



**SACRED HEART  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Seymour, Texas

**SACRED HEART  
PASTORAL CENTER  
206 N. CEDAR ST.  
SEYMOUR, TX 76380-2102  
OFFICE (940) 889-5252 FAX (940) 889-2136**



**ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Megargel, Texas

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 15, 2019**

**DEACON JIM NOVAK**  
Parochial Administrator  
Office—940-889-5252 Cell—940-733-3784

**FR. BOSE JUJUVARAPU, HGN**  
Parochial Vicar  
940-655-8037

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: By appointment or the following times:  
SACRED HEART—Wednesday 7-8 PM; Saturday 5-6 PM**

**PARISH LITURGY SCHEDULE:**

**MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK (December 16 - 22)**

Monday: 12:10 PM: +Herman & Dorothy Schumacher by Christeena Moore  
Tuesday: **No Service**  
Wednesday: **12:10 PM:** +Lillie Mae Novak by Johnny & Jeanette Holub  
Thursday: 12:10 PM: +Holman & Carver Family by Tommy & Donna Carver  
Friday: 12:10 PM: +Rev. Anthony McGuire, O.F.M by Yen Khang Van  
Saturday: 7:10 AM: +Lillie Mae Novak by Florene Tousek Family  
6:00 PM: +Ken Wachsmann by Rosalie Peters  
Sunday: 8:00 AM: +Dorothy Cuba by Jodie Darilek (St. Mary)  
10:00 AM: +Tim Kuehler by Sharon Christian

**PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY FOR THE WEEKDAY MASSES: (December 16 - 21)**

Mon.: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a	Matthew 21:23-27
Tues.: Genesis 49:2, 8-10	Matthew 1:1-17
Wed.: Jeremiah 23:5-8	Matthew 1:18-25
Thurs.: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a	Luke 1:5-25
Fri.: Isaiah 7:10-14	Luke 1:26-38
Sat.: Song of Songs 2:8-14	Luke 1:39-45

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (December 22)**

Please prepare for worship by prayerfully reading the Scriptures for next weekend Masses:

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14  
Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7  
Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

**Sunday, December 15: (Special Collection Retirement Fund for Religious)**

9:40 AM, Sacred Heart/Holy Rosary followed by Mass/**Potluck meal after Mass**  
All Weekend Liturgies: Third Sunday of Advent  
All Weekend Liturgies: Presider for Mass – Fr. Bose

**Monday, December 16:**

6:00 PM, Pastoral Center/Pastoral Council Meeting

**Tuesday, December 17:**

12:10 PM, Pastoral Center/Rosary & Lunch  
7:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Advent Reconciliation Service (4 priests available)

**Wednesday, December 18: (No Faith Formation Classes – Christmas break)**

6:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Holy Hour Adoration with Benediction concluding at 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, December 19:**

9:00 AM, Visitation of all sick, shut-ins, homebound and hospitals by Fr. Bose/Deacon Jim until completion

**Saturday, December 21:**

7:10 AM, Sacred Heart/Blessed Virgin Mary Mass  
5:45 PM, Sacred Heart/Holy Rosary followed by Mass

**Sunday, December 22: (Weekend Special Collection – Angel Tree family)**

9:40 AM, Sacred Heart/Holy Rosary followed by Mass  
All Weekend Liturgies: Fourth Sunday of Advent  
All Weekend Liturgies: Presider for Mass – Fr. Bose

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve**

- 4:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Children’s Christmas Mass
- 5:50 PM, St. Mary of the Assumption/Blessing of Lights preceded by musical selections by musicians
- 6:00 PM, St. Mary of the Assumption/Christmas Eve Mass
- 9:50 PM, Sacred Heart/Blessing of Lights & Manger preceded by musical selections by musicians
- 10:00 PM, Sacred Heart/Christmas Eve Mass

**Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day...Merry Christmas! (No Faith Formation Classes – Christmas break)**

- 10:00 AM, Sacred Heart/Christmas Mass

**Thursday, December 26:**

- 7:10 AM, Sacred Heart/Daily Mass

**Saturday, December 28:**

- 5:45 PM, Sacred Heart/Holy Rosary followed by Mass

**Sunday, December 29:**

- 9:40 AM, Sacred Heart/Holy Rosary followed by Mass
- All Weekend Liturgies: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
- All Weekend Liturgies: Presider for Mass – Fr. Bose

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**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: MATTHEW 11:2-11**

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus said to them in reply, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me.”

