

# 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**

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*Joseph E. Strickland, Bishop of the Diocese of Tyler*

## Welcome y'all!

## Sunday, December 18th, 2016

*4th Sunday in Advent*

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

<b>Chaplain:</b>	Fr. Denzil Vithanage	—903-578-2277
<b>Deacon</b>	Dcn. David Darby	—936-645-5582
<b>Development Director:</b>	Michael Molina	—936-414-8205
<b>Pastoral Assistant:</b>	Kim Briggs	—936-564-0661
<b>Media</b>	AJ Viti	—214-783-7999
<b>Music</b>	Linda Parr	—936-715-5148
<b>Programs</b>	Austin Thurman	—972-765-8335
<b>Spiritual Direction</b>	Aloma Marquis	—936-414-2405
<b>RCIA</b>	Teresa Darby	—936-585-2585
<b>FOCUS Team Director</b>	Dorian Arellano	—512-750-1090
<b>St. Patrick Catholic School</b>		—936-634-6719

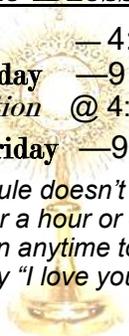
### CATHOLIC STUDENT ORGANIZATION HEADS

<b>Awakening</b>	Andrew Smith	—281-901-2442
	Caitlin Newman	—281-475-0422
<b>Confirmation Coordinator</b>	Keara King	—469-237-5605
<b>Core Team Coordinator</b>	Brittany Betik	—281-203-7316
<b>Catholic Daughters</b>	Abbie Vinci	—214-516-5361
<b>Dancers of the Son</b>	Katherine Janusa	—936-371-0279
<b>Kappa President:</b>	Johanna Chaffer	—254-718-3969
<b>Grand Knight:</b>	Russell Stager	—903-292-9626
<b>Lumberjacks For Life</b>	Maggie Hebert	—409-779-0709

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Daily from** — 4:00 pm  
**Every Wednesday** —9 am—5 pm  
**With Benediction** @ 4:50 followed by Mass  
**Monday & Friday** —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...."*



### Mass Times

<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 AM, 1:00 & 6:00 PM
<b>Monday— Friday</b>	5:05 PM ( <i>Mon 5:05 will begin 8/29</i> )
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00 AM
<i>On Holy Days of Obligation &amp; Ash Wednesday, Mass is at 12:05 &amp; 5:05 pm</i>	

### Confession

<b>Monday through Friday:</b>	4:00 pm
<b>Saturday:</b>	8:00 am—8:50 am
<b>Sunday:</b>	10:00-10:45 am & 5:00-5:45 pm & by appointment

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

### Upcoming Events

December 18	Rosary Pilgrimage @ Monastery
23-26	Christmas Holidays-offices closed
January 3	SEEK17
16	Leadership Workshop
17	Classes begin
20	Awakening 4th day
28	March for Life—Austin
February 4	CDA Masquerade Ball
18-20	Men's Retreat
25	Choir Concert
March 1	Ash Wednesday
5	Rite of Election RCIA Presentation to the Bishop
11-17	Spring Break
April 1	Women's Retreat

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

*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.*

**LITURGICAL OBSERVANCES - MASS SCHEDULE - MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>DATE OBSERVANCE &amp; FEAST</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b><u>READINGS</u></b>	<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>	<b>REQUESTED BY</b>
<b>Sunday, December 18</b> <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>11:00 am</b>	Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24	'Mass for the People'	St. Mary's
	<b>6:00 pm</b>		Graduating Seniors	Fr. Denzil
<b>Monday, December 19</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Psalm 71:3-4,5-6,16-17; Luke 1:5-25	Jerry Najvar	Andrew & Maeve
<b>Tuesday, December 20</b>	<b>5:05 pm</b>	Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Luke 1:26-38	Walter Ledet	Betty Ledet
<b>Wednesday, December 21</b> <i>St. Peter Canisius</i>	<b>5:05 pm</b>	Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18; Psalm 33:2-3,11-12,20-21; Luke 1:39-45	Vocations	St. Mary's
<b>Thursday, December 22</b>	<b>5:05 pm</b>	1 Samuel 1:24-28; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8; Luke 1:46-56	Our seminarians	St. Mary's
<b>Friday, December 23</b> <i>St. John of Kanty</i>	<b>5:05 pm</b>	Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Psalm 25:4-5,8-9, 10,14; Luke 1:57-66	Kirsten & Nathaniel McCormick b'days	Justin & Kim
<b>Saturday, December 24</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14,16; Psalm 89:2-3,4-5,27, 29; Luke 1:67-79	Our Benefactors	St. Mary's
<b>Sunday, December 25</b> <i>Christmas</i>	<b>11:00 am</b>	Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96: 1-2,2-3,11-12,13; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14	'Mass for the People'	St. Mary's & Fr. Denzil

OFFERING MASSES FOR OUR BELOVED ONES IS OUR SPIRITUAL DUTY AND A CHARITABLE WORK.  
PLEASE OFFER MASSES FOR THEM ON THEIR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS.  
ENVELOPES ARE IN THE FOYER OR IN THE OFFICE. YOU MAY COME TO THE OFFICE TO CHECK FOR AVAILABLE DATES.

*Dear Friends,*

What God promised to Ahaz in the First Reading (Isaiah 7:10-14) is fulfilled in the scene in today's Gospel (Matthew 1:18-24). Jesus is the promised Savior, and He is truly God's presence among us—Emmanuel.

