



Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception

701 Church St., Brenham, TX 77833

www.brenhamcatholic.org

(979) 836-4441

MASS TIMES

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

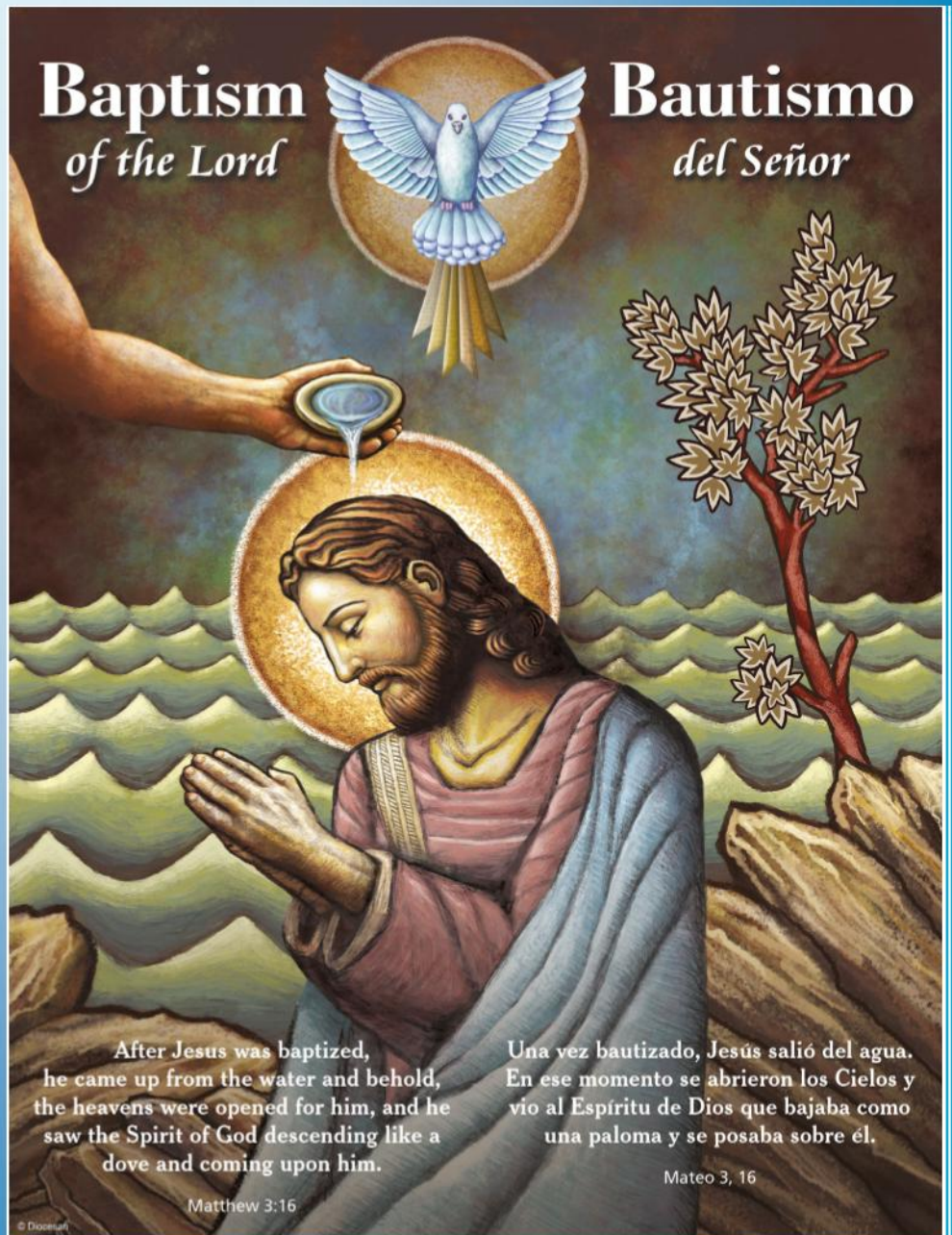
Fr. Everardo Cazares - Pastor
 Fr. Edwin Kagoo—Parochial Vicar
 Deacon Steve Medina
 Deacon Allen Prescott
 Deacon John Pelletier

OFFICE HOURS

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

**Emergencies after office hours phone
 number:**

(979) 451-9824



After Jesus was baptized,
 he came up from the water and behold,
 the heavens were opened for him, and he
 saw the Spirit of God descending like a
 dove and coming upon him.

