

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

4th

Sunday
OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 19, 2021



HolyFamilyChurch.us



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON



OBLATES OF THE SACRED
HEART OF JESUS

CLERGY

Fr. Sunny Joseph, O.S.H., Pastor

Fr. Joy James, O.S.H., Parochial Vicar

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Deacon **Jeffrey A. Speight**: jeffrey.speight@holyfamilychurch.us

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WE GIVE BECAUSE GOD GAVE FIRST

Online giving is a fast, safe, and easy way to support the ongoing operations here at Holy Family Church. Visit HolyFamilyChurch.us and click on the green

DONATE button. You can set up a recurring payment and select which funds to support, including the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Building Fund, which helps us to reduce our building loan debt.

We are able to serve because of your generous prayers and financial support. If you haven't already, consider giving through our online portal!

Dear sisters and brothers of Holy Family,

We have a beautiful ministry in our Parish called "Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound." The ministers carry Jesus with them after Mass and share Him with the sick and shut-ins. In this weekend's Gospel, we hear the story of our Blessed Virgin Mary carrying Jesus and sharing His presence to her cousin Elizabeth.

It was the Holy Spirit who prompted Mary to go on a long journey—nearly one hundred miles—to visit her aging cousin Elizabeth and help during her pregnancy. It was the Holy Spirit who filled Elizabeth, revealing to her that Mary was carrying the baby Jesus. And it was the same Spirit who anointed Elizabeth's child, John, for his mission to proclaim the Messiah.

The Holy Spirit is hoping to direct our lives too. As Jesus told us, he helps us to know the truth and how we should act (John 16:13). He comforts, counsels, exhorts, and encourages us (14:26). When we are weak or don't know what to pray for, He prays with us and in us (Romans 8:26-27). Jesus Himself was anointed with the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:16-21). The Spirit is the engine that drives our journey with the Lord. Why wouldn't we want Him involved in every area of our lives?

As Christmas draws near, let us not forget about the Holy Spirit. He's the One who overshadowed Mary and brought Jesus into this world. He's the One who raised Jesus from the dead. And he's the One who lives in us.

Let us pray often to the Holy Spirit and listen for His inspiration. He will strengthen us for whatever task God gives us. Just as He guided Mary, each day He will direct our steps along "the path of peace," closer and closer to God (Luke 1:79) and share His loving presence to others.

Thanks to all of you who came and received the Sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare well for Christmas! Thanks also to our visiting priests, Mary Jo Barta, Sacristans, our most vibrant youth, Hospitality Ministers and Ushers, and our beloved staff for their great help with our Penance Service.

Let us intensify our preparations to welcome Jesus as we come closer to the celebration of the Lord—"Come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

Fr. Sunny Joseph, O.S.H.
Pastor



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 20th

8:45 am: Pete C. Guajardo (+) by Mary Guajardo, Tony and Jason
12:10 pm: Joseph Akuechiana (+) by the Akuechiana Family

Tuesday, December 21st

8:45 am: Emilin Antony (-) by Michaeyla Francis
7:00 pm: Evangelina Antony (-) by Michaeyla Francis

Wednesday, December 22nd

6:30 am: James Taggart (+) by Theresa Uwaifo
8:45 am: Dave Filip (+) by Beverly Filip

Thursday, December 23rd

8:45 am: Adhav Anish (-) by Michaeyla Francis
7:00 pm: Mithula Anish (-) by Michaeyla Francis

Friday, December 24th

6:30 am: Samuel Simental (+) by Rosa Simental
8:45 am: Steve Barta (-) by the Barta Family
4:00 pm: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased
6:00 pm: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased

Saturday, December 25th

12:00 am: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased
9:00 am: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased
11:00 am: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased
1:00 pm: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased

Sunday, December 26th

7:00 am: For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased
9:00 am: Francis & Catherine Okolo by Benedette Umeh
11:00 am: Consuelo Ramirez (+) by Amelia Gonzales
1:00 pm: Miembros de la Sociedad de Guadalupe, Vivos y Difuntos



PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR NATION

NAVY

Jacob De Paz, Thomas Franklin Hill

Do you have family serving our nation? Send us their name and the name of their branch of the armed forces and we will pray for them. Names can be sent via email to information@holyfamilychurch.us or by calling (281) 499-9688.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Maria Casas
Theresa Navarro



TABERNACLE CANDLE SPONSORSHIP: DECEMBER 2021

November 29—December 5

In Honor of Fr. Roy Oggero by the Francis Family

December 6—December 12

In Memory of Robert Rives by Hank & Kathy Mrczkowski

December 13—December 19

In Memory of Francisco Pena by Family

December 20—December 26

In Memory of Teresa Velasquez by Family

December 27—January 2

In Memory of Maria Trinidad Aguilar
by the Cervantes, Ruiz, and Resendiz Families

Tabernacle Candle Sponsorship: \$20 / week

4th Annual Happy Joy Project *Gift boxes for the homeless*

The Office of Youth Ministry and the Guardians of the Kingdom have extended their deadline to December 22nd to receive gifts for the homeless.

ITEMS DESPERATELY NEEDED:
Men's socks, packaged snacks, men's deodorant, wipes, bars of soap, feminine products, and caps (beanies).

Will you help to keep our bulletin free?

Holy Family Catholic church has partnered with LPI (Liturgical Publications Inc.) to support our Parish communications by providing our weekly full-color bulletin. Holy Family Catholic Church will receive the bulletin, at no cost, due to the generosity of our bulletin advertisers. Those who are interested in advertising can contact our representative Mike Anderson at (314) 704-0916 or via email at manderson@4lpi.com at any time for more information. Thank you for your support!

December 19, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4 | Heb 10:5-10 | Lk 1:39-45

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

“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;”

We do not have to go see the most recent superhero movie or binge-watch a streaming TV series that celebrates the underdog to feel the elation that comes with overcoming evil. We need only to look at our own lives, and God’s plan of salvation for us, to understand what it truly means to be triumphant. From tiny little Bethlehem – a town of no consequence – would arise the Savior of the world. He would be the One who came to do God’s will, and thus consecrated us to God through the offering of his own body as sacrifice, once for all. This is the One Mary carried in her womb and whom Elizabeth’s unborn child – we know to be John the Baptist – recognized. He is the child-most-vulnerable who would become King of the Universe, “stand[ing] firm and shepherd[ing] his flock by the strength of the Lord.” This is the God we serve: the One who became like us so that we may one day be like him. We shall soon celebrate the anniversary of his birth, while also waiting in joyful hope for his coming again. In this time of preparation, then, we pray for the grace to know the Lord more fully and to appreciate with gratitude the Savior he truly is.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, now is the time many of us will begin to gather – as families, friends, and faith communities. What an ideal opportunity to renew our relationships with one another and with Jesus, asking the Holy Spirit to help us recognize the presence of God in our lives and in others. Micah’s prophesy from today’s first reading endures: “His greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.” Let’s do our part to share the peace and joy of Christ with those we encounter, witnessing to his saving grace in our lives, and offering others an opportunity to be a part of the greatest story, ever – of God’s saving action.

INVITE/PRAY Invite visiting family members to your parish or faith community for a concert, worship or other Advent activity. If that’s not possible, pray the O Antiphons together at home.

“

HIS
GREATNESS
SHALL REACH
TO THE ENDS
OF THE
EARTH; HE
SHALL BE
PEACE.
”

(MI 5:3-4)

IF WE DON'T HEAR CRYING, THE CHURCH IS DYING.

Please bring your children
to church!



Please keep the Cry Room free for use by parents of young children who may need it for times of respite.