At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, following the Resurrection, Jesus makes His own Promise that the Angel made to Joseph, namely, "I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Matthew 28:20). As we prepare for the Liturgical Commemoration of Christ's first coming among us at Christmas, we do well to recall His Promise to remain with us always.

The Second Vatican Council enumerated five such ways in which the Risen Christ is present to His Church: in the ministry of bishops and priests, in the word proclaimed, in the sacraments, when the church prays and worships God, and especially in the Eucharist (see Sacrosanctum Concilium 7). We also can add that Christ is present in the least brothers and sisters of ours (Matthew 25:40), and in other moments and experiences throughout our lives.

God's promised Savior, Jesus Christ, remains with us always as we wait for His return in Glory. Like Isaiah and Paul, may we never lack the ability to trust in God's promises and His abiding presence.

God Bless!



*Fr D*

## Open your heart, go to confession during Advent!

Confession at Christmastime need not be a burdensome chore. Just like the body cannot live without food, the soul cannot live without grace – the presence of God, the presence of the Holy Spirit,” said Bishop Louis DeSimone. Just how, then, does one get grace? The Lord in His goodness gave us seven channels – the sacraments. One of them is perhaps the most beautiful of all: the sacrament of reconciliation. Why? We all know our limitations, we all know we are sinners.” Just as in the parable of the Prodigal Son, “we want to go to Him and say, ‘Father, please forgive me. You can make me whole.’”

Advent is a most advantageous time to go to confession, continued Bishop DeSimone. “With all that’s going on, we want to be absolutely ready to receive the Infant Jesus. When I go to holy Communion on Christmas, I want to go as white & pure as I can.”

Being mindful of the Blessed Mother and her role in the Incarnation of Jesus Christ is another manner in which to properly prepare for Christmas. “Imagine, in a way, that the Blessed Virgin Mary is the extraordinary minister of holy Communion and she’s going to hand me her Son, here. “How would I receive Him? That’s the way I want to be ready to receive holy Communion on Christmas Day after I have made a very good confession.”

A person’s mindset plays a major role in disposition to the sacrament of reconciliation, said Father Dennis Carbonaro. “When you look at a confessional with your human eyes, you see a door, a curtain, a screen, a light. But our spiritual eyes see something different: we see the open heart of Christ,” he said. “It’s precisely because Christ’s heart was pierced with the sword that it’s opened up and we’re able, then, to know what’s in His heart for us – Mercy. “If we can keep that in our mind as we’re approaching confession, it might lower some of that nervousness.”

Discomfort in and of itself is understandable in the confessional, particularly among those who have been away from the sacrament for some time, or for those who have a grave matter to discuss with the priest. Those are the confessions that priests welcome the most because we know that it’s God who’s moving them back to Himself. That’s what we realize.”

An adage of the late Pope John Paul I is most apt in this circumstance, “He simply said, ‘*His patience awaits us.*’ We really all are loving him late,” Father Carbonaro said. “Yet, His patience awaits us. If we can hold that up as the jewel that is at the heart of confession, then people will be drawn. How could you not be drawn?”

Next to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery at Easter, the Church holds most sacred the commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ and the events surrounding His early life. Even the manger scene has all kinds of real life situations, In essence, it’s “our life” depicted in the stable. And there at the center is the Lord. What we see in the manger at Christmas is what God wants to do for us all the time: for Him to be in the center of our hearts so that all the other things that surround our lives can find their place in Him.

“Going to confession we generally associate with Lent, and that’s very appropriate. But it’s equally appropriate in Advent as we ‘clear a way’ for our Lord in our hearts. Going to confession in Advent is a beautiful way to prepare for the reception of the holy Eucharist at the Christmas Mass. I don’t think it could be said any better than what everyone will sing on Christmas Day: ‘Come, let us adore Him. With an invitation like that,” Father Carbonaro said, “it’s worth saying ‘Yes.’”

by Christie L. Chicoine

## Our Sunday Offering

St. Mary’s is not a traditional parish, and relies on support from it’s generous donors.

Sunday Collection (12/11) \$2880

*Thank you for your generous support!*

## Announcements

⇒During the **holidays** we will only have **Adoration** 1 hour before Masses. No 1:00 pm Mass beginning Sunday, December 18th through January 22nd.

⇒Our **offices** will be **closed December 23rd—26th and January 2.**

⇒During the holidays, **Mass on Mondays** will be at **9:00 am**

⇒**Rosary Pilgrimage**—All are invited to a rosary holy hour for vocations on Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Monastery of the Infant Jesus in Lufkin, TX. Join the Sisters in praying the rosary for vocations followed by Night Prayer. This year marks the 800th anniversary of the confirmation of the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans) by Pope Honorius III in 1216. As part of the jubilee celebrations a virtual rosary pilgrimage is taking place in the 200 Dominican monasteries throughout the world. During the year each monastery has had two days assigned to it where the rosary is prayed solemnly in a public celebration. December 18-19 the pilgrimage comes to the Monastery of the Infant Jesus so this year’s holy hour takes on special significance.

**Here are the confession times & places for our deanery.**

19-Dec	Lufkin (St. Patrick)	Fr. R	6-8:30PM	Eng/Span
21-Dec	Sacred Heart	- 5 confessors	6:30-8:30PM	Eng/Span
21-Dec	Diboll		7-9PM	Span/Eng

*IF you want your announcements or meetings in the bulletin. Please e-mail them to Kim by Thursday mornings!*





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.*



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on the altar of the Lord  
at St. Mary's.*  
-Betty Ledet

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