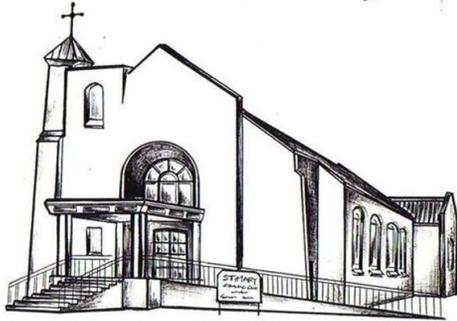


**St. Mary's
&
Holy Name of Jesus
Catholic Churches**



Diocese of Amarillo

Most Rev. Patrick J. Zurek, Bishop

Rev. Grant Spinhirne, Administrator

**St. Mary's
22830 Pondaseta Road
P.O. Box 105
Umbarger, TX 79091
(806) 499-3531**

**Holy Name of Jesus
317 W. Main
P.O. Box 128
Happy, TX 79042
(806) 558-2871**

WWW.STMARYSUMBARGER.COM

Mass Schedule			
		Umbarger	Happy
Mon, December 9	Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary	No Mass	No Mass
Tue, December 10		7 PM - Advent Penance Service	No Mass
Wed, December 11	St. Damasus I	8 AM - Christian Mothers	No Mass
Thu, December 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe	8 AM - Jim Grabber	7 PM -
Fri, December 13	St. Lucy	8 AM - Isabel Spiriti	No Mass
Sat, December 14	St. John of the Cross	No Mass	5:30 PM - Parish Family
Sun, December 15	3rd Sunday of Advent	9:00 AM - Parish Family	No Mass

ST. MARY'S

Date	Lector	Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Usher	Gifts
December 15, 2019	Tina Finke	Brynleigh Crockett Braylee Crockett Breccan Crockett	Kristi Powell Kevin Schenk Rachel Batenhorst	Jerry Brorman & KC Usher	Volunteers

Divine Mercy Chaplet: 1st Sunday at 10:30 AM
Anointing of the Sick: By Request
CYO 4th Sunday 6:00 pm. at the Hall
CCD: Sundays at 10:15-11:30

Christmas Pageant: December 8th and will begin at 5 PM in the parish hall. Please come and support the kids! There will be a potluck, please bring food to celebrate!
 CCD classes will meet in the parish hall that morning for practice.

Reconciliation Services: will be December 10 at 7 PM in place of mass. There will be two priests joining to hear confessions.

December 15th: All Chairmen & Co-Chairmen of the Festival meet at the parish hall at 11:30 for a follow-up meeting. Please have your books ready to turn over.

Flower Collection: The only flower collection from the Christian Mothers will be on December 15th. Please be generous. Thank you!

St Mary's Prayer Blanket Ministry: If you or a loved one suffers from a serious illness and would like a blanket, please contact Laurie Wegman or Fr Grant.

Why you should spend your Advent with Mary By Philip Kosloski

If we walk with Mary to Bethlehem, she might place the Baby Jesus into our heart.

Have you ever considered spending your Advent with the Virgin Mary? Advent, above all the other seasons of the liturgical year, presents the perfect opportunity to draw closer to Mary.

One simple way to do this is to imagine the last few weeks of Mary's pregnancy and to accompany her, pondering what she might have been thinking during this time in her life. This exercise also illustrates perfectly a central spiritual truth: the closer we get to Mary, the closer we are to Jesus. Mary holds Jesus within her very womb and so the more time we spend with her, the more time we are with Jesus.

In the book *Meditations for Advent* the author brings this all to mind and further encourages the reader to spend their Advent with Mary, as it will make Christmas morning even more spiritually enriching.

Let us go to Mary. Let us devote our Advent to Mary. Let us consecrate every thought, word, and action to Mary during this holy season; and then, on the blessed Christmas morning, she will herself place her Infant in our arms; nay, rather, she will lay Him down to rest in our hearts; and He is so obedient to His sweet mother, that He will never stir from the heart wherein she places Him, unless she comes to take Him away. Surely we will not oblige her to do so?

Advent should be a time of special devotion to Mary. Jesus again lies mystically in her womb. Again she pleads unweariedly for her people, as she pleaded in that blessed Advent when He took flesh of her flesh, and bone of her bone. Oh, let us kneel before her now as we would have knelt before her then, and implore her to intercede for us with Jesus, to obtain for us that He may indeed be our light, and that we may never be of the number of those who prefer darkness.

As we prepare for Christmas, let us consider the ways we can develop our relationship with our spiritual mother, drawing closer to her, so that we may draw even closer to Jesus.

HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Adviento: ¿por qué esperar un evento que ya ha tenido lugar?

Por el Hermano Thierry-Dominique Humbrech

El Adviento es un tiempo de espera, pero si Jesús ya ha venido, ¿cuál es entonces su significado?

El año litúrgico ha comenzado. El Adviento ha vuelto. Siempre vuelve demasiado pronto. Nos recuerda que la Navidad ya está en nuestras puertas, que tendremos que estrujar nuestro cerebro para encontrar regalos que ofrecer, sin contar con el miedo a arruinarnos. Pero, ¿por qué esperar un evento que ya ha tenido lugar?

