

St. Mary Catholic Church

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



Weekly Offering: \$ 1,904.00
Online Giving: \$ 256.38
\$ 2,160.38
CCHD Collection \$ 305.00

Average Weekly Operating Expenses
\$ 2,492

MASSES

Wednesday at 7:00 a.m.
Lillian Tobias †

Friday at 7:00 a.m.
Melissa Hahn †

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 p.m.
Fred, Christina, & Anne Marie Ermis †

Sunday at 8:00 a.m.
Freddie & Mary Mikulenska †

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



Weekly Offering: \$ 4,437.33
Online Giving: \$ 740.28
\$ 5,177.61
CCHD Collection \$ 714.00

Average Weekly Operating Expenses
\$ 5,011

MASSES

Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
No Mass

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Leroy Peschel †

Thursday at 7:00 a.m.
Lillian Wied †

Friday at 6:00 p.m.
Cyril & Jeanette Kulhanek †

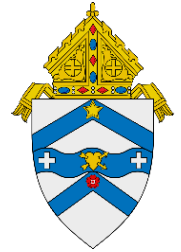
Saturday at 7:30 a.m.
Robert & Bernice Kovar †

Saturday Vigil at 6:00 p.m.
For the People

Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
Sr. Mary Hubert McQuinn †



Pope Francis
Vatican City State



Bishop Joe S. Vásquez
Diocese of Austin



St. Martin Catholic Church

Historic Chapel
3490 State Hwy 237
Round Top (near Warrenton)

MONTHLY MASS
Tuesday, December 7, at 8:30 a.m.
For the intentions left on the altar

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St. John: Wednesday 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Saturday 8:00-9:00 a.m.
First Fridays 4:00-5:30 p.m.

St. Mary: Available before every Mass

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

Lexus Zika
Sheryl Malinowski
Sue Zapalac

Faith Formation

Lexus Zika lzika@stjohnfayetteville.com

Knights of Columbus

Jim Sula kofc3168@gmail.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 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 28, AD 2021

PARISH LIFE

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Dan Castillo, Margie Chovanec, Brian Fruge, Waldine Fruge, Dan Hall, Bernita Hlinsky, Christine Kaspar, Kathy Kneblak, Betty Jean Kulhanek, Helen Mikus, Leo Miller, Richard Mueller, Cynthia Niesner, Kaycee Roesler, Barbara Tieken, Nancy Klawinsky Till, Ben Tucker, Rick Vandell, B.J. Vasek, 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.)*

WELCOME: St. John's parish family would like to congratulate the family of *Holt Kincaid Garwood* who was born into Our Lord's life through Baptism last week. May the Lord be with him and his family with all His blessings.

FIRST FRIDAY occurs this week. There will be First Friday Mass at **St. Mary** at 7:00 a.m. At **St. John**, we will have the Exposition of the Eucharist at 3:00 p.m., closing with Benediction at 5:30 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. Mass will be at 6:00 p.m.

FAITH FORMATION 2021-2022

- **Grades K-1** meets **Wednesday at 6:00-6:50 p.m.**
- **Grades 2-6** meets **Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 p.m.**
- **Grades 7-12** meets **Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m.**



DIOCESAN CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE (DCYC) 2022: All High School students are invited to celebrate their faith at the 2022 DCYC, **February 5-6**, where hundreds of young Catholics from across the diocese will gather for a dynamic weekend.

DCYC is packed with keynote speakers, smaller workshops, praise & worship, and fun free-time activities. DCYC also offers many sacramental opportunities such as Reconciliation, Adoration, daily Mass and Sunday Mass. This year's theme is "Called by Name." Registration forms can be found on the parish website or at the church entrance, and must be returned by **December 10**.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING: CYM youth will be decorating St. John Church on Sunday, **December 19**, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. All high school students are asked to participate as we set up the manglers and decorate the church for Christmas. Parents are welcome to join; your help will be appreciated.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: To donate toward the purchase of flowers for the Altar at Christmas, you may use the Christmas Flower envelope provided at the entrance of the church. Please put the donation in the collection between now and **December 12**.



ST. JOHN'S PARISH ADVENT DINNER will be at the parish hall on Sunday, **November 28**. Social hour begins at 11:00 a.m., followed by a meal of lasagna, salad and bread.

