

Dear Parishioners,

We wish to extend to you and your family a very Happy and Holy Holiday Season.

May the wonder of the first Christmas and the joy of God's abiding love be with you and your loved ones.

Fr. Ben, Fr. Juan, Dcn Denis,
and the St. Ambrose Parish Staff



Monday, December 26
8:00AM Louis Santos
Tuesday, December 27
8:00AM Mary Cecelia Dostal
Wednesday, December 28
8:00AM For The Souls In Purgatory
7:00PM(Spanish) Rosie Garces
Thursday, December 29
8:00AM Tony and Alice Korenek
Friday, December 30
8:00AM Marie Hutchings
Saturday, December 31
8:00AM Dinh Do

New Years Eve - December 31

5:00PM Aldo and Piera Fontana

New Years Day – January 1

8:00AM(English) Agnes Bashinski
10:00AM(English) Pauline Morin

12:00Noon(Spanish) Raul Munoz, Jr. and Juan Raul Munoz
5:00PM(Spanish) For The Souls In Purgatory

NEW YEARS SCHEDULE

2016-2017

NEW YEARS EVE, DECEMBER 31

5:00PM English Mass

NEW YEARS DAY, JANUARY 1

**8:00AM(English) and 10:00AM(English)
12:00Noon (Spanish) and 5:00PM(Spanish)**

BEREAVEMENT will not meet on December 22 or December 29.
Next meeting will be on January 5, 2017.

CCE NEWS - CCE classes for all students will resume on Sunday, January 8, 2017 and on Wednesday, January 11, 2017.
Please mark your calendar.



The Limas Family wishes to thank Fr. Ben, Sister Charline and all the congregation for all that you did, all the Masses that Joe is now enrolled in and the support while Joe was ill. All of our relatives were impressed with St. Ambrose and how everything was done.

Also, thank you to those that provided food for the funeral dinner.

The Limas Family

A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus teaches us to live optimistically. If it weren't for the peak experiences of love, the smallest and sometimes big miracles in our lives, we could despair. Thank God our doubts of faith ultimately strengthen our love. Pray for your vocation.



Thank you to those who helped to defray the cost of decorating the church for Christmas in memory of a loved one. If you would like to make a donation, use the Flower envelopes and submit it to the Parish Office. Thank you.

Ann Marie Cargill

In Memory of Larry Cargill,

Joseph & Patrizia Stankovich

In Memory of Pete, Frances, and Marian Stankovich; Aldo and Piera Fontana; and Emilio Miani,

Martha J. Robinson

In Memory of Billy J. Robinson,

Shirley Franklin

In Memory of Barber Morton; the Vaculik Family; Angie Boethel; Harvey Boethel; and James L Davis, Jr.,

Marion Kuharski

In Memory of Alice Kuharski,

Betty Bilski

In Memory of Billie Bilski, Jr.

Roney Reynosa

In Memory of Ronald Lauer

Joan Hinyard

In Memory of All Relatives

Donation by Wendy Aimee Martinez

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



Please remember the following who have asked for our prayers: Maria Isabel Araujo, Tammy Babineck, Catherine Bargas, Laverne Bonora, Jesus Calvillo Jr., John Culver, Gina Kohlschmidt, Bill Kominczak, Henry Kopycinski, Ellen Marinucci, Robert McCullough, Jr., Jack Moore, Pearley Nelson, Peter and Nina Peropoulous, Ora Nell Petrash, Cathy Tullo, Araceli Rocha, Sammy Romano, Sophia Romano, Christopher Sarchet, Daniel Vernon, Marjie Waltmon, David Zaborowski, and Raul Zamarripa. .



Let us pray for all those who have given their life for our freedom and for those who are serving in our military at home and abroad and especially the following: Victor J. Broussard, Peter Zachary Carroll, Samuel Castillo, Brandon Cook, Matthew Cook, Master Sgt., Dean Crawford, Robert Freedman, Olivia Garza, Matthew Grissom, Timothy Groh, Lee Anthony Guerrero, Andrew S. Gutierrez, Christopher Hernandez, Lucas Hernandez Matthew Hernandez, Mia Hernandez, Sean Dietrich Hrcir, Samuel Dylan Hrcir, Captain Mary Hrynyk, Captain Jason Hrynyk, Anthony Handy, Ivan Ibabao, Elizabeth Grassmann Ibabao, Robert Marquez, Jr., Captain Andrew Locke, Daniel Martinez, John Martinez, Major Kelly McGovern, Gamaliel Nava, Tony Noser, Dominic Patronella, Jeremy Redman, Captain Jonathan Reed, Casey Rogers, Daniel Salinas, The Smith Family, Oscar Sicola, Mertie St. Pierre, Adam M. Styers, and James Andrew Tammara.

