

The First Sunday of Advent

Dear Friends: It happens innumerable times throughout our lives. The adrenaline kicks in, the fidgetiness almost becomes involuntary, the excitement electrifies the air and our emotions can hardly be contained. This is what happens to us when expectation builds within us.

This past Thursday was one such moment for me. I'm not one who gets too excited about movies anymore. I used to love going to movies and there were select few over the years that got my heart pumping with excitement as I went to see them. At some point, I was going to movies every week on my days off. I began to realize though, that many of the movies that I was seeing were not very edifying. Moreover, I became aware that lots of time was being lost where I could be more productive with other things. So, understandably, I started making my movie-going a lot more rare.

However, I did get excited about the movie about St. Augustine that our parish sponsored. I think that I was more excited about seeing all of our parishioners there than I was about the actual movie. I enjoy seeing our parish family, and other good Catholics from around the area, getting together to celebrate our unity of faith. Maybe my adrenaline was pumping too because I knew that there was going to be a full house in each theater, and I wanted to get there early enough to get a good seat!

In any event, I was filled with great anticipation as we got closer to show time. Expectation, enthusiasm, and anticipation are highly motivating. I remember a time in high school when we had just finished a jazz band competition at what was known at the time as Texas A & I University in Kingsville. Everything was already said and done and the various competing jazz bands had amassed at the university auditorium for a concert to be given by Maynard Ferguson, a very popular jazz trumpeter of the time. He had several billboard hits at the time, so there was tremendous excitement about his concert. Actually, the excitement almost built up into a frenzy, which was amazing considering it was a jazz musician and not any one of the other pop bands that was famous about that time. All I remember is that as we were standing amidst the group waiting for the doors to open, the crowd of concert-goers began to press in on us. I distinctly remember being a little fearful that I was going to get suffocated by the crowd.

The press of the crowd was so intense that I literally lifted my feet in the air and didn't fall! Fortunately, the doors opened and the pressure was relieved as we all started to flood into the auditorium. The concert was fabulous, by the way.

At this time of year, there is traditionally lots of expectation and anticipation as kids look forward to Christmas gifts and as adults dash about from party to party and store to store buying last minute gifts. I'm sure most parents anticipate getting it all over with.

It is only right that this season would evoke sentiments of expectation. Advent is all about expectation as we look forward to the celebration of the birth of our Savior. There



First Sunday of Advent

*nations,
hear the
message
of the Lord,
and
make it
known to the
ends of
the earth.*

*our savior
is coming.
have no
more fear!*

Pastor

Fr. Paul Hesse

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Joseph Thang Nguyen

Permanent Deacons

Salvador (Sal) Alvarado

Manuel Marroquin

Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Lisa Catchings

Parish Office Assistant

Wilma Toledo

Music Minister

Michael Conley | 991-0995

Music Accompanist

Charles Branning

Youth Mass Band Leader

Mick Boudreau

Director of Religious Education

Sr. Barbara Netek, IWBS

*Director of Adult Faith Formation
and Director of RCIA*

Sr. Annette Wagner, IWBS | 993-0299

Director of Youth Ministry

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is no other season with such deep emotion and excitement. I remember how excited I was as a child waiting for Christmas to come.

Advent also beckons us to foster expectation for the eventual coming of Christ at the end of time. We do not know when that will happen, but we are urged to always be expectant and ready. The readings this weekend highlight the need to be ready. They tell us not to allow ourselves to be deadened by worldly pitfalls. Instead, they encourage us to fan into flame the excitement that should be ours as we await Christ's return. We need to let the adrenaline of our faith fill our hearts with burning love for him. This comes through prayer, meditation, study, and spiritual exercises that keep us alive with anticipation. Come Lord Jesus, Come!

Welcome New Parishioners!

Please welcome our new parishioners Augustine and Arianna Gonzales & baby Andro, Maria V. "Vicky" Gutierrez, and Michael and Masha Ramdawat & children. We invite them to become an active part of our growing faith community!

