

St. Mary Catholic Church

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



Weekly Offering: \$ 1,425.00
Online Giving: \$ 151.38

MASSES

Wednesday at 7:00 a.m.
Claudia Bronikowski †
Friday at 7:00 a.m.
Larry Polasek †

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD**
Vigil – Friday at 6:00 p.m.
For the People

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday Vigil at 4:00 p.m.
Elo & Lillian Balzer †
Sunday at 8:00 a.m.
Living & Dec'd of the Janacek Family

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



Weekly Offering: \$ 4,390.00
Online Giving: \$ 1,020.55

MASSES

Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
Mary Margaret Martin †

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Mass for Life

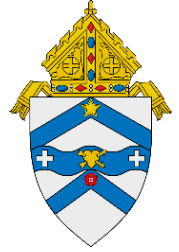
Thursday at 7:00 a.m.
*Emmett Coufal, Craig Coufal,
Frank & Albina Malota †*

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD**
Saturday at 7:30 a.m.
Anton & Rosie Petter Family †

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday Vigil at 6:00 p.m.
For the People
Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
All First Responders



**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, January 4, at 8:00 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: 30-15 minutes before every
Mass (excluding Holy Days)

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 HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
DECEMBER 26, 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 Vandel, 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.)*

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES: Congratulations to the couples of St. John and St. Mary Parishes who are receiving certificates in the year 2021 for fulfilling their commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage. May the Lord's blessings of love, peace, and unity continue to dwell in their homes and hearts.

St. John Raphael & Verline Fellman – 65 years
 Vernon & Barbara Hohensee – 64 years
El Gene & Mary Ann Sommerfeld – 63 years
 Frank & Madeline Vitek – 62 years
 Bill & Rose Graeter – 61 years
 Evan & Mary Quiros – 55 years
 Jerry & Margaret Kubala – 55 years
 Jimmie & Gladys Schmitt – 55 years
Daniel & Bernice Kolenovsky – 50 years
 Glen & Pat Geistmann – 45 years
 Joe & Glenda Munsch – 45 years
 Leonard & Lois Kaspar – 45 years
 James & Kathy Kneblak – 45 years
 Joe & Addie Dybala – 45 years
 Jim & Suzanne Mattair – 45 years
 Dan & Janet Hall – 40 years
Ronald & Kathleen Kramr – 40 years
 Ted & Wanda Fritsch – 35 years
Bradley & Priscilla Malota – 10 years
Jonathan & Kaysie Noska – 10 years

St. Mary Robert & Lorene Balzer – 64 years
Lawrence & Vlasta Korenek – 63 years
 Daniel & Sharon Kuehn – 55 years
 Alfred & Rosemary Ermis – 50 years
Robert & Cecilia Smidovec – 45 years
 Kenny & Sue Zapalac – 40 years
 Bruce & Denise Kubena – 35 years
Bradley & Jo Ann Divin – 30 years
 Patrick & Crystal Gully – 25 years
 Alan & Jennifer Chester – 10 years



FAITH FORMATION: Classes have been dismissed for the Christmas holidays and will resume on Wednesday, **January 5**.

CONFIRMATION will be celebrated on Sunday, **January 30**, during the 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. John. Please pray for our Confirmands, that they will be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CATECHETICAL RETREAT
The Annual Catechist Retreat will be on Saturday, **January 8**, at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in College Station from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The theme of the retreat is "Say the Word and my soul shall be Healed." All Catechists, Aides, substitute instructors, and anyone interested in serving in the Faith Formation of children or adults are asked to attend.

THANK YOU to all who decorated St. John and St. Mary churches, and anyone who helped in any way to make our Christmas liturgies so beautiful. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to your parish and to our Lord.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS at St. John will be removed after the 10:00 a.m. Mass of *the Baptism of the Lord* on Sunday, **January 9**. All high school students and anyone wishing to help should be at the church by 11:00 a.m.

ST JOHN'S COUNCIL MEETINGS: The Pastoral Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, **January 6**, at 6:30 p.m. We will be selecting three new members at this time. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

The Finance Council will meet Tuesday, **January 18**, at 6:45 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS: It is time, once again, to select new members to our Pastoral Council. The three-year terms for members Jeanne Schilling, Karley Gaytan, and Priscilla Malota will be expiring after the first calendar quarter of 2022. The other current members are Leslie Little, Jonathan Noska, Wanda Fritsch, John Kovar, Richard Calloway, and Betty Kovar.

Please submit your nominations for the council by Sunday, **January 2**, in order to have your nomination entered into the selection that will take place at the council meeting on Thursday, **January 6**.

