

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

Pastor: Rev. Augustine Nsiah Asante
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Nelson Gonzalez
Deacon Bennie Holesovsky
Deacon Charlie Novosad

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

Secretary: Tracey Lanham: (979)732-2562, tracey@stanthonycolumbus.net
Church Office: 635 Bonham; Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8am-3:30pm, Summer Hours: 9am-12noon

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	June 15	5:30pm	+Dick Barton
Tues	June 16	7:30am	+James and Barbara Helfrich
Wed	June 17	5:30pm	+Mary Catherine Faichtinger
Thur	June 18	7:30am	+James Helfrich
Fri	June 19	5:30pm	Tommy & Kathe Balusek (S.I.)
Sat	June 20	6:00pm	Father's Day Novena #1
Sun	June 21	8:00am	Father's Day Novena #2
Sun	June 21	10:00am	Father's Day Novena #3
Sun	June 21	12:00noon	Father's Day Novena #4

Bishop Cahill has extended dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass for Catholics in the Diocese of Victoria through the end of June. This is to protect the physical health of the vulnerable and the emotional needs of those who are uncomfortable with being physically present at this time.

Sunday, June 14, 2020

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

"My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink" (John 6:55). Have you ever had to go without food for an extended period of time? It wasn't a pleasant experience, was it? The longer we go without nourishment, the weaker we become. It feels as if our life is slowly draining from us--and in one sense, it is.

Jesus' words in today's Gospel make it clear that His Body and Blood are just as vital to us as food and drink are. Without the nourishment of the Eucharist, God's life in us can slowly start to drain away.

Here's an extreme example of how life-giving the Eucharist is. In his book *He Leadeth Me*, Fr. Walter Ciszek described the risks he took each day to offer Mass at the Siberian labor camp where he was imprisoned: "I would go to any length, suffer any inconvenience, run any risk to make the bread of life available to these men." The men worked long hours in frigid temperatures. Yet at noon, Ciszek would celebrate Mass wherever he could say it undetected, whether in a storage shack or huddled in a building foundation. "Distractions caused by the fear of discovery . . . took nothing away from the effect that the tiny bit of bread and few drops of consecrated wine produced upon the soul," he wrote.

These prisoners were just as dependent on Jesus' Body and Blood to keep them alive as they were on the meager food they received from their captors. The Eucharist had become their true food and true drink.

Ciszek wrote that he was "occasionally overcome with emotion . . . as I thought of how [God] had found a way to follow and to feed these lost and straying sheep in their most desolate land." Today, may we too be filled with gratitude as we reflect on the generosity of a God who offers His life--and His very self--to us in the Eucharist.

*"Jesus, thank You for the life You give me in Your Body and Blood."
(from "The Word Among Us")*

*"I am the living bread that came down from heaven,
says the Lord . . .*

Last Weekend's Collection

\$ 5485.00 Envelopes
\$ 433.00 Loose
\$ 457.00 Paving the Way

Donations Made Last Week

\$ 1129.00 Capital Campaign Donations & Pledges
\$ 330.00 Capital Campaign Memorials
\$ 205.00 Legacy Memorials
\$ 200.00 Memorials for A/C Fund

Donations for New A/C in the Church

\$ 55,368.00 (\$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 **\$1,214,244.51**. (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!

Father's Day Novena cards and donation envelopes can be found at the entrance of the church. If you would like to remember someone special during the Father's Day Novena, please fill out the donation card and mail to the church office or drop it in the collection basket at the back of church.

*"Not by bread alone does one live,
but by every word that comes forth
from the mouth of the Lord."
(Deuteronomy 8:3)*

Prayer Chain: If you are interested in volunteering to be a part of the St. Anthony Prayer Chain, please call Tracey in the Church Office. This ministry gives so much comfort to those asking for prayer.

We are allowed to have Public Masses again, but if you are elderly, in poor health, or don't feel comfortable attending, please remember that Dispensation has been granted through the end of June. Fr. Augustine will also be available in his office from 2:00-4:00 on Sunday afternoons if you would like to receive Communion but are unable to attend Mass.

Please keep
Rusty Theut and
John Glueck

in your prayers as they continue their journey
in the Diaconate Program.

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 \$5,100.10 to go towards the loan for the new school building.**

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

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.

Retrouvaille Weekend 2020: Hope for Marriages
Does your marriage need a tune up? Or even a major overhaul? If so, Retrouvaille can help. The next Diocese of Victoria weekend is July 31 through Aug. 2, 2020. For more information, contact John & Jenny at 361-580-2770, or visit <https://www.helpourmarriage.org>.

. . . whoever eats this bread will live forever."

(John 6:51)