

MASS INTENTIONS



DEC 10
5:00PM.....John Galaviz †
For the special intentions
of the Varkey Family

DEC 11
8:30AM..... Bob Friess †
M/M Jim Baskin †
10:30AM.....For our parish family
12:30PM..... M/M Cornelio Gonzales †
Jose Mendiola †
5:00PM.....For the healing
of Sabrina Harris
M/M Tony Eppolito †

DEC 13
6:30PM..... Elias Gaviño †
M/M Juan Gonzalez'
55th Anniversary

DEC 14
8:30AM..... Reynaldo Cisnero †
Telesforo Casarez †

DEC 15
7:00PM..... Jose Urbina †
For the healing of Reann Medel

DEC 16
8:30AM..... Bob Savage †
Birthday blessings for
JuanDeDios Villarreal Jr.

**Mark Your Calendar
For Upcoming Events!**

Parish Christmas Dinner
& Children's Play..... December 10
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Mañanitas/Celebration December 12
Simbang Gabi Mass
/Reception December 15

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE WEEK DEC 11 - DEC 17**

Sun Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; James 5:7-10;
Matthew 11:2-11
Mon Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Luke 1:39-47
Tue Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13;
Matthew 21:28-32
Wed Isaiah 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25;
Luke 7:18b-23
Thurs Isaiah 54:1-10; Luke 7:24-30
Fri Isaiah 56:1-3a, 6-8; John 5:33-36
Sat Genesis 49:2, 8-10;
Matthew 1:1-17



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the traditional events planned for Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday, Dec. 12th. Most events will be bilingual.

CELEBRACIÓN DE LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

Nos alegra invitarlos a la Celebración de La Virgen de Guadalupe este lunes, 12 de diciembre. Algunas de las actividades serán bilingües.

3:45am Matlachines / Dance group (Narthex)
4:00am Mañanitas / Mariachi serenade
5:00am Misa / Mass
6:00am Desayuno Guadalupano / Reception in the Benish Center
6:30am Matachines / Dance group
9:00am Rosario / Rosary (Church Narthex)
12:00pm Rosario / Rosary (Church Narthex)
3:00pm Rosario / Rosary (Church Narthex)
5:30pm Ballet Folklórico "Fiesta Mexicana de Cedar Park" (Church)
5:45pm Matlachines / Dance group
6:00pm Mariachis Guadalajara
7:00pm Apariciones Guadalupanas / Re-enactment of apparitions
7:30pm Rosario Solemne / Rosary
8:00pm Solista / Soloist
8:30pm Matlachines / Dance group

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Week of:	November 27, 2016	YTD (July 2016 - June 2017)
Cash & Checks	\$21,506.72	\$505,336.85
Credit Cards & EFT's	\$842.50	\$57,120.97
Total Contributions Received:	\$22,349.22	\$562,457.82
Weekly Offering GOAL:	\$26,034.52	\$572,759.44
Over/Under:	(\$3,685.30)	(\$10,301.62)

We have **2375** registered families of which, **424** remembered to use their weekly envelope. Thank you for your generous support and faithful stewardship!

SECOND COLLECTION

No Second Collection This Week \$0.00

DEBT REDUCTION November 2016 (Reported monthly on the 2nd Sunday of the month)

Original Loan Amount:	\$4,486,213.49
Previous Loan Balance:	\$2,553,944.52
Amount Paid Towards Principle Last Month:	\$19,414.25
Amount Paid In Interest Last Month:	\$13,433.33
Total Contributions Received Last Month:	\$4,504.24
Current Debt Balance:	\$2,534,530.27

We have **2375** registered families of which, **114** remembered to use their **PINK Debt Reduction** envelopes this month. Thank you for your generous support and faithful stewardship!

For more information about making your offerings electronically, please contact Cindy Perez at (512) 259-3126 ext. 108.

