



When we think of today's Gospel, the image of this meeting between the Angel Gabriel and Mary by Fra Angelico (1440–1445) likely comes to mind. In this fresco, Gabriel and Mary are outside sitting among the columns, and Gabriel, with his big wings and hands crossed, gazes upon Mary and gestures towards her. She is well dressed in a traditional blue garment, and though her face shows shock, her folded hands model submission and humility. This work of art is so beautifully executed that we can miss some of its finer details. Similarly, because the Gospel scene is so familiar, we can forget to take in its small details. A few years ago, this author found a children's book called "The Nativity" illustrated by Julie Vivas. Because her drawings were so fresh and charming and simple, she invited new perspective on the story.

LOOKING AGAIN

Luke says that Mary "was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be." She asks, "How can this be?" These questions don't fit with how Fra

Angelico positioned Gabriel and Mary. In the Vivas illustrations, the Angel Gabriel sits down with battered wings and a balding head and has a cup of coffee with Mary as the two of them try to figure it out together. The text is the same, but the message conveyed is different. There is a different degree of comfort and familiarity to these illustrations.

This "having a cup of coffee" is something we need to learn to do with the scriptures and with our lives. After this event, pregnant Mary traveled into the hill country to be with Elizabeth; an older, wiser, mentor—a mother figure. She spent three months there reflecting and preparing for the birth of her child. In this final week of Advent, take a few moments to find a Gabriel/Mary or an Elizabeth/Mary moment and read the Christmas readings again to see what you might have overlooked, and to find a new way for Christ to dwell in you.

Today's Readings: 2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16;
Ps 89:2–3, 4–5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25–27; Lk 1:26–38

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider
PERMANENT DEACON:

MASS TIMES:

Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM
Tues. - Fri. 9:00AM

CONFESSIONS:

Tues. & Wed., 9:00 - 10:00AM
Thursday, 5:00 - 5:30 PM

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday: 45 minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six (6) months prior to the anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit

Catholic Church

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Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

Fourth Sunday of Advent

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Mike Cromley. Ron Szczepanski. Karla Haney. Molly Dunn. Richard Schuetz. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Elayne Hayes. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Dwight Nunley. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Frankie Durst. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazzio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Carolyn Edwards. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: Ann Hansen, mother-in-law of Marie Hansen.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

New active recruit, Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Hymn: O'Come, O'Come Emanuel

First Reading — I will fix a place for my people. Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

Psalm — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

Gospel — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

Communion: Patience, People

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] **Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 **Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 12/19 Carlos Gallardo+ (Carmen & Family)

Sun 12/20 Rusty & Cooper Anderson+ (Ruddie)

Tue 12/22 Donald Wehmeyer+ (M/M Murfin)

Wed 12/23 Paul Adams+ (M/M Laudt)

Thurs 12/24 Parishioners

Fri. 12/25 Parishioners

Sat. 12/26 Carlos Gallardo+ (Carmen & Family)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through Oct 31, 2020:

Expenditures (excluding parking lot repairs) \$ 3,712

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 2,858

Attendance 12/12 Sat. 26 & 12/13 Sun. 41

December Pope's Intention:

For a life of prayer. That our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

We expect to be delivering food to 20 families this year. This drive is above and beyond our weekly food distribution.

Thank you to our special parishioners that donated or gave monetary generous donations for the Christmas holiday boxes and for your continued support for this food drive and our weekly food baskets.

If you are unable to deliver your donations, please call or text **Robert Mailliard at 503-559-6022**

We are also looking for volunteers to deliver the food boxes on **12/21/2020**.

**MANY BLESSINGS AND PRAYERS
FOR THIS PROJECT**

Dispensation: The entire diocese of Tyler remains dispensed from the Sunday and holy day Mass obligation until further notice.

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An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

CONFESSION *Tues. Dec. 22nd & Wed. Dec. 23rd*
9:30—10:30AM. *If you have an emergency and need Fr. Mike call him on his cell # 903-490-3883.*

Cenacle of Life: Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm.** Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

Parishioners are invited to participate and represent Holy Spirit in this year's Christmas Golf Cart Parade. The **Welcome Committee** will provide candy for you to toss to spectators as well as signs for decorating your golf cart. Be part of a good time. Join us! Contact Connie Boudreaux at 806.341.6321 or conbou@hotmail.com The parade is **Saturday, December 19 at 6pm.** Lining up for the parade begins at 5:30pm by the Pickle Ball courts.

*Wishing Fr. Mike a
"Happy 12th Year Ordination Anniversary"
on Dec. 27th*

While the hospitals have enough capacity at this moment, they do not have enough critical care staff to manage the overwhelming number of COVID-19 cases that are coming in.

Bishop Strickland is requesting that you offer your prayers for physicians, nurses, and health care workers during this time—for their protection and for the needs of our hospitals.

Reminder: **Bishop Strickland has instructed all persons to wear facial masks during liturgies in the Diocese of Tyler.**

Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Dec. 26th at 5:00pm and Sun., Dec. 27th at 9:00am.

Protocols for weekend Masses:

1. **Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
2. **Wear a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the parish hall. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed. Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.
4. **Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**



Thurs., Dec. 24th:

4:30pm Candle Light Music,

follow by

5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass



Fri., Dec. 25th:

8:30am Christmas Music,

follow by

9:00am Mass Christmas Day

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New Year's Eve:

Mass of Anticipation

Thurs., Dec. 31st: 5:00pm

New Year's Day:

Holy Day of Obligation

Fri., Jan. 1st: 9:00am Mass

All the Masses above will be held in our Parish Hall

Weekday Mass Times held in church: Tues. — Fri. at 9:00am.

Protocols for weekday Masses:

1. **Wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
2. **No socializing** in the Narthex. Avoid touching door handles, restrooms closed. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
3. **In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
4. **Limited seating maximum 31.** In order for the households to maintain at least 6 feet separation.



So, do you ever wish God would just talk to you sometimes?

You do? Great! Let's get together and talk about it. (He already talks to you, you know. One way is through our Bibles.)

We would like to offer a weekly, on-ongoing course of Scripture Study for men only; women only or co-ed. And we need your input to determine exactly how, what, and when we will make this available to you. Please fill out the mini form below and drop it into the collection basket or email me (email address below). Please do not fill out the form unless you are serious about participating. After we tabulate and collate the information you provide for us, we will report our finding and offer suggestions for the "preferred" Scripture Study. The sooner we receive your input, the sooner we can announce your preferences and our plan to accommodate them. If you require any additional information please feel free to contact randymunoz80@hotmail.com.

We appreciate that some of you are quite concerned as to the current status of the COVID and therefore may be reluctant to accept this genuine offer to grow your faith; and with this in mind (and should we receive no further inquiries) we would present you with a similar offer in a few months after the virus activities settle down.

When would you like to meet? (Check one day and one time) Sunday _____ Monday _____ Tuesday _____
 Wednesday _____ Thursday _____ Morning _____ Evening _____
 Men only _____ Women only _____ Co-Ed _____

What would you prefer for a format?
 Structured (specific scriptures and formal study guides – Little Rock, etc.) _____
 Unstructured (pick a book and go) _____

Merry Christmas



O Come Let Us Adore Him

May God fill your hearts with Love
and your lives with Praise
as you celebrate this Christmas season.

Please Join Us

Christmas Eve Candle Light Music/Mass - 4:30 PM

Christmas Day Prelude Music/Mass - 8:30 AM

(Our church adheres to the requirements of mask wearing and social distancing)

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

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