



SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS CHURCH

Serving God's People and building His Kingdom since 1891

100 NORTH BRAZOS STREET PO BOX 608 GRANGER, TEXAS 76530

Email: sscmchurch@gmail.com Website: www.sscmchurch.org

Diocese of Austin~ www.austindiocese.org

SSCM Parish Office: 104 N. Brazos Street Phone & Fax: (512) 859-2223

Office Hours: Tuesday -Friday: 9AM-1 PM (After hours by appointment)

Parish Hall: 500 West Davilla Street (512)859-2236 sscmhall@gmail.com

Religious Education: Coordinator: Virginia Loza Lee 512-859-2634 sscmre@gmail.com

Youth Ministers: Wendy & Mark White hafa_adai65@hotmail.com

Bible Studies: Mondays 8:30AM; 1st Saturdays 8:30AM (FMI: Virginia Lee)

Holy Rosary: 30 minutes before every Holy Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 5:15-5:45PM/Thursday 4:30-5:30PM during Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 4:00-5:45 PM concluding with Benediction

Healing Mass: First Thursday of every month

Baptism: Class Required/Darve Horak 512-859-2646 or darve.horak@gmail.com

Marriage: Meet with Pastor six months in advance to set date.

Marriage Prep required/Darve & Karen Horak 512-859-2646 or darve.horak@gmail.com

Quinceanera: Religious Education Attendance and Instruction required.

Pastor: Very Rev. Chris Ferrer

(512)859-2224-Rectory

pastorsscmchurch@gmail.com

Deacon: John Thornton

(512)627-1815-Cell

Executive Assistant: Joanne Selucky

Pastoral Council: Deborah Hensel

Finance Council: Chris Nemeec

Holy Cross Cemetery: Cecilia Stefek

Calvary Cemetery: James Cervenka

Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 21, 2014

Saturday	Dec. 20	6:00PM	Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish
Sunday	Dec. 21	10:00 AM	† Alfred, Sr. & Alfred, Jr. Cervenka & Thalia Bernal; † Margie Hajda; † Frank & Annie Vrana; † Liberty & Henry Bartosh
Tuesday	Dec. 23	8:00AM	† Orpha McGarghan
Wed	Dec. 24	5:00PM	<i>Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish</i>
Thurs	Dec. 25	12:00AM	<i>Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish</i>
Christmas		9:00AM	<i>Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish</i>

Mary Mother of God
Holy Day of Obligation
Dec. 31 : 5PM
Jan. 1 : 10AM
(Fr. Stephen Nesrsta)

Friday Dec. 26 NO MASS

Saturday Dec. 27 6:00PM Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish (Msgr. Isidore Rozycki)

Sunday Dec. 28 10:00 AM †Pete Wolf & Dan Merka Families; † Fred Strmiska; †Emilie Martinka (Msgr. Isidore Rozycki)

We pray for Healing: Alice Taisler, Joseph Campos, Albina Teltow, Mary Motloch, J.D. Shirocky, Julie Kaderka, Bryce Tubbs, Annie Vanek, Liz Vrana, Edith Kurtin.

We pray for the repose of Marie Repa. May she rest in peace.

Offering: Sunday: \$3,533.00 Children: \$12.00 Building & Maintenance: \$1,129.00 OLOG:\$116.00 Thank you!

Liturgical Ministers December 24-25 & December 27-28

Christmas Eve 5PM Lector: Ronnie Steffek EMHC: Volunteers Music: Guitar Group Servers: Volunteers

Midnight Mass Lector: Virginia Loza Lee EMHC: Volunteers
Music: Choir Servers: Jonathan Lee, Daniel Pavelka, Brett Martinka

Christmas Day 9AM Lector: Volunteer EMHC: Volunteers Music: Traditional Choir Servers: Volunteers

Saturday 6PM Lector: Marilyn Gaydos EMHC: Mark & Wendy White, Paula Marak, Doc Pekar
Music: Guitar Group Servers: Garret Repa, Kyle Hamons

Sunday 10AM Lector: Virginia Lee EMHC: Harold & Carolyn Kaderka, Bill & Mary Pavlat
Music: Darve & Karen Servers: Kurt Kaderka, John Unnasch

EMHC Route: Wendy White, Mark White, Frankie & Shirley Volek, Paula Marak

Religious Articles Store: 6PM -Ofelia Lopez 10AM – Rita Marburger

The special collection next weekend is for Maternity Homes for the Diocese of Austin: Annunciation Maternity Home in Georgetown, Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter in Temple, and the activities of the Pro Life Office of the Diocese of Austin

Tithing Envelopes for 2015 are in the Cryroom. If you do not find one with your name and would like one please leave your name and address on the sheet by the envelopes and one will be assigned to you. You may also call or come by the office to request a box.

