

*Third Sunday of*  
**ADVENT**



  
**Mary Queen**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*December 15, 2024*

**The Priests who serve Mary Queen Catholic Church  
are Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette.**



**Pastor**

Rev. Thomas Vellappallil,  
M.S.



**Parochial Vicar**

Rev. Trey Crespo,  
M.S.

**Priest in Residence**

Rev. James H. Kuczynski, M.S.

**Deacons**

Vince Eklund, 281-482-1391  
Darrell Moulton, 281-482-1391  
Paul Robison, 281-482-1391  
Derick Soares, 281-482-1391  
Chuck Turner, 281-482-1391

**Pastoral Administration**

John Laine  
*Business Manager*, ext. 309  
Anita Shorosky  
*Archivist*, ext. 315  
Ray Valadez  
*Bookkeeper*, ext. 313  
Yolanda Linky  
*Bookkeeper*, ext. 313  
Rose Mary Baez  
*Coordinator of Ministries & Functions*, ext. 219  
Albert Cipolla  
*Communications Coordinator*, ext. 334  
Loretta Delaney  
*Receptionist*, ext. 310

**Pastoral Formation**

Eby Kurian, M.A.  
*Director of Adult Faith Formation & RCIA &  
Confirmation Coordinator*, ext. 319  
Carol Stuart  
*Director for Elementary Faith Formation*, ext. 333  
Trey Brock  
*Youth Director*, ext. 317  
Sarah Kennepohl  
*Jr. High Faith Formation Coordinator*, ext. 100  
Andrea Richards  
*Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, ext. 329

**Liturgy & Music**

Jose Arredondo  
*Director of Liturgy & Music*, ext. 227

**Food Pantry/Social Concerns**

Chris Austgen  
*Coordinator of Food Pantry/Social Concerns Ministry*, ext. 328

**Facilities Management**

Chuck Turner  
*Facilities Manager*, ext. 316  
Chris Meaux  
*Maintenance*, ext. 316  
Charles Ganter  
*Maintenance Coordinator*, ext. 316

606 Cedarwood Drive  
Friendswood, TX 77546-4551  
281-482-1391 281-482-4886 (fax)

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston  
**Missionaries of  
Our Lady of La Salette**

[www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org](http://www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org)  
[www.lasalette.org](http://www.lasalette.org)

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**Mass Schedule**

**Saturday**

5:30 PM Vigil Mass

**Sunday**

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM\*, 11:30 AM and 4:30 PM (\*Livestreamed)

**First Saturdays**

8:30 AM

**Daily Mass**

8:30 AM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday  
6:30 PM Wednesday

**Daily Rosary**

After 8:30 AM Mass Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday & Friday (except First Friday)

**First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

4:30 PM Tuesday - 5:45 PM Wednesday

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Wednesday 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the church  
Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 PM in the church

**Welcome to Mary Queen!**

If you are new to Mary Queen parish or visiting, please stop by with any questions regarding our parish. We would love to meet you! If you have been attending Mary Queen Church and consider this your parish community, please register with the Parish Office so we can keep an accurate census. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact our parish office or visit our website: [www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org](http://www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org).

**Mission Statement**

Our Mary Queen community, inspired by faith and love, will live, worship, teach, welcome and support one another in the imitation of Christ.

**2024 Mass Intentions**

We are no longer accepting Mass Intention requests through our website. Call the parish office for information on Mass Intention requests for 2024.

If you have any questions about Mass Intentions, please contact Anita Shorosky at 281-482-1391 or [anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org).

# THIS WEEK

## Sunday, December 15th

- 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM OCIA - "Breaking Open the Word" for Adults (Mini Hall)  
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Giving Tree (Main Hall)  
3:00 PM - 4:20 PM High School Faith Formation Lesson 10 - YM - (Youth Center)  
3:00 PM - 4:15 PM Mary Queen Youth Band Rehearsal (Church)  
3:45 PM - 6:00 PM Post Confirmation Session - YM - (Mary's House)  
5:45 PM - 6:45 PM Jr. High Faith Formation Lesson 6 (Youth Center)

## Monday, December 16th

- 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Youth Confirmation/RCIA Make Up Classes - YC  
5:45 PM - 8:00 PM Special Friends Program (Main Hall)  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 452 - Pack Meeting (Mary's House)  
6:15 PM - 8:15 PM Men's ACTS Small Group (Room 119)  
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Troop 452 Meetings (Youth Center)  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM MQ ACTS Core Team Meeting (Room 110/Library)  
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Our Lady of La Salette Prayer Group (Room 125)