Para autorizar sus ofrendas mensuales con tarjeta de crédito o transferencia bancaria, por favor comunicarse con Cindy Perez al (512) 259-3126 ext. 108.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

The parish office will be closed from Monday, December 26th through Monday, January 2nd, and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd to allow our staff time to celebrate the Christmas holidays with their families. Please take this into consideration if you have a pending matter in the office.

LA OFICINA SE CERRARA PARA LAS VACACIONES DE NAVIDAD Y AÑO NUEVO

La oficina parroquial se cerrará el Lunes, 26 de diciembre y permanecerá cerrada hasta el Martes, 3 de enero, para dar tiempo a nuestro personal para celebrar la Navidad con sus familias. Por favor tenga esto en cuenta si usted tiene algo pendiente.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, December 11

8:30 AM	MASS	Church
8:30 AM	RCIA	Day Chapel
8:30 AM	Religious Education	RE Classrooms
10:00 AM	Movimiento Familiar Cristiano Committee	Conference Room
10:00 AM	Religious Education	RE classrooms
10:30 AM	MASS	Church
12:00 PM	Religious Education	RE classrooms
12:30 PM	MASS - Spanish	Church
2:00 PM	Catecismo para padres	Special Events Room
2:00 PM	MLF Food Prep	Kitchen
2:00 PM	Religious Education	RE classrooms
2:30 PM	CRSP Women's Team	RE RM 106/108
3:00 PM	Choir practice (5:00 Mass)	Church
3:00 PM	Middle School Youth Group	Benish Center
4:00 PM	CRSP Women's Team	RE RM 105/107
5:00 PM	MASS	Church
6:00 PM	CRSP Men's Team	RE RM 106/108
6:15 PM	High School Youth Group/Confirmation	Benish Center
7:00 PM	Novena OLG/Nuestra Virgen de Guadalupe	Day Chapel

Monday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day

5:00 AM	MASS - Spanish	Church
6:00 AM	Our Lady of Guadalupe Desayuno	Benish Center
8:30 AM	MASS	Church
9:00 AM	Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration/Rosary	Church
4:00 PM	MLF Food Prep	Kitchen
6:00 PM	Religious Education	RE classrooms
7:00 PM	Choir practice (Sat Vigil)	Benish Center
7:00 PM	Divine Mercy Group XI	Day Chapel
7:30 PM	King's Army	RE RM 101
7:30 PM	Ultreya	RE RM 110

Tuesday, December 13

9:30 AM	Divine Mercy IX	Day Chapel
4:00 PM	MLF Food Prep	Kitchen
6:00 PM	Religious Education	RE classrooms
6:30 PM	MASS	Church
7:00 PM	Jesus Is Lord	Special Events Room
7:00 PM	RCIA/RICA	Benish Center/Day Chapel
7:15 PM	Divine Mercy III	Confessional
7:15 PM	Legion of Mary	RE RM 106/108
7:15 PM	RCIA/RICA	RE RM 104
7:30 PM	CRSP Continuation Committee	RE RM 105/107

Wednesday, December 14

8:30 AM	MASS	Church
9:00 AM	ADORATION	Day Chapel
4:00 PM	MLF Food Prep	Kitchen
7:00 PM	Legion of Mary - Spanish	RE RM 106/108
7:00 PM	Scripture Study	RE RM 105
7:15 PM	Choir Practice (10:30 Mass)	Special Events Room
7:30 PM	Grupo de Oración Carismático	Benish Center

Thursday, December 15

9:30 AM	Divine Mercy Group IX - Spanish	Confessional
9:30 AM	Scripture Study	Benish Center
3:00 PM	Chalice of Strength Holy Hour	Eucharistic Chapel
5:00 PM	RECONCILIATION	Confessional
6:00 PM	Posadas - Rosary	Day Chapel
7:00 PM	MASS	Church
7:00 PM	Choir practice (5:00 Mass)	Special Events Room
7:00 PM	Filipino Simbang Gabi MASS	Church
7:00 PM	Guadalupanos	RE RM 106/108
7:30 PM	Divine Mercy Group X - Spanish	RE RM 101
8:00 PM	Filipino Simbang Gabi Reception	Benish Center
9:00 PM	Cáliz de Fortaleza Hora Santa	Eucharistic Chapel

