



*The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found*  
**MARY AND JOSEPH,  
AND THE INFANT  
LYING IN THE MANGER.**

*Luke 2:16*

January 1, 2023 • Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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At some point in time, most people will find themselves needing to watch over another person. This is true for parents and children of course; for others, perhaps an aging parent or spouse; a friend or neighbor living alone after surgery. At these times, along with the caregiving of the moment, there is often a focus on the future, a wondering about what will come. Quite naturally for the new mother Mary there is this future focus, with many possibilities for her to hold in her heart. She reflects quietly in the midst of the very hectic series of events that follow the birth of her child: hurrying shepherds who go and tell the wondrous news to others, then those others sharing their amazement. Luke tells us that Mary keeps all of this, and reflects on it in her heart. Mary is watching over Jesus as mothers do, watching over each and every moment.

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## GOD THE CAREGIVER

As Mary watches over her child, so did Israel pray for God to watch over them and one another, to bless and keep them, as Mary kept and reflected on things in her heart. Mary's face surely shone upon the infant Jesus, as Israel prayed for God's face to shine upon them with that graciousness we also know in her whom we call "full of grace." At the conclusion of the blessing in today's first reading is a prayer for God to look on us in kindness and, even more, to grant us peace. It may be in this final line of the blessing that we see God most at work in the face and the care of Mary, gazing gently on her child, wishing the fullness of God's *shalom* for Jesus and his future. Our mission as disciples is to show the divine care we hear in the blessing prayer, and to live out the care-giving we see today in Mary.

Today's Readings: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**PASTOR:** Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider  
Deacon John Erdag

### Celebration of the Sacraments:

**Mass:** Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:00 AM  
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

### Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday:  
45 minutes before Mass

### Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six  
(6) months prior to the

## *Holy Spirit* **Catholic Church**

1612 S. FM 2869  
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765  
**Church Phone:** 903-769-3235  
**Fr. Mike Snider**  
**Cell Phone:** 903-490-3883  
**Deacon John Erdag**  
**Cell Phone:** 949-285-5695  
[www.holyspirithollylake.com](http://www.holyspirithollylake.com)  
[holy.spirit2@yahoo.com](mailto:holy.spirit2@yahoo.com)

# 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!*

## Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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

Mike Stephens. Suzanne DiCarlo. Kathy Bower. John & Nitja McGrane. Pat Schmeier. Ethan Cowles. Cayla Goodson. Ruth & David Barber. Msgr. Ron Diegel. Richard & Dottie Schuetz. Tom Fabitz. Jodie Woods. Doris Hoffman. Yolanda Boyd. Wanda & George Duke. Jean Hamilton. Kathleen Fleming. Jaye Anderson. Greg Mooney. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Charlie Parker. Jacob Stephens. Elise Sugg. Avery Boultinghouse. 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 Eldon Boyd, husband of Yolanda Boyd, 1082 West Holly Trail, Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE TO REMOVE OR ADD A NAME TO THE PRAYERS OF THE SICK.**

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

Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike Stephens). 1LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Staff Sargeant, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Lt. Gary Buchanan; Capt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great 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). Petty Officer 2 Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

### Mass—Intentions

**Sat. 12/31 Parishioners & Families**

**Sun. 1/01 Rusty & Cooper Anderson+** (Rudy Anderson)

**Tues. 1/03 No Mass/Adoration**

**Wed. 1/04 Mary Jo Zook** (Marie Hansen)

**Thurs. 1/05 Kent Ardoin+** (Marie Hansen)

**Fri. 1/06 Jodi Bresowar** (Marie Hansen)

**Sat. 1/07 Angela Shoultz** (Marie Hansen)

### PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts for the year of 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,666

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,799

Attendance: 12/24 Sat: 96 12/25 Sun: 70

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

### January Second Collections:

7th & 8th: "Building & Maintenance Fund."

21st & 22nd: "Church in Latin America."

28th & 29th: "Diocese of Tyler Catholic Schools."

