

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

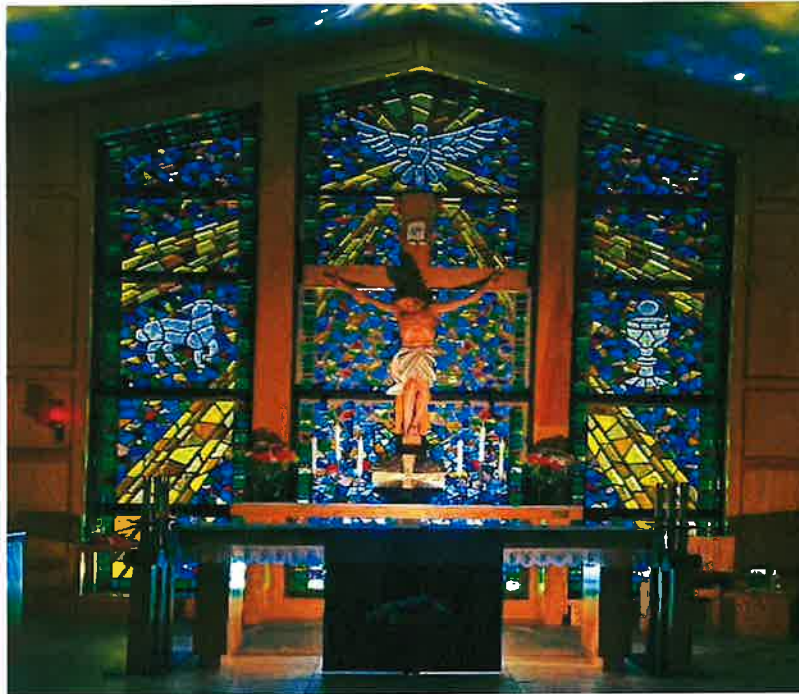
DIOCESE OF TYLER

This week's Celebration of the Mass

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am
Monday 9:00 am
Communion Service
Tuesday 9:00 am
Wednesday 9:00 am
Thursday 9:00 am
Communion Service
Friday 9:00 am

Adoration

Tuesday
9:45 am - 12:30 pm
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



Reconciliation

Tuesday 9:45 - 12:30 pm
5:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Sunday Upon request
Weekdays Upon request

Sacrament of the Sick

Offered at first Friday
Mass upon request.

Marriage or Baptism

Contact the parish office
six (6) months prior to the
anticipated date.

1612 S FM 2869
HOLLY LAKE RANCH, TX 75765

Parish Priest:	Fr. Francis O'Dowd PP; VF	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com
Deacon:	Dcn. John Erdag	949-285-5695	jerdag@hotmail.com
Office Manager:	Bridget Rich	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Kim Sine	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com

Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025

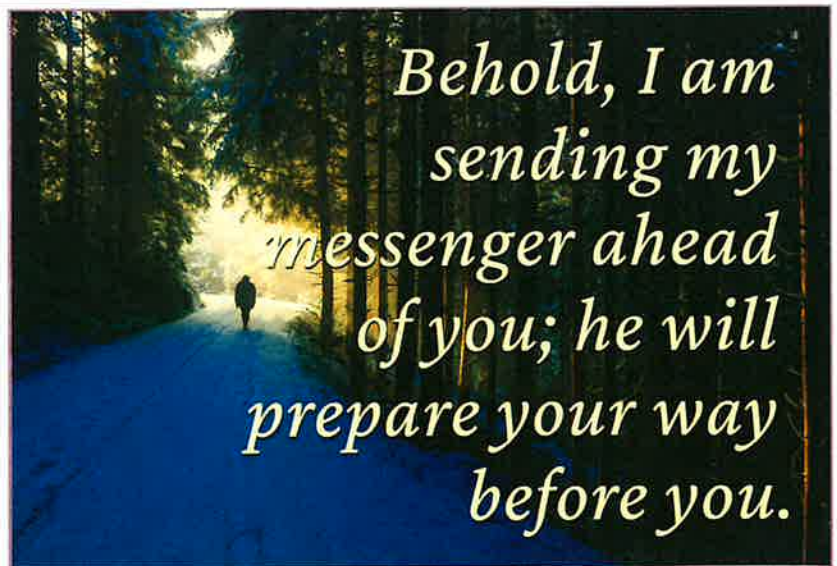
TODAY'S READINGS

1ST READING
IS 35 : 1 - 6A; 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
PS 146 : 6 - 10

2ND READING:
JAS 5 : 7 - 10

GOSPEL:
MT 11 : 2 - 11



Third Sunday of Advent



Pope Leo's December Intention

For Christians in area of conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Church Organizations

