

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

Pastor: Rev. Augustine Nsiah Asante
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Nelson Gonzalez
Deacon Bennie Holesovsky
Deacon Charlie Novosad
Deacon John Glueck
Deacon Rusty Theut
Secretary: Tracey Lanham & Chrissy Espinosa: (979)732-2562, sec.stanthony@gmail.com
Church Office: 635 Bonham; Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9am-3:30pm

Youth Minister: Jonathan Dooley 733-7740
Bible Study: Lorraine Novosad 733-3872
Religious Education: Lorraine Novosad 733-3872

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

Weekday Masses: Mon, Wed & Fri 5:30pm - Tue & Thurs 7:30am
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 7	6:00pm	+Elton Litzmann
Tues	Dec 8	7:30am	+Mary Faichtinger
Tues	Dec 8	8:15am	People of the Parish
Wed	Dec 9	5:30pm	+Steve Potter
Thur	Dec 10	7:30am	Deceased Members of the Bishop Forrest H.S. Class of 1966
Thur	Dec 10	8:15am	Mary Ann Jurica (90th Birthday)
Fri	Dec 11	8:15am	+Pete Garcia
Fri	Dec 11	5:30pm	+Ruby Mae Litzmann
Sat	Dec 12	10:00am	Maria Gonzales (S.I.)
Sat	Dec 12	12:00noon	+Maria Guadalupe Lopez Hipolito
Sat	Dec 12	6:00pm	+Edbert and Mark Henneke
Sun	Dec 13	8:00am	Gene Seidl (S.I) and +Kassidy Patterson
Sun	Dec 13	10:00am	+William Darilek
Sun	Dec 13	12:00noon	Elena Sanchez & Jose Tapia (S.I.)

Sunday, December 6, 2020
 Second Sunday of Advent

<u>Ministers serving next weekend</u>	
<u>6pm</u>	B. Besch
<u>8am</u>	S. Glueck
<u>10am</u>	K. Kleimann
<u>12pm</u>	M. Ortiz

<u>Ministers serving next weekend</u>	
<u>6pm</u>	T. Lilie
<u>8am</u>	J. Rau
<u>10am</u>	N. Nelson
<u>12pm</u>	Ma. A. Sanchez

**Due to COVID, we are refraining from using Altar Servers until further notice.

This is the Year of the Family:
With your family this week:
Pray. Go to Mass on December 8.
Eat. Eat a picnic outside.
Play. Celebrate a Saint's Feast Day!

"They acknowledged their sins." (Mark 1:5). John the Baptist is often called the "precursor" or the "forerunner" of Christ because he prepared the way for the coming of Jesus. But why was this preparation necessary in the first place? Mark gives us a clue when he calls John's baptism, a "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (1:4). John knew that sin kept people far from God, so he offered them the only remedy to help them receive Jesus when he came: repentance and forgiveness.

During Advent, we too are preparing for the coming of the Messiah, and part of that preparation also involves repentance. Like the people coming to the Jordan River, we know we have sinned and need forgiveness. And just as it did for them, repentance- even for minor sins- softens our hearts and opens us to Jesus and his grace.

How does this happen? Repentance requires us to take a spiritual inventory of what needs to change in our lives- of where we have fallen short of God's commands. We don't have to do this alone; if we ask him, the Holy Spirit will help us search our hearts and will gently reveal our sins to us. Then, when we see where we have strayed, the Spirit helps us see how deeply we need his grace. That causes us to go to Jesus more often and cling to him more tightly. When we experience God cleansing us of our sins, we can't help but be filled with thanksgiving for his abundant love and for his unfailing, never-ending mercy.

So make it a point to try to get to Confession before Christmas. Let repentance become a daily practice as well so that you can keep your conscience clean of all those sins that can pile up and obscure your relationship with Christ. Repentance is powerful. God will use it not only to cleanse you but to soften your heart and draw you closer to himself.

*"Jesus, give me the grace to recognize my sin and repent."
 (from "The Word Among Us)*

CCE Families:

Return and Pickup Lessons in your Family Envelope at the entrance of the church between Nov 29 & Dec 6.

Masses: If you would like a Mass said for a loved one, living or deceased, see Tracey in 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.

Calendar for the Week

Mon	Dec 7	Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation Vigil Mass, 6:00pm) CDA Meeting, in Church after Mass KC Meeting, 6:30pm
Tues	Dec 8	Immaculate Conception Masses, 7:30am and 8:15am TNT Quilters, 8:00am at Columbus Hall
Wed	Dec 9	SAS 3rd and 4th grade Confessions, 8:15am Youth Group, 6:00pm at Mentz Hall
Thurs	Dec 10	SAS Mass for ECH, 1st, 2nd, & 4th grades, 8:15am in Church SAS 5th and 6th grade Confessions, 9:00am
Fri	Dec 11	SAS Mass, 8:15am in Church
Sat	Dec 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass Times: 10:00am and 12:00noon

Angel Tree Gifts: Please bring all Angel Tree gifts to the church office by Friday, December 11. Gifts need to be wrapped with the angel taped to the top.

Last Weekend's Collection

\$ 3654.00	Envelopes
\$ 1242.00	Loose

Donations Made Last Week

\$ 1267.00	Capital Campaign Donations
\$ 400.00	Capital Campaign Memorials
\$ 125.00	A/C Donation

Donations for New A/C in the Church

\$ 59,038.00 (\$130,000.00 Needed)

Donations for New Liturgical Vestments

\$ 7,444.00 (\$13,000 Needed)

"Thank you for your generosity!"

The second collection next weekend will be for the Legacy Fund and the Retirement Fund for Religious.

"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 **\$1,188,848.92**. (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!

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 \$5,475.10 to go towards the loan for the new school building.**

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 have moved.

Parish Advent Confession Schedule:

Monday, Dec 14	4:00-5:00pm
Wednesday, Dec 16	4:00-5:00pm
Thursday, Dec 17	9:00-10:00am
Friday, Dec 18	4:00-5:00pm
Saturday, Dec 19	4:00-5:00pm

The Altar Society is accepting donations for **poinsettia plants** to decorate 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.

With the reemergence of COVID and in an effort to keep our parishioners safe, we will be limiting the amount of people at our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses to 100. There are sign up sheets in the back of the church for each Mass. Once a Mass time is full, we ask that you kindly consider attending one of the other Masses. We will have six (4 in English and 2 Spanish) for you to choose from. We know that this year has been filled with countless surprises and we thank you for patience.

Immaculate Conception Mass Times:

Monday, December 7	6:00pm Vigil
Tuesday, December 8	7:30am & 8:15am

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass Times:

Saturday, December 12	10:00am and 12:00noon (both in Spanish)
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The Emmaus Center in Victoria 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 appointment or for information call (361) 212-0830.

The **Surviving Divorce** group will meet on Thursdays at 7pm, starting on January 7, 2021, at the Cathedral Center of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory in Victoria. **Surviving Divorce** was created to bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. Sign up and get more information at <https://www.victoriadiocese.org/survivingdivorce>.