



Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception

701 Church St., Brenham, TX 77833

www.brenhamcatholic.org

(979) 836-4441

MASS TIMES

Monday	5:30pm
Tuesday	12:15 pm
Wednesday	12:15 pm
Thursday	12:15 pm
Friday	5:30 pm
Sunday Mass	
Saturday Vigil	5:00 pm
	7:00pm (Español)
Sunday	8:00 am
	10:30 am
	12:30 pm (Español)

Extraordinary Form Latin

4:00 pm

At Pax Christi Retreat Center - 9300 Hwy
105, Brenham, TX 77833

CONFESSIONS

Weekdays, 30 minutes before Mass.
Saturdays: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

CLERGY

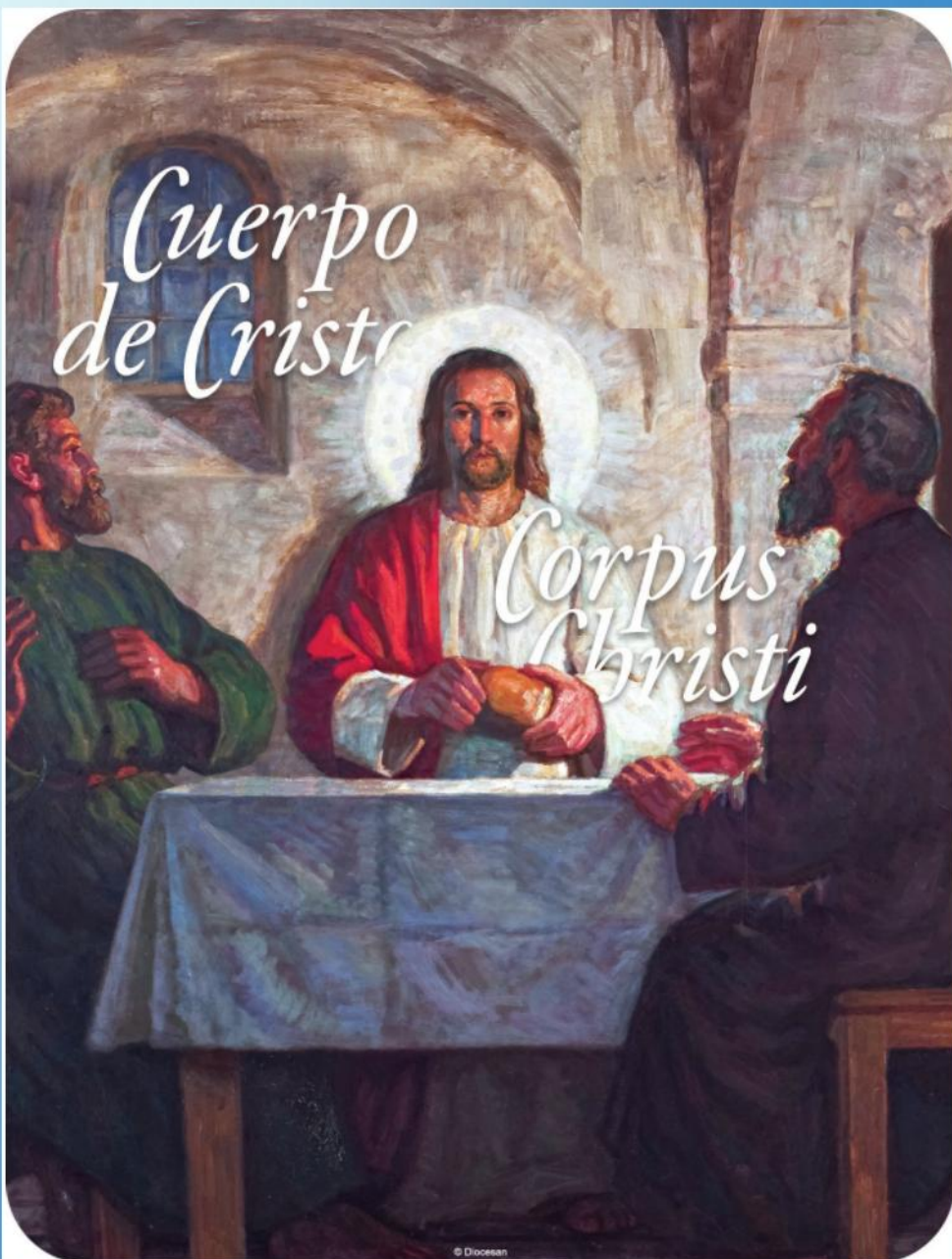
Fr. Everardo Cazares - Pastor
Fr. Juan Jose Diaz, DJ—Parochial Vicar
Deacon Steve Medina
Deacon Allen Prescott
Deacon John Pelletier
Deacon Matthew Jewell

