

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 17th

5 P.M. – Milton & Helen Grossmann

Sunday, December 18th

7 A.M. – James Konvicka, Rose Pekar,
Thomas Kocian

9 A.M. – Frankie Raska

This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jam 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Your Gift to God: December 4th

Sweet Home	\$1,616
DSA	\$8
Koerth	\$1,626
DSA	\$147

May God reward your generosity!

Special Collection

A special collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be taken up at all Masses this weekend, December 10-11.

Celebrate the Lord's Abundant Mercy

Each Saturday the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance/Confession) is available from 4:00 P.M. to 4:40 P.M. in the Sweet Home confessional.

Office Christmas Schedule

The Pastoral Center will close at 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 22nd and reopen at 8:00 A.M. on Monday, January 2nd. **Deadline for the December 25th and January 1st bulletins will be noon on Wednesday, December 21st.**

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor."*

Penance Services

This coming week the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be heard throughout the Deanery. Note the places as each evening Confessions begin at 5:30 P.M. Each of these services will have multiple confessors available to assist all who would like to enter into a deeper spiritual experience during this Advent time of preparation.

Advent Penance Services

All services begin at 5:30 P.M.

Monday, December 12 – Shiner

Tuesday, December 13 - Hallettsville

Thursday, December 15 – Moulton

Friday, December 16 - Yoakum

Christmas Flowers

Extra envelopes for the Christmas Flower donations may be found in the Church entrances. Donors and their listed memorials will be in the bulletin after Christmas. This applies to Sweet Home and Koerth.

Feast of Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24th – 5:00 P.M.
10:00 P.M.

December 25th – 9:00 A.M.

(All in Sweet Home)

Offering Envelopes

As a reminder, the offering envelopes will be mailed at two month intervals starting with 2017. Those who requested offering envelopes at the time of the census renewal will begin receiving them with this new service.

Rejoice in the Lord always!

Gratitude

The parish family extends its appreciation to Thiele-Cooper Funeral Home for their sponsorship of our Catholic Home Calendars for 2017. Pick one up and let it keep you "up" with the liturgical year!

Project Update

The rain last weekend have a good "trial run" on the bell tower work that has been accomplished thus far. Thankfully no water made it into the church under the tower nor showed any signs of moisture seeping inside. A couple of the windows on the cemetery side did still have water get in--hopefully as the window work gets started this will be solved as well.

Rectory work continues, as plumbers have started on the interior sewer pipes and electricians have started addressing wiring issues and the electrical panel. Once wiring upstairs is complete the walls will be insulated as will the replaced ceiling. It is slow, yes, but the idea is to repair and update to increase energy efficiency as well--insuring use for many more years to come.

Christmas Weekend: Special Collection

Christmas weekend there will be a second collection at the Masses for the Parish Building/Maintenance Fund. The funds donated will assist in the ongoing repairs to the parish facilities...perfect time to make an end of year donation for charity!

"From Thy Bounty"

The new St. Joseph Parish cookbook, "From Thy Bounty" is available at the St. Joseph Pastoral Center for \$20...get them as the extra gift to share during the upcoming holidays!

Stayed Tuned for Continuous Christmas Music – 91.5 FM

Listen to continuous Christmas music beginning December 21st thru December 25 by tuning in to KHCB 91.5 FM radio.

TMIY Update

For the past 13 weeks over seventy men have sacrificed and prayed with the help of the "That Man Is You" program to deepen their faith. As a result they better understand their roles as husbands and fathers. They learned about the effects of today's culture on our children and grandchildren and the importance of men in their lives. Each Wednesday morning the men gathered at the bright and early hour of 6:00 A.M. for breakfast, camaraderie, inspiration/reflection and discussion. All meetings concluded by 7:30 A.M. It was both a challenge and reward to be able to dedicate the best part of the day to focusing on what defines us: our faith! If you were not able to take advantage of this opportunity you are in luck! The next semester is now scheduled to begin February 1, 2017. And as all good Catholics recall...it will include the time of Lent...offering yet another way to better engage and deepen your faith. This is a new semester so it will be a great time to join us. If you are not sure just ask one of the men that attended the last semester to find out what they think.

FORMED.org

We have subscribed to FORMED.org now for two months. The subscription will continue until the end of December. Thus far 50 parishioners have logged on to utilize the possibilities offered. Towards the end of December a decision will be made to see if maintaining the subscription is warranted--if more take advantage of this service in particular. Give it a try...and let us know if it is meaningful or not. The login code is: **WJKPMW**.

www.qpcatholicchurch.com

Make sure and check out the parish website for Queen of Peace and St. John the Baptist. A few of the historical pictures are there (still looking for pictures of the church interiors) as well as CCD/Faith Formation calendar, registration and weekly bulletin. There is also a link to the diocesan cemetery database for both cemeteries and links to Catholic sites of interest.

*"You too must be patient.
Make your hearts firm, because the
coming of the Lord is at hand."*

Want to Grow in Holiness, But Too Busy?

Want to transform your work, your marriage, your family, and your life, but don't have time? Looking for the quickest, surest, and easiest way to holiness, but don't know where to begin? In our hectic day and time, Saint John Paul II and Saint Mother Teresa knew that the quickest way to be transformed into a saint is through a relationship with Our Blessed Mother, Mary.

Join us on January 3, 2017, as we begin a 33-day preparation for Marian Consecration. For six weeks, we'll individually read about and reflect on four great Marian giants: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Mother Teresa, and St. John Paul II. They'll teach us the secrets to drawing closer to the Heart of Jesus through the Heart of Mary. In our weekly meetings, Sundays from 6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M., we'll share our insights within our small group and then watch a 30-minute video. The video by popular author and speaker, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, brings our individual reflections and group experience into a clear and live-able focus.

If you are looking for a simple way to be spiritually renewed, develop a deeper relationship with Our Merciful Savior, and grow in holiness, join us for 33 Days to Morning Glory Small-group Retreat. Pick up a flyer located at the entrances of the church. **Contact Joyce Harper, 361-798-6325, prior to December 23rd.**



The Emmaus Center: *Counseling in the Catholic Tradition*

Sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria

1908 N. Laurent Street, Suite 140
Victoria, Texas 77901

For an appointment, go to
www.emmauscounselingcenter.com
or call 361-212-0830

Extending a Listening Heart to Those in Need

Online Giving

The company that provides our offertory envelopes has the ability to allow "online giving" for those who would want to utilize it. There is a link on the parish website that has more information. It offers the possibility of using this for a one-time gift or for setting up regular giving in place of using envelopes. There is an instructional video that provides extra information posted there as well. The donations/gifts given are deposited directly either in Queen of Peace or St. John the Baptist Church accounts--and can be done by bank transfer, electronic check, or using a credit card--and can be setup for single instance, weekly, monthly, etc.

Cemetery Inquiries

Anyone with questions regarding the Catholic Cemeteries should contact the local representatives for the Cemeteries.

Queen of Peace:

Harvey Matussek & J. O. Hermes

St. John the Baptist:

Gene Velek & Jerry/Joyce Kurtz

They can provide the needed information and help with locating available plots. They will also provide the needed details to complete a purchase/reservation and receive a deed for record purposes.

