

**JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2017  
SOLEMNITY OF MARY,  
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**



**JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> – JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**5:30 PM MASS**

No Deacon  
 Lector: B. Theisen  
 Lay Ministers: C. Hussey, C. & S. Guenat  
 Greeters: T. Mays  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers

**7:30 AM MASS**

No Deacon  
 Lector: M. Hoelscher  
 Lay Ministers: B. McNeill, D. Shepard, T. Hamff  
 Greeters: H. Vavra, S. Motl, JT & JR  
 Maldonado, J. Edwards  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers

**9:15 AM MASS**

No Deacon  
 Lector: J. Hattemer  
 Lay Ministers: K. & J. Bartz & D. Gibson  
 Greeters: B. & S. McAtee, R. Beck,  
 T. Hodge, D. Garza  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers

**11:00 AM MASS**

No Deacon  
 Lector: L. Edwards  
 Lay Ministers: F. Trevino, A. Payne, A. Mikeska  
 Greeters: C. Wohleb, S. Rodriguez,  
 J. Oakes, D. Stolp  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers

**COMMUNION CALLS January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

C. & S. Guenat, B. McNeill, T. Hamff, F. Trevino,  
 D. Shepard, P. Thrift, A. Mesecke, A. Payne,  
 A. Mikeska, & T. Mireles

**January 2<sup>nd</sup> – January 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday**      **No Mass**  
**Tuesday**     **12:10PM** †James Grygar  
**Wednesday**    **7:00AM** †Henry & Stazie  
    Horelica  
**Thursday**     **7:00AM** †Jerry Talasek  
**Friday**         **8:15AM** †Clarence Entrop  
    **10:00AM** †James Grygar  
    **12:10PM** †Olon Montgomery  
**Saturday**      **7:30AM** †Marie Riley  
    **5:30PM** †Louis & Mary Stojanik  
    & Lee Tschoerner  
**Sunday**        **7:30AM** †Morris Marburger  
    **9:15AM** †James Grygar  
    **11:00AM** For the People

**YOUR GIFT TO GOD**

**December 25, 2016**

Sunday Collection	\$	12,046.87
Retired Clergy	\$	70.00
School Fund	\$	20.00
Building Fund	\$	20.00
CCHD	\$	40.00
<b>Total</b>	\$	12,196.87

*Our second collection today is for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.*



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

January 1<sup>st</sup> is the Solemnity of Mary, the holy mother of God, who is also our spiritual mother. In the Gospel, this weekend the shepherds arrive in Bethlehem after being told by an angel that a Savior has been born. The Church today honors the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was chosen by God the Father to be the mother of His Son. As Jesus was both fully human and divine, the Church confesses that Mary is truly "Mother of God" (CCC 495). As a woman of faith, Mary remained close to God. She was a woman of Prayer. It is hard for people to realize that their faith life and their relationship with God depends as much on prayer as it does on discernment, study, or counseling. Luke's gospel opens with the prayer of Zechariah and Mary and closes with that of the apostles. So often we turn to God only after every other resource has been exhausted. Our time spent in prayerful reflection is seldom extended and often shortened. If Mary, who is today celebrated as the mother of God, grew in her understanding of what that means through prayer, we who strive to find meaning in our lives can do no better. Prayer is not saying a lot. Prayer is being with, being present to the God who loves us.

May you all have a blessed new year.

God bless,

Fr. Steve

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Today's second reading reminds us that through Christ we have been delivered from the old law and have become sons and daughters of God. New Year's Day provides a perfect opportunity to ask ourselves the question: Does my life reflect my gratitude for all that my loving Father has given me? .



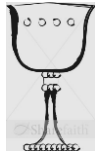
### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

For staff to celebrate the New Year with family & friends, the Parish Office will be closed: Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS

Thank you to the following families who are taking the chalice to their homes for a week to pray for vocations.

Jan. 15	J. & J. Hutka	9:15am
Jan. 22	D. & J. Shepard	7:30am
Jan. 29	Adele Atkins	9:15am



### HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

On January 8<sup>th</sup>, Lector Ministry will be sponsoring coffee and donuts after the 7:30am & 9:15am masses. Join us to meet new parishioners and feel free to ask lectors about their ministry. Volunteers are always welcome!



Thanks to all the wonderful parishioners along with the children who helped decorate the church on December 23<sup>rd</sup> in time for Christmas. Many positive comments came from families and visitors.

In order to prepare for Ordinary Time, we will need help after the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Current decorations need to come down and the altar linens and banners must be changed. We welcome all help. May God bless you for your generous assistance.

