

December 21: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Then the angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. – Lk 1:30-32



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, December 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent I (2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38)

8:00 am- Living & Deceased Members of the Catholic Financial Life

10:30 am- Parish Family

Monday, December 22, Late Advent Weekday, (1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56)

7:00 am- Leo, Minnie & Nick Hoffer

10:00 am- Hilton & Hilda Elstner (Hallettsville Rehab)

Tuesday, December 23, Late Advent Weekday, (Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66)

7:00 am- William "Suggie" Grahmann

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve, (Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79); (Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25)

4:00 pm- Hilbert & Agnes Bludau

6:00 pm- Paul P & Mary Janak

Thursday, December 25, The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas), Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20; Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14)

12:00 am (Midnight) – Jim Bludau & Rose Trojczak

8:00 am- Otto Lee & Ethlyn Zappe

10:30 am- Alfred & Josephine Treptow

Friday, December 26, Saint Stephen, The First Martyr, (Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22)

7:00 am- Joseph R. Curley

8:05 am- Heddy Pustejovsky, Julius & Annie Pustejovsky

Saturday, December 27, St. John, Apostle and Evangelist, (1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8)

5:30 pm- S. E. Golsch & Mary

Sunday, December 28, The Most Holy Family of Jesus (Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40)

8:00 am- John D. Henneke

10:30 am- Parish Family

Bulletin Sponsor: Catholic Financial Life

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Catholic Financial Life

Vigil Light: In Memory of Herbert, Heddy, Wilburt & Robert Greer and & H. G. Cobb.

Please pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall!

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$8,122.50; Loose-\$1,290; Children-\$43; Immaculate Conception-\$1,108.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

-Church Choir Practice, 6:00 pm in Church followed by Christmas Party in the Family Center.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

-No Quilting Circle

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- No CCD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

- No RCIA Class



Among our sick: Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Josephine Muniz, Wilbert Kalinec, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Elrose Ehler, Marilyn Palmquist, Doug Blumberg, Amanda Gutierrez, Becky Pekar, Karen Kahanek, Harvey Drozd, Monte Staha, Marie Hermes, Karen Perez, Georgie Meyer, Doris Anders, Jack Crandall, Gary Trojczak, Jerry Novosad, Brian Wisnoski, Jeanne McClain, Frances Kutach, Henry Konvicka, Sweet Hrcir, Clorisa Hartensteiner, Betsy Brown, Marcella Henke, Mark Henneke, Kirk Remmers, Leo Haas, Jr., Richard Grahmann, Margie Becker, Anita Pesek, Maurice Parr, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

Happy Anniversary!

Leon & Carol Grones	45 years	Dec. 21
Frank & Shirley Conniff	55 years	Dec. 26
Victor & Doris Janak	54 years	Dec. 27
Macklin & Dolly Johnson	40 years	Dec. 27
Philip & Patricia Schlageter	65 years	Dec. 27

Calendar Membership: Dec. 11: Margaret Klekar-\$100; **Dec. 12:** Joe & Ana Henke--\$100; **Dec. 15:** Tyler & Cole Grahmann & Kalina Honish- \$50; **Dec.16:** Andrew Kutac-\$50; **Dec. 17:** Carmen Kraatz of Victoria- \$50



New Year's Eve Dance

Come out with your friends and ring in 2015 at the KC Hall. The KC Council will host a New Year's Eve Dance. The band playing for the dance will be the Red Ravens Polka Band. Breakfast will again be served and a good time of dancing and visiting with friends and family will be had by all. Dancing from 8:00 pm to 12:00 am (Midnight). Hope to see you there! Happy New Year!



The Rectory will close at noon on Wednesday and all day Thursday and Friday for Christmas.

Perpetual Adoration will continue through the Christmas and New Year's holiday. If unable to fulfill your normal adoration hour, please find a replacement or contact your hourly captain.

Pray for the repose of the soul of *Edna Key*, of Sacred Heart Parish. *May they rest in the peace of Christ.*

Pray for vocations to the priesthood & religious life!

