th Saturday, 5:00pm Mass) Rehearsal in the church on Thursdays from 5:30pm-6:30pm.

Email Amy Voorhees for more information about the 3 choir opportunities listed above!

Mary the Mother of Jesus (12/18/2018)

Innocent, great and pure is the Mother of Jesus. Shining bright with great beauty, She was filled with the Holy Spirit. Rich and lovely was her demeanor. Her goal for us today is to bring us closer and dearer to the love of her son Jesus. Like a mother, she wishes to demonstrate to us ways that will make God smile as we work at being closer to Him on our journey. Mary was pure grace and beautiful in the eyes of God. She was born to do this life altering task. She was a perfect mother of devotion to God. She was the unrivaled example of love and the first disciple of Jesus. Her love and adoration for her son, Jesus, is so great she wants us to create in ourselves a longing devotion to Him. This awakening inside us will propel us to a great light so bright, we will glow inside. Open your heart to the great warmth within that will reveal the new you who is, like Mary, giving it all for Jesus. Sit tight and see the mercy and forgiveness along with outpouring love from this adoring Savior. Allow Mary to show you where to go and what to do in order to bring glory to God. This is God's Ray of Hope for us. She is blessed among women. Through prayer and petition consecrate your love to her to get to Jesus. God will shower you with blessing beyond compare. He loves His Mother Mary. Happy Birthday Jesus. All glory and honor belong to you this Christmas Season.

LUKE 1: 46-49: "And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatest of the Lord; my Spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For He has looked up His handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on all will ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is His name."

Priscilla Parker, Spiritual Director (512-773-9722)





Thank you to all of our volunteers who give so much to our parish & community!

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

GracieDel Fierro: 830-998-0364 Email: delfierrogracie@yahoo.com

Paula Dean: 214-893-7546 Email: spainthecity@yahoo.com Priscilla Parker: 512-773-9722

Allison Drury: 830-992-9674 Email: andrury13@gmail.com

Email: parker.priscilla@gmail.com

Terry Duffey: 432-978-1126 Email:tsd3833@me.com

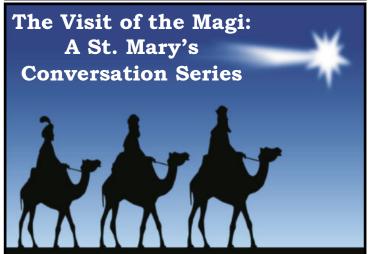
Susan Duffey: 432-312-1753 Email: sduffey300@gmail.com Rumalda Rivera: 830-992-1191 Email: rrivera21@austin.rr.com

Kathi Herzog: 830-990-4735 Email: Kathi.hidingplace@gmail.com

Faith Formation

Reminder for Religious Education:

There will be no religious education classes for December 19th, 26th and January 2nd. Please take this time to celebrate Advent and Christmas with family. Remember Mass obligations follow you wherever you go.



Come join Lazaro Angel Leal for another conversation in where we talk about different parts of our faith.

Holy Family Center, Jan. 7th, 10am. Rosary & Mass follow



Gentlemen.

That Man is You wishes everyone of you and your families a happy Advent and Merry Christmas. We just finished our Fall Semester and will resume on Tuesday, January 11th for our Spring Semester.

For more information on...

RCIA, That Man is You or,
The Visit of the Magi
contact Lazaro Angel Leal atlleal@stmarysmail.com or call 830-997-9523.
Feel free to drop by!



Youth Ministry

ST. MARY'S YOUTH MINISTRY & TEEN ACTS
RETREAT WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU
TO THE "COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE
TEXAS HILL COUNTRY" ... FOR THEIR
GENEROUS DONATION TOWARDS THE TEEN
A.C.T.S RETREAT



THIS WAS DONE IN
HONOR OF THE
LOVING MEMORY OF
"HECTOR DEL FIERRO"
LET US OFFER LOVING
PRAYERS IN HIS
MEMORY





St. Mary's School

December 20-31-Christmas Break

School and office will resume normal hours on Monday January 3

Jan 31-Feb4-Catholic Schools Week

> February 25-SMS Legacy Gala



MISSION STATEMENT To inspire a lifelong love of God and service to neighbor

HEB cards are also available and can be purchased daily in the school office or after Mass every weekend.



Happy Birthday Mrs. Murchinson

Our students loved walking to Mrs.

Murchinson's house to wish her a happy birthday and sing the "Bells of St.Mary's"





Gloria a Dios, esperamos que todos hayan tenido una Feliz Navidad. Que el año nuevo venga con alegría y bendiciones. Tenemos mucho que agradecer.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION UPDATE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION for all ADORERS

IN AN EMERGENCY-Use your CELL PHONE and CALL 911 for assistance

If you are approached for help or money, please suggest *St. Vincent's* for gas, clothing, or shelter, the *Food Pantry* for food and the *Good Samaritan Center* can help with medical needs. St. Mary's Parish asks that we not give money.

Adoration Leaders

Stan Klein 830-456-6018 Bobbie Klein 830-456-5867 Andy Reyes 210-632-3408



Readings for the week of January 02, 2022

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/ Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/ Mt 4:12-17, 23-25 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/ Mk 6:34-44 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/ Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/ Mk 6:45-52 Thurs: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/ Ps 72:1-2, 14 & 15bc, 17/ Lk 4:14-22a Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/ Ps 147: 12-13, 14-15, 19-20/ Lk 5:12-16 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/ Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 & 6a & 9b/ Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/ Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/ Acts 10:34-38/ Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/ Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/ Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/ Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Observances for the week of January 02, 2022

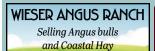
Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

Monday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious Wednesday: St. John Neumann, Bishop Thursday: St. André Bessette, Religious Friday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

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Therapeutic Optometrist • Glaucoma Specialist 1021 S. Hwy. 16, Fredericksburg, TX

830-992-3286 Parishioners



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