



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

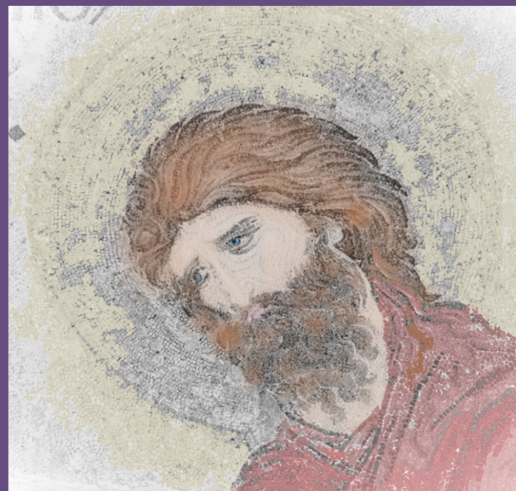
105 N. William Street • Victoria, Texas 77901  
Rectory Ph. (361) 575-3813 - Basement Ph. (361) 485-0501  
Fax Ph. (361) 575-3837



SECOND SUNDAY OF

**ADVENT**

DECEMBER 8, 2019



**JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED  
PREACHING IN THE DESERT OF  
JUDEA  
AND SAYING, "REPENT,  
FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN  
IS AT HAND!"**

**MATTHEW 3:1**

Remember Eden? God created humans and all creatures in love, for love. The failure of humanity recorded in the book of Genesis is that from the beginning people have tended to desire, not to be like God, but to be gods. Instead of seeing the fingerprint of our creator in others, we tend to see them as competition. Where there is abundance, we see scarcity. We seek the things of this world rather than seeking and finding God's life and goodness in our midst. The writer of Isaiah paints a far better picture, which Christians have seen as a foretelling of the Christ, the Anointed One of God, Jesus.

## THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND

Knowing Jesus as the One for whom the people of God have longed helps us to understand John the Baptist's strong words to the Pharisees and Sadducees in today's Gospel passage. They had the responsibility to lead the people toward right relationship with God and others, and instead had failed to produce the fruits of faithful living themselves. John did

not prevent them from approaching him for the baptism of repentance, but asked them to turn their lives more faithfully to God and live accordingly. John understood himself as the forerunner of the One for whom the people had been waiting—the one upon whom the spirit of the Lord rests, the spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel and strength, knowledge and fear of the Lord.

In Advent, we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Lord. Not that Jesus has not already come, or that the Lord is not already in our midst; rather, we take this season to appreciate in a new and fuller way that God's coming as a child in Bethlehem and Christ's promised return are about the establishment of the kingdom of God—already in our midst and yet not known in its fullness until the Lord returns in glory.

Today's Readings: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

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### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday -Thursday 8:45 a.m. -12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

### Parish Staff

**Rev. Albert Yankey, Parochial Administrator**

Sr. Valerie Janecka, IWBS - Parish Secretary

Janet Weaver, Bookkeeper

Martha Nichols, PCL/Safe Environment Coordinator

Tammy Fikac, PCL

Martha Nichols - RCIA

Elaine Mayer & Thomas Santos, Music Ministry

### MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Daily (Mon-Sat): 8:00 a.m.

### CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.  
Before daily Mass

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### BAPTISMAL INSTRUCTIONS:

First Sunday of every month

### CHOIR PRACTICE:

Every Wednesday @ 6:15 p.m.

### NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME

Registration forms online at [www.lourdesvictoria.org](http://www.lourdesvictoria.org)

or email: [ollvic@lourdesvictoria.org](mailto:ollvic@lourdesvictoria.org)

# Mass Intentions For The Week



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## SUNDAY - December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 am - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family  
10:00 am - Franklin J. Sedlar †

## MONDAY - December 9 (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

8:00 am - Laddie F. Janda †

## TUESDAY - December 10

8:00 am - Tom Love †

## WEDNESDAY - December 11

8:00 am - Teresa Berger Dodson †

## THURSDAY - December 12

(Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe)

8:00 am - Joann Hartwick †

## FRIDAY - December 13 (Memorial of St. Lucy)

8:00 am - Aloys Kruciak †

## SATURDAY - December 14

(Memorial of St. John of the Cross)

8:00 am - Hazel Waida †  
4:00 pm - John Anthony Perez †

## SUNDAY - December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 am - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family  
10:00 am - Jackie Post †

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38  
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712  
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

## Question of the Week

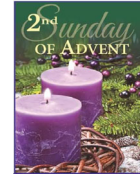
What can I do to bring harmony to my family, my neighborhood, the world?



## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Samuel William Bek, Barbara Yanta, Matt Brown, Marvin Kucera, Milton Greeson, Raymond Spann, John Correll, Cheryl Barker, Norma Guerra, Tom Goslin, Kathleen Edwards, Darren Mikulik, David Reynolds, Tina Moya, Cole Ohrt, Ramona Perez, James Rung, Wade Shumbera, Judge Whayland & Dolores Kilgore, Carly Walker, Gerald Yankey, Ann Hagel, Stephen Diess, Piper Eloisa Lara, Winston Wilson, Mae Jean Willemin, Cheryl Flood, Johnnie Bomersbach, Hailey Vasquez, Patricia Pooley, W. R. Nichols, Dennis Boehm

# THIS WEEK



## SUNDAY - SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

**Collection/Envelope:** Weekly Stewardship  
**2nd Collection:** Diocesan Services Appeal

**MONDAY** - Holy Name Society Meeting (7:00 pm)

**FRIDAY** - Parish Social Night

**SATURDAY** - Confessions: 3:15 pm - 3:45 pm

## SUNDAY - THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

**Collection/Envelope:** Weekly Stewardship  
**2nd Collection:** Retirement Fund for Religious

## NEXT WEEKEND - December 14/15, 2019

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

#### of HOLY COMMUNION

and

#### LECTORS

**Sat. 4:00 pm** - Pat Brennan, Helen John Novak  
John, Geriann Neuman  
**Sun. 7:30 am** - Martha Nichols, Standby  
Standby x2  
**Sun. 10:00 am** - John or Melody Vecera, Joe Nevlud  
Howard & Carol Bludau

### ALTAR SERVERS:

**Sat. 4:00 pm** - James Record, Standby x2  
**Sun. 7:30 am** - Karley & Katelyn J., Jenny M.  
**Sun. 10:00 am** - Eric & Reice T., Joey R.

### USHERS:

**Sat. 4:00 pm** - Gene Dove, Frank Motal, Greg Witcher  
**Sun. 7:30 am** - Michael Fikac, Frank Marbach, James Novak  
**Sun. 10:00 am** - Joe Ryan, Alvin Schoener, Kenneth Spann,



## WEEKEND of

November 23/24, 2019



Count - 556

Total Operating Income

\$ 3,926.00

2nd Collection: Campaign for Human Development \$ 712.00

## WEEKEND of

November 30/December 1, 2019

Count - 526

Total Operating Income

\$ 4,320.00

2nd Collection: Building Repairs/Maintenance \$ 1,128.00

Online (November)

\$ 1,890.00

*Your Generosity is Greatly Appreciated.*

**MONDAY - December 9**

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
(Pastoral Feastday of the United States of America)  
*not a Holy day of obligation this year*

**Incarinate Word & Blessed Sacrament Gift Shop** can help with your Advent and Christmas shopping needs. Stop by to see the Gift Shop at 1101 NE Water Street to view their large assortment of gifts to give during these upcoming two holiday seasons. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday 10:00 am - 4:30 pm. If you have any questions on items for sale, contact the Gift Shop at 575-7111.