Calendar of Events

Sunday Dec. 21 : 12 noon KC hamburgers (Hall)
Monday Dec. 22 : 7PM Guitar Group Practice for Christmas
Tuesday Dec. 23 : 5PM Bingo Kitchen—Enchiladas
Dec. 24-January 6: Parish Office Closed (Emails and Phone messages will be checked daily)
Sunday Dec. 28 : 11AM KJZT Loaded Baked Potatoes (Hall)

Marriage Recognition certificates presented December 21, 2014

55th Edward & Corrine Dykowski, 55th Jerry & Janice Vrabel, 50th Alexander & Patsy Tovar, 45th George & Linda Knapek, 40th John & Karen Simcik, 35th Carey Weber & Deborah Spanel, 30th Mark & Wendy White, 15th Joe, Jr. & GERALYN Campos

Certificates presented during the year: 60th John & Ann Franklin, 60th Elias & Leah Rae Strmiska, 45th Ronnie & Peggy Steffek, 40th Eugene & Paula Marak, 25th Daryl & Shelly Repa

Parish

Year End Giving: Remember to make all 2014 donations to the Church by December 31. The Parish Office will be closed from Dec. 24-January 6 so please mail or use the Sunday collection basket to make your year end donation. Thank you for your generous support of our Parish.

Lectors, Musicians, Singers are always needed. If you would like to know more about any of these ministries please call the Parish Office. Whenever you see VOLUNTEER on the list and you would like to fill that position call the office so we know that someone is covering. You are also always welcome to join the choir at any and all Masses. We are in need of music ministers the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the Month.

Mission to McAllen: While doing your Christmas shopping consider buying one item for the undocumented immigrants that the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in McAllen is determined to help. This month we are focusing on collecting belts, bras and snacks. Last month we focused on backpacks and we were pleased to collect 75 of those. Any items you chose to donate will be most welcome. To see the list of most pressing needs please go to CatholicCharitiesRGV.org. Please drop your donations off at the church office by Dec. 19. If interested in volunteering, please call Deborah at 979-571-0461. We anticipate traveling to McAllen in January.

Religious Education & Youth Ministry

Bake Sale: Youth Ministry will be selling sweets after both Masses the weekend of Dec. 20 & 21. All money raised will go towards the Diocesan Youth Conference in Waco. Thank you for your support.

Message from Our Pastor

Today's gospel presents one of the most-tender yet dramatic readings in all literature: the Incarnation. The one true God of history, for the sake of our salvation, deigns to become a human in the person of the unborn Jesus. But out of extraordinary respect for his own creatures (Mary and Joseph), God willingly first awaits permission from Mary for this magnificent feat to be accomplished. Hail, Mary!

EXEGESIS:

This story of the Annunciation/Incarnation parallels Luke's previous story of the angel's surprising announcement to Mary's cousin, the somewhat elderly Elizabeth, that she (Elizabeth) will conceive a child (John the Baptist). But Mary's conception of Jesus will be different. Critics of the faith like to point out that some other religions have stories of gods being born of human women, even virgins. However, the gospel story is substantially unique. In the pagan stories, it is one particular god among many who becomes incarnate; conception always occurs by physical contact of the god or a spirit with the woman, who is no longer a virgin, and without respect for her freedom; and the incarnated god shows some undesirable human qualities. In Luke, it is the one and only true God who becomes human; He does this by the purely supernatural, non-physical, power of the Holy Spirit; Mary remains a virgin; God (through angel Gabriel) awaits and respects Mary's free-will acceptance of the event; and the incarnated God has no undesirable human qualities, because He is the very Son of God.

The names of the angel and the members of the Holy Family involved in this gospel add to the important symbolism. "Gabriel" in Hebrew means "God is my strength"--in this case, the strength of Mary, as she relies upon the truthfulness of Gabriel and his message. "Mary" means "excellence"--she is indeed exalted among all women and is saluted ("Hail, Mary") and praised ("favored one/full of grace") by the angel. "Joseph" means "God adds"--here Joseph will be added as the protector of Mary and her infant. And "Jesus" means "God saves"--indeed, Jesus is the Savior of the world, to be also called "Son of God" and Son of David ("Messiah") as Gabriel indicates.