As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, “What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written:

*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way before you.*

Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

**ADULTS:** What would Jesus see to praise about you right now?

**CHILDREN:** What good thing have you done so far during Advent to be like Jesus?

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



"Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the “joy” which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Today is known as *Gaudete* Sunday. The term *Gaudete* refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments may be worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

**CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL SERVICES:** Reminder: Wednesday, December 25, is the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) – A Holy Day of Obligation. In the Catholic Church, Holy Days of Obligation or Holidays of Obligation, less commonly called Feasts of Precept, are the days on which, as canon 1247 of the Code of Canon Law states; *the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass. Moreover they are to abstain from those works and affairs which hinder the worship to be rendered to God, the joy proper to the Lord’s Day, or the suitable relaxation of mind and body.*

All are welcome to join us for our Christmas Schedule of Services at Sacred Heart Church in Seymour and Saint Mary’s Church in Megargel.

**Christmas Eve/December 24**

- 4:00 PM Children’s Christmas Mass at Sacred Heart in Seymour
- 5:50 PM Blessing of Lights & Manger-St. Mary in Megargel preceded by musical selections by musicians
- 6:00 PM Mass at St. Mary in Megargel
- 9:50 PM Blessing of Lights & Manger- Sacred Heart in Seymour
- 10:00 PM Mass at Sacred Heart in Seymour

**Christmas Day/December 25**

- 10:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart in Seymour

My brothers and sisters, reading from Isaiah continues the proclamation of the coming of the good days as we saw in the last Sunday. Most joyful times are coming for Israel: “burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it...they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.” the time is approaching when the blind will see and the ears of the deaf opened. When the disciples of John the Baptist came with the question to Jesus whether he was really the Messiah, they were asked to report back to John what they were seeing—the blind and the deaf getting healed. These are the sure signs of Messianic times as predicted by Isaiah.

Jesus is not a Messiah who acts as a strict judge and destroys the wicked calling down fire from heaven. He does not condemn sinners, but rather he even eats with them and takes pride in being their friend (LK 7:34). He will not put out the dimly burning wick or bend further the “bruised reed”. He rather comes to save. We, in whatever condition may be, can confidently wait for the Lord with the prayer, “**Lord, come to save us**”. Advent is a season of hope. Let there be joy welling up in our hearts because God looks at us with eyes of compassion. Special prayers for the healing of the sick and suffering, may the Infant Jesus bring us joy and peace and wishing you a blessed week and love you all, prayers assured. **Rev.**

**Bose Jjuvarapu**

**A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:**

Third Sunday of Advent: December 14/15, 2019 - From the loneliness of his prison cell John the Baptist asks of Jesus: “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” The weeks before Christmas offer much to be joyous about, celebrating with family and friends, the glitter of seasonal decorations, the excitement of gift giving and receiving. But in our midst there are the lonely and neglected, the poor, the hospitalized, the wayward, the shut-ins. There are those who feel that they have no hope. To whom should they look? Discipleship in the Lord includes being good stewards of others. Are there those in our family, our neighborhood, our community to whom we can reach out to show them a sign of Christ’s presence in their midst?

**ROSARY AND LUNCH:** Join us at 12:10 pm this Tuesday, Dec. 17, in the pastoral center for a Rosary, prayers, lunch, and fellowship. Use your lunch hour – or longer! – for some hot soup, warm friendship, and calming faith as we prepare for the Lord’s Birth! Pick up a reminder card in the foyer.

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Thank you all who were involved in our annual Christmas play and fellowship!! A special thanks to Jon Hrnccirik and crew for the lighting for the Christmas Play and to Damon Hertel for repairing and updating the manger. Blessings to you!

