



# HOLY ROSARY PARISH

## THE DOMINICAN FRIARS

3617 Milam St., Houston, Texas 77002-9535

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Catholic Daily Message 713-529-4449

[www.holyrosaryparish.org](http://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

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

12:05 p.m. Monday – Saturday  
 5:15 p.m. Monday – Friday

### TIME OUT ROOM

Available in the parish office building during the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses

### ROSARY

4:50 p.m. Monday-Friday  
 4:35 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

12:45-5:00 p.m. Fridays with benediction at 5:05 p.m.

### BAPTISMS

Please call parish office at ext. 101

for arrangements.

### RECONCILIATION

4:00–5:00 p.m. Saturdays  
 Thirty minutes before each weekday Mass

### MARRIAGES

Please call the wedding coordinator at ext. 110 at least eight months in advance.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office for the sick who are at home or in the hospital.

### PRIESTS ON STAFF

Fr. Ian G. Bordenave, O.P. Ext. 107

*Pastor*

Fr. Isidore V. Vicente, O.P. Ext. 104

*Parochial Vicar*

Fr. Juan M. 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. William S. Daniels, O.P.

Fr. Joseph D. Konkel, O.P., *Pastor Emeritus*

Fr. Martin J. Iott, O.P.

Fr. François Pouliot, O.P.

Fr. Richard B. Williams, 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](mailto:office@holyrosaryparish.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CENTER

3535 Louisiana Street

713-526-4389

Contact: Janet Hafernik, D.R.E.

### PARISH REGISTRATION

Please contact the parish office if you wish to register, if your contact information has changed, or if you wish to remove your registration.

## A Message From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

“A child is born to us, a son is given us” (Isa 9:5a). He is Christ the Lord. The real joy of Christmas is that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life” (Jn 3:16). Since the time of Adam and Eve, human beings have done a good job of botching things up by sinning. We even go on sinning today. Sin makes for a world of misery. It’s like a kitten getting itself tangled in a ball of yarn, only worse—much worse.

Fortunately, God took pity on us and sent us his Only Begotten Son born in time, born of a virgin. The Son’s mission was to lead us back to the Father and to offer himself as a sacrifice on the cross to the Father—to turn away God’s anger from us and to heal the rift caused by our sins.

The joy of Christmas then is more than a baby being born in a stable in Bethlehem with angels appearing to shepherds and magi coming to adore. The joy of Christmas is that our salvation has appeared in the world, offering us new and eternal hope. As the saying goes, “Misery loves company.” Well, Christ came to share our misery and has shown us the way out of it. He himself is the Way, and his words are eternal life.

We need to ask God for the wisdom and the courage to follow Christ always, so that we can keep restoring the harmony and the order lost in our world because of sin. To the extent we live Christ’s teachings, our world becomes filled with his presence, and earth begins to feel like heaven.

As we begin celebrating the Twelve Days of Christmas (plus a few more), I invite you to pray the Rosary as a way of meditating on the great events of our salvation. It’s a way of heightening Christmas joy.

On behalf of the Friars of Holy Rosary Priory and the Holy Rosary Parish Staff, I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fr. Ian

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** *Gloria Guerreo, Margaret Rose Lodge, Gloria Lindo, Walter Peters, Joe Vacca, John Gaughan, and Gloria Kirk.*

**SUNDAY COFFEE:** Sunday coffees have been suspended until January 8, 2012.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on Monday, December 26, and Monday, January 2.

**A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM HOLY ROSARY PARISH:** Scott Hahn’s book, *A Father Who Keeps his Promises: God’s Covenant Love in Scripture*. Please take one book per family. Merry Christmas!

**LIFETOUCH PORTRAITS:** If you had your portrait taken in either the October or November sessions and elected to have your complimentary 8x10 portrait sent to Holy Rosary for pickup, please contact the parish office to arrange a pickup date and time. New portrait sessions for the parish’s centennial anniversary book are now available December 29-30. Please sign up online at [www.holyrosaryparish.org](http://www.holyrosaryparish.org) or by calling the parish office. Thank you.

**2011 DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND (DSF):** Thanks to everyone who has made a pledge or contribution to this year’s DSF! The parish has crested its goal of \$119,000 for 2011. All donations over \$119,000 will be split between Holy Rosary Parish and the poor parishes of the archdiocese. Please fulfill your pledges by December 31. Thank you very much!