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SPIRITUAL LIFE

## How to Pray

Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. Elizabeth Klein

FORMEDNOW

## How to Pray

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

Visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



**2023 Collection Envelopes** are available. Please pick up in the Narthex. They are in alphabetical order. If you cannot find your envelopes notify the church office. If you prefer to have your tithing sent from your bank, please notify Bridget at [holy.spirit2@yahoo.com](mailto:holy.spirit2@yahoo.com) or 903-769-3235

### Pope's Intention for January:



For educators. We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fellowship rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Mary, the Holy Mother of God; The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day

**Monday:** Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

**Tuesday:** The Most Holy Name of Jesus

**Wednesday:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

**Thursday:** St. John Neumann

**Friday:** St. André Bessette; First Friday

**Saturday:** St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Saturday; Julian Calendar Christmas

**Anyone involved in any Ministry at our Parish, you will need to be compliant on your ethics and integrity training with VIRTUS. Please notify our contact person to get signed up contact person Justin Mahaffey 903-714-3649 or [justin.mahaffey@icloud.com](mailto:justin.mahaffey@icloud.com)**

**Legion of Mary—Pilgrim Statue:** Our Lady of Fatima Statue is now ready to visit your home. **There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953 or Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749.** If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

**DECEMBER NEWS & EVENTS**

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

**JANUARY 2023 NEWS & EVENTS**

**Sun., Jan. 1:** 9:00am Mass New Year's Day.  
**No coffee/donuts** after Mass.

**Tues., Jan. 3rd:** No Mass & No Adoration.

**Wed., Jan. 4th—Fri., Jan. 6th:** 9:00am Mass.

**Sat., Jan. 7th:** 9:00am Mass of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart & Patriotic Rosary. 5:00pm Mass

**Sun., Jan. 8th:** 9:00am Mass. **No coffee/donuts** after Mass.

**Tues., Jan. 10th:** 9:00am Mass. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm. Parish Council Meeting 5:00pm St. Jude's Hall.

**Wed., Jan. 11th—Fri., Jan. 13th:** 9:00am Mass.

**Thurs., Jan. 12th:** K of C Meeting 7:00pm in St. Jude's Hall

**Sat., Jan. 14th:** 5:00pm Mass

**Sun., Jan. 15th:** 9:00am Mass. Coffee/Donuts after Mass in St. Jude's Hall.

**Tues., Jan. 17th:** 9:00am Mass. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm.

**Wed., Jan. 18th—Fri., Jan. 20th:** 9:00am Mass.

**Fri., Jan. 20th:** K of C Fish Fry— St. Jude's Hall. Watch your bulletin for more information.

**Sat., Jan. 21st:** 5:00pm Mass.

**Sun., Jan. 22th:** 9:00am Mass. **No coffee/donuts** after Mass.

**Tues., Jan. 24th:** 9:00am Mass. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm. Casino Fundraising Meeting 6:00pm in St. Jude's Hall.

**Wed., Jan. 25th—Fri., Jan. 27th:** 9:00am Mass.

**Sat., Jan. 28th:** 5:00pm Mass.

**Sun., Jan. 29th:** 9:00am Mass. **No coffee/donuts** after Mass.

**Tues., Jan. 31st:** 9:00am Mass. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm;

***NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULE-- PAGE 3  
Jan. 14, 2023—Mar. 12, 2023***

***New Year's Schedule***

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

**Sun., Jan. 1st:** New Year's Day 9:00am Mass

Grab your cowboy boots and join us at the **Baby Boot Scootin' Boogie Square Dance on Sat., Jan. 7th**, benefiting multiple ministries in the Diocese of Tyler. We are hosting a square dance at the beautiful Veritatis Splendor property in Winona. The talented Mr. Tim Tyl will be calling the dance. No experience necessary - Mr. Tyl will teach you as we go. For tickets & more info, see [bootscootintyler.eventbrite.com](http://bootscootintyler.eventbrite.com).



Through your kind donations we were able to fill 18 Christmas food boxes. Weighing approximately 25—30 lbs each including a \$ 20.00 Walmart gift card to purchase a ham or turkey. The Christmas boxes were delivered on Friday, Dec. 16th.