## Tuesday, December 17th

- 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Mary's Chain of Love Ministry (Room 114/115)  
9:30 PM - 12:00 PM Mary Queen Seniors Bingo (Mini Hall)  
4:30 PM Exposition for 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM The Bible and the Virgin Mary - AFF (Mary's House)

## Wednesday, December 18th

- 5:45 AM - 7:00 AM That Man Is You Year 8 Theme 'The Light of Men' (Main Hall)  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Christian Meditation Group (Mary's House)  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Queen's Bee Quilters Christmas Party (Main Hall)  
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Youth Ministry Open Hours (Youth Center)  
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Youth Ministry Bible Study (Youth Center)  
5:45 PM - 6:00 PM Benediction Concludes Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM College & Young Professionals Faith Sharing Small Group & Bible Study (Mary's House)  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Mary Queen Woodworkers (Mary's House Garage)

## Thursday, December 19th

- 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM OCIA Team Meetings - Catechumenate Sessions - AFF (Mary's House)

## Friday, December 20th

- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM SoulCore Session (Main Hall)  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM ACTS Women Faith Sharing (Room 110/Library)  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM MQ Parish Staff Christmas Party (Rectory)

## Saturday, December 21st

- 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Mary Queen Woodworkers (Mary's House)  
3:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hispanic Ministry Posada (Main Hall)  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Reconciliation (Church)  
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Christmas Social Youth Ministry (Youth Center)

# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, December 14th

- 5:30 PM †Joe Russo, Tinney Grandchildren, Leigh Self – Birthday Blessings, Miriam Eby – Birthday Blessings

## Sunday, December 15th

- 7:30 AM †Peter Chich Bui, †Hector Tobon, †Jeanie Paynter  
9:30 AM †Alan Norris, †Hao Leba, Arellano Enriquez Family  
11:30 AM †Charles & †Philomena St. George, Steve Young, Merina Nobel, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of the Heeb & Garst Families  
4:30 PM All Our Mary Queen Parishioners

## Monday, December 16th

- 8:30 AM †John Cahoon, †Bantolino Family, Evalinda Batolino

## Tuesday, December 17th

- 8:30 AM †Charles & †Philomena St. George, †Maria Tran Thi Men, †Javier Celestino

## Wednesday, December 18th

- 6:30 PM †Elise Wright, †Robert Wieners, Barber Family

## Thursday, December 19th

- 8:30 AM Andrea Richards – Birthday Blessings, Noel Clarin – Birthday Blessings, Michael & Stacy Nguyen – Wedding Anniversary Blessings

## Friday, December 20th

- 8:30 AM †Paul Gosselin, †Debi Reyes, Joan Radous

## Saturday, December 21st

- 5:30 PM All Our Mary Queen Ministries

## Sunday, December 22nd

- 7:30 AM †Fr. Moe Linehan, M.S., †Luke S. Dimicelli, †Dan King  
9:30 AM †Jean Lamanna, †Frank & †Alma Berger, †Nestor Cruz  
11:30 AM †Manuel Tavares, †Daniel & †Yadira Zermeno, Nicholas & Abigail Purdon  
4:30 PM †Tony Diotalevi, †Gloria Cruz, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of the Carlin Family



# TIME·TALENT·TREASURE

## Offertory: November 23, 2024 - November 29, 2024

This includes offertory at Mass, mail-in and online giving.

**Weekly Offertory Received:** \$32,163.61

**Weekly Budgeted Amount:** \$43,719.00

**Difference:** (\$11,555.39)

**MP-Debt Reduction:** \$830.00

**Future Development & Maintenance:** \$233.00

**Total Food Pantry Donations with online:** \$1,171.00

**Loan Balance as of December 3, 2024 was  
\$751,011.71**

*Thank you to all who have donated to the  
Master Plan Debt Reduction.*

## Upcoming Special/2nd Collections

**December 14** - Our Lady of Guadalupe

**December 15** - Christmas Flowers

**December 24 & 25** - Christmas

## Diocesan Services Fund

**2024 DSF Summary as of December 3, 2024**

**Parish Goal:** \$195,000.00

**Total Amount Paid:** \$205,717.00

**Total Number of Mary Queen Donors:** 385

**Total Number of Gifts Received:** 1,021

**Total Number of Mary Queen Households:** 2,545

To make your gift or for more information, please visit  
[www.archgh.org/dsf](http://www.archgh.org/dsf).