Friday, December 16

8:30 AM	MASS	Church
4:00 PM	MLF Food Prep	Kitchen
6:00 PM	Posadas - Rosary	Benish Center
7:00 PM	Choir Practice (12:30 Mass)	Special Events Room
7:00 PM	Profetas de Cristo	RE RM 105/107
7:30 PM	WCSO Concert	Church

Saturday, December 17

7:00 AM	Legion of Mary Auxiliary Breakfast	Benish Center
7:00 AM	Men's Prayer Group	Eucharistic Chapel
7:30 AM	Spanish Choir Practice	Special Events Room
9:00 AM	St. Vincent de Paul Ministry	RE RM 106/108
10:00 AM	Divine Mercy Group V - Spanish	Special Events Room
10:00 AM	MLF Food Prep	Kitchen
10:00 AM	Women's CRSP Retreat Formation	RE RM 105/107
11:00 AM	Posadas - Movimiento Familiar Cristiano	Benish Center
3:30 PM	RECONCILIATION	Confessional
5:00 PM	VIGIL MASS	Church
7:00 PM	Posadas 2016	Benish Center

Please visit our website at www.stmargaretmary.com to find out what's happening in the parish. Along the bottom of the home page, you can link to our church calendar of events so that you can see all the events that are planned for our parish. If you need to schedule a meeting or if you are planning an event, check the calendar to see if the meeting space is available and then send your reservation request to stmmc@stmargaretmary.com.

Visite por favor nuestro sitio web en www.stmargaretmary.com. Usted podrá consultar nuestro calendario de actividades parroquiales en el enlace de la página principal. Usted puede ver allí todos los acontecimientos planeados en nuestra parroquia. Si usted planea una reunión o evento, puede verificar el calendario para ver si el espacio está disponible y enviar su solicitud al stmmc@stmargaretmary.com para hacer su reservación.

DIRECTORY

Call 512-473-6596 to request
Anointing of the Sick or Last Rites.

Llame al 512-473-6596 para pedir la
unción de los enfermos o extremaunción.

Office.....	(512) 259-3126
Cynthia Villarreal Receptionist.....	x102
Jean Hinojosa Receptionist.....	x103
Adrian De La Cruz, Jr. Parish Administrator.....	x104
Lilly Montes Secretary.....	x105
Georgina Savage Quinceañeras & Weddings.....	x106
Cindy Perez Bookkeeper.....	x108
Steve Tedesco Maintenance	(512) 450-8048

NEWCOMERS

If you are new to the area and have not registered with a parish, please pick up a registration form at the information center in the church Narthex or call the church office.

Matrimony: Call the church office to speak to a priest 6 months before setting wedding date.

Pastoral Council President:

Antonio Becerra, (C) 512-470-3215,
pastoralcouncil@stmargaretmary.com

Gabriel Project: (pregnancy counseling)
1-877-932-2732

Mother's Day Out:

Debbie Pulver, (W) 512-259-9050,
mothersdayout@stmargaretmary.com

Baptism, Mass Intentions &

Ministry to the sick: call 512-259-3126

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

For financial assistance call:
512-550-1581 (Eng) 512-259-1056 (Esp)

Ministry Coordinator

Chuck Ramos
cramos@stmargaretmary.com

Faith Formation:**Pk-5th Grade:**

Robin Yanez, *Director of RE*
robin@stmargaretmary.com
(W) 512-260-0162 (C) 512-296-0191

Middle School & High School:

Melanie Owens, *Director of YM*
melanie@stmargaretmary.com
(W) 512-259-3126 x110 (C) 830-203-0081

Annie Gott, *Asst Dir. of YM*
annie@stmargaretmary.com
(C) 512-784-4560

CHRISTMAS BREAK

There will be no Religious Education classes starting Sunday, December 18.

