

Second Sunday of Advent

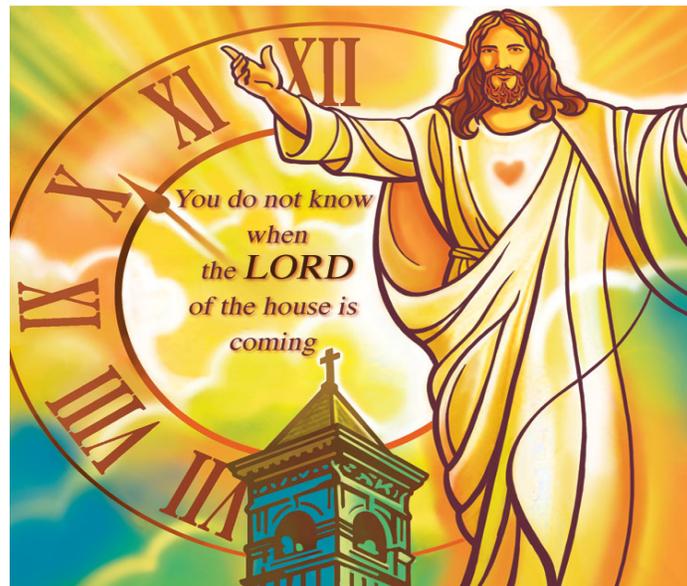
December 10, 2017

# Holy Family Catholic Church

ESTABLISHED IN 1980 \* 919 SPENCE RD., VAN ALSTYNE, TX. 75495

## Parish Mission Statement

*Holy Family is a Catholic community that unites for prayer and communion so that we may grow in our baptismal discipleship and share the good news of the Gospel.*



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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

Emergency After Hours: 469-667-7324

Website: [www.holyfamily-vanalstyne.org](http://www.holyfamily-vanalstyne.org)

Email: [janis@holyfamily-vanalstyne.org](mailto:janis@holyfamily-vanalstyne.org)

Fr. Eugene Azorji, Pastoral Administrator

Fr. Juan Carlos Marin, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Patrick A. Hayes

Mass Schedule/Misa Dominical

Sunday: 9:00 am - English Mass

12:00 pm - Spanish Misa

Thursday: 9:00 am - Daily Mass

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

Mailing Address: 411 Paula Road

McKinney, Texas 75069

General Email: [stmichael@stmichaelmckinney.org](mailto:stmichael@stmichaelmckinney.org)

Fr. Eugene [freugene@stmichaelmckinney.org](mailto:freugene@stmichaelmckinney.org)

Fr. Juan Carlos [frjuancarlos@stmichaelmckinney.org](mailto:frjuancarlos@stmichaelmckinney.org)

Deacons: George Polcer, John Rapier, Sid Little,

Juan Jorge Hernandez

Main Phone: 972-542-4667

Fax: 972-542-4641

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

Weekend Masses

Vigil Mass Saturday - 5pm (English)

Vigil Mass Saturday - 7:00pm (Spanish)

Sunday Masses / Misa Dominical

Sunday 8:00am & 11:30am )

Domingo 9:30am & 2:00pm

Weekday Masses

Mon., Wed, & Fri 8:00am

Tues. & Thurs. 5:30pm

Confessions Thursday

6:00pm - 7:00pm

Saturday 3:30- 4:30pm

Blessed Sacrament

Thursday's at 6:00pm

**Baptisms/Bautizos**

Baptisms: 2nd Sunday of each month  
 Bautizos: 1er Domingo del mes

**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/  
 Primera Comunion**  
**April 14, 2018 10:00 am**  
 First Friday Adoration

**Confirmation/  
 Confirmacion**  
**March 17, 2018 10:00 am**  
 6:00—8:00 pm

**Sacraments/Sacramentos**

**Anointing of the Sick/Uncion de los Enfermos**

Please call the Parish.

**Confessions/Confesiones**

Immediately following the 1st Mass-30 mins. Antes de la misa

**Marriage/Matrimonio**

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/Vocaciones**

Talk to your Parish priest or call Father Edwin A Leonard, Vocations Director, at 214-379-2860.