## IGNITE Campaign

**2022 IGNITE Summary as of December 3, 2024**

**Parish Goal:** \$1,886,649.00

**Total Amount Paid:** \$610,102.00

**Total Amount Pledged:** \$590,383.32

**Total Number of Gifts Received:** 2,442

**Total Number of Mary Queen Donors:** 276

**Total Number of Mary Queen Households:** 2,545

To make your gift or for more information, please visit  
[www.archgh.org/about/ignite-capital-campaign](http://www.archgh.org/about/ignite-capital-campaign).

**Make the switch from envelopes to  
online giving!**

**Scan the QR code to make a one-time  
gift or set up recurring gifts today!**



## Current Mary Queen Parishioners Update Your Family Information

Parish Soft gives current parishioners the opportunity to log in and update family information.

1. Go to the following link  
<https://galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com>
2. A **New User Registration Form** will come up. Fill out the form and hit submit.
3. Your request will be sent to Mary Queen to obtain confirmation.
4. Once you receive confirmation, you may set a permanent password and make changes to your family information.

This system allows you to add family members but it does not allow you to delete them. If you need assistance in adding and/or deleting information or would like to provide your updated information via telephone or e-mail, please contact Anita Shorosky at 281-482-1391 or [anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org).

## FORMED

To sign up for FORMED, visit [www.formed.org/signup](http://www.formed.org/signup)

- Select your parish – Mary Queen 606 Cedarwood Dr., Friendswood, TX
- Register with your name and email address
- Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

They have also created a series of videos to guide you through logging in, signing up, and using the platform at <https://watch.formed.org/formed-help-1/season:1>.

## FLOCKNOTE



Flocknote is the email communications platform Mary Queen uses to keep our parishioners informed about what's going on in the parish. The weekly eNews is sent out using

Flocknote, and many of our ministries and other parish groups also use it to keep their members up to date with meeting news and other information.

If you are not receiving email communications from Mary Queen, sign up for Flocknote at <https://maryqueenchurch.flocknote.com/>.

## ARCHIVES & ROOM RESERVATIONS

To request a copy of your parish records or to update your personal information, contact Anita Shorosky at [anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org).

For room reservations and/or to schedule calendar events, contact Rose Mary at [baezrm@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:baezrm@maryqueenchurch.org).

## LOOKING FOR PARISH INFORMATION? START HERE!



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

### CHEER UP

The Lord is coming to cheer us up and to renew us in his love, provided we are prepared to surrender our lives to him. During the season of Advent, we await the celebration of Christ's birth and his coming again at the end time. Over the four weeks, we prepare our hearts for Christmas in penitential reflection. The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called "Gaudete" Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." There is joy in looking forward to the annual celebration of Christmas. There is also joy in recalling the birth of Jesus on the first Christmas. We, the priests at the liturgies during this weekend will wear rose chasuble which symbolizes joy. The delight of children going to see Santa Claus, the buying and wrapping of Christmas gifts, the decorating of Christmas trees, all these advent activities express the great anticipation of something wonderful about to happen. Traditionally we have the practice of making Advent wreaths in the parish Hall, which was done again this year. I was invited to bless the wreaths they made and to bless their families and our parish community. You should have seen the joy of children having made the wreaths and getting the blessing. I was with a family for their Advent wreath prayer. All the children and grandchildren gathered with their parents and grandparents around the Advent wreath to pray. One of the grandchildren lit the candles and all the children joined in blowing out the candles afterwards. Perhaps there were more interested in the candles than in the prayer, but as they grow older, the memory of the Advent wreath will be part of their family tradition of prayer. They are a happy and joyful family.

We are beautiful people, loveable people, but we are also vulnerable people, especially to selfishness and pride. It is said that with age comes a certain wisdom. People I know who are getting older start giving things away and start becoming donors to good causes. They see having so many things as a distraction from the simple pleasures of spending time with family and friends and appreciating the beauty of life. They see that helping others gives them more happiness than having so many things. But on the other hand, in our selfishness and pride, we are all the time receiving and not giving. Then we will be like the Dead Sea, which is dead, because it is all the time receiving, never giving anything out. To make way for joy in the Lord also calls us to surrender ourselves to God in prayer. If we surrender ourselves to the Lord, then he is going to cheer us up and charm it with a smile. One smile in public is worth ten before your mirrors, for it keeps joy in circulation. There are lots of poor people around us not only because they struggle economically, but also because they feel alone, unsupported, isolated, and fearful. We bring good news by our constant joy, a joy that comes from our encounter with Jesus and our mission to bring his joy to others.



### **Sacraments**

Find registration information for all of our Sacraments for all ages.



### **Elementary Faith Formation (EFF)**

Find class calendars and all other information relating to EFF.



### **Jr. High Faith Formation (ARK)**

### **High School Faith Formation (CAST)**



### **Adult Faith Formation (AFF)**

Find all of the programs and Bible studies we offer for all ages ranging from 18 onwards.



