

St. Mary Catholic Church

Est. 1855
Mission Parish
815 St. Mary's Church Rd.
Fayetteville (near Ellinger)
www.stmaryellinger.com



Weekly Offering: \$ 1,312.00
Online Giving: \$ 91.38
Christmas: \$ 1,764.00
Feast of the Holy Family: \$ 377.00

MASSES

Wednesday at 7:00 a.m.
J. Long & J. Moore †
Friday at 7:00 a.m.
S.O. Knippel †

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 p.m.
*Living and dec'd
of the Janacek Family*
Sunday at 8:00 a.m.
For the People

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Est. 1870
207 E. Bell St.
Fayetteville
www.stjohnfayetteville.com



Weekly Offering: \$ 4,488.00
Online Giving: \$ 1,212.75
Christmas: \$ 4,558.00
Feast of the Holy Family: \$ 692.00

MASSES

Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
*Dec'd of the Anton Novak, Ruddie
Kaderka, & Frankie Malota Families †*

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Julian Villarreal, Jr. †

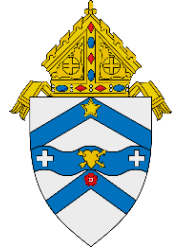
Thursday at 7:00 a.m.
Johnny & Anita Marek †

Saturday at 7:30 a.m.
F.C. & Mabel Knippel †

Saturday Vigil at 6:00 p.m.
*For the intentions of
Dr. Bernard Morrey & Family*
Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
For the People



Pope Francis
Vatican City State



Bishop Joe S. Vásquez
Diocese of Austin



St. Martin Catholic Church

Historic Chapel
3490 S. Hwy 237
Round Top (near Warrenton)

Tuesday, January 5 at 8:00 a.m.
Mass for the intentions left on the Altar

Sacrament of Reconciliation

at St. John: Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00-9:00 a.m.
at St. Mary: Available before every
Mass (in parish hall)

Mailing Address and Contact Information

Rev. Steve Sauser, Pastor
pastor@stjohnfayetteville.com

Deacon Robert Jasek

P.O. Box 57

Fayetteville, Texas 78940

Phone: 979-378-2277 Fax: 979-378-4407

Email: stsjm@stjohnfayetteville.com

Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 8:30-4:30 (closed for lunch)

Administrative Staff

Amy Babin
Lexus Zika
Sue Zapalac

Faith Formation

Lexus Zika lzika@stjohnfayetteville.com

Knights of Columbus

Jim Sula jsula@aol.com

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Suzanne Mattair njm18@flash.net

Marriage preparation: Contact the priest before setting
the date and at least six months before the date desired.

Baptism Preparation Classes will be held on the fourth
Monday of each month. Parents & Godparents must have
attended a Baptism Preparation class within three years of the
Baptism. Contact the parish office to register.

Parish Registration forms available at the entrance of the Church and online.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 3, AD 2021

PARISH LIFE

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Dianne Allen, Scott Bayless, Dan Castillo, Judy Chovanec, Margie Chovanec, Cherie Coufal, Bennie Daricek, John Dennis, Brian Fruge, Waldine Fruge, Gilbert Gerik, Hannah Glenn, Janet Sladek Grayson, Dan Hall, Bernita Hlinsky, Alois Janish, Dcn. Robert Jasek, Christine Kaspar, J.D. Kovar, Betty Jean Kulhanek, Kathy Mabry, Leo Miller, Alvin Minarcik, Loretta Naumann, Rose Novosad, Jeanette Orsak, Garland Polasek, Kaycee Roesler, Bill Shock, Willie Socha, El Gene and Mary Ann Sommerfeld, Shelley Spears, Martha Staley, Margie Stancik, Barbara Tieken, Kathy Vasek, Larry Vitek, and Maggie Williams.

(Though they will remain in our prayers, names will only remain on the prayer list for two months, unless a new request is received.)

FAITH FORMATION – Wednesday, January 6

- **Grades K-1** will meet at 6:00 – 6:50 p.m.
- **Grades 2-6** will meet at 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- **Grades 7-12** will meet at 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

We will notify you via email and the website if any changes to the schedule are necessary.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS at St. John will be removed after the 10:00 a.m. Mass of *the Baptism of the Lord* on Sunday, **January 10**. All high school students and anyone wishing to help should be at the church by 11:00 a.m.

