



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

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 Konkell, 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,

I am bit of a purist when it comes to celebrating Christmas, meaning I don't like to begin celebrating Christmas when it's still Advent. Hence, I have instructed those responsible for setting up the Nativity scene in the church courtyard not to add the figures to the scene until after the Fourth Sunday of Advent with the figure of the Christ child being added only after the Christmas Vigil Mass. I also don't like listening to Christmas music during Advent, and if people have Christmas parties during Advent, I wonder why they don't call them "Advent parties"? On the other hand, when people speak about Christmas being over on December 26, I'm just revving up! That's when I enjoy listening to Christmas music, opening Christmas gifts, savoring Christmas treats, sitting quietly and looking at the Christmas tree and the crèche, and sending out Christmas greetings. Then is really the time to celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, which begin on Christmas Day, December 25, and go until January 5, the day before the feast of the Epiphany. The modern liturgical calendar prolongs the celebration of Christmas until the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which usually occurs a week after the feast of the Epiphany—even more reason to continue the merriment. So, if you are looking for me to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in today's column, I'm afraid you will have to wait until next weekend's column for that.

Still, on this Fourth Sunday of Advent, I do want to talk you about anticipation—that is, the longing we feel in our hearts for the coming of the Savior of the World, Jesus Christ, both at Christmastime and at the end-time. Come, Lord, and do not delay! This is the people that longs to see your face. Come and save us!

Try to make the most of these last few days in Advent to prepare yourselves spiritually for the great feast of Christmas.

Fr. Ian

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.*

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK: Being a prayerful community, we are anxious to pray for all who are ill. If you wish to have prayers for yourself or a loved one added to the parish prayer list for the sick in the bulletin, please call the parish office, 713-529-4854, at either ext. 101 or 109. At every Eucharist, the Church prays for all who are in need, whether mentioned by name or not.

COFFEE AFTER MASS will be served today, December 20, in the Parish Hall, Room 200. All are welcome.

WHAT'S COOKING: Lunches will not be served on Wednesdays, December 23 and 30. The lunch schedule will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2010. Have a Blessed and Happy Christmas! *The Wednesday Cooks*

HOLY ROSARY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOT DOG AND TAMALES SUNDAY - The K of C will be serving hot dogs and tamales today, December 20, in the courtyard from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please come over, enjoy a hot dog and some tamales, and support the Knights. Donations are appreciated.

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 parish 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: There will be no classes today, December 20, and next Sunday, December 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!

THE CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH CHOIR: Please note the time and location change. The choir will rehearse today, December 20, from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. in the Bride's Room, Room 111, of the parish office building. 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.

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.

PRO-LIFE MASS: A Pro-Life Mass will be held at Holy Rosary next Sunday, December 27, at 5 p.m. The Fourth Degree Knights from across the arch-diocese will be in attendance. The Knights invite everyone to participate in the Mass and the candlelight procession to the Abortion facility on Fannin street afterwards.

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 21 – Reading I (Song of Songs 2:8-14), Psalm – 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21, Gospel (Luke 1:39-45)

Tuesday, December 22 – Reading I (Samuel 1:24-28), Psalm 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd, Gospel (Luke 1:46-56)

Wednesday, December 23 – Reading I (Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24), Psalm – 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14, Gospel (Luke 1:57-66)

Thursday, December 24 – Reading I (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16), Psalm – 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29, Gospel (Luke 1:67-79)

Friday, December 25 – Reading I (Isaiah 52:7-10), Psalm – 9:1,2-3,3-4,5-6), , Gospel (John 1:1-18)

Saturday, December 26 – Reading I (Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10: 7:54-59), Psalm – 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17, Gospel (Matthew 10:17-22)

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 21st ANNUAL SOUTHERN DOMINICAN GALA will take place on **Thursday, May 6, 2010**. The gala committee invites everyone to participate in the gala by becoming an underwriter, a table sponsor, or an auction donor and/or by purchasing gala tickets. The evening will include dinner, dancing, and a silent auction (including a wine auction). This year the gala will present the St. Martin de Porres Award to the Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) or the Port Chaplaincy of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. For more information about the gala, please contact Carole Kelley at 713-529-4854, ext. 109, or at ckelley@holYROsaryparish.org. The gala proceeds will go to support the Southern Dominican Province, including the friars of Holy Rosary Priory. Gifts to the gala are tax deductible.

