

THE COMMUNITY OF ST. ANNE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL TOMBALL

DECEMBER 19, 2021

4th

Sunday OF ADVENT

1111 S. Cherry St. Tomball, TX 77375

281-351-8106

parishoffice@stanne-tomball.org

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston



Contact Us

For most effective communication, please use email addresses or Direct Inward Dial phone numbers shown below.

Thank you.

PASTOR

REV. THOMAS W. HOPPER
Business Administrator
thopper@stanne-tomball.org

DEACON

Jose Gutierrez
josegtzdiacono@gmail.com

SUPPORT STAFF

Amy Apt
Receptionist
281-205-1173 | aapt@stanne-tomball.org

Cheryl Wise
Executive Assistant
281-205-1172 | cwise@stanne-tomball.org

Cynthia Simper
Parish/School Accounting Coordinator
281-205-1180 | csimper@stanne-tomball.org

Sr. Marcela Perez
Liturgist/Hispanic Ministry
281-205-1178 | mperez@stanne-tomball.org

Rosalinda Navarro
CCE Pre-K to 5th Grade
281-205-1175 | navarro@stanne-tomball.org

Ivana Zavala/Adore Ministries
Jr. High & High School Ministry Coordinator
ivana@adoreministries.com

Billy Schmidt
Maintenance/Custodian



St. Anne Catholic Church

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON
1111 S. Cherry St. Tomball, TX 77375
Tel: 281-351-8106

Website: www.stanne-tomball.org

Email: parishoffice@stanne-tomball.org

Facebook: St. Anne Catholic Community Tomball

Parish Office Hours:
Monday—Friday
8:30 a.m.—12:00 Noon
(Closed from 12:00—1:00)
1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

The Parish Office will be closed Friday, December 24th and Monday December 27th in Observance of Christmas.

After Office Hours Emergency Only
Phone Number 281-205-1183
Leave a detailed message: This line will be monitored after office hours and on the weekend.



MISSION STATEMENT

St. Anne, a Eucharistic Catholic Community, baptized in the Holy Spirit, is united with Jesus Christ in glorifying the Father and in teaching and serving the people of God.

Declaración de Mision Santa Ana, una comunidad Católica, Eucarística, Bautizada en el Espíritu Santo, estamos unidos con Jesucristo en la glorificación al Padre y al servicio a la gente de Dios.



Double the value of your Christmas Contribution!

REMEMBER THE
MATCHING CHALLENGE
FOR CHRISTMAS!

A generous parishioner has challenged us to be extra generous during this Christmas season. He will personally match our contributions up to \$50,000. So, our goal is to receive \$50,000 in donations for Christmas Offertory WHILE STILL COLLECTING THE USUAL DONATIONS PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS WEEK! So every time you hear 'Oh Come All Ye Faithful', please remember the MATCHING CHALLENGE. Mark your special gift as 'Christmas Offering' and have your contribution matched dollar-for-dollar!

Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.
Luke 6:38



THE SEASON of GIVING. . .

All donations to be credited to DSF for 2021 must be dated **and received in the Parish Office** by December 31st when the Diocesan Services Fund appeal will close for this year. Any funds short of our \$100,000 commitment set by the Archdiocese will have to be paid from Parish Operating Funds. Currently, if all pledges that have been made to DSF are paid by December 31, 2021, we will be left with a balance due of \$22,325.

Your participation in the Matching Challenge for Christmas Offerings will greatly aid the Parish by increasing our operating funds in order to meet general expenses - as well as the balance due to the Archdiocese for DSF.

Please prayerfully consider making an extra return to the Lord this Christmas by supporting your church parish of St. Anne—Tomball. Contributions in any form must be dated no later than December 31st to qualify for tax exemptions in 2021. Thank you for thinking of St. Anne for your end-of-year giving.



CHRISTMAS WEEK

Monday, December 20th
Filipino Mass of Thanksgiving
Anniversary of Fr. Tommy's Ordination
7:00 PM Mass
Followed by dinner in the Gym

*No weekday 8:30 AM Masses
December 22nd–24th
No 6:30 PM Mass December 22nd*

Thursday, December 23rd
Hispanic Ministry Posada
7:00—9:00 PM in the Gym

*No Reconciliation
Thursday, December 23rd*

Friday, December 24th
Christmas Eve (Vigil of Christmas)
4:00 PM Mass—English
7:00 PM Mass—Bilingual
10:00 PM Mass—English

Saturday, December 25th
Christmas Day
The Nativity of the Lord
9:30 AM Carols Prior to Mass
10:00 AM Mass —English
12:00 NOON Mass—Spanish
(*No 5:00 PM Vigil Mass*)

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday, December 26th
Regular Mass Schedule
8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass—English
12:00 NOON Mass—Spanish

Please see next weekend's bulletin for a complete schedule for the week of Sunday, December 26th through January 1st, 2022.

