

# St. Mary's Chapel

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC



CAMPUS MINISTRY

*At Stephen F. Austin State University*

211 E. College Street, Nacogdoches, Texas-75965

Office Phone : 936-564-0661

[www.sfacatholic.net](http://www.sfacatholic.net)

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*Most Reverend Joseph E. Strickland, Bishop of the Diocese of Tyler, Texas*

## Welcome y'all!

### Sunday, December 6, 2015

*Second Sunday of Advent*

#### ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY STAFF

<b>Chaplain:</b>	Fr. Denzil Vithanage— <a href="mailto:denzilvithanage@gmail.com">denzilvithanage@gmail.com</a>
<b>Deacon</b>	Dcn. David Darby —936-560-3249
<b>Program Director:</b>	Jodi Phillips —402-650-4234
<b>Development Director:</b>	Michael Molina —936-414-8205
<b>Pastoral Assistant:</b>	Kim Briggs —936-564-0661
<b>Spiritual Direction</b>	Aloma Marquis —936-414-2405
<i>For sacramental emergencies call:</i> —903-578-2277	

#### CATHOLIC STUDENT ORGANIZATION HEADS

<b>Kappa President:</b>	Sara Bushland —612-636-9985
<b>Grand Knight:</b>	Austin Thurman —972-765-8335
<b>Dancers of the Son</b>	Sam Schroll —979-665-8678
<b>Awakening</b>	Keara King —469-237-5605
	Katherine Janusa—936-371-0279

#### Upcoming Events

December 6	DotS dance Recital—3:00 Pizza Dinners
7	Dead week begins
8	Study Breakfast with FOCUS—9 am <i>Immaculate Conception— Holy Day of Obligation</i> Mass—12:00 & 5:05 RCIA—7pm
9	The Circle
10	Faculty, staff & adult Bible Study—6 pm Knights meeting 8 pm
11	FOCUS Breakfast— 10 am
14	Finals begin Senior & Staff Mass & Dinner—5:05
19	Commencement

#### Mass Times

<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 AM, 1 PM, & 6:00 PM
<b>Tuesday— Friday</b>	5:05 PM
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00 AM

*During summer & other SFASU breaks, such as Thanksgiving weekend, 1 pm Mass is dropped.  
On Holy Days of Obligation & Ash Wednesday, Mass is at 12:05 & 5:05 pm*

#### Confession

<b>Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:</b>	4:00—4:55pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	3:30—4:45pm
<b>Sunday:</b>	10:00—10:45 5:00—5:50 & by appointment

*(Sacred Heart has confession @ 4:15 Saturday if you can't make one of these times)*

#### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

<b>Daily from</b>	— 4:00 pm
<b>Every Wednesday</b>	—9 am—5 pm
<b>With Benediction</b>	@ 4:50 followed by Mass
<b>Monday &amp; Friday</b>	—9 am—10 am

*If your schedule doesn't permit you to sign up for a hour or half hour, then just stop in anytime to visit Jesus and say "I love you...."*

**The chapel is open 24/7 (side door).**

*We are a Catholic Campus Ministry at Stephen F. Austin State University dedicated to bringing Christ to the lives of the whole campus community.*

*With our eyes on Him, we strive to pursue our faith, friendships, & vocations as students with a holy guidance. We're not perfect (far from it), but we would like to try to get there as a family.*

## Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, December 6	11:00 am	Benefactors
	1:00 pm	Kenneth Najvar - b'day
	6:00 pm	Missa Pro Populo- <i>For the People</i>
Monday, December 7	8:30 am	Therese Najvar - b'day 12/14
<b>Tuesday, December 8</b>	12:00 pm	Jacob Slaten b'day 12/29
	5:05 pm	Walter Ledet †
Wednesday, Dec 9	5:05 pm	Natalie Najvar - b'day
Thursday, Dec 10	11:00 am	Tom Najvar -anniv 12/29
Friday, Dec 11	5:05 pm	
Saturday, Dec 12	9:00 am	Kim Briggs
Sunday, December 13	11:00 am	Benefactors
	1:00 pm	Don & Mary McCarley-anniv
	6:00 pm	Missa Pro Populo- <i>For the People</i>

## SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINT'S — *Saints & Readings*

### **Sunday, December 6— Second Sunday of Advent**

Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6;  
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

### **Monday, December 7— Memorial of Saint Ambrose**

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85:9, 10, 1-12, 13-14; Luke 5:17-26

### **Tuesday, December 8— Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4;  
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

### **Wednesday, December 9— St. Juan Diego**

Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10; Matthew 11:28-30

### **Thursday, December 10—**

Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1, 9, 10-11, 12-13; Matthew 11:11-15

### **Friday, December 11— St. Damasus I**

Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Matthew 11:16-19

### **Saturday, December 12— Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10;  
Judith 13:18, 19; Luke 1:26-38

### **Sunday, December 13— Third Sunday of Advent**

Zephaniah 3:14-18; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;  
Philippians Phil 4:4-7; Luke Lk 3:10-18

## St. Nicholas of Myra

### **December 6**

**Patronage:** against imprisonment; robberies; against robbers; apothecaries; bakers; barrel makers; boatmen; boys; brewers; brides; captives; children; coopers; dock workers; druggists; fishermen; grooms; judges; lawsuits lost unjustly; maidens; merchants; murderers; newlyweds; parish clerks; paupers; pawnbrokers; perfumeries; perfumers; pharmacists; pilgrims; poor people; prisoners; sailors; scholars; schoolchildren; shoe shiners; spinsters; students; thieves; travelers; unmarried girls; watermen

Saint Nicholas, bishop of Myra, is undoubtedly one of the most popular saints honored in the Western world. In the United States, his memory has survived in the unique personality of Saint Claus — the jolly, rotund, white-bearded gentleman who captivates children with promises of gifts on Christmas Eve. Considered primarily as the patron saint of children, Nicholas is also invoked by sailors, merchants, bakers, travelers and pawnbrokers.

In spite of his widespread fame, Saint Nicholas, from the historian's point of view, is hardly more than a name. He was born in the last years of the third century in Lycia, Asia Minor. His uncle, the archbishop of Myra in Lycia, ordained him and appointed him abbot of a nearby monastery. At the death of the archbishop, Nicholas was chosen to fill the vacancy, and he served in this position until his death. About the time of the persecutions of Diocletian, he was imprisoned for preaching Christianity but was released during the reign of Emperor Constantine.

Popular legends have involved Saint Nicholas in a number of charming stories, one of which relates Nicholas' charity toward the poor. A man of Patara had lost his fortune, and finding himself unable to support his three maiden daughters, was planning to turn them into the streets as prostitutes. Nicholas heard of the man's intentions and secretly threw three bags of gold through a window into the home, thus providing dowries for the daughters. The three bags of gold mentioned in this story are said to be the origin of the three gold balls that form the emblem of pawnbrokers. He performed many miracles and exercised a special power over flames. He practiced both the spiritual and temporal works of mercy, and fasted twice a week.

After Nicholas' death on December 6 in or around 345, his body was buried in the cathedral at Myra. It remained there until 1087, when seamen of Bari, Italy, seized the relics of the saint and transferred them to their own city. Veneration for Nicholas had already spread throughout Europe as well as Asia, but this occurrence led to a renewal of devotion in the West. Countless miracles were attributed to the saint's intercession. His relics are still preserved in the church of San Nicola in Bari; an oily substance, known as *Manna di S. Nicola*, which is highly valued for its medicinal powers, is said to flow from them.

The story of Saint Nicholas came to America in distorted fashion. The Dutch Protestants carried a popularized version of the saint's life to New Amsterdam, portraying Nicholas as nothing more than a Nordic magician and wonder-worker. Our present-day conception of Santa Claus has grown from this version. Catholics should think of Nicholas as a saint, a confessor of the faith and the bishop of Myra — not merely as a jolly man from the North Pole who brings happiness to small children.