Christmas Giving Tree

This year the Acts of Charity committee chose the ARK Assessment Center as the recipient of all of our contributions from the Giving Tree. Therefore our Christmas Giving Tree will be decorated with ornaments representing the ARK. The tree will be up the weekend of December 9 and remain until all of the ornaments are gone. If you choose to participate, please take an ornament and bring the item on the ornament. It is not necessary to wrap the item you bring. Monetary donations are accepted as well. If there are any families who would like to deliver some of the items brought, please let Sister Barbara Netek know.

A little about the ARK. The Ark, a nondenominational facility, began as a project of the Missionary Sisters of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It is the only licensed facility within an 80-mile radius that is contracted by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to provide emergency shelter and assessment services for the children who have been physically abused, sexually abused or neglected by parents or guardians. The shelter is licensed to care for children from anywhere in Texas. The Ark is home to infants and children as young as

Rectory Office Hours:

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

Schedule of Services

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

First Saturday: 8:15AM Vigil at 5:30PM.

Sunday: 8AM, 10AM, 12PM, 5:30PM (Youth Mass)

(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: 7AM, 12PM & 6:30PM (Vigil 5:30PM)

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

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

Weddings take place on weekdays any time and on Saturdays no later than 3:00PM

Baptismal Instruction: Pre-register through the office.

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

one day old through 17 years of age. They stay for as little as one day to 90 consecutive days. The Ark is needed because the homelike facility provides the security and nurturing these children need to begin the healing process and to continue with their normal daily routines as much as possible. For more information go to www.ark4kids.com

Actrs of Charity

There will be an Acts of Charity meeting on Tuesday, December 4 at 6:30 PM in CC#1.

Newly Baptized

St. Pius X welcomes into the Catholic Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism the following infants who were baptized this month: Emmanuel Mateo Gallegos and Walker Daniel Whitworth.

Holy Day of Obligation:

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

This coming Saturday, December 8th, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a Holy Day of Obligation because Mary, under this title, is the patroness of the United States. In order to help you fulfill your obligation, we will have several Masses as follows:

Friday, December 7th: 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

Saturday, December 8th: 8:15 a.m. and
10:00 a.m. Mass

Please note that the Saturday evening Mass on Dec. 8th does not fulfill the Feast of the Immaculate Conception obligation because the liturgy is the Vigil Mass for Sunday.

Healing Mass

The Healing Mass which is usually held on the first Friday of the month, has been moved to the 2nd Friday (the 14th), due to the Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass celebrated on the 7th. The First Friday Communion calls will be moved to the 14th also.

Movie about St. Augustine a Success!

It was exciting to see all of you at the showing of Restless Heart - The Confessions of Augustine this past Thursday. We sold out of both screenings and everybody was enthusiastic about the movie. We want to express thanks to Sarah Morrison and Catherine Lutz and their helpers for their work in spear-heading the bringing of this movie to our city and to getting the word out. Thanks a million!

Comings and Goings

The Week at a Glance



Sunday, December 2

8:00-10:00AM – RCIA – CC#2

9:00AM – 5:00PM – Cub Scout Day of
Recollection – YC

10:00AM -3:00PM – Gathering – PH

1:30PM – Baptism Class – CC#1

3:30-5:00PM – Trip Information – CC#2

Monday, December 3

3:30PM – Ballet – PH

5:00PM – Confirmation - YC

8:00PM – Night Angels – CC#1

Tuesday, December 4

7:00-9:00AM – Men's Journey – CC#1&2

10:00AM – Journey – CC#2

12:30PM – MAP – CC#1

6:30PM – Acts of Charity – CC#1

7:00-8:30PM – First Tuesday Snapshots – CC#2

Wednesday, December 5

7-9AM – Joyful Pillars – CC#2

9:00AM-12:00PM – MAP – CC#1

9:30AM – Schola – C/R

6:30PM – CCD & Parents – PH, CC#1&2 & Caf.

6:30PM – Alhambra - R

Thursday, December 6

1:00PM – Bridge – CC#1&2

4:30- 5:15PM – Webelos – CC#2

6:30PM – Bell Choir – C/R

7:00PM – Adoration - CH

7:30PM – Adult Choir – C/R

Friday, December 7

Office Closed

Communion Calls moved to next Friday

9:00-11:00AM – Women of Faith – CC#2

5:30PM – Vigil Mass – CH (Healing Mass moved
to next Friday)

6:30PM – Santo Nino Mass - CH

7:00PM – Men's Club Christmas Party - PH

Saturday, December 8

8:15AM – Holy Day Mass - CH

10:00AM – Holy Day Mass – CH

5:30PM – Vigil Mass - CH

Sunday, December 9

8:00-10:00AM – RCIA – CC#2



Prepare for the
coming of the LORD

YOUTH CORNER



All middle schoolers are invited to join us at 6:30PM on Wednesday, December 5 for Edge Night.



