

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

As the celebration of Christmas draws near, it is no surprise that the Gospel focuses on the Mother of Jesus, Mary. Young Mary had a dream of having a wonderful family with her husband, Joseph. Perhaps her dream included a wonderful garden to work in while Joseph was doing his carpentry work. Perhaps they even had a dream of the size family they desired or planned to build their dream house. Then all of a sudden, the angel Gabriel was sent to deliver a message proclaiming Mary was to bear a child, the promised one to redeem Israel and all the world. I bet Mary was overwhelmed by this holy yet daunting task. How did she respond? We all know the answer. "May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38). Mary may not have grasped the utter meaning of what she was committed, but because of her "yes," God became one just like you and me. I would like to share a story to illustrate this well.

The setting: a southern town in America. A father lived with his young son and daughter. His wife had died. He was strict with the children but good to them, and they loved him. He was an upright man and an excellent lawyer. However, he made himself very unpopular in the town by opting to defend a black man who was accused of murder- the town was rife with discrimination against black people.

At the end of the street lived an elderly woman, who spent her afternoons sitting in her front garden. She gave out (I'm not sure what you mean by "gave out"...did she yell things at the children?) to the lawyer's two children as they passed on their way to and from school. The kids were very hurt by the names she called their father. One evening the son decided he had enough. He jumped over her garden wall and destroyed some of her flowers. Then he ran home. Later his father said, "Son, you shouldn't have done that." "But I did it for you," the son protested. "She's a very sick woman. Now go down and apologize to her," the father replied. Reluctantly the son did so. The woman asked him if he would read to her for an hour each evening. He was horrified at the thought, but when his father insisted that he must say 'Yes' to the old lady he agreed to do so. So each evening the boy, accompanied by his little sister, went and read to the old lady. After about an hour she would get a violent fit of trembling. The children would leave and a nurse took over. However, as the weeks went by, the fits became less frequent.



Then one evening their father told them that the old lady had just died. They thought 'thank God' but did not say it. Then their father told them that several years previously a doctor had prescribed pain medication for her, and she had become addicted to them. However, when she was told she hadn't long to live, she decided that she would try to kick the habit before she died. The fits they witnessed were withdrawal symptoms. "And did she succeed?" the kids asked earnestly. "She did," the father answered. "Just before she died she told me that she would never have succeeded if you hadn't read to her. She wanted me to thank you."

The kids were very moved after hearing this, and said, "If only we had known what she was going through, we would have been nicer to her." "It doesn't matter," the father said. "The main thing is you did what I asked you to do. You are good children. I'm proud of you." The two children didn't realize the full significance of the task their father asked them to do. Nevertheless, they did it in a spirit of love and obedience. Often in life we can't see the full meaning of what we do. Sometimes this meaning is completely hidden from us, as it was from the two children.

Whatever you encounter right now -- whether you have encountered the amazing love of God during Advent, whether you are just excited to celebrate the holiday with your family or friends, or whether you are going through a painful moment in your life with doubt, illness, suffering, or the loss of direction in life – I hope that you will accept the call to follow the Lord. That 'yes' will bring Baby Jesus to your inner Jerusalem on Christmas day. Don't forget this simple yet profound fact: God loves you more than you can imagine.

Fr. John Kim

Weekly Mass Intentions

- 20th 5PM Pro Populo
- 21st 8AM Barry & Roberta Smith
- 10:30AM †John & Frances Antunes
- 5PM †Luz Flores Morales
- 22nd 8AM The lonely
- 23rd 6:30PM John & Gracie Conner
- 24th 8AM Those who serve others
- 5PM Pro Populo
- 12 MIDNIGHT Pro Populo
- 25th 10:30AM Those who are far from home
- 26th 8AM †Sam Hawkins

The Parish Office Will Be Closed For The Holidays December 23rd-31st January 1st-4th We will open Monday, January 5th at 11AM

Let's Decorate the Sanctuary!



Monday, December 22nd 9AM.

WE NEED YOU!

If you have any questions, contact Taddy Maddox.



Please pray for those in our parish who are ill:

Lorrie Anderson
Blane Bartek
Fr. Angelo Bertini
Amy Bottoms
Aaron Camp
Dale Duncan
Mark Edwards
Joan English
Quintan Fabiano
Angel Flores Family
Fr. Edward Frazer
Rolfe Geisselbrecht
Sam "The Mailman"
Green
Angel Guajardo
Mary Guajardo
Frank Guerra
William Harlow
Don Hahn
Froylan Hernandez
Jose Hernandez
Katelin Huckabee
Elena Juarez
Samuel Kaiser
Gene Koch
Irene Kulinski
Marianne Luby
Jeanne Luttrall

