



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Feb 17th- Feb 18th

P.O. Box 130 – 411 Ware St., Groom, TX 79039

Tele. & Fax: 806.248.7584,

Cell Phone: 806.316.4146

PARISH STAFF:

Pastor: Arokia Raj Samala – Parish Council: Jason Eugea

Finance Council Chair: Rodney Bohr, Altar Society President: Debbie Ollinger

RCIA: Tabitha Eggemeyer, DRE: Nicole Kuehler,

Youth Director: Kathleen Barkley, Bookkeeper: Sherri Wieberg

Parish Email: immaculateheartgroom@gmail.com Website: immaculateheartgroomtx.com



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT - FAST FORWARD

"Do you call this a fast?" —Isaiah 58:5

Why do we fast for Lent? Is it to lose weight? Is it for the satisfaction of giving up a favorite food for forty days, so it will taste that much better on Easter? Is it because that's what Catholics do during Lent, and we want to follow the crowd? Is it because we want others to notice we are good Catholics? (Mt 6:16)

Conversely, do we fast because Jesus has told us that, along with prayer, it is the most effective weapon against the kingdom of darkness? (Gospel of Life, 100) Do we fast so that demons will be cast out and those held captive by Satan will be rightfully restored to Jesus? (Mt 17:21, NAB) Do we fast because we miss Jesus (Mt 9:15), and therefore are trying to hasten the day of His return by bringing down the kingdom of Satan? (2 Pt 3:12)

We can fast for human reasons, or we can fast for God's reasons. The Lord reveals to us: "This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own" (Is 58:6-7). Fast this Lent so as to bring a fast end to the works of Satan. Get this Lent off to a fast start.

St. John Chrysostom says: Let the mouth fast from disgraceful and abusive words, because, what gain is there when, on the one hand we avoid eating chicken and fish and, on the other, we chew-up and consume our brothers? He who condemns and blasphemes is as if he has eaten brotherly meat, as if he has bitten into the flesh of his fellow man. It is because of this that Paul frightened us, saying: "If you chew up and consume one another be careful that you do not annihilate yourselves." "Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation." Catherine Doherty

Masses & Information

Monday, Thursday, Friday.....7:30 a.m.
Saturday:.....5:30 p.m.
Sunday:.....8:30 a.m.
Wednesday:.....6:00 p.m.
Confession: Saturday.....4:30-5:15 p.m.
Sunday:.....7:55-8:15 a.m. or by appointment
First Wednesday Adoration.....7:00 – 10:00 p.m.
MARRIAGE PREPARTION: Contact Father Raj at least six months in advance.

BAPTISMS: Call the rectory for an appointment.

COMMUNION to shut-ins or the ill, call Fr. Raj at 248.7584 or 316.4146

Anyone who cannot come to the communion rail during Mass should let Father Raj know before Mass.

Those who are ill or shut in should contact Bill Homer, if you would want communion brought to your home during the week or on weekends.

Masses Intentions

Sunday, February 18-- 8.30 a.m.- For our Christian Mothers

Monday, February 19--7:30 a.m. Earl Britten by Willie Mae Barnett

Wednesday, Feb 21--6:00pm---**Stations of the Cross by our children**

Thursday, February 22--7:30 a.m. Earl Britten by Willie Mae Barnett

Friday, February 23--7:30a.m. Earl Britten by Willie Mae Barnett

Saturday, February 24--5:30p.m. Earl Britten by Willie Mae Barnett

Church Cleaning for January

Neysa Friemel, Julie Friemel, Jessica

Britten, Carolyn Brooks, Joannie Kling, Jan

Britten, Tonda Torres, Laura Kuehler,

Barbara Homer, Doris Homer, Kathleen

Barkley, Adela Kotatra, Melanie Hinson and

Karen Brown

Pray for Our Sick

Brandi Sustaire, John Detten, Emma Detten, Tammy Bivens, Celeste Connelly, Daniel Hinson, Schellon Major, Ralph Hutsell, Shamara Husemann, Bill Becker, Jim Eakin, Charleen Weller, Leonard Koetting, Alina Becker, Anna Marie Wink, Gary Collins, , Willie Mae Barnett, Dylan Stafford, James Weinheimer, Alice Britten, Alan Acker, David Swieres and Sherry Koetting

Family Chalice Program

February 17/18 Brad and Tabitha Eggemeyer

February 24/25 Pam and Cassie Ashford

March 3/4 Keith, Kathleen, and Halle Barkley

March 17/18 Mike and Marla Britten

March 24/25 Jerry, Melanie, and Trent Britten

March 31/ April 1 Cobb and Kay Britten

Birthdays

Feb 17th Chole Belle Britten & Stephen Kuehler

Feb 18th Sherri Brooks & Martin Hermesmyer

Feb 20th Loretta Britten & Chance Barkley

Feb 21st Bronte Britten, Bart Britten &

Maci Keesee

Feb 23rd Samantha Amphey

Anniversaries

Stewardship Reports

02-11-18

Individual \$1,745.00

Loose \$ 310.00

Children \$ 15.00

Total \$2,070.00

Building Fund 2-11-18

Individual \$6,065.00

Loose \$ 112.00

Total \$6,177.00

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, Feb 17, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Saffron and Kacie
Lectors: Jason Eugea
Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea