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN

AMERICA – Although approximately half of the world's Catholic population lives in Latin America, the Church in the region is losing members at an alarming rate. They are drawn away from the Church by other faiths and are often obliged to migrate in pursuit of a better life. These tensions can contribute to the destabilization of families and faith communities. Your generosity will support pastoral work that engages parishioners and fosters the faith.

The collection for the Church in Latin America will be taken up January 28 and 29 at all the Masses. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Attention Ladies of St. Ambrose – Cenacle Silent Lenten

Retreat – Once again our parish ladies are invited to attend a retreat at the Cenacle Retreat House, 420 N. Kirkwood, just off the Katy Freeway in on March 10-12, 2017. The days are scheduled with conferences with our retreat master.

Don't miss a truly wonderful weekend. Transportation will be arranged. Call Juana Sandoval for more information or answers for any questions which you may have at 713-688-0702.

ST. AMBROSE CHURCH IS PARTICIPATING IN A VOCATION CROSS PROGRAM

We pray for all who generously share in Church ministry, in particular for sisters, brothers, priests and deacons.

The Spirit is calling men and women and preparing boys and girls from our day school and CCE program to serve in the Church. May our prayer for vocations inspire all of us to listen attentively to the call of God's Spirit and respond with generous hearts.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS – Let us know your willingness to take a **Vocation Cross** home for one week and pray for vocations.

You may call Sister Charline at 713-858-1613 for any questions that you may have.

Father will present you with the **Vocation Cross** and prayers at the Mass you are assigned. At the end of your week, return the **Vocation Cross** and prayers to one of the ushers **BEFORE** Mass begins.



Our continued list of donations for Christmas flowers is as follows:

Mrs. Anna Ponterella

In Memory of Mrs. Anna Ponterella,

Connie S. Holley

In Memory of Fritz and Ruth Baumgarten

Mary Kocurek Thompson

In Memory of Mary and John Kocurek

James and Carrie Richard

In Memory of Michael V. Richard; Carrie and Vito Lucia; Cleveland and Elizabeth DeVillier; and Eve & Ellis Richard,

Joe or Susan Salvaggio

In Memory of Ned & Irene Perrin; Anne Perrin; Steve Perrin; and Fabian Heintz.

ALTAR SOCIETY – The monthly meeting of the Altar Society will be on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 7:00PM in the auditorium. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

If you would like more information regarding the Altar Society, please call Mary at 713-825-5861.

MENS CLUB will resume their monthly meeting on Monday, January 19, at 7:00PM in the auditorium.



BINGO will resume on Tuesday, January 3, at 7:15PM in the auditorium.

GOLDEN YOUTH will meet at 2:00PM on Sunday, January 15, in the cafeteria. All those 55 years and older are invited to attend.

SCHOOL NEWS

School will resume for the students of St. Ambrose on Wednesday, January 4, at its regular time.

LET US MEET FOR A MEAL

Widows and widowers are invited to meet for a meal on Sunday, January 1, at 2:00PM at Tia Maria's Mexican Restaurant, 4618 Dacoma. Call Sr. Charline for more information or just show up. On Sunday, January 8, we will meet at Logan's at 290 Feeder.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

IT TAKES MUCH EFFORT JUST TO make ends meet in our world today. Do you wish you could talk about something besides all the stresses in your life? Jesus said: "I will put my spirit in you that you may live." Come to a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and experience Jesus's love through your spouse in a unique way. Marriage Encounter gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. To Find out more about upcoming weekends, visit www.houstonme.org or call 713-482-1791.



