



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



Third SUNDAY of *Advent*

December 13, 2020

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.
In all circumstances give thanks,
for this is the will of God
for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



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Many years ago, Canadian singer Ann Murray had a hit song that spoke of her frustrations as she listened to the radio and read the headlines. She sang that “we sure could use a little good news today.” It strikes me that this is the message that the readings want us to leave with this week. The Gospel Antiphon proclaims, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor” (from Isaiah 61:1 and Luke 4: 18). John the Baptist is here to testify to the light, to the Good News.

WILL THE REAL MESSIAH PLEASE STAND UP?

The Jewish people were waiting for their messiah, they were waiting for a hero. They prodded John several times trying to figure out what his role actually was, and to see what he knew. It became a guessing game. He tried to say nothing, but finally answered in a humble fashion, “I am not he.” He baptized with water as a means of leading people to the coming Christ and helping them to prepare.

He somehow avoided the trappings of success that would turn his light on himself. Today he remains a road sign for us, pointing out Christ our Light.

We all want someone to rescue us, and most likely to fix the mistakes and errors that we continue to make as individuals and as nations. Much of that is human nature. Would there be as much fascination with superheroes if this were not the case? How many times do you as an adult turn to your folks for advice, or wish you could talk to a deceased parent? Some need help emotionally, others spiritually, others financially. The reality is that it is tough to get your “ducks in a row” and always has been. Today’s encouraging message is for us to always look to the Light for our help. May we always be like John the Baptist and testify how Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, has been our Savior.

Today’s Readings: Is 61:1-2a, 10-1; 1 Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54;
1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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OFFICE HOURS:

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

Parish Staff

Rev. Greg Korenek, Pastor

Sr. Valerie Janecka, IWBS - Parish Secretary

Janet Weaver, Bookkeeper

Martha Nichols, PCL/Safe Environment Coordinator

Tammy Fikac, PCL

Thomas Santos & Tracie Tibiletti, 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:

Wednesday Evening

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME

Registration forms online at www.lourdesvictoria.org

or email: ollvic@lourdesvictoria.org



**SUNDAY - December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent
(Gaudete Sunday)**

7:30 am - Edward Simper †
10:00 am - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family

MONDAY - December 14

8:00 am - Caroline Lee †

TUESDAY - December 15

8:00 am - Buddy & Hazel Waida †

WEDNESDAY - December 16

8:00 am - Raymond Martin Neisser (Infant) †

THURSDAY - December 17

8:00 am - Jackie Post †

FRIDAY - December 18

8:00 am - Robert Federini †

SATURDAY - December 19

8:00 am - Joe & Adella Mullino, Linda Uthoff †
4:00 pm - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Family

SUNDAY - December 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 am - Franklin J. Sedlar †
10:00 am - Jerome & Edith Krenck †



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9;
Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23;
Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;
Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK



Mae Jean Willemin, Katrina Marbach, Hailey Vasquez, Lillian Kozielski, Patricia Pooley, Samuel William Bek, Matt Brown, Marvin Kucera, Milton Greeson, E. J. Bammert, Steve & Veronica Serrill, Michael Johnson, Bernita Korenek, Michael Krenck, John Correll, Cheryl Barker, Ruben & Frances Espino, Larry Vitek, Kathleen Edwards, Helen Schoener, Darren Mikulik, Tina Moya, Cole Ohrt, Ramona Perez, Jo Ann Hough, James Rung, Wade Shumbera, Frank & Gloria Wearden, Marjorie Anders, Joe Lara, Dolores Kilgore, Eunice Brosch, Frank Reyes, Jr., Carly Walker, Julius Belicek, Gerald Yankey, Ann Hagel, Rachel Wiesner, Piper Eloisa Lara, Kevin Quinn, Joel Nava, Bernice Drost

THIS WEEK

**THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT
(Rejoice, the Lord is near!)**

Collection/Envelope: Weekly Stewardship
2nd Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious
Craft Show & Bake Sale (8:00 am -12:00 pm)

TUESDAY - Advent Penance Service (6:30 pm)

WEDNESDAY - Choir Practice (6:00 pm)

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

**FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT
Collection/Envelope: Weekly Stewardship
2nd Collection: Diocesan Services Appeal**

NEXT WEEKEND - December 19/20, 2020



**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
of HOLY COMMUNION and LECTORS**

Sat. 4:00 pm - Standby John Novak
Sun. 7:30 am - Standby Standby
Sun. 10:00 am - Standby Joe Nevlud

ALTAR SERVERS:

Sat. 4:00 pm - James Record, Suzie Ryan
Sun. 7:30 am - Karley & Katelyn J.
Sun. 10:00 am - Eric & Reice T.

USHERS/Door Monitors:

Sat. 4:00 pm - John Novak, Norman Schoener
Sun. 7:30 am - Kaden Fikac, Michael Fikac, Matt Warwas
Sun. 10:00 am - Kaden Fikac, Michael Fikac, Matt Warwas

CHRISTMAS - 2020



CHRISTMAS EVE - 4:00 pm
CHRISTMAS - MASS AT NIGHT - 10:00 pm
CHRISTMAS DAY - 7:30 am & 10:00 am

Donations are currently being accepted toward Christmas flowers to decorate our altars through the Christmas season. A contribution envelope is included in the envelope set for your convenience. The Christmas Flower Offering is a beautiful means of remembering those special to us during this holy season.

