

NEW YEAR - - - 2009

We will soon be ushering in a new calendar year. As we do so, we will also begin our celebration of the 50th anniversary of the parish of St. Patrick's beginning in September. Several events will mark this special year through May 1, 2010, the dedication of the church: updating the parish census (beginning in January), a new pictorial directory, further updating of parish grounds, celebrations, and much more. Stay tuned.

Hospital / Emergency Calls

As of member of the Victoria Deanery (churches in this area) St. Patrick's pays a hospital chaplain to meet the needs of hospital patients. If you find that you are in the hospital and in need of a priest in an emergency please contact:

Priest Beeper 503 – 9188

If no response, call:

**Chaplain at: 579-6895 (home)
920-0137**

Post this near your telephone.

Please also take the time to let me know here at the parish so that I may include you on the prayer list and make a visit when possible.

Liturgical Assignments for Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve, Wednesday Dec. 24th, 5 p.m.

Lectors Melinda Valenzuela, Maribel Gonzalez
Cup Ministers Ismael and Gracie Perez
Gift bearers volunteers
Altar Servers M. Valenzuela, A. Valenzuela, A. Gonzalez
Ushers volunteers

Christmas Midnight Mass, Dec. 24th

Lectors Paulette Brandl, Jeanne Lange
Cup Ministers Lupe and Frances Rivera
Gift bearers volunteers
Altar Servers volunteers
Ushers volunteers

Christmas Day, Thursday Dec. 25th, 9 a.m.

Lectors Lisa Canales
Cup Ministers Deacon Fred and Patty Soto
Gift bearers volunteers
Altar Servers Gabriella Canales & Madeline Canales
Ushers volunteers

Liturgy / Mass Schedule and Priest Intentions

December 23 – December 28

Tuesday, 23rd 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Virgen de San Juan de Los Lagos*
by *Juan Rodriguez*
6:45 – 8:00 p.m. – Penance/Reconciliation
Wednesday, 24th 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass – *Mary A. Lerma +*
by *Mary L. Moya*
Christmas Eve
12:00 Midnight - *Mary Cantu +, Salvador Cantu +*
Thomasa Garcia +
by *Danny & Frances Garcia*
Thursday, 25th 9:00 a.m. Mass – *Maria Soto +*
Nativity of the Lord
Holy Day of Obligation
Friday, 26th 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Geraldine Peter +*
by *Sylvia Peter*
St. Stephen
Saturday, 27th 5:15 -5:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance
5:40 p.m. Rosary – leader: *Carol Sutton*
6:00 (vigil) Mass – *Catholic Daughters*
Sunday, 28th 8:00 a.m. Mass – *Jesus y Maria DeLaGarza*
by *Julia Rameriz*
The Holy Family
10:00 a.m. Mass – *Pro Populo*

**Readings – Sunday
December 28**

First Reading – Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14
Second Reading – Colossians 3:12-21

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Saturday Dec. 27th, 6 p.m.

Lectors Lisa Canales, Carol Sutton
Cup Ministers Paulette Brandl, Jeanette West
Gift bearers M/M Joe Canales, Sr.
Altar Servers Gabriella & Madeline Canales
Ushers R. Reyes, B. Cantu, D. Hybner, A. Reyes, Sr.

Sunday Dec. 28th, 8 a.m.

Lectors Ted Cabral
Cup Ministers Juanita Canales, Juanita Madrigal
Gift bearers Pete and Elena Guerra
Altar Servers April Chapa, Evan Andrade, Mauricio Ledezma
Ushers H. Cardona, H. DeLuna, E. Ledezma, A. Escalante

Sunday Dec. 28th, 10 a.m.

Lectors Lupe Olguin
Cup Ministers Mary Helen Garcia, Margaret Escalante
Gift bearers Frank and Maribel Gonzalez and family
Altar Servers Angelica Valenzuela, Michael Valenzuela
Ushers A. Rodriguez, A. Reyes, J. Troncoso, H. Longoria

Advent Calendar

Tuesday, Dec. 23 Decorating of Interior of
Church 9:00 a.m. - ?

