

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & INTENTIONS

Sunday, Dec. 13	3rd Sunday of Advent
9:00 a.m.	+Anna Cordero by Leila Ledesma (Msgr. Fred)
10:30 a.m.	+Audrey & Wilbert Verret by Penny Motz & Wendell Verret (Fr. Mamachan)
12:00 Noon	All the People of the Parish (Fr. Mamachan)
1:00 p.m.	Distribution of Communion
Monday, Dec. 14	
7:00 a.m.	+Donna Dannenberg by Tom & Pam Mann (Fr. Mamachan)
Tuesday, Dec. 15	
12:00 p.m.	+Sandy & Janice Hudson by Joe & Betty Hudson (Msgr. Fred) +Joe E. Martinez by Tom & Pam Mann (Fr. Mamachan)
Wednesday, Dec. 16	
7:00 a.m.	+Virginia Gaines by Tom & Pam Mann (Msgr. Fred) +Donna Dannenberg by Tom & Pam Mann (Fr. Mamachan)
Thursday, Dec. 17	
7:00 a.m.	+Joe E. Martinez by Tom & Pam Mann (Msgr. Fred) +Virginia Gaines by Tom & Pam Mann (Fr. Mamachan)
Friday, Dec. 18	
9:00 a.m.	+Donna Dannenberg by Tom & Pam Mann (Msgr. Fred – Main Celebrant) +Joe E. Martinez by Tom & Pam Mann (Fr. Mamachan - Concelebrant)
Saturday, Dec. 19	Mass Recorded
8:00 a.m.	+Virginia Gaines by Tom & Pam Mann (Msgr. Fred)
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Msgr. Fred)
5:30 p.m.	+Donna Dannenberg by Tom & Pam Mann (Fr. Mamachan)
6:30 p.m.	Distribution of Communion
Sunday, Dec. 14	4th Sunday of Advent
9:00 a.m.	+Anna Cordero by Leila Ledesma (Fr. Mamachan)
10:30 a.m.	+Joe E. Martinez by Tom & Pam Mann (Msgr. Fred)
12:00 Noon	All the People of the Parish (Msgr. Fred)
1:00 p.m.	Distribution of Communion



Sunday Dec. 13	3rd Sunday of Advent
Remote Classes	1-6 th Grade
Monday, Dec. 14	
6:45 p.m.	Celebration Choir Practice
Tuesday, Dec. 15	
Remote Classes	Men's Spirituality Group
11:30 a.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr. Mamachan) – Rm 101
12:30-2:30 p.m.	Ladies Share Group – Parish Center
7:00-8:45 p.m.	RCIA – Parish Center
Wednesday, Dec. 16	
Remote Classes	7-12 Religious Education
6:00-7:30 p.m.	Women's Scripture Study – Parish Center
7:00 p.m.	Parish Choir Practice
Thursday, Dec. 17	
9:15-11:30 a.m.	Women's Scripture Study – Parish Center
7:00-8:30 p.m.	Holy Light Charismatic Prayer Group - Chapel
Friday, Dec. 18	
8:30-9:00 a.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Msgr. Fred) – Rm 101
Saturday, Dec. 19	
4:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Msgr. Fred) – Rm 101
4:45-5:15 p.m.	Sabbath Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, Dec. 20	4th Sunday of Advent
Remote Classes	1-6 th Grade

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the soul of Donald McInnis. We pray that he and his family will be comforted by the promise of the resurrection, and that he and all the faithful departed may rest in peace through God's mercy.

THE MEN'S SPIRITUALTY GROUP is meeting Tuesday, December 15th for the final time in 2020. We will resume our fellowship on Tuesday, January 5th at 6:30am on Zoom. All men of the parish are invited to join us. We are discussing a great book, entitled "Salvation" written by Dr. Michael Barber. Pick one up in Abilene at Mystical Rose Catholic Books & Gifts or on-line. To be included on the email invite, please contact: Dennis O'Connell @ oonnell@hsutx.edu or 325.669.6283.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION WHEN WEARING FACE MASKS. When you approach the minister to receive Holy Communion, please remove your face mask and consume the consecrated host immediately before returning to your pew. Please do not carry the host back with you to your seat.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS for the Christmas and New Year's Masses are posted in the sacristy. If you would like to serve at one of these Masses, please write your name on the sign-up sheet before Monday, December 21.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Veronica Bartosh, Joyce Bayer, Harold Bush, Lorie Frieberg, Sonia Gallagher, Orlando Garcia, Manuel Hernandez, John Higuera, Kathy Jones, Jim Lessin, Jim Luyet, Donald McInnis, Max Mendez, Teny Novak, Claudette Perry, Pamela Poole, Chris Shadley, Joey Schaefer, Sandy Sherman, Kathy Simmons, Gary Thompson, Octaviano Villanueva, Maureen White. *Names are removed from the prayer list after four weeks unless the office is notified.*

THE 5:30 P.M. MASS IS RECORDED and posted to our website and Facebook page. For those who are in attendance during the recording of Mass, please be aware that by attending this liturgy you acknowledge and consent that you may be recorded during this event.