Office of Child and Youth Protection – USCCB Charter Audit

The Safe Environment compliance training and renewal training is a condition of employment and for volunteer ministry in our Archdiocese. All clergy, employees, contracted school personnel, volunteers, members of groups, movements, and organizations over the age of 18, who work, volunteer or participate in any capacity are required to complete the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Training and a criminal background check before they may begin employment or volunteer activities. In addition, the mandatory renewal training must be completed every five years and a new background check submitted before the five-year expiration of prior training. The link for training sessions may be found here: <https://www.archgh.org/ocyp>. For questions regarding the Child and Youth Protection Safe Environment Policy or assistance with compliance issues, contact **Jeanette Velasquez Gonzalez** at jeanette.velasquez@holymfamilychurch.us or by calling (281) 499-9612.

Give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good;
His love endures forever.
Let the redeemed of the Lord tell
their story... Psalm 107:1,2a

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

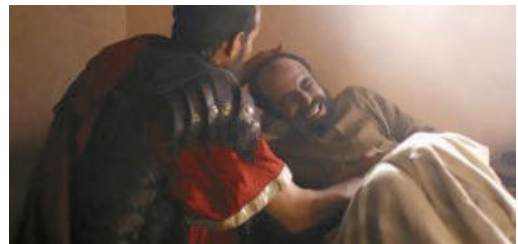


The Gospel of Luke: For our Reflection

Chapter 6: Love of Enemies - We receive infinite love and forgiveness and mercy from God. Jesus challenges us to think as God thinks, to think about the needs of others rather than our own. Do you love without measure, or do you place limits on your love? What is your reaction when you have difficulties with others? Are you merciful, "just as your Father is merciful"?

Chapter 7: The Healing of a Centurion's Slave - Jesus was amazed at the centurion's deep faith; we echo the words of the centurion at every Mass. Do you have his depth of faith, his depth of trust, in Jesus? What other attitudes or characteristics of the centurion might you seek to imitate?

Chapter 8: Jesus and His Family - Jesus reveals that all of us can become members of his family, not limited by blood or heritage. How do you become a member of his family? How can others recognize you as a member of his family?



Capítulo 6: Amor por los enemigos - Recibimos amor infinito, perdón y misericordia de Dios. Jesús nos desafía a pensar como piensa Dios, a pensar en las necesidades de los demás en lugar de las nuestras. ¿Amas sin medida o pones límites a tu amor? ¿Cuál es su reacción cuando tiene dificultades con los demás? ¿Eres misericordioso, "así como tu Padre es misericordioso"?

Capítulo 7: La curación del esclavo de un centurión - Jesús estaba asombrado por la profunda fe del centurión; nos hacemos eco de las palabras del centurión en cada misa. ¿Tienes su profundidad de fe, su profundidad de confianza en Jesús? ¿Qué otras actitudes o características del centurión podrías intentar imitar?

Capítulo 8: Jesús y su familia: Jesús revela que todos podemos convertirnos en miembros de su familia, sin estar limitados por la sangre o la herencia. ¿Cómo te conviertes en miembro de su familia? ¿Cómo pueden los demás reconocerte como miembro de su familia?

For more information and resources for our Parish's Pastoral Plan, click on the Plan icon on our homepage at

HolyFamilyChurch.us



Welcome **MICHELLE C. JOHNSON** — our new Parish Secretary!



As we return to 12-hour Eucharistic Adoration in 2022, we continue to seek Adorers. Would you be willing to spend one hour with the Lord? Let us know at: information@holymfamilychurch.us



Impostor priest email/texting scams

With the holidays, there is an increase in reports of fraudulent email solicitations for financial support, usually in the form of gift cards. These reports are coming from email accounts or text messages identifying as Archdiocesan priests. We want to remind you that our priests and staff would never make such appeals to our Parish community. If you receive any such donation request, please inform our Parish Office at information@holymfamilychurch.us and mark the email as Junk or Phishing within your email provider.



