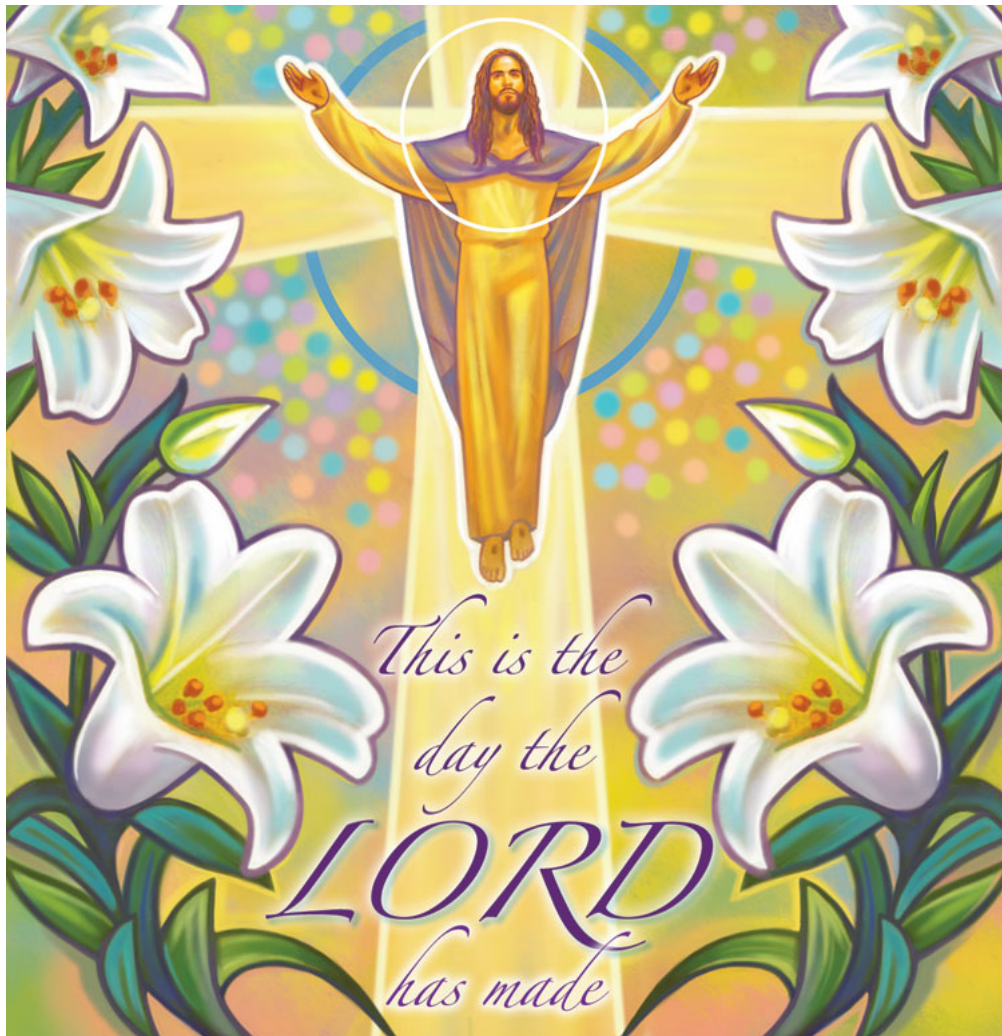


# Holy Family Catholic Church



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**Mailing Address:** P O Box 482  
Van Alstyne TX, 75495  
**Parish Office:** 903-482-6322  
**For a Priest:** 972-542-4667  
**Website:** [www.holyfamily-vanalstyne.org](http://www.holyfamily-vanalstyne.org)

**Fr. Salvador Guzman, Pastor**  
**Fr. Eugene Azorji, Parochial Vicar**  
**Deacon Patrick A. Hayes**

**Mass Schedule**

**Sunday:** 9:00 am - English Mass  
12:00 pm - Spanish Mass  
**Thursday:** 9:00 am - Daily Mass

**Baptism**

Baptisms in English: 2nd Sunday of each month  
 Baptisms in Spanish: 1st Sunday of each month

**Pre Baptismal Class Registration:** Registration required by the Sunday before class begins. Classes are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. **Parents:** Bring copy of child's birth certificate. Both parents must attend class. **Godparents:** Must be practicing Catholics. Copy of marriage certificate through the Catholic church. Both godparents must attend class. **As a courtesy, please do not bring children to class.**

**First Communion**

April 11, 2015 Saturday 10:00 am

**Confirmation:**

2016 To Be Determined

**Sacraments**

**Anointing of the Sick**

Please call the Parish.