### **RCIA for Adults**

Interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic church? Scan the QR code to fill out our RCIA Inquirer & Candidate Information Form.



### **Sunday Bulletin**

Want to read our bulletins online? Find current and past issues on our website.



### **Become a registered parishioner!**

We welcome all to Mary Queen! If you worship with us weekly, register as a parishioner to receive parish updates and more.



### **Ministries**

Want to get involved in our parish? Check out our list of active ministries! There is a place for you here!



### **Social Concerns Ministries**

We are called to live out the Corporal Works of Mercy for our neighbors in need. If you feel called to help, join one of these ministries!

### **Need additional information?**

Call our parish office at 281-482-1391 or visit our website at [www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org](http://www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org).

*Fr. Thomas Vellappallil, MS*

# UPCOMING EVENTS



Mary Queen is a point of distribution for the 2024 Share Your Holidays. We will be distributing pre-packed boxes provided by the Galveston County Food Bank to pre-registered families. Our designated time is Wednesday, December 18 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM in our parking lot. If you are available at this time, this is a simple way to Love God by Serving Others. To sign up to volunteer use the link below or simply scan the QR code.

<https://bit.ly/4eMDQun>



## 2024 Holy Days and Christmas Mass Schedule

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**Saturday, December 21, 2024**  
 5:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

**Sunday, December 22, 2024**  
 7:30 AM  
 9:30 AM  
 11:30 AM  
 4:30 PM

**The Nativity of the Lord**  
**Tuesday, December 24, 2024**  
 4:00 PM (Children's Vigil Mass)  
 7:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**  
 12:00 AM (Midnight)  
 8:30 AM  
 10:30 AM

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
**Saturday, December 28, 2024**  
 5:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
**Sunday, December 29, 2024**  
 7:30 AM  
 9:30 AM  
 11:30 AM  
 4:30 PM

**Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God**  
**Tuesday, December 31, 2024**  
 4:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

**Wednesday, January 1, 2025**  
 8:30 AM  
 10:30 AM

## Elementary Faith Formation

Join us for a family Christmas Movie Night in the Youth Center after the 4:30 PM Mass on December 22nd.



We will be watching the movie, *The Star*. Tacos and treats will be served.



## Eucharistic Adoration

**Due to the Christmas and New Years Holidays Eucharist Adoration will not be held on December 24 & 25 or December 31 & January 1**

## Asking the Question

I have found in my life that if I am certain of the answer to a big and complicated question — right away, no doubts or hesitations — there is a high likelihood that the answer is actually the wrong one.

Because most of the time the truth is buried beneath a thicket of pride, prejudice, and ignorance. To find our answers, we have to be ready to put the gardening gloves on and pick through the thorns. We have to pray. We have to reflect. We have to question ourselves and others. We have to examine our feelings. And then we have to pray some more.

See, I would be willing to bet that the tax collectors and soldiers knew. Deep in their hearts, they knew.

They knew when they approached John the Baptist and asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” that his reply was not going to be: “Keep doing exactly what you’re doing.”

They had heard this guy preach. They knew what he was about: repentance. They might not have known exactly what John the Baptist was going to tell them to do, but they knew whatever it was, it was going to be a challenge. It was going to turn their lives upside down.

I give them credit for asking the question. That’s a hard thing to do, and I don’t do it enough. Too often, I’m afraid to ask the question.

How do I love this person? How do I live out my baptismal call in this particular situation? How do I draw water from the fountain of salvation — and how do I do it with joy, as we are commanded by the Psalms?

Christmas is ten days away. Are we asking the question?

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## PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

December 15, 2024

3rd Sunday of Advent

On a bright Spring morning, a passerby once saw St. Francis of Assisi hoeing a row of beans and asked him, “What would you be doing right now if you knew this was the last day of your earthly life?” The Saint responded, “I’d keep hoeing this row of beans.” Preparing for this world to end — whether by our death or by Jesus’ glorious coming — invites us to live not in the past or the present, but deeply in the present moment.

This same point is on display in the simple advice given by the wild and eccentric John the Baptist. He speaks of the one who is to come who will baptize “with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Luke 3:16). Despite the bizarre awesomeness of this announcement, he tells his listeners to engage in the present moment with simple acts of justice and love as their preparation for Jesus’ coming, sharing their clothes and food, eliminating greedy and underhanded practices, being content with their wages. It’s so undramatic. But how many actually did it? We don’t know. How many of us will commit ourselves to these types of humble and demanding practices in our lives? That’s what we should be doing now in our present moment, not worrying about the future.

