



HOLY ROSARY PARISH

PRIORY OF THE DOMINICAN FRIARS

3600 Travis Houston, Texas 77002-9544

Phone 713-529-4854 Fax 713-522-3967 www.holyrosaryparish.org

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

5:00 p.m.	Saturday Vigil
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

Located in the Parish Center
During the 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Masses

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

ROSARY

4:50 p.m. Monday – Friday
4:40 p.m. Saturday & Sunday

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday – 12:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Benediction 5:05 p.m.

BAPTISMS

Please call Parish Office ext. 101
for arrangements.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays 20 min. before Mass

MARRIAGES

Please call Wedding Coordinator ext. 110
at least 8 months in advance.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call Parish Office for the sick
who are at home or in the hospital.

PRIESTS ON STAFF

Fr. Ian Bordenave, O.P.	Ext. 107
<i>Pastor</i>	
Fr. Isidore Vicente, O.P.	Ext. 104
<i>Parochial Vicar</i>	
Fr. Juan Torres, O.P.	Ext. 103
<i>Parochial Vicar</i>	

Fr. Anthony Hung Tran, O.P.
Chaplain to the Vietnamese Community

IN RESIDENCE

Fr. Arthur R. Kirwin, O.P., *Prior*
Fr. Victor Brown, O.P., *Pastor Emeritus*
Fr. Joseph Konkel, O.P., *Pastor Emeritus*
Fr. François Pouliot, O.P.
Priory Phone 713-526-6322

PARISH OFFICE

3617 Milam Street, Suite 100

Office Hours:
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Monday – Friday

Extensions:
101 Parish Secretary
105 Director of Music
108 Parish Bookkeeper
109 Special Projects Secretary

E-mail:
office@holyrosaryparish.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CENTER

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

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to all new members. Please
register in the Parish Office.



A Message from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

If you have been following the health care debate as it has been taking place in Congress, then you may know that the Nelson-Hatch-Casey Amendment, which would prohibit public funding of abortion, was tabled (in other words, voted down) in the U.S. Senate on December 8 by a 54-45 vote. This was a sad day in the health care debate, because abortion promotes neither the health of the mother nor the unborn child, whose very life it takes. I ask that you would continue to pray for Congress that any final health care reform legislation it would pass would not include public funding of abortion.

While we are on the subject of health care reform, various groups have accused the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, since it has called for health care reform, of supporting "ObamaCare." Still, the conference says, "The Church is involved in the political process but is not partisan. The Church cannot champion any candidate or party. Our cause is the defense of human life and dignity and the protection of the weak and vulnerable."¹ As such, the conference outlines its position on health care reform:

- a truly universal health policy with respect for human life and dignity.
- access for all with a special concern for the poor and inclusion of immigrants.
- pursuing the common good and preserving pluralism including freedom of conscience and variety of options.
- restraining costs and applying them equitably across the spectrum of payers.²

Catholics can differ about which type of legislation would work best to make health care more accessible for all Americans. While fiercely opposing public funding of abortion, what should be unpalatable to Catholics is a public health policy that offers little or no help to obtain health care to those without it.

Fr. Ian

¹<http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/FCStatement.pdf>, par. 58.

²<http://www.usccb.org/healthcare/>

TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION, December 13: *Retirement Fund for Religious*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: *Mary Katharine McMillan, Dorothy Daley, Mary Willoughby, Brian Geaslin Sr., Catherine Gilvary, Kirk Wheeler, Peter Kirwin, Marvin Kurtzman, Gloria Stephen, Jean Ried, Virginia Navarro, Fr. Austin Green, O.P., Brian Benson, Fr. Bruce Noble, Fr. David Noble, and Bob Reeder.*

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, December 13, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome.