CHRIST WANTS YOU! People who are interested in serving God by visiting the sick, the poor, the lonely, those in prisons and the aged. There is a need for support from our parish to preserve this work of God to the outcasts and the forgotten. There are single parents out there with no hope in sight except the hands and hearts of Christ in each of us! The mission of St. Vincent de Paul Society needs your hands and your hearts. Please give some of your time to this important calling. If you have any questions, please call the St. Vincent de Paul Office at 713-686-3068.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is every Saturday from 3:30PM until 4:30PM

FOR YOUR INFORMATION – The Parish Office will be closed on December, 26 and 27 and January 2, 2017 because of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

THIRD AGE LEARNING CENTER Great Program for Ages 50 and Older

All Saints Church
215 E. 10th Street, Houston, Texas 77008
713-248-1277

All Saints Third Age Learning Center (TALC) will again offer classes in the year of 2017. More information will follow regarding times of registration and when classes will begin.

There will be a charge of \$7.00 for registration and \$5.00 for each subject during the semester. Some subjects may require additional supplies that the student must purchase. Supply lists are available at registration. All fees are due at the time of registration. Scholarships are available if needed.

TALC offers a variety of classes, day trips, seminars, birthday celebrations and special parties. Some of the classes featured this semester include woodworking, computer, conversational Spanish, exercise, small appliance repair, scrapbooking, water color painting, stain glass and much more. A full course hot lunch, cooked on-site, is available at 12 Noon Monday through Friday, during the semester for only \$2.00. Seniors are invited to join in the fun and companionship TALC offers. More information will follow in future bulletins.

THE LEGION OF THE POINSETTIA

In a certain village in Mexico, many years ago, it was customary on Christmas Eve to take gifts to the church and place them before the crib. One evening these was a small boy standing outside the church door. How he wished he could enter the church and present a gift to Jesus but he was poor. He had nothing to give.

He knelt silently outside the church window and listened to the voices raised in song. When he rose to his feet again, he was amazed as what he saw in the spot where he had knelt. It was a beautiful plant with scarlet leaves and a yellow flower in the center. He placed the beautiful flower before the manger and whispered that this was his gift to the Christ Child.

REMINDER

If you are using the envelopes in the back of the church and you want it applied to your regular tithes, **please use those envelopes for that purpose.** And, when using this envelope, put your **full name and address on the front of the envelope.**

Also, if you have changed your address or telephone number or will be joining another parish, please call the Parish Office at 713-686-3497. Thank you.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Domingo 25 de Diciembre 2016

La Natividad del Señor

Isaías 52,7-10: Verán los confines de la tierra la victoria de nuestro Dios

Salmo 97: Los confines de la tierra han contemplado la victoria de nuestro Dios.

Hebreos 1,1-6: Dios nos ha hablado por el Hijo

Juan 1,1-18: La Palabra se hizo hombre y habitó entre nosotros.

El prólogo de San Juan nos recuerda que aquel que ha nacido es el mismo que, desde toda la eternidad ya era Dios. La genealogía recordaba la historia de Israel, conducida por una promesa hecha a Abrahán, profundizada en David y conservada después del destierro. José es el último eslabón de aquella cadena; el que recibe el anuncio definitivo: *Le pondrás por nombre Jesús, porque el salvará al pueblo de los pecados.* Aquella historia, llena de avatares y no exenta de infidelidades y pecados, no seguía un destino caprichoso. Dios la conducía con su providencia ordenándolo todo hasta lo que San Pablo llama *la plenitud de los tiempos.* El deseo alimentado en el corazón de tantas generaciones se encuentra ahora con el deseo mantenido en el seno de Dios desde toda la eternidad en ese preciso instante en que *el Verbo se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros.*

La celebración de la Navidad nos introduce en el misterio de la ternura de Dios. Cuando contemplamos el nacimiento en Belén, sobrecoge el modo maravilloso que Dios ha elegido para venir a visitarnos. Los elementos físicos son muy elementales. Vemos una cueva y un pesebre. No hay nada que pueda distraer nuestra atención. La pobreza, el silencio, lo escondido del lugar y la misma noche que invitan al recogimiento centran toda nuestra atención en el Niño que yace entre pajas. Podemos decir con San Pablo *ha aparecido la bondad de Dios y su amor al hombre.* El Dios que nos ama desde toda la eternidad se nos ha acercado.