ST MARY'S COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Pastoral Council meeting will be on Thursday, **January 20**, at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All parishioners are welcome to attend. St. Mary's Finance Council will meet on **January 27** at 6:30 p.m.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Officer's Meeting will be on Monday, **January 3**, at 6:30 p.m.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

- **RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED:** The CDA will have their fundraiser meal and raffle on March 6. If you wish to donate a raffle prize, please contact Jeanne Schilling at (979) 966-7358 or Mary Jane Toddy at (979) 249-6231 by **December 31** so that tickets can be printed in time. Prizes should not be turned in until the day of fundraiser.
- **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**.
- **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. **December 31** is the deadline for entries. For more info, please call Suzanne Mattair at (979) 249-3901.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY for members of *both* Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters of America will be on Tuesday, **December 28**, at St. John's Parish Hall. The social begins at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Ladies are welcome to bring desserts. Each person is asked to bring a dry good item for the AMEN Food Pantry, such as cereal, rice, pasta, etc.

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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH DECEMBER 26, AD 2021



SYNOD LISTENING SESSION: The entire Catholic Church is called to participate in the upcoming Synod of Bishops! In preparation for the international Synod of Bishops in 2023, Pope Francis wants your input on the topic of

“For a Synodal Church, Communion, Participation, and Mission.” You are invited to join Fr. Steve for a combined parish listening session on Thursday, **January 13**, at 6:00 p.m. at St. John’s Hall. Invite family and friends — Bishop Vásquez wants everyone to participate in this listening session. If you can’t make the parish listening session, please take the time to share your opinion online at www.austindioocese.org/synod.

SECOND COLLECTION - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

A collection will be taken up this weekend to support family and pro-life activities in the Diocese of Austin. These include Annunciation Maternity Home in Georgetown, Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter in Temple and the diocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities. Please be generous in your support of this pertinent and most worthy cause.

ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY PARISHES WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

by gifting you the book, *The Wisdom of Fulton J. Sheen: 365 Days of Inspiration*. Please take a book found in the baskets located at the church entrance.

Fulton Sheen was one of the greatest communicators to ever live. He is famous for reminding millions of television viewers each week that, "Life is worth living!" and was seen by many as the face of Catholicism in the United States for forty years.

The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen is a powerful collection of writings that will encourage you to think differently about who you are, how your life is unfolding, what God is calling you to next, and what priorities will lead you to the peace and purpose you desire.



WORRIED? Make time to bring your cares to our Blessed Mother and her Son! Come pray **the Rosary** at St. Mary every **Monday** at **6:00 p.m.** and at St. John every **Tuesday** at **5:30 p.m.**

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

Dec. 26 Feast of the Holy Family

Each of us was made by God, created in God's image and called to an authentic and holy life in Christ through the grace of the Holy Spirit. In keeping true to our commitment to raising children in the faith, we must continue to transmit the full truth concerning the human person at every stage from conception to natural death. May we focus not only on the gifts of family life, but also the family as the basis of a peaceful and just society.

Diciembre 26 Celebración de la Sagrada Familia

Cada uno de nosotros fue hecho por Dios, creado a imagen y semejanza de Dios y llamado a una vida auténtica y santa en Cristo a través de la gracia del Espíritu Santo. Al mantenernos fieles a nuestro compromiso de criar a nuestros hijos en la fe, debemos continuar transmitiendo la verdad completa sobre la persona humana en cada etapa, desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural. Enfoquémonos no solamente en los dones de la vida familiar sino también en la familia como la base de una sociedad pacífica y justa.

YEAR OF THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

December Theme: Hail Mary, Full of Grace

It is fitting to end this Year of the Domestic Church on the Feast of the Holy Family. The Feast of the Holy Family celebrates the human family unit, as well as the ultimate family unit: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. This Feast is not just about the Holy Family, but about our own families too.

The main purpose of this day is to present the Holy Family as the model for all Christian families, and for domestic life in general. Our family life becomes sanctified when we live the life of the Church within our homes. As we’ve learned this year, we call this the "domestic church" or the "church in miniature." St. John Chrysostom urged all Christians to make each home a "family church," and in doing so, this sanctifies the family unit.

Just how does one live out the Church in the family? The best way is by making Christ the center of family and individual life. Ways to do this include reading scripture regularly, praying daily, attending Mass at least on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, imitating the actions of the Holy Family, and going to confession frequently, all done together as a family unit.

SENIOR CITIZEN SOCIALS BEGIN AGAIN IN JANUARY!

We meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at St. John’s Parish Hall. Our first social will be Thursday, **January 6!** Come for an afternoon of games, fellowship and refreshments. New faces are always welcome!

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY: The next Drive –Thru distribution is **January 6**, 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.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT: Online EIM Training ends 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. To complete the online training, go to www.austindioocese.org/workshop.

OTHER NEWS

SAVE THE DATE for the Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day in Austin! On **January 22, 2022**, join the Diocese of Austin for these Pro-Life Activities: Sidewalk Prayer Vigil, Rosary for Life, Diocesan Pro-Life Mass, March for Life, and Texas Rally for Life.

YEAR END CHARITABLE GIFT GIVING: You may soon begin thinking of the charitable gifts you want to make before year’s end. Consider these questions as you plan: What assets would you like to dispose of? Can any be used to fund a charitable trust, such as a charitable remainder trust? What organizations are on your gift-giving list? Did you remember the Austin Diocese, your parish, or Catholic school, or the Catholic Foundation – Diocese of Austin? Contact Dan Wierzbowski, associate director of Planned Giving, to make the most of your year-end giving and support the Catholic Church for future generations. You can reach him at (512) 949-2496 or dan-wierzbowski@austindioocese.org.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SERVE? Men between 30 and 59 sensing God’s call to the permanent diaconate are invited to attend, with their wives, the next Inquiry Session on Sunday, **January 9**, at St. Elizabeth of Hungary in Pflugerville.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
DECEMBER 26, AD 2021

ST. JOHN LITURGICAL DUTIES

LECTOR

Saturday – Annette Little

Sunday – John Spiess

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday – Betty Kovar, Karley Gaytan

Sunday – Lori Spiess, John Spiess

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday – Peyton Jurecka, Paige Jurecka, Kara Jurecka

Sunday – Scotti Beseda, Luke Beseda, Mackayla Griffin

GIFT BEARERS

Saturday – Jonathan Noska Family

Sunday – Joe Babin Family

ALTAR DUTY FOR JANUARY

Theresa Keilers, Mary Goerig, Lexxus Zika, Kathleen Kramr

USHERS FOR JANUARY

Saturday – Ronald Malota, Wesley Gaertner, Leonard Malota, Leslie Little

Sunday – Vernon Hohensee, Arlis Keilers, Jim Mattair, Willie Socha

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

ST. MARY LITURGICAL DUTIES

LECTOR

Friday (6:00 p.m.) – Ashley Havel

Saturday – Donna Shula

Sunday – Jo Ann Divin

ALTAR SERVERS

Friday (6:00 p.m.) – Luke Korenek

Saturday – Kole Schmitt

Sunday – Stephen 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	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.Z.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,

God could have come among us in any way he chose, but his great love for us led him to be born within a family in humble circumstances. This can give great hope to us in our trying times. Our celebration of Christmas reminds us that even though this world can still be oppressed by the darkness of war, poverty and injustice, the peace of God's Kingdom is really here. The light of the Messiah shines through our words and acts of compassion, love, and faithfulness. We could not know God as God until God revealed Himself to us by sending His Son. Jesus Christ came to all who would believe in him. He is the exact representation of his Father's being, hidden from us through the ages. Today we celebrate the comfort and salvation coming from God to us and people everywhere.

In Luke's account of the birth of Jesus, the good news is first proclaimed to lowly shepherds, visited by an angel of the Lord. It is the nature of this child, Jesus Christ, who was born in history, to reverse the orders of power. The one who is the mighty warrior and conqueror of the nations is a child, one who rules with peace and integrity. It is the child as the weak and voiceless one, the one who has neither power nor legal rights, who will shake the empire. It is through the gift of this child who is given to us in the middle of the night that we have hope, and we continue to pass this hope from generation to generation. May God always find us waiting and longing for his return, and may you have a very blessed Christmas season and a peace-filled new year.

-Fr. Steve

Upcoming Masses

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

(Not a Holy Day of obligation this year)

DECEMBER 31 – NEW YEAR'S EVE

Vigil Mass - 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary

JANUARY 1 – NEW YEAR'S DAY

7:30 a.m. - St. John

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 1

4:00 p.m. - St. Mary

6:00 p.m. - St. John

JANUARY 2

8:00 a.m. - St. Mary

10:00 a.m. - St. John

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Remember us, O God!

From age to age be our comforter.

You have given us the wonder of time –
blessings in days and nights, seasons and years.

Bless your children at the turning of the year,
and fill the months ahead with the bright hope
that is ours in the coming of Christ.

You are our God, living and reigning, forever and ever.

Amen.

2022
HAPPY NEW YEAR