We're still feeding 15 families on a weekly basis.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!

**Looking for volunteers to get involved with the Food Ministry.** Call or email Bryan Todd at 972-672-4218 or [toddtalk@hotmail.com](mailto:toddtalk@hotmail.com)  
Thank you, to our Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team!



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
2023**

*Rev. Michael Snider*

MONDAY,  
JANUARY 23  
6:00 P.M.

DAY OF PRAYER & PENANCE

*Mass & Holy Hour*

WITH BISHOP STRICKLAND

IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE OVERTURNING OF ROE VS WADE

CHAPEL OF  
STS. PETER & PAUL  
1435 ESE LOOP 323, TYLER

FOR MORE INFO, TEXT ENDAORTION TO 84576



***Holy Spirit Ministries Schedule***  
***Jan.14, 2023 - Mar.12, 2023***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Servers</b>	<b>ACOLYTES</b>
01/14/23	Sat	Ruth Barber	Eva Corrigan	Jess Corrigan		Charlie Clymer
		David Barber	Jeanette Sterner	Ed Baker		
01/15/23	Sun	Ken Pregeant	Randy Munoz	Jeff Leingang	Caleb Seidel	Jerry Hauck
		Patsy Pregeant	Pat Bonneville	Cherie Leingang		
01/21/23	Sat	Diane Laudt	Marie Hanson	Al Murfin		Charlie Clymer
		Rebecca Niebrugge	Ruth Barber	John Rigney		
01/22/23	Sun	Randy Munoz	Steve York	Ken Pregeant	Zachary Ellis	Jeff Ellis
		Shirley Munoz	Jane Bidlack	Ruddie Anderson		
01/28/23	Sat	Bridget Rich	Rebecca Niebrugge	David Barber		Charlie Clymer
		Marie Hanson	Melinda Hlavenka	Shell Boudreaux		
01/29/23	Sun	James Cormier	Lillian Speights	Pat Bonneville	Caleb Seidel	Jerry Hauck
		Ruddie Anderson	Kim Sine	Jane Bidlack		
02/04/23	Sat	Terri Evans	Dan Zenor	Jess Corrigan		Charlie Clymer
		Jeanette Sterner	Eva Corrigan	Ed Baker		
02/05/23	Sun	Ken Pregeant	Pat Bonneville	Jeff Leingang	Zachary Ellis	Jeff Ellis
		Patsy Pregeant	Lou Masferrer	Cherie Leingang		
02/11/23	Sat	Ruth Barber	Jeanette Sterner	Al Murfin		Charlie Clymer
		David Barber	Bridget Rich	Michael Jernigan		
02/12/23	Sun	James Cormier	Randy Munoz	Ken Pregeant	Caleb Seidel	Jerry Hauck
		Jane Bidlack	Lillian Speights	Ruddie Anderson		
02/18/23	Sat	Diane Laudt	Ruth Barber	David Barber		Charlie Clymer
		Rebecca Niebrugge	Marie Hanson	John Rigney		
02/19/23	Sun	Randy Munoz	Jane Bidlack	Pat Bonneville	Zachary Ellis	Jeff Ellis
		Shirley Munoz	Steve York	Ruddie Anderson		
02/25/23	Sat	Bridget Rich	Melinda Hlavenka	Jess Corrigan		Charlie Clymer
		Marie Hanson	Rebecca Niebrugge	Ed Baker		
02/26/23	Sun	Ken Pregeant	Kim Sine	Jeff Leingang	Caleb Seidel	Jerry Hauck
		Patsy Pregeant	Lillian Speights	Cherie Leingang		
03/04/23	Sat	Terri Evans	Bridget Rich	Al Murfin		Charlie Clymer
		Jeanette Sterner	Dan Zenor	Michael Jernigan		
03/05/23	Sun	Randy Munoz	Lou Masferrer	Ken Pregeant	Zachary Ellis	Jeff Ellis
		Shirley Munoz	Pat Bonneville	Ruddie Anderson		
03/11/23	Sat	Ruth Barber	Eva Corrigan	John Rigney		Charlie Clymer
		David Barber	Jeanette Sterner	Shell Boudreaux		
03/12/23	Sun	James Cormier	Randy Munoz	Pat Bonneville	Caleb Seidel	Jerry Hauck
		Ruddie Anderson	Kim Sine	Jane Bidlack		