Sunday, Feb 18, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Derek and Trace
Lectors: Marcia Conrad
Extraor. Com. Minister: Kay Britten, Tabitha Eggemeyer, Susan Britten

Saturday, Feb 24, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Halle and Hope
Lectors: Ron Kuehler
Extraor. Com. Minister: Sandie Hickey

Sunday, Feb 25, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Zady and Ali
Lectors: Nick Kuehler
Extraor. Com. Minister: Nicole Kuehler, Melanie K Britten, Joannie Kling

Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Hope and Lauren
Lectors: Kay Britten
Extraor. Com. Minister: Jan Britten

Sunday, March 4th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Halle and Carrigan
Lectors: Cliff Britten
Extraor. Com. Minister: Cari Weinheimer, Barbara Homer, and Marla Britten

Saturday, March 10th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Stephen and Damon
Lectors: Ron Keuhler
Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, March 11th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Braxton and Zady
Lectors: Marcia Conrad
Extraor. Com. Minister: Michele Bohr, Sharon Britten and Tabitha Eggemeyer

Announcements:

February 18th - Second Collection for Campus Ministries

February 25th - Second Collection for Local Charities

All: Heaters in the Hall

Thermostats are set at 60 degrees. If more heat is needed they may be increased to achieve comfort level. Settings DO NOT automatically re-set to 60 degrees. IF you change the setting you MUST manually re-set so that the heat is not wasted.

Christian Mothers: Thank you to everyone that attended Spring Fling. The food was great and the Bingo was fun. I believe everyone had a goodtime. Thank you to all that stayed and helped clean up and the next day mopping all the floors in the hall.

September dues of \$15 are needed. We use these dues for the supplies in the kitchen for funeral dinners and misc. Items and needs of our parish and children. Please become an active member of our Organization.

Monday March 5th, 2018 will be our Christian Mothers meeting. **THIS IS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH.** We are having our meeting early because of spring break. It will be in the home of Melanie Britten, hostesses are Sandie Hickey and Cara Ashford. Planning of the East deanery meeting will be on the agenda.

April 21st is the East Deanery Spring meeting at our Place!! Please mark this on your calendars and set up your babysitter now. The fee is \$30 which includes lunch and great speakers are being lined up. We received superior ratings on our hosting the Fall Diocesan Convention. Please come and enjoy this Saturday with ladies of our deanery. I will be updating the information on the speakers and items we will be collecting for the Catholic charities.

This year we will be electing new officers. We still need a vice-president (a great office to get your feet wet and learn how things work), reporter, prayer leader, and someone to send out cards during illnesses or family loss. Please pray that God will send you the courage to take on a leadership role in this very important organization of our parish. Our women of this church are awesome; we just need some new blood to help us out.

Announcements:

*During Lent the Station of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 6:30pm.

*March 29, Holy Thursday Mass at 7:30pm

*March 30, Good Friday, the Lord's Passion at 7:30pm

*March 31, Holy Saturday Easter Vigil at 8:00pm

*April 01, Easter Sunday Mass at 8:30am.

***UCA 2017-18 Reoport**

Quota -----\$14,797.00

Pledged -----\$15,615.00

Paid-----\$13,685.00

Due-----\$1,112.00

***UCA 2018-19**

Every year the Diocese of Amarillo conducts its annual United Catholic Appeal after Easter. The appeal funds approximately 33% of the operational costs of the various ministries and programs the diocese offers to all of our parishes. This is a vital and very important appeal for the ongoing financial stability of our diocese. This year the united catholic appeal commitment Weekend is on April 21 and 22. This will give you two weekends after Easter to talk about and promote the UCA.

***Everything you need for a more spiritual Lent:**

- Begin each morning with the prayer: "Lord, I offer you this day, and all that I think, and do, and say."
- Attend Daily Mass as often as possible.
- Pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.
- Make the Stations of the Cross at home or in a parish celebration.
- Read Scripture for 10 minutes every day.
- Pray the Seven Penitential Psalms (Psalm 6, 31, 50, 101, 129 and 142).
- Spend some time in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.
- Abstain from meat for an extra day or two each week.
- Listen to spiritual music or a spiritual speaker.
- Keep a Lenten journal with your spiritual insights, special intentions, people you want to pray for, hurts and disappointments that you want to offer up, and progress reports on your Lenten resolutions.

***Stations of the Cross:** Telling the story of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus was an important part of the early Christian's experience. In the late fourth century, people began making pilgrimages to the Holy Land, where they would follow the path that Jesus took to Calvary. During the Middle Ages, when outbreaks of war made it impossible for people to travel to the Holy Land, people created a Via Dolorosa, or "Sorrowful Way," in their towns and villages. They erected paintings or sculptures depicting the Passion of Christ along a processional route or inside a church. By the mid-18th century, the number of stations was fixed at 14 and the devotion known as the Stations of the Cross, also called the Way of the Cross, became widespread.