

**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**

<b>Mass Schedule</b>			
		<b>Umbarger</b>	<b>Happy</b>
Mon, December 16		No Mass	No Mass
Tue, December 17		7 PM - Chrisitan Mothers	No Mass
Wed, December 18		8 AM - Jim Grabber	No Mass
Thu, December 19		8 AM - Clara Grabber	No Mass
Fri, December 20		8 AM - Marcel Fischbacher	No Mass
Sat, December 21	St. Peter Canisus	No Mass	5:30 PM - Parish Family
Sun, December 22	4th Sunday of Advent	9:00 AM - Parish Family	No Mass

# ST. MARY'S

Date	Lector	Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Usher	Gifts
December 22, 2019	Matthew Steffens	Jacie Guerrero Kyle Guerrero Natalee Finke	Landon Finke Jillian Johnson April Artho	Mike Wegman & KC Usher	Volunteers
Christmas Eve	Robert Friemel	Johnna Finke Lilee Finke Matthew Steffens	Tina Finke Kristi Batenhorst Bill Dorsey	Roger Batenhorst & KC Usher	Volunteers
Christmas Day	Melvin Wieck	Raynee Robinson Tanner Robinson Charles Russell	Harold Artho Jason Garrett Kathy Wieck	Danny Hicks & KC Usher	Volunteers

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

**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!

**Christmas Decorating:** After Mass on Sunday, December 22nd, we will be decorating the Church for Christmas. Please stay and help prepare the Church for the Christmas celebrations. Any help is greatly appreciated. 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.

**This beautiful prayer to St. Nick reminds us he's more than a jolly gift giver**

By Kathleen N. Hattrup

The modern-day mythical character of Santa Claus is well known for being a secret gift-giver. This is due in part to a popular story surrounding the 4th-century bishop, St. Nicholas of Myra. Many Catholic families celebrate St. Nicholas' feast with great enthusiasm, especially as a reminder that Christmas itself, and even Santa Claus, are eminently religious celebrations. Nevertheless, to focus only on St. Nicholas' gift-giving might allow us to forget that he is a saint and a powerful intercessor. This beautiful prayer, part of a Little Office of St. Nicholas, reminds us that the holy bishop can do much more for us than leave chocolate coins (or oranges) in our shoes!

**Prayer to Saint Nicholas**

O good Saint Nicholas, you who are the joy of the children, put in my heart the spirit of childhood, of which the Gospel speaks, and teach me to seed happiness around me. You, whose feast prepares us for Christmas, open my faith to the mystery of God made man. You, good bishop and shepherd, help me to find my place in the Church and inspire the Church to be faithful to the gospel. O good Saint Nicholas, patron of children, sailors, and the helpless, watch over those who pray to Jesus, your Lord and theirs, as well as over those who humble themselves before you. Bring us all in reverence to the Holy Child of Bethlehem, where true joy and peace are found. Amen.

**During Advent**

Good St Nicholas, Help us prepare for the miracle of the coming of Jesus. Help us not to be blind to the gifts of getting ready. Help us be sincere in the greetings we send and receive, with love and prayer. Kind St. Nicholas, protect us from shoppers' fatigue, stress, overspending, yet help us to be kind and generous of heart to all, especially those who are alone, financially poor and fearful. May our celebration of your feast lead others to see the true meaning of giving and receiving and to guide all people to the greatest of all gifts, even Jesus Christ, the prince of peace and child of Mary, Our Lord and only savior. Amen

## HOLY NAME OF JESUS

### The profound symbolism of violet and rose in Advent

By Philip Kosloski

Advent is a special time of preparation in the liturgical year, focusing our hearts on the celebration of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem as well as looking forward to when Jesus will come again. To remind us of these and many other spiritual truths, the Church has chosen the color violet to be the primary color of Advent.

Violet has a long history and was a rare color in the ancient world, not easily made into dye that could be used with clothing. While it was traditionally connected to kings and royalty, it also became associated with penance, making it a somber color and chosen by the Church for penitential seasons.

In an issue of *The American Ecclesiastical Review* (printed in 1902), the author gives a unique explanation behind the reason why violet and rose were chosen for Advent.

Violet vestments signify on the whole Sorrow, and are meant to inspire a grave and thoughtful attitude in the faithful who attend the liturgical services. If you mix blue and red in liquid colors you obtain violet. Blue is the color of heaven and suggests that our thoughts turn away from earth. Red is the color of martyrdom, of blood, and of the flame which consumes the sacrifice. A combination of the two, which makes violet, is, therefore, indicative of sacrifice with a view to heaven, unselfish devotion.

In particular, violet is used in the season of "Advent, when the spirit of reflection and the purging of the heart (as a preparation to meet the poor and humble Christ Child in the Cave of Bethlehem) call for self-denial from motives in which heaven leads the soul against earthly attachments."

Additionally, the color violet is interrupted on the Third Sunday of Advent by the color rose, to signal the coming joy of Christmas.

On the third Sunday of Advent ... when there is a momentary interruption of the penitential strains lest the soul wrapt in continuous darkness might become disconsolate, the Church permits—with the sounds of music and the flowers on the altar—a light purple approaching rose color, to indicate the tone of hopeful joy which mingles with and relieves the application to penance. It is the encouraging caress of the Spouse, our holy Mother, bidding her sons and daughters to keep on bravely in the spirit of faith.

The Church understands that it is difficult to perform penance for an extended period of time and pauses such mortification so that we can anticipate the joy we will soon embrace.

[T]he season is long, the work tiresome, and the body weak. And as the laborer rests at times in the midst of his task, to take a glance at what has been accomplished, and to refresh himself with the anticipation of the joy that awaits him at the end of his work, so the Christian stops in

the midst of Advent preparation to rehearse for a moment the sweet melody of coming Christmas chant and to take in the full meaning of the encouraging words of the Holy Spouse, his Mother the Church, as she calls out to her children "Gaudete," that is "Be joyful," the Lord, the Emmanuel, your consolation and Savior is at hand!

The colors of violet and rose are rich in their symbolism and remind us of the many spiritual themes behind the season of Advent. The next time you go to Mass, or see an Advent wreath, remember these beautiful truths and let them prepare your heart for Christmas.

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### 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.

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE

**FOR BULLETIN NOTICES** – Bulletin Deadline: Thursday @ noon. Please Contact Fr. Grant by email: [frgrantspinhirne@gmail.com](mailto:frgrantspinhirne@gmail.com) or Christina Wegman by email: [cwegman696@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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