From the Desk of Msgr. John

Thank you to all the adults and students who helped the needy through the St. Nicholas ministry. Thank you also to all those who helped with the "Sharing Tree" project sponsored by the Christian Mothers. Because of the great response, every Catholic resident in our two nursing homes had a gift at their Christmas party.

The generosity and outpouring of love from so many parishioners is very heartwarming. Let us always be willing to share our blessings.

Thursday, Christmas Day, we celebrate the Birthday of Jesus. Let us celebrate this day in the true spirit of Christmas by attending Mass with our family and fellow parishioners and giving thanks to Almighty God for the greatest gift He could have ever given us—His Son, Jesus. In return, let us show our love for Him in all that we say and do.

May you have a very Blessed Christmas!

As we draw near the end of the year, you may want to consider making a tax deductible donation to the Parish or School. You may do this in honor or memory of someone if you wish, or just make a donation.

Christmas Flowers: Donations are being accepted for the flowers during the Christmas Season. Please drop off your donation at the Rectory, or place it in an envelope with your name and drop it in the collection basket.



Confessions at Sacred Heart:

Monday, December 22, 12:00 p.m.–
1:00 P.M. and 5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 23, 5:00 p.m.–6:00
p.m.

Confessions at St. John:

Sunday, December 21, 10:30 a.m.

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

St. Mary: Christmas Eve, 12:00 a.m. (Midnight)

Christmas Day, 9:15 a.m.

New Year's Day, 9:15 a.m.

Moravia: Christmas Eve, 5:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve, 5:00 p.m.

St. John: Christmas Day, 9:30 a.m.

New Year's Day, 10:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart: Christmas Eve, 4:00 p.m., and 6:00
p.m. and 12:00 a.m. (Midnight)

Christmas Day: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

New Year's Eve: 6:00 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

New Year's Day: 8:00 a.m.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL SWEEPSTAKES
RAFFLE**

Once again, Catholic Life Insurance is sponsoring the Catholic School Sweepstakes Raffle that will benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School (SHCS). Tickets are only \$5.00 each and all money collected stays at SHCS.

Prizes are as follows:

Grand Prize:

Choice of 2015 Ford Truck OR 2015 Ford Fusion Sedan OR
Prepaid \$20,000 Visa Credit Card

Secondary Prizes:

(15) Prepaid \$1,000 Visa Credit Cards

(20) Prepaid \$500 Visa Credit Cards

(20) Prepaid \$250 Visa Credit Cards

Tickets are available at the school, the rectory, or any SHCS student. Drawing will be held on January 30, 2015.

School News

Classes resume, Monday, January 5, 2015.

Holy Family Victoria Men's ACTS Retreat—The next

Men's ACTS Retreat is January 22 through January 25, 2015.

For more information, please contact, Director, Andrew Vasquez 361-575-2804, cell 361-571-6715, Co-Director, Michael Hanes 361-648-5589, or Eddie Longoria 361-648-2602.

CCD News

Dec. 24 & Jan. 1: Classes dismissed.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Mary chose to cooperate with God. She didn't completely understand how His plan was going to unfold. She couldn't have known exactly what it all meant for her future. But she chose to offer herself to God's service nonetheless. And thanks to that generosity, the first Christmas happened nine months later.

Mary gives us a powerful example of saying yes to God. For her, the divine plan was revealed through the visit of the angel Gabriel. For us, it is usually revealed in less dramatic ways. We hear God's voice through the readings at Mass, through the homily, through the wise counsel of a trusted friend, through a spiritual book, through an inspirational speaker, or just in the prayerful silence of our own hearts.

Regardless of how God speaks to us, we are in a similar situation to Mary's. We are faced with the choice either to accept God's will in our lives, saying yes as Mary did, or to say no and choose a different path. It may be tempting to stick to more familiar ground or to avoid the challenge of surrendering our plans to God. But just look what happened when Mary decided to let God lead: the greatest miracle in all of history! God became man because of a faithful woman. And God wants to work miracles through us too. Every time we cooperate with his will, he transforms us into more loving, more generous people.



As we round the corner toward Christmas this week, may we embrace God's will in our lives with the same joy and openness that ultimately allowed Mary to embrace the infant Jesus in her arms on Christmas Day.