

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD THEY WERE OVERJOYED AT SEEING THE SEEING THE

MATTHEW 2:10

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



Pastor Rev. Thomas Vellappallil, 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



Parochial Vicar Rev. Trey Crespo, M.S.

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 www.lasalette.org

Office Hours Monday - 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.

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.

2025 Mass Intentions

We are no longer accepting Mass Intention requests through our website. Call the parish office for information on Mass Intention requests for 2025.

If you have any questions about Mass Intentions, please contact Anita Shorosky at 281-482-1391 or <u>anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org</u>.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 5th

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM OCIA - "Breaking Open the Word" for Adults (Main Hall) 3:00 PM - 4:20 PM High School Faith Formation Lesson 11 & 12 (Youth Center)

Monday, January 6th

3:00 PM - 5:30 PM	Visitation/Veneration of Relics of Blessed Michael J.
	McGivney (Chapel)
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Youth Confirmation/RCIA Make Up Classes (Youth Center)
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Mass - Knights of Columbus #8494 (Church)
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Women's ACTS Faith Sharing Group (Bride's Room)
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Troop 452 - Troop Meetings (Youth Center)
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Ceremony (Chapel)
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Reception (Mini Hall)

Tuesday, January 7th

4:00 PM - 5:15 PM	Elementary Faith Formation (Classrooms)
4:30 PM	Exposition for 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration
	(Chapel)
5:45 PM - 7:00 PM	Elementary Faith Formation (Classrooms)
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Small Group Leader Enrichment Training - WWP (Main Hall)
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	The Bible and the Virgin Mary - AFF (Mary's House)

Wednesday, January 8th

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Christian Meditation Group (Room 110/Library)
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Queen Bee's Quilters Meeting (Mini Hall)
4:00 PM - 5:15 PM	Elementary Faith Formation (Classrooms)
5:45 PM - 6:00 PM	Benediction Concludes Eucharistic Adoration
	(Chapel)
5:45 PM - 7:00 PM	Elementary Faith Formation (Classrooms)
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Women's ACTS Faith Sharing (Bride's Room)
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	College Students & 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, January 9th

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM	First Holy Communion Classes (Main Hall)
6:30 PM - 7:45 PM	First Holy Communion Classes (Main Hall)
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	OCIA Team Meetings - Catechumenate Sessions (AFF) -
	(Main Hall)
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Bay Area Serra Club Business Meeting (Mini Hall)
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Creation Care Ministry Meeting (Room 110/Library)

Friday, January 10th

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Women's ACTS Faith Sharing Group (Room 110/Library)

Saturday, January 11th

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Mary Queen Woodworkers (Mary's House)
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Mingle Jingle - WWP (Main Hall)
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Troop 452 Crew Meetings (Youth Center)
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Reconciliation (Church)

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 4th

8:30 AM	Maria Khan Cao & † Guise Vinh Nguyen, Mary
	Queen Ministries, Claudia Pumarejo

5:30 PM All Our Mary Queen Parishioners

Sunday, January 5th

- 7:30 AM **†**Julia Ditch, Catherine Walbe, Roy & Tracy Glanville – Anniversary Blessings
- 11:30 AM Living & Deceased Loved Ones of Don & Becky Adam, JoAnn Larson – Birthday Blessings, Becky Adam -Birthday Blessings
- 4:30 PM **†**Cecilia Kornegay, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of Nelson & Teresa Olivarria, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of the Arellano-Enriquez Family

Monday, January 6th

8:30 AM **†**Hannah Yonko, **†**Woodley & **†**Della Credeur, Rev Vincent Vuong-Quoc Nguyen

Tuesday, January 7th

8:30 AM **†**Johnny Harrington, **†**Rev. Raymond Lawrence Nieman, **†**Jose & **†**Rosa Bosch

Wednesday, January 8th

6:30 PM **†**Phaolo Thinh Pham & Maria Chanh Nguyen, Lisa Liverman, Respect Life

Thursday, January 9th

8:30 AM **†**Albert Hitt, Jr., **†**Renita Labrie, **†**Maria Stroehlein

Friday, January 10th

8:30 AM + Paz Ching, Sheri Barber, Bill Prindiville

Saturday, January 11th

5:30 PM **+**Frank & +Carlotta Garza, +Graciano & **+**Maria Pina, Sr., **+**Daniel Jansky