OFFICE HOURS

Monday CLOSED
Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am—5:00 pm

**Emergencies after office hours phone
number:**

(979) 451-9824



*I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the
Lord Psalm 116*

Levantaré el cáliz de la salvación Salmo 116

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

HORARIO DE MISAS E INTENCIONES

June 3-June 9, 2024

Monday/lunes—June 3, 5:30 pm

† Terry Cuny

Tuesday/martes—June 4, 12:15pm

† David Banisk (sent off)

† Robert Murski (sent off)

Wednesday/miercoles—June 5, 12:15pm

† Gilbert Faldyn (sent off)

† Bill & Barbara Paskie (sent off)

† Thomastan & Lo Nguyen (sent off)

Thursday/jueves - June 6, 12:15 pm

Alan Velazquez on his birthday

† Clara Wesneski (sent off)

Friday/Viernes - June 7, 5:30pm

† Alphonse Kubeczka

† Leon & Curttis Konieczny (sent off)

7:00 pm—En Español / In Spanish

†

Saturday/sábado—June 8, 5:00 pm

† Deacon Bill Januszewski

7:00 pm—En Español / In Spanish

Pro Populo

Sunday/Domingo – June 2, 8:00 am.

† Billy Nowak, Sr.

10:30 a.m.

Andrea Fries on her birthday

12:30 p.m. - En Español/In Spanish

† Manuel Medina

4:00 p.m. - Latin @ Pax Christi Retreat Center

† Jose Martin Velazquez Hernandez

June Altar care ladies are:

Jane Goehring*

Veronica Kubeczka

Loretta Haren

Dorothy Klusmeyer

If you would like to help with the Altar Cleaning, please contact the church office.



Si le gustaria ayudar con la limpieza del altar, por favor llame a la oficina.

COLLECTION/COLECTA

Electronic giving - if you prefer to give electronically, there is a link at www.brenhamcatholic.org

Donación electrónica—para hacer su contribución automáticamente visitar www.brenhamcatholic.org

May 25-26

Weekly budgeted expenses.....\$18,475.00

Weekend collection\$15,710.40

Thank you for your generosity! This is how we are doing:

**Collection Report
July 2023-June 2024**

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	January	February	To Date
Offertory	\$228,496	\$261,072	\$98,820	\$81,404	\$669,792
Expenses	\$343,858	\$275,252	\$95,521	\$82,429	\$797,060
	-\$115,362	-\$14,180	\$3,299	-\$1,025	-\$127,268

Offertory is Sunday and Holy Day collection, does not include fundraising, gifts, bequest, Encountering Christ Campaign, or contributions from our ministries.



St. Mary's Prayer Line

*If you or a loved one needs prayers, call, text, or email:
Shirley Rowan at 979-421-3332 or Shirley.rowan@att.net*

If you would like to become a Prayer Warrior please contact Shirley Rowan.

Linea de Oración de St. Mary's

Si usted o un ser querido necesita oraciones, llame, mande un mensaje de texto o correo electrónico:

Shirley Rowan al 979-421-3332 ó

Shirley.rowan@att.net

Si usted gusta ser un Guerrero de oración Por favor contacte a Shirley Rowan.

