

St. Anthony Church
1602 Bowie / P.O. Box 669 ~ Columbus, Texas 78934
(979)732-2562 ~ www.stanthonycolumbustx.net

Pastor: Rev. Augustine Nsiah Asante **Youth Minister: Jonathan Dooley 733-7740**
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Nelson Gonzalez **Bible Study: Lorraine Novosad 732-6336**
Deacon Bennie Holesovsky **Religious Education: Lorraine Novosad 732-6336**
Deacon Charlie Novosad
Secretary: Tracey Lanham: (979)732-2562, tracey@stanthonycolumbustx.net
Church Office: 635 Bonham; Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8am-3:30pm

St. Anthony Catholic School
(979) 732-5505
stanthonycolumbus.net
John O'Leary, Principal

Weekday Masses: Mon, Wed & Fri 5:30pm - Tue & Thurs 7:30am in the Chapel
Weekend Masses: Sat. Vigil - 6:00pm; Sun. 8:00am, 10:00am, & 12:00noon (Spanish)
Confessions: Sat. 4:30pm-5:30pm in the Church & 15 min before Weekday Masses in Church Office

Liturgies for the Week

Mon	Dec 16	5:30pm	+Nora Schobel
Tues	Dec 17	7:30am	+Amanda Meyer
Wed	Dec 18	5:30pm	+Ramiro Garcia
Thur	Dec 19	7:30am	+Kevin Oppermann
Thur	Dec 19	5:30pm	+Leonard Wostarek
Fri	Dec 20	5:30pm	+Frank and Ottilia Lesikar
Sat	Dec 21	6:00pm	Living & Deceased Members of the Roman Polach Family
Sun	Dec 22	8:00am	+Audrey Kouba
Sun	Dec 22	10:00am	+Albert and Gladys Hoelscher
Sun	Dec 22	12:00noon	+Gilberto Hernandez

<u>Ministers serving this weekend</u>	
6pm	L. & D. Riehl, K. Weishuhn
C/L	J. O'Leary
EM	J. O'Leary, T. Stehling, D. Rios
8am	S. & B. Wolters, J. Trapp
C/L	S. Rhodes
EM	S. Rhodes, RJ Jauernig, J. Barta
10am	E. & J. Schobel, Z. Kleimann
C/L	K. Kleimann
EM	N. Nelson, D. Dungen, K. Kleimann
12pm	E. & J. Tovar, M. Garcia
C/L	A. Trujillo
EM	O. & L. Villalba

Sunday, December 15, 2019
Third Sunday of Advent

"Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" What a strange question, especially from John the Baptist. Not only was John Jesus' kinsman, but he had baptized Jesus and seen the Spirit descend upon Him. But now that he is in prison and awaiting execution, John seems uncertain. Was he wearied by suffering? Did he need reassurance that he had not labored in vain? Or had he heard rumors of plots to kill Jesus and couldn't conceive that God's Messiah would suffer death? We just don't know.

But perhaps John wasn't uncertain at all. Maybe it was all part of the plan. What if John was doing exactly what he had always done: helping people recognize the Messiah? Maybe his question wasn't for himself but for his disciples--to help them believe in Jesus.

John's time was short. Concerned for his followers, he wouldn't want them to fall away once he died. His mission had always been to lead people to Jesus, and he was determined to be faithful to that mission right up to the very end. So it makes sense that before he died, John would want his disciples to know for themselves that Jesus was the Messiah. It makes sense that meeting Jesus would persuade them far more than John's words.

John's question resonates in our hearts too. Is Jesus really who He says He is? Can we find joy in Him no matter what? Of course, we already have faith in Jesus, but don't we all need more? So John sends us to Jesus, along with his disciples, so that we can hear and see Him.

Today is Gaudete Sunday, a day to rejoice that the Messiah is near. So when you see Jesus on the cross in your church, when you hear Him in His Word and receive Him in Communion, echo John's question: "Are You the one my heart is searching for?" Try to quiet your heart, and listen for His answer. Let Him convince you of His love and His grace. And then rejoice with Him. (from "The Word Among Us")

"¿Eres tú el que va a venir, o debemos buscar a otro?" Qué pregunta tan extraña, especialmente de Juan el Bautista. No sólo era pariente de Juan Jesús, sino que había bautizado a Jesús y había visto al Espíritu descender sobre él. Pero ahora que está en prisión y esperando la ejecución, John parece incierto. ¿Estaba cansado de sufrir? ¿Necesitaba la seguridad de que no había trabajado en vano? ¿O si hubiera oído rumores de conspiraciones para matar a Jesús y no pudiera concebir que el Mesías de Dios sufriría la muerte? Simplemente no lo sabemos.

Pero tal vez John no era incierto en absoluto. Tal vez todo era parte del plan. ¿Y si Juan estaba haciendo exactamente lo que siempre había hecho: ayudar a la gente a reconocer al Mesías? Tal vez su pregunta no era para sí mismo, sino para sus discípulos, para ayudarlos a creer en Jesús.