Tues., Dec. 23 Sacrament of Penance 6:45 – 8 p.m.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Holiday of Obligation

Wednesday, Dec. 24 5:00 p.m.

12:00 Midnight

Thursday, Dec. 25 9:00 a.m.

Collection Overview:

Last Sunday: \$ 1655.28

Retired Religious: \$ 280.00

Immaculate Conception: \$339.00

2009 PARISH CALENDARS

The 2009 parish calendars have arrived. They are available at the church entrance, one per family please. We are grateful to **Artero Memorial Chapels** who sponsored the calendars this year.

What's your Catholic IQ -Faith Quiz

Answer from last week:

The name of the angel who came to announce Jesus' birth to Mary was b. Gabriel

This week's question:

December 25th is the day the church chose to celebrate Jesus' nativity or birth, because:

- it worked better for retailers
- to overshadow the winter solstice pagan celebration feast of the unconquered sun
- the weather was cooler
- of the ruling of Pope Liberius in 354, who is the earliest pope not yet canonized a saint

(Answer coming next week)

R.C.I.A. Update

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults will resume regular classes on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 in the Heritage Room. All adults who seek to learn more about the faith are invited to attend.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

This Wednesday

No Class

May you and your families enjoy the Christmas and New Year vacation.
Regular classes resume January 7.

Christmas Greetings

Feliz Navidad *Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce a stastny*
Novy Rok Merry Christmas Jutdlime pivdluarit
ukiortame pivdluaritlo Joyeux Noel Fröhliche
Weihnachten Kala Christouyenna Mele Kalikimaka
Nollaig Shona Dhuit Buone Feste Natalizie
Natale hilare et Annum Faustum Merry Keshmish
Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia Feliz Natal
Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva is Novim
Godom Vesele Vanoce Chuc Mung Giang Sinh

PAINTED CHURCH PILGRIMAGE

All the seats have been filled. I will be calling to remind this week.

The Pilgrimage is Monday, December 29.

Schedule of the Day:

- 8:00 a.m. Leave St. Patrick's
- 9:00 a.m. Visit Praha
- 9:45 a.m. Visit Dubina
- 10:30 a.m. Visit Ammannsville
- 11:15 a.m. Mass High Hill
- 12:00 a.m. Lunch at Frank's
in Schulenburg
- 1:30 p.m. Visit St. Rose of Lima in Schulenburg
- 2:00 p.m. Leave for Bloomington
- 3:00 p.m. Arrive in Bloomington

Cost: There will be a small collection for vehicle gas. It looks like \$10 per person to rent the vans, if we go that direction, which is what I am leaning toward. The other cost would be your meal at Frank's – between \$7-10. And then any other incidentals such as souvenirs would be up to you.