Collections for December 13, 2009

First Collection	\$15,056.63
213 Envelopes Submitted Out of 936 Households; Percentage 23%	
2009-10 First Collections YTD (7/1/09-6/30/10)	\$388,553.75
2009-10 Fiscal Budget YTD	\$392,400.00
Difference	-\$3,846.25
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$7,540.35
Immaculate Conception Offering	\$4,919.35
Christmas Flower Offering	\$170.25
Candle Offerings	\$807.17

MASS INTENTIONS

Week of December 20, 2009

Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Carolyn Fuhrman †
- 9:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish
- 11:00 a.m. Steve Joseph Poncio †
- 12:30 p.m. John and Anne Little
- 5:00 p.m. Mercedes & Ben Duggan †

Monday

- 12:05 p.m. John Pereira †
- 5:15 p.m. Trang – Special Intention

Tuesday

- 12:05 p.m. Carl Gor Ben, Châu, & Nga †
- 5:15 p.m. Emma Notzon

Wednesday

- 12:05 p.m. In Thanksgiving for the Gift of Life
- 5:15 p.m. Kelley Krahn

Thursday

- 12:05 p.m. Patrick James †
- 5:00 p.m. Philip and Ruth Pontius †

**Friday - Christmas
The Nativity of our Lord**

- 12 Midnight Edna & Hoffman Douglas †
- 9:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish
- 11:00 a.m. Dr. James Considine †
- 12:30 p.m. Jimmie St. Julian †
- No 5 p.m. Mass

Saturday

- 12:05 p.m. James Dillon †
- 5:00 p.m. Anita, Antonio, and Ampemo Sepulveda †

† Mass said for the repose of the soul.

CATHOLIC DAILY MESSAGE

713-529-4449

BENEDICT XVI

ANGELUS

St Peter's Square

Fourth Sunday of Advent, 21 December 2008

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Gospel of this Fourth Sunday of Advent proposes to us the account of the Annunciation (Lk 1: 26-38), the mystery to which we return every day in reciting the *Angelus*. This prayer makes us relive the decisive moment at which God knocked at Mary's heart and, having received her "yes", began to take flesh, in her and from her. The Collect of today's Mass is the same as the one we recite at the end of the *Angelus* that in Italian, says: "*Infondi nel nostro spirito la tua grazia, O Padre. Tu che all'annuncio dell'Angelo ci hai rivelato l'incarnazione del tuo Figlio, per la sua passione e la sua croce guidaci alla gloria della risurrezione*" [Fill our hearts with your love, and as you revealed to us by an angel the coming of your Son as man, so lead us through his suffering and death to the glory of his Resurrection]. With only a few days until the Feast of Christmas, we are invited to fix our gaze on the ineffable mystery that Mary treasured for nine months in her virginal womb: the mystery of God who is made man. This is the first foundation of the redemption. The second is the death and Resurrection of Jesus and these two inseparable aspects express a single divine plan: to save humanity and its history, assuming them fully by taking on the entire burden of all the evil that oppresses it.

Beyond its historical dimension, this mystery of salvation also has a cosmic dimension: Christ is the sun of grace who, with his life, "transfigures and enflames the expectant universe" (cf. Liturgy). The Christmas festivity is placed within and linked to the winter solstice when, in the northern hemisphere, the days begin once again to lengthen. In this regard perhaps not everyone knows that in St Peter's Square there is also a meridian; in fact, the great obelisk casts its shadow in a line that runs along the paving stones toward the fountain beneath this window and in these days, the shadow is at its longest of the year. This reminds us of the role of astronomy in setting the times of prayer. The *Angelus*, for example, is recited in the morning, at noon and in the evening, and clocks were regulated by the meridian which in ancient times made it possible to know the "exact midday".

The fact that the winter solstice occurs exactly today, 21 December, and at this very time, offers me the opportunity to greet all those who will be taking part in various capacities in the initiatives for the World Year of Astronomy, 2009, established on the fourth centenary of Galileo Galilei's first observations by telescope. Among my Predecessors of venerable memory there were some who studied this science, such as Sylvester II who taught it, Gregory XIII to whom we owe our calendar, and St Pius X who knew how to build sundials. If the heavens, according to the Psalmist's beautiful words, "are telling the glory of God" (Ps 19[18]: 1), the laws of nature which over the course of centuries many men and women of science have enabled us to understand better are a great incentive to contemplate the works of the Lord with gratitude.

Let us now turn our gaze again to Mary and Joseph who were awaiting the birth of Jesus and learn from them the secret of reflection in order to taste the joy of Christmas. Let us prepare ourselves to welcome with faith the Redeemer who comes to be with us, the Word of God's love for humanity of every epoch.

After the Angelus:

I am pleased to greet all the English-speaking pilgrims gathered for this Angelus. In today's liturgy, we recall how the Virgin Mary was invited by the Angel to conceive the one in whom the fullness of divinity would dwell: Jesus, the "Son of the Most High". As we prepare to celebrate his birth, let us not be afraid to say "Yes" to the Lord, so that we may join Our Lady in singing his goodness for ever. May God bless all of you!