



DECEMBER 24, 2017 – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

SACRAMENTS

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the Church office

BAPTISM

Follow Weekend Masses

Baptismal Classes

English - First Saturday

9a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Spanish - Second Saturday

9a.m.—12:00 p.m.

MATRIMONY

Contact Priest 6 months prior
to the wedding date

CONFESSION

Thursday

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

(with Adoration until 6:30 p.m.)

Saturday

4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

(Also by appointment)

HELP WITH ANNULMENTS

Contact: Beverly Dickey
runningranny@hotmail.com

**REICHER CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**

(254) 752-8349

www.reicher.org

Principal

Mrs. Mindy Taylor
mtaylor@reicher.org

HOLY EUCHARIST

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday - Friday 12:05 p.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses

9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

& 5:00 p.m.

Spanish Mass at 1:30 p.m.

*Nursery is available during
the 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Masses*

ST. LOUIS CHURCH

(254) 754-1221

Office Hours: Monday - Friday

8:30 am. - 12:30 pm. &

1:30 - 5:00 pm.

***Friday office closes at 4:00 pm.**

Información en Español

Contact: Maria Carrillo

**ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC
SCHOOL**

(254) 754-2041

www.stlouiswaco.org

Principal

Ms. Nisa Lagle
nlagle@stlouiswaco.org

ST. LOUIS WEBSITE WEBMASTER

Dee Flaquer

stlouiswacowebmaster@gmail.com

ST. LOUIS CHURCH

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. John Guzaldo

jguzaldo@waco.twcbc.com

Associate Pastor

Rev. Red Blevins

fr.red@icloud.com

Deacon

Richard Menchaca

dcnrmenchaca@yahoo.com

(325) 451-7340

Office Administrator

Donna Brown

stlouischurch@waco.twcbc.com

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Tracy Gomez

stlouisyouthwaco@mygrande.net

Director of Religious

Education

Zulma Diaz

zdiaz.drewaco@gmail.com

(254) 754-1221 / 754-2041

Music Ministry Coordinator

Susan Russell

russellharp@outlook.com

(254) 754-1221 leave message

Gabriel Project

Cynthia Farmer

(254) 640-5804

Liturgical Music

Saturday Vigil Mass 5 p.m. Vigil & Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.	
Processional.....	Gather #317
<i>"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"</i>	
Psalm.....	Missalette p.70 #89
<i>"Forever I Will Sing"</i>	
Offertory	Gather #368
<i>"Lo How a Rose"</i>	
Communion.....	Gather #814
<i>"Taste and See"</i>	
Recessional.....	Gather #323
<i>"Come O Long Expected Jesus"</i>	

Mass Intentions

Sat. Dec. 23	5:00 p.m.	Jose DeLaGarza
Sun. Dec. 24	9:30 a.m.	Bernard Prasifka
	1 1 : 3 0	Lisa Cofsky
Christmas	a.m.	Harry Matustik
Masses	4:00 p.m.	The Parish: Living & Deceased
in Spanish at	6:30 p.m.	Ruby Rivera
	8:30 p.m.	Dan Zrubek
Mon. Dec. 25	Midnight	Melinda Petter
Tues. Dec. 26	9:30 a.m.	NO MASS
Wed. Dec. 27	8:00 a.m.	Ramirez Family
	8:00 a.m.	Charles Bollingall
Thurs. Dec. 28	1 2 : 0 5	Joyce Petter
	p.m.	Oline Pelletier
Fri. Dec. 29	8:00 a.m.	Shirley & Don Bushman
	1 2 : 0 5	Lucille Foley
Sat. Dec. 30	p.m.	Joseph Dvorsky, III
Sun. Dec. 31	8:00 a.m.	Rita McNamara
	1 2 : 0 5	Frazier Family
in Spanish	p.m.	The Parish: Living & Deceased
at	5:00 p.m.	Langley Family
	9:30 a.m.	
	1 1 : 3 0	
	a.m.	
	1:30 p.m.	
	5:00 p.m.	