El, que ha nacido en pobreza, se da a conocer en primer lugar a gente humilde. Los pastores son los primeros en conocer la feliz noticia. Dormían al raso. Es decir, no se protegían. Y, cuando reciben el anuncio del ángel corren hacia Belén. No hay nada que les impida creer. De ellos podemos aprender esa sencillez y apertura a la manifestación de Dios. ¡Tantas veces nos protegemos temiendo perder algo! Pero el cielo no baja sobre la tierra para aplastarlo, sino que como dijo San Ambrosio, el quiso estar en la tierra, para que tu alcanzaras las estrellas.

Contemplando a la Virgen María y a San José que custodian al Niño, advertimos también que Jesús es la Buena noticia que ha de ser anunciada a todos los hombres. Ellos lo aman sin poseerlo. Reflejan el mismo amor de Jesús, que ha venido para dar vida a los hombres; para ofrecerse el mismo en sacrificio por nosotros y quedarse como alimento en la

Eucaristía. El detalle del pesebre ha sido leído por los padres como lugar para la comida y también como imagen de la cruz o de la tumba en la que Jesús será sepultado. Acompañados de María y José comprendemos ese amor de Dios que se abaja naciendo para que también nosotros tengamos un nuevo nacimiento. Y sentimos la exigencia del amor que, a imitación de Cristo, debe acercarnos a los más necesitados. En Belén, viendo cómo Dios nos ama, empezamos a aprender a amar. Dios se ha hecho pequeño para que no temamos nada. Sea cual sea nuestra situación, todo puede ser nuevo *por que un niño nos ha nacido, un hijo se nos ha dado.*

Con la colaboración de Magnificat

Horario de Misas para Año Nuevo



Diciembre 31, 2016

Misa en Inglés 5:00 p.m.

Misa en Español 7:00 p.m.



Enero 1, 2017

Misas en Inglés 8:00 y 10:00 a.m.

Misas en Español 12:00 mediodía y 5:00 p.m.

Horario de Servicios

Lunes a Sábado

8:00 a.m. Misa en Inglés

Miércoles

7:00 p.m. Misa en Español

1er. Viernes del Mes

7:00 p.m. Misa en Español

Sábado

5:00 p.m. Misa en Inglés

Domingo

8:00 y 10:00 a.m. Misa en Inglés

12:00 p.m. Misa en Español

5:00 p.m. Misa de Jóvenes

Miércoles

Exposición del Santísimo 8:30 a.m. a 6:45 p.m.

Rosario en Español 10:00 a.m.

Oración de la Divina Misericordia 3:00 p.m.

Confesiones

Miércoles de 6:00 a 6:45 p.m.

Sábado de 3:30 a 4:30 p.m.



Misa de Jóvenes

La misa es a las 5:00 p.m.

1er y 3er domingo en español

2do y 4to domingo en Inglés

5to domingo del mes será bilingüe

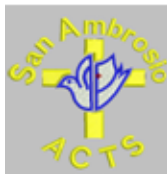


Te invitamos a rezar el Santo Rosario en la iglesia cada domingo a las 11:30 a.m. para prepararnos a celebrar la Santa Eucaristía.

Adoración ante el Santísimo Sacramento



Oración y meditación ante el Santísimo Sacramento son dos maneras de ofrecer a Dios. Usted puede pedir por sus necesidades o las de sus seres queridos, reflexionar en su palabra o solamente acompañarle. El realmente quiere verte. La Exposición son todos los miércoles después de la misa de 8:00 a.m. hasta las 6:45 p.m. en la capilla. Seguido de la misa en español a las 6:30 p.m.



RETIRO DE ACTS PARA MUJERES

Los Retiros de ACTS enriquecen nuestra vida enfocándose en:

ADORACION y Oración Diaria

COMUNIDAD: como miembro del Cuerpo de Cristo

TEOLOGIA: por medio del estudio de las Sagradas Escrituras y las Enseñanzas de la Iglesia Católica

SERVICIO: Con énfasis en la virtud del servicio al Señor, a la Iglesia y al prójimo.

