### St. John Parish

126 Hickory Street Strawn, TX 76475

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m. (English), Reconciliation: Before Mass

### \*Pope's Prayer Intention for February 2017\*

Comfort for the Afflicted: That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.

When Pope Francis celebrated the Way of the Cross during World Youth Day last summer in Krakow he asked questions that naturally arise when we encounter human suffering: "Where is God, if evil is present in our world, if there are men and women who are hungry and thirsty, homeless, exiles and refugees? Where is God, when innocent persons die as a result of violence, terrorism and war? Where is God, when cruel diseases break the bonds of life and affection? Or when children are exploited and demeaned, and they too suffer from grave illness? Where is God, amid the anguish of those who doubt and are troubled in spirit?" He answered: "'God is in them'. Jesus is in them; he suffers in them and deeply identifies with each of them. He is so closely united to them as to form with them, as it were, 'one body'. Jesus himself chose to identify with these our brothers and sisters enduring pain and anguish by agreeing to tread the 'way of sorrows' that led to Calvary. By embracing the wood of the cross, Jesus embraced the nakedness, the hunger and thirst, the loneliness, pain and death of men and women of all times."

When we welcome those who suffer into our communities we welcome Jesus. Pope Francis went on to say: "We are called to serve the crucified Jesus in all those who are marginalized, to touch his sacred flesh in those who are disadvantaged, in those who hunger and thirst, in the naked and imprisoned, the sick and unemployed, in those who are persecuted, refugees and migrants. There we find our God; there we touch the Lord. Jesus himself told us this when he explained the criterion on which we will be judged: whenever we do these things to the least of our brothers and sisters, we do them to him (Mt 25: 31-46)." Elaborating on these words, Pope Francis said that if we ignore those who suffer we ignore, even deny, Jesus himself: "In the face of evil, suffering and sin, the only response possible for a disciple of Jesus is the gift of self, even of one's own life, in imitation of Christ; it is the attitude of service. Unless those who call themselves Christians live to serve, their lives serve no good purpose. By their lives, they deny Jesus Christ."

We pray that we, as individuals and communities, may never deny Jesus.

#### St. Rita Parish

1109 Blackwell Road Ranger, TX 76470

Sunday Mass: 8:00 a.m. (English) Reconciliation: Half Hour before Mass

#### St. Francis Xavier Parish

Halbryan and Foch Street Eastland, TX 76448 Sunday Mass: 9:45 a.m. (Spanish) Reconciliation: Half Hour before Mass

http://stfranciseastland.org/



St. John, Strawn

### **Parochial Administrator: Father Reehan Antony**

Parish Office Telephone: 254-647-3163.

If you need a priest (Fr. Reehan) in an emergency (hospital, etc.),

please call 682-207-8557

# Weekday Events in Your Parish/Eventos Durante la Semana de su Parroquia

St. Francis, Eastland Monday – Rosario (Rosary in Spanish), 7 p.m.

Tuesday – Estudio Biblico (Bible Study in Spanish), 7:30 p.m.

Friday – Oracion (Evening Prayer), 7 p.m.

Holy Rosary, Cisco Wednesday – Rosary 9 a.m., then coffee & donuts

1st Wednesday – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Rosary

Sunday – Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew, 5 p.m. Wednesday – Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew, 7 p.m.

#### Calendar of Events/Calendario de Eventos

February 16 St. Rita Town Hall Meeting 7p.m.

February 21 Friendship Meal, Holy Rosary Parish Hall, Cisco, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

"Everyone in need of a meal is invited to attend."

March 1 Ash Wednesday

April 22 6th Annual North Texas Catholic Men's Conference, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., St. Francis of

Assisi Catholic Church, Grapevine. Please visit <u>www.ntxcmc.org.</u>

### +Scripture and Reflection+

Matthew 25: 31-46 Neither group saw Jesus in the hungry, sick, and strangers, but one group had a heart like Jesus that was moved by suffering. The other group had hard hearts and Jesus said that there was no room in his heavenly kingdom for those with hard hearts. By their "sins of omission" they ended up "omitted." How am I challenged to reject sins of omission?

1 Corinthians 12: 12-26 The Body of Christ consists of Jesus, the Head, and all the baptized, parts who are joined to him. Thus, "if one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it." How do I find myself suffering when I see suffering in the world

### Friendship Meal-February 21st

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Hosted by the Cisco Holy Rosary Parish Meal is served from 6pm-7pm.

"Everyone in need of a meal is invited to attend."

# **Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish**

1108 Avenue F Cisco, TX 76437

Sunday Mass: 11:30 a.m. (English) Reconciliation: After Mass

www.ciscoholyrosary.com

## STEWARDSHIP February 4-5, 2017

St. Rita. 993.36 Holy Rosary. 1275.00 St. Francis. 835.84 St. John. 727.00

May God bless you for your generosity.

#### **Mass Intentions**

+St. Rita, Ranger – SUNDAY, February 12<sup>th</sup>. For the repose of the Soul of: Dolores M. Smith. Requested by: Tom, Margo & Family

+Holy Rosary, Cisco – SUNDAY, February 12<sup>th</sup>. Healing Mass for Paulette Foster. Requested by: Holy Rosary Altar Society

#### MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday- St. Rita- 8 am
Wednesday - St. John- 6:45 pm
Thursday- St. Francis Xavier- 7 pm
Friday- Holy Rosary- 9 am

TOWN HALL MEETING

PLACE: ST. RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

DATE: 2-16-2017

TIME: 7 PM

Everyone belongs to St. Rita are welcome