Matthew 3:16

Una vez bautizado, Jesús salió del agua.
 En ese momento se abrieron los Cielos y
 vio al Espíritu de Dios que bajaba como
 una paloma y se posaba sobre él.

Mateo 3, 16

The Lord will bless his people with peace. Psalm 29
El Señor bendice a su pueblo con la paz. Salmo 29

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS
HORARIO DE MISAS E INTENCIONES
 January 14—January 19, 2025

Tuesday/martes—January 14, 12:15pm
 † John Bolcerek
 Well-being of David & Peggy Fries Family (sent off)

Wednesday/miercoles—January 15, 12:15pm
 † Nancy Manfre
 † Eleanor Howard, Vita & Don Steen (sent off)

Thursday/jueves - January 16, 12:15pm
 † Dorothea Tucker
 † Raymond Kenjura (sent off)

Friday/Viernes - January 17, 5:30pm
 † Louise Bolcerek
 † Leon & Curtis Konieczny (sent off)

Saturday/sábado—January 18, 5:00 pm
 Well-being of Mattie Glueck
7:00 pm—En Español / In Spanish
 † Melchora Villa

Sunday/Domingo – January 19, 8:00 am.
 † Hilarion Romero Espinos
 † Bennie & Clara Wesneski (sent off)

10:30 a.m.
 Pro Populo

12:30 p.m. - En Español/In Spanish
 Movimiento Familiar Cristiano

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

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

January 4-5

Weekly budgeted expenses.....	\$18,475.00
Weekend collection	\$25,312.20
Purple Bag Collection.....	\$3,621.19
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$5,121.80

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

John Loren Folkerts

Who received the sacrament of Baptism on January 3, 2025

Quien recibio el Sacramento del Bautismo el dia 3 de Enero del 2024

We also congratulate their parents and godparents.

Tambien felicitamos a sus padres y padrinos.



Preparación Pre-Matrimonial

Las platicas requeridas para la preparación matrimonial comenzaran este Febrero. Para mas información y para inscribirse a las platicas favor de comunicarse a la oficina parroquial para obtener los requisitos al 979-836-4441 de martes a viernes de 8am—5pm.

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.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Calendar

January 2025



Vocations Fair



January 29, 2025

Vocations Fair

February 2025



Holy Hour for Vocations



Cena/Conferencia para Matrimonios

February 6, 2025

Holy Hour for Vocations

February 22, 2025

Cena/Conferencia para Matrimonios



Women's Lenten Program

February 28, 2025

Women's Lenten Program

This week on St. Mary's campus. January 13 thru January 19, 2025

01/13 Monday

8:00am Walk in the PAC, Gym
6:00pm WCJ Volleyball, Gym
6:00pm St. Teresa of Calcutta Epiphany Party, PAC Large Meeting Room
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

01/14 Tuesday

8:00am Walk in the PAC, Gym
11:00am Bible Study, PAC Small Meeting Room
11:45am Confessions, Church
12:15pm Mass, Church
5:00pm WCJ Volleyball, PAC Gym
6:00pm Choir Practice, Church
7:00pm Seguidores de Jesus Community Meeting, CR Meeting Room

01/15 Wednesday

8:00am Walk in the PAC, Gym
11:45am Confessions, Church
12:15pm Mass, Church
4:15pm Religious Education, All Campus
5:30pm Choir, Church
6:00pm First Communion Meeting, PAC Gym
7:00pm Spanish Choir, Church

01/16 Thursday

8:00am Walk in the PAC, Gym
10:00am Staff Meeting, Office Meeting Room
10:00am Bella Brigata, PAC Large Meeting Room
11:45am Confessions, Church
12:15pm Mass, Church
5:00pm WCJ Volleyball, Gym
6:00pm Spanish Baptismal Class, RE AV Room
6:00pm RCIA, CR Room 202
7:00pm Amor Hacia Cristo Small Community Meeting, RE Room 202

01/17 Friday

12:10pm Rosary, Church
5:00pm Confessions, Church
5:30pm Mass, Church
7:00pm Evangelization Groups Meeting, RE AV Room

01/18 Saturday

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

01/19 Sunday

8:00am English Mass, Church
9:15am Religious Education, All Campus
10:30am English Mass, Church
10:30am Spanish RCIA, RE Room 106
12:00pm WCJ Volleyball, Gym
12:30pm Spanish Mass, Church
2:00pm Evangelization Retreat Follow up, RE Av Room
4:00pm Latin Mass, Pax Christi Retreat Center



The possible presiding priest for this Sunday's masses is:

Saturday Vigil	5:00pm Fr. Edwin
	7:00pm Fr. Everardo
Sunday	8:00am Fr. Edwin
	10:30am Fr. Everardo
	12:30pm Fr. Everardo
	4:00pm Fr. Everardo



Ordinary Time: A New Beginning

Ordinary Time, following the celebration of Christmas, is far from a period of lesser significance. On the contrary, it invites us to deepen our faith and grow in Christian virtues. After commemorating the birth of Jesus, this time provides an opportunity for Him to grow within us, cultivating the seeds planted during Christmas so they may bear abundant fruit in our lives.