Costo de Inscripción \$ 190.00

La cuota de inscripción incluye todas las comidas, alojamiento y transporte. El retiro de mujeres será del 2 al 5 de Marzo. Para más información llame a Hilda Bernal al 713-355-0512, Lucero Barajas 713-443-2933 o a la Oficina de San Ambrosio al 713-686-3497



TALLERES DE ORACION Y VIDA
Una Nueva Evangelización

APRENDE A ORAR PARA APRENDER A VIVIR

Fundador: Padre Ignacio Larrañaga

Por medio de un complejo extremado de meditaciones sobre la palabra, oración intensiva, reflexión comunitaria y ejercicios de silenciamientos irás superando paso a paso el mundo interior de angustias, ansiedades y tristezas.

Como efecto de una vivencia profunda de la fe y del abandono, irás inundándote de una profunda paz.

Este taller es gratis el cual consta de 15 sesiones y dará inicio el Lunes 6 de Febrero del 2017 de 7:00 a 9:00 p.m. para más información llame a Griselda Blanco al 713-409-2825

Estimada familia parroquial:

Les deseamos que la Paz y la Felicidad reinen en su hogar en esta Navidad y que el Año Nuevo sea de muchas bendiciones para toda su familia.

Rev. Benjamin Smiastrla

Rev. Juan G. Pineda

Dcn. Denis Smiastrla y personal de oficina

BAUTIZOS



Los bautizos son el domingo después de la Misa de 12:00 p.m

Las fechas de los bautizos son las siguientes:

19 de Febrero

19 de Marzo

16 de Abril

21 de Mayo

Necesita llenar la forma de registro y entregarla con una copia del certificado de nacimiento del bebé. Los papás y los padrinos deben tomar las clases para bautizos.

Clases para bautizos:

Las clases para bautizos son el primero y segundo martes del mes de 7:00 a 9:00 p.m. en el salón A

Las siguientes clases para bautizos son:

Febrero 7 y 14, 2017

Marzo 7 y 14, 2017

Abril 4 y 11, 2017

Mayo 2 y 9, 2017



La Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul asiste a personas de bajos recursos economicos, si usted o alguien que conoce necesita ayuda financiera favor de darle el pamfeto con la información que se encuentra en el vestibulo de la Iglesia.

Bendiciones especiales

- El 1er domingo es la bendición para los que cumplen años en el mes.
- El 2do domingo del mes es la presentación de los niños de 3 años.
- El 3er domingo del mes es la bendición para las parejas por su aniversario de bodas.
- El 4to domingo es la bendición para los niños recién nacidos.

Necesitamos de su ayuda Se ofrece comida a la familia que ha perdido un ser querido después de su funeral. Si a usted le gustaría ayudar en este Ministerio favor de comunicarse con la Hna. Charline 713-682-2242 o email charlineschl@peoplepc.com

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

Sunday Masses, special Archdiocesan Liturgies, and other services and celebrations. Anyone with an interest in Music or Singing is encouraged to join one of the choirs briefly outlined below. For more information, please contact **Veronica Stevens, Music Director**, at 281-440-4445, or visit with her after any weekend Mass.

CHORALE, Saturday evening Mass at 5:00PM
Contact Veronica Stevens at 281-440-4445

FAMILY CHOIR, Sunday Mass at 8:00AM
Contact Bob Korst at 3-688-0046

LITURGICAL CHOIR, Sunday Mass at 10:00AM
Contact Veronica Stevens at 281-440-4445

SPANISH CHOIR, Sunday Mass at 12:00Noon
Contact Alpha Omega Cruz– 281-808-3430

REMINDER – Our Church Is A No Cologne/Perfume Zone - Please help us provide a comfortable worship space for all who are attending Mass. Colognes and perfumes trigger allergic reactions in many people. Please help us provide healthy air for all to breathe. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP –

TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE

The Christian Stewardship concept holds that all we are, all that we have are gifts from God and that we have been truly blessed by Him. The concept of Christian Stewardship suggests that we are given three gifts which can be symbolic of the three gifts presented by the Magi at Christ's birth.

FROM THE CHANCERY - Victims Assistance Coordinator - "Pastoral Support for Victims of Clergy Sexual Abuse - In a continuing effort to provide pastoral care to victims of sexual abuse by clergy of Church personnel, Archbishop Di Nardo would like to remind the faithful of the Archdiocese of the availability of the Victims Assistance Coordinator. Anyone who has been the victim of sexual abuse by clergy of Church personnel is encouraged to call Sr. Maureen Connell, OP at 713-654—5799. Please keep in your daily prayers the healing of victims of abuse and all who suffer in any