Advent challenge: Name one way you are doing the bare minimum towards others in your daily life. Or name something you are doing because you are not content with your financial situation. Pray: “Jesus, if it is your will, help me to stop doing these things this week. Help me prepare for your coming.” Then make the appropriate changes.

— Father John Muir  
©LPI

## DAILY READINGS

### Sunday, December 15

Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

### Monday, December 16

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

### Tuesday, December 17

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

### Wednesday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

### Thursday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

### Friday, December 20

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

### Saturday, December 21

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

### Next Sunday:

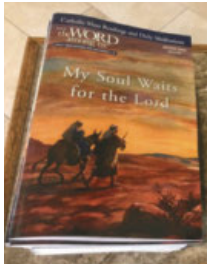
Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45



Eby Kurian, Director of Adult Faith Formation & OCIA  
281-710-8876  
[ekurian@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:ekurian@maryqueenchurch.org)



The second stage of OCIA - Catechumenate Sessions will continue to meet on Thursday evenings until December 19th before the Christmas break. We will resume our sessions on Thursday, January 9th.



We hope Mary Queen parishioners have been enjoying the Advent Issue of **The Word Among Us** offered by the Adult Faith Formation Department. This booklet includes information on the following and more:

- Daily Scripture readings and prayers from the Liturgy.
- Free Mass Supplement.
- Daily meditations based on the Mass.
- Practical featured articles on Advent and the saints.



**That Man is You! (TMIY)**

Our Fall 2024 Semester of 'That Man is You!' (TMIY) program at Mary Queen will continue to meet until **Wednesday, December 18th.**



**Journey through Advent with Fr. John Burns**

Calling all Young Adults whether you are navigating life post-high school, attending college or trade school, or establishing yourself as an early career professional to join us for a new series during this Season of Advent – 'Adore'

You have a choice this Advent: Get caught up in the annual rush of shopping, decorating, and parties or slow down and take a few minutes each day to remember who this season is about - JESUS.

In Adore, popular author and speaker Fr. John Burns and illustrator Valerie Delgado of Pax. Valerie will help you reclaim the sacred sense of longing and joyful hope at the heart of Advent, focusing on a new theme each week - vigilance, preparation, nearness, and Emmanuel - that you can relate to your own life.

Promo: <https://youtu.be/dp3c2MpODEI?si=nJr3cx-u1blGsRFv>

Wednesday evenings on December 11 & 18 after 6:30 PM Holy Mass in Mary's House (behind Mary Queen parking lot)

All young adults of ages 18 & above are invited to attend our faith sharing small group session from 7:00 - 8:30 PM.

Please contact Eby Kurian to get more information and/or to sign-up for this new series

Inviting all the College Students & Young Adults to join us for this unique Advent Service Opportunity in Mary Queen as we host the Pancakes with Santa organized by the Social Services Ministry.







**Trey Brock, Youth Director**  
281- 482-1391 Ext. 317  
[tbrock@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:tbrock@maryqueenchurch.org)

**Sarah Kennepohl, Jr. High Coordinator**  
281- 482-1391 Ext. 100  
[skennepohl@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:skennepohl@maryqueenchurch.org)



**Carol Stuart, Director for Elementary Faith Formation**  
281- 482-1391 Ext. 333  
[cstuart@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:cstuart@maryqueenchurch.org)

## YOUTH FAITH FORMATION UPCOMING SCHEDULE

High school and OCIA	Jr. high (has received First Communion)
Dec 15 Christmas Break Jan 5 Jan 12	Dec 15 - Lesson 6 Dec 21 - Christmas Party Christmas Break Jan 12 Jan 26

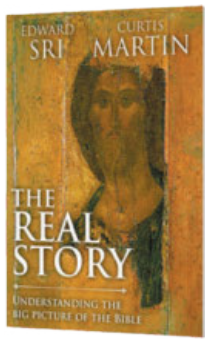
## Bambinelli Sunday

Sunday, December 14 & 15 - All Masses



Bring the Baby Jesus from your nativity set with you to Mass for a special blessing from Father!

Bambinelli Sunday is a Catholic tradition that takes place on the third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday. It involves children and families bringing their Baby Jesus figures, or Bambinelli, from their Nativity scenes to be blessed. The tradition was started by Pope John Paul II to help families remember the birth of Jesus.



### High School and OCIA

High schoolers and OCIA students meet every week from 3:00 - 4:20 PM.