Christmas RAFFLE 2021

GRAND PRIZE: \$4000 Visa Gift Card
2nd PRIZE: \$3000 Visa Gift Card
3rd PRIZE: \$2000 Visa Gift Card

Other prizes: 4th: \$1000 Visa Gift Card || 5th: \$1000 Visa Gift Card
 6th: \$1000 Visa Gift Card || 7th: \$1000 Visa Gift Card
 8th: \$1000 Visa Gift Card || 9th: \$500 Visa Gift Card
 10th: \$500 Visa Gift Card || 11th: \$500 Visa Gift Card

Only \$10 per ticket or a book of 6 for \$50
Drawing on: Sunday, December 19th @ 2:30 pm
Must be 18 years old to enter. Winner need not be present at drawing.

Tickets can be purchased after weekend Masses or in the Parish and CCE Offices

1510 Fifth Street | Missouri City, Texas 77489
HolyFamilyChurch.us | Office: (281) 499-9688
information@holymfamilychurch.us

THANK YOU

To this year's awesome Christmas Raffle ticket printing and prize sponsors: The Knights of Columbus Council #7728, Cassie Levy, Court Hardware Company, Rito & Barbara Ramirez, Virginia & Philip Saldua, John Ramirez, John & Connie Cook, Antoinette Cangelosi, Frances Courville, Carl Cangelosi, Alfonso & Andrea Sanchez and Family, Carole Updyke, Carlos Rios & Cristina Miranda, Nelson & Yesinia Rios, and David Garcia and Family



EL VINEDO DE RAQUEL

UN RETIRO DE FIN DE SEMANA PARA MUJERES Y HOMBROS QUE SUFREN DESPUES DEL ABORTO PROVOCADO

11-13 febrero 2022

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ZGONZALEZ@ARCHGH.ORG
CON PREGUNTAS O REGISTRACION

Todas las consultas e inscripciones son estrictamente confidenciales



OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

2021 DSF GOAL FOR HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Goal: \$122,000 due to the Archdiocese
Collected: \$97,701 (as of December 15th)
Shortfall: \$24,299

If the shortfall amount is not received by January 7, 2022, the Parish must cover the expense from the operating budget. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated!



Oficina de Escuelas Católicas

Las Escuelas Católicas en la Arquidiócesis de Gálveston-Houston tienen una larga tradición en promover la excelencia académica y el desarrollo espiritual, así como asistir en la formación de mente, corazón y espíritu. A través de 10 condados, somos el sistema educativo privado más grand de Texas.



Catholic Schools Office

Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston have a long tradition of promoting excellence in academics, encouraging spiritual growth, and assisting in the formation of students in mind, heart, and spirit. Spanning over 10 counties, Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston are the largest private school system in Texas.

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THE **2021**
DIOCESAN
SERVICES FUND

Walk in the Light of Christ

Give your year-end contribution to the DSF at ArchGH.org/DSF



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

“Queridos hermanos y hermanas, amor y verdad, justicia y paz se han encontrado, se han *encarnado* en el hombre nacido de María en Belén. Ese hombre es el Hijo de Dios, es Dios que ha entrado en la historia. Su nacimiento es un brote de vida nueva para toda la humanidad. Que todas las tierras sean una tierra buena, que acoge y hace brotar el amor, la verdad, la justicia y la paz.”

“Dear brothers and sisters! Kindness and truth, justice and peace have met; they have become *incarnate* in the child born of Mary in Bethlehem. That child is the Son of God; he is God appearing in history. His birth is a flowering of new life for all humanity. May every land become a good earth which receives and brings forth kindness and truth, justice and peace.”

—Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

FRIDAY, December 24th

4:00 pm: Children’s Mass

6:00 pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

SATURDAY, December 25th

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

12:00 am: Christmas Midnight Mass

9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm (Spanish)

[NO 5:30 pm Vigil Mass]

SUNDAY, December 26th

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am,

1:00 pm (Spanish)

SATURDAY, January 1st

8:45 am Daily Mass

5:30 pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY, January 2nd

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am,

1:00 pm (Spanish)



Giving online is easier than ever!

Visit HolyFamilyChurch.us and click on the green **DONATE** button