

**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 14	St. John of the Cross	No Mass	No Mass
Tue, December 15		7 PM - Christian Mothers	No Mass
Wed, December 16		8 AM - Jim Grabber	No Mass
Thu, December 17		8 AM - Clara Grabber	7 PM
Fri, December 18		8 AM - St. Mary's Parish	No Mass
Sat, December 19		No Mass	5:30 PM - Parish Family
Sun, December 20	The 4th Sunday of Advent	9:00 AM - Parish Family	No Mass

ST. MARY'S

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

Liturgy List: There is a Lector sign-up sheet in the back of church, please sign up!

There will be no Christian Mothers Meeting this month: the next meeting will be on January 19th.

Church Decorations: We will be decorating the church for Christmas next Sunday, Dec. 20, directly after mass. Please join us!

CCD: will continue on December 20. There will be no CCD on December 27 & January 3.

Live Mass Streaming: We will continue to live-stream mass for the time being. To access, follow our Facebook Page: StMarys Umbarger.

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

How to make prayer into a conversation with God

By Philip Kosloski

Prayer should focus on your relationship with God, rather than detailing to him all of your petitions.

Prayer can often be used as a means of unloading all of our petitions, viewing God more as blessing vending machine than a person to be loved. Yet, prayer is first and foremost about our relationship with God and having an honest conversation with him.

French Trappist monk Dom Jean-Baptiste Chautard relates several helpful tips in his spiritual classic, *The Soul of the Apostolate*. In it, he explains how to perform mental prayer and how to view it more as a conversation.

“Mental prayer,” says St. Teresa, “is nothing but a friendly conversation in which the soul speaks, heart-to-heart, with the One Who we know loves us.” A loving conversation... Even if I have long neglected it, Jesus calls me tenderly to mental prayer, and offers me special help in speaking this language of faith, hope, and love, which, as Bossuet says, is precisely what my mental prayer ought to be. A key image to have is speaking to a loving Father, seeing God as he truly is and how he constantly desires to talk to us.

Am I going to resist this appeal of a Father Who calls even the prodigal to come and listen to His word, to talk to Him as a son; to open his heart to Him and to listen to the beatings of His own?

Chautard believed having a conversation with God was vital to a fruitful prayer life, but that it doesn't have to be complicated.

A simple conversation. I will be myself. I will speak to God of my tepidity, or my sins. I will speak to Him as a prodigal, or from the heat of my fervor. With the simplicity of a child, I will put my state of soul before Him, and I will only use words that express what I really am.

The key to fostering this type of prayer is simplicity, speaking to God honestly and from the heart. We do not need high sounding words or complicated prayers. All we need is to reveal to God our heart and all the cares that are currently on it.

If we can do this, treating prayer as a conversation, our soul will benefit from it and God will bring peace to our soul. We may not always be able to discern God's response to us, but even the process of speaking honestly with God will bring our heart closer to the Heart of Jesus.

Thus the result of my conversation will be to elevate my soul to the level of the sanctity of Christ so that He may be able to fashion it in His own likeness.

HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Oración del beato Carlos de Foucauld para rezar en Adviento

By Anna Ashkova

Rézala para prepararte para la fiesta de la Navidad:
"Cuando Te das a mí en la Santa Comunión, ¿no estás tan cerca de mí, tan en mí, como lo estuviste en la Santa Virgen?"

¿Y si este año el beato Carlos de Foucauld se convirtiera en nuestro guía espiritual durante el Adviento? Buscador insaciable de la presencia de Cristo, extrajo del silencio y la desolación del desierto una fe constantemente renovada. Descubre su oración para el tiempo de Adviento y camina a su lado hacia la Navidad para recibir a Jesús:

¡Veinte días todavía! El Tiempo se acerca...

Pero aunque ese día esperado será dichoso, ¡cuán dulce es ya el presente! Estás ahí, Dios mío, oculto en el seno de María, estás ahí en esta casita, adorado por Ella y por José y los ángeles.

Llévame con Ellos, mi Señor.

Señor mío y Dios mío, cuando estoy en tu Santuario, al pie del Tabernáculo, ¿no estás tan cerca de mí como lo estuviste de san José durante el Adviento?

Cuando Te das a mí en la Santa Comunión, ¿no estás tan cerca de mí, tan en mí, como lo estuviste en la Santa Virgen?

Dios mío, qué feliz soy, qué feliz soy.

Pero Señor, Te lo suplico, conviérteme, haz que sea, al pie del Tabernáculo, en la Santa Comunión, lo que deba ser; que deje de estar indiferente, adormecido ante tu Altar, que ya no reciba tibiamente tu Cuerpo divino.

Conviérteme

Conviérteme, conviérteme, Señor mío, ¡Te lo pido en tu Nombre! Recuérdame que prometiste conceder todo lo que Te pidamos en tu Nombre y dar el buen espíritu a quien lo pida.

Dios mío, dame el buen espíritu, tu Espíritu, y hazme pasar este Adviento y todos los días de mi vida de manera que te glorifique tanto como pueda; tanto como me sea posible, tanto como sea tu Voluntad para mí, no tanto como es posible para la Santísima Virgen o san José, tanto como sea tu Voluntad para mí, tanto como sea posible con las Gracias que Tú me das;

Llévame con tus santos Padres tan amorosamente, humildemente, inundado y perdido de admiración, de contemplación, de amor, a Tus pies y durante este Adviento y siempre.

Y esto que Te pido para mí, Te lo pido para todas las personas, y sobre todo para aquellos por quienes debo rezar especialmente, en Ti, por Ti y para Ti. Amén.

A brief guide to evening meditation that ends your day in peace

By Philip Kosloski

St. Francis de Sales gives a few practical tips on how to conclude your evening in prayer.

What is the best way to end your day?

St. Francis de Sales, in his book *Introduction to the Devout Life*, lays out a few simple tips on how to conclude your day with an evening meditation.

He begins by explaining that you should block out adequate time at the end of the day, recalling how you started the day with prayer.

Make sure of some brief leisure before suppertime, and then prostrating yourself before God, and recollecting yourself in the Presence of Christ Crucified, setting Him before your mind with a steadfast inward glance, renew the warmth of your morning's meditation by some hearty aspirations and humble upliftings of your soul to your Blessed Savior ... Repeat those points of your meditation which helped you most, or kindle your heart with anything else you will ... Thank God for having preserved you through the day past.

After you have put yourself in the presence of God and given thanks to God, the next step is to examine how your day went.

Examine how you have conducted yourself through the day, in order to recall where and with whom you have been, and what you have done. If you have done anything good, offer thanks to God; if you have done amiss in thought, word, or deed, ask forgiveness of His Divine Majesty, resolving to confess the fault when opportunity offers, and to be diligent in doing better.

Many spiritual masters suggest this evening examination, ensuring that you will learn from your mistakes and repeat them tomorrow.

Once this examination is done, the best way to end your day is to offer yourself to God and rest peacefully under his gaze.

Then commend your body and soul, the Church, your relations and friends, to God. Ask that the Saints and Angels may keep watch over you, and with God's Blessing go to the rest He has appointed for you.

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:

Umberger: 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: Servero Gomez, Jeremy Koch

Holy Name of Jesus: Lucy Armendariz, Ricardo Brionez Sr., Ricardo Brionez Jr., Joe Frausto, Susana Garza, Betty Gonzales, Martina Mendez, Martin Montoya, Santos Perez, Mario Quzada, Felix Silva, Pedra Soto, Betty Sosa, Leonel Sosa, Mary Ann Sosa, Paula Sosa

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?

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