

First Sunday of Advent

Dear Friends,

I love Texas! Coming off of the Thanksgiving holiday, one of the things, among many, that I am most thankful for is that God's providence allowed me to be born right here in this magnificent state. Since I was a child, I've contemplated that fact a lot. I've often wondered how it was that I was so privileged to come into existence here out of all the other places in the world.

Have you ever thought about what it would have been like if you had been born someplace other than where you were born? When I contemplated that fact – that I could've been born in a war torn or poverty stricken country or a place where freedom was a distant ideal, I was always left feeling even more grateful that I came into the world right here in Texas. I suppose the mystery behind such a blessing will only be made manifest at the beatific vision.

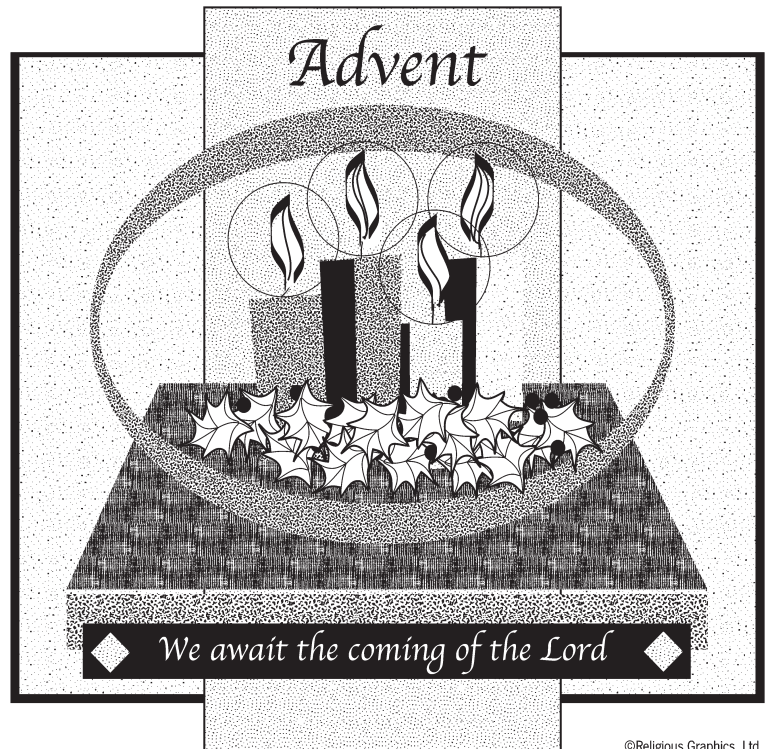
I guess you could say that the pride that I have in this state is about as big as the state itself. I don't know of many Texans who don't feel the same way. In fact, Texans take their pride with them wherever they go. Whenever we travel abroad and someone asks where we are from, we proudly declare "Texas" before anything else. Texans don't say we are from "the United States!"

I love the fact that we measure distance in hours rather than miles. I love the diversity of landscapes – from mountains to forests, to deserts and seashores. I love the confluence of cultures and the contrast of city life with rural life. I am fascinated by the colorful history, including the fact that Texas was once it's own republic. I also appreciate the traditional values, as well as the essential friendliness of the people. I love BBQ, Texas sports teams, and wide open ranches with Santa Gertrudis cattle and longhorn steer. I even like the fact that we have special edition pickups named after our state!

Am I overdoing it by singing the praises of our beloved state? Someone somewhere might think so. Nevertheless, there are many qualities that are very special about Texas that continue to instill pride over the generations. Our traditions and character marks who we are. If we do not safeguard these traditions and qualities, they will fade away.

What does all of this have to do with faith, you ask? As Catholics and followers of Christ, there are essential things about us that make us who we are. As we begin another liturgical year with the start of the Advent Season, we are led to reflect on who we are as a people of God and the mystery of the incarnation. Jesus Christ made his home with us. He blessed our existence by taking on flesh. We have become privileged recipients of his grace. Everything is different because of his coming.

The Advent season calls us to contemplate these blessings – to remember those basic things that make us uniquely Christian. We are reminded that God loves us so much that he sent his own Son who became incarnate so that he might rescue us from our slavery to sin. We are his privileged chosen ones who have been blessed with the gift of faith to share the good news of God's love. We are citizens of the kingdom of God.