**Reconciliation/Confession**

Immediately following the 1st Mass

**Marriage/Wedding**

Both must be free to marry in the Catholic Church. Arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to planned Wedding date.

**Holy Orders/Priesthood**

Talk to your Parish priest or call Father James Swift, C.M., Rector of Vocations of the Diocese of Dallas at 214-379-2860.

*Prayer Request*

Elaine Clark	Arnie Clark	Justin Lewis
Ann Lageose	Corinne Lageose	Anonymous
Jack Tyler	Zachary Fejeran	Morgan Helmberger
Bob Jungman	Julia Baker	Catherine Casterline
Kara Dyrack	Audelia Medina	Mary Ellen Pereyra
Rich Dyrack	Bernardine Dill	Courtney Hicks
John Bogerding	Ann Rochford	Steve Sanchez

**Offering**

Attendance:	March 15, 2015	491
Offerings:	March 15, 2015	\$ 2,674.48
Building Fund:	March 15, 2015	\$ 1,435.23
CRS	March 15, 2015	\$ 375.00
Attendance	March 22, 2015	601
Offerings:	March 22, 2015	\$ 2,135.95
Building Fund	March 22, 2015	\$ 1,194.08
Easter Flowers	March 22, 2015	\$ 255.00

**ALCANCIAS DE BEBE:** Deberan ser entregadas para el 12 de Abril.

**CRS cajitas de arroz:** Deberan ser entregadas el 12 de Abril.

**BABY BANKS:** Must be returned by April 12th

**CRS Rice Bowls:** due by April 12th

**First Holy Communion**

April 11, 2015 at 10:00 am

We are pleased to report to our Parish Family that

**40** children will receive the Holy Eucharist.

Thank You to our Catechist Stacy Demel,

Julio Salas and Janis Hicks.

Also recognize our Aides Elizabeth Alejos,

Nathan Demel, Marysol Hernandez, and

Esmerada Zavala.

**April 8, 6:00 pm PRACTICE**

**Weekly Calendar**

**Sunday, April 5**

8:30 am Rosary

9:00 am Mass

"Jesus Has Risen"

12:00 pm Spanish Mass

**Monday, April 6**

9:00 am Rosary

7:00 pm Festival Meeting

**Tuesday, April 7**

**Wednesday, April 8**

6:00 pm First Holy Communion Practice

**Thursday, April 9**

9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm Youth Choir Practice

7:30 pm Adult Bible Class

**Friday, April 10**

**Saturday, April 11**

10:00 am First Holy Communion

3:00 pm Wedding

**Seeking the "Super Organizers" of our Parish Family**

**A new ministry opportunity has opened up at Holy Family.**

The position is a Mass Coordinator who will be responsible for setting up for mass. Think of it as an expanded role of the sacristan. All parish members that have received the sacrament of confirmation are encourage to discern if this ministry is a good fit. Safe environment training and the ability to arrive 30 min. before and after mass are requirements.

The goal is to have 4 coordinators for each Mass time, serving once every 4 weeks. If you have these qualities... our parish needs you:

**Super Organizer...attention to detail**

**People Person**

**Outstanding Communication Skills, including email**

**Basic Computer talents**

**Knowledge (or a serious interest in learning more) about Mass**

**Ability to arrive early and stay late after Mass on your assigned work day.**

## Pope Francis to the gatekeepers: Don't close that door

Reminding us that Jesus' house is inclusive not exclusive, Pope Francis said in his homily March 17 at Santa Marta Church in the Vatican that the Church "is the home of Jesus and Jesus welcomes – but not only welcomes, goes to find people."

Addressing the self-appointed gatekeepers of the Church who seem more interested in keeping people out of Jesus' house than inviting them in, the Pope asked, "Who are you who shuts the door of your hearts to a man, a woman who wants to improve, to return back into the people of God, because the Holy Spirit has stirred his or her heart?"

Catholics do not shun sinners, nor do we shoot our wounded. We do what Jesus would do. The Holy Father asked, "If people are hurt, what does Jesus do? Scold them because they are hurt? No, he comes and carries them on his shoulders. This is called mercy," he added, "and when God reprimands his people – 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice' (Matt 9:13, Hosea 6:6) he speaks of this."

