

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 23	5:30pm	+Daniel Munsch
Tues	Dec 24	5:00pm	+Whitney Kotrla
Tues	Dec 24	9:00pm	+Michael Miksch
Wed	Dec 25	8:00am	+Jennifer, LJ, and Leroy Friedel
Wed	Dec 25	10:00am	+Jimmy, Rusty, and Gary Mikulenska
Wed	Dec 25	12:00noon	+Linda Schmidt
Thur	Dec 26	7:30am	Rusty Theut, John Glueck, and all men in the Victoria Diaconate
Fri	Dec 27	5:30pm	+Charles Squyres
Sat	Dec 28	6:00pm	+Charles Besch
Sun	Dec 29	8:00am	John and Sandy Glueck & Family (S.I.)
Sun	Dec 29	10:00am	+Leroy Sebesta
Sun	Dec 29	12:00noon	+Jose Trinidad Rosales

<u>Ministers serving this weekend</u>	
<u>6pm</u>	A. & L. Potter, K. Weishuhn
<u>C/L</u>	R. Heffley
<u>EM</u>	R. Heffley, C. & T. Potter
<u>8am</u>	J. & J. Rau, A. Cranek
<u>C/L</u>	S. Glueck
<u>EM</u>	J. & S. Glueck, J. Huebel
<u>10am</u>	D, H. & T. Schobel
<u>C/L</u>	J. O'Leary
<u>EM</u>	J. O'Leary, K. Kleimann, D. Dungen
<u>12pm</u>	L. Alvarez, A. Garcia, S. Gonzales
<u>C/L</u>	M. Sanchez
<u>EM</u>	A. & V. Sanchez

Sunday, December 22, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent

"Ask for a sign from the Lord" (Isaiah 7:11). Things are looking bad for King Ahaz of Jerusalem. He was barely holding back an attack from the armies of Aram and Samaria. The situation became so desperate that Ahaz decided to appeal to the king of Assyria for help. "I am your servant and your son," he wrote. "Come up and rescue me" (2 Kings 16:7). Hearing the news, the prophet Isaiah urged Ahaz to reconsider. He knew that bowing to Assyria would mean adopting the nation's false idols and sinful traditions. "Ask for a sign from the Lord," he begged the king (Isaiah 7:11). *Let God help you.*

"Pide una señal del Señor" (Isaías 7:11). Las cosas se ven mal para el rey Acaz de Jerusalén. Apenas estaba frenando un ataque de los ejércitos de Aram y Samaria. La situación se volvió tan desesperada que Acaz decidió pedir ayuda al rey de Asiria. "Yo soy tu siervo y tu hijo", escribió. "Suven y rescátame" (2 Reyes 16:7). Al escuchar las noticias, el profeta Isaías instó a Acaz a reconsiderar. Sabía que inclinarse ante Asiria significaría adoptar los falsos ídolos y tradiciones pecaminosas de la nación. "Pide una señal del Señor", rogó al rey (Isaías 7:11). *Deja que Dios te ayude.*

Pero Acaz se negó. No quería arriesgar la ira de Dios al parecer abrirse a Dios a probarse a sí mismo. Además, pensó que Dios no podía ser tan bueno como para rescatarlo, especialmente no después de todas las formas en que Acaz lo había desobedecido en el pasado.

Al igual que Acaz, nosotros también podemos temer que tengamos que lidiar con los desafíos de la vida por nuestra cuenta. Pero Dios siempre nos está dando señales de Su presencia y Su ayuda. Algunos son sutiles, como un hermoso amanecer, y otros son más obvios, como la fidelidad de un amigo. Y luego está el signo dramático que Isaías le dio a Acaz: "La virgen concebirá, y dará a luz un hijo, y lo nombrará Emmanuel" (Isaías 7:14). Emmanuel. Dios con nosotros. Un signo vivo y respirador del amor y la protección de Dios. Un signo personal e innegable del compromiso de Dios con Su pueblo. Una promesa de que el la ha visto y está lista para ayudar si nos dirigimos a El.

En la misa de hoy, estarás rodeado de señales: estatuas, un crucifijo, un altar, y tal vez una guardería. Y por supuesto, el más grande e íntimo de todos los signos: Jesús, presente en forma de pan y vino. Es una señal que no sólo ves, sino que una vez que puedes probar y tocar. Es la señal que redime, sana y restaura. Así que no seas como Ahaz. Bienvenido este letrero. Tómallo en tu corazón y alma. *(from "The Word Among Us")*

But Ahaz refused. He didn't want to risk God's wrath by seeming to dare God to prove himself. Besides, he thought, God could not possibly be so good as to rescue him--especially not after all the ways Ahaz had disobeyed him in the past.

