

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

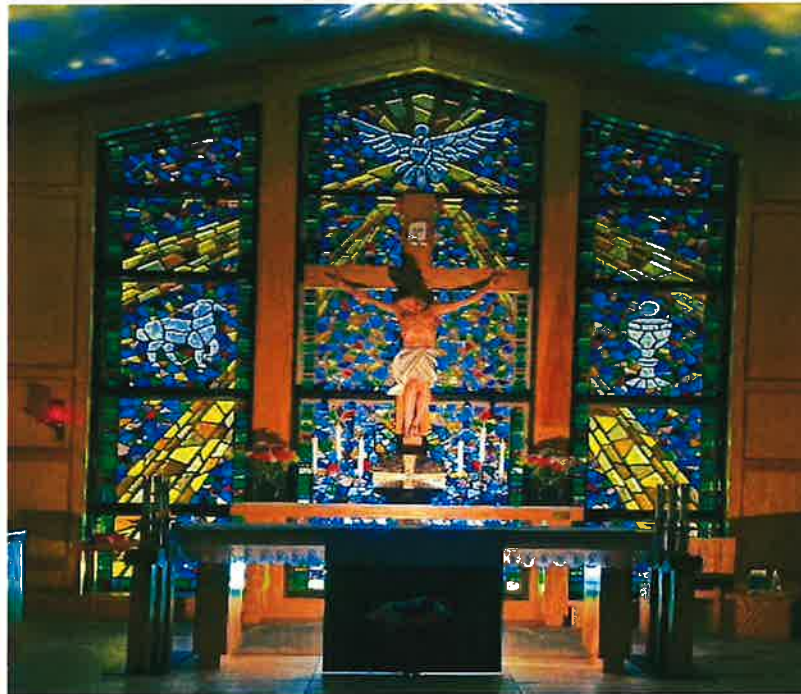
DIOCESE OF TYLER

Celebration of the Mass (Jan. 4 to Jan. 10)

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

Adoration

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



Reconciliation

Tuesday 9:45 - 12:30 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

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 4, 2026

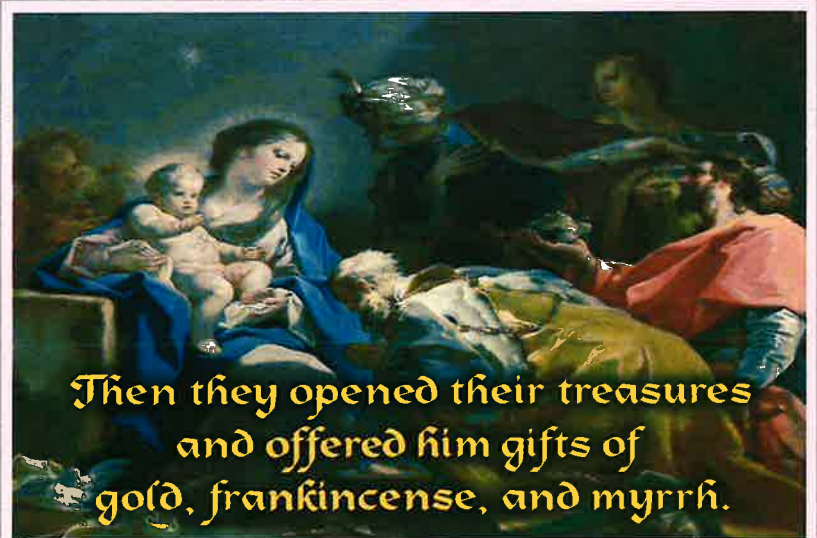
TODAY'S READINGS

1ST READING
IS 60 : 1 - 6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
PS 72 : 1 - 2; 7 - 8; 10 - 13

2ND READING:
EPH 3 : 2 - 3; 5 - 6

GOSPEL:
MT 2 : 1 - 12



The Epiphany of the Lord



Pope Leo's January Intention

For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

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 1/3	Jeff Ellis (Knights of Columbus)
Sun 1/4	Mass for the People of Holy Spirit Parish
	Mirek & Rocio Kolinko (Rocio Kolinko)
Mon 1/5	Woody Gasperian (Fran Fleming & Mary Ott)



Remember the sick of our parish: Charles McCloskey; Deanie DeLee; Sharon Ryan; Marge & Charlie Clymer; Mary Langhoff; Lillian Speights; Rebecca Niebrugge; Claire Sullivan; Kirk Wilder; David Barber; 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 Schmeier, 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).



Need an extra hand around the house? Call a Knight. We are here to help with small projects around the house.

Call: Bruce Becker 214-679-8331.

Anyone involved in any Ministry at our Parish, must be compliant on your Ethics and Integrity training with VIRTUS.