CORPUS CHRISTI



Calendar

June



Holy Hour for Vocations

June 6, 2024

Holy Hour for Vocations



Deacon Matthew Ordination Reception



CRHP Spanish Men Retreat

June 16, 2024

Deacon Matthew Ordination Reception

June 28-30

CRHP Spanish Men Retreat

July



Holy Hour for Vocations



Marvelous Mystery VBS

July 4, 2024

Holy Hour for Vocations

July 22-25, 2024

Marvelous Mystery VBS

This week on St. Mary's campus. June 3 thru June 9, 2024

06/3 Monday

8:00am Wellness Ministry Walk in the Gym
5:00pm Confessions, Church
5:30pm Mass, Church
6:00pm Jesus, Maria y Jose Community Meeting, Cornerstone RM 203
7:00pm Seguidoras de Jesus Community Meeting, RE Room 103
7:00 pm Unidos en Cristo Community Meeting, Providence Room 102
7:00pm Amor Hacia Cristo Small Community Meeting, RE Room 202

06/4 Tuesday

8:00am Wellness Ministry Walk in the Gym
11:45 am Confessions, Church
12:15pm Mass, Church
6:00pm PCCW Meeting, KofC Hall
6:30pm Choir Practice, Church
7:00pm Discipulos de Jesus Community Meeting, Cornerstone Room 203

06/5 Wednesday

8:00am Wellness Ministry Walk in the Gym
10:30am Staff Meeting, Office Choir/Meeting Room
11:45 am Confessions, Church
12:15 pm Mass, Church
5:30pm Choir Practice, Choir
6:00pm WCJ Volleyball Practice, Gym
7:00pm Spanish Choir Practice, Church

06/6 Thursday

8:00am Wellness Ministry Walk in the Gym
10:00am Bella Brigata, PAC Small Meeting Room
11:45am Confessions, Church
12:15pm Mass, Church
6:00pm Holy Hour for Vocations, Church

06/7 Friday

12:10pm Rosary, Church
5:00pm Confessions, Church
5:30pm Mass, Church
7:00pm Spanish Healing Mass

06/8 Saturday

6:00 am Men's Prayer Group, Church
7:00am TMIY Men's Group, PAC Small Meeting Room
3:30pm Confessions, Church
5:00pm CRHP Meeting, Cornerstone RM 203
5:00pm English Mass
7:00pm Spanish Mass

06/9 Sunday

8:00am English Mass, Church
10:30am English Mass, Church
12:30pm Spanish Mass, Church,
3:00pm PCCW Social, KofC Hall
4:00pm Latin Mass, Pax Christi Retreat Center

Corpus Christi

We celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi, which is nothing other than celebrating the love that God has for us in such a way that He, being the eternal God, wanted to incarnate to live among us. And living among us, He even wanted to die for us, giving us His life in an incredible way so that all of us who want to receive Him can do so. When I meditate on the Gospel of John, in the introduction to the Last Supper, the evangelist tells us that Jesus, having loved His own, decided to love them to the extreme. Surely many, when reading this text, think that the extreme refers to the crucifixion, but no; the evangelist marks it as the introduction to the Last Supper. The extreme love of Jesus is giving us His body and His blood in a sacramental way in every Eucharist, because in every Eucharist is where the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross is renewed and made present, the Paschal sacrifice, where He even resurrects and grants the Holy Spirit to His disciples. In every Eucharist, we are witnesses of this, that God loves us, He became one like us, He gave Himself completely to us. He gives us His body, His blood, His Spirit so that one day you and I can be like Him.

I remember once a child said to me: "How is it possible that Jesus becomes bread?" The answer I gave was very simple, but it made me think for a long time: "It is possible thanks to the invocation of the Holy Spirit and because that is the will of God." Jesus said it very clearly: "Do this in memory of me." And how is it possible that Jesus becomes bread? Well, in the same way that it was possible for this eternal and almighty God to become flesh in the virginal womb of Mary.

Surely, today, if you and I had the opportunity to go to Jerusalem, where Jesus offers His body and His blood on the cross as a sacrifice to atone for our sins and reconcile us with God, surely, if you and I were there knowing what we know today, we would not let a single drop of His blood be shed in vain. There, at Calvary, we would certainly be there with the best attitude of worship, respect, and love, caring for Jesus as much as we could and offering all our devotion. In the same way, I think that when the mystery of the Eucharist is fully revealed to us and we can understand more fully the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharistic species, then surely we would wish we had never missed an opportunity to kneel before the Tabernacle and approach with the



greatest devotion to receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Here on earth, it is important to be able to receive Him with a willing heart.

