



CHURCH OFFICE

The office will be closed Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Office will reopen on Monday, December 28th at 8:00 AM.

The office will be closed Friday, January 1, 2016 in observance of New Year's Day. Office will reopen on Monday, January 4th at 8:00 AM.



MINISTRY OF THE WEEK

OFFICE VOLUNTEER-Volunteers are needed occasionally to help the parish staff with mail-outs, bulletin inserts and other office work. Sylvia Rocha – 432-714-4930.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



We are taking monetary donations for the Christmas Flowers. Envelopes are at the front of the church. Please ask a greeter for an envelope. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

PENANCE SERVICES

Monday, December 21, 2015 – 7:00 PM – Holy Redeemer, Odessa
Tuesday, December 22, 2015 – 7:00 PM – St. Ann Parish, Midland

Confessions will also be offered at Holy Trinity on Monday, December 21st at 7:00 PM and on Wednesday, December 23rd at 8:00 PM

“...behold, the Lord will come, and all his holy ones with him; and on that day there will be a great light”

Zechariah 14:5, 7

December 18, 2015

Dear Parishioners:

In Isaiah 12:2-3 God tells us, “cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel”.

Long ago, one silent night, God revealed his glory bright; his own image came to man for a salvation’s matchless plan.

Jesus, Savior, Shepherd, King, Lord of all - to you we bring praises, wonder, thanks and love for this gift from God above.

I am remembering you this Christmas and praying your celebration brings a heart full of joy as you remember God’s amazing love shown through his son Jesus.

May you have a Merry Christmas and a blessed new year!

Monsignor Bernard L. Gully

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NEWS



During the month of November, through your generous donations St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist 93 families with food from our pantry. There were 19 families who received financial aid for assistance with rent, utilities, prescriptions and gasoline. God bless you for your continue support!

Thank you to all who contributed to the filling of Thanksgiving baskets. We were able to distribute 45 baskets with a turkey, all the side dishes and a dessert. Your gift of sharing made many families truly thankful this year.

From all the volunteers at St. Vincent de Paul, we wish you all a very blessed Christmas. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones during this celebration of our Savior’s birth.

“In a world where there is so much wealth, so many resources to feed everyone, it’s incomprehensible how there can be so many hungry children, so many children without an education, so many poor.”

Pope Francis

Pro-life Hotline...1-800-395-HELP



December 20 "The Word became flesh and dwelled among us," St. John's Gospel states. Perhaps if we could look at each unborn child as a word from God, we would be less likely to destroy those children who each have a unique message to share with the world.

PRAYER MEETING – Spanish – Todos los miércoles, 7:30 PM después de la Misa, en la capilla.
PRAYER MEETING – English – All are welcome on Wednesdays at 7 PM in East Room to join us for praise, teaching, and prayer for healing.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 Fridays starting after the 7:00 AM Mass till Noon in the side Chapel.
Pro-Life Rosary from 12 to 12:15 PM
Benediction - after the Rosary.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY
 Ladies Bible Study is on Tuesdays from 11:45 AM – 1:15 PM in the East Room. The study is The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians. All ladies are welcome to join.

Catholic Inquiry Class

Do you know someone who is always asking you Why Do Catholics Genuflect, Worship Idols, And Mary?? Have a friend or loved one who is thinking about joining the Catholic Church, or are you a baptized Catholic adult in need of Reconciliation (Confession), First Communion, and Confirmation? Come join us on Monday at 6:30-8:00 PM in the East Room.

December 21-La Posada at Alonzo and Dennette's
 December 28-Holiday no class
 January 4-Epiphany

SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH ROBERT VILLESAS



Robert is in his 1st Year at Conception Seminary. His birthday is March 31, 1996 and is from San Angelo, TX. His favorite food is all food. Robert loves doing Insanity and having fun!

Please Pray for Our Seminarians!

O God, you wish all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of your truth: send, we beg you, laborers into your harvest, and grant them grace to speak your word with all boldness so that your word may spread and be glorified, and all nations may know you, the only God, and Him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns world without end. Amen

SEARCH FOR CHRISTIAN MATURITY

The Search for Christian Maturity, a weekend Catholic program for high school and college-age people of our Diocese. Jesus' answer too many of our problems are presented. It promises to be a worthwhile weekend. If you are interested in attending, contact Merlinda Morón or the church office, 714-4930.

MARRIAGE

Please call the office, 714-4930, at least six months prior to planning wedding.