Christmas Poinsettia Flower Memorial Donations

The names in italics represent those remembered in by the donation

Lee O. Thacker, Arnold Thacker by Annie Thacker. *Familias Garcia y Canales* by Juana G. Canales. *Jesus Hernandez, Miguel Hernandez* by M/M Roque Hernandez. *Hector Trevino, Ines Hernandez, Juanita Contreras* by M/M Hector Trevino. *Angela Machac* by M/M Thomas West. *M/M Melchor Cantu, M/M Silvestre Perez* by M/M Bacilio Cantu. *Emmett Boedeker, George & Annie Boedeker, Daniel & Emilie Roznovsky, Charles M. Anderson* by Marie Boedeker. *John DeLaRosa* by Alice DeLaRosa. *Agapita Garcia, The Edson & Rivera Families* by M/M Guadalupe Rivera Sr. *Alfredo & Jesusa Cabral, Paz Trevino, Consulo Aleman* by M/M Teodoro Cabral. *Adrian Ylaria, Toney Ruben, Santos y Abrav Jr., Lucia Garcia, Rene DeLosSantos* by M/M Manuel Estrada. *Juan & Sophie Tijerina, Sartunina Galicia-Morales, Demetrio & Fedelia Tijerina, Tomas Galicia, Donicio & Maria Tijerina* by Fidel Galicia. *Amalia Castaneda, Hortencia Marquez* by M/M Hermilo DeLuna. *Innocenti Garcia, Ismael Garcia, April Servantes, Selma Servantes, Lino Oliver, Ernest Mejia*, by Thomas and Stella Mejia. *Vicente Garcia, Josepha Zarate, Ester Galvan, Sylvester Galvan* by M/M Robert Galvan. *Alicia Flores* by M/M Joe Hernandez Jr. *Mr. Guadalupe G. Gonzalez Sr., Mr. Guadalupe Gonzalez Jr.* by Mrs. Guadalupe Gonzalez. *M/M Ray Brandl Sr., M/M Edward Machac* by M/M Raymond Brandl Jr. *Domingo & Benancia Moya* by M/M Ernest Moya. *Paul & Mary A. Lerma* by Ernest and Mary L. Moya. *Carl L. Brzozowske* by Helen Brzozowske, children and grandchildren. *Jesse L. Olguin Jr.* by Mrs. Lupe Olguin. *M/M Dominguez, M/M Olguin* by M/M Albert Rodriguez, *Frank Jelinek, Lillie Oliver* by Elenora Jelinek, *Mildred Hroch, Butch Hoff* by M/M Rick Hybner. *Hector Cardona, Mrs. Juanita Madrigal, Deacon and Mrs. Fred Soto, M/M Arnulfo Reyes Jr., M/M Leon Rameriz, M/M Daniel Sepulveda, M/M Bacilio Gonzalez,* M/M