Sunday, January 12th

7:30 AM All Our Mary Queen Parishioners

9:30 AM + Maria Trevino, + Maria Strohlein, + Jean Brandt

11:30 AM **†**Guadalupe & **†**Rosa Barrientos, William MacKenzie, Amanda Ainsworth

4:30 PM +Hector Tobon, +Jim Cates, +Betty Stacy



TIME • TALENT • TREASURE

Offertory: December 14, 2024 - December 20, 2024

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

Weekly Offertory Received: \$51,994.31 Weekly Budgeted Amount: \$83,786.00 Difference: (\$31,791.69) MP-Debt Reduction: \$3,360.00 Future Development & Maintenance: \$154.00 Total Food Pantry Donations with online: \$4,141.93

Loan Balance as of December 23, 2024 was \$693,436.26

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

Upcoming Special/2nd Collections

January 12 - Future Development & Maintenance January 26 - Bishops' Fund for Latin America

Diocesan Services Fund 2024 DSF Summary as of December 23, 2024

Parish Goal: \$195,000.00 Total Amount Paid: \$208,336.00 Total Number of Mary Queen Donors: 388 Total Number of Gifts Received: 1,059 Total Number of Mary Queen Households: 2,545

To make your gift or for more information, please visit <u>www.archgh.org/dsf</u>.

IGNITE Campaign 2022 IGNITE Summary as of December 23, 2024

Parish Goal: \$1,886,649.00 Total Amount Paid: \$611,815.00 Total Amount Pledged: \$590,383.32 Total Number of Gifts Received: 2,460 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.

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.

FORMED

To sign up for FORMED, visit 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.

For room reservations and/or to schedule calendar events, contact Rose Mary at <u>baezrm@maryqueenchurch.org</u>.

LOOKING FOR PARISH INFORMATION? START HERE!



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 <u>www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org</u>.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

The phrase "ring out the old and ring in the new" is part of a stanza from Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem, Ring out Wild Bells. I read this poem many years ago and the message stayed with me. What strikes me now is the connection to Christ and Christianity found in the lines. Everything bad about the past must be discarded, and the poet hopes for a future in which life is lived in accordance with true Christian values. This can only happen when Christ is Lord. The final stanza reads:

"Ring in the valiant man and free, The larger heart, the kindlier hand. Ring out the darkness of the land, Ring in the Christ that is to be."

We can only experience this old to new reality when we receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Human effort cannot produce true righteousness. Our old to new experience can be a transfer from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of the Son whom the Father loves, a transformation from an enemy of God to a friend of His, in Jesus we become a true child of God – when we are born-again.

Here are a few things that Tennyson says we might want to ring out. Ring out false grief, feuding among people, slander, and false pride. Ring out wars that cripple and impoverish society. Ring out coldness we have for one another. Ring out darkness and ignorance. Ring out causes that are slowly dying. Ring out greed for wealth. Then, we turn to things that the wild bells can ring in at the new year. Tennyson suggests that we can ring in noble ways of living. Ring in better manners and better laws. Ring in the many ways to love humankind and the world. Ring in the love of the common good. Ring in years of peace. Ring in kindness. "Ring in the Christ that is to be."

Tennyson knew that the only way to "ring out" a bad thing is to "ring in" a good thing. We affirm this truth in our Baptism vows when we renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness and reject the evil power of this world, while we accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

I was tempted to name the things I want to "ring out" and "ring in" this year, but instead, I encourage you to read the poem. Read it slowly. As you read, see the faces, remember the headlines, hold onto the images of those things in your life. Make your own list and then claim the presence and promise of the one who promised, "Look! I make all things new!"

Happy New Year!

Fr. Thomas Vellappallil, MS

UPCOMING EVENTS



Galveston County FOOD BANK

Volunteer Opportunity

Mary Queen Social Concerns Ministry partnering again with the Galveston County Food Bank. We have scheduled a volunteer opportunity on Saturday, January 25, 2025 from 9 AM til Noon at the Food Bank (624 4th Ave N Texas City TX 77590).