SICK VISITATION

Please call the office, 714-4930, to give us the names of the people who would like to receive Holy Communion or have a visit from the priest.

QUINCEAÑERA

Two years of religious education is required by the diocese. Please call the office, 714-4930, for more information.

REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTIZING:

To baptize infants we require Parents to provide the child's court issued Birth Certificate. Parents must be registered in the Church. Godparents must provide a copy of their Baptismal, First Communion, and Confirmation Certificates. Married Godparents will also need to provide their certificate of marriage in the Catholic Church. For more information, please call the Parish Office, 714-4930.

Bautismo de niños/as los papás necesitan presentar el certificado de nacimiento de la corte del niño(a). Los padres deben estar registrados en la iglesia. Los padrinos necesitan presentar sus certificados de Bautismo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación. Los padrinos casados deben de presentar su certificado de matrimonio en la iglesia católica. Para más información por favor llame a la oficina parroquial, 714-4930.

HALL RENTAL

The new policy on the hall rental was approved on January 26, 2015 by the parish council and Msgr. Gully. Rental fees are as follows:

Classroom	\$170
School Hall	\$270
OLG Family Center	\$420

Included in rental fee is \$120 insurance fee, which needs to be sent to the diocese 30 days before the event. A deposit of \$50 is required at the time of reservation.

SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE
12/13/15

Mass	Attendance	Communion
5:00 PM	190	120
8:30 AM	173	100
11:00 AM	297	207
Total	660	427

St. Vincent de Paul
270-5029

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Second Collection this weekend Saturday, December 19th and Sunday, December 20th – St. Vincent de Paul – The funds help the needy people of Howard County and surrounding areas. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

Oh Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament, thank you for all the ways you have blessed me today. Thank you for hearing my prayer and answering them. Thank you for surprising me with your goodness. Let me always trust you for all I need.



Sunday Collection
12/13/2015

Envelope \$5,972.00
Loose \$1,972.24
Total \$7,944.24

Average Collections per week needed: \$9,335.00

Retired Religious \$1,920.85

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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"Stewardship is planned giving and does not leave giving to chance. It challenges us to plan. It asks us to appraise – deliberately – what we are doing with our time, our talent and our treasure."

TO BE A CHRISTIAN STEWARD

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Pt 4:10).

What identifies a steward? Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

CURSILLO CORNER

SPANISH ULTREYA - Todos los lunes, 7:00 PM en el salón de Holy Trinity Parish Hall. Todos están invitados a venir y disfrutar de la beca.



SCHEDULE OF ENGLISH ULTREYAS

Sunday, December 20, 2015, at 2:30 PM in Family Center
Tuesday, January 5, 2016 7:00 PM in East Room.
Sunday, January 17, 2016 2:30 PM in Family Center

Please look at each date for location of Ultreya, as it is held in either the Family Center or the East Room.

All are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Engaged Encounter is a weekend for engaged couples of any age who are committed to marry in the Catholic Church. It is designed to give couples an opportunity to dialogue intensively and honestly about their future together. Self-identity, role expectations, money, sex, children, family, and religion are some of the topics of face-to-face dialogue with one's partner. Through a series of talks on the lived experience of the team of married couples and a priest, the engaged couples are encouraged to privately discuss all the aspects of married life.

Registration should be made at least 60 days prior to the planned wedding date and after an initial meeting with your priest.

Engaged Encounter schedule:
January 22-24, 2016
February 19-21, 2016
March 18-20, 2016
May 20-22, 2016
August 5-7, 2016
October 28-30, 2016

PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED AND THE FAMILIES OF THE DECEASED:

We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of the late **Pharrah Rios** who died this past week. We commend their souls and the intentions of the family to our continuing prayers.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Beatrice Franco, Olivia Hernandez, Joe Olivares, Don Arroyo, Jean Arroyo, Emma Leos, Kirsten Marquez, Leonides Vela Jr., Sammy Ortega, Josh & Yvette Preston, Domingo Rocha. Call the office at 714-4930 to add the names in the bulletin. **Only the person needing or immediate family member may request to be added to the prayer list.**



“Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”

Luke 1:45

**Readings for the Week of
December 13, 2015**

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Advent Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday Saint John of Kanty, Priest Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, and 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, and 29; Lk 1:67-79 Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Friday The Nativity of the Lord Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 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; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday Saint Stephen, The First Martyr Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Lk 2:41-52