De todas maneras, esperar a Cristo durante un mes, una hora a la semana, o sea cuatro horas en total, no convertirá el mes de diciembre en una sala de espera gigante. Como el sacerdote dice en cada misa que tenemos que esperar (si vamos todos los días, puede volverse agotador), esperemos.

La espera de una natividad que ya ha tenido lugar

Hay algo raro al respecto. Esperamos el regreso de Cristo, sí, en su gloria, el día del Juicio Final, el día en que resucitaremos con Él, con nuestro cuerpo. Tal espera es comprensible, ella marca el futuro y la esperanza.

Pero, ¿podemos esperar una natividad que ya ha tenido lugar?

En verdad, el Adviento no es exactamente una espera. No tenemos que esperar a Aquel que se ha encarnado para siempre. Él nos precede en todo. Si hay espera, es desde el punto de vista litúrgico, cuando se despliega el año nuevo para hacernos vivir lo que Jesús ya ha vivido, recibir las gracias que Él ha dado a todos.

La espera es pedagógica, teatral; es la memoria de los misterios, la celebración de las etapas de la salvación. Esta espera nos pone en presencia de Aquel que viene, cada día, para ofrecernos su gracia. Es Él quien hace la antecámara.

Una oportunidad para comenzar de nuevo

Tenemos necesidad de ritmos, de salidas, un poco como los niños a los que les gusta tanto, al comienzo de la escuela, abrir un cuaderno nuevo.

La vida de oración, afectada por la crema solar del verano, necesita un reinicio, largo tiempo aplazado. No se trata de hacer las mismas cosas, sino de profundizar.

¿Cómo profundizar sin repetirse? Escuchando con más atención los Evangelios de la Misa, magníficos en este período. También hay que prepararlos, reaprenderlos y “hacerlos venir” durante la semana.

Advent reminds us that God is coming, today!

By Philip Kosloski

“Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now!”

It’s tempting to think of God as a “God-in-the-clouds.” In other words, God is not present, here and now, but somewhere far off, and will come again when he is bored with us, humans.

However, Advent reminds us that God is a God of the “present,” and will not only come in the future, but is already here!

Pope Benedict XVI recalled this central spiritual theme in a homily in 2006.

At the beginning of a new yearly cycle, the liturgy invites the Church to renew her proclamation to all the peoples and sums it up in two words “God comes”. These words, so concise, contain an ever new evocative power.

Let us pause a moment to reflect: it is not used in the past tense – God has come, – nor in the future – God will come, – but in the present: “God comes”.

When we think of God as a God who will come in the future, it’s tempting to relax our practice of the faith and put off changing our bad habits until the perpetual “tomorrow.”

We might say to ourselves, “I will stop yelling at my children...tomorrow!” Simply fill in the sentence with whatever “pet sin” we might have and it doesn’t take long to see how our spiritual life is perpetually put on hold.

However, Pope Benedict urges us to see God as one who comes now and is intensely interested in our lives.

Advent calls believers to become aware of this truth and to act accordingly. It rings out as a salutary appeal in the days, weeks and months that repeat: Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now!

The one true God, “the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob”, is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.

This reality should alert us and awaken in us a need to reform our lives today, not tomorrow!

Think about how you would scramble to get your house in order if you heard that Jesus was coming to your house, today!

Let us strive to live each day with the knowledge that God is here, now and is knocking at our door this very second.

Open the door!

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE

FOR BULLETIN NOTICES – Bulletin Deadline: Thursday @ noon. Please Contact Fr. Grant by email: frgrantspinhirne@gmail.com or Christina Wegman by email: cwegman696@yahoo.com or by phone: (806)499-3531.

Baptism or Wedding Please contact Fr. Grant at least 1 month in advance for baptisms and 6 months advance for weddings.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Umbarger: Sundays at 8:30 am or by appointment. **Happy:** Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. or by appointment.

To use or rent the church or parish hall, please contact Fr. Grant or Debbie Batenhorst at least 3 months before the event.

FOR MASS INTENTIONS please talk to Fr. Grant or leave the intention in the collection basket. There are envelopes available in the back of Church.

Please pray for all the sick in our parishes

ST. MARY’S: Severo Gomez, Jeremy Koch, Marie Wieck

Holy Name of Jesus:

The Office of the Victim’s Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Amarillo
Sharyn Delgado
Victim Assistance Coordinator
719 South Austin
Amarillo, Tx 79106
Phone: 806-671-4830
Fax: 806-373-4662
Email: skdelgado@aol.com

Natural Family Planning (NFP). Learn NFP at home and at your own pace with the **Home Study Course** from NFP International, www.nfpandmore.org. Includes Ecological Breastfeeding (it really *can* space babies), a double-check system of fertility awareness, and Catholic teaching that’s easy to understand. Work with a live instructor by email. Completion certificate. Only \$70.

Would you Like to attend an ACTS Retreat Weekend?
Next Retreat: **December 26-29, 2019**
Teen’s Retreat
There is more information about the ACTS Retreat online. If you or someone you know would like to attend you can register online at: **ACTSamarillo.org**

Nazareth Christmas Pageant:
Sunday, December 22 & Monday, December 23
7:30 PM - Free Admission
Holy Family Catholic Church - Nazareth
A live production of the Christmas Story of the Birth of Jesus, presented by members of the Holy Family Parish