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Saint Pius X
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL "To renew all things in Christ"
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As we enter into this Advent season, we are beckoned to open our hearts to love for him by doing those basic things that Christians do, like going to confession, participating in the sacraments, engaging more fervently in prayer, and practicing those virtues that mark us as Christian faithful. It is a blessing to be gifted with faith. We are Christian and we should act like Christians. Above all, we should give thanks that we are God's chosen ones!

God bless!

Thank you!

There are so many people to thank for their help with the success of our Acts of Charity Thanksgiving Meals project! This includes everyone that made monetary donations, as well as those that helped cook, assemble and deliver. The recipients of the meals were very appreciative. I know our loving God looks on you with love for your care of "the least of my brothers and sister". AOC Committee members

Many Thanks to Jason's Deli

We would like to thank the Becquet family, and the staff of Jason's Deli, for their generosity. The Thanksgiving meal that they prepared and served for our parish on Thanksgiving Day was great! There was a nice turnout and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the meal and the company.

Parish Christmas Giving Tree

Our Acts of Charity committee will be sponsoring a tennis shoe drive again this year. This year we have two shelters that we will be collecting tennis shoes for; Mother Teresa Shelter and Timmons. Please look for our Christmas Giving Tree in the vestibule of the Church. Please do not gift wrap the shoes. Instead, just attach the ornament to the item and either drop off at the parish office or place under the giving tree.

All Souls Candle Remembrances

If a candle was lit at the All Souls service for one of your loved ones, the glass in which the votive candle burned is available for you to have as a reminder of your loved one. If you want the glass, please pick it up at the parish office before Friday, December 2nd, during office hours.

Can You Help?

If you have any travel-size toiletries (the kind you bring back from motels), we have use for them. Boxes will be in the church vestibule for the next 2 weeks. Thank you.

Prayer Shawls

Prayer Shawls are available for persons to request beginning Nov. 26. Individuals may request prayer shawls for anyone, male or female, in need of real, tangible reassurance of God's love and comfort, i.e. because of illness, bereavement, loss of a job, divorce, surgery, depression, family crisis, etc. The

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-5:00PM

Schedule of Services

Masses: *First Friday: 5:30PM - Anointing of the Sick*

First Saturday: 8:15AM

Saturday: Vigil at 5:30PM.

Sunday: 8AM, 10AM, 12PM, 5:30PM

Vietnamese Mass: 7:30PM

(Babysitting at 10AM and 12 noon Sunday Masses - Ages 6mo-5yrs - in Parish Hall Nursery)

Weekdays: Monday through Friday 8:15AM,

Wednesday & Friday 5:30PM

Holy Days: 8:15AM, 12PM & 6:00PM(Vigil 5:30PM)

Confessions: Saturdays - 4-5PM and 6:30-7:30PM and Thursdays 6-8PM

Marriages: By appointment only and notice six months in advance.

Baptismal Instruction: Pre-register through the office.

Anointing of the Sick: On request and at the 5:30PM Mass on First Fridays

recipient does not have to be a church member, and there is no charge for the shawls. To request and pick up a hand-knit or hand-crocheted prayer shawl, come to the church office on any Wednesday, 1-5 PM, or call one of the following team members. A card accompanies each shawl and the person requesting will be asked to enter the name of the recipient in the St. Pius X Prayer Shawl Log. Cheryl Galvagni, 603-809-9159; Patricia Stegall, 361-549-0687; Grace Rank 361-533-2976; Gail Colwell, 361-739-7789.

Advent By Candlelight

Ladies of the parish, our 3rd annual Advent By Candlelight will be held next Sunday, December 4th, 7:00–9:00 pm, in the Parish Hall. Women interested in HOSTING a table contact: Catherine Lutz @ (361) 563-0407 or cflutz@hotmail.com. Hostesses are welcome to invite 7 other women to join their table. If you are interested, but haven't been invited to a table, contact Catherine and we will try to accommodate you at an open table. Space is very limited.

From the Parish Mailbox...