**Youth Bible Study, *The Real Story*, meets on Wednesdays (5:30 - 6:30 PM).**

## ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION

TUESDAY CLASS DATES	WEDNESDAY CLASS DATES
Christmas Break until January 7th	Christmas Break until January 8th

**\*PLEASE DIRECT YOUR CHILDREN TO THE MINI HALL FOR THE START OF CLASS.**

### Junior High Faith Formation

Our next lesson will be on December 15th at 5:45 PM. We will be talking about the Holy Family and Christmas.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Junior High Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 21st from 6 - 9 PM in the Youth Center. Please join us for "Grinchy Games", a Christmas movie, Christmas Karaoke, and Gingerbread house making. Bring some edible decorations and we'll provide the Graham crackers!

Fr. Trey would like to challenge the Jr. High to wear their most festive "drip" to the lesson on 12/15 or the Christmas Party for a prize!!



# AROUND THE PARISH

## Advent Penance Services



St. Paul Catholic Church  
St. Helen Catholic Church

Tuesday, December 17th  
Wednesday, December 18th

## Advent Family Prayer Gathering & Festival of St. Nicholas

On Sunday, December 1st, parishioners and friends gathered together in the Main Hall to make an Advent Wreath in preparation of the Christmas season. Fr. Thomas was there to bless the wreaths and families that were in attendance. To celebrate St. Nicholas, special performances of short skits, a puppet show and songs were also included. Thanks to all the families who attended the event and we look forward to continuing the tradition next year sponsored by the Department of Adult Faith Formation. More pictures have been posted on our social media pages.



## Decorating the Church For Christmas

A big thank you to all of those who showed up to help decorate the church for the Christmas Season. It could not have been done without you helping in this effort.



## Fr. Thomas on Vacation

My Dear Parishioners,

Please know that I will be on vacation to visit my family and friends in India. I will leave on Christmas day after all the Masses and return on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January. While Fr. Trey takes care of the parish in my absence, Fr. Joseph Manapuram, who is retired and a resident priest at St. Hellen in Pearland will help with some Masses. Please welcome Fr. Joseph and keep me in your prayers. I will keep you all close to my heart even when I am away. Thank you.



## Family of the Month



Robert was raised in Schertz, Texas and Phyllis in Navasota, Texas, but their paths crossed in Galveston, Texas when they both moved there because of work. They were married at St. Peter's Catholic Church on Galveston Island in 1978. Because of a career change for Robert, they moved to the Friendswood area and joined Mary Queen Church in 1988. Since then they have been active in the church in various activities.

Phyllis has been past President of the Women's Ministry and an active member, an usher and an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister. She also has volunteered as a CCE teacher and the Church Festival. She was a den leader in Cub Scout pack #452 when their son, Tony participated in scouts. She also worked with their other son, Allen to achieve his Eagle rank. Outside the church, Phyllis had worked throughout her employment in the finance departments of various municipalities and recently retired as the Controller for the city of La Porte.

At Mary Queen, Robert has been an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister and volunteers for the church festival each year. Robert has been a Knights of Columbus member for the last 40 years and past Grand Knight for Mary Queen Council #8494. He is also a Sir Knight of the Bishop Wendelin J. Nold Assembly. Robert's employment for the last 36 years has been in the insurance business. Because of being in the business world, Robert has been in the Friendswood Chamber of Commerce for the last 20 years and is a past Chairman of the board for them. Robert and Phyllis are both members of the Friendswood Rotary Club. Robert is also a Texas Longhorn and Phyllis is a Texas Aggie. They manage to keep the rivalries in check during their marriage.

Robert and Phyllis have two sons, Allen and Tony who both made their first communion and confirmation at Mary Queen. Allen and his wife, Brooke, live in St. Petersburg, Florida. Allen is in the tech field and Brooke is an English Second Language teacher. Tony has been a sailor for the past 15 years in the U.S Navy and is stationed in San Diego, California. Tony's wife Lizel and their daughter, Lizette, are there with him. Lizette is now six years old and was born on her Grandpa Robert's birthday.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Come and Click

*Considering a Religious Vocation?*



**what?** It's a one hour online discernment event, hosted by the Missionaries of La Salette

**why?** discernment Q & A and discussion about God's will in your life

**for who?** Catholic men between the ages of 18 - 45

**when?** Join us for one or more...

- Thursday, August 8, 7 pm ET
- Thursday, September 12, 7 pm ET
- Thursday, October 10, 7 pm ET
- Thursday, November 14, 7pm ET

**contact** lasalettevocations@gmail.com for more information or for the Zoom link



*Eucharistic Adoration*

**24 Hour Adoration**  
4:30 PM Tuesday - 5:45 PM Wednesday

**First Friday Adoration**  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
St. Joseph's Chapel

## WARNING! STAY ALERT!

"Can you do me a favor?" "Do you have an open schedule?"