Celebrating this feast of Corpus Christi is nothing other than celebrating the love that God has for us. Attending the Eucharist and receiving this sacrament with all that it implies, the desire and the attitude to seek God above all else, is in itself an anticipation of the wedding banquet of the Lamb. I think the best way to celebrate this day is by preparing our hearts to have an encounter with Him, but not as a civil festivity that is celebrated each year as a memory, but as a revival that helps us to live our faith in Jesus present in the Eucharist in every Mass we celebrate. Why did Jesus become bread? For the same reason that He became flesh: out of love for you and me.

Fr. Everardo Cázares

Corpus Christi

Celebramos la Solemnidad de Corpus Christi, que no es otra cosa que celebrar el amor que Dios nos tiene de tal manera que Él, siendo el Dios eterno, ha querido encarnarse para vivir entre nosotros. Y viviendo entre nosotros, ha querido incluso morir por nosotros, dándonos su vida de una manera increíble para que todos los que queramos recibirlo podamos hacerlo. Cuando medito en el evangelio de San Juan, en la introducción a la última cena, el evangelista nos dice que Jesús, habiendo amado a los suyos, decidió amarlos hasta el extremo. Seguramente muchos, al leer este texto, piensan que el extremo se refiere a la crucifixión, pero no; el evangelista lo marca como la introducción a la última cena. El amor extremo de Jesús es darnos su cuerpo y su sangre de una manera sacramental en cada Eucaristía, porque en cada Eucaristía es donde se renueva y se actualiza el sacrificio de Jesús en la cruz, el sacrificio pascual, donde incluso Él resucita y concede el Espíritu Santo a sus discípulos. En cada Eucaristía, nosotros somos testigos de que Dios nos ama, se hizo uno con nosotros, se entregó totalmente a nosotros. Nos da su Cuerpo, su Sangre, su Espíritu para que un día tú y yo podamos ser como Él.

Recuerdo que en una ocasión un niño me dijo: "¿Cómo es posible que Jesús se convierta en pan?" La respuesta que yo di fue muy simple, pero me dejó pensando por mucho tiempo: "Es posible gracias a la invocación del Espíritu Santo y a que esa es la voluntad de Dios." Jesús lo dijo muy claro: "Hagan esto en memoria mía." Y, ¿cómo es posible que Jesús se haga pan? Pues, de la misma manera en que fue posible que este Dios eterno y todopoderoso se hiciera carne en el vientre virginal de María.

Seguramente, hoy tú y yo, si tuviéramos la oportunidad de ir a Jerusalén, donde Jesús ofrece su Cuerpo y su Sangre en la cruz como sacrificio para reparar nuestros pecados y reconciliarnos con Dios, seguramente, si tú y yo estuviéramos allí sabiendo lo que sabemos hoy, no dejaríamos que se derramara ni una gota de su Sangre en vano. Allí, en el Calvario, estaríamos seguramente con la mejor actitud de adoración, de respeto, de amor, cuidando lo más que pudiéramos a Jesús y ofreciendo toda nuestra



devoción. De la misma manera, pienso que cuando se nos revele completamente el misterio de la Eucaristía y podamos entender con mayor plenitud la presencia real de Jesús en las especies eucarísticas, entonces seguramente desearíamos no haber perdido ni una oportunidad de doblar nuestras rodillas delante del Sagrario y de acercarnos con la mejor devoción para recibir a Jesús en la Eucaristía. Aquí en la tierra es importante poder recibirlo con un corazón dispuesto.

Celebrar esta solemnidad de Corpus Christi no es otra cosa que celebrar el amor que Dios nos tiene. Asistir a la Eucaristía y recibir este sacramento con todo lo que implica, el deseo y la actitud de buscar a Dios por encima de todo, ya es en sí una anticipación al banquete de las bodas del Cordero. Pienso que la mejor forma de celebrar este día es precisamente preparando nuestro corazón para tener un encuentro con Él, pero que no sea como una fiesta civil que se celebra cada año como un recuerdo, sino que sea un reavivamiento que nos ayude a vivir en plenitud nuestra fe en Jesús presente en la Eucaristía en cada misa que celebremos. ¿Por qué Jesús se hizo pan? Por la misma razón por la que se hizo carne: por amor a ti y a mí.