- If you plan to attend, please bring the following: If your last name begins with **A – M**, bring an **appetizer**, and those with last names **N – Z**, bring a **dessert**.
- All parishioners are invited to donate to the *St. John's Cares Fund* that will be used to purchase HEB and other local merchant gift cards for those in need in our community.

SECOND COLLECTIONS NEXT WEEKEND will be for the Cemetery at St. Mary and Faith Formation at St. John.

ST. MARY'S PARISH ADVENT DINNER will be held on Sunday, **December 19**. A catered dinner will be served at 12:00 noon with social time beginning at 11:00 a.m. If you plan to attend, sign up on the sheet at the church entrance or call the office. Please specify if you need to bring a meal to any homebound parishioners. RSVPs should be made by Sunday, **December 12**.



ANGEL TREE: The CDA has their "Angel Tree" up. This annual project supports both children and adults who are in desperate family situations. You have an opportunity to choose an angel off the tree and provide a Christmas gift for someone who may not receive any other gifts.

CDA ADVENT SOCIAL AND POTLUCK DINNER: All ladies of our parishes, young and old, are invited to the Annual CDA Advent Social and potluck dinner on Tuesday, **December 7**, at St. John's Parish Hall starting at 7:00 p.m. Add this enjoyable Advent event to your calendar, and bring a friend to share the fun! If you wish to exchange gifts, bring a gift valued at \$7.00 - \$10.00.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

- **MONTHLY MEETING** will be Tuesday, **December 7**, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's Parish Hall.
- **COOKIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS:** Each CDA member is asked to bring 5 to 6 dozen cookies to be delivered to senior citizens. You may bring them to the parish hall at the Advent Social or the morning of Wednesday, **December 8**. The packing of cookies will begin at 1:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for this activity.
- **CDA EDUCATION CONTEST:** This year's topics are "With God All Things Are Possible" and "Where is God in My Life When I am Struggling?" Students in grades 4-12 and CDA members may enter. Entry forms can be obtained at the entrance of the church. **December 31**, 2021 is the deadline to for entries. For more info, please contact Suzanne Mattair at 979-249-3901.



ADORATION AND CONFESSION TIMES DURING THE ADVENT SEASON: Part of our preparation for the birth of Christ should be to spend more time with Our Lord in Adoration as well as by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The additional opportunities during the Season of Advent are below:

ADORATION and CONFESSIONS

ST. JOHN

- **Friday, December 3:** 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, December 16:** 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY

- **Thursday, December 2:** 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS ONLY

ST. JOHN

- **Thursday, December 9:** 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY

- **Friday, December 10:** 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

THANK YOU to all who have given to the Catholic Services Appeal already! Our goal is 100% participation. If you haven't given yet, you may complete and return your pledge card via mail, by putting it in the collection basket or by making a secure gift online at austindiocese.org/csa. May you be blessed for your generosity!



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 28, AD 2021



#IGIVECATHOLIC takes place this week on **November 30!** Visit www.igivecatholic.org, select Diocese of Austin (Partner), and type in either “St. John” or “St. Mary.” This will allow you to view St. John’s and St. Mary’s profile pages and make a donation towards our projects! You can also give offline via a cash or check donation given directly to the parish.

THANK YOU for your generous support last week to the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

CLERICAL ENDOWMENT FUND CHRISTMAS CARDS are a good way to remember someone at Christmas and support the CEF. Purchase cards at the parish office, at Fayetteville Bank, or after Mass at St. Mary’s every second Sunday. For more info, call Donna Shula (979) 378-2749, or Margaret Kubala (979) 378-2877.

ONLINE EIM TRAINING WILL END ON JANUARY 2

Everyone who is due to renew EIM compliance, or whose compliance is coming due soon, is strongly encouraged to update your compliance now online – otherwise, after January 2, you will have to attend an in-person EIM Workshop in order to update your training status. Go to www.austindiocese.org/workshop to complete the online training today!

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY: The next Drive –Thru distribution at St. John Hall is Thursday, **December 2**, from **10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** Clients are to stay in their vehicles and open the trunk. Volunteers will load the food for you.

