

December 25, 2018 • 25 de Diciembre de 2018



# CHRISTMAS

*A Savior Is Born*

## NAVIDAD

*Nace un Salvador*

St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church  
202 W. Kronkosky Street, Boerne, Texas 78006  
(830) 816-2233 [stpetersboerne.com](http://stpetersboerne.com)





## CHRISTMAS 2018

Welcome! - ¡Bienvenidos!

We welcome all who have come to worship with us this Christmas. We extend the warm embrace of faith and love. Christmas presents all of us with the opportunity to meet new people, to renew old friendships, to celebrate with family and to give thanks to God who has blessed all of us so abundantly. Our Parish Staff wishes you a blessed Christmas and prosperous New Year!

### Greeting & Message from the Pastor

As division and turbulence in world events stir around us, we gather to celebrate this Christmas and New Year season, hearing the message of faith and peace to penetrate our lives. There is so much we have to be thankful for. Our Fall season has been spectacular in color and temperature fluctuations here in the Hill Country. Even our Winter has been a celebration of unpredictable Texas weather, including many beautiful sunny and warm days. Only in Texas!

Our parish remains a “bee hive” of activity with approximately ninety (90) ministries, services and organizations and many additional liturgical and community-wide events taking place on our campus. The Holy Spirit continues to move and stir within our faith-community. As we celebrate our close

bonds and ties as families, we share presents along with food, drink and family ties and traditions. We are also very mindful of our connections to everyone else on planet earth and our responsibilities toward one another to make the world a better place and to build God’s Kingdom in our midst. We know we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. We hope for a world in which we can live in peace and harmony pursuing productive, good and loving lives filled with meaning and service. To accomplish this, let us all teach and mold good and loving lives and peaceful coexistence. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, teaches us the way to the future.

We welcome all guests who worship with us during this holiday season. Our greetings and hospitality reach out to you as travelers, family and friends of our parishioners. We enfold you in our praise and worship of God, our Heavenly Father, for his great gift of Jesus, His Son, born among us.

We celebrate Jesus’ birth today by announcing it to the world without hesitancy or embarrassment! As pastor, I am especially thankful to Fr. Tony Cummins, the former pastor, and for Fr. Rudy Vela, S.M., for their continuing help and service as celebrants of Masses. I also thank Msgr. Peter Flood, Fr. Mark Cannaday, and priests from the

Casa de Padres, the clergy retirement community, who help us with Masses and other liturgical celebrations. I also thank our entire St. Peter’s Pastoral Staff that coordinates and orchestrates our entire parish operations and services. I thank Darcy Maciolek, Mary Cook and Jenny Halbert who served our staff so well for years and have moved on to other life endeavors. We welcome our new Parish Operations Director, Brad Wakely, and our new RCIA Director, Diane Sowell.

Our parish has helped make Christmas a bit brighter through our combined efforts: Through the **Christmas Adopt- a-Family Program** our parish has helped provide food and Christmas gifts to 25 needy families; through our **Angel Gift Basket program** we have helped nursing home residents in Boerne know they are not forgotten and alone during the Holidays; and, through our **St. Vincent de Paul Society** struggling families are being helped with basic necessities to brighten their spirits.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our parishioners who are so generous sharing their time, talent and treasure to make our parish what it is today: A community-within-a-community growing together in Christ, fulfilling the Gospel, and building the Kingdom of God already in the here-and-now!

Have a Merry Christmas celebrating the light of Christ and a blessed New Year!

**Fr. Norman A. Ermis, Pastor**

## LIVE THE LITURGY

Merry Christmas! Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord. The gift of Jesus Christ to humanity is the result of God's unconditional and merciful love for us. Jesus lived and died trying to show human beings how to live by rejecting godless ways and worldly desires and by living temperately, justly, and devoutly. We are also asked to live in joyful hope of Christ's return again, anticipating the fulfillment of all things in Christ. How well have we learned the lessons Jesus taught? Instead of moving closer to realizing God's vision for us, it appears that our world is moving further away. We are easily distracted, disorientated, and preoccupied with things that leave us feeling empty. There is a God-shaped hole in each one of us that can only be filled by Him. Realizing this truth about who we are is the only thing that can bring real happiness. This year, are we going to just "celebrate" God's gift of his Son or really "accept" him?

## THE LIGHT SHINES



Today the Lord Jesus is revealed to all the nations as a babe in arms - powerful and glorious in his weakness. What a paradox! With their gold, frankincense and myrrh, the magi paid him respect, honor and praise. They found him by following a star and returned home by a detour to avoid local authorities. Jesus (God-Saves) is the Christ, the Messiah, whose work defies time and space to shine before all. Today we bask in his divine light. What a mystery!