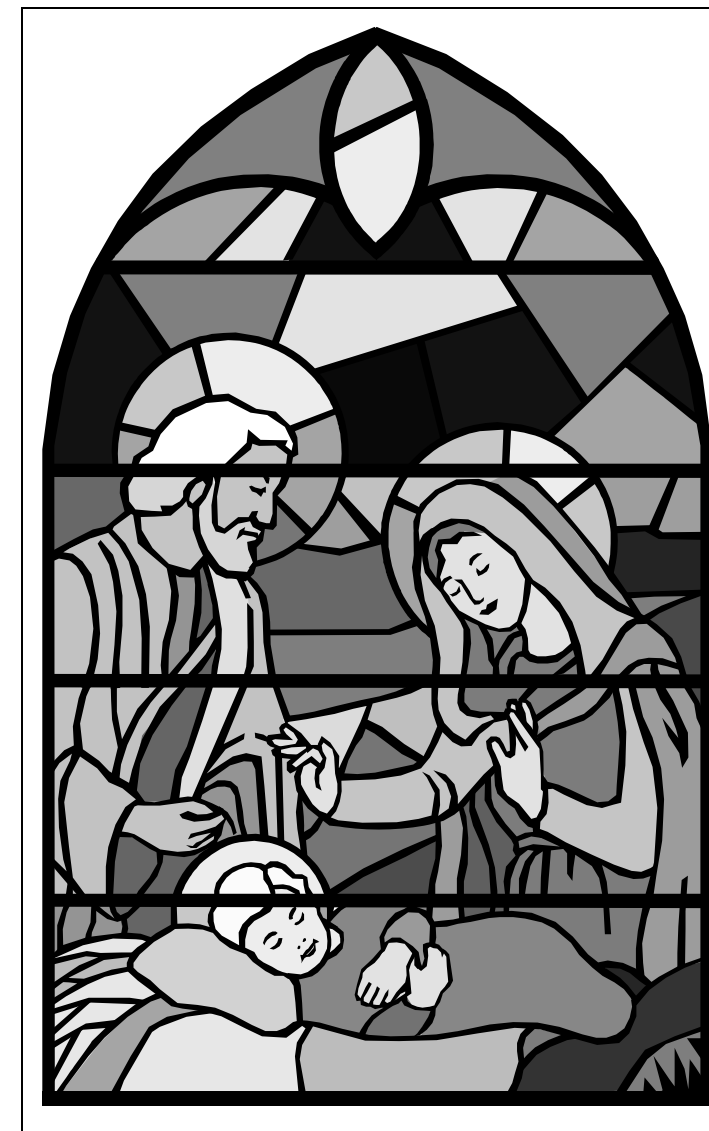


The Legend of the Poinsettia

Dr. Joel Poinsett, who was the first ambassador to Mexico, brought the bright red star-shaped flower to the United States. Hence, it was named as Poinsettia. It is also known as 'Flame Leaf' or 'Flower of the Holy Night'.

The Legend: There was once a brother-sister pair who was very poor. They lived in a village and they had barely enough to eat two full meals a day. As Christmas approached, festivities, parades and parties in the village attracted the children. A large manger scene was being set up in the village church and all the children were eager to go to Baby Jesus and give him the best present. The brother and sister also wanted to give expensive presents to the Holy Child that He will love, but knew that they had no money to buy the presents and had nothing that they could gift to the child.

Yet, they could not let go of the temptation to see the baby just once and give something to Him. On Christmas Eve, they set out for church a little earlier than others to attend the service. Since they had nothing to give to the child, they thought of plucking some weeds growing along the roadside to make a soft bed for Baby Jesus and decorate his crib. While they were still decorating the crib of the Baby, other children also arrived. Fearful of being ridiculed for their gift, the two were almost in tears for shame and helplessness when a miracle occurred. Suddenly, the weeds burst into bright red petals that looked like stars and were so beautiful that everyone was awed by their beauty. Everybody realized and said that a gift of love is dearer to Jesus than the most expensive presents that money could buy. Ever since then, Poinsettia flowers have become favorites for Christmas decorations.



O Come, Let us adore Him!

A reflection from the Pastor

This week as we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we take time to remember how God chose to come among us in such humble circumstances, taking the form of human flesh. Jesus' incarnation, his coming among us, opened the way for the salvation which would come through the cross. His crib was transformed into the cross which was transformed into the resurrection. This is the life to which we have been called as Christians. Take a moment this Christmas, to remember your re-birth through Jesus at your baptism, how he has called you to transform yourself into his glory as we await his future coming and our own resurrection.

The parish Christmas party was very nice. Thank you to all who made the evening a success. The evening began with the children's production of "The Friendly Beasts" by Tomie DePaola. Individual grade levels led the singing of the carols. The covered dishes were excellent and the parish turkey and dressing and gravy rounded out the delicious meal. Thank you to those who prepared the production, those who prepared food, those who served the food and worked the kitchen and those who assisted in the clean up. Door prizes were randomly chosen and enjoyed. Approximately two hundred attended the party, celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

May you and your families have a blessed week and a

Parish office is closed on Mondays. Thank you.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 5:15 - 5:45 P.M. *and by Appointment*

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact the parish office to register for the preparation class. Godparents should be practicing, churchgoing Catholics, who have celebrated their Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Please bring a copy of the child's birth certificate to class.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples planning to marry should contact the parish at least six months prior to their desired time of marriage.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

This healing sacrament is available when one is seriously ill.

New Parishioners

Welcome. Please call the parish office to register.

The bulletin is provided for the explicit purpose of communicating information weekly to the people of God in Bloomington, Texas

SAINT PATRICK  CATHOLIC CHURCH
BLOOMINGTON, TEXAS

The Reverend Ty Joseph Bazar
Pastor

(361) 897-1155 - voice

(361) 897-1064 - fax

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Post Office Box 2122

13316 State Highway

Quinceañeras

Young ladies approaching their fifteenth birthday, who are members of the parish, are attending religious education classes, and have been enrolled for three years, may contact the pastor six months in advance to arrange the celebration. The hall is no longer rented for these gatherings.