Jr. Everardo Cázares

Perpetual Adoration

Spend time with the Blessed Sacrament 24/7

“The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth. Each moment that you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with him and make your soul everlasting more glorious and beautiful in Heaven, and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth.

“Blessed Teresa of Calcutta”

For more information or to sign up please contact the office at 979-836-4441

Adoración Perpetua

Pasa tiempo con el Santísimo Sacramento 24/7

El tiempo que pasas con Jesús en el Santísimo Sacramento es el mejor tiempo que pasarás en la tierra. Cada momento que pases con Jesús profundizará tu unión con él y hará que tu alma sea eternamente más gloriosa y hermosa en el Cielo, y ayudará a lograr la paz eterna en la tierra.

“Santa Teresa de Calcutta”

Para mas información o para registrarse por favor comuníquese con la oficina al 979-836-4441

Mandatory Reporting of Abuse

Texas State law **requires** any adult citizen to report suspicions of abuse and-or neglect to the police or to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. If church personnel are involved, also notify the church and/or use the Notice of Concern so the appropriate steps can be taken to protect and to heal.

Child Protective Services (CPS) txacusehotline.org or
1-800-252-5400

Diocese of Austin austindiocese.org/report-abuse or
(512) 949-2447

Reporte Obligatorio de Abuso

La ley del estado de Texas requiere que cualquier ciudadano adulto informe sobre sospechas de abuso y/o negligencia a la policía o al Departamento de Servicios Familiares y de protección de Texas.

Si el personal de la Iglesia esta involucrado, también notifique a la iglesia y/o use el Aviso de Preocupación para que se puedan tomar los pasos correspondientes para proteger y sanar.

Servicios de Protección Infantil (CPS) txacusehotline.org or
1-800-252-5400

Diócesis de Austin austindiocese.org/report-abuse or
(512) 949-2447

Pastoral Council

If you have any comments, questions or concerns that you would like the Pastoral Council to go over during our monthly meetings, please send them to our email pastoralcouncil@brenhamcatholic.org

We will be monitoring the email constantly!

Consejo Pastoral

Si tiene alguna pregunta, comentario o preocupación que le gustaría que se comentara en nuestras reuniones mensuales del consejo pastoral por favor mándelas a nuestro correo electrónico

Pastoralcouncil@brenhamcatholic.org

Estaremos checando el correo constantemente



You're Invited to St. Mary's Women's Ministry!

Scripture, Saints, & Support
Bella Brigata ~Summer~

Thursdays, May 30 and June 6,
10-11:30am, PAC Small Meeting Room
St. Teresa of Avila (dvd discussions)

June 13, 10-11:30am,
PAC Small Meeting Room
Fr. Everardo Q&A

July 11 - Sept. 19, 10-11:30am,
PAC Small Meeting Room
Athirst for the Spirit: Biblical Wisdom for Desert Times (no purchase)

*Inspired by St. Catherine of Siena: "Love follows Knowledge"
"...make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, knowledge, ...and brotherly affection with love." (II Peter 1:5-8)*

(Coming: Surprise a Soul, Emmaus Academy, Christmas Brunch)
Coffee & Cookies

(Questions: call or text Kathy 713.501.0663)



St. Teresa of Calcutta Society helps those in need.
 For assistance phone **979-525-0090**.
 Calls remain confidential.

La Sociedad de Santa Teresa De Calcutta ayuda a esos en necesidad. Para recibir ayuda llame al **979-525-0090**.
 Las llamadas se mantienen confidenciales.

“Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.” - St. Teresa of Calcutta
“No siempre podemos hacer grandes cosas, pero sí podemos hacer cosas pequeñas con gran amor.” - Santa Teresa de Calcutta

Congratulations to the newest member of the Body of Christ / Felicidades a los nuevos miembros del Cuerpo de Cristo



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

William Alexander Dimas

Who received the sacrament of Baptism on May 25, 2024
 Quien recibió el Sacramento del Bautismo el día 25 de Mayo del 2024

We also congratulate her parents and godparents.

También felicitamos a sus padres y padrinos.

THE PERFECT GIFT FOR DAD

With Father's Day arriving soon, what better gift to give this loved one, whether living or deceased, than a spiritual bouquet of prayers for them... and you too.