This opportunity is for ages 11 and up. Minors 11-15 need to be accompanied by an adult. Minors 16-17 do not need to be accompanied by an adult, but do need a waiver signed by a parent/guardian. Spots are limited so reserve your spot now at the link below. For more information or if you have questions, please contact Chris Austgen at <u>chrisaustgen@maryqueenchurch.org</u> or 281-482-1391.

https://portal.goldenvolunteer.com/ registrations/2VF9H1NMFD/claim spot



SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY Mary Queen Catholic Church



Visitation of Relics of

Blessed Michael McGivney Founder of the Knights of Columbus and central figure in the growth of Catholicism in America

January 6, 2025 Mary Queen Catholic Church, Friendswood

3:00 pm - 5:30 pm Veneration - St. Joseph Chapel

6:00 pm - Mass - Mary Queen Church 7:00 pm – St. Joseph Chapel

Ceremony of Charity, Unity & Fraternity for new & potential members of the Knights of Columbus

8:00 pm - Refreshments in Mini-Hall

For more information contact:

John Laine <u>ilaine711@yahoo.com</u> or 713-254-6736 Tony Scarpa <u>scarpaap@yahoo.com</u> or 832-457-5150





PRACTICING CATHOLIC

The Answer

Summary: The journey of the magi would have been treacherous and uncomfortable. Imagine the peace in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was. It was an epiphany for them. It can be the same for us.

The Answer

Have you ever had an epiphany?

I'll confess that I've never spent much time reflecting on the term "epiphany." In my head, there has always been a strict separation of church and state when it comes to this word. I think of the religious feast of the Epiphany, when we celebrate the magi's encounter with the Christ Child, as totally distinct from our modern understanding of the ancient Greek word epipháneia, which means "manifestation" or "appearance."

"I've had an epiphany," I have said many times before, and what I mean is that I have come to a long-awaited realization. I have received the answer to a question which has perplexed me, perhaps troubled me. I now know what course of action I must take.

"Today is the Epiphany," I say to my children when we make a king cake and bring the little magi figures to our Nativity beneath the Christmas tree (which will, after today, be put back into storage, for the Christmas season has come to its fulfillment).

And I've always thought I meant I was saying two very different things.

But today, I ponder the journey of the magi, one that must have often been treacherous and uncomfortable. I think about their meeting with Herod, a situation that certainly was fraught with tension and fear. And I imagine the feeling in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. I think of the peace they must have felt. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was.

It was an epiphany for them — a discovery of truth. An answer.

It should be the same for us.

PRAY & REFLECT

January 5, 2025 The Epiphany of the Lord

Have you ever wondered why the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew's Gospel tells us, "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their "treasures"? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.

Isn't that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi's gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with "gold" (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.

What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

DAILY READINGS

Sunday, January 5
Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/
Mt 2:1-12
Monday, January 6
1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday, January 7
1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday, January 8
1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday, January 9
1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday, January 10
1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday, January 11
1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday:
ls 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30
(1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



Eby Kurian, Director of Adult Faith Formation & OCIA 281-710-8876 <u>ekurian@maryqueenchurch.org</u>

VATICAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION The Eucharistic Miracles OF THE WORLD

The National Eucharistic Congress was a powerful moment of encounter for the Church in the US as we rediscovered the heart of our faith – the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Here at Mary Queen along with the Eucharistic Congress Pilgrims, we are continuing to tap into that spirit of encounter by inviting our parishioners to join us for a Parish-wide Eucharistic Consecration on the Feast of Presentation of the Lord during all the weekend Masses on February 1 & 2 culminating with the 'Vatican International Exhibition - Eucharistic Miracles of the World' – prayerfully gathered by Blessed Carlos Acutis.

As the inaugural event for the 'Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope' and in thanksgiving for the vocation of the priesthood, Mary Queen Parish is excited to host the Vatican International Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles.