- RE classes for elementary grades will resume on Sunday, January 8.
- Faith Formation for Middle School will also resume on Sunday, Jan. 8.
- **All 2nd-year high school students are required to attend the Confirmation retreat scheduled for the weekend of Jan. 6-8.** High School Youth Group will resume on January 15, 2017. Please contact Melanie Owens as soon as possible at melanie@stmargaretmary.com or at 512-259-3126 for any questions.

EL PROGRAMA DE EDUCACION RELIGIOSA SE SUSPENDE DURANTE LOS DÍAS FESTIVOS DE LA NAVIDAD - No habrá clases de educación religiosa iniciando el domingo 18 de diciembre. Las clases de catequesis para los niños en grados PK al quinto reasumirán el domingo, 8 de enero. Las clases para los estudiantes de la middle school también reasumirán sus clases el domingo, 8 de enero. **Los alumnos que están en su 2º año de clases de confirmación, deben de asistir el Retiro de Confirmación que se llevara a cabo del 6 al 8 de enero.** Por favor comuníquese con Melanie Owens al melanie@stmargaretmary.com o 512-259-3126 lo más pronto posible si tiene alguna pregunta.

BOOK SALE!

Just in time for Christmas, Lighthouse Catholic Media will have two wonderful book titles available for sale at \$2 each: *Mother Theresa of Calcutta: A Personal Portrait* by Fr. Leo Maasburg, and *The Lamb's Supper* by Dr. Scott Hahn. Please stop by the table in the Narthex to purchase yours after Mass on Dec. 17-18.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

Come help us prepare the church for Christmas! We will be decorating on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 19th and 20th at 9AM, and we need many volunteers, including lots of strong men to help setup many Christmas trees, the nativity scene, hang garland and put on the finishing touches. Once again, we must depend on our awesome volunteers to help us complete this huge project. If you have some time to share during this incredibly busy season, please join us!

SE NECESITAN VOLUNATIOS PARA LA DECORACIÓN DE LA NAVIDAD

¡Venga ayudarnos a preparar nuestro templo para la Navidad! Comenzaremos a decorar el lunes y martes 19 y 20 de diciembre a las 9AM y se necesitan muchos voluntarios, especialmente hombres fuertes para ayudar a configurar los árboles de Navidad, la escena de la natividad, colgar guirnalda y poner los detalles finales. Una vez más tenemos que contar con nuestros voluntarios impresionantes para ayudarnos con este enorme proyecto. Si tiene tiempo para compartir durante esta temporada muy ocupada, por favor acompañenos!

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

This Sunday the readings tell us where to look for the Lord's coming: when the blind see and the lame walk; and when the dead are raised to life and the poor have good news preached to them. In our day the Lord's presence is seen when walls of oppression fall, when enemies seek avenues of fellowship and trust, when the poor and homeless find care and the forgotten are included. The Kingdom is among us, are we acting as Kingdom people?

Este domingo, las lecturas nos dicen dónde buscar la venida del Señor: cuando los ciegos vean, los cojos caminen; cuando los muertos sean levantados a la vida y a los pobres les sean anunciadas buenas noticias. En nuestros días, La presencia del Señor es vista cuando caen los muros de la opresión, cuando enemigos buscan avenidas de compañerismo y confianza, cuando los pobres y las personas sin hogar encuentran cuidados y los olvidados son incluidos. El Reino está entre nosotros ¿Actuamos como personas del Reino?

**END-OF-YEAR CHARITABLE DONATIONS WELCOME!**

As you prepare for your holiday giving, please consider making a donation to Saint Margaret Mary. For your donation to count towards your 2016 taxes, all gifts must be received by December 31st.

ESTAREMOS ENCANTADOS DE ACEPTAR SU DONACIÓN CARITATIVA!