We will not be having Life Teen after our retreat ends this Sunday, December 2. Life Teen will resume next week on December 9.

Summer Trip 2013: Steubenville Florida and Universal Studios! Information coming soon.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD: PERFECT ATTENDANCE for November 28! Congratulations to the following classes:



Third Grade—Ms. McKenna, Catechist
Sacramental Prep II d—Mrs. Ritch, Catechist
Sacramental Prep II a—Mr. & Mrs. Anzualda, Catechists
Sacramental Prep II b—Mr. & Mrs. Martinez, Catechists
Sacramental Prep II b—Mrs. Frazier, Catechist

PARENT MEETING — NEXT WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 5, 6:30 pm PARISH HALL

SAFE ENVIRONMENT (CMSE) CLASSES

RE-CERTIFICATION: Please check your blue cards and if it is expired, attend one of the following recertification classes. There are some changes in the certification process and they will be explained to you. Please bring your expired certification card with you.

ALL CLASSES ARE IN CC#1 AT 6:30 pm

Re-certification class dates:

December 11	January 8
February 12	March 12
April 9	May 14



Altar Servers

Fri. Dec. 7

5:30 p.m. Vigil
MC Joshua Harney
Jordyn Harney
Joe Aidan Harney

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

MC Paul Freeman
MC Javier Camacho, Jr.
Nicholas and J.P. Lee

Dec. 8 & 9

Sat. 8:15 a.m.
MC Gabe Skrobarczyk
MC Logan Campbell
Kevin Beckwith
Sophie Campbell
Lucy Kainer

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

MC Blake Martin
Matthew Montez
Aaron Martin
Andrew Montez
Brooke Montez

Sun. 12:00 p.m.

MC J.J. Arizmendi
Paris Hanna
Luis Lopez
Jacob Lugo
Paxton Hanna

Sat. 10:00a.m.

MC Kelsey Krnavek
Dalton Rives
Helena Van Maren
Stacia Krnavek
Ryan Rives

Sun. 5:30 p.m.

MC Brian Pompa
MC Mathew Quiroz
Cole Morin
Toby Johnson

Sat. 5:30 p.m.

MC Brittany McCarty
Dalton Zawicky
Kyle Pekar

Lectors

VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

DEC 7 FRI 5:30 P.M. Richard Arizmendi
DEC 7 FRI 5:30 P.M. Theresa Arizmendi

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

DEC 8 SAT 8:15 AM Arthur Kaler
DEC 8 SAT 8:15 Norman Paris
DEC 8 SAT 10:00 A.M. Angie Quiroz
DEC 8 SAT 10:00 A.M. Hester Rodriguez

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DEC 8 SAT 5:30 P.M. David Brown
DEC 8 SAT 5:30 P.M. Kendra Justice
DEC 9 SUN 8:00 A.M. Carl Chatelain
DEC 9 SUN 8:00 A.M. Alpha Patterson
DEC 9 SUN 10:00 A.M. Denise Hyde
DEC 9 SUN 10:00 A.M. Larry Hyde
DEC 9 SUN 12:00 NOON Arthur Kaler
DEC 9 SUN 12:00 NOON Mary Scott
DEC 9 SUN 5:30 P.M. Frank Pompa
DEC 9 SUN 5:30 P.M. Angela L. Soliz
DEC 2 SUN 5:30 P.M. Inez Matthijetz
DEC 2 SUN 5:30 P.M. Martha St. Romain

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

DECEMBER FIRST TUESDAY
SNAPSHOT: If this is Advent, what are we waiting for? And how do we make welcome? Advent for adults needs to be more than hectic holiday preparations . . . more than a time to accumulate bills . . . more than a conflict between sacred and secular. Come and find out what Advent offers us as believers. We meet on Tuesday, December 4, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.