Originally assembled by Blessed Carlo Acutis, this extensive collection of photos and historical records of ancient and modern Eucharistic miracles will be on display February 1 & 2 in the St. Charbel Youth Center for a self-guided tour. All verified and approved by the Catholic Church, this is an amazing opportunity to delve deeper into your faith and witness the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

The exhibit will be open on Saturday, February 1 from 9:30 am - 7:30 pm and on Sunday, February 2 from 8:30 am - 6:30 pm.

Would you like to volunteer with the exhibition?

In order to provide this exhibition, we are in need of volunteers to assist during set-up, exhibition hours, and clean-up. Volunteering hours include:

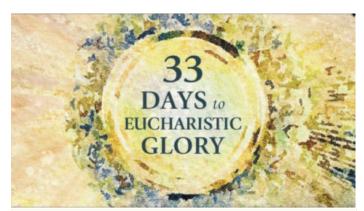
Set-up: Friday, January 31

Exhibition Hours :

Saturday, February 1 | 9:30 am to 7:30 pm

Sunday, February 2 | 8:30 am to 6:30 pm

Clean-up: Sunday, February 2 & Monday, February 3



Did you get a chance to pick up the book "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory" by Matthew Kelly after one of the Christmas Masses in Mary Queen? Are you interested in digging deeper into the beautiful Divine Glory of the Eucharist? We have two opportunities for you!

Read the book on your own and watch Fr. Jonathan Meyer reflection videos for each day- 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory Invite ~ Fr. Jonathan Meyer - YouTube

Join us for a Parish-wide Eucharistic Consecration preparation small group sessions once in a week for four consecutive weeks beginning on the week of January 6th. This will be an opportunity to join with fellow Mary Queen parishioners to review your progress, share life-changing experiences, reflect on the weekly study guide questions and encourage one another to continue the journey toward consecration to Jesus in the Eucharist.

If you are interested in being a part of a small group, please see below the schedule for the weekly sessions:

Monday Evenings on January 6,13, 20 & 27 – Couples Group - 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm at Mary's House.

Tuesday Afternoons on January 7,14, 21 & 28 – Women's Group - 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at Mary's House.

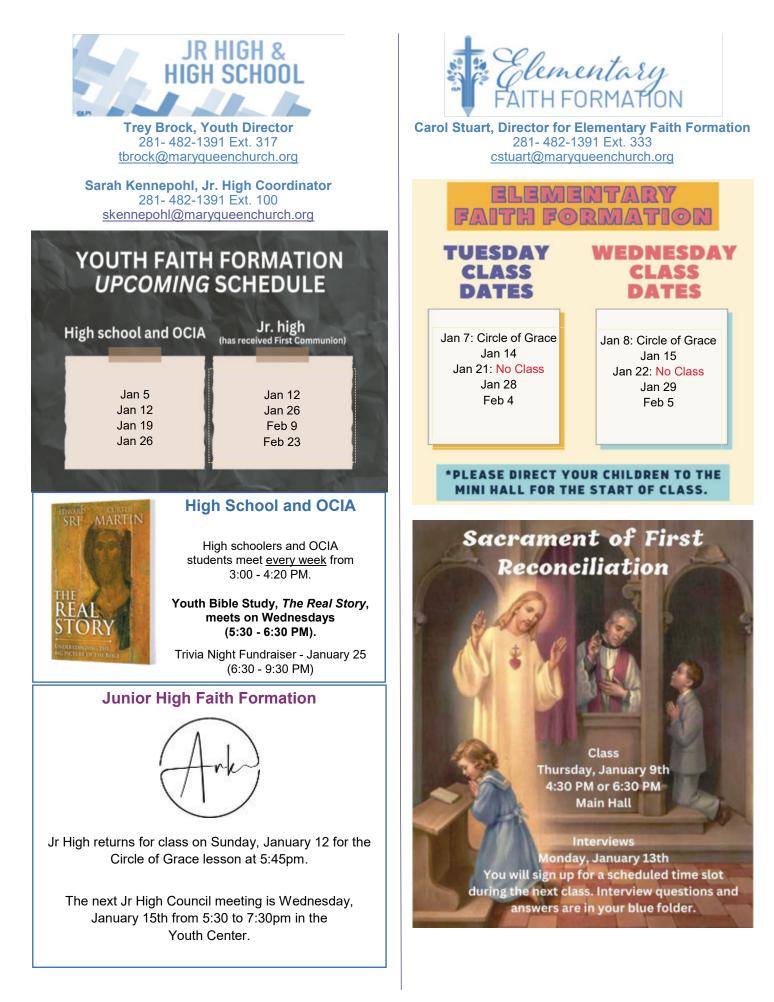
Wednesday Mornings on January 8,15, 22 & 29 – Men's Group - 6:00 am – 7:00 am in Main Hall.