The Holy Father went on to say that Christians who have made mistakes and are moved by the Holy Spirit to return home to the Church only to find the door closed, must hear the words, "You have done wrong and you cannot. If you want to come, come to Mass on Sunday, but stay there, but do not do more." To these gatekeepers, the Pope said, "You cannot, no, you cannot," concluding with "That which the Holy Spirit does in the hearts of people, Christians with the psychology of doctors of the law destroy."

Our challenge is to find ways to bring people to Christ in his Church, not seek ways to drive them away.

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## Papa Francisco a los guardianes: No cierren esa puerta

Recordándonos que la casa de Jesús es incluyente no excluyente, el Papa Francisco expresó en su homilía del 17 de marzo en la iglesia Santa Marta en el Vaticano que la Iglesia "es la casa de Jesús y Jesús recibe – pero no sólo recibe, también va en busca de la gente."

Al dirigirse a los autoproclamados guardianes de la Iglesia que parecen más interesados en mantener a la gente fuera de la casa de Jesús que invitarlos a entrar, el Papa preguntó, "¿Quién eres tú que cierras la puerta de tu corazón a un hombre, a una mujer que tiene ganas de mejorar, de volver a formar parte del pueblo de Dios porque ha sentido la presencia del Espíritu Santo en su corazón?"

Los Católicos no rechazamos pecadores, ni disparamos a nuestros heridos. Hacemos lo que Jesús haría. El Santo Padre preguntó, "Y si la gente está herida, ¿qué hace Jesús? ¿Le reprocha porque esté herida? No, viene y la lleva sobre sus hombros. Y esto se llama misericordia. Y Dios se refiere a esto cuando reprocha a su pueblo – '¡Quiero misericordia, no sacrificios!'" (Mt 9,13, Os 6,6).

El Santo Padre continuó diciendo que los Cristianos que han cometido equivocaciones y son movidos por el Espíritu Santo para volver a casa a la Iglesia, sólo para encontrar la puerta cerrada y escuchar las palabras, "Tú te has equivocado y no puedes. Si quieres venir, ven a Misa el domingo, pero quédate ahí, y no hagas nada más." A estos guardianes les dijo el Papa: "Tú no puedes, no, tú no puedes," y concluyó diciendo, "lo que hace el Espíritu Santo en el corazón de las personas, lo destruyen los Cristianos con psicología de doctores de la ley."

Nuestro desafío es encontrar formas para traer personas a Cristo en su Iglesia, no buscar la manera de echarlas.

# Festival/Holy Year of Mercy

**Do you have a Hobby? Are You Crafty?** Well share your Talent by making items for the Craft table. We will sell items you make to help our SPRING FEST. Remember the funds will help us towards our FUTURE Faith Formation Center. Are you a cake or cookie maker? On April 25th we will need baked goods for sale and for a Cake/Cookie WALK! It takes all of us to make this our most successful Spring Fest. Our biggest challenge is to invite friends, family and neighbors know about it. There will be games, food, music, crafts and Raffle tickets. PRAY FOR A SUNNY DAY!!!

## **PLEASE TAKE RAFFLE TICKETS AND SELL TODAY**

We realize that there are several request for items and for your time, however as Parishioners will benefit by having a place large enough to instruct our children in their Faith. space for Bible Study, RCIA, meetings for organizations, youth group, Adult education etcetera will benefit from this Faith Formation Center.

**Items to borrow : SPRING FEST**

**Tents (Canopy's)**

**Generators**

**Tienes un pasatiempo? Te gusta hacer decoraciones?** Comparte tu talento al hacer articulos de decoracion para la mesa de decoraciones. Nosotros venderemos los articulos que hagas para ayuda del FESTIVAL DE PRIMAVERA. Recuerda los fondos estaran ayudando para nuestro FUTURO Centro de Formacion de Fe. Eres alguien que le gusta hacer galletas o pasteles? El 25 de Abril nosotros estaremos necesitando articulos de esa indole para vender o para el juego del CAKE/COOKIE WALK! necesitamos los mas que se pueda para hacer de nuestro Festival de Primavera todo un exito. Nuestro mas grande reto es el invitar a nuestros familiares, amigos, vecinos. Habra juegos, comida, musica, articulos de arte y tiquetes para la rifa. REZA PARA QUE EL DIA ESTE SOLEADO!!!