If you have received this message via text or email from Fr. Thomas or another member of the Pastoral staff, disregard it immediately! Fr. Thomas will NEVER email or text you to ask for money, gift cards, etc. Always check the sender's email address- if it does not end in @maryqueenchurch.org, it is a spam message.

Report the message and block the sender. Please do not fall victim to this scam! Stay alert.

### Texas Catholic Herald

Find out what's happening around the Archdiocese in the digital edition of the Texas Catholic Herald! Read the latest issue online now at [www.archgh.org/digitaleditions](http://www.archgh.org/digitaleditions) or visit [www.archgh.org/tch](http://www.archgh.org/tch).



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES

### US Air Force:

SrA Jake Ainsworth, Maj James Barrington, 2d Lt Paul Birmingham, Capt Andrew Bossert, Capt Stephanie Bossert, SrA Caleb Brysch, Capt Stephen Chauvin, AB Nicholas Chavez, Capt Benjamin Clements, SSgt Miles Coleman, A1C Alexis Copeland, A1C Phillip Downey, Lt Col Bashir El-Khoury, Maj James Gregory, SSgt Christopher Hammer, SMSgt Joel Hebert, Maj Ramon Hernandez, A1C Austin W. Laird, Capt Shane Lockridge, A1C Andrew Merrifield, 2d Lt Ethan McDonald, Maj Rachel Miller, SSgt Brandon Ojala, Lt Col Zac Pendleton, 2d Lt Joseph Revell, SrA Patrick Rettke, Capt Chad Roberson, Capt Harrison Spexarth, 2d Lt Jackson Spexarth, SSgt Amanda Solis, SSgt Nicholas Wolford

### US Army:

SPC Andrew Burnett, PFC Isaac Gross, SGT Matthew Knight, MAJ Michael Moad, 2LT Julian Monroig, MAJ Brandon Nesrsta, COL Ryan Nesrsta, WO2 Patrick Nagorski, SPC Brandon Patterson, SSG Kyle Perkins, SPC Jesse Roberts, SSgt Emmanuel Thomas, MAJ Brian Y'Barbo, CPT Christopher Zavesky

### US Marine Corps:

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### US Navy:

LTJG Rylan Bashinski, MIDN 4/C Julian Brysch, PO1 Randall Carmicheal, CM3 Cullen Kelly, SN Gavin Ngo, MA3 Marcus Reyes, PO1 Anthony Rinehart, PO3 Kyle Shenkir, Jr., SN Rand Smith, CAPT Mike Svatek, LCDR John Zendt

### US Coast Guard:

Cadet 3/c Manon Murphy

If you have loved ones in the Armed Services and wish their names be listed in this column and to be remembered in our prayers, please email [anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org). Include the rank of the individual, their name and their branch of service.

**Thank you and God Bless America!**

# WE PRAY FOR...

Charlotte Alexander  
Suan Angelo

Lucia Boone  
Toni Brown  
Bob Burns

Kathy Chastain  
Lewis (Tony) Chavez  
Charles (Wally) Chavez  
Elizabeth Clarke  
Jacquelyn Cox  
Barbara Craig

Mary Donegan  
Stacia L. Duarte

Patrick Ezeli  
Phyllis Fields  
Marvin Fikac

Alonzo Ponce Garza  
Alley George  
Aggie Gibson  
Juan Gonzales  
Marina Gosselin  
Tom Gregory III  
Barbara Gurley  
Henry Gutierrez  
Norma Guterriez

Charlotte Hammerle  
Hunter Harris  
Cathy Hart  
Ann Hausinger  
Dave Hedges  
Amanda Hernandez  
Denise Hernandez  
Leo Hernandez  
Wallace Hernandez  
Helene Houran  
Jennifer Hongsermeier  
Colin Huff

Valerie Kirby

Linda Leach  
Cecilia Lentine  
Chris Lobue  
Johnny Lobue  
Sue Lobue  
Edward Lockwood  
Sara Lockwood

Jeanette Marinow  
Josie Maria Matranga  
Luke Matranga

Sarah McConnell  
Maxine McGee  
Tracy McKernan  
Kerri McLeif  
Kerri & Dale McLeod  
Phyllis Middleton  
Chris Miller  
Bob & Diane Mireles  
Jesse Montgomery  
Gregorio Montoya  
Moorhead Family  
Larry Munzenmaier