Clerical Endowment Fund cards offer a spiritual bouquet of Masses and daily prayers by the Bishop and seminarians for the enrolled as well as the benefactor. Funds raised from the sale of the cards are loaned to Parishes and the interest is given to the Bishop to aid in the education of seminarians.



The ladies of the PCCW will be available the weekend of **June 8-9** to take enrollments as you leave Mass.

EL REGALO PERFECTO PARA PAPÁ

Con la proximidad del Día del Padre, que mejor regalo que ofrecer al ser amado, ya sea en vida o difunto, que un ramillete de oraciones para ellos...y para ustedes también. Las tarjetas del Fondo de Beneficencia Clerical ofrecen un ramillete espiritual de Misas y oraciones diarias del Obispo y los seminaristas, tanto para quien hace el registro, como para el benefactor. Los fondos recaudados de la venta de las tarjetas se prestan a las parroquias y el interés se da al obispo para ayudar en la educación de los seminaristas.

Las señoras del PCCW van a estar aceptando donativos para inscribir a sus seres queridos en el Fondo de Donaciones Clericales (CEF) después de todas las Misas el fin de semana de **8 y 9 de Junio** después de todas las Misas.

DO YOU PRAY the ROSARY daily?

Why not use this podcast to lead you?

Dr. Mike Scherschligt leads daily rosary meditations at

<https://www.dailyrosarymeditations.com/>

During **JUNE**, a good part of these podcasts will be devoted to meditations and teaching in the most important moral principles to have a well formed conscience.

VOTE WITH A RIGHT CONSCIENCE!



Altar Flowers this weekend are:

In appreciation for blessings received on our 55th Wedding Anniversary. Donated by John & Darlene Yackey

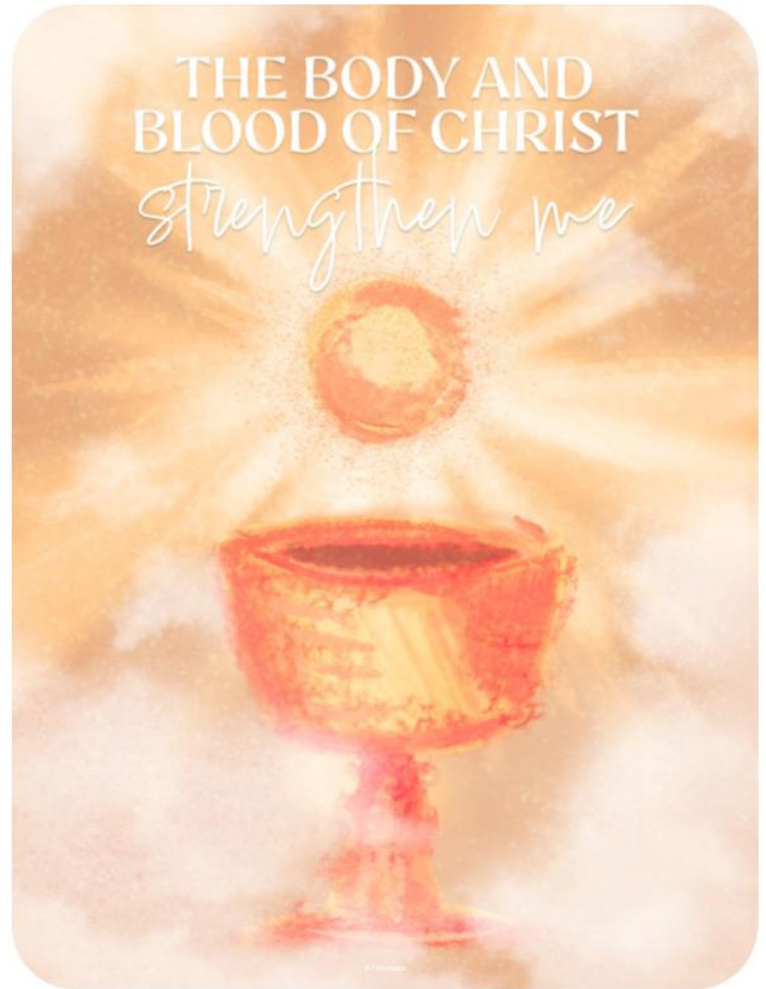
Las Flores de Altar este fin de semana son:

En apreciación por las bendiciones recibidas en nuestro 55 aniversario de bodas. Donadas por John & Darlene Yackey.