To sign up for training, please notify Holy Spirit's contact person: Justin Mahaffey 903-714-3649 or email him at: justin.mahaffey@icloud.com

PARISH SUPPORT

Attendance:	12/24	SAT: 120	12/25	SUN: 55
Collections from 12/24 - 12/25				
Building & Maintenance		\$.00
Offertory		\$		436.00
Votive Candles		\$		0.00
Miscellaneous		\$		0.00
Caring for Priests		\$		1,089.00

PARISH SUPPORT

Attendance:	12/27	SAT: 65	12/28	SUN: 84
Collections from 12/27 - 12/28				
Building & Maintenance		\$.00
Offertory		\$		2,582.00
Votive Candles		\$		13.50
Miscellaneous		\$		20.00
Retired Priests of Diocese		\$		50.00
Retirement Fund for Religious		\$		50.00

JANUARY SECOND COLLECTIONS

1/3 & 1/4: Building and Maintenance Fund
1/24 & 1/25: Church in Latin America

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

JANUARY UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat 1/3:	9:30 am Patriotic Rosary 5:00 pm Mass
Sun 1/4:	8:30 am Mass Knights of Columbus Breakfast
Mon 1/5:	9:00 am Mass 6:00 pm OCIA
Tues 1/6:	9:00 am Communion Service Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Wed 1/7:	9:00 am Communion Service 10:30 am Bible Study 3:00 pm Cenacles of Life
Thurs 1/8:	9:00 am Communion Service 1:00 pm Legion of Mary 5:30/6:00 pm Rosary/Knights of Columbus Meeting
Fri 1/9:	9:00 am Communion Service 9:30 am Rosary Makers
Sat 1/10:	5:00 pm Mass - Fr. Ron Demske
Sun 1/11:	8:30 am Mass - Fr. Ron Demske Donut Sunday
Mon 1/12:	9:00 am Communion Service
Tues 1/13:	9:00 am Communion Service 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration 6:00 pm - 7 pm Adoration
Wed 1/14:	9:00 am Communion Service 10:30 am Bible Study 3:00 pm Cenacles of Life
Thurs 1/15:	9:00 am Communion Service 1:00 pm Legion of Mary
Fri 1/16:	9:00 am Communion Service 3:00 pm Divine Mercy & Rosary Hour

Holy Spirit Food Ministry

Due to increased costs of groceries, the Food Ministry is in need of non-perishable food donations. If you can contribute, place donations in the box outside the church office. Or, for monetary donations, use a Food Ministry Donation Envelope, available in the basket in the narthex. All contributions are greatly appreciated and serve to help people in need at HLR and its surrounding community.

If you of a resident in need, please obtain their name and phone number. Please provide their information to: Bob Mailliard (504-559-6022)



SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. John Neumann Bishop (*Missionary from Bohemia; C.S.S.R. bishop of Philadelphia; known for his holiness and learning; promoter of parochial schools; authored 2 German catechisms; first American bishop canonized—1977.*)

Tuesday: St. Andre Bessette Religious (*Frere Andre was orphaned at age 12; spent 4 years in the US as a mill worker; known as a healer and the "Miracle Man of Montreal" where he founded the Oratory of St. Joseph, to whom he was dedicated and fostered devotion; over one million people paid their respect at his death; patron of caregivers.*)

Wednesday: St. Raymond of Penyafort Priest (*Second master general after St. Dominic; collector of canon law, especially Decretales Gregory IX: noted works on penance; Summa de casibus paenitentia; patron of canonists and lawyer.*)

Maintenance /Parking Lot Repair

Seeking QUALIFIED Contractors

We are currently seeking bonded and certified contractors to submit bids to perform necessary repairs, resealing, and stripping of our three parking lots. To ensure the safety and appearance of our facilities, it is essential that these services are completed by a reputable professional.

Parishioner Assistance Requested

If any parishioners are aware of a contractor who is qualified to complete this work, we kindly ask that you share their contact information with us. Please respond by email with the contractor's details or attach a copy of their business card. Your assistance in helping us maintain our property is greatly appreciated.

2026 Diocesan Women's Retreat

Women of the parish, you're invited to the 2026 Diocesan Women's Retreat on Saturday, March 21, at the Brookshire Center in Tyler. This retreat is a beautiful opportunity to be strengthened and encouraged in your faith through prayer, the sacraments, fellowship, and community. Parishioners in the Diocese of Tyler have early access to register during the month of November. Last year the retreat sold out in early January, so we encourage you to take advantage of this early access window before registration opens to the public.