*Believe in the Power of Prayer*

(5/21/17)

Tony Grisolia	Rita Yzquierdo	Carol Park
Lucas Chappel	Lucy Greenwood	Johanna Kroger
Ruben Villarreal	Joe Sanchez	Kimberly Coggeshall
Ann Thomas	Sandra Heath	Andrea Thomas
Deborah Grisolia	Chris Hayes	Norma Arzola
Denise Wood	Sara Carrieri	Renee Beddingfield

*Pray for the Repose of the Souls of deceased members of Holy Family and their Relatives:*

**Weekly Attendance/Offerings**

Attendance :	December 3, 2017	616
Offerings:	December 3, 2017	\$ 2,701.62
Building::	December 3, 2017	\$ 1,396.18
Christmas Flowers	December 3, 2017	\$ 428.00

**Christmas Schedule for Holy Family**

We need volunteers to put up trees on December 17th after 9:00 am Mass

Finish after the 12:00 pm Mass

**Sunday December 24th Regular**

Mass times 9:00 am-12:00pm

**Christmas Vigil Mass - English**

**December 24th at 4:00 pm**

Choir will sing Christmas Carols starting at

3:30pm Children will place Baby Jesus

In the Manger just prior to Mass

**December 25th Spanish Mass at 10:00 am**

**Weekly Calendar**

**Sunday, December 10**

8:30 am Rosary  
 9:00 am Mass English  
 10:15 - 11:15 am Faith Formation K thru 3rd  
 12:00 pm Spanish Mass  
 1:30 - 2:45pm Faith Formation 4th - Confirmation  
 7:00 pm Novena - Rosary "Our Lady of Guadalupe"

**Monday December 11**

7:00 pm Novena - Rosary "Our Lady of Guadalupe"

**Tuesday, December 12**

7:00 pm Novena - Rosary "Our Lady of Guadalupe"

**Wednesday, December 13**

**Thursday December 14**

9:00 am Mass Followed by Bible Class

7:30 pm Youth Choir Practice

**Friday December 15**

7:00 Spanish Adult Choir

**Saturday December 16**

11:00 am Quince

**Novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**December 10th, 11th, & 12th**

**The Novena schedule is as follows**

**Sunday December 10th 7:00 pm**

**Monday December 11th 7:00 pm**

**Tuesday December 12th 7:00 pm**

**Come to Holy Family for the Novena**

**ADVENT**

**Join Father Juan Carlos Marín for an Advent reflection on a way of prayer known as "the Jesus' Prayer" or "the Prayer of the Heart" on Monday, December 18th at 7:00 p.m. There will be confessions afterwards.**

**Acompañen al padre Juan Carlos Marín para una reflexión de adviento en una manera de orar conocida como "la oración de Jesús" o "la oración del corazón" el martes 19 de diciembre a las 7:00 p.m. Habrá confesiones después.**

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

El día 9 de diciembre conmemoramos a san Juan Diego de México. Hace un par de años este indígena mesoamericano fue canonizado por su misión en las apariciones Guadalupanas. Hubo controversia alrededor de su canonización porque había quienes insistían que Juan Diego nunca existió. Después de investigar, el Vaticano decidió que no sólo existió, sino que fue y es santo, digno de ser modelo e intercesor.

Las investigaciones encontraron que el nombre indígena de Juan Diego era Cuauhtlatoatzin, es decir “Águila que habla”. Tal vez por este nombre tan significativo fue que los franciscanos lo bautizaron Juan Diego. El nombre Juan recuerda al apóstol, quien escribió el evangelio más místico y cuyo símbolo es el águila. Diego viene del apóstol Santiago o san Diego quien evangelizó a los españoles durante el siglo I. De cualquier manera, Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin se convirtió en el “Águila que habla” y anuncia el evangelio místico según Guadalupe, es “Águila que habla” de amor, paz, consuelo y desafío en una tierra conquistada, oprimida y llena de promesa.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## NOTICIAS QUE DAN CONSUELO

