

St. Anthony Church
1602 Bowie / P.O. Box 669 ~ Columbus, Texas 78934
(979)732-2562 ~ www.stanthonycolumbus.net
Church Office: 635 Bonham Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am - 5:00 pm

Pastor: Rev. Augustine Nsiah Asante

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Nelson Gonzalez Nieto

Deacon Bennie Holesovsky

Deacon Charlie Novosad

Deacon John Glueck

Deacon Rusty Theut

Secretaries: Betty Barton, Tracey Lanham, & Chrissy Espinosa: (979)732-2562, sec.stanthony@gmail.com

Bible Study: Lorraine Novosad 733-3872

Religious Education: Lorraine Novosad 733-3872

Youth Group: c3ymcolumbus@gmail.com

St. Anthony Catholic School

(979) 732-5505

stanthonycolumbus.net

John O'Leary, Principal

Weekday Masses: Mon, Wed & Fri 5:30pm - Tue & Thurs 7:30am, Fri 8:15am during School Year

Weekend Masses: Sat. Vigil - 6:00pm; Sun. 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00noon (Spanish), 6:00pm (Youth Mass)

Confessions: Sat. 4:30pm-5:30pm & 15 min before the Evening Weekday Masses

Liturgies for the Week

Mon	Dec 20	5:30pm	+Marcelline Steinhauser
Tues	Dec 21	7:30am	+Charles Besch
Wed	Dec 22	5:30pm	+Johnnie and Emily Wagner
Thurs	Dec 23	7:30am	+Daniel Munsch
Fri	Dec 24	5:00pm	+Whitney Kotrla
Fri	Dec 24	9:00pm	+Michael Miksch
Fri	Dec 24	11:00pm	People of the Parish
Sat	Dec 25	8:00am	+LJ, Jennifer, and Leroy Friedel
Sat	Dec 25	10:00am	+R.L. Schuck
Sat	Dec 25	12:00noon	Special Intention (S.G.)
Sat	Dec 25	6:00pm	The Roman and Christina Polach Family (Vigil)
Sun	Dec 26	8:00am	The John Glueck Family (S.I.)
Sun	Dec 26	10:00am	+Leroy Sebesta
Sun	Dec 26	12:00noon	Jorge and Eva Rodriguez (6 th Wedding Anniversary)

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Readings: #794)

"You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, . . . from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel" (Micah 5:1). Did you know that there are more than three hundred verses in the Old Testament pointing to Jesus as the Messiah? In today's first reading, for instance, the prophet Micah says that a great ruler will come from Bethlehem, the village where David was born (5:1). That aligns with other prophecies that the Messiah would come from the line of David (2 Samuel 7:16; Isaiah 11:1). Yet Micah's words were written centuries before Jesus was born. For the Jews of Jesus' time, living under Roman occupation, that was a long time of waiting, watching, and praying for God to fulfill His promises.

But now the wait is over, and Mary and Elizabeth know it. That's why, in today's Gospel, they are so joyful. Elizabeth greets Mary with a loud cry, and even the young John the Baptist leaps with joy in her womb (Luke 1:44).

Maybe for you, Advent has seemed like a long time of waiting. Maybe you've been waiting for Jesus to speak to you, and you hear nothing but silence. Maybe you've been waiting a long time for Him to answer a prayer, and you want to be reassured that He hears you. Maybe your waiting will continue, even after Advent is over.

Unlike the Jews before Jesus' coming, you don't have to wait for the Messiah to appear. And whatever else you are waiting for, you don't have to wait for Him to draw close to you. He loves you so much that He offers you His own Body and Blood in the Eucharist. This is what He came to do—to save you and unite Himself to you.

So even if you find yourself still waiting on the Lord, know that He always fulfills His promises. Today He is waiting for you to receive Him, and that alone is reason to rejoice!

*"Lord, fill me with joy, today and at Your coming on Christmas Day."
 (from "The Word Among Us")*

*Come pray the Rosary
 with us!
 Wednesdays at 6:00pm
 Saturdays at 5:30pm
 Sundays at 7:30am
 Sundays 11:20am in Spanish*

Please remember
 St. Anthony Church and School
 in your end of year donations.