Mary Catherine Natali

Diane O'Connor

Palmquist Family  
Joe Perez  
George Pesi

Joan Radous  
Troy Roberts  
Suzanne Rouen  
Linda Russo

Caroline Saccomanno  
Fr. Raul Salas, OMI  
Mary Alice Salinas  
Joe Sambrano  
Carol Scott  
Steve Short  
Gilbert Simon  
Raymond & Helen Smith  
Special Needs Families  
Patrick Spedale  
Mike Stuart  
Jamie Symon

Bianca Tellez  
Margaret Thornton  
Gail Truman

Unborn In The Womb

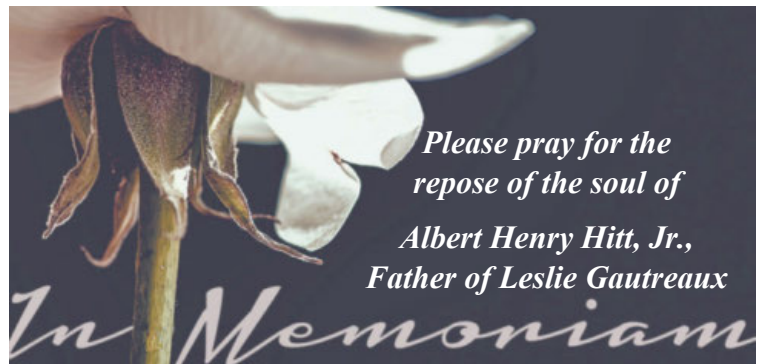
Audrey VanBuren

Bruce Wahl  
Shirley Weaver  
Jerry Whatley & Family  
Ron Willenborg

Lauren Yonish

Jacqui Zavala

*Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless our friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit and patience with pain. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*



We offer the **Vigil Candle** as a Memorial Candle each week to interested parishioners who would like to request that it burn **"In Memory of..."** or **"In Honor of..."** a loved one, living or deceased. To reserve the candle, contact the Receptionist in the Parish Office at 281-482-1391. The name of your loved one will be published in the bulletin and near the Sanctuary Candle in the Church.

### Prayer List Requests

If you have a family member or friend who needs special prayers by our parish community, please consider placing them on the Mary Queen Prayer List after getting their permission. Provide the name to Loretta Delaney at [reception@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:reception@maryqueenchurch.org). Names will be added to the list for 60 days. Once the initial time is up, we kindly ask that you not renew your request for another 60 days. Due to the overwhelming amount of requests, we will abide by this policy in order to accommodate all new prayer requests.

## End Of Year Gifts

It is December and the Christmas holidays are almost here. Many of you may be prayerfully considering an end-of-the-year gift at this time. If you are one that is thinking about giving here are a few options you may consider.

Gifts from an IRA, Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD).

Gifts of appreciated stock allow you to make an impact to the mission of the church and avoid capital gains on the appreciated shares that are donated to a qualified charity.

The Development Department at the Downtown Chancery is available to assist your parish and community with these transactions. For additional information use the link below:

<https://www.archgh.org/ways-to-give>

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### Communications Requests - Guidelines & Deadlines

Bulletin, eNews, website, or social media

Contact: Albert Cipolla, Communications Coordinator  
email: [acipolla@maryqueenchurch.org](mailto:acipolla@maryqueenchurch.org)  
phone: 281-482-1391 x534

Send bulletin submissions by noon on the deadline dates listed below.

December 29 - Already Submitted  
January 5 - December 20  
January 12 - January 1



## Christmas

### Question:

With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

### Answer:

Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.

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### Everyday Stewardship

#### The Well That Never Dries Up

Depending on how your mood is today, the words of Paul will hit you differently. "Rejoice always," he tells us. Well, if your football team is poised to win this weekend or next, maybe you're really feeling this vibe. But if you've got a long slog at work ahead of you this week and a to-do list that only seems to grow and never shrink, it may make you grumble. "Rejoice always? Always? When I'm tired? Cranky? When I'm sick of doing and giving? Thanks, Paul. I'll be sure to scribble that phrase on a Post-it and stick it to my dashboard for when some entitled punk inevitably cuts me off on tomorrow's morning commute."



When we feel this way, we know it's time to head back to the well. Think of all the places in Scripture where God compares His love, His mercy, His salvation to water. And not just any water — living water, water that moves. God's strength is not a stagnant puddle sure to evaporate and disappear. It's water you can keep coming back to. It's water that never dries up.

Which is good news for us, because we never stop failing to do what we should, never stop failing to feel the joy and the compassion and the selflessness we are called to. We need a source of living water if we are going to 'rejoice always.' To be everyday stewards, we need a well that never empties.

The fountain of salvation never dries up. There is always more there for us to draw from. It's a sign of His commitment — so let us, in turn, be committed to Him.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
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