Dear staff and parishioners of St. Pius X, Johnny and I would like to thank all of you who visited, prayed and kept us in your thoughts during my stay in the hospital and Johnny's surgery and hospital stay. I am doing much better and Johnny continues to make progress every day! A special thanks to Fr. Paul and Fr. John for their visits and prayers, as well as for the flowers that they and the parish staff sent me during my hospital stay. Also, thanks to Mim and Mary for their support, thanks to Lisa for the bag of snacks she provided during Johnny's hospital stay and to the ladies of St. Rose of Lima for the beautiful quilt that they made for Johnny. Lastly, to De, who was there for me and Johnny during both of our hospital stays and recoveries. She continues to be by our side and support us with her friendship and prayers. Yolanda and Johnny Villarreal

ST. PIUS X YOUTH MINISTRY

Life Teen

Sunday, Nov. 27 - No Life Teen

EDGE

Wednesday, Nov. 30 - He's Here: The Nativity

Stay Up To Date!

Instagram: @stpiusxym

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Comings and Goings

The Week at a Glance



Sunday, November 27th

11:30AM-1:00PM – RCIA class – YC

3:00-9:30PM – LIFE TEEN - YC

Monday, November 28th

3:15-4:15PM – School- Ballet – PH

3:30-4:45PM – School – YC

6:30-7:30PM – Confirmation II – YC

6:00-7:00PM – Cub Scouts – CAF

6:30-7:30PM – Confirmation I – CC#1

7:00-9:00PM – Scouts – CAF

7:30PM – Angels – CC#2

Tuesday, November 29th

6:00-8:00AM – Men's Journey groups – CC#1&2

10:00AM - 12:00PM – Journey – CC#2

10:00AM-3:00PM – School – CH

12:00-3:00PM – MAP – CC#1

Wednesday, November 30th

7:00AM – Joyful Pillars – CC#2

9:00AM – 12:00PM – MAP – CC#1 office

9:00AM-3:00PM – School – CC#1

9:30AM – Schola – C/R

3:30-4:30PM – Children's Choir – C/R

4:30-5:30PM – Youth Choir – C/R

6:30PM – Religious Education – CC#1 & 2

6:30-9:30PM – EDGE - YC

6:30-7:30PM – Confirmation I – CAF

7:30PM – Youth Band practice - CH

Thursday, December 1st

1:00PM – Bridge – CC#1&2

6:00PM – Bell Choir – C/R

6:30PM – Adoration – CH

7:30PM – Adult Choir – C/R

Friday, December 2nd

12:00-4:00PM – Faculty Meeting – CC#1

5:30PM – Healing Mass – CH

5:30-9:00PM – School – YC

6:30PM – Santo Niño Mass - CH

Saturday, December 3rd

Baptism Class moved to December 10th

Sunday, December 4th

11:30AM-1:00PM – RCIA – YC

3:00-9:30PM – LIFE TEEN - YC

**Deadline for submitting
bulletin announcements is
Wednesday's @ 12:00noon**

Saturday, November 26th

5:30PM † John Boyd by Lucy Boyd
† Raymond Richter by Michael Moczygemba

Mass Intentions

Sunday, November 27th

8:00AM † Bruce Bayerlein Annv. by family
† Dale & Iluminada Gunnar by family
10:00AM † Angelita Ruiz Annv. by daughter
12:00PM † John McHugh & Julio Reyes Annv. by Delfina McHugh
5:30PM For the Parishioners
7:30PM For the Vietnamese Community

Monday, November 28th

8:15AM † Consuelo Trevino by family

Tuesday, November 29th

8:15AM † Andrew Achee, Jr. by Anna Vrazel

Wednesday, November 30th

8:15AM † Mary, John & James P. Kelly by Kathleen Horne
† Dorothy Mathews by Gary & Leslie Nock
† Ike Salinas by Salem's Jewelers
† Jim Brannigan by Harry & Jeanie Kemp
5:30 PM † Mary Pat Slavik by James & John Kelly
† Regina & Raymond Richter by Joe & Louise Sutherland
† Emilio G. Garza by Elva Garza
† Carolyn Bayless by Deacon Frank & Therese Newchurch
† Jose Genuino by Paul & Caroline Shamoun
† Jo Ann Sturm by Pat Riek