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of the Lord, Year C.  
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## SHALOM



The light of Christ shines on us and on our actions this day. The outcast shepherds became the first evangelists to hear the heavenly hymn: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." We, too, are called to proclaim "Shalom! Pax! Peace!" Do people believe our testimony to the light of Christ?

Text, Michael R. Prendergast,  
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the Lord, Mass at Dawn, Year  
ABC.  
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# MERRY

# Christmas

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



## At St. Peter the Apostle Parish...

From the outside, we might look like a quiet, peaceful place. And, indeed, at times we are. From the inside, however, our community takes on quite an active role in the lives of our parish families and in our community. For the young, we offer many programs to encourage and nurture faith. During Mass, parents of young children can drop them off in our St. Peter's Nursery set up for ages 1 through 4 years old. For children kindergarten through 5th grade, Liturgy of the Word is offered at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses. Children leave Mass to break open the Word in a way they can better understand, and rejoin their parents for the Eucharist.

At St. Peter the Apostle, we are fortunate enough to be able to offer traditional Elementary Faith Formation and a Montessori-based faith formation called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. By being able to do this, we are able to meet the different needs of all children as well as their families.

Our Elementary Faith Formation program is a large and very active traditional Catholic formation program. Catechists guide children in their Catholic faith using the Alive in Christ curriculum which invites children to open both their minds and hearts to what God is saying to

them in Sacred Scripture and helps them develop a love for Jesus and his Church. We offer sessions for children from kindergarten through 5th grade Wednesday afternoons from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:45 a.m.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori-based Catholic formation offered at three levels: Level 1 is 3 year olds through kindergarten, Level 2 is 1st through 3rd grades, and Level 3 is 4th and 5th grades. We seek to create and facilitate a sacred, "hands-on" space called an atrium in which both the children and the catechists can hear, ponder, and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Catholic faith as revealed in the Scriptures and the liturgy. Sessions are offered on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday mornings and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons.

As a subscribing Life Teen Parish, we follow the EDGE and Life Teen model of catechesis for middle school and high school faith formation. EDGE Nights (middle school 6th through 8th grades) and Life Nights (high school 9th through 12th grades) are designed as comprehensive Catholic youth ministry that recognizes the need for relational ministry, fun, and catechetical lessons that are relevant to the lives of teens today. Both EDGE and Life Teen offer encounters with Jesus Christ through



catechesis, retreats, camps, leadership opportunities and community service programs. EDGE is held on Wednesday evenings and Life Nights are held on Sunday evenings after 6:00 p.m. Life Teen Mass.

Opportunities for adults of all ages and life situations are many here at St. Peter the Apostle. Catholic adult Bible and faith studies are presented each quarter covering the Church's history, scripture, faith, and liturgy. The studies involve lively discussions to help internalize and deepen one's faith. Great friendships and a sense of community are made in these small communities.

St. Peter the Apostle also offers a sacramental formation process primarily intended for those who are unbaptized (ages 7 and up) to prepare to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). RCIA also prepares those who are already baptized for a profession of faith and full communion with the Roman Catholic Church.

We have a vibrant Senior Citizen's Group active in our parish. We have a wonderful Knights of Columbus Council who are tireless in their commitment to St. Peter's and to the larger community of Boerne. We have a Women's Faith Council serving the needs of Catholic Women.

Our Catholic Daughters of America is strong in a membership sponsoring many events and projects to benefit the community and spiritual lives of women. Women, men and teens can take part in the English and Spanish ACTS retreats, offered for each group every year. As a parish, volunteers provide Sunday morning hospitality, and plan and put on our parish festival. All activities allow parishioners to socialize, make new friends and work together for the common good.

We are also committed to the ideals of social justice. We realize that the Kingdom of God extends beyond our own doors. Toward this end, we have an active St. Vincent de Paul Council and have developed a relationship with our sister parish in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Our Mission Council also conducts a monthly food drive for our local Family Services, as well as Fair Trade coffee sales. We also have community service involvement and support many activities that help and affirm those in need in our community.

There are many other organizations here at St. Peter's. The Guadalupanas, our Liturgy Committee, our Pastoral Council and others make this a place where God's work is done in abundance. You are always welcome here, where the activity and opportunity you find may change your life.



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contact our bookkeeper,  
Jenny Halbert at (830) 816-5659

# DAR SUS REGALOS EN LÍNEA ESTA NAVIDAD



ES SEGURO. ES FÁCIL. ES CONVENIENTE.

Apoye a la Iglesia Católica San Pedro Apóstol hoy usando su tarjeta de debito, tarjeta de crédito o cuenta de cheques o ahorros.

1

Visite el sitio de su parroquia y seleccione en **"Give Online."**

2

Seleccione la colección o al evento que quiera.

3

Contribuya su donación o pago. ¡Es todo!