Financial Council	Charlie Clymer
Pastoral Council	John Rigney
Virtus	
Knights of Columbus	Jerry Hauck
4th Degree Knights	Gary Laudt
Legion of Mary	Marge Clymer
	Jane Bidlack
	Bob Mailliard
Food Pantry	
Music Ministry	
Rosary Makers/Prayer Blankets	Carol Szczepanski
Cenacle of Life	Vicki Hauck
Welcome	
Funeral Preparations	Deacon John Erdag



Mass Intentions

Sat	12/13	+Dale Boman (Kathy)
Sun	12/14	Jerry & Vicki Hauck (Ellis Family)
Tues	12/16	+Agnes & +Bud Laudt (M/M Laudt)
Wed	12/17	+Patricia McGlynn (M/M Clymer)
Fri	12/12	Charlie & Marge Clymer



DECEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Sat 12/13:</u>	12:00 pm FINAL TOYS FOR TOTS DROP OFF 5:00 pm Mass
<u>Sun 12/14:</u>	8:30 am Mass Donut Sunday
<u>Mon 12/15:</u>	9:00 am Communion Service
<u>Tues 12/16:</u>	9:00 am Mass ADVENT CONFESSIONS: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm ADVENT CONFESSIONS: 5:00 pm - 7:00pm Adoration: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
<u>Wed 12/17:</u>	9:00 am Mass 10:30 am Bible Study 3:00 pm Cenacles of Life 5:30 pm Parish Christmas PotLuck Dinner
<u>Thurs 12/18:</u>	9:00 am Communion Service 1:00 pm Legion of Mary
<u>Fri 12/19:</u>	9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Rosary Makers 10:00 am CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES DELIVERED
<u>Sat 12/20:</u>	5:00 pm Mass
<u>Sun 12/21:</u>	8:30 am Mass
<u>Mon 12/22:</u>	1:00 pm Legion of Mary
<u>Tues 12/23:</u>	9:00 am Mass Adoration: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
<u>Wed 12/24:</u>	Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord 4:30 pm Christmas Carols 5:00 pm Mass
<u>Thurs 12/25:</u>	The Nativity of the Lord 8:30 am Mass
<u>Fri 12/26:</u>	9:00 am Mass

PARISH SUPPORT

Attendance:	12/6	SAT: 64	12/7	SUN: 105
Collections from 12/6 - 12/7				
Building & Maintenance		\$		1,476.00
Offertory		\$		4,540.58
Votive Candles		\$		10.00
Flowers		\$		225.00
Miscellaneous		\$		50.00
Retirement Fund For Relig		\$		60.00

DECEMBER SECOND COLLECTIONS

12/6 & 12/7: Building and Maintenance Fund
12/13 & 12/14: Retirement fund for Religious
12/25: Caring for Priests

Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison

	October 2025	October 2024
Income:	\$ 28,284*	\$ 18,979
Expenses:	15,767	20,267*
Net Income:	\$ 12,517	— 1,288

*Income higher due to raffle, dinner, & casino

*Higher expenses under previous administration

Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison

	November 2025	November 2024
Income:	\$ 18,282	\$ 28,808*
Expenses:	15,028	17,419*
Net Income:	\$ 3,254	11,389

*Income higher due to raffle, dinner, & casino
*Due to previous administration continuing education & medical bills

Thank you for your generous contributions.
Please remember Holy Spirit Catholic Church in your Will.



Remember the sick of our parish: Sharon Ryan; Marge & Charlie Clymer; Mary Langhoff; Lillian Speights; Rebecca Niebruge; Claire Sullivan; Kirk Wilder; David Barber; Deacon Sam; Elaine Arellano; Marissa Cowles; Judy Terry; Randy Munoz; Jess & Eva Corrigan; Elaine March & Rosemary Seltzer; Maureen Tucker; Patrick Wood; Margaret Smith-Cauley; Elmer Mulhollon, Roland & Pat Schmear, Barbara Schneider; Helene Kaczowka; Emily Walker; Cindy Sue Erdag; Joe Bonneville; Joe Fazzio; Juan & Barbara Delgado; Avery Boultinghouse; Jo & Doris Hoffman; Roy Marchak; David Borel; Verna Sloan; Mike Stephens; Kathy Bowers; Msgr. Ron Diegel; Chris & Dave Paape; Richard Schuetz; Jodie Woods; Jean Hamilton; Kathleen Fleming; Jaye Anderson; Karee Haney; Charlie Parker; Jacob Stephens.



Remember the active military of our parish: Senior Chief Petty Officer, James Nichols, (Nephew of Dcn John & Cindy Sue Erdag). Cody Mitchell, LTJG Navy (Son-in-law of Stan & Terrie Evans). Ben Clymer, Sr Airman USAF (Grandson of Charlie & Marge). Captain Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan). Lt. Gary Buchanan; Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno AMT 2nd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Petty Officer 2 Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).