The Baptism of Jesus: An Act of Solidarity

The Baptism of Jesus, celebrated on this day, signifies His willingness to fully embrace our human condition. Though sinless, Jesus chose to be baptized as a gesture of solidarity with humanity and to mark the path to salvation. This act foreshadows His death and resurrection, calling us to reflect on our own baptism as a participation in His triumph over sin and His offer of new life.

The Profound Meaning of Baptism

Baptism embodies cleansing, purification, and spiritual rebirth. Through Jesus, this sacrament gains extraordinary depth: it buries sin and offers the promise of new life. Baptism is not merely a ritual but a lifelong commitment. By living out our baptism, we embrace our identity as God's beloved children, called to act according to our Christian vocation.

The Holy Spirit in Our Lives

Saint Teresa of Ávila describes the Holy Spirit as a guest within our hearts, dwelling there since

our baptism. How we treat this divine guest reflects our relationship with God. We may ignore Him, engage sporadically, or grant Him a central place in our lives. Allowing the Holy Spirit to guide our actions enables us to fully live our baptism, fortifying us spiritually to confront the challenges of the Christian journey.

Effort as an Integral Part of the Christian Life

The example of the butterfly struggling to emerge from its cocoon illustrates how effort is essential for strengthening our "spiritual wings." Living out our baptism requires embracing challenges and commitments that shape us as Christians. Without this effort, we risk becoming Christians in name only, unable to experience the fullness of our faith.

Living Baptism: A Call to Joy

The celebration of Jesus' Baptism reminds us of our identity as God's beloved children. This identity compels us to persevere in faith, overcome obstacles, and continually strive to live in communion with God. By dedicating ourselves to living our baptism, we experience the profound joy of being Christians. This God of love and peace calls us to soar, living our faith with dedication and unwavering trust in His paternal love.

Jr. Everardo Cázares



El Tiempo Ordinario: Un Nuevo Comienzo

El tiempo ordinario, que sigue a la celebración de la Navidad, no es un periodo sin importancia. Al contrario, nos invita a profundizar en nuestra fe y a crecer en las virtudes cristianas. Después de celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús, este tiempo es una oportunidad para que Él crezca en nosotros, cultivando en nuestro interior las semillas plantadas durante la Navidad, para que den frutos abundantes en nuestra vida.

El Bautismo de Jesús: Un Acto de Solidaridad

El bautismo de Jesús, celebrado en este día, demuestra su voluntad de asumir plenamente nuestra condición humana. Aunque no tenía pecado, Jesús se bautizó como un gesto de solidaridad con la humanidad y para señalar el camino hacia la salvación. Este bautismo, que prefigura su muerte y resurrección, nos invita a reflexionar sobre nuestro propio bautismo como una participación en su muerte al pecado y su resurrección a una vida nueva.

El Significado Profundo del Bautismo

El bautismo significa limpieza, purificación y renacimiento espiritual. En Jesús, este sacramento adquiere una profundidad especial: sepulta el pecado y nos ofrece la oportunidad de una nueva vida. Este acto no es simplemente un ritual, sino un compromiso de vida. Al vivir nuestro bautismo, nos convertimos en hijos amados de Dios, llamados a actuar conforme a nuestra identidad cristiana.

El Espíritu Santo en Nuestra Vida

Santa Teresa de Ávila describe al Espíritu Santo como

un huésped en nuestro corazón, presente desde el bautismo. La manera en que lo tratemos refleja nuestra relación con Dios. Podemos ignorarlo, interactuar ocasionalmente, o darle un lugar central en nuestras vidas. Al permitir que el Espíritu Santo guíe nuestras acciones, vivimos plenamente nuestro bautismo, fortaleciéndonos espiritualmente para enfrentar los desafíos de la vida cristiana.