3rd Sunday of Advent

HOLY LIGHT CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP will meet Thursday, December 17th, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in our Holy Family Chapel (come thru side entrance). All are invited for this joyful and healing time of PRAISE, PRAYER & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION in the Holy Spirit. Be sure to wear your mask. We gather the 3rd Thursdays of each month. For more information contact Dee Halbert at 668-6828 or www.catholiccharismatic.com.

A COLLECTION FOR THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS is scheduled for December 12-13. Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Please give generously to this collection. Blue offering envelopes are available in the bookcart in the church foyer.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL. 30% of our registered families have returned their Estimate of Giving Card for a total of \$939,938 pledged for the calendar year 2021. Your financial commitment to Holy Family Parish at this difficult time in our nation bears witness to your generosity and faithful stewardship of God's gifts. If you have not already done so, please return your Estimate of Giving Card to the parish office before the end of this year.

MISSALETTES FOR THE NEW LITURGICAL YEAR have arrived. Because of the Diocesan COVID Protocols, we are not able to have them in the church pews. If you would like to have a Missal for personal use, please come to the Church Office that is open Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. You may bring it with you when you come for Mass, provided that you take it home when Mass is ended.

VOCATION CROSS FOR THE HOME: Please volunteer to take home the Vocation Cross that is located on the table in the church foyer. The parish is invited to join your family in praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S CHOIR will sing at the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. All children in Grades 1 through 6 are invited to join this important ministry. The Children's Choir will practice every Sunday except November 29. The final practice will be held December 20 and will conclude with a party for the participants. For more information, contact Melissa Benoit at 370-7937.

BECAUSE OF THE COVID VIRUS SITUATION, we will not have the Children's Dramatization of the Nativity at the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING: December 5-6, 2020 with 1289 families:

Envelopes and Checks	25,798.05
Loose Plate	700.00
Other Contributions	1,616.46
Building Fund	1,229.00
Total Income	29,343.51

Dear Padre

Who was John the Baptist?

What we know about John the Baptist comes from a combination of Scripture and Church traditions that evolved during and after the writing of the Scriptures of the New Testament.

John's parents were Zechariah, who was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Elizabeth, who was related to Mary. The angel Gabriel told Zechariah that his wife would bear a son, even though she was quite old. It is believed that John was born in the region of Ain Karim, southwest of Jerusalem. When he was in his early twenties, he was a member of the Qumran community, and later was a hermit in the desert. John began his public ministry in his late twenties in the Jordan River Valley. His preaching followed the long line of Jewish prophets who preached against the evils of the day and demanded inner repentance and outer baptism as a sign of that repentance.

John continued his preaching in the Jordan Valley even after encountering Jesus. Eventually John was arrested by Herod Antipas and imprisoned at Machaerus Fortress by the Dead Sea. He was beheaded at the request of Salome, the daughter of Herodias, and buried at Sebaste, in Samaria. After John's death, many of his disciples followed Jesus, including Andrew and John.

John, whose name means "God is gracious," is usually represented in pictures holding a long slender cross with a small lamb partially hidden behind him.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR

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WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE is steadily increasing. We are excited that more parishioners are returning to Mass. As you know, our seating is limited because of the social distancing requirements. Once our allowable seating is filled, additional people must not be admitted to the church building. Ushers will post a sign outside the church entrance asking that you wait in your car, listen to a remote Mass from your car, and come inside at the end of Mass to receive Communion. Other options are also available. The 5:30 p.m. Mass is recorded and posted on our website and Facebook page for viewing on Sunday. You might watch the recorded Mass at home and come to the church to receive Communion, or you may choose to attend another weekend Mass, or a weekday Mass.

Christmas Masses will be Live streamed and available for viewing in the Parish Center should we reach maximum capacity in the Church.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Thurs. Dec. 24 th	Children's Christmas Mass	5:30 p.m.
	Music Prelude & Christmas Eve Mass	8:00 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 25 th	Music Prelude & Midnight Mass	12:00 a.m.
	Christmas Day Mass	11:00 a.m.
Thurs. Dec. 31 st	Mary, Mother of God - Vigil	
	Mass (New Year's Eve)	6:30 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 1 st	Mary, Mother of God –	
	Mass (New Year's Day)	11:00 a.m.