Food Boxes

The Holy Spirit Food Ministry is gathering donations for our Christmas Food Boxes. We are looking for the following items:

- cake mixes with icing, Jiffy muffin mix, instant potatoes, stuffing mix, brown gravy packets, cranberry sauce, and \$30 grocery gift cards (to help pay for meat products)

Donations need to be in by December 17th as the boxes will be delivered on December 19th.

If you know of anyone who needs help, please contact: Bob Mailliard (503-559-6022).

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US FEED THE HUNGRY IN OUR COMMUNITY



SPECIAL OBSERVANCES



Saturday: St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr (Because of her name, she is the patroness of those afflicted with diseases of the eye and associated with festivals of light, especially in Scandinavia; mentioned in the Roman Canon; patroness of Syracuse and all Sicily.)



Special Announcements

- After Mass today, please pick up your 2026 Offertory Envelopes in the narthex of the church.
- **REMINDER:** The season of Advent is a good time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Holy Spirit will offer Advent Reconciliation this Tuesday, December 16th: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm and 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
- Holy Spirit's Christmas Potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex—stop by and add your “gourmet” appetizers, salads, or sides.
- This Thursday, December 18th there will be no Mass at 9:00 am—there will be a Communion Service.
- On Friday, December 19th, there will be **NO** Divine Mercy and Rosary Hour.
- We still have a few openings for Mass intentions through December 31st. Starting in 2026, Mass intentions will “open” quarterly. Therefore, on Monday, December 29th, Father will open the requests for Mass intentions for Jan 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026.

Many thanks to all the parishioners who participated in the Toys for Tots and the Angel Tree Christmas giving. Your generosity was overwhelming!

3rd Sunday of Advent

Y N D N K M D I N G
 P E P R O P H E T R
 A W W A L K K C F E
 I S V X B V A L I A
 I G I R L Q P E C T
 A S I A E X R A C E
 H I S I S Q I N D R
 E G J S S A S S F H
 A H X E E K O E U M
 R T L F D V N G H U

Prison
 Sight
 Walk
 Cleanse
 Hear
 Raise
 News
 Blessed
 Prophet
 Greater



SUNDAYKIDZ

“Prayer Expectations”

“Are you the one who is to come?” – Matthew 11:3

When I was a kid, my dad would often tease me. “You’re the answer to my prayers,” he’d say, “You’re not exactly what I prayed for, but apparently, you’re the answer.” Ouch! Yeah, that was my dad. A real wise guy.

I thought of that when I was reading today’s Gospel. John the Baptist had sent his disciples to Jesus to find out if He was really the Messiah. “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” For centuries, the Jews had been praying for a Savior to restore Israel to its greatness. A warrior Messiah. Now, John is sitting in prison for doing everything God has called him to do in preparing the way of the Lord. Where is the Messiah to save him? Is Jesus - that guy who is preaching love for enemies and turning the other cheek - the answer to his prayers?

Sometimes, we too find ourselves in tough situations even though we’re honestly trying to do everything that God is asking of us. It’s those times that we can wonder where Jesus is. We cry out to Him, “Aren’t you my savior? Why aren’t you giving me what I’m asking for?” Our trust in Him gets tested.

But Jesus’ reply was to send the messengers back to John as witnesses to what they had seen: the blind regaining sight, the lame walking, the lepers being cleansed, the deaf hearing, and the dead rising. That’s His message to us, too. Despite our hardships, look around and realize where God is working and what He is giving to us. He’s always around if we only look for Him.

He’s especially visible at our parish. First and foremost, Jesus is visible in our Masses. Not only physically present in the Word and Eucharist, Jesus is also visible with us, the assembly, where the worship we share together is passionate and uplifting. Jesus is visible in our clergy as they minister to the physical, spiritual and Sacramental needs of the community. Jesus is visible in our charitable activities as we help those in need of food, clothing and shelter. Jesus is visible in our ministries as we bring fellowship, healing, aid, and service to each other. Jesus is very visible in our families and friendships that join together to participate in worship and fellowship.

Our parish is very vibrant, and Jesus is all around. And when we see Him so visible and doing so much within our parish, we find that even with our personal hardships, we’re encouraged because we know that He is with us, too.

Remember the last line of the message Jesus sent back to John in prison, “Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me”. He’s telling us to trust and pray and not lose faith in Him. In difficult times, continue to pray. Prayer is always answered somehow, somewhere. The answer may not be exactly what we pray for; Jesus may not have been exactly what John was expecting, but He was so much more. During this Advent, learn to throw out any expectations and just trust in God with your prayers.