WHAT'S COOKING, December 16: Traditional Christmas dinner, dessert, tea, and coffee. Wednesday after the 12:05 p.m. Mass in the Parish Hall, Room 200. As a reminder, the lunches are \$4, and there are no take-outs. Please do not submit bills larger than \$10. Thanks. **Lunches will not be served on Wednesdays, December 23 and December 30. The lunch schedule will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2010. Have a Blessed and Happy Christmas! *The Wednesday Cooks***

THE CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH CHOIR will rehearse today, December 13, from 8:50 to 9:30 a.m. in the large conference room of the Religious Education Center at 3535 Louisiana. Rehearsals will continue each Sunday through December 20. The choir is open to all youth 8 years of age and older, including high school students. The choir will sing at the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve.

REGISTRATION FOR CONFIRMATION for high school age students **will end today, December 13.** Students must be in the 8th grade or higher to attend Confirmation classes, and their families must be registered members of the parish. If the child did not attend Holy Rosary for First Communion preparation, a copy of the Baptismal certificate and First Communion certificate will be required. The preparation will last for eighteen months, and the sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in the Fall of 2011. Please contact the Religious Education Office Sunday through Thursday at 713-526-4389 or via email at Jmjarisa@sbcglobal.net.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: There will be no classes on Sundays, December 20 and 27. Classes will resume the first Sunday of the new year, January 3, 2010. The King of the Universe is wrapped in swaddling clothes. Come let us adore Him! The students and catechists of Holy Rosary Religious Education wish all a very Mary ChristMass and a Blessed and Peaceful New Year!

2010 CHURCH CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES FOR REGISTERED PARISHIONERS are here. If you did not pick up your contribution envelopes last Sunday, they are available in the church office, suite 100, on weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and in the Parish Hall, Room 200, on Sundays. The envelopes are arranged in alphabetical order. If you are unable to find your box of envelopes, please add your name, address, and phone number to the sheet on the envelope table, and the office will contact you. Thank you.

2010 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE FLYERS are located in the vestibule of the church for anyone to have. The Christmas schedule and office hours are also posted on the parish web site at www.holyrosaryparish.org.

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS: Dear Lord, we pray that the Blessed Mother would wrap her mantle around your priests, and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry. We pray that Mary may guide your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5). May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse. May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross. May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love, and seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen. *Year of the Priest, June 19, 2009-June 10, 2010.*

SCRIPTURAL READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 14 - Reading I (1 Corinthians 2:1-10a), Psalm – 37, Gospel (Luke 14:25-33)

Tuesday, December 15 – Reading I (Zechariah 14:5, 7), Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-81, 19 & 23, Gospel (Matthew 21:28-32)

Wednesday, December 16 – Reading I (Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25), Psalm – 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14, Gospel (Luke 7:18b-23)

Thursday, December 17 – Reading I (Genesis 49:2, 8-10), Psalm – 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17, Gospel (Matthew 1:1-17)

Friday, December 18 – Reading I (Jeremiah 23:5-8), Psalm – 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19, Gospel (Matthew 1:18-25)

Saturday, December 19 – Reading I (Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a), Psalm – 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17, Gospel (Luke 1:5-25)

LOST AND FOUND: A **diamond ring**, found in the church on the morning of Saturday, October 3, 2009; A **crucifix medal**, found in the church on Sunday, November 15; A **black plastic rosary**, found in the parish hall on Sunday, December 6. Anyone who believes any of these items may be his or hers should contact the parish office.

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: The 56th U.S. National Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from June 29 to July 8, 2010. This pilgrimage will be accompanied by medical staff, clergy, and volunteers to assist the needs of the pilgrims and is open to everyone. For details, please contact Fr. Joseph Allen, O.P., at allenop@opfriars.org or at The Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, 1-877-276-7279 (toll free), or at lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net. Website – www.lourdes-pilgrimage.com.

THE HOLY ROSARY PLAYGROUP meets the **first** and **third** Thursdays of the month in the Religious Education Center, 3535 Louisiana, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. All mothers with young children are welcome. Please bring a light snack for your family.

December 17: Please bring a gently-used toy to give away or to exchange with another mom.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ST. NICHOLAS DAY RAFFLE WINNERS!

Adolfo Carrillo won the beaded icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help generously donated by St. Francis of Assisi Religious Goods. **Larry Miggins** won an original watercolor of St. Nicholas by Jim Seigler, and **Pat Skrehot** won the amazing, hand-crafted wooden, five-car, toy, freight train by John Sporar.