Wednesday Evenings on January 8,15, 22 & 29 – Young Adults Group - 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Mary's House.

Thursday Mornings on January 9,16, 23 & 30 - Group for both Men & Women - 9:30 am - 11:00 am at Mary's House.

Friday Mornings on January 10,17, 24 & 31 - Group for both Men & Women – 10:00 am – 11:30 am at Mary's House.

If you have questions or interested in joining one of the Small Groups, please contact: Eby Kurian – ekurian@maryqueenchurch.org



AROUND THE PARISH



THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Epiphany Blessing

The Epiphany household blessing is an ancient practice in the Church. This tradition is a beautiful way to observe the coming of the magi while invoking God's blessing on your home and all who enter it. All that is needed is chalk and a prayerful heart!

The Epiphany household blessing is a centuries-old tradition that invokes God's blessing on all who enter one's home.

All you need for an Epiphany blessing is chalk, There are a few different formulas for blessings, but the essence of the ritual is always the same: a priest or the head of the household calls down God's blessing on the house and everyone who comes into it, and an inscription is made above the door in chalk.

The inscription reads: the first two digits of the year + C + M + B + the last two digits of the year. The initials C, M and B represent the names of the magi — Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar — and also signify the Latin phrase Christus mansionem benedicat: "May Christ bless the house."



La Salette Laity

We are a La Salette parish staffed by the La Salette Missionaries. What does that mean? What's the story of the Apparition of

Our Lady of La Salette? Does it apply to me, my family, my parish? January 2025 is the perfect time to find the answers to those questions. You are invited to join one of the already formed La Salette Laity groups or you can form your own group. One group meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM starting on February 5. The La Salette Laity Supper Club meets on the 2nd Friday of the month at 6:30 PM starting with a pot-luck style dinner followed by book study & conversation. The Supper Club will meet starting on Friday January 10th.

If those times do not work for you, you can start your own group! All materials are provided. For more information or if you have questions please contact Chris Austgen at <u>chrisaustgen@maryqueenchurch.org</u> or 281-482-1391

Women's Ministry Day of Prayer

Save the date for the Women's Ministry Lenten Day of Prayer Saturday, March 1, 2025 9:30 - 2:30 in the Main Hall

Come spend time with other women to DRAW NEAR AND RESTORE connecting with God and each other. Our facilitator will be Karen May - author, speaker and spiritual director with Amazing Graces.

FORGOT YOUR OFFERTORY?

Switch from envelopes to online giving and never worry about missing your offertory again!

Visit our website and click the "Giving Opportunities" tab to sign-up for recurring gifts.





Divorce Care is a Mary Queen Parish supported ministry. The program is a Bible based weekly support group and seminar series. The program will help you learn how to deal with the pain and anguish of divorce and how to rebuild your life. The cost is just \$25.00 per person (includes workbook).

Please contact the Facilitator to register or to learn more about the program.

Stephen Harrison: 713-252-3253, sachenv@aol.com Sessions are Monday evenings 6:50 PM to 8:30 PM Divorce Care Meets at: 2918 Plymouth Colony Drive Webster, Texas 77598



Sunday, January 12, 2025 2:00 PM St. Joseph's Chapel

The Respect Life Ministry invites all to join to pray for all human life from the moment of conception until the last moment at death.







Save the date and mark your calendars for the Mary Queen Parish Festival!



Join us for an exciting two-day celebration filled with faith, fun and community Saturday and Sunday, May 3 & 4, 2025. The festival weekend kicks off on Saturday night with an elegant Gala featuring fine dining, an inspiring speaker and entertainment. Sunday includes a fun-filled Family Festival with games, food, entertainment and more.