Come pray the Rosary with us every Friday at 12:10 pm in the Church.

Acompañenos a rezar el Rosario en inglés todos los viernes a las 12:10 pm en la Iglesia.



WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

The staff and parishioners offer their deepest and heartfelt condolences to the family of **Linda "Lynne" Katherine Straka**. May she rest in eternal peace in the arms of God.

El personal y los feligreses ofrecen sus más sinceras condolencias a la familia de **Linda "Lynne" Katherine Straka**. Que descanse en paz eterna en los brazos de Dios.



NEXT AVAILABLE
BAPTISMS/
SIGUIENTES
BAUTIZOS
DISPONIBLES

July 6 -
English—10:00 a.m.

6 de Julio -
Español—11:00 a.m.

Next available class/
Siguiente clase disponible

Tuesday, June 18- English
6:30 p.m.
Jueves, 20 de Junio - Español
6:00 p.m.

For more information and requirements, please call the church office.

Para mas información y obtener los requisitos, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial

Please call Church Office at (979) 836-4441 to register for classes and baptisms





BAPTISMS

All forms and required paperwork should be turned in a week before the baptism.

Application can be picked up at Parish office or downloaded from our website.

Classes are offered monthly.

Please contact the Parish office to register or for more information.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish office at least six months prior to desired date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK/COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please contact the Parish office.

QUINCEANERAS

Please contact the Parish office at least 4 months prior to desired date.

Have the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and be enrolled in the Confirmation program.

Quinceanera must participate in a Quinceanera's retreat

BAUTISMOS

Todos los formularios y el papeleo requerido deben entregarse una semana antes del bautismo.

La solicitud puede recogerse en la oficina parroquial o descargarse de nuestro sitio web.

Las clases son ofrecidas mensualmente.

Comuníquese a la oficina parroquial para registrarse o para más información.

MATRIMONIO

Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial al menos seis meses antes de la fecha deseada.

UNCIÓN DE LOS ENFERMOS/COMUNIÓN A LOS ENFERMOS

Por favor, póngase en contacto con la oficina parroquial

QUINCEAÑERAS

Contacte a la oficina Parroquial al menos 4 meses antes de la fecha deseada. Tener los Sacramentos de Bautizo, Primera Comunión y estar inscrita en el programa de Confirmación.

La quinceañera debe participar en un retiro para Quinceañeras



Men of St. Mary's, Friends of Joseph

The men of St. Mary's are invited to join us on our 30-day journey with St. Joseph through daily reflections sent via email and discussions over breakfast in the PAC on Saturdays starting May 4th from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. This Spiritual Journey will take us into the depths of prayer with this powerful saint.

Come join us for encouragement as we seek to know St. Joseph and challenge one another to be godly men, husbands, and fathers like him.

Sign up for daily devotions sent via email:

<https://stjosephnova.com/opt-in>



Contact Yaseen Owen at 832-686-5984 for information.

**REGISTRATION
OPEN!**



CCE Registration is now open!

Registration Packets can be found in the back of the Church by the restrooms. Pick up one per family depending on your child's grade and turn it in to the office. Deadline to turn in registration is August 8th.

If you have any questions or concerns please call the Church office at 979-836-4441 and talk to Sister Teresa Diaz.

¡Las inscripciones para el Catecismo ya comenzarán! Los paquetes de inscripción se pueden encontrar en la parte trasera de la Iglesia, junto a los baños. Tome uno por familia según el grado de su(s) hijo(s) y entréguelo a la oficina. La fecha límite para entregar la inscripción es el 8 de agosto.

Si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud, llame a la oficina de la Iglesia al 979-836-4441 y hable con la Hermana Teresa Díaz.



DEACON'S CORNER

O Sacrament Most Holy O Sacrament Divine all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine!
Today we celebrate the feast of the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

Christ is **really present** body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist under the **appearance** of bread and wine. It is the source and summit of our faith, a deepening of our union with God and a pledge of eternal life. Since the Eucharist is Jesus, it is worshipped and adored at mass, in our adoration chapel, Corpus Christi processions, benediction etc.