ADVENT CALENDAR 2025

Week 3

14 Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. At this halfway point in the season of Advent, light two violet candles and the rose candle on your Advent wreath and Rejoice! For the Lord is near!

15 Monday

According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up before Christmas and remains in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. Share this [blessing](#) with your family and friends.

[Blessing prayer is available on table outside the church office.](#)

16 Tuesday

Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense
he comes to save you.
Isaiah 35:4

17 Wednesday

Today marks the beginning of the “O Antiphons.” This tradition which comes from Evening Prayer, has been around since the eighth century.

18 Thursday

Use this blessing to bless the nativity scene in your home:

[Blessing of the Christmas Manger or Nativity Scene](#)

—USCCB

[Blessing of the Manger prayer is available on the table outside the church office.](#)

19 Friday

“In the family, faith is handed on together with life, generation after generation. It is shared like food at the family table and like the love in our hearts. In this way, families become privileged places in which to encounter Jesus, who loves us and desires us our good, always.”

Pope Leo XIV.
Homily, 1 June 2025

20 Saturday

Reach out to those in your community who may be alone this Christmas and invited them to Mass and to share part of your celebration.

Holy Spirit Sponsorships

Please support the following businesses and sponsors who generously donate on a regular basis to Holy Spirit Catholic Church's fundraising efforts.

City National Bank
205 Beulah Street
Hawkins, TX 75765
903-769-3171

East Texas Optical, Inc.
Richard & Marisela Liske
2476 W. State Highway 154
Quitman, TX 75783
903-878-2451

Double M Land Management
Owner/Operator: Michael Meur
903-316-9550

Golf Car Konnection
Owner: Michael Roberts
802 N. Beulah Street
Hawkins, TX 75765
903-769-4644

Hawkins Ace Hardware
850 N Beulah Street
Hawkins, TX 75765

TT & L Electric
PO Box 1007
Hawkins, TX 75765
903-521-1150

Fashion and Gossip Parlor
Wood Land Village
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765
903-769-1488

Holy Spirit Knights of Colombus #15174
1612 FM 2869
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765
903-769-3235

Modern Indoor Comfort Zone
250 Community Lane
Tyler, TX 75700
903-858-1412

Nick's Shop LLC
Auto Body & Collison Repair
2995 S. FM 2869
Hawkins, TX 75765
903-576-5562

Speights Family (Parishioners)
605 CR 2906
Mineola, TX 75773

Green Family Massage
Owners: Danny & Lydia Green
2250 FM 2869
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765
903-569-4286

Two Shabby Souls
145 Beulah Street
Hawkins, TX 75765

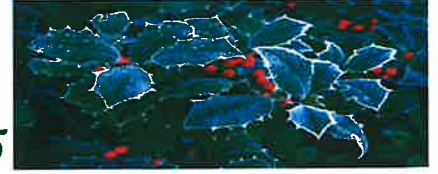
United Country Real Estate (Kay Florence)
506 S. Main
Winnsboro, TX 75494
903-343-1203

David & Ruth Barber (Parishioners)
PO Box 550
Big Sandy, TX 75755

Holy Spirit Rosary Makers
1612 FM 2869
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765
903-769-3235



Holy Spirit Catholic Church *Christmas Season Schedule 2025*



ADVENT MASSES

Daily: December 1st through December 23rd
 Monday: Communion Service 9:00 am
 Tuesday – Friday: Mass 9:00 am
 Saturday: Mass 5:00 pm
 Sunday: Mass 8:30 am

ADORATION TIMES

Tuesday: 9:45 am – 12:30 pm
 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

ADVENT CONFESSION

Tuesday, December 16th 5:00 pm
 (Father Francis will also offer confessions during morning adoration times throughout the Advent season)

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24th 4:30 pm Christmas Carols 5:00 pm Mass
 Thursday, December 25th 8:30 am

POST-CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: Communion Service 9:00 am
 Tuesday – Friday: Mass 9:00 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday, January 1st 9:00 am



AREA PARISH MASS TIMES

St. Peter the Apostle – Mineola
 Dec 24: 6 pm (E) 9 pm (S)
 Dec 25: 9 am (E) 12 pm (S)

Holy Family – Lindale
 Dec 24: Children’s Choir/
 Mass 4:30 pm
 Dec 25: 9 am (E) 11 am (S)

St. Francis of Assisi - Gilmer
 Contact 903-797-3303

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
 Contact 903-592-1617

Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul
 Contact 903-592-1617

CHARITABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Angel Tree Collection ended December 10
 Dianne Laudt

Toys for Tots: Collection ended December 13
 Charlie Clymer

Christmas Food Drive: Food box deliveries
 on December 19
 Bob Mailliard