ADVENT

 **FOURTH SUNDAY** 
HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.



Masses This Weekend

December 18-19, 2021:

- Sat 12/18 5:00 PM ~ Renee Dore✠
- Sun 12/19 8:00 AM ~ People of St. Anne Parish
- Sun 12/19 10:00 AM ~ George Shirley✠
- Sun 12/19 12:00 PM ~ Stawaisz Family

Holiday Masses

- 12/22 No weekday mass due to Christmas Liturgies
- 12/23 No weekday mass due to Christmas Liturgies
- 12/24 & 25 The Nativity of The Lord (All Masses)

Upcoming Weekend Masses

December 26, 2021:

- Sun 12/26 8:00 AM ~ George Shirley Jr.✠
- Sun 12/26 10:00 AM ~ People of St. Anne Parish
- Sun 12/26 12:00 PM ~ People of St. Anne Parish



Rev. Thomas W. Hopper
Ordination to the Priesthood
December 18, 2004



Thank you,
Fr. Tommy!

We thank you for doing what God has called you to do by committing your life to the service of Mother Church and Her people.

The Community of St. Anne Catholic Church and School are blessed by your kind and loving benevolence: we are grateful for your Vocation to the Holy Priesthood.

May you know many years of peace, contentment, and grace cradled in the arms of God.

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT



WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Friday: *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Saturday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52



SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Mi 5:1)

Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)

Second Reading:

“Then I said, ‘As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.’” (Heb 10:7)

Gospel:

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” (Lk 1:42-43)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

REFLECT

First Reading:

Micah prophesied a Messiah (“ruler”) would come through the line of David (“Bethlehem-Ephrathah”) and bring peace and harmony. *In what ways does the upcoming birth of Christ bring you comfort?*

Second Reading:

As the season of Advent draws to a close, the author of Hebrews reminds us that as disciples of Christ, we must strive to do God’s will above all else. *How do you stay focused on such an important task?*

Gospel:

Luke is the only Evangelist to record the story of Mary visiting Elizabeth and only a portion of their conversation was preserved. *What else do you imagine they talked about?*

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ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



ADORATION AWARENESS

"In beholding the Word made flesh, now sacramentally present in the Eucharist, the eyes of our bodies are united with the eyes of faith in gazing upon the presence 'parexcellence' of Emmanuel 'God with us' until that day when the sacramental veil will be lifted in the Kingdom of heaven."

- St. Pope John Paul II

There will not be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday December 23rd and Thursday, December 30th (in anticipation of adorers being out of town for Christmas). Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on Thursday, January 6, 2022.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Thursdays (in the church), after the 8:30 AM Mass - 7:00 PM.

Patriotic Rosary - after the Blessed Sacrament is reposed at 7:00 PM.

More adorers are needed and are always welcome.

Adoration is available for all at the scheduled times. If you would like to sign up for a weekly Hour of adoration, please contact:

Rosalie Melia - rctmelia@gmail.com
Marty Lang - mmmjlang@gmail.com

Schedule Adjustments at St. Anne—Tomball

A LOT is happening in the coming weeks! Please note a few activities that are being postponed in order to allow time to focus on the celebrations of the Birth of our Lord with family and friends.

No weekday 8:30 a.m. Masses
Wednesday through Friday,
December 22 through December 24.

No 6:30 p.m. mass on Wednesday, December 22.
Resumes December 29

No Youth Group Wednesday, December 22, 29
and January 5, 2022.
Resumes January 12, 2022

No reconciliation on Thursday, December 23.

No Patriotic Rosary or Exposition of the Eucharist
Thursday, December 23 and 30.
Resumes January 6, 2022

No Children's Liturgy or CCE
Sunday, December 26 and January 2, 2022.
Resumes January 9, 2022



UPCOMING LITURGIES

Mary Mother of God (New Year)
Saturday, January 1st, 2022
10:00 am Mass—English
12:00 noon Mass—Spanish
(No 5:00 pm Vigil Mass)

Sunday, January 2nd
Regular Mass Schedule
8:00 & 10:00 am Mass—English
12:00 noon Mass—Spanish



Dear Community of St. Anne Catholic Church and School:

As we come to the close of this Advent Season, I pray that the final time of reflection and preparation leads you to a blessed and joyous Christmas Day as you celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Let us join our hearts as well as our voices in an unending chorus just as the Angels did on that first Christmas night in their resounding hymn of “Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to men of good will.” May our souls be as humble as the stable in Bethlehem where Christ first made His dwelling among us as we received the greatest gift ever given in the form of a precious baby child. May we treasure that special gift always.

Personally, I am grateful not only for that greatest of gifts, but also for the gift of each and every one of you and for your dedication and commitment to St. Anne Catholic Community.

