

**CHURCH OFFICE**

The office will be closed Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> in observance of Christmas. Office will open on Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM.

The office will be closed Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 PM thru Monday, January 2, 2017 for the New Year Holiday, The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 AM.

**NO CCE CLASSES**

No CCE classes till Sunday, January 8, 2017 and Wednesday, January 11, 2017. Have a safe and blessed holiday, see you next year.

**ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Register now for Adult Confirmation classes. Classes will be starting on Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 6:00 PM in the East Room.

Call the office 432-714-4930 to register.

**2016-2017 ADVENT MASS SCHEDULE**

1. **Saturday, December 24, 2016 - Christmas Eve Masses** (Midnight Mass Readings)  
5:00 PM - Mass  
6:30 PM - Las Posadas  
7:00 PM - Mass (Bilingual)
2. **Sunday, December 25, 2016 - 10:00 AM - Christmas Day Mass** - Bilingual.
3. **Saturday/Sunday, December 31, January 1, 2017** - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph.
4. **Saturday/Sunday, January 7/8, 2017** - Regular Schedule - Epiphany of the Lord
5. **Saturday, January 28, 2016** - Music Ministry Workshop
6. **Tuesday, February 7, 2016 - 7:00 PM** - Lenten Liturgy Committee Meeting

**CONFESSIONS**

Thursday, December 29, 2016 at 7:00 PM with Fr. Sam Matthiesen.

**PARISH FLOCK NOTES**

If you are not receiving our Flock Notes, please call the office so we can either add you to our list or to correct the problem.

Flock Notes are sent when there is bad weather and we need to cancel an event or to remind you of gatherings. Please call the office 432-714-4930.

**WELCOME NEWCOMER'S**

If you are new to our church, please register by obtaining a form from one of our Greeters and returning it to the office at 1009 Hearn.

**PARISHIONERS UPDATE CENSUS FORM**

Parishioners, if you have had a change of address or phone number please call the office at 714-4930 and update the census form.

**ARE YOU RECEIVING THE WEST TEXAS ANGELUS?**

Are you registered in the church and not receiving the West Texas Angelus? Please call the office at 714-4930 so this can be corrected. Every registered family should receive this FREE Catholic newspaper monthly.

**DIOCESAN IMMIGRATION SERVICES AVAILABLE**

The San Angelo Diocese Immigration Services in our three deaneries have been open for a few years. The services include processing documents for such things as Naturalization and Citizenship Applications, Alien Relative Petitions, Adjustment of Status Immigrations Benefit Applications, Temporary Protective Status, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (Dream Act), Waiver of Disability, and Work Permits. If you or someone you know needs legal assistance with immigration, please contact the following: **Midland/Odessa deanery call the Catholic Charities in Odessa (432) 332-1387.**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY**

I offer my sincere thanks to everyone who put on the Children's Christmas Play on Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 3:00 PM in the school cafeteria.

Thank you, parents for sharing your beautiful children, and allowing them to play the parts for the Christmas play. Thanks to the costume persons, the stage crew, sound and music crew, and the refreshment committee.

A special thanks to Merlinda Moron and Mary Jo Guerra and their families for being the guiding light in organizing and directing everyone.

As I said at the end of the play, I asked God for a Christmas gift, and He gave this wonderful play with the beautiful children as my gift. I am so pleased and blessed this Christmas.

Well done! Merry Christmas!

Monsignor Bernard L. Gully

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



**Dec. 25** – All those who have contributed in any way to the pro-life movement should take comfort in recent statistics showing a decline of twelve percent in abortions nationwide. One reason, cited by a pro-life leader, is an entire generation of women who have seen a sonogram as their first “baby picture,” leading to an increased awareness of the humanity of the baby before it is born. (Scranton Times Tribune, AP report 6/8/15)  
For all families struggling with an untimely pregnancy that they may seek from God the strength needed to protect their child’s right to life, we pray

**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.

**PRAYER MEETING – English**

All are welcome on Wednesdays at 7 PM in East Room to join us for praise, teaching, and prayer for healing.