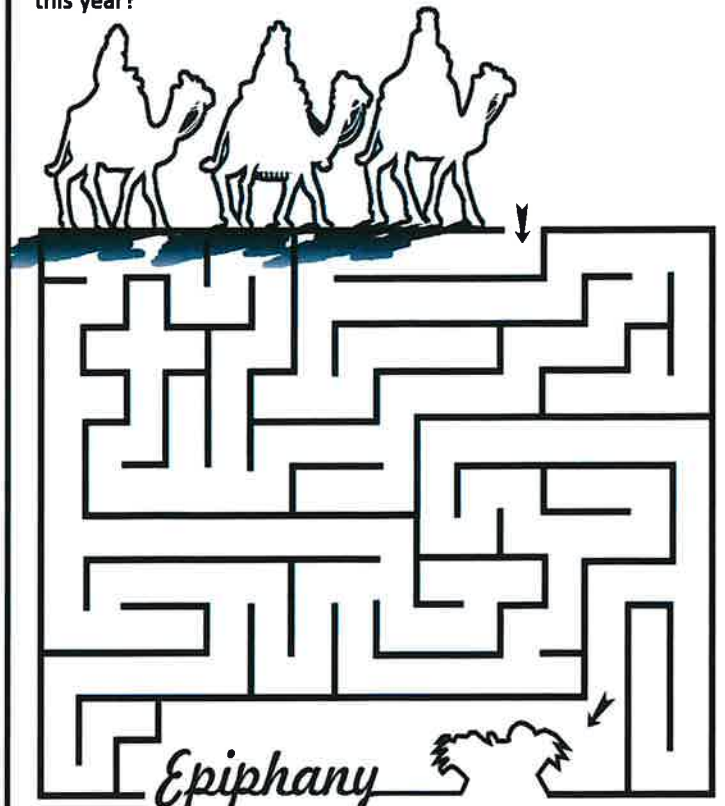
Special Announcements

- After Mass today, Knight of Columbus will host their monthly "*Best Breakfast in Town*". Come join us in St. Jude's Hall—Adults (19 and older) \$5; everyone else eats for free.
- As you leave the church, please pick up the "Blessing for Your Home" prayer and chalk to "mark" your home to receive God's blessing for the new year.
- While he is away, please keep Fr. Francis in your prayers for a blessed holiday and a safe return. Please check next week's bulletin for the week day Communion Service/ Mass schedule.
- Next Sunday, 1/11/26, **DONUT SUNDAY** returns!



Epiphany, Mt 2:1-12

Three wise men were searching for Jesus. They traveled from very far away to meet him. They followed a star and finally found him in Bethlehem. They adored him and gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **What gift would you like to give to Jesus this year?**



"Epiphany of the Lord"

Today is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. It's the Scriptural story of the magi from the East coming to pay homage to the baby Jesus. Scripture scholars disagree on the status of the magi; some believing they were indeed true kings, others say they were pagan priests or astrologers. The impression that they were kings comes from our first reading from Isaiah that says, "kings [coming] by your shining radiance... bearing gold and frankincense." The impression that they were astrologers is from today's Gospel that says they followed a star. Maybe they were both.

Regardless, the fact is that they were prominent, wealthy men from the east who garnered an audience with the Jewish king, Herod. They imparted upon him astonishing news about the birth of the newborn king of the Jews. The kings from the east knew about the birth of Christ, and now so did Herod. And they had two distinctly different responses.

The Father sent us Jesus, His own Son made man, to be king. Herod knew this and he saw a threat. The magi knew this and they honored Him. And within this story comes a great reflection of us. We too are faced with two potential responses to the coming of this King: Herod's or the Magi's.

Herod had spent his life building a kingdom for his personal glory. Every decision he made was for his own wealth and personal gain and he resorted to all kinds of sinfulness to achieve his desires. With the news of this child, Herod immediately feels threatened. If Christ is not destroyed, it could spell the end of his kingship, and his selfish worldly prominence and wealth.

The Magi, on the other hand, rejoiced to know that God's Savior is here. There's no threat, only joy and hope. Instead of holding back their treasures, they generously offer them to Christ as gestures of honor, respect, and allegiance. They willingly, almost eagerly, give everything they have for Him.

How do we react when Christ enters our lives every day? Are we like Herod, not willing to give of ourselves to Him? Or are we like the magi, rejoicing that we have such a glorious Lord to follow? I know it's easy to say we want to be like the Magi. But it's easier said than done.

The thing is, we always have both possibilities in our hearts - we are potential Magi, but we also are potential Herods. It's our make-up. Every one of us has levels of goodness and of selfishness. The key is in knowing this and understanding the degree with which they affect us. We have to honestly look at the level of our selfishness and priorities. How do we react when our plans for ourselves are disrupted? Do we feel threatened? Do we explode the way Herod did? If we see that reaction coming, do we know how to stop it? Do we remain calm and turn to Christ?

Herod had instructed the magi to return to him once they had found Christ. In a dream, they were warned of his threat to the child. Instead of giving in to Herod, they stayed calm, obeyed God and looked for another solution. They persevered in doing good.

That's how God wants us to act. We need to gradually learn to trust God in all circumstances. He is the King, not us. He is wise and good beyond all our selfishness. Kneel before the Lord and lay that selfishness at his feet, just as the Magi laid their gifts at the feet of the baby Jesus. Always ask him for the strength to fight against the Herod in our hearts; to have the courage and perseverance of the Magi.

And then keep going, keep seeking the star, keep striving to follow Christ, the one true King.



Prayer of St. Anselm of Canterbury

***O God, teach my heart where and how to seek you,
where and how to find you.***

***You are my God and you are my all,
yet, I have never seen you.***

***You have made me and remade me,
you have bestowed on my all the good things I possess;
still I do not know you.***

***I have not yet done that for which I was made,
teach me to seek you.***

***I cannot seek you unless you teach me, or find you,
unless you show yourself to me.***

***Let me seek you in my desire,
let me desire you in my seeking.***

***Let me find you by loving you,
let me love you when I find you.***

Amen