



Holy Rosary Parish



3600 Travis Street - Houston, Texas 77002

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil - Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m. (Latin)
11:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m.
3:15 p.m. (Vietnamese)
5:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m. (Vietnamese)

Time Out Room may be used

Sunday during
9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Masses
in the Parish Center

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

12:05 p.m.
5:15 p.m.

ROSARY

Recited weekdays at 5:00 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. at 4:45 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays 15 minutes before
all weekday Masses

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Fridays 12:45 - 5:00 p.m.
Benediction 5:05 p.m.

CATHOLIC DAILY MESSAGE

713-529-4449

PRIESTS ON STAFF

Fr. Joseph Konkel, O.P. Ext. 107
Pastor
Fr. Juan Torres, O.P. Ext. 103
Parochial Vicar
Fr. Isidore Vicente, O.P. Ext. 104
Parochial Vicar

In Residence:

Fr. Victor Brown, O.P.
Fr. James Burke, O.P.
Fr. Austin Green, O.P.
Fr. Ronald Henery, O.P.

Priory 713-526-6322

PARISH OFFICE

First Floor Parish Center
(entrance in courtyard) Rm.100
3617 Milam Street
Office hours:
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday
Phone 713-529-4854
Fax 713-522-3967

Extensions:

101 - Parish Secretary
105 - Director of Music
108 - Parish Bookkeeper
109 - Special Projects Secretary
110 - Wedding Coordinator

E-mail:
office@holyrosaryparish.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3600 Travis Street
Houston, TX 77002

RELIGIOUS ED. CENTER

3535 Louisiana Street
713-526-4389
Marisa Mendoza, D.R.E.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 11, 2009

BAPTISM OF THE LORD: Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls the second manifestation of Jesus or Epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His Baptism in the River Jordan. Jesus descended into the river to sanctify the waters and give them the power to make us new children of God by the sacrament of Baptism. It is a day to renew the promises of our own Baptism.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Being a prayerful community we are anxious to pray for all who are ill. Names of parishioners will remain on the list for three months and may be extended as needed in serious cases. If you wish to have prayers for yourself or a loved one added on the sick and convalescent announcement in the bulletin, please contact the parish office, 713-529-4854 ext. 101. If the person you wish to have placed on the prayer list is not a parishioner their name will be placed for one month on the list. Also, at every Eucharist we pray for all who are in need, whether mentioned by name or not. Please remember in your prayers Margaret Bertram, parishioner, who died last week.

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, January 11th, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome. Please join your fellow parishioners for some social moments.

WHAT'S COOKING: January 14th, red beans & rice, green salad, corn bread, banana pudding, coffee and tea, will be served on Wednesday, after the 12:05 p.m. Mass in the Parish Hall, Room 200. As a reminder the lunches are \$4.00 and there are no take-outs.

COOKS NEEDED: Holy Rosary Parish has had a tradition of volunteers to cook a Sunday meal for the seven priests in the priority. The Friars enjoy traditional meals, whatever you are inspired to bring to the priority by **1 P.M. on Sunday**. In the past this has amounted to providing a Sunday meal about four times for the entire year. Please call or e-mail Louis Tankus at 281-913-2250; olaf2002@cebridge.net to obtain more information.

2009 CHURCH CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES FOR REGISTERED PARISHIONERS are here. If you have not picked up your envelopes for 2009 they are located in the Parish Hall, Room 200, after Sunday Mass. You will also be able to pick them up from the office, Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Thank you.

"CATHOLIC LIFE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE": a 15-minute radio program, hosted by Fr. Austin Green, O.P.; is aired every Sunday morning at 5:30 a.m. (KWWJ-AM, 1360, Baytown) & 6:45 a.m. (KYOK-AM, 1140, Conroe). January 18th topic, *"Come and you will see."* (John c.1)

JANUARY 22: The U. S. Bishops have designated January 22, the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade* decision legalizing abortion, as a "particular day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right of life."

THE HOLY ROSARY PLAYGROUP meets the First and Third Thursdays of the month in the Religious Education Center building, 3535 Louisiana, from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. All Mothers and young children are welcome. Please bring a light snack for you family.

THE 20TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN DOMINICAN GALA Fine wines, fine art, antiques, weekend homes, dinners - all are being sought as silent auction items for the Southern Dominican Gala in May. Your fellow parishioners on the committee solicit your help with this fundraiser for the Southern Dominican Province. For more information contact Carole Kelley in the Parish office, ckelley@holyrosaryparish.org, or 713-529-4854 ext. 109.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - Volunteers are needed to assist the needs of those in need. For more information go to www.svdphouston.org or contact Pura Santangelo at 713-741-8234 ext. 105.

HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS - All are invited to join the *Helpers of God's Precious Infants* in a peaceful and prayerful Mass and Rosary on Saturday, January 17, 2009. Mass will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Shrine of the True Cross Catholic Church in Dickinson, Texas. A Rosary procession to the Grotto and then Planned Parenthood in Dickinson will follow.

A NOTE OF THANKS - For the parishioners that use loose checks instead of the parish contribution envelopes, I wish to say *Thank You for including on the memo line of your check your envelope number*. Bulletin Secretary

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR would like to bring you up-to-date on my status as pastor of Holy Rosary Parish. This coming summer, I will have completed fourteen years as pastor of the parish. The Legislation and Ordinations of the Southern Dominican Province regarding the terms of pastors are as follows: **We ordain that a limited term for pastors shall be the norm; there shall be no permanent or indefinite terms for pastor. Ordinarily, a pastor shall serve for six (6) years with the possibility of an extension of an additional three (3) years and thereafter by exception a maximum of an additional three (3) years.**

The weekend of January 17th-18th, Father Ian Bordenave, currently finishing his sixth year as the pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church in New Orleans, will be visiting Houston. Since he is a possible future pastor for Holy Rosary, while he is here, he will meet with some of the members of the Parish Council and the Financial Advisory Council as well as the staff of the parish. In the coming months, before July 1, 2009, the Southern Dominican Provincial and his Council will consult with the Cardinal Archbishop of Galveston-Houston to determine who the sixteenth pastor of Holy Rosary will be.

My future status at Holy Rosary will possibly involve finishing some of the remodeling and upgrading of the original buildings. So it looks like I will remain at the Priory for some time to come. More information will follow when there is something definite to report. Fr. Konkel

A NOVENA FOR LIFE

The next few days will be extraordinarily important in the life of the Pro Life Movements and the life of faithful Catholics, many Christians and persons of good will. On January 21 and 22 Congress will vote on the most radical and unrestricted legislation in the U. S. history regarding abortion. Such legislation is called *The Freedom of Choice Act* or FOCA. and in such legislation it is stated that every woman has a "fundamental right" to abortion on demand, at any time of her pregnancy, without any interference from federal, state or local governments, and without any consent or interference from parents, in case of minors, or from the other spouse, in case of married persons. Moreover no government may "discriminate" against the exercise of this right when regulating or providing "benefits, facilities, services, or information" to the public. In other words, abortion may not be treated differently from live birth - if the public supports motherhood it must equally support abortion. FOCA endangers a wide range of laws enacted by the people and their elected representatives over 35 years - laws upheld under *Roe* and in cases applying it. These include laws on informed consent, parental involvement, physician licensure, clinic safety, and taxpayer funding. FOCA's far reaching rule on abortion is more radical than anything wrought by *Roe*. FOCA will invalidate laws enacted to protect a woman from unsafe abortions and to insure that she is informed about abortion.

FOCA will require all the taxpayers to pay for abortions. The current FOCA version removes language that is found in previous versions of the bill ensuring that taxpayers will not be forced to pay for abortions. The current bill says that the government may not "discriminate" against abortion in publicly funded programs. It goes further and removes any restriction for abortion on demand.

Roe allowed states to ban abortion after the baby became viable (when the child can survive outside of the womb). Late term abortion in the last trimester of pregnancy is something inconceivable due the advances of modern medicine and the dignity of persons who are fully alive in the womb of a mother. The very way in which tools are used to extract a child in such partial birth abortion will be something demeaning, cruel, unprofessional, unethical, against the Hippocratic Oath of doctors, and just plainly immoral.

FOCA will force Catholic Hospitals to abortions. It will force Catholic doctors and nurses to participate in abortions. It will not allow a clause for conscientious objection on account of moral principles.

This is AN URGENT TIME. We have a new government that has promised this to be the first piece of legislation passed and the new President has promised to sign it. PRAYERS are NEEDED for a miracle and for a change of heart in the President and in the Legislators, especially the pro-abortion legislators, even Catholic Legislators. The faithful are asked to start a Novena of Masses, or a Novena of Rosaries to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Pro-Life efforts in this country, or a Novena of Fasting for whatever time may be prudent for you, or a Novena of Holy Hours alone, in front of the Blessed Sacrament, or in your Home..., starting on the 11th. day of January praying that, by God's Mercy, this legislation may not pass and that the new President may have a change of heart.

Prepared by Fr. Isidore V. Vicente, O.P.