**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?

**Classes on Mondays at 6:30 PM in the East Room.**

December 26<sup>th</sup> No Class

January 2<sup>nd</sup> Epiphany

**SEMINARIAN OF THE MONTH**

**UPTON SEWELL**



Upton is 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Philosophy at Conception Seminary. His birthday is June 26, 1996 and is from Midland, TX. His favorite food is all kinds of food. Upton enjoys working out, but is not a morning person.

**Please Pray for Our Seminarians!**

**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.

The **deposit of \$50 is required** at the time of reservation.

The **insurance fee** must be sent to San Angelo Diocese **30 days before the event.**

**Classroom Rental:**

Deposit \$50- Rental \$50- Insurance \$120

**School Hall Rental:**

Deposit \$50- Rental \$150- Insurance \$120

**OLG Family Center Rental:**

Deposit \$50- Rental \$300- Insurance \$120

### SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE

12/18/16

Mass	Attendance	Communion
5:00 PM	217	144
8:30 AM	80	52
11:00 AM	230	141
<b>Total</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>337</b>

**St. Vincent de Paul**  
**270-5029**

### PRIESTS' SCHEDULE

**Msgr. Bernard Gully:**

Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> thru Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> – Days of Rest

**Fr. Sam Matthiesen:**

Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> from Noon till Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> – Days of Rest

### CHRISTMAS

Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year. It is the feast of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh. It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only Transcendent, but also wholly Immanent, Emmanuel. While remaining Transcendent, He is at the same time Immanent. Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar.

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him...including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends as a way to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

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### Sunday Collection 12/18/2016

Envelope **\$5,924.00**  
Loose **\$1,758.41**  
Total **\$7,682.41**

St. Vincent de Paul  
**\$2,681.90**

**NEW CARPET PROJECT**  
As of October 31, 2016  
**\$41,162.87**

Goal: \$75,000

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
GENEROSITY!**

*"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."* Luke 12:15

The Gospel message is so contrary to our modern culture where advertising continually tries to convince us that our value lies in the things we possess. Jesus showed us that our true value lies in the way we live our lives. He challenges us to not store up or hoard material possessions, but rather to live a grateful and generous lifestyle.



### SCHEDULE OF ENGLISH ULTREYAS

All are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship.

**Tuesday, January 3, 2017,**  
7:00 PM in East Room

**Sunday, January 15, 2017,**  
2:30 PM in Family Center

**Have a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!**

### 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.

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

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

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Jovi Hilario, Olga Trevino, Stephen Robles, Jesse Ramirez, Becky Mendoza, Juan Cervantes, Celia Lopez, Jesse Loya Jr., Ida Sanchez, Martina Espinoza, Maria Dominguez, Miranda Tolle. 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.**



“And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.”  
—John 1:14

**Readings for the Week of  
December 25, 2016**

**Sunday 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

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

**Tuesday Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Wednesday The Holy Innocents, Martyrs** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

**Thursday Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

**Friday The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**Saturday Saint Sylvester I, Pope** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

**Sunday Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**

[HT] December 25 – Leticia & Isabella Mendoza



**SATURDAY, Dec. 24, 2016 CHRISTMAS EVE**

- 5:00 PM – [HT] **FOR THE PEOPLE;** +Juan ‘John’ Rodriguez by *Family & Friends*; +Henry Valverde by *Margie Valverde*; +Demetrio Rocha by *Margie Valverde*; +Robert Baeza by *Baeza Family*; +Johnny Arispe by *Baeza Family*; +Domingo S. Rocha by *Sylvia S. Rocha*; +Esequiel & +Katy Hernandez by *Nora Hernandez*; +Cruz & +Joe ‘Prieto’ Martinez by *Amelia Martinez*; **All Deceased Correa Family Members** by *Maria Florez & Family*
- 7:00 PM – [HT] **San Judas Tadeo Apostol** by *Jose Enrique Gonzalez*