**POR FAVOR LLEVA TIQUETES DE LA RIFA PARA VENDER...DISPONIBLES HOY.**

Nosotros sabemos que estamos requiriendo de varios articulos y de tu tiempo, pero como feligreses todos nos beneficiariamos con un lugar mas grande para dar instruccion a los niños sobre nuestra Fe. lugar para clase de la Biblia y RCIA (clases de Sacramentos para adultos), juntas para otras organizaciones, grupo de jovenes, educacion para adultos, etc etc. seran beneficiados con este nuevo Centro de Formacion de Fe.

**Items to be Sponsored: SPRING FEST**

**Bounce House or Slide**

**Porta Potties / Ice / Decorations**

## Pope Francis proclaims a Holy Year of Mercy

In a surprise statement at the conclusion of his homily Friday, Pope Francis proclaimed an extraordinary Jubilee; a Year to be called a Holy Year of Mercy beginning next December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It will end on the Feast of Christ the King, November 20, 2016.

Expressing his intention that the Holy Year of Mercy might begin "a new stage in the journey of the Church on its mission to bring to every person the Gospel of mercy," adding " We want to live this Year in the light of the Lord's words: 'Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.'" (cf. Lk 6:36)

Mercy has been the emphasis of the Holy Father's papacy and although the announcement of a Holy Year was unexpected, the choice of Mercy as its central theme is not. The Pope concluded, "I am convinced that the whole Church will find in this Jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful the mercy of God, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time. From this moment, we entrust this Holy Year to the Mother of Mercy, that she might turn her gaze upon us and watch over our journey.

A Holy Year is a year of special blessings and includes special events in Rome beginning with the opening of the Holy Doors at St. Peter's Basilica on Dec. 8, which are only opened during Jubilee Years. There will be special observances in the Diocese of Dallas at the Cathedral and in our parishes, to be announced.

I ask each of you to join your prayers with the Holy Fathers that this will indeed be a year of special blessings and an increase in the proclamation and application of God's merciful love.

By Bishop Kevin J. Farrell

Doubt is darkness, an emptiness yearning for the light of faith. Jesus said, "I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness" (Jn 12:46).

Faith is born of an encounter with Jesus; an encounter which he initiates.

Faith is God's gift, freely given, mediated through the faith community. Pope Francis reminds us that, "It is impossible to believe on our own. Faith is not simply an individual decision which takes place in the depths of the believer's heart." (Lumen Fidei 39) It is communal by its very nature.

We cannot sow faith where there is doubt, but we can allow ourselves to become a channel through which the Holy Spirit can implant the mustard seed of faith in the heart of another.

Ours is a world that worships certainty, permeated by the belief that science is capable of explaining everything. Yet, there is the inevitable point, the threshold of faith, beyond which science cannot penetrate.

At that point we share the thought of St. Bernard of Clairvaux who wrote: "I believe though I do not comprehend, and I hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind." So we return to the crux of the prayer of St. Francis, not that we ask for wisdom, but that we ask to be God's instrument.

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La duda es oscuridad, un vacío que anhela la luz de la fe. Jesús nos dijo, "Yo soy la luz, y he venido al mundo para que todo el que crea en mí no permanezca en las tinieblas" (Jn 12,46).

La fe nace de un encuentro con Jesús; un encuentro que él mismo inicia.

La fe es un don gratuito de Dios, mediado por la comunidad de fe. El Papa Francisco nos recuerda que, "Es imposible creer cada uno por su cuenta. La fe no es únicamente una opción individual que se hace en la intimidad del creyente" (Lumen Fidei 39), es comunal por naturaleza propia.

No podemos sembrar fe donde hay duda, pero podemos permitirnos convertirnos en un canal a través del cual el Espíritu Santo puede implantar la semilla de mostaza de la fe en el corazón del otro.

Nuestro mundo, impregnado por la creencia de que la ciencia es capaz de explicar todas las cosas, adora la certitud. Sin embargo, existe el punto inevitable, el umbral de la fe, más allá del cual la ciencia no puede penetrar.

En ese momento compartimos el pensamiento de San Bernardo de Clairvaux, quien escribió: "Creo aunque no comprendo, y sostengo en fe lo que no puedo comprender con la mente."

Así volvemos a la esencia de la oración del San Francisco, no que pidamos sabiduría, sino que pidamos ser instrumento de Dios.

Information Page

Holy Family Quasi-Parish

020915

Date: Sept 18, 2011

Janis Hicks 903-744-7999

Transmission Date / Time Tuesday 12:00pm

Special Instructions