

Second Sunday of Advent

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the follow-

ing: Bernardo Garcia. Bill Hoffman, Jr. George Duke. Jane Stone. Eric Hurley. Jim & Joann Rayl. Juan Delgado. Mark Owen. Andrea Easter. Dottie Schuetz. Cathy Ellis. Mary Lou Johnson, Betty Brown, Beth Benoit, Rose Kennedy, Judith Sotomayor, Dennis Rayl, Judy Fazzio, Jim Catalano, Marty Blahitka, Carolyn Edwards, Dominic Sosta, Dan Dolezal, Greg Hass, Joshua Larsson, Avery Boultinghouse, Wanda Stephens, Wanda Thompson, Elleana Fritz, Fr. Nano, Kathryn Allen, Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners, Friends and Relatives for one month.

Please pray for the men and women active military service

from our parish community: Lt. Col. William P Shea, (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana, U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Commander Tom Moroney, Navy (Son of Roger & Shirley Moroney). Colonel Sean Corrigan & 2nd Lt. Blake Gaughan & Lpl. Mike Buchanan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno USCG (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Zachary Stephen York, Specialist 4 U.S. Army (Son of Steve & Julie York). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan, U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma.

Mass Times & Intentions

- Sat 12/09 5:00pm Mass**—Kevin Gillespie+ (Bridget Rich)
- Sun 12/10 9:30am Mass**—Community of HSCC (M/M Pritchett)
- Tue 12/12 9:00am Mass /Adoration**—Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Wed 12/13 7:45am Mass**— *Janick Family*
- Thurs 12/14 9:00am Mass**—Families & First Responders involved in the California fires.
- Fri 12/15 9:00am Mass**—All special intentions
- Sat 12/16 5:00pm Mass**—Bridget Rich Family

Saturday Confessions are from 4:15—4:45pm
Sunday Confessions are from 8:45—9:15am

NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Psalm — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

Gospel — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

PARISH SUPPORT

	<u>11/25 & 11/26</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	
<u>Required Weekly Funds</u>	<u>\$ 3,961</u>	<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Sun.</u>
<u>Offerings</u>	<u>\$11,377</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>83</u>

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 3:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

I am the Immaculate Conception.

—Words of Our Lady to St. Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes, 1858



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EVENTS AND NEWS

December Second Collections: 9th & 10th: "Retirement Fund for Religious". 23rd, 24th & 25th: "Seminar Special Collection" & "10% Christmas Collection".

Exposition is every Tuesday from 9:30am—4:00pm

"The Eucharist bathes the tormented soul in light and love. Then the soul appreciates these words, 'Come all you who are sick, I will restore your health.' - St. Bernadette Soubirous (Mary visited her many times at Lourdes, France)

East Central Deanery: **Advent Confession Schedule (December 2017)**

12/11: 6:00 pm - Holy Spirit, Holly Lake & St. Jude, Henderson
 7:00 pm - San Pedro, Tatum & 5:00 pm - St. Joseph, Marshall
 12/13: 4:00pm: St. Mary, Longview. 6:00pm: Queen of Angels, Overton & St. William, Carthage
 12/14: 6:00 pm - St. Anthony, Longview
 12/15: 6:00 pm - St. Theresa, Union Grove
 12/16: 9:00 am - St. Jude, Henderson
 12/17: 10:15am: O.L. of Grace, Hallsville. 8:30am: St. Lawrence, Waskom
 12/19: 6:00 pm - Christ, the King, Kilgore
 12/20: 4:30 pm - O.L. of Grace, Hallsville & Queen of Angels, Overton
 12/21: 6:00pm: Immaculate Conception, Jefferson. 6:30pm: St. Matthew, Longview

The **15th Anniversary of the Dedication of Holy Spirit is on January 12, 2018** and plans are underway to celebrate the occasion. We will first of all have our parish's dedication as the Mass intention for both Saturday, January 13th and Sunday, January 14th. Bishop Strickland will be here to celebrate the Mass on Sunday, the 14th and we will all join in a potluck meal following Mass. There will be a slideshow presentation during this gathering highlighting our parish, the transformation over the years as well as events and special times which have been instrumental in our journey of faith and growth.

Your help is needed. If you have any pictures of parish events/gatherings over the past 15 years to include in the slideshow please email them to: theleingangs@gmail.com Cherie and Jeff Leingang have graciously agreed to prepare a slideshow and would appreciate you sending the pictures to them in a jpeg format. On the subject line please indicate the date (approx.) of the picture & the description of the photo. The deadline for this is Dec. 22nd. Also, we would like to include pictures of the various ministries/organizations/groups here at Holy Spirit. Bob Parker will be happy to come to your meeting in the next couple of weeks to take the picture so it would be helpful if the organization's leader would please call him at 512.468.3270 or email him at parkerbiz52@yahoo.com with the time your organization meets, or can meet, for the photo. Since we would like past as well as current members of each organization in the picture please contact any past members and invite them to be part of the picture as well. If your group does not have a set meeting time in the next couple of weeks please let Bob know a good time when he should be at the church for the picture. He will try to be as flexible as possible. Pictures will also be taken the day of the event and a disc will be made and available for parishioners towards the end of January. More information about this special day will be in future bulletins but we would appreciate your cooperation in compiling the pictures needed for an illustrative journey of the Holy Spirit Parish.

2018 Collection Envelopes are available in the hallway leading to the parish hall. They are in alphabetical order. If you do not see your name please leave your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet by the envelopes. Questions, please call Bridget Rich @ 903-769-3235, leave a detailed message on the voice mail.

DECEMBER EVENTS

Sun., Dec. 10th: Religious Education & Family Faith Formation Class after Mass. Topic: Your Baptismal Rights and Responsibilities
K of C Christmas Party from 3:00—5:00pm in the parish hall. All Knights, spouses and invitees may attend.

Mon., Dec. 11th: 6:00pm Advent Confessions

Thurs., Dec. 14th: K of C Meeting

Sun., Dec. 24th: 4:30pm Candlelight Music, follow by 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Mon., Dec. 25th: 9:00am Mass Christmas Day

Mon., Dec. 25th & 26th: Diocese & Church Office Closed

Tues., Dec. 26th: NO ADORATION

Wed., Dec. 27th: Wish Fr. Mike a Happy 9th Ordination Anniv.

Sun., Dec. 31st: 5:00pm New Year's Eve Mass

Mon., Jan. 1st: 9:00am Mass Holy Day of Obligation

Betty and Bill Pritchett would like to thank the Holy Spirit Church Community for all their prayers, acts of kindness, visits and care. They remember you especially in their prayers and are so grateful for your love and support and have requested a Mass to be offered for your intentions.

Our Christmas Baskets are not that far off. We are asking for help keeping our pantry full, so our Christmas Baskets will be overflowing.

LINEN MINISTRY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS We are in need of volunteers to assist with the laundering of our liturgy linens. Each volunteer is given a month or two throughout the year to launder and iron the linens for use at daily and weekend masses. If you can help, it will be deeply appreciated. Call Nancy Mullen 903-769-0672



Please take an Angel from our Angel Tree in the Narthex. **Unwrapped gifts and/or gift cards are welcome.** All gifts must be returned to the tree by **Sun. Dec. 17th by 10:30am.**

Sun., Dec. 24th: 4:30pm Candlelight Music, follow by 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass



Mon., Dec. 25th: 9:00am Mass Christmas Day

Sun., Dec. 31st: 5:00pm New Year's Eve Mass

Mon., Jan. 1st: 9:00am Mass New Year's Day. Holy Day of Obligation.