## St. Mary's Week Ahead

Date	Event	Location	Time
Monday Jan. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Quilting Angels	Ave Maria Building	9:00am
Tuesday Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Knitting & Crocheting	Ave Maria Building	12:30pm
	Men of Joseph	Ave Maria Building	7:00pm
Wednesday Jan. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Adoration	Church	7:30am
	Religious Education	<b>NO</b> Classes	6:30pm
Thursday Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Choir Practice (9:15am Mass)	Church	6:15pm
	Choir Practice (5:30pm & 7:30am Masses)	Church	7:00pm
	RCIA <i>Sacraments</i>	Regina Caeli Room	7:00pm
Friday Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	First Friday Adoration	Church	7:00pm
Sunday Jan. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Hospitality <i>Lectors</i>	Ave Maria Building	after 7:30am & 9:15am masses
	Sacrament Prep/Parent & Child Meeting	Parish Hall	1:00pm



### RAMP IT UP BINGO!!!!

Plan now to attend our fundraising event on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

St. Mary's Building Committee is sponsoring the games, with Ministries of St. Mary Parish donating prizes. The cost of a ticket is \$50 and includes packet of game tickets, hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine. Prizes include 50" flat screen tv, BBQ Pit, Artic Cooler, Dewalt Cordless Drill and Driver Set, Amazon Echo, Ninja Coffee Bar, iPad and gift certificates. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to pay for the ADA ramp and improvements to the Ave Maria Building.

## FOCUS ON FAITH FORMATION



*Classes resume*

**Wednesday Jan. 11th at**

**6:30 pm. This is a change in the original**

**calendar.** Sacrament Prep. Parent & Child Mtg. Sunday, Jan. 8th, 1:00 – 3:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Bring your book with ALL chapters completed.

Mary, the Holy Mother of God, at the announcement of the angel that she would give birth to “the Son of the Most High” without knowing man, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Mary responded with the obedience of faith, certain that “with God nothing will be impossible. Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word.” By giving her consent to God’s work, Mary becomes the mother of Jesus. Embracing the divine will for salvation wholeheartedly, without a single sin to deter her, Mary gave herself entirely to the person and to the work of her Son. Mary did so in order to serve the mystery of redemption with him and dependent on him, by God’s grace.

Jesus’ presence forever changed the world. We are welcomed into a new relationship with God and therefore with this world that He still loves, only if we invite His redemptive presence into our lives, cooperate with grace in order to change ourselves and allow ourselves to be prepared for His coming. If we learn to live our entire life as an invitation to love, an encounter with the God of love, as Mary did, we will find our lives transformed by the Son whom she bore for the whole world. Every moment of Jesus’ presence among us reveals the deeper purpose of our own lives when they are lived entirely for Him. What is our level of faith? Only through His redemptive presence in our lives, learning to surrender to His invitation to love and to live as Mary did can we live the lives God meant us to live. May 2017 bring you the changes and blessings you need to come into a deeper love and relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Patricia St. Amour, Director of Faith Formation



## FALCON'S CORNER

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, students and families of St. Mary's Catholic School I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. We are so grateful to our parish for your continued support and love for our school. You are our Christmas gift!

With the beginning of 2017 comes the opening of enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year. If you are interested in quality Catholic education, please give us a call and we can set up a tour. School reopens on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Allow us to share the good news of Catholic education with you. You'll be glad you did!

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year begins on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

God bless you.

Theresa Wyles, Principal 254.778.8141

### WATCH THE BULLETIN.....

\*For a rescheduled baptism class that did not take place in December.

\*For a rescheduled altar server training later in January.

### GRAB YOUR CALENDAR SAVE THESE DATES

#### **Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter**

15th Annual Fundraising Banquet is Jan. 27 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at St. Paul Chong Hasang Catholic Church, Parish Hall. See <http://ladyoftheangels.org/> for updates and additional information.

**Texas Catholic Pro-Life Day** is Jan. 28. The day will include a prayer vigil, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church at 10am, March and Rally. For more information, contact Luisa De Poo at (512) 949-2487 or [luisa-depoo@austindiocese.org](mailto:luisa-depoo@austindiocese.org).

*Amanda Arney and David Alexander*



### **CEDARBRAKE RETREAT CENTER HIRING FOR CARETAKER**

Full time position is responsible for setting up rooms, greeting guests, facility maintenance and security of buildings. Living quarters for caretaker are provided. To apply or for more information, see [austindiocese.applicantpro.com/jobs/](http://austindiocese.applicantpro.com/jobs/)

#### **Transformed by Faith at Cedarbrake**

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, spend the day reflecting on the gifts of five women whose courageous actions impacted the world. Their fearlessness and faithfulness changed lives because they embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Learn about Sojourner Truth, Thea Bowman, Maya Angelou, Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman. Contact Cedarbrake Retreat Center at 254.780.2436 for more information or to register.

#### **English as a Second Language**

Class registration at Temple College Student Service Center, Room 3600, 2600 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. is on Tuesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Bring picture ID. No childcare will be provided, so no children please. Call 254.298.8620 or email at [ael@templejc.edu](mailto:ael@templejc.edu) for more information.