School News

By Principal Kathy Clark

With Thanksgiving behind us, and our engines revved up and ready to go until our Christmas break, the students and staff of St. Pius X Catholic School are preparing for the Season of Advent with retreats and looking forward to the Christmas holidays that are only a few short weeks away. We are blessed to be able to take time out from a busy season to reflect and prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child.

Sr. Barbara Bluntzer gave our students in 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades an Advent retreat last week on Tuesday afternoon. Sr. Barbara always does a great job with these retreats that are enjoyed by students and teachers, alike. The teachers will have their own retreat on Friday, December 7, as they join their fellow teachers at St. Patrick School for a reflection given by Msgr. Roger Smith. Not to be left out, the Principals of all the Diocesan schools will attend a 3-day retreat at the Oblate Retreat Center in San Antonio beginning on Wednesday, December 5. Sr. Carol Cimino will be the retreat master for that one. She has worked with the principals for several years now. Using her sense of humor and wealth of knowledge and experience as an administrator, Sr. Carol always seems to speak on the topics that the principals need to hear.

Deacon Manny made a surprise visit to the school on Thursday to thank the children for sending him welcome cards. It was difficult to see who enjoyed the visit more—Deacon Manny or the children!

Our had a new principal for a day on Friday. Amber Jones, a student in 5th grade, became the Principal of the Day due to the fact that her grandfather, Robert Crowl, was the highest bidder on the item at our Silent Auction last month. Amber's began her administrative duties with Morning Prayer and Morning Announcements. After that, she visited the classrooms and "evaluated" the teachers and students. To the students who were on task and paying attention, she gave homework passes. Since it was the day our "mannerly" students got taken to Jason's Deli for lunch, Amber helped out with that, too. It was a fun day for her. She just might have a future as a principal!



Friday night was a fun night for our moms. Our first annual Mom's Night Out took place in the Parish Hall. It was an opportunity for our hard-working mothers to take a few hours just for themselves to enjoy good fellowship and shopping. Over 35 vendors set up booths with their wares. It enabled the moms to do some Christmas shopping and purchase a few things for themselves, also. The event that started out as a fun evening ended up being a fundraiser for the school. Thanks, PTO, for another fun, successful event!

The 12:00 Mass today is our monthly school Mass. Our students will be there in uniform singing in the choir, lecturing, altar serving and bringing up the offertory gifts. In return for wearing their uniform today, they will have a free dress day on Tuesday. That's always a treat! Have a blessed week!

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

On Wednesday, December 12, 2012, we will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at the 8:15 a.m. Mass. The Catholic Daughters will host a taquito breakfast in the parish hall after Mass. Join us in this parish tradition and celebration.

From the Parish Mailbox...

To St. Pius X from Corpus Christi Adult Day: Our clients are very grateful for the generous gifts of food baskets for Thanksgiving. It was so thoughtful of your parishioners to share their blessings with our people. May God Bless you!

To Fr. Paul and the parishioners of St. Pius X from Barbara Little of Catholic Charities: Thank you so much for your generous November donation. As I write this note our lobby is full with families who need emergency and or want help from our food pantry to be able to cook a healthy meal. Thanks to you and your parishioners for allowing us to provide for our clients and also help them on the road to self-sufficiency. May God continue to bless you and St. Pius X Church. We are grateful that you are sharing your treasures. Blessings!

Retirement Fund for Religious

The collection will take place next weekend, December 8-9. Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your thanks for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection.



