

**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**

**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 & Chrissy Espinosa: (979)732-2562, sec.stanthony@gmail.com**  
**Church Office: 635 Bonham; Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9am-3:30pm**

**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 21	5:30pm	Deceased Members of the Cernoch & Miksch Families
Tues	Dec 22	7:30am	+Claude and Glorine Venghaus
Wed	Dec 23	5:30pm	+Daniel Munsch
Thur	Dec 24	5:00pm	+Whitney Kotrla
Thur	Dec 24	9:00pm	+Michael Miksch
Thur	Dec 24	11:00pm	+Helen Jendrzey
Fri	Dec 25	8:00am	+Jennifer, LJ, and Leroy Friedel
Fri	Dec 25	10:00am	People of the Parish
Fri	Dec 25	12:00noon	+Catherine Wilems
Sat	Dec 26	6:00pm	+Leroy Sebesta
Sun	Dec 27	8:00am	+Charles Squyres
Sun	Dec 27	10:00am	+Felix and Loreda Buxkemper
Sun	Dec 27	12:00noon	Jorge & Eva Rodriguez (5th Anniversary)

**Lectors**

<b><u>Dec. 19 &amp; 20</u></b>	<b><u>Dec. 25</u></b>
<b><u>6pm</u></b> C. Kuhn	<b><u>8am</u></b> J. Rau
<b><u>8am</u></b> M. Stavinoha	<b><u>10am</u></b> K. Kleimann
<b><u>10am</u></b> S. Hall	<b><u>12pm</u></b> M. Ortiz
<b><u>12pm</u></b> V. Sanchez	
<b><u>Dec. 24</u></b>	<b><u>Dec. 26 &amp; 27</u></b>
<b><u>5pm</u></b> L. Novosad	<b><u>6pm</u></b> T. Lillie
<b><u>9pm</u></b> S. Glueck	<b><u>8am</u></b> G. Warschak
<b><u>11pm</u></b> V. Sanchez	<b><u>10am</u></b> L. Walla
	<b><u>12pm</u></b> T. Rosales

**Sunday, December 20, 2020**

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*"The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. (Luke 1:32) It's almost Christmas! That thought can fill our hearts with anticipation. We might look forward to seeing friends and family. We can't wait to see the look on a loved one's face when they open the gift we carefully chose. Or we just want to enjoy celebrating Jesus' birth with our brothers and sisters in Christ.*

But think about the anticipation that the Jews felt as they awaited the coming of the Messiah! Their hope was kindled almost one thousand years before Christ, when God promised David a kingly lineage. Imagine as well Mary's surprise when the angel described the son she would bear by using nearly the same words that God had spoken to David so much earlier. He would be called Son of the Most High, he would sit on the throne of his father, David, and he would reign over an eternal kingdom (Luke 1:26-38). Israel's long wait was over- the birth of Jesus would bring about everything they had hoped for.

As modern-day Christians, we don't experience the Jews' yearning for a Messiah, but we can still feel the ache of longing. For peace. For justice. For security. Jesus is the fulfillment of these yearnings too. When conflict- on a large or small scale- threatens to tear us apart, Jesus offers reconciliation and the chance to live once more in peace with God and our neighbor. When injustice breaks our hearts, Jesus tells us he has come to make all things right and to give us the strength to make things better in our own corner of the world. When insecurity makes us feel as if nothing ever remains the same, Jesus reminds us that his kingdom is everlasting; he gives us a sure foundation to build our lives on.

That's the kind of fulfillment that the kingship of Jesus can bring. That's what he promises. And that's a gift we can all receive his Christmas.

*"Jesus, you are the fulfillment of all my longings! I love you, Lord!"*  
*(From "The Word Among Us")*

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**CCE Families:**

Return and Pickup Lessons in your Family Envelope at the entrance of the church.

**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**

Tues	Dec 22	TNT Quilters, 8:00 am at Columbus Hall
Wed	Dec 23	Decorate the Church Altars, (Volunteers Needed!), 9:00am in Church
Thurs	Dec 24	Church Office Closed Christmas Eve Masses: 5:00pm, 9:00pm, and 11:00pm (Spanish)
Fri	Dec 25	<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</b> Church Office Closed Christmas Day Masses: 8:00am, 10:00am, and 12:00noon (Spanish)
Sun	Dec 27	Divine Mercy and Hour of Adoration, 3:00pm in Church

**Last Weekend's Collection**

\$ 3699.00	Envelopes
\$ 687.00	Loose
\$ 870.00	Immaculate Conception
\$ 225.00	Our Lady Of Guadalupe
\$ 424.00	Religious Retirement Fund
\$ 487.00	Legacy Fund
\$ 440.00	Online Giving through Diocese of Victoria website

**Donations Made Last Week**

\$ 365.00	Capital Campaign Donations
\$ 70.00	Capital Campaign Memorials
\$ 10.00	Legacy Fund Memorials
\$ 150.00	New Liturgical Vestments

**Donations for New A/C in the Church**

\$ 59,088.00 (\$130,000.00 Needed)

**Donations for New Liturgical Vestments**

\$ 12,594.00 (\$13,000 Needed--ALMOST THERE!!)

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

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

***A huge Thank You to Hardy Hartensteiner, James Simons, and Chuck Hall for pressure washing the front of the church. What a Christmas blessing!***

<b><u>Christmas Mass Schedule Schedule:</u></b>	
Christmas Eve	5:00pm, 9:00pm (English) 11:00pm (Spanish)
Christmas Day	8:00am, 10:00am (English) 12:00noon (Spanish)
**Limited seating is available . Please see sign up sheets at the entrance of the church.	

*May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace in Believing that you may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.*  
*(Romans 15:13)*

***Merry Christmas!***

**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.

**Volunteers needed** to help decorate the altars for Christmas at 9:00am on December 23.

**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. We know that this year has been filled with countless surprises and we thank you for patience. Please note that the Christmas Eve Masses at 5:00pm and 9:00pm are FULL. Please select another Mass time.**

**The Year of the Family (Diocese of Victoria):**  
**With your family this week:**  
***Pray.*** Offer a sacrifice you make for a special intention.  
***Eat.*** Donate food or money to your local food bank.  
***Play.*** Go on a nature scavenger hunt.

**Thank you!!** Thank you so much to those who generously donated to the CDA Christmas project, Apostleship of the Sea. This provided 63 filled 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

**CCE** will resume "in person" classes beginning on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, after the 5:30pm Mass in the Church. There are registration forms at the entrance of the church for any new students.