ST. MARY'S ALTAR SOCIETY will, social distantly, meet on Wednesday, **January 6**, at 1:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Bring your mask! There will not be a meal.

ST. JOHN ALTAR SOCIETY meeting is Tuesday, **January 12**, at 1:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

ST JOHN'S COUNCIL MEETINGS: The Pastoral Council meeting will take place on Thursday, **January 14**, at 6:30 p.m. We will be selecting three new members at this time. The Finance Council will meet Tuesday, **January 26**, at 6:45 p.m.

ST MARY'S COUNCIL MEETINGS: The Pastoral Council meeting will be on Thursday, **January 21**, at 6:30 p.m. The Finance Council will meet Thursday, **January 28**, at 6:30 p.m.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- **OFFICERS MEETING** will be held on Monday, **January 4**, at 6:30 p.m., in St. John's Parish Hall.
- **MMM BAR-B-Q!** The Knights of Columbus will be serving BAR-B-Q chicken, sausage, and ribs to-go on Sunday, **January 10**, at 10:30 a.m. at the pits at St. John Hall. Early orders *are encouraged*, and may be placed by calling (979) 249-6003. K.C. members of Kenneth Noska's crew are to work, starting at 5:00 a.m. In accordance with CDC guidelines, please wear your mask and practice social distancing when you come.
- **REGULAR MEETING** is Tuesday, **January 19**, at 7:00 p.m. in St. John's Parish Hall.

MASS INTENTIONS

There are Mass openings for 2021. Please come by the church office if you would like to have a Mass said for the intention of a living or deceased relative or friend.

LITURGICAL DUTIES LISTS are available at the entrance of the church and on the parish websites on the "Mass Times" page.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

- **MONTHLY MEETING** will be on Tuesday, **January 5**, at 6:30 p.m. in St. John's Parish Hall.
- **CDA EDUCATION CONTEST:** This year's topics are "Let all you do be done with love" and "Show love to one another". Students in grades 4-12 and CDA members may enter. Entry forms can be obtained at the entrance of the church. The deadline to return entries is **February 1**. For more information, please contact Suzanne Mattair at 979-249-3901.
- **CDA SCHOLARSHIPS:** Graduating seniors related to a living CDA member in good standing are eligible to apply for the State Scholarship. Local Scholarships are offered to graduating seniors whose mother is a CDA member of Court 1440. Contact Donna Shula at (713) 818-1470 for applications and for more information. Applications are due by **January 31**.

THE "BABY BANKS" ARE HERE! This year, we will not send home banks with you. Beginning this weekend, look for the baby bottle "Baby Bank" in each church. Be sure to bring your loose change and extra dollars every week from now through the end of March to fill the bottles. The Baby Bank campaign supports the Pro-Life efforts in our parish and diocese!



ST. JOHN'S PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS: It is time, once again, to select new members to our Pastoral Council. We appreciated the service from Emil Sodalak, John Spiess and Paul Estrada during this last term. The other current members are Johnathan Noska, Leslie Little, Wanda Frisch, Jeanne Schilling, Karley Gayten, and Priscilla Malota. Please submit your nominations for the council by next Sunday, **January 10**, in order to have your nomination entered into the selection that will take place at the council meeting on Thursday, **January 14**.

YEAR OF THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

Throughout history, God has spoken to man. He spoke through Abraham, Moses and the prophets. God's Word became flesh in Jesus, and he continues to speak to us today through Scripture and the Tradition of the Church. God also speaks to each person through his or her vocation in life.

Each person has a vocational calling. A person's vocation is the way in which he or she grows in holiness through service of God. Some people are called to marriage while others are called to the priesthood or religious life. Some people serve God in their single state of life. Regardless of a person's vocational calling, all of the faithful are called to serve God in charity and faithfulness.

In his apostolic exhortation *Ecclesia in America*, Pope John Paul II said: "The word of God, faithfully read in the family, gradually builds it up as a domestic church and makes it fruitful in human and Christian virtues; it is there that the source of vocations is to be found." **By remaining close to God's word in the Scriptures, families are able help each other discern God's voice in their own lives.**

In this way, families can support and nurture the vocation of its members as they help each other lead holy lives. **What is a way that your family can share the Scriptures with each other? How can you support each family member's vocation?**



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 3, AD 2021



EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING: It is tradition on the Feast of the Epiphany that we bless our homes by marking them with blessed chalk with the current year and the initials of the Three Wise Men - Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. Inserted in this bulletin you will find the blessing prayer and instructions on how to mark your homes.