THANKS to all of the volunteers who made St. Nicholas Day a success this year! A special thanks to the Vietnamese community, which prepared and served wonderful Vietnamese food.

Collections for December 6, 2009

First Collection	\$19,491.38
214 Envelopes Submitted Out of 934 Households; Percentage 23%	
2009-10 First Collections YTD (7/1/09-6/30/10)	\$373,497.12
2009-10 Fiscal Budget YTD	\$376,050.00
Difference	-\$2,552.00
Christmas Flower Offering	\$253.00
Candle Offerings	\$210.11

MASS INTENTIONS

Week of December 13, 2009

Sunday

8:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish

9:30 a.m. Dr. James Considine †

11:00 a.m. Lucia Blackwood

12:30 p.m. John Pereria †

5:00 p.m. Josephine Salerno Poncio †

Monday

12:05 p.m. Soledad Perez †

5:15 p.m. Special Intention

Tuesday

12:05 p.m. Eusebio Escamilla †

5:15 p.m. Daniel Bellmore †

Wednesday

12:05 p.m. Jimmie St. Julian †

5:15 p.m. Emmett Digby †

Thursday

12:05 p.m. Melanie Wheat

5:15 p.m. Margaret Rose Lodge

Friday

12:05 p.m. In Thanksgiving for the Gift of Life

5:15 p.m. Nga and Mai – Special Intention

Saturday

12:05 p.m. Celia Santiso

5:00 p.m. Ramona Chavez †

† Mass said for the repose of the soul.

CATHOLIC DAILY MESSAGE

713-529-4449

BENEDICT XVI

ANGELUS

St Peter's Square

Third Sunday of Advent, 14 December 2008

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday, the Third Sunday in the Season of Advent, is called "*Gaudete* Sunday": "rejoice", because the Entrance Antiphon of Holy Mass takes up St Paul's words in the Letter to the Philippians where it says: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice". And immediately after he explains the reason, because "The Lord is at hand" (Phil 4: 4-5). This is the reason for joy. But what does "the Lord is at hand" mean? In what sense must we understand this "closeness" of God? The Apostle Paul, writing to the Christians of Philippi, is evidently thinking of Christ's return and invites them to rejoice because it is certain. Yet, St Paul in his Letter to the Thessalonians, warns that no one can know the moment of the Lord's coming (cf. 1 Thes 5: 1-2) and puts people on guard against any kind of alarmism, as if Christ's return were imminent (cf. 2 Thes 2: 1-2). Thus the Church, illumined by the Holy Spirit, already at that time understood increasingly better that God's "closeness" is not a question of space and time but rather of love: love brings people together! This coming Christmas will remind us of this fundamental truth of our faith and in front of the manger we shall be able to savour Christian joy contemplating in the newborn Jesus the Face of God who made himself close to us out of love.

In this light, it gives me real pleasure to renew the beautiful tradition of the Blessing of the Christ Child figurines, the miniature statues of the Baby Jesus to be placed in the manger. I address you in particular, dear boys and girls of Rome, who have come this morning with your Baby Jesus figurines that I now bless. I invite you to join me, following attentively this prayer:

God, our Father
you so loved humankind
that you sent us your only Son Jesus,
born of the Virgin Mary,
to save us and lead us back to you.

We pray that with your Blessing
these images of Jesus,
who is about to come among us,
may be a sign of your presence and
love in our homes.

Good Father,
give your Blessing to us too,
to our parents, to our families and
to our friends.

Open our hearts,
so that we may be able to
receive Jesus in joy,
always do what he asks
and see him in all those
who are in need of our love.

We ask you this in the name of Jesus,
your beloved Son
who comes to give the world peace.

He lives and reigns forever and ever.

Amen.

And now let us recite together the prayer of the *Angelus Domini*, invoking Mary's intercession so that Jesus, whose birth brings God's Blessing to mankind, may be lovingly welcomed in all homes, in Rome and throughout the world.