Luke Daniel McCauley
Alex Medoza
Jeff Merriman
Ken Murray
Jesus Olivarez, Jr
Elena Ornales
Anna Paruzinski
John Paruzinski
Patti Quinn
Richard Quinn
Myra Ramos
Cody Rhoades
Louis Rodriguez
Brandon Rojas
Jose Rojas
Myra Rourke
Leon Savard
Jim Starr
Patricia Starr
Stephanie Van Sickler
Henry Taylor
Robert Trevino
Manuel Vasquez
Mildred Vasquez
Raymond Vriseno
Nettie Wall
Frank Weis
Jesus Zapata

**Stewardship Report
December 14**

Received	\$15,468
Goal	\$14,000
Difference	\$ 1,468

**Loan Balance as of November 30, 2014
\$430,609.00**

Additional Debt Reduction for November \$7,500

In every way we must keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, "It is more blessed to give than it is to receive." **Acts of the Apostles 20:35** thank you for your generosity!

**Praying For Our Military
Serving Overseas**



Phillip Aiello
Maj. David L. Gomez
Maj. Deana S. Gomez
Matt Jakircevic
Maj. Reggie Jamo
Capt. Jason Piper
Sgt. Daniel J. Scott
Wilbert Witt



Thank you everyone who have contributed their time and resources to making the program successful these past couple of months! I feel very blessed to work at such an incredible parish with people who love the youth. I hope your Christmas is filled with the blessings that come from an encounter with Christ.

Some things to look forward to:

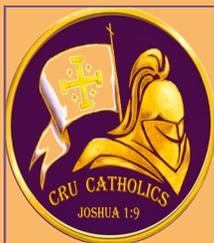
1. DCYC is coming up: January 16th-18th! I recently sent out an email to all students and parents who intend on sending youth to the conference. If you did not receive this email, please contact me so that I can send you all the necessary information to prepare for the weekend. If you are not sending a teen, please pray for the group! Prayers are so effective and very appreciated.
2. We will not be having SNL until January 11th due to holiday travels. Have a great break and we'll see you then!
3. The leadership retreat scheduled for the 10th of January will be postponed so that it does not conflict with Krystal Gate's wedding in San Antonio! Please pray that she may be blessed during this exciting time and for the safe travels of all of her loved ones.

Merry Christmas! Abigail Riley

**Ministerios Hispanos
en Cristo Rey**

Misa de noche buena con coro de niños

El coro de niños cantará en la misa de español el 24 de diciembre, 7PM.



**Remember to keep
our UMHB Students
in your prayers dur-
ing the Holidays.**



**Christ the King Catholic Church
Belton, Texas
Upcoming Liturgy Schedule**

**December 24
Christmas Eve**

No 8am
5pm English
7pm Spanish
Midnight English

**December 25
Christmas Day**
10:30am English

December 26
Friday
No Mass

December 27 - 28
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Regular Weekend Schedule
Saturday
5pm Vigil

Sunday
8am Spanish
10:30am English
5pm English

December 29-30
Regular Daily Mass Schedule

December 31
8AM Regular Mass

December 31
Mary, the Holy Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)
5pm Vigil Bilingual Mass
No Adoration in the evening

**TEMPLE DEANERY
ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

Sunday, December 21
7:00 PM – Church of the Visitation
Westphalia

Sunday, December 21
8:15 PM – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Ft. Hood

Monday, December 22
7:00 PM St. Paul Chong Hasang
Harker Heights

The Guide Book & Directory is now being updated. Please make sure we have your updated phone numbers and addresses. You will not be listed in the directory if you are not a registered member.

Also, if you or your business would like to advertise in this book (to help defray the cost of publishing the book), please call the parish office and leave a message for Joyce Cunningham-Bibb.

**Give a
Clerical Endowment
Card!**

“Buying” a Clerical Endowment Card enrolls your loved one living or deceased, in prayers & mass offerings monthly for 1 year.

A perfect gift of prayer for family & friends for Christmas or as a way to begin the New Year with prayer considerations.

And it only cost \$2!!!!

Purchase them in the parish office or by calling Margaret Donohoe at 254-780-2973

Make sure you view our new WEBSITE!

www.ctkbelton.org

Try “Online Giving”

Events Outside CTK

Magnificat Center Books & Gifts, 1103 S 9th St, Temple Come shop for Christmas.

Now - January 30: Catholic Life Insurance Sweepstakes benefiting St. Mary’s School. Raffle tickets on sale at the School office and from any St Mary’s Student.

April 13-24: Pilgrimage to France, Spain & Portugal with Rev. Justin Nguyen and Deacon Jerry Klement. Call 254-773-1561



Trinity Publications publishes our bulletins at no cost thanks to the support of those who buy advertisements for it. Al Mendoza from Trinity Publications will be contacting you soon to renew your ad. If you or your business would like to place an ad or a memorial in the bulletin, contact the Parish office and we will have Mr. Mendoza contact you.



1st Friday 24 Hour Adoration will begin at 8am January 3rd and will continue until 8am Closing Benediction on January 4th. What a way to begin the year in prayer! The sign up sheet is posted in the Narthex.