Masses: If you would like a Mass said for a loved one, living or deceased, see the Church Office

Prayer Chain: If you are interested in volunteering to be a part of the St. Anthony Prayer Chain, please call Tracey or Chrissy in the Church Office.

EWTN: EWTN delivers faith-filled content, thought-provoking content, dynamic speakers, Catholic news, discussions, and promotes the Catholic Faith. Visit their website ewtn.com.

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.

Calendar for the Week

Sun	Dec 19	RCIA, 9:15am
Tues	Dec 21	TNT Quilters, 8:00am at Columbus Hall
Fri	Dec 24	Church Office Closed Christmas Eve, Mass Times: 5:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm (Spanish)
Sat	Dec 25	Christmas Day Mass Times: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00 noon (Spanish)
Sun	Dec 26	No RCIA, Chaplet/Adoration, or Youth Mass

Last Weekend's Collection

\$	3498.00	Envelopes
\$	1334.00	Loose
\$	886.00	Immaculate Conception
\$	1184.00	Retirement Fund for Religious
\$	330.00	Legacy Fund

Donations Made Last Week

\$	600.00	Capital Campaign Donations
\$	70.00	Capital Campaign Memorials
\$	1020.00	A/C Donations

Donations for New A/C in the Church

\$ 65,248.00 (\$130,000 Needed)

"Thank you for your generosity!"

We are happy and grateful to report that this week St. Anthony's Church sold the land that Mrs. Mary Hausner had generously donated to the church in her will. As a result, we were able to pay to the Diocese the remaining balance of our loan that was for the building of our beautiful new school.

With gratitude to Mrs. Mary Hausner and to everyone who has supported, in so many ways, our new school building for the children!

The Emmaus Center in Victoria provides individual, marital and family counseling services from a Catholic perspective, regardless of religious affiliation, gender, race or age. To schedule an appointment or for information call (361) 212-0830.

Please pick up your **church calendar** at the entrances of the church. These calendars are graciously donated by Henneke Funeral Home.

<u>Ministers serving this weekend</u>	<u>Ministers to serve next weekend</u>
6:00 A Cranek, E & K Lanham C/L M Stavinoha	6:00 A Medrano C/L C Kuhn
8:00 J Rau, K & K Glueck C/L J Rau	8:00 S, B, & A Wolters C/L G Warschak
10:00 A Rodriguez, A & Ivan Hernandez C/L K Kleimann	10:00 A Rosales, W & H Kramr C/L N Nelson
12:00 S Gonzales, M & A Garcia C/L T Rosales	12:00 E & J Tovar, Ivett Hernandez C/L M Ortiz
TLC N Nelson, S Gerik	TLC J Huebel, T Wostarek

Please keep Alex Sanchez, Aralia Sanchez, Jesus Leal, Lainey Schindler, Tom Sherman, and Web Sherman in your prayers as they continue their journey through the RCIA program.

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 entrance of the church. You may put your envelopes in the collection basket or bring it to the church office.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve	5:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm (Spanish)
Christmas Day	8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00noon (Spanish)

The Saturday 6:00pm Mass is the Vigil Mass for Sunday, December 26, and does not fulfill your Christmas obligation.

There will be no Youth Mass at 6:00pm on Sunday, Dec 26 or Jan 2.

2021 Diocesan Services Appeal (DSA): St. Anthony's DSA goal for 2021 is **\$36,759**. To date, parishioners have pledged \$14,345 towards the DSA, leaving a balance of \$22,414. We ask that you prayerfully consider your gift. Donations can be mailed directly to the Diocese or brought to the church office. No gift is too small and we earnestly thank you for your generosity.

Merry Christmas!

May all the blessings of the Christ Child be yours this Christmas and may His Divine Presence enrich your life throughout the New Year!
 ~Fr. Augustine & Fr. Nelson

Happenings around the Diocese:

(go to victoriadiocese.org for more info)

***Feast of the Holy Innocents at Raphael's Refuge—** December 28. Rosary at 10:15 and Mass at 11:00am. Potluck to follow. Dress warmly, chapel doesn't have heat.
***Holy Family, Wharton, Holy Heifer 2nd Chance Raffle—**January 15 after the evening Mass (need not be present to win). For more information, see flier on bulletin board at entrance of the church.

Who except God can give you peace?
 Has the world ever been able to satisfy the heart?
 -St. Gerard Majella