El Esfuerzo como Parte de la Vida Cristiana

El ejemplo de la mariposa que lucha para salir del capullo ilustra cómo el esfuerzo es necesario para fortalecer nuestras "alas espirituales". Vivir el bautismo implica afrontar retos y compromisos que nos forman como cristianos. Sin este esfuerzo, corremos el riesgo de ser cristianos en apariencia, pero incapaces de experimentar la plenitud de nuestra fe.

Vivir el Bautismo: Un Llamado a la Felicidad

Celebrar el bautismo de Jesús nos recuerda nuestra identidad como hijos amados de Dios. Este compromiso nos exige perseverar en nuestra fe, superar obstáculos y buscar constantemente vivir en comunión con Dios. Al esforzarnos por vivir nuestro bautismo, experimentamos la alegría plena de ser cristianos. Este Dios de amor y paz nos llama a volar alto, viviendo nuestra fe con dedicación y confianza en su amor paternal.

Fr. Everardo Cázares

Brenham Knights of Columbus will hold their annual free throw contest on *Sunday, January 26th*, at St. Mary's Gym (the PAC).

Registration begins at 12:30 PM with the contest at 1:00 PM for boys and girls ages 9-14 as of January 1st.

Please bring a copy of birth certificate.

The District contest follows immediately at 2 PM. Prizes awarded in 6 age divisions for both boys and girls



Marriage Recognition Certificates Sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women and signed by Bishop Vásquez

Marriage recognition certificates are available for couples celebrating wedding anniversaries between February 14, 2024 and February 14, 2025. If you have been married 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 years or more, please call the Church office and give us your names, the date of your marriage, and your phone number and email. The deadline to turn this is January 24th, 2025.

Certificados de Reconocimiento para Matrimonios Patrocinados por el Consejo de Mujeres Católicas y firmados por el Obispo Joe Vásquez

Los certificados de reconocimiento de matrimonio están disponibles para las parejas que celebran aniversarios de bodas entre el 14 de febrero de 2024 y el 14 de febrero de 2025. Si ha estado casado 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 años o más, por favor llame a la oficina de la Iglesia y dénos sus nombres, la fecha de su matrimonio y su número de Teléfono y correo electrónico. La fecha límite para llamar es el 24 de Enero del 2025.



Altar Flowers

Every weekend, generous parishioners donate fresh flowers for our St. Mary's Church altar. Beginning the second week of January, the 2025 Flower Calendar will be posted in the back of the church. Parishioners are invited to sign up for the weekend(s) of their choice if they wish to donate fresh flowers for our St. Mary's altar.

Thank you for your generosity!

Cada fin de semana, los generosos feligreses donan flores frescas para el altar de nuestra iglesia de Santa María. A partir de la segunda semana de enero, el Calendario de Flores 2025 se publicará en la parte trasera de la iglesia. Se invita a los feligreses a inscribirse para el fin de semana de su elección si desean donar flores frescas para nuestro altar de Santa María.

¡Gracias por su generosidad!

St. Teresa of Calcutta Society

helps those in need.

For assistance phone **979-525-0090**.

Calls remain confidential.

La Sociedad de Santa Teresa De

Calcuta 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



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



Adult Formation. Starting Jan. 9.
~ Scripture, Inspiration, Support ~

AN INVITATION TO ACTS

DVD by Dr. John Bergsma,
St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

Join Bella Brigata, St. Catherine of Siena's "beautiful brigade"

Thursdays, PAC, 10-11:30, for coffee & conversation

No cost. Questions: 713.501.0663 (Kathy)



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

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

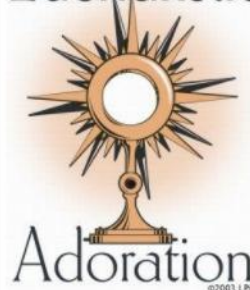
Pasa tiempo con el Santísimo Sacramento 24/7