**2020 COLLECTION ENVELOPES:**

Your envelopes are in the back of the church. If you do not see your name, please contact the office. All families who are members of our Parish should have a box, unless you draft from your bank and don’t need a box. Thank you!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING:**

The meeting will be Wednesday, **December 18** at 7:00 pm at the Knight of Columbus Hall. All Knights are asked to attend!

**MONTHLY POT-LUCK FELLOWSHIP MEAL:**

This Sunday, December 15 after the 10 AM Mass in Mosler hall. Please bring a dish if you are able and come join in the fellowship and good food. Thanks...Deacon Jim.

**OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP: December 08, 2019**

**SACRED HEART:**

**Amount in Checks/Envelopes & Loose: \$ 3701.50**

Youth: \$100 Altar Society: \$25 Special: \$5.00 Holy Day: \$918.00  
**TOTAL: \$ 4,749.50**

Envelope Use: 50 Regular; 1 Youth; 1 Special; 22 Holy Day

**ST. MARY:**

Amount in Checks/Envelopes & Loose: \$ 562.00

Youth: \$ 0 Holy Day: \$ 0 Special: \$ 0

**TOTAL: \$ 562.00**

Envelope Use: 8 Regular; 0 Youth; 0 Special; 0 Holy Day

**Attendance: Sacred Heart – Sat 75 & Sun 114 St. Mary – Sun 35**

**SEVEN DAY LIGHTS:**

***SPECIAL INTENTIONS:*** For Arvin & Rosalie Peters Family, For Alvin Jungman & Family by Shannon & Barbie Donnell Family, For the Henry & Lillie Mae Novak Family, For the George & Margaret Holub Family.

***FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS BY:*** Kay Flippin, Terry & Belinda Bench, Ricky & Charlotte Wright, Marilyn McGough, Tommy & Donna Carver. **If you would like to contribute to the Seven Day Lights, the cost is \$1 per week. Thank You.**

**OFFICE HOURS & BULLETIN NOTICES:**

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10am – 3pm. All bulletin notices must be in by **12 noon on Wednesday!**

**NW DEANERY PENANCE SERVICES – Advent 2019 (All Penance Services at 7:00 PM)**

Mon. Dec. 16 @ Holy Family – Vernon (3 priests)

**Tues. Dec. 17 @ Sacred Heart - Seymour (4 priests)**

Wed. Dec. 18 @ St. William – Montague (5 priests)

Thur. Dec. 19 @ Our Lady Queen of Peace – WF (9 priests)

Fri. Dec. 20 @ St. Mary – Henrietta (3 priests)

Please take advantage of the Church’s great Sacrament of Reconciliation so that we can truly begin anew with our sins having been removed and forgotten by God and thus reconciled with God and our neighbor. Canon 989 states: “After having reached the age of discretion, each member of the faithful is obliged to confess faithfully his or her grave sins at least once a year.”

**ANGEL TREE FAMILY – 2019:** The Angel tree collection will be **December 21 & 22** as a second collection and it will be used for gift cards from our local stores. **Please** have all gifts under the tree and all money donations into the office by **Sunday, December 22.** Thank you in advance for your generous “Spirit of Giving” during this special time of the year! **Please add your Angel tag to your gift so we will know which gift goes to which Angel.**

BOY – age 5, shirt: youth small; pants: 6/7; shoes: 1

GIRL – age 6, shirt: small; pants: small; shoes: 13

BOY – age 8, shirt: medium; pants: 8; shoes: 3

GIRL – age 10, shirt: adult medium; pants: 6; shoes: 7

GIRL – age 10, shirt: adult small; pants: 8 women’s; shoes: 7

GIRL – age 11, shirt: adult small; pants: waist 24; shoes: 6 ½ adult

MOM & DAD

**POINSETTIAS FOR THE CHURCH**

In keeping with our tradition, we ask you to donate Poinsettias in memory of your loved ones, living & deceased. All Poinsettias need to be delivered to the church by Sunday, **December 22**, in good time for our volunteers to decorate for the Christmas season.