Readings for the week

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]
Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10: 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we want to wish you a blessed Christmas. Each New Year is an opportunity to begin anew. Let us take the mold of the new born Christ and live the days to come in warmth of divine love in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph.

Father John and Father Red

Advent Liturgical Schedule

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 24th: Masses at 9:30 am & 11:30 am

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th: 4:00 pm, 6:30, 8:30 pm (Spanish) & Midnight (12:00 am)
Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th: 9:30 am only

Notes of Special Interest

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED for the Christmas Holidays through Tuesday, December 26. **NO DAILY MASS** Tuesday, December 26. Regular weekly schedules will resume Wednesday, December 27.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD Program will not begin until January 2018. Please watch your bulletins.

SPECIAL COLLECTION - Next weekend we will, December 30 & 31, is the Feast of the Holy Family and our parish will take up a special collection for family services within our diocese. Please be generous in supporting this much needed service.

Parish Events and Meetings

DONATIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND are now being accepted. Please consider helping to adorn the Sanctuary again this Christmas season. Make checks payable to St. Louis Church (MEMO: Flower Fund) and mail to P.O. Box 5040 Waco, 76708.

2018 COLLECTION ENVELOPE DISTRIBUTION you will now need to contact the church office.

THE 2018 CALENDARS are now available you will find them at each entrance of the church. **We thank Dr. Jim Moshinski of OakCrest Funeral Home** for sponsoring the calendars again this year.

YEAR END CONTRIBUTION LETTERS FOR 2017 will be mailed out automatically for contributions of \$250.00 or more by the end of January. Letters for amounts lower than \$250.00 will need to be requested. Contributions toward 2017 may be made through January 15, 2018.

CHURCH CENSUS - You will find the church blue census forms at each entrance of the church. Please take the time to fill one out and return it. We are finding information incorrect or missing for so many of our parishioners. This is especially important to the families who have children enrolled at St. Louis School and Reicher High School.

NEWCOMERS - If you are new to our community, please fill out a Parish Registration (Census) form found at each entrance of the church. Just complete and drop in the collection basket or give to one of the Ushers. We welcome you and your family with open arms and warm hearts.

HOMELESS BREAKFAST - The Parish Social Ministry will provide breakfast for the homeless on **Friday, December 29**, at the Meyer Center located at 1226 Washington Ave. We will meet at St. Louis parking lot at 6am and return before 8am. Please call Clara Jean Matustik at 772-8885 for information or to let her know that you can help with this worthwhile ministry.

FAMILY ROSARY AND BREAKFAST - Join the Knights of Columbus for The 5th Sunday Family Rosary and Breakfast, **Sunday, December 31**. Rosary will begin at 8:45 a.m. and breakfast will be served in Grace Hall after the 9:30 Mass.

THE PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY will meet **Monday, January 8th**, at 5 pm in the KC Room in the JACK Building across the street from the church. New members are always welcomed. For information, contact Mary Ann at 772-6576 or Mike at 709-6155.

Youth Ministry

ATTEND ALL HIGH SCHOOL LITURGICAL MINISTRY MEMBERS you are invited to join Father John in a special party to celebrate your serve to the church. Come join Father for Pizza and Spoons in Grace Hall at 6 pm on **Thursday, December 29**. Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 28 at 754-1221 or jguzaldo@waco.twcbc.com

CONFIRMATION CLASSES have begun, classes are Wednesdays from 7:30pm to 8:30pm at the JAC (building across the from the SLAC). If you are a Reicher student and have not registered, visit www.slywaco.org/confirmation to download the forms and review the requirements. For more information or questions please contact Tracy Gomez at (254) 754-1221 or at stlouisyouthwaco@gmail.com. **The mandatory retreat will be February 23-25, 2018 at Eagle's Wings Retreat Center in Burnett, Tx.**