Al preparar sus donaciones para el fin del año, por favor considere una donación a Santa Margarita María. Para declarar su donación a favor de sus impuestos de 2016, todas las ofrendas deben ser recibidas antes del 31 de diciembre.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Margaret Mary Church is a warm and diverse family unified by our Roman Catholic faith through the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Like the Apostles, we teach and proclaim the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ and through our ministries we serve the needs of the community in Sacrament, Word, and Deed.

THE 2016 SIMBANG GABI NOVENA - A FILIPINO CHRISTMAS TRADITION

The Filipino community of the Austin Diocese invites all to join us this Advent and celebrate a century's old Filipino tradition of Simbang Gabi, which translates to "dawn/morning Mass". Simbang Gabi is a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in response to the great gift of Christ. The nine Masses leading to Christmas is symbolic of our accompanying Mary as she awaits the birth of Jesus. Mass will be celebrated in various churches within the Austin Diocese from Dec. 13-21. Bishop Joe Vasquez will celebrate the ninth Mass on Dec. 21st at 7:00 pm at St. Albert the Great in Austin. Our parish will participate by hosting a Mass on Thursday, Dec. 15th at 7pm. All are invited to join us.

Dec. 13, 7 pm - St. Vincent de Paul, Austin
 Dec. 14, 7 pm - St. Louis, King of France, Austin
 Dec. 15, 7 pm - St. Margaret Mary, Cedar Park
 Dec. 16, 7 pm - St. Peter the Apostle, Austin
 Dec. 17, 7 pm - St. Catherine of Siena, Austin
 Dec. 18, 7 pm - St. Albert the Great, Austin
 Dec. 19, 7 pm - St. Paul, Austin
 Dec. 20, 7 pm - St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Pflugerville
 Dec. 21, 7 pm - St. Albert the Great, Austin

A GOSPEL REFLECTION

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." Jesus challenges those who had gone to the desert to see John the Baptist, the one preparing the way for the Lord. Where do we look for the Lord? Where is Jesus to be found today? He is making God's love present to the blind, the lame, lepers, the deaf, the dead and the poor. How are we preparing the way for the Kingdom? Rejoice, the Lord is near.

"Regocíjense en el Señor siempre; de nuevo, digo: ¡Regocíjense! El Señor está cerca". Jesús desafía a los que habían ido al desierto para ver a Juan el Bautista, el que preparaba el camino para el Señor. ¿Dónde buscamos al Señor? ¿Dónde encontrar a Jesús hoy en día? Él hace presente el amor de Dios a los ciegos, los cojos, los leprosos, los sordos, los muertos y los pobres. ¿Cómo estamos preparando el camino para el Reino? Regocíjense, el Señor está cerca.



AGING RELIGIOUS NEED YOUR HELP. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals and agencies usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide prescription medications, nursing care and more. Please be generous.

LOS RELIGIOSOS Y RELIGIOSAS ANCIANOS NECESITAN AYUDA. En los Estados Unidos hay hoy día más de 33,000 religiosas, religiosos y sacerdotes de órdenes religiosas ya ancianos. Ellos trabajaron sin descanso en escuelas, hospitales y agencias de servicio social, muchas veces con poco o ningún sueldo. Como resultado, muchas comunidades religiosas ahora carecen de fondos para su jubilación y cuidado geriátrico. Su donativo hoy al Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos ayuda con las recetas médicas, cuidados de enfermería y más. Por favor sean generosos.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES / CONFESIONES COMUNITARIAS

Other parishes in the area are offering varied Advent programs and extended reconciliation times. Please check individual parish websites or call the respective church office for more information. The Diocese website has compiled a complete listing of all Penance Services in the surrounding deaneries.

Otras parroquias en el área circundante están ofreciendo programas durante el Adviento variados y tiempos prolongados para la reconciliación. Por favor vea el sitio web de la diócesis o estas parroquias o llame la oficina de las parroquias para más información.