GATHERING FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST IS A BLESSING, indeed. The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith. Everyone is welcome, but fulfilling our Sunday Obligation may feel a bit difficult as we navigate these times of a pandemic.

Social distancing is practiced, masks are required, and hand sanitizer is used.

Remember, the ushers are here to help! Please ask them if you need a mask, assistance finding a seat, or anything else.

NOTE: We ask that those who have been exposed to or are showing symptoms of COVID-19, those who have an underlying health condition making them vulnerable to COVID-19, or those who live with or care for anyone in the previous categories to please abide by CDC guidelines and *remotely participate* via viewing the **livestreamed Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass** on our Facebook page. You can access it by visiting our parish websites and clicking the Facebook emblem “f” in the upper right corner.

2021 BREAKING BREAD MISSALS—*without covers*—are at the entrance of the church for those who would like to take a missal home for your personal use here and at home. Please remember to take it home with you after Mass. Do not leave it in the pew.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available at the parish office, if you have not picked them up already. Anyone not having an assigned box is asked to pick up a blank set. **EVERYONE using envelopes should place their name on the first few envelopes.**

ROSARY GROUPS pray the Rosary at St. Mary on **Mondays at 6:00 p.m.** and at St. John on **Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.**

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

January 2-3, Feast of the Epiphany

As we continue the Christmas season this feast helps us to understand that Jesus is the Light of the whole world and his salvation is given to all people. The magi from afar trusted that God would lead them to the new King, whom they found in very humble, non-royal circumstances. Do we allow God to help us to recognize Christ in the face of the migrant women and children crossing our borders? In the lives of the poor? In the tiny unborn child? In the prisoner on death row? Where can we look for Jesus this week?

Enero 2-3, Fiesta de la Epifanía

Mientras continuamos con la Temporada Navideña, esta festividad nos ayuda a entender que Jesús es la Luz del mundo entero y su salvación es dada a toda la gente. Los magos de lugares lejanos confiaron en que Dios los guiaría hacia el nuevo Rey, a quien encontraron en muy humildes circunstancias, no en las de un Rey ¿Permitimos que Dios nos ayude a reconocer a Cristo en el rostro de las mujeres emigrantes y de los niños cruzando nuestras fronteras? ¿en la vida de los pobres? ¿en los pequeños niños no-natos? ¿en el prisionero condenado a muerte? ¿Dónde podemos buscar a Jesús esta semana?

OTHER NEWS

HOPE-HEALTHY OPTIONS PROGRAM: St. John’s Hall is a distribution site for Central Texas Food Bank’s HOPE program. HOPE is for persons 55 years and up. On the second Friday of each month, from 2:00-3:00 p.m., clients will receive a 15-20 lb. bag of groceries. The next distribution is Friday, **January 8.**



THE MOBILE FOOD PANTRY will be at St. John on **Thursday, January 14, from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** This distribution will be a Drive –Thru, so all clients are to stay in their vehicles and open the trunk. Volunteers will load the food in your vehicle.

TOTAL CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY Join others from throughout the diocese as they prepare for Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary. The 33 days of preparation prayer for Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary begins **February 20.** Visit www.TexasToJesusThroughMary.org by **January 23** to receive your FREE Montfort preparation prayer book by mail and/or to get more information. Prayers are done privately in homes using this consecration preparation book.

THE SECRETARIAT OF LIFE, CHARITY, AND JUSTICE OF THE DIOCESE OF AUSTIN is continuing to host a webinar series designed to explore the promotion of human life and dignity and the challenges of evangelization in contemporary society, lay leadership, poverty, and injustice. These virtual gatherings bring together parish leaders whose faith inspires them to respond to these challenges. Join the conversation online Thursday, **January 7, from 7 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** on the topic of Racism, Prejudice, and Migration. Sign up at www.austindiocese.org/christ-our-hope.