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

Eucharistic





Christmas Flowers

- In loving memory of Deborah Schneider and John Bolcerek, given by Jason and Stacy Bolcerek
- In thanksgiving for God's Blessing, given by John and Bridget Studer
- In memory of Lily Korinne Voelkel, given by James and Barbara Chovanec
- In memory of Antone Kubeczka, given by Carolyn Kubeczka
- For the poor souls in Purgatory, given by May K. Maxwell
- In given memory of Kyle Stoner, Eugene and Evelyn Kloesel, and Perry Kloesol, given by Joni Kloesel
- In loving memory of H.D and Patricia McIntyre, given by family
- In honor of St. Mary's Clergy, given by Reuben and Gladys Grebe
- In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren, given by Francis Fries
- For blessings and health, given by Bobby and Connie Posinski
- For the love of God, my church, and family, given by Annie Rybarski
- In loving memory of deceased members of the Krolczyk and Leschper families, given by Clem and Doris Krolczyk
- For all Loving family and friends, given by Frances Konieczny
- Thanksgiving and Blessings received, In loving memory of Stanley and Nancy Rybarski, given by Rose and Larry Benker
- For our granddaughter Harper, given by Darrell and Cindy Kubeczka
- In thanksgiving for all the blessings received, given by Anthony and Rosie Manfre
- For Jesus love, and our son Steven Ramires, given by Petra Smith
- For the souls of the babies aborted, given by Kenneth and Jaicia Lange
- In thanksgiving to God for all the blessings received, given by anonymous
- In honor, glory and praise of our Lord for the countless blessings we receive daily, given anonymously
- For the living and decease of The Forsythe Family, The Parker Family, The Hardy Family, The Sperier Family, given by
- For the living and decease of the Church Family , Chludzinski family, Grindle family, and all souls past, present, and future, given by Susan Church
- In loving memory of Alice and Tony Korenek, Don and Lola Miller, Barbara Poche, Michele Long, given by Sharon Gammell Miller
- In memory of Louis Bugaj, Rosa Bugaj, and Esther Drews, given by Shirley Rowan
- For the Parish, given anonymously
- In thanksgiving for the blessings received, given by Linda Quinlan
- In thanksgiving to god for our friends and family and blessings received, given by The Gasek Family
- For our Children Mason, Katie and Lauren and our granddaughters Presley and Rylie, given by Jimmy and Michelle Kwitkowski
- In given memory of Patricia Kubeczka and Mary Helen Kubeczka given by Raymond Kubeczka
- In memory of Edmundo Munoz, Minerva Munoz, and Yolanda Gutierrez given by Family
- In loving memory of Steve Coenen Lillian and Claude Christie given by, Carol and Ron Christie
- In memory of Annette Vogel given by Valerie Petroski
- In loving memory of Charles Ogrodowiz and Dheo and Julie Bilski, given by Margie Ogrodowicz
- In thanksgiving for the blessings received, given by Thomas Brady





Christmas Flowers

- For the clergy, given anonymously
- For the parishioners, given anonymously
- For the poor and needy, given anonymously
- For the children of the world, given anonymously
- For Gods love and blessings, given anonymously For peace in the world, given anonymously
- In thanksgiving to god for our friends and family and blessings received, given by anonymously
- For the children of the world, given anonymously
- For the people battling cancer, given anonymously
- In loving memory of Glenn Geick and E.J and Iline Dittlinger, given by Joeline Geick



WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

The staff and parishioners offer their deepest and heartfelt condolences to the families of **John Bradford Porter Jr., Tammy Brauner & Bertha Rose Geick.**

May they rest in eternal peace in the arms of God.

*El personal y los feligreses ofrecen sus más sinceras condolencias a las familia de **John Bradford Porter Jr., Tammy Brauner & Bertha Rose Geick.***

. Que descansen en paz eterna en los brazos de Dios.



Parishioner Registration

Welcome to St. Mary's. We are so happy that you have chosen St. Mary Immaculate Conception Parish as your faith community and spiritual home.

To become a registered parishioner, please complete a registration form on our website or in person in the Parish Office. Please inform the parish office of any changes to your contact information.

Registro de feligreses

Bienvenido a St. Mary's.

Estamos muy contentos de que haya elegido la Parroquia de Santa María Inmaculada Concepción como su comunidad de fe y hogar espiritual. Para convertirse en un feligrés registrado, complete un formulario de registro en nuestro sitio web o en persona en la oficina parroquial. Informe a la oficina parroquial de cualquier cambio en su información de contacto.

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.



“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

Wellness Ministry Tip

If you have trouble opening prescription bottles; talk to your pharmacy, some pharmacies may be able to provide EZ open caps for your medication

Consejo del Ministerio de Bienestar

Si tiene problemas para abrir los frascos de medicamentos recetados, hable con su farmacia. Algunas farmacias pueden proporcionarle tapas fáciles de abrir para sus medicamentos.



DEACON'S CORNER

The Baptism of Jesus

One of the questions that most people ponder is why Jesus was baptized by John in the River Jordan. Even John seems to question the purpose when he says Jesus should be baptizing him, not the other way around. But Jesus tells him to let it be this way, for that's what The Father wills.