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The William Byrd Chamber Singers will offer a concert entitled “A Renaissance Christmastide,” featuring Medieval chants and Renaissance polyphony. Works include Palestrina, Monteverdi, Victoria, and Byrd. The performance will be held next Sunday, January 1, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Church, 7809 Shadyvilla Lane, Houston 77055. The concert is both in honor of our Lady and in celebration of the new Anglican Use Ordinariate. For tickets or more information, please contact Samuel Sentmanat at 832-776-0589 or at [bonaveraspulchras@gmail.com](mailto:bonaveraspulchras@gmail.com).

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS:**

➤ **Religious Education Family Library** has received some new books that might interest teenagers. New titles include *Ask the Bible Geek* by Mark Hart, *Do I Have to Go? 101 Questions About the Mass, the Eucharist, and Your Spiritual Life* by Matthew Pinto and Chris Stefanick, and *Blessed Are The Bored In Spirit: A Young Catholic’s Search for Meaning* by Mark Hart. These books are available for checkout.

➤ **Religious Education Christmas Wish List:** A piano, other musical instruments, a foosball table, outdoor saint statues, especially of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph, an outdoor crucifix, a large TV, a DVD player, a computer projector, 4 ft. wooden book shelf, and Catholic CD’s and books for children and teenagers.

➤ **Jeff Cavins’ Bible Study On The Book Of Revelation:** Is the Book of Revelation really about the end of the world? What is the Catholic response to the Rapture? What are all those strange creatures and numbers about? Join the parish’s Bible study on the Book of Revelation. There are four different offerings: Sundays from 9 to 10:45 a.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and from 7 to 8:45 p.m., and Thursdays from 7 to 8:45 p.m. If there is enough interest, there will also be a Tuesday offering from 7 to 8:45 p.m. Classes begin the week of January 22 and go for eleven weeks. The cost is \$30 per person, which pays for the programs’ materials. If you would like to join, please make your check payable to Holy Rosary Church and mail it to the church in care of Janet Hafernik. This is a great way to enter Lent! At the end of this program, there will be a Bible Study reunion and potluck dinner. This is a great way to grow in faith and to meet other parishioners. Don’t miss this exciting opportunity!

➤ **Adult Confirmation Classes:** Have you been confirmed? If you or someone you know has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, which completes the grace of Baptism, binds a person more perfectly to Christ and his Church, increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit received at Baptism, and strengthens one to live more fully the life of a Christian, then mark your calendars to begin Adult Confirmation classes on Sunday afternoons in February. The Rite of Confirmation will take place on May 29.

**2012 WASHINGTON MARCH FOR LIFE:** Join Father Ian and other Holy Rosary parishioners for the 2012 Washington March for Life! Details are still in the works, but the trip is tentatively scheduled for January 21-24. We hope to meet and celebrate Mass with Cardinal DiNardo in Washington, D.C. The current plan is to fly roundtrip, but if enough people are interested in driving, this could be another option. The actual march will take place on Monday, January 23, 2012. Last year, a quarter of a million people marched on Washington to reclaim our culture for life. Join us! Contact James Pinedo at 281-912-4342 or at jamespinedo@gmail.com.

**MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT** for those between the ages of 18 and 35 who are seriously discerning a vocation to the priesthood. The retreat will go from Friday, January 6, at 5 p.m. until Sunday, January 8, at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Seminary, 9845 Memorial Drive, Houston 77024. A telephone interview is required in advance in order for participants to register. Space is limited, and the registration deadline is January 2, so please call 713-652-8239 or email vocations@archgh.org soon. The retreat cost is \$30. Scholarships are available.

**NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK, JANUARY 9-14.** Observed by the Dioceses of the United States of America. The week begins on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which falls on January 9, 2012. The feast marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. National Vocation Awareness Week celebrates vocations to the priesthood, the permanent diaconate, and the religious life in particular. During these days, families are urged to pray that God would grant more of these vocations to his Church as well as talk about the goodness of these vocations.

**COMPENDIUM TO THE CATECHISM:**

**103. What does the Gospel teach about the mysteries of the birth and infancy of Jesus?**

At *Christmas* the glory of heaven is shown forth in the weakness of a baby; the *circumcision* of Jesus is a sign of his belonging to the Hebrew people and is a prefiguration of our Baptism; the *Epiphany* is the manifestation of the Messiah King of Israel to all the nations; at the *presentation in the temple*, Simeon and Anna symbolize all the anticipation of Israel awaiting its encounter with its Savior; the *flight into Egypt* and the massacre of the innocents proclaim that the entire life of Christ will be under the sign of persecution; the *departure from Egypt* recalls the exodus and presents Jesus as the new Moses and the true and definitive liberator.