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, **December 10**.

SUPPORT THE PARISH WHEN YOU SHOP FOR THE HOLIDAYS AT AMAZON! Visit smile.amazon.com, sign in to your Amazon account, and select St. John Catholic Church, Fayetteville TX, as your organization of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to St. John at no cost to you. For help or more info, visit org.amazon.com.

YEAR OF THE DOMESTIC CHURCH
November Theme: Season of Stewardship
Stewardship Prayer:



Almighty and ever-faithful Lord, gratefully acknowledging Your mercy and humbly admitting our need, we pledge our trust in You and each other.

Filled with desire, we respond to Your call for discipleship by shaping our lives in imitation of Christ. We profess that the call requires us to be stewards of Your gifts. As stewards, we receive Your gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible manner, share them in practice and love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

We pledge to our ongoing formation as stewards and our responsibility to call others to that same endeavor. Almighty and ever-faithful God, it is our fervent hope and prayer that You who have begun this good work in us will bring it to fulfillment in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SENIOR CITIZEN SOCIAL WILL BEGIN AGAIN in January on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at St. John’s Parish Hall. All senior citizens are invited for an afternoon of games, fellowship and refreshments. New faces are always welcome!

COME PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US! Prayer is powerful! Bring your intentions and come pray the Rosary at St. Mary on **Mondays at 6:00 p.m.** and/or at St. John on **Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.**

OTHER NEWS

BROTHERS, MIGHT GOD BE CALLING YOU TO THE PRIESTHOOD? *Heart of Jesus* is a discernment retreat for men. Take this opportunity to consider this question, listen to various talks by priests and seminarians, and socialize with brothers who are discerning the same questions as yourself. We’ll also celebrate Mass and spend time in prayer and adoration. *Heart of Jesus* will take place at Cedarbrake Retreat Center in Belton from Wednesday, **December 15** at 6 p.m. to Friday, **December 17** at 1:00 p.m. The cost to attend is \$35. Meals and lodging are included. Men 18 to 40 years old are invited. RSVP at www.godiscalling.me.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at Second Chance Emporium the week of **December 7-11** (Tues-Sat) and **December 13** (Mon). For work times or questions, please contact either Anna Boyd at 281-687-4217 or Carol Svrcek at 979-966-2920.

MARRIED COUPLES: Want to give each other something really special this Christmas? What could be a better gift for your spouse than the gift of yourself? The next Marriage Encounter weekend will be held **January 7-9** at the Wingate Hotel in Round Rock. See www.wvme.org for more information and to apply. At the bottom of the Home Page you can even download a special gift card to tuck into your spouse’s Christmas stocking. For the upcoming January Weekend only, use this code when applying: GIFT20 for \$20 off the application fee. You can also sign up by emailing wvmeaustin@gmail.com or by calling 512-677-WWME (9963). Apply early to ensure a space!

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

Nov. 27-28 First Sunday of Advent

“Listening to the cry of those who suffer violence and are oppressed by unjust systems and structures, and hearing the appeal of a world that by its perversity contradicts the plan of its Creator - we have shared our awareness of the church’s vocation to be present in the heart of the world by proclaiming the Good News to the poor, freedom to the oppressed, and joy to the afflicted” (1971 World Synod of Bishops, Justice in the World, 5).

Noviembre 27-28 Primer domingo de Adviento

“Escuchando los gritos de aquellos que sufren a causa de la violencia y son oprimidos por sistemas y estructuras injustos, y escuchando el llamado de un mundo que por su perversidad contradice el plan de su Creador, hemos compartido nuestra conciencia de la vocación de la Iglesia de estar presente en el corazón del mundo al proclamar la Buena Nueva a los pobres, libertad a los oprimidos, y gozo a los afligidos” (Sínodo Mundial de Obispos de 1971, Justicia en el Mundo, 5)

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 28, AD 2021**

ST. JOHN LITURGICAL DUTIES

LECTOR

Wednesday – Grade 10
Saturday – Mary Keilers
Sunday – Cindy Garwood

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Wednesday – Addie Dybala, Annette Little
Saturday – Ronnie Kramr, Kathleen Kramr
Sunday – Rick Schilling, Jeanne Schilling