The first thing we should note is that Jesus comes as the model human. He spends his life showing us how it is we are supposed to live. Baptism is an essential step in attaining our place in God's family. We see at Jesus's baptism how all three persons of The Trinity are present and in union, as Jesus rises from the water, the Spirit descends to Him, and we hear the voice of the Father announcing that he is well pleased with his son. Each action in Jesus's life is in accordance with His Father's will and that is how he want's us to live our lives as well.

It's true that Jesus had no need to have sins forgiven by way of Baptism, but the fundamental reality of our Baptism is not about forgiveness as much as it's about our adoption into the people of God. We become the living stones of The Church. Jesus becomes our brother and His Father in heaven becomes our father. Baptism is not just washing sins away; it's being reborn in the spirit. Jesus says one must be born again in the spirit to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. It's in baptism that this happens.

Of course, even though we receive new life in baptism, the old sinful nature is still with us. That is why, even after baptism we continue to struggle to renounce sin as live as children of the light. We celebrate the baptism of Jesus because it reminds us of the baptism that we share with him and gives us hope that we can overcome the challenges we face in this life; that one day we'll hear it said by The Father of us: "This is my beloved child in whom I am well pleased."

Blessings and peace, Deacon Steve

RINCON DEL DIACONO

El Bautismo de Jesús

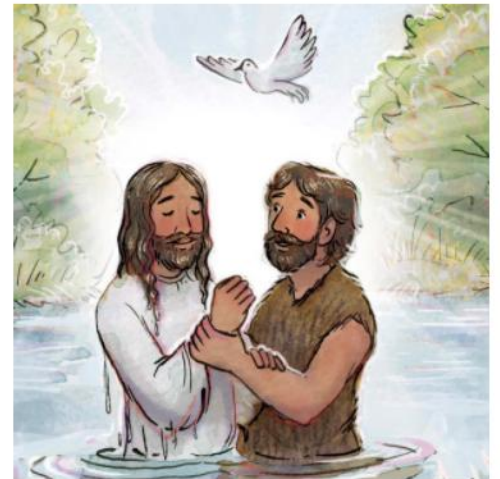
Una de las preguntas que más se hacen las personas es por qué Jesús fue bautizado por Juan en el río Jordán. Incluso Juan parece cuestionar el propósito cuando dice que Jesús debería de bautizarlo a el, no al revés. Pero Jesús le dice que lo deje así, porque eso es lo que quiere el Padre.

Lo primero que debemos notar es que Jesús viene como el modelo humano. Pasa su vida mostrándonos cómo se supone que debemos vivir. El bautismo es un paso esencial para alcanzar nuestro lugar en la familia de Dios. Vemos en el bautismo de Jesús cómo las tres personas de la Trinidad están presentes y en unión, cuando Jesús se levanta del agua, el Espíritu descende a Él y escuchamos la voz del Padre anunciando que está muy complacido con su hijo. Cada acción en la vida de Jesús está de acuerdo con la voluntad de Su Padre y así es como Él quiere que vivamos nuestras vidas también.

Es cierto que Jesús no tenía necesidad de que se le perdonaran los pecados por medio del bautismo, pero la realidad fundamental de nuestro bautismo no es tanto el perdón como nuestra adopción en el pueblo de Dios. Nos convertimos en las piedras vivas de la Iglesia. Jesús se convierte en nuestro hermano y Su Padre en el cielo se convierte en nuestro padre. El bautismo no es sólo lavar los pecados; es renacer en el espíritu. Jesús dice que uno debe nacer de nuevo en el espíritu para entrar en el Reino de los Cielos. Es en el bautismo que esto sucede.

Por supuesto, aunque recibimos nueva vida en el bautismo, la vieja naturaleza pecaminosa todavía está con nosotros. Es por eso que, incluso después del bautismo, seguimos luchando para renunciar al pecado y vivir como hijos de la luz. Celebramos el bautismo de Jesús porque nos recuerda el bautismo que compartimos con él y nos da esperanza de que podemos superar los desafíos que enfrentamos en esta vida; que un día escucharemos al Padre decir de nosotros: "Este es mi hijo amado en quien tengo complacencia".

Paz y bendiciones, Diacono Steve



Brenham and surrounding areas
 Aaron Roshto Tmpl #40427

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WHATABURGER

 Brenham
whataburger.com

The Magazine for Texas Gardeners, by Texas Gardeners®
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TexasGardener.com 254-848-9393

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quicklane@appelcars.com

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