Diocesan Service Fund (DSF) Summary Report as of December 22, 2011	
Parish Goal	\$119,000.00
Total Amount Paid	\$125,569.44
Total Amount Pledged	\$127,336.64
Total Number of Participants	257
Percent Paid	105.52%
<b>Amount Over the Goal in Pledges</b>	<b>\$8,336.64</b>

Collections for December 18, 2011	
Regular Collection	\$16,525.70
Regular Collection Through Online Giving	\$2,657.92
2011-12 Regular Collections YTD (7/1/11-6/30/12)	\$456,281.66
2011-12 Fiscal Budget YTD	\$458,920.00
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-\$2,638.34</b>
Candle Offerings	\$299.39

Liturgical Calendar for the Week of December 25, 2011

<b>25 Sun</b>	<b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)</b> Vigil: Is 62:1-5/ Acts 13:16-17,22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Midnight: Is 9:1-6/ Ti 2:11-14/ Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/ Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/ Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5,9-14
12 Mid-night	✠ James St. Julian & Robert Fretz Sr.
9:30	✠ Dr. James Considine
11:00	For the People of the Parish
12:30	✠ Stuart Toomey
<b>26 Mon</b>	<b>St. Stephen, The First Martyr (F)</b> Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/ Mt 10:17-22
12:05	✠ Frank Pinedo
5:15	✠ Carl Cor Ben, Chau, & Nga
<b>27 Tue</b>	<b>St. John, Apostle and Evangelist (F)</b> 1 Jn 1:1-4/ Jn 20:1a,2-8
12:05	✠ Mary K. Willoughby
5:15	✠ Joseph Tanes
<b>28 Wed</b>	<b>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (F)</b> Jn 1:5-2:2/ Mt 2:13-18
12:05	✠ Jacob R. Didion
5:15	✠ Carolyn Fuhrman
<b>29 Thu</b>	<b>The Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</b> 1 Jn 2:3-11/ Lk 2:22-35 - St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
12:05	✠ Frank Pinedo
5:15	✠ Jamean Threetas
<b>30 Fri</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (F)</b> Sir 3:2-7,12-14/ Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22,39-40
12:05	✠ The Deceased Members of the Mitchell Family
5:15	✠ Thom Potempa
<b>31 Sat</b>	<b>The Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</b> 1 Jn 2:18-21/ Jn 1:1-18 - St. Sylvester I, Pope
12:05	✠ John Denninger
5 p.m.	✠ James St. Julian & Robert Fretz Sr.

## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2011

If you were asked to narrate the event of the birth of our Savior, Jesus, to a group of non-believers, what would you tell them, and how would you tell them the story of his birth in Bethlehem? I remember many years ago reading one of my favorite authors, psychologist Doctor Leo Buscaglia (1994-1998), and in one of his many books he tells the story of finding himself in Bali, in the South Pacific, on Christmas Eve and wanting to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord. He was shocked to learn that they did not know who Jesus was and his birth in time. So, he begins by telling them the story of Joseph and Mary, and the census announced by King Herod and the journey to Bethlehem while Mary's time for the delivery of her child is near. Buscaglia also told them "***there was no room at the inn***" for Mary and Joseph. The people of Bali, so gracious and hospitable, stopped him and said: "***We cannot believe that. There is always room for one more family. We would never have let anyone sleep in a stable.***"

And so we are here, again, one more year, celebrating one more time the birth of Jesus, the Son of God, in time, of the blessed Virgin Mary, in the town of Bethlehem, in a stable. We hear the story again and again and we tell and retell the story of Jesus' birth and we never grow tired of it. Through this retelling of the story we become closer and even more dear to the ONE who has loved us from all eternity and who in the fullness of time sent us His own Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who was born in time, in Bethlehem of Judea, in a manger, in a stable, from the womb of a virgin, whose name was Mary. And in a stable Jesus was born. And the One who dresses the world in all its magnificence, the Lord of the universe, comes to us as a child, in all its vulnerability, wrapped in swaddling clothes and in love.

In December and especially around Christmas the weather becomes colder, most of the time, even here in our city and people become warmer. It is a time to visit old friends, or make a phone call to them that we care for them, that we treasure their friendship. We buy presents and give them away as a token and gesture of the gift of love we have for the person because we have been given the best **GIFT** of all, from God our Father, the Gift of His Only Son, to be our joy, our peace, our hope for new life, for the fullness of life and love, here and then in eternity.

This is the Day of our Salvation. This is the day when we all stand in awe in front of a manger, like our children do or did, and ponder the mystery of this God-Man and Man-God who has come to offer the perfect image of the God in whom we believe and who comes to offer his salvation and peace to all persons of good will.

HAVE A BLESSED and GRACED FILLED CHRISTMAS DAY. It is indeed a day of Joy, even if our joy is not complete. May the Peace, which the Child Jesus brought on the first Christmas, be with you always.

*Fr. Vicente*