ALTAR SERVERS

Wednesday – Grade 9 (3), Grade 3 (1)
Saturday – Lydia Huebner, Gregory Huebner, Luke Huebner
Sunday – Wade Halamicek, Mackenzie Poncik, Logan Poncik

GIFT BEARERS

Wednesday – Grade 3
Saturday – Vincent Orsak Family
Sunday – Alvin Minarcik Family

ALTAR DUTY FOR DECEMBER

Carrol Hollimon, Lisa Hollimon, Sara Vandel, Heather Jurecka

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

Saturday – Ronnie Chernosky, Robert Janish, Betty Kovar, Erwin Kovar
Sunday – Kenneth Noska, John Spiess, David Bertsch, Lee Matocha

ST. JOHN CONTACTS

Pastoral Council Chair	Leslie Little	mic-all@att.net
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.	Mary Jane Toddy	979-249-6231
Hall Rental	Parish Office	979-378-2277
Cemetery	Ronald Kramr	979-249-6152

First Sunday of Advent



Advent – A Time of Preparation

“Our family uses Advent as a time of preparation of ourselves and our surroundings. We focus on the waiting. We talk about it with the kids. They know that we are celebrating differently than other families during Advent, but they also know that once Christmas comes, they get twelve days of it instead of just one.

We hold off on Christmas stuff until Christmastime, as much as possible. We wait until Christmas Eve to pull out the box with all the stockings, ornaments and Christmas movies. We wait on the Christmas stuff because it creates in all of us a feeling of excitement and expectation and longing. Not just for presents, but for the great event. Celebrating this way has helped us remember that. And keep from getting burnt out.

On Christmas Day we go to Mass and open presents and have our feast and birthday cake and Family Nativity Play. And each day between Christmas and Epiphany, we have a different Christmas treat and watch a Christmas movie. We take that whole time off of school to eat treats and watch movies and play with new toys. We listen to Christmas Carols, and we’re not tired of them.”

–“Catholic All Year” Compendium

ST. MARY LITURGICAL DUTIES

LECTOR

Saturday – Robert Balzer
Sunday – Aimee Korenek

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday – Rylee Fritsch
Sunday – Stephen Korenek

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

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

ST. MARY CONTACTS

Pastoral Council Chair	Joe Lamer	jaksemasok@yahoo.com
Finance Council Chair	Ed Alvarado	979-378-2348
St. Mary Altar Society	Donna Shula	979-378-2749
Pro-Life Coordinator	Aimee Korenek	amskorenek@yahoo.com
K.J.Z.T.	Mary Vrazel	979-966-8962
K.J.T.	James Korenek	amskorenek@yahoo.com
Hall Rental	Parish Office	979-378-2277
Cemetery	Vlasta Korenek	979-732-2836

A Note from the Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

There is something about Christmas that makes us want to start the celebration early, and each year we begin celebrating earlier and earlier. Our Christmas traditions find their roots in Victorian England. Then, however, the celebration of Christmas would not begin until Christmas Eve. Only on Christmas Eve would decorations be put out. Only on Christmas Day would presents be opened. Unfortunately, rather than bringing us peace and comfort, Christmas and its trappings have become a cause of stress. Some households will still be digging out of Christmas debt in July.

Why? This is Advent. It is not Christmas. This is the season for quiet patience and simplicity. We are to prepare for the Savior. Advent is not so much about what has already happened, Jesus being born; it is about pondering what is yet to come. Christmas will make no sense unless we ponder how much we still need God. What was once a religious feast is now a civil holiday. We seem to have replaced Jesus with Santa Claus in order to accommodate and not offend.

We cannot afford to overlook Advent. This short season is more important to us than ever. It is in Advent that we are reminded, as Paul suggests, that we must “learn to make greater progress still”. Christmas can wait. Right now we must rediscover how badly we still need God. If Christ is to come again as is told in the Gospel, do we know what we want of Him? Or, have our “hearts become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life?” Advent, is our time to “be on the watch.” During Advent, as we remember that Christ is to come again, we cannot afford to be caught untangling Christmas lights. May you have a very blessed Advent season.

-Fr. Steve

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"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope." ~ Pope Benedict XVI