El tiempo de John fue corto. Preocupado por sus seguidores, no quería que se cayeran una vez que muriera. Su misión siempre había sido guiar a las personas a Jesús, y estaba decidido a ser fiel a esa misión hasta el final. Así que tiene sentido que antes de morir, Juan quería que sus discípulos supieran por sí mismos que Jesús era el Mesías. Tiene sentido que conocer a Jesús los persuada mucho más que las palabras de Juan.

La pregunta de John también resuena en nuestros corazones. ¿Es Jesús realmente quien dice ser? ¿Podemos encontrar gozo en El pase lo que pase? Por supuesto, ya tenemos fe en Jesús, pero ¿no necesitamos más? Así que Juan nos envía a Jesús, junto con sus discípulos, para que podamos escucharlo y verlo.

Hoy es el domingo de Gaudete, un día para alegrarse de que el Mesías está cerca. Así que cuando veas a Jesús en la cruz de tu iglesia, cuando lo escuches en Su Palabra y lo recibas en Comunión, hazte eco de la pregunta de Juan: "¿Eres tú el que mi corazón está buscando?" Trate de calmar su corazón y escuchar Su respuesta. Deja que Te convenza de Su amor y De Su gracia. Y luego regocijaos con el. (de "La Palabra entre Nosotros")

Calendar for the Week

Sun	Dec 15	Columbus Community Choir "The Heart of Christmas," 4:00pm at the CHS Auditorium
Mon	Dec 16	Initial Safe Environment Training, 1:00pm in the Church Office
Tues	Dec 17	TNT Quilters, 8:00am at KC Hall TLC Bingo, 3:00pm SAS 3K, 4K, and 5K Christmas Performance, 6:00pm in SAS Cafeteria
Wed	Dec 18	SAS Early Dismissal, 12:30pm (No School for Christmas Holidays December 19-January 6)
Thur	Dec 19	CDA Rosary, 10:30am at The Oaks
Fri	Dec 20	Decorating the Church with Poinsettias
Sun	Dec 22	Diving Mercy and an Hour of Adoration, 3:00pm in Chapel

Last Weekend's Collection

\$ 3169.00	Sunday Envelopes
\$ 1554.00	Loose
\$ 1065.00	Religious Retirement Fund
\$ 338.00	Legacy Fund
\$ 1143.00	Immaculate Conception

Donations Made Last Week

\$ 115.00	A/C Donations
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Donations for New A/C in the Church

\$ 53,038.00	(\$130,000.00 Needed)
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"Thank you for your generosity!"

"Building on our Legacy, Building for Christ!"

Your donations are appreciated. Construction of our beautiful school is complete, but we still have a loan with the Diocese, which to date totals **\$1,238,000.94**. (The loan started at \$1,300,214.50, with an interest rate of 4%.) If you would like to make a donation, please see Tracey in the church office. No gift is too small! Thank you!

If you are new to the parish, please register your family in the church office or fill out a form from the back of church and drop in the collection basket. PLEASE let your previous parish know that you are leaving. **Si usted es nuevo a la parroquia**, por favor registrar su familia en la oficina de la iglesia o llenar un formulario de la parte posterior de la iglesia y colocar en la canasta. Por favor, comuniqué su anterior parroquia que va a salir.

<u>Parish Advent Confession Schedule</u>		<u>Christmas Mass Times</u>	
Monday, December 16	4:00-5:00pm	Christmas Eve	5:00pm
Wednesday, December 18	4:00-5:00pm		9:00pm
Thursday, December 19	9:00-10:00am	Christmas Day	8:00am
Friday, December 20	4:00-5:00pm		10:00am
Saturday, December 21	4:00-5:00pm		12:00noon (Spanish)

Ministers To Serve December 21 & 22

12/21	6:00pm	AS A. & L. Potter, K. Weishuhn	12/22	10:00am	AS D, H, & T. Schobel
		C/L R. Heffley			C/L J. O'Leary
		EM R. Heffley, C. & T. Potter			EM J. O'Leary, K. Kleimann, D. Dungen
		FG D. Wagner, F. Holesovsky			FG Volunteer
12/22	8:00am	AS J. & J. Rau, A. Cranek	12/22	12:00pm	AS L. Alvarez, A. Garcia, S. Gonzales
		C/L S. Glueck			C/L M. Sanchez
		EM J. & S. Glueck			EM A. & V. Sanchez
		FG Volunteer			
EM to TLC 12/22, 9:30am:		B. Besch, Nancy Nelson			

The Altar Society is accepting donations for **poinsettia plants** to decorate the altars for Christmas. To donate or to remember someone special, use the envelopes at the entrances of the church or go by the church office. You may put your envelope in the collection basket.

Please keep <u>Rusty Theut and</u> <u>John Glueck</u> in your prayers as they continue their journey in the Diaconate

The Columbus Community Choir will present "The Heart of Christmas" today at 4:00pm in the CHS Auditorium.

The flowers on the altar this weekend were donated by Ministerio Guadalupano in honor of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. **The pink poinsettias** were donated by the Altar Society for Gaudete Sunday.

Do you have **aluminum cans** that need to be recycled? The school collects cans in the trailer in the parking lot across from the school gym. **To date, those recycled cans have raised over \$4000 to go towards the load for the new school building.**

Please remember St. Anthony Church and the Capital Campaign in your end-of-year donations.