The Eucharist so important, so magnificent that God preannounced and prefigured it in the Old Testament, e.g., the Jewish rituals of **Passover**, the **covenant renewal in the desert after escaping from Egypt** (first reading), and the Jewish **Day of Atonement** (second reading). How so?

At the **Day of Atonement**, Yom Kippur, the Jewish High Priest would sprinkle animal blood to ritually cleanse the people of their sins. Our sins are forgiven through the blood of Jesus consecrated on our altars. In our first reading God seals his covenant with the Hebrews in the desert by Moses sacrificing an animal and sprinkling its blood on an altar and the people saying **"This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you"** At the Last Supper Jesus the new Moses says **"this is my blood of the covenant, the cup of the new covenant in my blood."**

Most scholars posit that the Last Supper was a Passover seder meal with lamb, bread and wine. A memorial of the Hebrew's liberation from bondage in Egypt through the blood of the Passover lamb and the remembrance of how God fed his people with manna, the bread from heaven in the desert. Jesus taught (Jn 6) that **he**, not the **manna** was the true bread from heaven and that his flesh was the food and his blood the drink that leads to everlasting life. Jesus fulfills this at the Last supper when He changes the Passover bread and wine into His Body and Blood. Jesus is our Passover Lamb. The Lamb of God whose blood saves us of our sins!

The word Eucharist means thanksgiving. Let us give thanks to God for this great gift.

Deacon John

RINCON DEL DIACONO

¡Oh Sacramento Santísimo! ¡Oh Sacramento Divino, toda alabanza y toda acción de gracias sean Tuyas en todo momento!
Hoy celebramos la fiesta del cuerpo y sangre de Jesucristo en la Eucaristía.

Cristo está **realmente presente** en cuerpo, sangre, alma y divinidad en la Eucaristía bajo la **aparición** del pan y del vino. Es la fuente y cumbre de nuestra fe, profundización de nuestra unión con Dios y prenda de vida eterna. Puesto que la Eucaristía es Jesús, es venerado y adorado en misa, en nuestra capilla de adoración, procesiones de Corpus Christi, bendición etc.

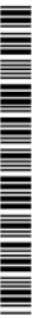
La Eucaristía es tan importante, tan magnífica, que Dios la preanunció y la prefiguró en el Antiguo Testamento, por ejemplo, los rituales judíos de la **Pascua**, la **renovación de la alianza en el desierto después de escapar de Egipto** (primera lectura) y el **Día de la Expiación** (segunda lectura). ¿Cómo es eso?

En el **Día de la Expiación**, Yom Kipur, el Sumo Sacerdote judío rociaba sangre de animales para limpiar ritualmente al pueblo de sus pecados. Nuestros pecados son perdonados mediante la sangre de Jesús consagrada en nuestros altares. En nuestra primera lectura Dios sella su pacto con los hebreos en el desierto cuando Moisés sacrificó un animal y roció su sangre sobre un altar y la gente diciendo **"Esta es la sangre del pacto que el Señor ha hecho con vosotros"** En la Última Cena Jesús el nuevo Moisés dice **"esta es mi sangre del pacto, el caliz del nuevo pacto en mi sangre"**.

La mayoría de los eruditos postulan que la Última Cena fue una comida del Seder de Pesaj con cordero, pan y vino. Un memorial de la liberación del hebreo de la esclavitud en Egipto a través de la sangre del cordero pascual y el recuerdo de cómo Dios alimentó a su pueblo con maná, el pan del cielo en el desierto. Jesús enseñó (Jn 6) que **él**, no el **maná**, era el verdadero pan del cielo y que su carne era el alimento y su sangre la bebida que lleva a la vida eterna. Jesús cumple esto en la Última Cena cuando transforma el pan y el vino de la Pascua en Su Cuerpo y Sangre. Jesús es nuestro Cordero Pascual. ¡El Cordero de Dios cuya sangre nos salva de nuestros pecados!

La palabra Eucaristía significa acción de gracias. Demos gracias a Dios por este gran regalo.

Díacono John



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