



St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church

2308 3rd Street Huffman TX 77336

Spirit and Truth Newsletter

December 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent



Parish Office

Phone: 281-324-1478
Fax: 281-715-5533
parishoffice@stphilip.cc

Mailing Address

PO Box 2363
Huffman, TX 77336

Office Location

2308 3rd Street
Huffman, TX 77336
Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00 am-1:00 pm

Bulletin contact

spirit_truth@stphilip.cc

Pastor

Rev. Richard Barker

Mass Times

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 am
Sunday: 8:30 am
Children's Liturgy

Daily Mass

Tues - Fri: 9:00 am
First Sat: 9:00 am

Mary's Blessing Ministry

For financial assistance
please call :
(832) 764-9814

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:30 pm
or by appointment

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Parishioner's Pen: Wait For . . . It!

"Wait for it" is a popular preview phrase in today's media used to highlight a significant newsworthy event that is about to be revealed. A sports event *play of the day*, an entertainer's punch line, a politician or world leader's bombshell address are trivial examples compared to the amazing season of anticipation we begin today. Wait for **IT**, indeed! On this First Sunday of Advent (*to come, not yet arrived*) we wait - with joyful expectation, for the Nativity of our Savior, Jesus Christ - for relief, to be rescued. We light the first candle on the Advent Wreath as we prepare to welcome at Christmas the Light of Christ that overcomes the darkness of the world!

Waiting is part of our Catholic faith that we inherited from the Old Testament, from the Israelites who waited for deliverance. They waited to reunite with their homeland. They waited for deliverance. They waited for the Messiah. Our waiting for Christ may not be as long in comparison to waiting in the desert, in exile, for the Messiah, but it is just as meaningful. Scripture teaches us about waiting. We wait with hope, "I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry." [Ps 40:2] This is a hope that keeps us going, that gives us strength to move forward.

But what do we do while we are waiting? We are patient. We pray. It is the time for preparation, for patience and renewal. These verses are recalled in a favorite Advent hymn, "Patience People" (John Foley, S.J.) that beautifully showcases the Scripture message [Jas. 5: 7-8]:

*Patience, people, till the Lord is come.
See the farmer await the yield of the soil.
He watches it in winter and in spring rain.
Patience, people,
For the Lord is coming. Patience, people,
Till the Lord is come.*



Wait for "it" has been commercialized by Prime Days, Blowout Sales, pop-up ads, and flashing decorations. Is "Merry Christmas" being redefined by merchants, ignoring all that is heaven-sent? Mercifully, no! Family reunions and traditions, renewed friendships, and personal moments in adoration define the Christmas season. Unlike (say July 4) *one & done* holidays, Christmas is the entire Advent season (see p3 *Christmas Mass Schedule*) of hopeful waiting for joy.

Let our anticipation of Christmas begin with Advent wreaths and Nativity scenes returning to their traditional places in our homes. Many of our family traditions trace back to our childhood and to the joy-filled Christmas celebrations with our children. Now those traditions include our grandchildren, adding to our memories. Joyful Nativity expectations are headed our way to savor and enjoy! *Have a blessed Advent season.* Tim Logsdon



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Mass Intentions

Sunday Masses

Saturday, December 3

4:00 pm - Nick and Janie Jaramillo

Sunday, December 4

8:30 am - + Taryn Wedow +

11:00 am - People of the Parish



Sunday and Daily Mass intentions are mentioned at every St. Philip Liturgy celebration. To have a Mass offered call the parish office.

Altar Flowers Given

Flowers in celebration of:

49th Wedding Anniversary

Nick and Janie Jaramillo

Call the parish office at
(281) 324-1478 to schedule a date.



Pray For . . .

Graces, Strength and Healing

Parishioners in need

For the repose of the soul of

The Faithful Departed

Add "Pray For" names: Use website
"prayer request button" or call the office.

Parish Office Schedule Update

+ **The Parish Office will be closed
and no 9am Mass on:**

Friday, December 8

Monday, December 25

Tuesday, December 26

Children's Christmas Nativity

Christmas Eve, Sun., Dec. 24 @ 4:00pm Vigil Mass



All St. Philip children in K—through 12th Grade are invited to participate in our St. Philip's annual Nativity Pageant, retelling the birth of Christ in a manger over 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem. Older students are

needed to be narrators or wranglers for the shepherds, sheep, angels and wise men. Costumes will be provided.

Rehearsal schedule:

Saturday, December 9th 9:30 am—11:00 am

Saturday, December 16th 9:30 am—11:00 am

Children will need to arrive by 3:30pm on Christmas Eve dressed in costume.

Please call Heather Wehking @ 713-562-5947 if you have any questions.

Safe Environment-trained adults are also needed.