Mass Intentions



- Sat. 12/1 8:15AM Graciela De Los Santos' Anniv. by family
5:30PM Zachary Kolda's Anniv. by Martha & Frank Kolda
- Sun. 12/2 8:00AM Bruce Bayerlein's Anniv. by wife and sons
10:00AM For the Parishioners
12:00PM Alvin Campos by Stella Campos
5:30PM Melinda Cuellar Perales by Emma Cuellar
- Mon. 12/3 8:15AM Dionicio Laurel by Elva Z. Laurel
- Tue. 12/4 8:15AM Barbara Birt by Don Birt
Patrick Sehy by Diane, Kevin & Jenny
- Wed., 12/5 8:15AM Betty Watts by Lisa Catchings
Arturo Vasquez by Marie Vasquez
The Thise Family by Ardeth Weed
5:30PM Christine Rosenast by M/M Mario Lopez
Arthur Karp by Lorraine Karp
Ruben Landin by M/M Brent Ocker
Sister Patrick Bruen by Art & Mary Salinas
- Thu. 12/6 8:15AM David Huber's Anniv. by Jim & Mim Cook
- Fri. 12/7 8:15AM John Kelly by Kathleen Horne
Mary Kelly by Kathleen Horne
Frances Galvan by Norma Alaniz
5:30PM Thomas & Mary Fitzgerald by Fitzgerald girls
Ana Guerra, Rosario Adame, & Joel Guerra by Dolores Saenz
Richard Villarreal by M/M Guadalupe Gonzalez
Grace Gonzalez by Martha Saenz
Olga De Vega by Tommy & Charlotte Groner
- Sat. 12/8 8:15AM John Ley by Ellsworth & Ley families
10:00AM Mary Fitzgerald's Anniv. by Fitzgerald girls
5:30PM Nancy J. Rodriguez by Ruben Rodriguez
- Sun. 12/9 8:00AM Betty Schacherl by the Didear family
10:00AM Robert Conwell by the Conwell family
12:00PM Renato De Los Santos' Anniv. by family
5:30PM For the Parishioners

"WE CARE" for children and adults



JOSEPH F. CONIGLIO D.D.S., M.S.
ORTHODONTIST

5756 S. STAPLES • CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78413
993-2333

BULLETIN SPONSOR

Please Pray for our Sick & Shut-Ins:

Manuel Balbin, Madison Beckwith, Sgt. 1st Class William Boone, Bill Brumback, Bob Byrd, Stella & Michael Campos, Ashley Carroll, Reana Carter, Riana Carter, Sherry Coveyou, Jason Cox, Alicia de Boza, Florinda De La Garza, Mark DeGaish, Sandy DeGregorio, Minga DeLosSantos, Samantha Didear Deste, Liz Elovitz, Yolanda Escobar, Juan A. Flores, Bobby Floyd, Raymond Garcia, Jr., Elida Gonzalez, Bobby Gough, Glenda Graham, Vickie Grainger, Maria Griffin, Charlotte & Tommy Groner, Jared Groner, Terry Groner, Coleen Habeeb, Marie Habeeb, Rose Marie Hand, James Hartman, Corina Herndon, Cathy Hervey, Chris Holland, Lucas Jean-Baptiste Ramirez, Matteo Jean-Baptiste Ramirez, Elizabeth Johnson, Martha Kaler, Mary Kelly, Dorothy Krause, Arlene Leep, Ed Lewis, Alois Lup, Arlene Lup, Cynthia Lup, Dorothy Mathews, Michael McCloskey, Virginia Medrano, Robert Miller, John Morgan, Dan Murray, Patricia Paris, Phil Perabo, Robert M. Pope, Ron Randolph, Raymond Richter, Marguerite Ross, Luis Salazar, Tim Salch, Janie San Miguel & children, Amber Saylor, Terry Schacherl, Josephine Sheldon, Tina Shepherd, Msgr. Richard Shirley, Willie Mae Shirley, Mary Pat Slavik, Maxine Sommers, Adrian Sosa, Lydia Tey, Idolina Vela, Luz Villarreal, Melva Walet, Mary Lois Webster, Bea Wilson, Dolly Zihelli, Sarah Zuniga and all those who asked for and need our prayers.

Financial Report for week ending 11/25/12

Operating Revenue:

Sunday Collection	\$ 16,816.40
Other Income	\$ 2,010.00
Restless Heart Ticket Sales	\$ 570.00
Total Operating Revenue.....	\$ 19,396.40

Other Contributions:

Acts of Charity.....	\$ 348.00
Janosek Scholarship.....	\$ 26.00
Camp. Human Dev.....	\$ 4.00
Retirement Religious.....	\$ 1.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 1.00
Catholic Charities.....	\$ 41.00
Total Other Contributions.....	\$ 421.00
Total Contributions 11/25/2012 .	\$ 19,817.40

Loan balance on Youth Bldg
as of November 19, 2012.....\$ 973,857.81