**SUNDAY, Dec. 25, 2016 CHRISTMAS DAY**

- 10:00 AM – [HT] +Aida D. Sanchez by *Diane Ewing*; +Pedro & +Manuela Baltazar by *M/M Steve Escañuelas*; +Alex & +Santos Torres by *Torres Family*; +Jose Angel Sr. & +Gregoria Gonzales by *Jose Angel Jr., Jovita, Linda*; Gilbert Leal B’day by *Leal Family*; Tegan Ontiveros by *Terri Ontiveros*; +Bernabe & +Pascual, +Petra Ruiz by *Jr. & Dora Escañuelas*; +Juan ‘John’ Rodriguez by *Family & Friends*; +Jimmy & +Chon Yanez by *Diane & Family*

**MONDAY, Dec. 26, 2016**

- 7:00 AM [HT] +Esteban Duron by *Diane Ewing*

**TUESDAY Dec. 27, 2016**

- 7:00 AM [HT] John Escovedo B’day by *Isabel Escovedo*

**WEDNESDAY Dec. 28, 2016**

- 7:00 PM [HT] +Joe ‘Prieto’ & +Cruz Martinez by *Arthur & Cruz Olague*

**THURSDAY, Dec. 29, 2016**

- 7:00 AM [HT] +Florence Prehn by *Wanda Anderson*
- 10:00 AM [BSSH] +Wilbert Gully by *Harold & Melva Green*

**FRIDAY, Dec. 30, 2016**

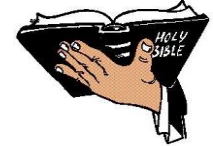
- 7:00 AM – [HT] +Nettie Diaz by *Elvira Marin*

**SATURDAY, Dec. 31, 2016 NEW YEAR’S EVE**

- 5:00 PM – [HT] **FOR THE PEOPLE;** +Juan ‘John’ Rodriguez by *Family & Friends*; Jerry Holten B’day by *Dianna Valdez*; +Joe ‘Prieto’ Martinez by *Maria Florez & Family*; +Luiz Martinez by *Martinez Family*; +Gilbert Narbaiz by *Patsy Sanchez*; +Leo Salazar by *Alicia Salazar*; +Domingo S. Rocha by *Sylvia S. Rocha*; +Maria Rodriguez by *Arthur & Cruz Olague*; +Luiz Martinez by *Paula, Elaine & Martinez Family*

**SUNDAY, Jan. 1, 2017 NEW YEAR’S DAY**

- 8:30 AM – [HT] **San Judas Tadeo Apostol** by *Jose Enrique Gonzalez*
- 11:00 AM – [HT] +Juan ‘John’ Rodriguez by *Family & Friends*; +Nati & +Pedro Diaz by *Petra Rios-Rios*; +Elvira, +Guadalupe, +Jose Maria Hilario by *Elsa Hilario*; +Wilbert Gully by *Mark Gully*; +Evelyn & +Moises Flores by *Petra Rios-Rios*; +Frances & +Juana Torres by *Wanda Anderson*; +Maria Rodriguez by *Fernandez Family*; +John T. Becker Jr. by *Carol & Larry Becker*; In Thanksgiving by *Socorro Escañuelas*



**Sunday’s Reflections**  
*Titus 2:11-14*

**DOING CHRISTMAS**

Your Christmas gift might be something you wear, something you put on your desk, something for the yard, or something to read. Or you might get another kind of gift: something you do. You might get six months at a health club or the voice lessons you were never brave enough to try.

Christ is the gift we all receive this Christmas. Sometimes we treat our faith like other gifts. We wear it on Sundays. We put it on our wall. We read about it. But the gift of Christ is also a gift we do. We receive Christ as a trainer, a teacher, and a guide.

The Letter to Titus says, “The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires.” God appeared in the flesh when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus came to save us, but also to train us.

Throughout the coming year of grace, we will be tempted in many ways, but we will always have this Christmas gift. Jesus came not just to make Christmas Day special, but to make our lives special. He came to train us to reject godless ways and worldly desires.

If you have made New Year’s resolutions, you know new habits take time. A good coach can show you how to improve and to encourage you when you fail. Jesus can help us develop better habits of faith, prayer, and charity. He will help us practice and perform the faith we have received.

Written by Paul Turner. Copyright © 2009