Ways to Give to St. Philip



Collection basket

Mail your check to:

St. Philip the Apostle
PO Box 2363
Huffman, TX 77336

Online bill pay

Scan:



Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Friday, December 8

Mass @ 7:00 pm

**(No 9:00 am daily Mass. The
parish office will be closed.)**

New Altar Server Training; The 18th Generation

Altar Server training is scheduled for 3 consecutive Sunday mornings (**Jan. 7, 14, & 28**) - 9:30 to 10:45 AM. Training will take place in the worship area and sanctuary. Required for new Altar Servers: First Communion, 3rd grade.

Parents, your family must strongly support our Server Corp, especially by your regular attendance at Saint Philip. Altar Servers serve weekly. Thus, they will grow and mature in their service.

Our high school acolytes will welcome the new servers and train them carefully in the service of the Mass. Moms and dads are invited to be present at every server training session.

We invite all young persons 3rd grade and up to join our Altar Server Corp and make St. Philip's Mass a welcoming experience as we worship the Most Holy Trinity. Over the years, we've watched many Altar Servers grow and mature into outstanding young Catholic men and women.

Mark your calendars for our fall training program. Pick up your registration forms in the sacristy after Sunday Mass and return them as soon as possible.





WELCOME TO OUR FAITH FAMILY AT ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE

When our patron saint, Philip the Apostle, invited a friend to meet Jesus, he said simply, *Come and see.* [Jn 1:46] This is our welcome to you. Come and see our faith family!

We invite all the people of our parish, our visitors and guests to experience the parish life of our Catholic community. Learn more about joining our St. Philip parish by contacting our parish office at 281-324-1478 or parishoffice@stphilip.cc.

St. Philip Ministry News

Knights of Columbus To sign-up or learn more about KofCs, contact Frank: frank.campisi@cam-tech.com or ask any Knight who also serves as St. Philip Ushers. Meetings on the 3rd Thursdays, 6:30pm.

The Women's Guild Thanks to all who visited our Membership Drive booth. Join us today!

St. Philip CCE Sign up now for the Christmas Nativity Pageant!

Children's Liturgy of the Word Our program returned Sunday, September 24 at the 8:30am Mass and continues to follow the CCE calendar.

Liturgical Ministers Please contact Tim Logsdon, tlogsdon@stphilip.cc to learn more about joining our dedicated team of liturgical ministers. Join our amazing team of lay readers and Eucharistic Ministers of the Paten and Chalice.

St. Philip Choir Come and sing for the Lord; ability to read music is not a prerequisite. Talk to us after Mass!

Usher Ministry Talk with a St. Philip usher before or after Mass to learn more about our amazing ministry that supports our St. Philip liturgy.

Ministers to the Homebound Please contact Kathy O'Donnell, 832-276-3830, or kod333@comcast.net for more information about homebound ministry training and how to begin bringing Communion to the homebound.

Mary's Blessings Ministry "Christmas for Kids due before December 13th. Call 432-270-3618 for information." Each and every contribution to Mary's Blessings is appreciated by those in need in Huffman. Please support the Huffman Food Pantry, too: 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, TX.

Prime Timer (over 55 always welcome!) Contact Sammy Dennard: dennardsammy@comcast.net if you'd like to be added to our contact list.

Safe Environment training is required for participation in St. Philip ministries. Contact the Parish office for information.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Dec 9-10; Dec 16-17: 2nd and 3rd Sundays of Advent
(Regularly scheduled Masses - See p1)

Tues, Dec 19 - Fri, Dec 22, 9:00 am Daily Mass

Sat, Dec 23 4:00 pm 4th Sunday of Advent Vigil
Mass (Confessions 3:00 pm—3:30 pm)

Sun, Dec 24 8:30 am (NO 11 am), 4th Sunday of Advent
4:00 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Mon, Dec 25 10:00 am Christmas Day Mass

Tues, Dec 26 No Daily Mass (Parish Office closed)

Wed, Dec 27 thru Fri, Dec 29, 9:00 am Daily Mass

Sat, Dec 30 4:00 pm Sunday Vigil Mass
(Confessions 3pm-3:30 pm)

Sun, Dec 31 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Family Sunday Mass

Mon, Jan 1 10:00 am Mary, Mother of God

Christmas for Huffman Children

Would you like to bring Christmas joy to Huffman children?

If you or several friends would like to sponsor a family we will give you options as to how large a family you want to assist. We ask that you contact the family and either purchase gifts or gift cards, and deliver the gifts to them. The school counselors may be able to deliver for you. You will receive all the information you will need and we are available if you have any questions.

The gifts must be delivered before December 13th

so that any delivery problems can be solved while school is still in session. Please contact Mary at 432-270-3618, and God bless you for reaching out to those in need.



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