SANCTUARY CANDLE

[HT] December 13 – Leticia & Isabella Mendoza

[St. Joseph] December 13 – OPEN



SATURDAY, December 19, 2015

- 5:00 PM – [HT] Isabella M. Mendoza B'day by Salazar Family; +Robert Anderson by Wanda Anderson; +George Martinez by Luz Martinez; +Alex Torres by Beatrice Padron; +Demetrio & +Monica Rocha by Margie Valverde; +Homer Tomerlin Jr. by Cruz & Arthur Olague; St. Anthony Spec. Int. by Jean Govea; +Esperanza Mendoza by Beatrice Franco; +Aida D. Sanchez by Diane Ewing

SUNDAY, December 20, 2015

- 8:30 AM – [HT] For the People; +Esther & +Lydia Hernandez by Mary Vera
- 11:00 AM – [HT] +Valentin Corralez by Margie Corralez; +Lalo Rodriguez by Gloria Rodriguez; +Natalia DeLa Garza by Petra Rios-Rios; For All The Sick by Mina & Tin Garcia; +Jesus & +Nicolasa Molina by T.J. Stewart; +Alex Escañuelas Sr. by Yolanda Escañuelas; +Frank Vela by Vela Family; +Aida D. Sanchez by Diane Ewing; +Marybeth Jenkins Gerstner by Wanda Anderson

MONDAY, December 21, 2015

- 7:00 AM-[Chapel] +Tomas Chavez by Mary Chavez
- 1:30 PM-[State] NO MASS

TUESDAY December 22, 2015

- 7:00 AM [Chapel] +Marie Moreno Pineda by Cruz Olague

WEDNESDAY December 23, 2015

- 7:00 AM-[Chapel] +Francisco & +Merced Escovedo by Isabel Escovedo

THURSDAY, December 24, 2015

- 5:00 PM – [HT] +Pedro & +Manuela Baltazar by M/M Steve Escañuelas & Family
- 7:00 PM – [HT] For the People; +Maria Gonzales by Gilbert & Martha Rubio

FRIDAY, December 25, 2015

- 10:00 AM – [HT] +Henry Valverde by Margie Valverde; +Leo Salazar by Salazar Family; +Demetrio & +Monica Rocha by M/M Domingo Rocha

SATURDAY, December 26, 2015

- 5:00 PM – [HT] Gilbert Leal B'day by Mary Ann Leal; Deceased Reyes Family Members by Luz Martinez; +Alex Torres by Beatrice Padron; +Melinda Garcia by Mina & Tin Garcia; +Joe Ortega by Cruz & Arthur Olague; Adryen Guerra 10th B'day, +Bobby Cordova by Guerra Family; +Olga Chavez by Angie Hernandez; +Esteban R. Duron by Diane Ewing; +Olga & +Johnny Hernandez by Angie Hernandez

SUNDAY, December 27, 2015

- 8:30 AM – [HT] +Valentin Corralez by Margie Corralez
- 11:00 AM – [HT] For the People; Jerry Holten B'day by Dianna Valdez; +Amelia Larez by Jessie Martinez; For All Veterans by T.J. Stewart; +Benito Sr. & +Benito Jr. Hilario by Barbara Hilario; Virgen de Guadalupe Spec. Int. by Jose & Mary Martinez; +Monika Kennemur by Family; +Aida D. Sanchez by Diane Ewing; +Bobby Cordova by Diane Ewing; For the Parishioners by Linda Paredez



Sunday's Reflections
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

GROWING IN FAITH

We learn a few things as we go through life. We advance in education. We get better at our jobs. We figure out more about politics. We discern what makes people tick. We learn by our mistakes and through the wisdom of others. Our tolerance grows. So does our love. We get wiser in love, more patient with its pains, more grateful for its virtues. We learn throughout our lives.

We also grow in faith. As children our faith is simple, but it grows more complex as we age. We appreciate how deep are the promises of God, how profound is the love of Christ, and how much we need forgiveness as well as redemption. God helps us grow in faith.

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul expresses his hopes as they prepare for the second coming of Christ. Paul believed that Jesus would return very soon. He had confidence that the Philippians would be all right. “I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus.” Just as we grow in wisdom throughout our lives, Paul was confident that the Philippians would grow in faith.

As we prepare for Christmas, we have the same reassurance. God, who began a good work in us, will continue it right up to the day of Christ Jesus. May this Advent increase our faith.

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