Question of the Week

When and where do I recognize the presence of the Lord in the world?

**WEEKEND of
December 5/6, 2020**

Count - 245

Total Operating Income \$ 2,876.00
2nd Collection: Building Repairs & Maintenance \$ 835.00



Your Generosity is Greatly Appreciated.



JOHN THE BAPTIST

At a school open house a woman could be overheard introducing her husband to some of the other parents. "Oh, Bill, I'd like you to meet Johnny's father. And over here, this is Marie's mom; you know, the little girl from our Ellen's soccer team."

With satisfied resignation Bill introduced himself not by name: "I'm Ellen's Dad."

It's good to know who you are. Be it someone's father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife, it's important to embrace the full meaning of our various roles.

John the Baptist knows who he is. And who he is not. He is not the Christ. Nor Elijah. Nor like any other prophet God's people had ever seen. John the Baptist knows his mission is divine. He's more than satisfied to be the one to announce the coming of God's reign. The Christ is near. Make straight your paths.

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In preparation for the Nativity of the Lord, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on the following days at the designated parishes beginning at 6:30 pm. All parishioners are encouraged to take advantage of this special opportunity. Priests from surrounding parishes will be assisting in the hearing of confessions.

Monday, December 14 - Our Lady of Victory @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 15 - Our Lady of Lourdes @ 6:30 pm

Thursday, December 17 - Holy Family @ 6:30 pm

Friday, December 18 - St. Mary @ 6:30 pm

Finding Christ in the World

(12-week Ignatian Retreat)

Amor Meus Spirituality Center is offering a 12-week Virtual Ignatian Retreat, "Finding Christ in the World". Participants will meet virtually either on Wednesday mornings 9:30-10:30 am or Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30 pm, beginning January 6, 2021 through March 24, 2021. The retreat moves through twelve themes for prayer. The persons making the retreat pray at home each day with a given scripture passage and meet for one hour each week to share. Brief notes help move the retreatant into prayer.

The retreat is limited to no more than 10 persons. Call early to secure a space.

To register or to inquire about the retreat, call Sister Digna at (361) 485-0866.

Looking for a Special Way to Rekindle the Spark in Your Marriage?



Choosing to LOVE is a retreat for married couples seeking to enrich their marital commitment, by focusing on what brought their covenant into existence—their marriage vows.

Father Gary Janak, along with several married couples, will hold this retreat for married couples at the Spiritual Renewal Center, on **February 12 - 14, 2021**. The cost for the retreat is \$275.00 per couple, which includes lodging, food and materials. We are now accepting applications for registration. Space is limited, so contact Jenny Vincent at jvincent@olvcathedral.org to ensure a spot.

- EVENTS ALL AROUND -

The 10:00 am Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church continues to be live-streamed on Facebook.

- Parishioners should take their temperatures before coming to Mass and should not attend if exhibiting any signs of sickness.
- Parishioners attending Mass are asked to **wear a face mask, bandana, scarf, or other covering for the mouth and nose while on church grounds.**
- Please follow all civil orders: www.VictoriaTXOEM.org

The 2021 Our Lady of Lourdes Church calendars have arrived. Each parish family is entitled to a calendar. It is our hope that you display this beautiful calendar, depicting exquisite religious art, in a very prominent space in your home. May God bless you with many happy days during the upcoming year!

Please be reminded that the weekly parish bulletin is downloaded on the website every week at www.lourdesvictoria.org. In the event someone does not use technology and is unable to obtain a bulletin from church, please call the church office at 575-3813 and efforts will be extended to assist.

Advent Angel Giving Tree

Please consider helping the needy in Victoria by supporting the Gabriel Project and Bethlehem Maternity Home. Take an ornament(s) from the tree next to the altar and return your contribution with the angel attached.



AN INVITATION TO ADVENT VESPERS

(Live streamed from Amor Meus Spirituality Center)

Despite the pandemic, Amor Meus Spirituality Center is still here for you. Please join us in a Virtual Advent Solemn Vespers at Incarnate Word Convent on the four Sundays of Advent at 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm. You can join us by "liking" our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/iwbs.victoria> on Sundays December 13 and 20, 2020.

Solemn Vespers consists of chanting the psalms, singing the hymns and canticles with a brief talk based on the Advent Sunday Scripture readings.

Advent is a liturgical season of expectation, blending together a penitential spirit, preparation for the second and final coming of the Lord while joyfully getting ready to celebrate the birth of Christ. We joyfully invite you to celebrate these themes with us during the four Solemn Vespers.



Ladies of the Altar Society

The Christmas Party (catered meal) will be held on Monday, December 21, 2020, at 6:00 pm in the Church Hall. The member of the year, Elaine Mayer, will be honored also. Please bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift ~ bingo will be played. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by calling Lynette Mayer @ 361-578-9487 or Elaine Mayer @ 361- 212-2339.

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