Support Bethlehem **Maternity Home Project**. Buy RAFFLE TICKETS. For tickets, please contact Suzie Ryan at 361-649-1972. The day of the drawing is Friday, December 6, 2019. A copy of the raffle ticket prizes can be found at the entrance of the church or on our website: [victoriagabrielproject.org](http://victoriagabrielproject.org)

**- EVENTS ALL AROUND -**

**AMOR MEUS SPIRITUALITY CENTER HOST  
ADVENT SOLEMN VESPERS**


During the season of **Advent**, the **Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament** again invite the public to join them in praying **Solemn Vespers** or **Evening Praise** every Sunday of **Advent** (December 8, 15, & 22) in their chapel at **Incarinate Word Convent, 1011 N.E. Water Street, Victoria**, from **5:00 – 5:45 pm** with Benediction following in preparation for Christmas.

Solemn Vespers is the **Catholic Churches' Liturgical Evening Prayer** through which the Church, God's people, gathers to pray for the Church and the world. It is solemn because it consists of praising and thanking God through the chanting of the psalms, through prayers and Scripture reflection.

**HE IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!**

The celebration of the birth of Christ is global, and EWTN brings you special programming throughout the season. Experience Mass in Italy at the Vatican, enjoy concerts from Europe, and visit sacred sites in the Holy Land.

Enrich your faith: tune into EWTN this Christmas season! Visit [ewtn.com](http://ewtn.com) for more programming details.

  
**Letters from Heaven**

Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

John the Baptist said,  
"Repent, for the kingdom ...

S	N	T	H
I	A	E	A
E	V	F	N
A	H	D	O

O \_\_\_\_\_ !"

Answer: *path to kingdom of heaven is at hand*

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**Christmas Party KofC and CDA**

Knights of Columbus #1329 and Catholic Daughters of the Americas #369 are having a Christmas Party on **Tuesday, Dec. 10** at the KofC Hall. The social will start at 6:00 pm, with roast beef dinner (catered by Mike Pozzi) at 7:00. Tickets are \$10.00 each and will be available at the meetings. They can also be obtained by contacting Michael Nevlud (361/550-6427) or Anne Martin (361/648-2008). We wish all members (and potential members!) a very merry and blessed Christmas, and a joyful New Year!!

**St. Padre Pio Prayer Group**

8:30 am  
Saturday, December 14 (every second Saturday)



Join us after Mass for prayer in devotion to this amazing saint. St. Padre Pio, a humble Capuchin priest, is a powerful intercessor known for his spiritual gifts in the confessional, his reading of souls, miraculous healings and the gift of bearing the stigmata. Padre Pio promised to always be with his spiritual children. For more information about St. Pio, visit [padrepio.com](http://padrepio.com). For questions about the Victoria Padre Pio Prayer Group, contact Melody Vecera at [361-550-9962](tel:361-550-9962) or email [melody.vecera@gmail.com](mailto:melody.vecera@gmail.com). All are welcome!

**SAINT JUAN DIEGO (1474-1548)**

December 9

How well Mary's own words describe Juan Diego: "God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly" (Luke 1:52). Through him, for the diverse peoples of the Americas, indigenous and immigrant, the Mother of God became known as their Mother too. Cuauhtlatzin, his given name, means "One Who Speaks Like An Eagle," and Juan Diego faithfully delivered the Virgin's request that a church be built at Tepeyac where she had appeared to him. To the skeptical bishop's request for a sign, Our Lady showed Juan Diego roses blooming through stony ground, despite winter's cold. When he unfolded his tilma to present them to the bishop, imprinted there was Mary's image! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a mestiza, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus to peoples too easily prone to a "clash of cultures," Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son.

--Peter Scagnelli, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



**Nazareth Academy** will hold it's annual **Open House** for prospective students in PK3 - 8th grade on **Tuesday, Jan. 21**, from **6:30 - 8:00 pm**. Information about the school's history and curriculum will be shared, tours will be given and staff will be available to answer your questions. Registration information for the 2020-2021 school year will be provided, as well. We look forward to visiting with you and showing you what is special about Nazareth Academy. If you have questions, please email [dmichalski@nazarethacademy.org](mailto:dmichalski@nazarethacademy.org). or call 361.573.6651.

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