Dec. 14	12PM & 7PM	St. Albert the Great - English/Spanish
Dec. 15	6:30PM	St. Mary, Our Lady of the Lake
Dec. 18	4PM	Holy Vietnamese Martyrs - English/Vietnamese
Dec. 20	7PM	St. Thomas More

**DEC 17**

5:00 PM Tripp Boismier, Celeste Pena, Johnny and Kati Miri

DEC 18

8:30 AM Cade and Maricela Collins, Katarina and Natividad Munoz
 10:30 AM Danny Reich, Andrew Coyle, Luke Kerner, Devin Locher
 12:30 PM Camila Garcia, Amelia Navarro, Nataniel and Angela Rodriguez
 5:00 PM Sydney Knight, Jordyn Owens, Michael and Dillon Ferguson

Youth of the parish are encouraged to become Altar Servers. For information about serving, please contact Martha Collins at marthaicollins@yahoo.com.

Si usted tiene cualquier pregunta referente al ministerio de los monaguillos favor de hablar con Alejandra Worthington al 713-305-3622 o enviar correo electrónico asworthington@earthlink.net.

HAS YOUR ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER CHANGED? Please let us know of any recent changes by calling 512-259-3126 or email your updates to stmmc@stmargaretmary.com

¿HA CAMBIADO SU DIRECCIÓN O SU NÚMERO DE TELÉFONO? Por favor avísenos sobre los cambios recientes llamando 512-259-3126 o más bien envíe por correo electrónico su información al stmmc@stmargaretmary.com

Bulletin Deadline: Submit notices by noon on Friday at least two weeks prior to the Sunday in which you want the item to be published in the bulletin. Please submit bulletin notices and pulpit announcements to Lilly Montes at lmontes@stmargaretmary.com.

FECHA LIMITE PARA EL BOLETIN: Enviar avisos hasta el mediodía del viernes por lo menos dos semanas antes del domingo en el que desea que los eventos se anuncien en el boletín. Favor de enviar los anuncios para el boletín y los anuncios que se hacen los fines de semana al nuevo editor del boletín Lilly Montes en lmontes@stmargaretmary.com.

THE MOBILE FOOD PANTRY sponsored by the Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB) will **not** be at St. Margaret Mary distributing food on December 24th due to the holiday. The distribution has been rescheduled for **Friday, Dec. 30th** from 9:30 - 10:30 am.

DESPENSA MOVIL DE ALIMENTOS patrocinada por CAFB **no** estará en St. Margaret Mary para distribuir alimentos el 24 de diciembre debido a las vacaciones. La distribución de alimentos ha sido reprogramado para el **viernes, 30 de diciembre** de 9:30 a 10:30 am.

A FAMILY HOLIDAY TRADITION with family and friends! Don't miss this wonderful performance by the Williamson County Symphony Orchestra (WCSO) at a free holiday concert hosted by St. Margaret Mary on Friday, December 16 at 7:30 pm in the church. The WCSO will be performing many of your Christmas favorites to help you get into the spirit of the season!

UNA TRADICIÓN NAVIDEÑA con la familia y amistades! No se pierdan esta maravillosa actuación de la Orquesta Sinfónica del Condado de Williamson (WCSO) en un concierto gratuito en nuestra parroquia el viernes 16 de diciembre a las 7:30 pm en el templo. El WCSO se enorgullece en presentar varias piezas favoritas de la temporada Navideña.



2017 MEETING SPACE RESERVATIONS: We are in the process of preparing the events calendar for next year. **Please do not assume your schedule will continue.** To facilitate this reservation process, ministry leaders are asked to submit a list of dates, times and facility being requested via email to cramos@stmargaretmary.com. Additionally, due to the growth in our parish, all ministries are asked to only use the meeting space on the dates and times that have been reserved. If another date or time is needed, you must check with Chuck Ramos for availability, as the church facilities are frequently booked. Thank you for your cooperation.