DCYC - The Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference of Austin is **February 2-4, 2018**. It is open to all teens in 9th -12th grade. The conference is a weekend full of dynamic speakers, praise and worship, break out sessions, Adoration, Reconciliation, Mass and a time to share and enjoy your faith with thousands of other teens. this is truly a wonderful weekend. The cost of the conference is \$60 per teen. We would love for our teens to attend with us. Registration forms can be found at www.slywaco.org or you can come to the Church office or pick them up at youth group or contact Tracy Gomez at stlouisyouthwaco@gmail.com. Service hours are given to Reicher students that attend with us. **Deadline to register is January 1, 2018.**

Community News

THANK YOU! - The Giving Tree sponsored by Parish Social Ministry was a huge success due to your generosity! We thank the Mission Waco motorcycle team for delivery to Mission Waco. The true Spirit of Christmas was felt by children in our community.

WATCH SPECIAL EWTN Advent and Christmas programming - EWTN is proud to present LIVE Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses from Rome and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington DC. Also, we will be airing inspiring musical performances, specials for children and teens, and new holiday presentations that the whole family will enjoy. Watch or listen to EWTN TV and EWTN Radio on your local channel, online, or even on your smartphone using our free EWTN App! For more information, go to ewtn.com.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY - College students are invited to attend bible study after the 11:30 am mass in the JAC located across the street from the church. For more information on our next session please contact Vincent or Amy Lopez at 709-4343 or mygems90s@yahoo.com.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS FOR 2018 - Married couples are invited to strengthen, renew and rekindle their marriage sacrament by attending one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends: Feb. 16-18, April 20-22 The emphasis of Marriage Encounter is on communication between husband and wife, who spend a weekend together away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life, to concentrate on each other. For more information, visit www.austinme.org or call (512) 667-9963 or e-mail wwmeaustin@gmail.com.

4 STEPS GUIDELINE ACCORDING TO THE DIOCESE OF AUSTIN FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE: 1) Couples should contact their priest at least six months prior to wedding date. 2) Couples must take a premarital inventory, The FOCCUS. 3) Couples must attend a retreat or take a formal marriage preparation course, "*Together In God's Love.*" 4) Couples must take at least a one-hour introduction to *Natural Family Planning* (full course preferred). Couples must be responsible to contact the office of Family Life 512-949-2495 regarding item 3 &4.

Gospel Meditation

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." Today is the last Sunday of the Advent season, and we hear in the Gospel the anticipation of the feast we will celebrate in just one day. Christmas is coming! Jesus is on his way!

We have had weeks to prepare for this momentous occasion, and now we are on the very verge of its arrival. The children in our midst can hardly contain their excitement as they wait to wake up on Christmas morning. The thrill of this coming moment is meant to remind us of the joy and anticipation we should all feel as we await the coming of Christ. Yes, Christmas is a great feast, but there is more here than a remembrance of the past or a fabulous party in the present. There is a looking-ahead as well. We celebrate as we anticipate.

Much as Mary must have waited in wonder during the nine months of her pregnancy, we wait in hopeful expectation as Christians looking forward to being reunited with our Savior. Our future is full of hope. The deflating melancholy that afflicts many people after a holiday runs its course need not be the experience of the Christian waiting for Christ. We are always looking forward to something! There is never a moment when we have no cause for joy. Our lives are lived in a kind of unending advent as we stand in watchful waiting.

Let us remember this as we enter into our Christmas Eve gatherings and festivities. As we join with family and friends to share in the good things of this life, may we carry with us the joy of knowing that even better things lie in store for us who welcome the infant Jesus into our hearts and homes.

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THE ST. LOUIS PASTORAL COUNCIL meets monthly as an advisory group to our pastor. For questions or concerns please

contact one of the members of the council: Holly Collins, Chairman email: Holly Collins@Baylor.edu and members, Noe Ochoa, Marilyn Abel, Vince Clark, Sharon McCarthy, Susanne Nemmer, Mark Veselka, Maritza Perez and Mike Fulbright.

Collection Report

Weekly Average needed for School & Church.....	\$21,850.00
Offering Last weekend.....	\$18,146.71
Special Collection: Retired Clergy & Religious.....	\$ 3,775.27

Thank you for your generosity!