Like Ahaz, we too can fear that we have to deal with the challenges of life all on our own. But God is always giving us signs of His presence and His help. Some are subtle, like a beautiful sunrise, and others are more obvious, like the faithfulness of a friend. And then there's the dramatic sign that Isaiah gave Ahaz: "The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name Him Emmanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). Emmanuel. God-with-us. A living, breathing sign of God's love and protection. A personal, undeniable sign of God's commitment to His people. A promise that He has seen our need and is ready to help if we turn to Him.

At Mass today, you'll be surrounded by signs: statues, a crucifix, an altar, and maybe a crèche. And of course, the greatest and most intimate of all signs: Jesus, present in the form of bread and wine. He is a sign you not only see but once you can taste and touch. He is the sign that redeems, heals, and restores. So don't be like Ahaz. Welcome this sign. Take it into your heart and soul. *(from "The Word Among Us")*

Calendar for the Week

Sun	Dec 22	Diving Mercy and an Hour of Adoration, 3:00pm in Chapel
Tues	Dec 24	Christmas Eve Masses, 5:00pm and 9:00pm
Wed	Dec 25	Christmas Day Masses, 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00noon (Spanish)
Fri	Dec 27	Zika/Mayorga Rehearsal, 5:00pm
Sat	Dec 28	Daniel Zika/Lexus Mayorga Wedding, 2:00pm

Last Weekend's Collection

\$	3271.00	Sunday Envelopes
\$	1266.00	Loose
\$	619.00	Our Lady of Guadalupe

Donations Made Last Week

\$	634.00	Capital Campaign Donations & Pledges
\$	150.00	Capital Campaign Memorials
\$	620.00	Legacy Fund
\$	60.00	Legacy Memorials
\$	15.00	A/C Donations

Donations for New A/C in the Church

\$ 53,053.00 (\$130,000.00 Needed)

"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.

The **TNT Quilters** meet to quilt every Tuesdays at 8:00am at the KC Hall. If you like to quilt, please come and join them!

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

Ministers To Serve December 28 & 29

12/28	6:00pm	<u>AS</u>	A. Medrano, L. & D. Riehl	12/29	10:00am	<u>AS</u>	J. Hall, M. Ehlert, A. Heffley
		<u>C/L</u>	C. Kuhn			<u>C/L</u>	S. Hall
		<u>EM</u>	G. Elizondo, Y. Wagner, B. Besch			<u>EM</u>	N. Nelson, J. O'Leary, D. Dungen
		<u>FG</u>	D. Wagner, D. Rios			<u>FG</u>	B. Hartensteiner
12/29	8:00am	<u>AS</u>	S. & S. Korell, J. Trapp	12/29	12:00pm	<u>AS</u>	M. Aguilar, E. & J. Tovar
		<u>C/L</u>	L. Novosad			<u>C/L</u>	M. Ortiz
		<u>EM</u>	D. & G. Warshcak, L. Novosad			<u>EM</u>	F. & M. Sanchez
		<u>FG</u>	Volunteer				
<u>EM to TLC 12/29, 9:30am:</u>			C. & T. Potter				

<i>Please remember St. Anthony Church and the Capital Campaign in your end-of-year donations.</i>
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The **KC and CDA Christmas Party** will be on Sunday, January 5, 2020, at 2:30pm at the Columbus Hall. Please RSVP to 732-2220.

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.

<u>Christmas Mass Times</u>	
Christmas Eve	5:00pm
	9:00pm
Christmas Day	8:00am
	10:00am
	12:00noon (Spanish)

Thank you!! Thank you so much to those who generously donated to the CDA Christmas project, Apostleship of the Sea. This provided 71 fill shoe boxes Christmas wrapped by CDA members. We delivered last week to the Port of Houston where over 11,000 boxes have come in to the seafarer's center. Again, THANK YOU and Merry Christmas!
~Gloria Ruether

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.**

The Emmaus Center provides individual, marital and family counseling services from a Catholic perspective. The counseling staff devotes themselves to assisting those in need regardless of their religious affiliation, gender, race or age. To schedule an appt or for information call (361) 212-0830.

If you would like to have a Mass said for a loved one, living or deceased, please see Tracey in the Church Office.