**If you are unable to serve on your assigned date, please switch with someone else. Thanks.**

## Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 21 December 2022 Edition (Submission date: 23 December 2022) Submitted by Randy Munoz

Popular Misconceptions about the Birth of Jesus by Thomas Overmiller | December 22, 2022  
<https://www.proclaimanddefend.org/2022/12/22/popular-misconceptions-about-the-birth-of-jesus/>

At the perfect time in history, God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be born of a virgin to save us from our sins (Gal. 4:4). But not everything we say about this crucial moment in history is true. Here are six such fast facts (or “un-facts”) about the birth of Christ.

**Did Mary ride a donkey?**

Maybe, but maybe not. Nowhere does the Bible say she rode a donkey. It only says she traveled with Joseph (Luke 2:4-5). While she may have ridden a donkey, she may also have ridden another animal (like a camel), ridden in a cart, or walked on foot. We simply do not know.

**Was Jesus turned away by an innkeeper and was Jesus born in a barn or cave?**

The answer to both questions is probably no. The Bible never mentions an innkeeper. Neither does it mention a cave or a stable. So, what does it mention? Scripture tells us in Luke 2:4-7 that Mary laid the newborn Jesus in a manger, which was a feeding trough for animals. What can we learn from this? First, when the Bible says, “there was no room for them in the inn,” the word inn means “guest room” or “upper room.” It is the same word for “guest room” in Luke 22:11. There is another word that describes an inn (Luke 10:34), but Luke does not use it for when Jesus was born. Additionally, when Mary and Joseph arrived to pay taxes, they would have lodged with close relatives in Bethlehem. This was the ordinary thing to do. The normal place to house family guests would be the upper room of the house, or the second floor. But in this case, it seems that many relatives were present there. As a result, Mary moved downstairs to the main floor to give birth. Why was a manger on the main floor of the house? It was normal for people to bring in some of their animals at night, to protect them from cold temperatures and theft. They would feed in a manger and sleep in the house, while the residents slept upstairs. So, Mary went downstairs to give birth to Jesus and laid him in the manger.

**Did the angels sing?**

We sing “hark the herald angels sing.” But is this true? Did the angels really sing? Luke 2:13 says that angels appeared to shepherds on the night of Jesus’ birth, and they were “praising God.” In Luke 2:20, we learn that the shepherds returned from seeing Jesus and were also “praising God.” Praising God in Scripture occurs in many forms, like speaking, proclaiming, shouting, and singing. So, in what way did the angels praise God? Luke 2:13 says that they praised God by “saying.” This means that they were speaking or talking. To be sure, this does not mean they were not singing. But it does mean that there is a strong possibility they simply spoke, announced, or shouted words of praise to God. Did the angels sing? Maybe, but maybe not.

**Was there snow on the ground?**

One carol says that when Jesus was born, “snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.” Another states affirmatively that “the snow lay on the ground.” But here’s the problem. The Bible never says this.

**Were there really three wise men?**

We say that there were three wise men, but we don’t know how many there were. In fact, there were probably much more than three, forming a large entourage. So why do we say three? Because Matthew tells us about 3 gifts they offered to Jesus (Matt. 2:11) – gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But these are the three kinds of gifts they gave to Jesus, not the number. They gave Christ gold, frankincense and myrrh, in unknown quantities. And this does not mean there were only three wise men.

**Did the wise men visit Christ when he was born?**

We somehow imagine that the magi appeared at the house where Jesus was born, when he was laying in the manger. But they didn’t arrive until sometime after Christ’s presentation in the Temple at Jerusalem (Luke 2:22-39). Furthermore, the wise men and Herod both described Jesus a “child,” not a “baby” (Matt. 2:8-9). In fact, their calculations led them to believe that he could have been two years old (Matt. 2:16).