**SECOND COLLECTION: RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS – This Weekend December 14/15:**

Catholics in the Diocese of Fort Worth will have the opportunity to “give to those who have given a lifetime” as part of the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, to be held in parishes Dec. 14-15, 2019. Coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) in Washington, D.C., the annual appeal benefits 30,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests whose religious congregations lack adequate retirement funding.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations, including the Western Province of the Sisters of Saint Mary of Namur here in our Diocese, to plan for future retirement needs, even as they continue to serve the People of God. For more information, please visit [www.retiredreligious.org](http://www.retiredreligious.org).

**WE ARE IN NEED OF MASS INTENTIONS:**

One of the greatest acts of charity is to pray for the living and the dead, and the greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Holy Mass, since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. The offering of a mass stipend is \$5 or faithful are free to offer more if they desire. This stipend is given to the priest presiding for his own use. You may place your request in the collection basket or drop off your request at the office. Please write out your check to Sacred Heart. God bless!

**ADVENT: EXERCISING GOOD STEWARDSHIP IDEAS!**

Here are a few suggestions to remind ourselves daily of our call to prepare a way for the Lord in our lives;

- List clear goals that bring growth and peace and quality time.
- Take time to read the daily readings each day of Advent.
- Send a Christmas card with a nice note to an elderly relative or a friend you haven't seen in a long time.
- Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Pray for patience.
- In the midst of a season of abundance, do not forget the poor in your community.

**THANK YOU AGAIN HOLUB TIRE - 2020 CALENDARS**

Once again we give our appreciation to the George & Margaret Holub Family who work so hard at Holub Tire for their annual contribution to both of our parishes by providing us with our new 2020 “*Feasts & Saints*” Religious Calendars. Thank you!

**GIVING THANKS AT THIS YEAR'S END—2019**

At this special time of Thanksgiving—and during the rush of Christmas and New Year holidays—we pause to thank you for your faithful support of our parish. **We cannot say “thank you” enough!** Any additional gifts made to our parish by year's end, December 31, 2019, can help make a considerable difference to Sacred Heart Church and St. Mary of the Assumption Church in providing for the future of Catholic ministries and services in our parishes—while you gain substantial savings on your taxes! The charitable gift you make now could leave you and your family much better off come April 15, 2020! **Remember**—all the gifts to our parishes are tax deductible to the extent provided for by law. **Make your gift count for 2020—send it in to our parish today or place your gift into the collection basket this Sunday.** Thank you for being generous.

**FROZEN ASSORTED KOLACHES FOR SALE:** \$10 per dozen till gone! Call office at 889-5252

**2020 LECTOR WORKBOOKS**

The books are on the table at the back of the Church. Lectors please take one & mark your name off the list.

**MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE “BROWN BAG” FUND DRIVE:**

Please consider a donation to help our annual drive to raise funds for the Ministerial Alliance. In the month of November and December the community churches ask for your support to replenish our funds so that we can help those needy within our local community. You may simply drop off a donation or place a donation in the weekly collections marked “Ministerial Alliance.” There are also boxes in our Seymour stores for your convenience.