MASS FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE: Commemorating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., will take place on **January 9, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** at St. Joseph Parish in Killeen. Bishop Joe Vasquez will celebrate the Mass for Peace and Justice to break down the dividing walls of hostility in society. Vincentian Fr. Kevin P. Fausz of San Antonio will preach. Let us come together to pray for life, charity, and peace as we endeavor to become drum majors for justice!

SAVE THE DATE for the Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day Mass for Life! On **January 23,** join the Diocese of Austin for a Rosary of Mercy and Healing at 9:00 a.m., and Mass beginning at 10:00 a.m. Due to the pandemic the number of Masses have increased to accommodate all who will come to pray for an end to abortion. Masses will be livestreamed.

THE PEACE PRAYER RETREAT will be held **January 15-17** at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. The Peace Prayer, attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, has become part of the religious consciousness of believers throughout the world and one of the most recognizable and beloved prayers. Based upon his latest book, “Soul Training with the Peace Prayer of St. Francis,” Franciscan Father Albert Haase will explore the implications of the Peace Prayer and how it can shape the contours of the soul by challenging us to lives of service and selflessness. The cost is \$265 for a private room and \$215 for a shared room, all meals included. To register, go to <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=xj3j7a>.

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
January 3, AD 2021**

ST. JOHN LITURGICAL DUTIES

LECTOR

Wednesday – Grade 7
Saturday – Addie Dybala
Sunday – Nikki Beseda

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Wednesday – Paulette Keilers
Saturday – Betty Kovar, Tiffany Nigh
Sunday – Pat Geistmann, Janell Warschak

ALTAR SERVERS

Wednesday – Grade 7 (2), Grade 8 (2)
Saturday – Paige Jurecka, Peyton Jurecka, Jacob Nigh
Sunday – Wade Halamicek, Mackenzie Poncik, Logan Poncik

ALTAR DUTY FOR JANUARY

Theresa Keilers, Mary Georig, Lexus Zika, Kathleen Kramr

USHERS FOR JANUARY

Saturday – Ronald Malota, Wesley Gaertner, Leonard Malota, Leslie Little
Sunday – Emil Sodolak, Allan Minarcik, Arlis Keilers, Christopher Kaspar

ST. JOHN CONTACTS

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Pastoral Council Chair | John Spiess | 979-836-8702 |
| Finance Council Chair | Steve Pavlicek | spavlicek@cvctx.com |
| St. John Altar Society | Madeline Kovar | 979-378-2361 |
| Pro-Life Coordinator | Nikki Beseda | nbeseda@gmail.com |
| K.J.Z.T. | Rose Rohde | 979-249-3635 |
| K.J.T. | Emil Sodolak | 979-249-3952 |
| Hall Rental | Parish Office | 979-378-2277 |
| Cemetery | Ronald Kramr | 979-249-6152 |

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 3, 2021**

The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (*magi*) from the East, together with his Baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.



In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation.

The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations.

Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament.

The Epiphany shows that “the full number of the nations” now takes its “place in the family of the patriarchs”, and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (is made “worthy of the heritage of Israel”) [CCC 528].

ST. MARY LITURGICAL DUTIES

LECTOR

Saturday – Robert Balzer
Sunday – Jo Ann Divin

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday – Klayten Schmitt
Sunday – Julie Korenek

USHERS FOR JANUARY

Saturday – Mark Schmitt, Mark Matocha, Bruce Kubena, Eduardo Alvarado
Sunday – Luke Orsak, Donnie Becka, James Korenek, Bradley Divin

ST. MARY CONTACTS

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Pastoral Council Chair | Alfred Ermis | aermis@cvctx.com |
| Finance Council Chair | Bruce Kubena | 979-378-2598 |
| St. Mary Altar Society | Donna Shula | 979-378-2749 |
| Pro-Life Coordinator | Aimee Korenek | amskorenek@yahoo.com |
| K.J.Z.T. | Mildred Walla | 979-378-4202 |
| K.J.T. | James Korenek | amskorenek@yahoo.com |
| Hall Rental | Parish Office | 979-378-2277 |
| Cemetery | Vlasta Korenek | 979-732-2836 |

FAMILY CONNECTION

Epiphany of the Lord

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.



The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say. Conclude by singing together “We Three Kings.”

Pope Francis has encouraged the faithful to pray the following prayer to St. Joseph in honor of the “Year of St. Joseph” proclaimed by Pope Francis on December 8, 2020

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.*