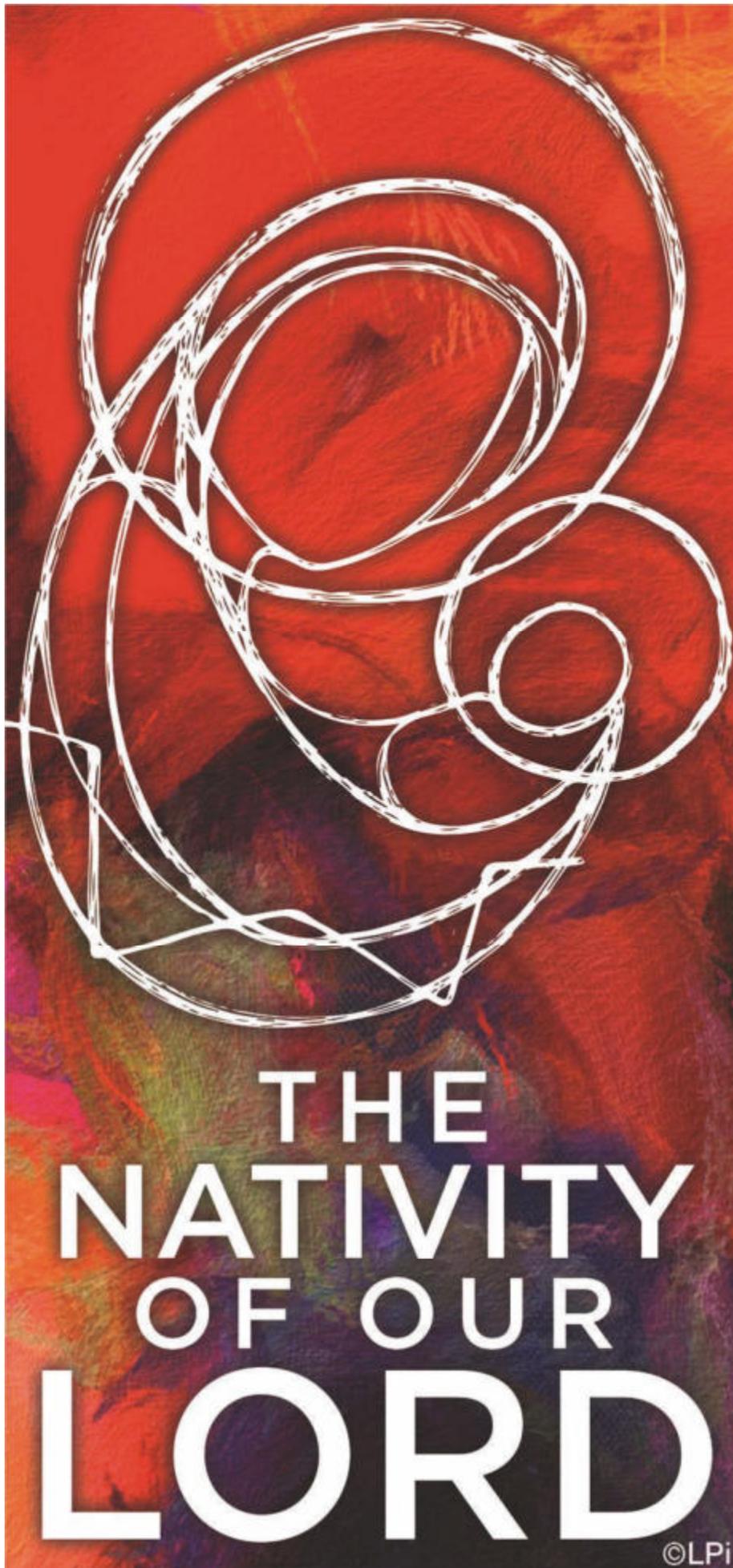


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Para donar acciones, fondos mutuos, EFT, etc.,  
comuníquese con nuestra contadora,  
Jenny Halbert al (830) 816-5659



God,  
you became human  
through the obedience  
of a simple young woman  
named Mary.  
Mary is our model of faith.  
May we be faithful to your  
word as Mary was.  
Give us the courage to face  
each day  
with the yes that Mary gave  
to you.  
We ask this through the  
incarnate God,  
who comes to us again  
during this Christmas  
season.  
Amen.

Dios,  
te hiciste humano a través  
de la obediencia  
de una joven sencilla  
llamada maria.  
María es nuestro modelo de  
fe.  
Que seamos fieles a tu  
palabra como lo fue María.  
Danos el coraje para  
afrontar cada día.  
con el sí que María te dio.  
Te lo pedimos a través del  
Dios encarnado,  
Quien nos viene de nuevo  
durante esta temporada  
navideña.  
Amén.