**SACRED HEART WEBSITE - BULLETIN**

If you are traveling over any weekend and miss getting a bulletin, you don't have to worry about finding time to stop by the office or the church. Just go online to <http://sacredheartseymour.org/> and click News/Calendar. All past and present bulletins are posted.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Rick Kieschnick, Briley Hostas, Melvin Kuhler, Cindy Cuba Boone, Yvonne Boone, Carolyn Bertschy, Bessie Casillas, Joe Saitta, Jr., Donna Hampton, Cathy McElroy, Cora Shelton, Mary Matus, Mary Myers, Olivia Wright, Keaton Hehl, Stella Glass, Bernie Thomas, Josiah Decker, Sheila Helton, Ofelia Garcia, Ronald Wright, Isabel Sanchez, Brandon Hilbers, Valerie Bowen, Johnny Joe Pechacek, Janet Chism, Robert Wachsmann, Kent Bickly, Michael Rodriguez, Derek Daniel, Rhea Allison, Bryker Fontenot, Frances Cortez, Charlotte Howell, Jeff Gregg, Alvin Jungman, Adaline Urbanczyk, Jim McLarty, Robin Clouse, Nick Garcia, Kayley Lowder, Rosalie Peters, Ralph Veitenheimer, Glenda Hertel, Cheryl Hopkins, Craig Bickly, Cathi Patterson, Cynthia Tatlock, Genevieve Hmcirik, Hailey Glass, Debbie Turner, Dana Riddles, Teagan Matthews, Nathan McCandless, Bob Walker, Shelley Emsoff Ladd, Christina Lambert, Korie Hole, Richard Casillas, Jimmie Sue Loran, Joyce Scott, Rickey Bohanon, Hannah Green, Jim Cuba, Henrietta Styles, Sandra Moorhouse, Gene Johnson, Sherry Whiteside, Whitney McWilliams & Baby, Sharon Wright, Richard Latham, Geraldine Kuhler, Arleen Kuhler, Koby Peterson, Abigail Novak, Braxton Pierce, John McCandless, Kayla McLarty, LeeAnn Cooke, Lynette Lyles, Andrew Amador, Nicole Glass, Mary Dell Garcia, Billie McGough, Brian Allen, Gary Lowe, Jason Gilley, Raymond & Margie Psencik, Cori Bohanon, Theresa Bruggeman, Judy Holden, Colton McGough, Andrea Sanchez, Fr. Richard Eldredge, TOR, Paul Holman, Sharon Wright, Randal Psencik, John Edd Nelson, Machele Hass, Jessica McGough, Larry Novak, Apple (Sathwik) Jujavarapun, Melvin Motl & Jeanie Evans.

**SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN:** Skylar Holman, Ryan Holman, John George, Kyle Matus, Jennifer Gelb, Andrew Gelb, Jeffrey Copeland, Ricky Smith, Tai Bandy, Brody Jones, James Crawford, Sam Atwood, Josh Wright, Chance Freeman, Wayne Howard, Corey Bailes, Derek Harvey, Mitchell Lee, Zachary Hamilton. *Please call the office to update the prayer list for those to be added or removed.*

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS: LAY LEADERS, PRIESTS, DEACONS AND RELIGIOUS LIFE**

## “Travelers from the East – The Wise Men on Bicycles”



Kyle, Sam and I, Landon, are traveling on bicycles across the country from coast to coast on a pilgrimage. The idea is very simple: each day we wake up, go to morning mass and then we pedal

West to the next Church that we can receive the Eucharist. On the road we pray the rosary and share story's of faith and life alike meeting people along the way. We always have enough time for conversations with strangers and parishioners of various parishes, always taking people's prayer intentions. Wherever we are when the sun sets, we find our place to sleep for the night. Kyle very clearly has a vocation to the priesthood and Sam and I are open to God's Will, but still discerning our vocation. Each one of us has left our careers to go on this journey. Kyle was living in Albuquerque towards the end of his training to be a Para-rescue Jumper in the Air Force when he felt a strong calling from the Lord to leave to pursue the priesthood. I was working as a Registered Nurse in Jacksonville, FL, when I heard a calling in my heart to leave my job, and to dive deeper into prayer and abandon myself in God's hands in a radical way. Sam is an electrical engineer in Albuquerque, NM, and after hearing about our journey on the road felt a strong calling to quit his job and join us and "learn how to be fathered by God." I think that if there is one common thread amongst us, it is that we have quiet hearts, aimed at listening to God's Will in them. Our journey is only half way through and I can truly say that it has had transforming effects on each of us.

We are learning profound trust in God, and learning to abandon ourselves to Him in the present moment. We find God's love in the simple meeting of our daily needs, but especially in the good will of all the people we meet along the way. We have experienced sharing, love, hospitality and generosity in many people along the way. We seem to find God living in our neighbor at every turn.



**(They visited on Wednesday, December 11 for the noon Mass and our Christmas Play!)**