RESERVE LAS FECHAS EN 2017: Estamos preparando el calendario de eventos para el próximo año. **Por favor no haga una suposición de que la programación continuara en el nuevo año.** Para facilitar esto se pide que los líderes del ministerio sometan una lista con las fechas, horas y lugares que se solicitan por correo electrónico a cramos@stmargaretmary.com. Adicionalmente, debido al crecimiento en nuestra parroquia, se urge que los ministerios solo utilicen los salones en la fecha y el tiempo que se reservó. Si necesita otra fecha o tiempo, usted debe verificar con Chuck Ramos para confirmar la disponibilidad, pues estos espacios se reservan con frecuencia. Gracias por su cooperación.

LAS POSADAS

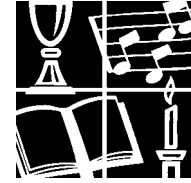
The traditional Mexican celebration called Las Posadas is an Advent retelling of the journey of Joseph and Mary on Christmas Eve. The re-enactment is led by Joseph and Mary and a guardian angel. The group travels in procession to seek shelter through song. The household that will host the evening's festivities are prearranged. Some of the participants sing along with pilgrims, asking the household for lodging. Others play the role of an innkeeper and reject them. Finally, the household recognizes Mary and Joseph and welcomes them. A posada concludes with festivities of a piñata, songs and food.

Las Posadas are held on nine nights that traditionally begin December 16 and end on Christmas Eve. The word "posada" means lodging or shelter in Spanish. Our parish ministries will continue this tradition with the Posadas starting on Thursday, December 15 and continuing through Friday, December 23. A schedule is posted on the parish events calendar or you may call the office for more information.

LAS POSADAS.

La tradicional celebración Mexicana llamada Las Posadas es un recuento durante el Adviento de la marcha de José y María en la Nochebuena. La representación es dirigida por José y María y un ángel de la guarda. El grupo recorre en procesión a buscar refugio a través del canto. El hogar anfitrión que recibe las festividades de la noche esta preestablecido. Algunos de los participantes cantan junto con los peregrinos pidiendo alojamiento. Otros toman el papel del posadero y los rechaza. Por último, el hogar reconoce a María y José y les da la bienvenida. Una posada concluye con las festividades de una piñata, villancicos y refrigerios. Las Posadas se celebran nueve noches que tradicionalmente comienzan el 16 de diciembre y se clausuran en la Nochebuena.

Nuestros ministerios parroquiales continúan esta tradición de las Posadas que iniciaran el jueves 15 de diciembre y continúan hasta el viernes 23 de diciembre. Para obtener información más detallada por favor llame a la oficina.



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“A child is loved because he is one's child: not because he is beautiful, or because he is like this or like that... Not because he thinks as I do, or embodies my dreams. A child is a child: a life generated by us but intended for him, for his good, for the good of the family, of society, of mankind as a whole.”

— Pope Francis, General Audience,

February 11, 2015.

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“Se ama a un hijo porque es hijo, no porque es hermoso o porque es de una o de otra manera... No porque piensa como yo o encarna mis deseos. Un hijo es un hijo: una vida engendrada por nosotros, pero destinada a él, a su bien, al bien de la familia, de la sociedad, de toda la humanidad”.

— Papa Francisco, Audiencia General, 11 de febrero de 2015

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Con la debida licencia.



ANNUAL LADIES' RETREAT

Save the date for the annual St. Margaret Mary Ladies Retreat to be held at Cedarbrake Retreat Center in Belton on Jan 27-29, 2017. Retreat Master Cheryl Maxwell will discuss the topic for the weekend, “A Renewed Me”. Contact Margaret Huntley at maggiefh@yahoo.com or at 512-563-2337 for more information, or to download a registration form, visit <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bw8KfyR2-rBVOEZSV01Vek1ZLWM/view>.