Stay tuned for more details about tickets, activities and ways to get involved. Let's make this a weekend to remember!



Bay Area Deanery Catholic Council of Women January gathering -Wednesday, January 15, 9:30-noon at Mary Queen, 606 Cedarwood Dr., Friendswood. - Light Breakfast, Baby shower, brief Meeting, Speaker and Raffle. Speaker- John Hinojosa, Executive Director of Loving Choice Pregnancy Center. Baby Items collected for Deanery Gabriel Projects and Loving Choice (diapers, wipes, toiletries and 6-9 or larger baby clothes).

For additional information call 713-412-8559 .

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

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

Nullity Case Sponsor Training

A 36 hour course for Nullity Case Sponsors will be held from 9 AM to 4 PM on the following Saturdays in 2025.

January 11th & 25th February 1st & 22nd March 1st & 22nd

To attend these training sessions you need to have Fr. Thomas' approval. Please contact him for approval to attend.

For further information visit the Archdiocese's Tribunal website at:

www.archgh.org/offices-ministries/metropolitan-tribunal

and click the Case Sponsor Training link or call 713-807-9286

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 <u>www.archgh.org/digitaleditions</u> or visit <u>www.archgh.org/tch</u>.



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, SSqt Christopher Hammer, SMSqt 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:

2ndLt Ryan Cunningham, Capt Joshua Butts, Cpl Joel Garza, 1stLt Jacob Perez, Lt. Col. Norman Renfro, Pvt Edward Spitzenberger

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 <u>anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org</u>. 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 Enrique Arellano

Lucia Boone 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 Marguerite Haas Charlotte Hammerle Hunter Harris Cathy Hart Ann Hausinger Dave Hedges Amanda Hernandez Denise Hernandez Leo Hernandez Helene Houran Jennifer Hongsermeier Chun-Mai Huang Hai-Ning Huang

Valerie Kirby Olivia Koenning

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

Jeanette Marinow

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 George Pesl Kevin Petrash Leona Popp Lisa Popp

Joan Radous Suzanne Rouen Linda Russo Caroline Saccomanno Fr. Raul Salas, OMI Mary Alice Salinas Joe Sambrano 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

Ryan Valure Audrey VanBuren

Bruce Wahl Johnny Walden Jerry Whatley & Family Ron Willenborg

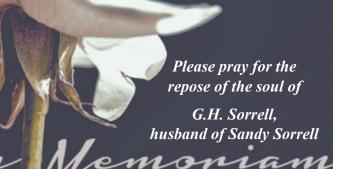
Lauren Yonish

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 <u>reception@maryqueenchurch.org</u>. 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.

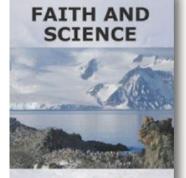
Gifts from an IRA, Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD).

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

Men's Retreat



WHEN:

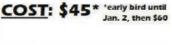
Saturday,

February 1, 2025

8:30a-4:30p

<u>WHERE</u>: St . Bernadette PLC

A Journey into God's Mystical Love Robert J. Hesse, Ph.D. Foreword by Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., Ph.D.



Register today: www.stbchurch.org/retreats

Robert J. Hesse, Ph.D., an adjunct faculty member at the University of St. Thomas, is a permanent Catholic deacon in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. He is co-founder, chairman, president, and CEO of Contemplative Network, dedicated to teaching interdenominational Christian contemplative prayer, scientific research, and interfaith dialogue.



[Books available onsite for \$29.95]

Communications Requests -Guidelines & Deadlines Bulletin, eNews, website, or social media

Contact: Albert Cipolla, Communications Coordinator email: acipolla@maryqueenchurch.org phone: 281-482-1391 x334

Send bulletin submissions by noon on the deadline dates listed below. January 12 - Already Submitted January 19 - January 8 January 26 - January 15



Epiphany

Question:

Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

Answer:

Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?

©LPi

Everyday Stewardship

The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."



If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through

adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star $% \left({{{\rm{T}}_{{\rm{T}}}}_{{\rm{T}}}} \right)$

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