Thursday, December 1st

8:15 † Joyce Dickerson Annv. by Carolyn & Jim Buehrig

Friday, December 2nd

8:15AM † Zachary Kolda Annv. by Frank & Martha Kolda
† Dorothy Mathews by Garry & Leslie Nock
† Raymond Richter by Leoja & Jeanette Moczygemba
† Sofia & Pedro Anzaldue by Pete & Nancy Anzaldue
† Ike Salinas by Salem's Jewelers
5:30PM † Melinda Perales by Emma Cuellar
† M/M Joel Guerra by Abel & Margaret Guerra
† Larry Lippincott by Gladys Lippincott
† Claude Allen by Gladys Lippincott
James W. Kelly III wellbeing by family
† Emil Habeeb by children
Mathews family by D. Mathews
Toby & Monica Tarin's 26th Annv. Ints. by family
Martha Kolda's Birthday Ints. by Al & Adele Hesse
Michelle Hudson's health by Lennan family

Saturday, December 3rd

8:15AM † Catherine Marie Smith Cisneros by parents
5:30PM † Catholic Daughters' deceased members

Sunday, December 4th

8:00AM † Olivia Cardona Annv. by DeAnna Havel
10:00AM † Barbara Birt by Don Birt
† Patrick Sehy by Sehy family
12:00PM † Alvino C. Campos by Stella Campos
† Dionicio Laurel by Elva Laurel
5:30PM For the Parishioners
7:30PM For the Vietnamese Community

Financial Report for Sunday 11/20/2016

Operating Revenue:

Sunday Collection \$9,691.13
Sunday Online \$5,470.00
Nativity Donation \$100.00
Other Income \$10.00
Total Operating Revenue .. \$15,271.13

(Note: The Sunday collection is low because one of the bags from one of the Masses was not counted. It will be counted and reported in next weekend's bulletin.)

Other Contributions:

Acts of Charity \$1,161.30
Thanksgiving Meals \$875.00
Camp. Human Dev. \$361.00
Total Other Contributions \$2,397.30

Total Contributions \$17,668.43

Please Pray for our Sick & Shut-Ins:

Alicia & Luis Alvarado, Elida Benavides, Felipe Benavidez, Bernice Berry, Don Birt, Judy Bowman, Kanon Brown, Jimmy Buehrig, Stella & Michael Campos, Sabrina Cisneros, Shirley Currie, Andrea Dahlstrom, Patrick Delgado, Sandy DeGregorio, Florinda DeLaGarza, Minga DeLosSantos, Didra DeLosSantos, Samantha Didear Deste, Pud'n Dellinger, Liz Elovitz, Natalie & Elaine Elwood, Elijah Ethridge, Bobby Floyd, Alicia Garcia, Antonio Garcia, Esperanza Garcia, Dora Garza, Roel Garza, Terry Garza, Cindy Gedge, Elida Gonzalez, Bobby Gough, Charlotte & Tommy Groner, Jared Groner, Rose Marie Hand, Graham Hughes, Pam Hutchens, Mark Hyde, Ben Janosek, Elizabeth Johnson, Jim Johnston, R.W. Jones, Nathan Kelley, Frank Kolda, Gerri Kosik, Dora Lambert, Elva Laurel, Melanie Lee, Arlene Leep, Eddie Litchko, Larry Ludka, Bill Lyman, Frances Marsden, Michael McCloskey, Jim & Pat McLemore, Fred & Vicki Mitchell, Melynda Moore, John Morgan, Liz Morgan, Patrick Moyers, Douglas Nicol, Patricia Paris, Mary Lou Penne, Robert M. Pope, Patti Powers, Aaron & Mercedes Presas, Patricia Riek, John Lee Robertson, Stella Rollins, John & Irene Rosales, Rebecca Rosales, Paul Rossi, Albert Rubio, David Russell, Billy Ruzicka, Americo Salazar, Luis Salazar, Tim Salch, David N. Scherzer, Toni Sharif, Josephine Sheldon, Tina Shepard, Msgr. Richard Shirley, Judy Slaughter, Constance Smith, Maxine Sommers, Renato Sovran, Mary Ann Starkey, Mamie Stoner, Jo Teichman, Diane Thompson, Donna Tindall, Sylvia Uthoff, Luke Valdez, Bessie Vasquez, Mary Vasquez, Idolina Vela, Pedro & David Vela, Johnny Villarreal, Luz Villarreal, Judy West, Lillian Anderson Williams, Sarah Zuniga and all those who asked for and need our prayers.