En un tiempo de preparación, relacionado en gran medida con cosas materiales, es bueno escuchar las palabras de Isaías: “Consuelen, consuelen a mi pueblo, dice nuestro Dios” (Isaías 40:1). En un tiempo de tanto nerviosismo y prisa, cuando nuestras cargas habituales se duplican a causa de los miles de preparativos navideños, podemos elegir aminorar la marcha, dedicar un tiempo a curar las heridas y valorar el enorme regalo que estamos por recibir. Cristo, el Hijo de Dios, se ha convertido en uno de nosotros y conoce nuestras limitaciones humanas. Sin embargo, Dios, incluso ahora, nos está librando de las cargas que se nos amontonan por no prestarle atención a él ni a nuestros anhelos más profundos. El Señor llega, no como un rey con ejércitos poderosos, sino como un pastor que guía a los rebaños con amor y ternura. Isaías anuncia buenas noticias: nuestra servidumbre terminó, nuestros pecados han sido perdonados. El salvador que esperábamos está llegando, no por primera vez, sino al final de los tiempos, como nuestra salvación.

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## MEDIR EL ÉXITO

El éxito se mide no tanto por la posición que uno ha alcanzado en la vida, sino por los obstáculos que uno ha superado luchando por obtener el éxito.

—Booker T. Washington



## Advent: A Time To Remember

One year ago, today, as I watched snow fall down on my windshield, I was a perfect concoction of nervous and excited. I remember the brief instance of cold as I walked out of my car and then the wave of warmth as I entered that little coffee shop on Drake Road. Little did I know that this first date would be with my future wife.

Nathalie and I are now engaged and I love to look back on that day and the plans God had for us and how they have started to become part of our beautiful history. Anniversaries give us a chance to look back on how we started, the journey so far, and the anticipation for the many blessings to come.

It's no different when we celebrate the anniversary of the coming of Christ, Christmas. I'm sure you have heard at some point in your life, possibly CCD class or confirmation, that Jesus came to earth to die for your sins, and that is true. But I think Jesus also came for another reason. I like to tell people that God became man not only to redeem us, but to remind us of who we are.

Think about it, God made human beings as his most incredible masterpiece. We can look around at creation and see the most immense beauty, and this beauty can't help but draw us to the Creator. But of all the beauty of creation, the only creation that was made in the image and likeness of God is... That's right, YOU!

Human beings are the crown of creation, the very heart of God molded into a masterpiece from the dust of the ground and formed with the breath of life. This is why Pope John Paul II said, "The body, and it alone, is capable of making visible what is invisible, the spiritual and divine. It was created to transfer into the visible reality of the world, the invisible mystery hidden in God from time immemorial, and thus to be a sign of it" (Theology of the Body, 19:4).

A terrible injustice has been done because we no longer speak of or look at the human body in these terms. Often, we are tempted to use other human beings instead of seeing them as an image of God. It doesn't take much more than a glance at the news to see that our world is fallen and broken and at times there doesn't seem to be much hope. We would rather claim ourselves as a fallen humanity because it is easier to admit we are fallen than it is to rise above.

But hope was born into the world over 2,000 years ago not only to redeem us and our fallen world, but to remind us of who we are as sons and daughters of God. Through the incarnation, we have a model of love. So, next time you are tempted to despair at all the evil and brokenness in the world, remember that little baby who was born into the poverty of humanity. That little child who reached right into our brokenness and not only healed us to remind us of how we were created, but allowed us to go beyond our original state into the perfection of our final state in heaven, perfectly happy with God in a wedding feast that will never end.

As we prepare for this anniversary of Christmas, let's remember to thank God for how He originally created us, do penance for the many sins we have committed that have made us fall, and finally rest in His mercy and love as we await the joyful hope of heaven, all thanks to that little child born in a manger. Happy Advent and from all of us here at Diocesan, God Bless!

"The heritage of our hearts is deeper than the sinfulness inherited" (Theology of the Body, 46).

Information Page

Holy Family Quasi-Parish

020915

Date: Sept 18, 2011

Janis Hicks 903-744-7999

Transmission Date / Time Tuesday 12:00pm

Special Instructions