### Announcements

- ⇒ The **Adult Bible Study** has started and welcomes anyone wanting to join us weekly on Thursday nights at 6:00 pm in the front room at St. Joseph's.
- ⇒ **Dancers of the Son** will be having their second annual **recital on Sunday, December 6th at 3pm in Kennedy Auditorium. Free admission!**
- ⇒ Donuts and Devotions, our monthly morning of recollection for Women, will be happening again on Saturday, December 12th at 10am in St. Joseph's Home! This month we will be talking about Joy as a fruit of the Holy Spirit.
- ⇒ Join us this Tuesday for a Candlelight Rosary at 9pm in the Chapel, in honor of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception! "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." There will be 2 Masses that day also.
- ⇒ This Wednesday, instead of the Circle, join us after dinner for an Advent Penance Service from 6:30-8:30! The Eucharist will be exposed, and we will have Priests available for confession.
- ⇒ The Magic Table of food is back! Starting Tuesday, snacks will be available in Ganter Hall for all your study break needs! The center will also remain open 24 hours a day until the end of finals, for those late night study sessions.

### **Our Sunday Offering**

*St. Mary's Chapel & the Campus Ministry* mainly depends upon the generous support of all who join with us in the celebration of the Lord's presence in the Eucharist, which really means "thanksgiving." What we offer to God through our donations is also a sign of our thanksgiving to God for his generosity. Without your help and support, our Chapel and Campus Ministry cannot function. Please be generous as God is generous to you in many ways. "God loves a cheerful giver."

St. Mary's is not a traditional parish. We must rely on financial support from persons who understand the very important role of campus ministry in the nurture of Catholic youth. We are a dynamic growing ministry and need your support. Consider a 1 to 4 year financial commitment through our Living Faith Society. Call the office at 936-564-0661, talk to our staff— Fr. Denzil, Michael, Jodi, or Kim or go to our website at [sfacatholic.net](http://sfacatholic.net).

*Thank you for your generous support!*  
**Stewardship - A Way of Life**

Sunday Collection (11/29) \$ 2714

2nd Collection—Charity Fund \$ 215

***Thank You!***

## **Chaplain's Desk → Breaking the Word:**

None of us get to be competent, mature people without the help of others. In fact, no one gets to be a graduate without the investment of other people; people who have loved you all along the way.

This is exactly what today's readings underscore. None of us received our Catholic faith on our own. No, there was somebody in our lives who pointed out to us the vibrant faith of the Church, someone who shared his or her faith with us either by word or example – and perhaps both. In the second reading (Phil 1:4-6, 8-11), Paul refers to such people as "partners for the Gospel" (Phil. 1:5)

Baptism empowers us to become partners for the Gospel, handing on the Gospel to family, friends, colleagues, and others. The best way to share the good news of Jesus Christ is by courageously witnessing to God's love and mercy in public and in private, wherever life finds us. But how do we become partners for the Gospel?

St. Peter Julian Eymard, champion of the Blessed Sacrament, founder of the Congregations of the Blessed Sacrament, tells us how. He said – and I'm paraphrasing here – that every person has his or her own inner grace, gifts and talents given by God. It is up to us to discover how best to use these in the service of the Gospel and the Church. God has uniquely called and gifted each of us to be a partner of the Gospel. And we do this as students, married persons and loving families, committed singles, consecrated men and women and those called to the ordained ministry.

The point is this: everybody is able to become partners for the Gospel simply by being faithful and committed Catholics, each according to his or her own particular vocation.

In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that the future of our partnership for the Gospel is ultimately in God's hands, and God, who has begun this good work in each one of us, will bring it to fulfillment (Phil. 1:6).

We need simply to remain faithful to our particular calling, and God will bring it to fulfillment on the last day.

Blessings and Prayer!  
*Fr. D.*

Next week we will be beginning the Kick-off for our future Student Center.  
Stay tuned for more information!



Please join us in praying the Memorare for this endeavor.

### MEMORARE

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

**GOD BLESS  
ALL  
CATHOLIC JACKS!**

Hebert Health Care, Inc.

**Pray for  
our seminarians!  
"Nick and Nick"**

-The Bolinger Family



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*Blessing to all who serve  
on the altar of the Lord  
at St. Mary's.*

-Betty Ledet



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