On behalf of myself and the Parish Staff, I wish each of you a holy, happy and healthy Christmas, and pray that the peace, joy and love of the Season remain with you each day of the New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Tommy, Bandit, & Charlie

Rev. Thomas W. Hopper, Pastor



Simbang Gabi

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20TH
7:00 P.M.

Simbang Gabi (Filipino for "Night Mass") is a devotional nine-day series of Masses practiced by Filipino Catholics in anticipation of Christmas and to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a tradition of ushering in Christmas Day that has an important role in Philippine culture. As part of this tradition, **Couples for Christ** will host their annual **Mass of Thanksgiving** here at **St. Anne** on **Monday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m.** Mass will be followed by a reception of traditional Filipino holiday fare in the Gym. All are invited to come and join in this joyful celebration!



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

- Lk 1:41-42

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

The Nativity of the Lord

La Natividad del Señor

Friday, December 24th

Christmas Eve (Vigil of Christmas)
4:00 pm Mass—English
7:00 pm Mass—Bilingual
10:00 pm Mass—English

Saturday, December 25th

The Nativity of the Lord
9:30 am Carols Prior to Mass
10:00 am Mass—English
12:00 noon Mass—Spanish
(No 5:00 pm Vigil Mass)

We all know that our most popular Christmas Mass is the 4:00 pm 'Children's Mass' on Christmas Eve and that attendance is beyond the capacity of the Church. There will be overflow in the Parish Hall, but even that seating fills early.

Please bring with you (to this and every Holy Mass) the spirit of the season—peace and goodwill to all men. If you have family and friends that you wish to sit with, please arrive near the same time and refrain from saving a large number of seats: saved seats should be surrendered at 3:45 pm so that pews can be filled in order for mass to begin on time.

In all accounts of The Nativity, you will not read of the Three Wise Men arguing and scuffling to see who would stand closest to the Manger, or which would be first to present their gift. Be considerate, be kind—particularly to Ushers who are serving to accommodate as many people as possible. In other words, be on your best behavior—the birth of the Savior is at hand. Rejoice and be glad!



A Special Christmas Gift for You!

FREE BOOK

"The True Meaning of Christmas"

Available during Advent



Courtesy of the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus have a Christmas gift for you. After Mass please pick up your free copy of the book **"The True Meaning of Christmas; The Birth of Jesus and the Origins of the Season"**, in the Narthex. Books are available in English and in Spanish.

Merry Christmas from the Knights of Columbus.



Lift high your Voices with joy!

Please join us for Carols at 9:30 AM prior to the 10:00 AM Christmas Mass on Saturday, December 25th.

Gratitude is extended to all those who have attended extra practices in preparation for our special Christmas celebrations.

May all your holidays be filled with merry music and laughter!



Thank you to all who have generously contributed to the fund for beautification of the Sanctuary at Christmastime. Due to the early submission date of the bulletin, Christmas Flower intentions will be published in a future publication so that everyone can be included.



This weekend, December 19th, is the final Sunday of dismissal for Children's Liturgy until after the holidays.

Fr. Tommy, Bandit, and Charlie wish you all a very Merry Christmas as you celebrate Jesus' birthday!

Always remember, that the Baby Jesus is the best gift ever received and that we have to thank Him for all the other presents we get!

Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

Santa knows that we're God's children. . .



. . . and that makes everything right!

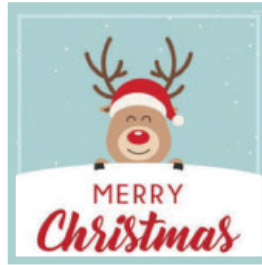


PRE-K TO 5TH GRADE FORMATION

No Elementary Faith Formation classes on Sunday, December 19th; Sunday, December 26th; and January 2nd. CCE Classes will resume on Sunday, January 9th, 2022.

ST. ANNE YOUTH MINISTRY Jr. High & High School

December 8th was the last day for the Fall Semester of Jr. High and High School Youth Group. We look forward to seeing everyone when classes resume for the second half of the catechetical year. The Spring Semester starts January 12, 2022, continuing through May 11th.



When Mary visited Elizabeth, they were both waiting for their babies to be born. Elizabeth's baby would grow up to be John the Baptist. Mary's baby would grow up to be Jesus our savior. Mary and Elizabeth were excited to see each other, not only because they loved each other, but also because they both loved God very much. It makes God happy when we love our relatives and friends, just like Mary and Elizabeth did.

PRAYER

Dear God, help me to love you. Take care of my family, my cousins, and all my relatives at Christmastime and always. Amen.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

If your relatives come to visit you, welcome them with a cheerful greeting. If you go to visit them during the Christmas season tell them how much God loves them.




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