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

## CHECK OUT THE LATEST PODCAST EPISODES

Life Beyond the Chariot*The Year of Baptism**(with special guest Bishop Joseph Strickland)*

At the beginning of Advent 2022, the Diocese of Tyler entered into the Year of Baptism and St. John the Baptist. In this episode we sit down with Bishop Strickland to discuss his hopes for the diocese over the coming year, and what we can receive by responding joyfully and intentionally to our baptismal call.

St. Philip Institute Podcast*Is the Church necessary for salvation?  
(Lumen Gentium, Part I)*

In this episode, Dr. Luke Arredondo discusses the first two chapters of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium). He explains the overall vision of the document and focuses in particular on the possibility of salvation outside the Church, and what limits the Council places on this idea.

Del Agua al Vino*Las Virtudes Teologales*

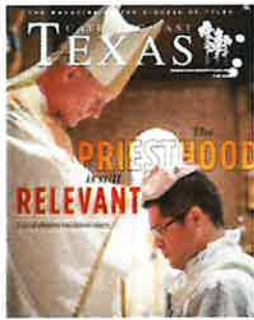
En este episodio hablamos sobre las virtudes que vivifican las virtudes cardinales. La Fe, Esperanza y Caridad nos permiten desarrollar una relación profunda con Dios. Profundizamos en cada una de las virtudes; Fe como razón por la que creemos en Dios, la Esperanza como confianza en las promesas de Dios y la Caridad como acción vivificante del amor de Dios con el prójimo.



All podcasts can be found on the St. Philip Institute  
YouTube channel and Apple podcasts.



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## avored. A WOMEN'S RETREAT



KEYNOTES FROM...



**CHIKA ANYANWU**  
INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC  
SPEAKER & AUTHOR



**DEANNA JOHNSTON**  
DIRECTOR OF FAMILY LIFE  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF TYLER



**SR. JOSEPHINE GARRETT**  
SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
OF NAZARETH & LICENSED  
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR

### save the date.

Saturday March 25, 2023,  
9AM - 3PM

Location: The Glass Recreation  
Center, 501 W 32nd St, Tyler, TX 75702

Registration opens December 8, 2022  
visit [stphilipinstitute.org/events](http://stphilipinstitute.org/events) for  
more info.

**JACKIE ANGEL**  
RETREAT MUSIC  
& WORSHIP LEADER  
NATIONAL SPEAKER, SINGER &  
SONG WRITER



Join the St. Philip Institute in the Diocese of Tyler for a women's retreat, where together we will journey in prayer to the heart of God, our Father. So often we struggle with seeking favor based on the terms of the world, of our worries and of our struggles. During this retreat you will have the opportunity to hear talks from great speakers, have fellowship with other women, and time for prayer. Each year on March 25th the Church celebrates Mary's "yes" to God to be the Mother of Jesus. In her example, we too can say yes to the great favor God has shown to us in his Son, Jesus. This retreat is open to all women ages 18+ of any faith practice. For more information and to register please visit [www.stphilipinstitute.org/events](http://www.stphilipinstitute.org/events)

Early Bird Registration (Ends January 31st): \$40/person  
General Admission (begins February 1st): \$50/person

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Family Life

#### Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass Saturday, February 11, 2023

All couples in the Diocese of Tyler celebrating their 5th, 15th, 25th, 40th, or 50th+ anniversaries in the year 2023 are cordially invited to attend the Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Strickland on Saturday, February 11, 2023. The Mass begins at 2:00 pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Tyler. There will be a reception at the following the Mass. To RSVP visit [www.stphilipinstitute.org/events](http://www.stphilipinstitute.org/events) and complete the online registration form, or contact the office at 903-630-5055 Ext 117.

### Faith Formation

Join the Department of Faith Formation for a day-long catechist training at St. Francis of Assisi in Gilmer, TX on January 21, 2023.

The day will focus on the Year of Baptism and begins with Mass at 9 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m.

This training will be offered in English and Spanish, and is free of cost. Registration required. Register at [www.stphilipinstitute.org/events](http://www.stphilipinstitute.org/events)

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