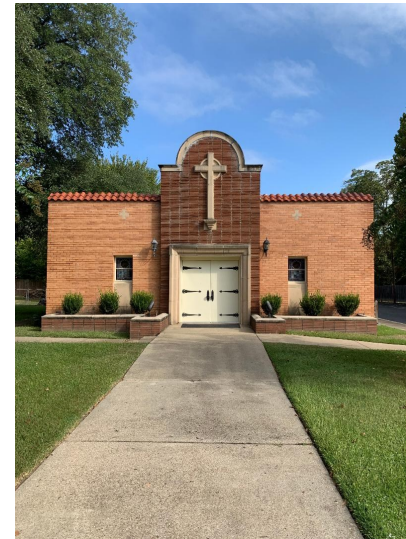




ST. MARY OF THE CENACLE

NEW BOSTON, TX. ~ DIOCESE OF TYLER



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Mission Statement: St. Mary of the Cenacle is a compassionate, evangelizing, worshiping Catholic Parish called to holiness for life-long faith formation and sharing and caring for others.

January 5, 2025 ~ Epiphany of the Lord

ADMINISTRATOR Fr. Palmer
frpalmerwe@yahoo.com
PRAYER MINISTRY

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY
Chris Goodsell: 903 628-5964

FAITH FORMATION
Chris Goodsell: 903 628-5964

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE
Paul Brantley: 903 667-5592

FINANCE COUNCIL
Thomas LaToof: 903 667-0447

SECRETARY
Ana Ramirez: 915 494-0942

MAINTENANCE
Dennis Caudle: 903 585-5374

PASTORAL COUNCIL
Charilyn Caudle: 903 585-5374

ENVIRONMENT & ART
Gabrielle Bachers: 903 628-2655

USHERS
Mike Davis: 903 826-5748

SACRED MUSIC
Paul Orthel: 254-423-1574

ETHICS AND INTEGRITY
Ana Ramirez 915 494-0942

BULLETIN
Franca Drennan: 903 -277-0910



See, I have today set before you life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD, your God, which I am giving you today, loving the LORD, your God, and walking in his ways, and keeping his commandments, statutes and ordinances, you will live and grow numerous, and the LORD, your God, will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. — Dt. 30:15-16

OFFICE HOURS
10 AM - 4:00 PM Monday and Wednesday beginning 09/04

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION
Sunday: 10:30AM • Noon

MASS SCHEDULE
WEEKEND
Saturday (Anticipated): 5:00PM
Sunday: 9:00AM
DAILY: Monday—Thursday: 9:00AM
Holy Hour: Thursday after Mass—until 11:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Monday: 10:00 — 10:30 AM
Tuesday: 10:00 — 10:30 AM
Wednesday: 12:15—12:45 PM
Thursday: 11:15—11:45 AM
Friday: 10:00—10:30 AM
Saturday 3:30-4:30PM
OR by appointment

MARRIAGE
Contact priest at least 9 months before anticipated date of wedding. Formation preparation is required

BAPTISM: Pre-Baptismal instruction classes required.
Call for appointment

SICK CALLS/COMMUNION CALLS
Please notify office when any parishioner is hospitalized or confined to their home or a nursing home. The Eucharist is brought to those unable to attend Mass

NATIONWIDE MASS TIMES/LOCATIONS
1-800-Mass Times or visit
www.Masstimes.org

UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

01/04 Thomas LaToof
 01/05 The People of St. Mary of the Cenacle
 01/06 +Francisco and +Simona Arevalo
 01/07 +Chris Keller
 01/08 +Henry Davis
 01/09 The Penitents

READERS

01/04 Maria Tidwell	01/05 Rich Goodsell
01/11	01/12 Molly Thompson
01/18	01/19 Rudy Ramirez

PLEASE Pray for the Sick of Our Parish Parishioners

I would encourage you to do more than pray! Offer a day of Penance (acts of self-denial, prayer, and works of mercy) for one or more of these people — make a spiritual investment in their lives. Begin with the daily offering (below) and then, everything in your day goes to the benefit of the person(s) for whom your day is offered.

Ellen Davis, Kelly Morales, Sandy Feazell, Paola Loar, Melvin & Lena Fontenot, Luella Rediess, Warren Thibeaux, Gary Leiras, Sharon Davis, Mary Machart, Molly Thompson, Sally Allen

Friends and Family

Elthie Meads, wife of the late Bill Meads; **Kalan Berry**, friend of Patricia Brantley; **Richard Stieb**, brother of Linda Norrid & Patty Hawley; **Rev. Thaddeus Brown, Gregory Brown, Elaine Brown**, family of Patricia Brantley; **Dr. Frank Harkins and Dr. Mary S. Harkins** by Patricia Brantley; **Charles Pemberton**, friend of the Goodsell's; **Douglas Hall**, husband of Joyce Hall; **Karen Burns**, friend of Chris Goodsell, **Maeghan Spainhower**, friend of Cheri Caudle; **Ricky Valdez**, Nephew of Nancy Farrell, **James Burns** husband of Mary Burns, **Norm Petrofsky**

A Morning Offering: O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of N., and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father and Your Holy Catholic Church. Amen.

Daily Devotions:

Sunday: Most Holy Trinity
Monday: Holy Angels
Tuesday: The Apostles
Wednesday: St. Joseph
Thursday: The Most Holy Eucharist
Friday: The Passion of the Lord
Saturday: The Blessed Virgin Mary

Devotion for January: The Holy Name of Jesus

A King to Behold: Dr. Scott Hahn reflects on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.

An “epiphany” is an appearance. In today’s readings, with their rising stars, splendorous lights, and mysteries revealed, the face of the child born on Christmas day appears.

Herod, in today’s Gospel, asks the chief priests and scribes where the Messiah is to be born. The answer Matthew puts on their lips says much more, combining two strands of Old Testament promise—one revealing the Messiah to be from the line of David (see 2 Samuel 2:5), the other predicting “a ruler of Israel” who will “shepherd his flock” and whose “greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth” (see Micah 5:1–3).

Those promises of Israel’s king ruling the nations resound also in today’s Psalm. The psalm celebrates David’s son, Solomon. His kingdom, we sing, will stretch “to the ends of the earth,” and the world’s kings will pay him homage. That’s the scene too in today’s First Reading, as nations stream from the East, bearing “gold and frankincense” for Israel’s king.

The Magi’s pilgrimage in today’s Gospel marks the fulfillment of God’s promises. The Magi, probably Persian astrologers, are following the star that Balaam predicted would rise along with the ruler’s staff over the house of Jacob (see Numbers 24:17). Laden with gold and spices, their journey evokes those made to Solomon by the Queen of Sheba and the “kings of the earth” (see 1 Kings 10:2, 25; 2 Chronicles 9:24). Interestingly, the only other places where frankincense and myrrh are mentioned together are in songs about Solomon (see Song of Songs 3:6; 4:6, 14).

One greater than Solomon is here (see Luke 11:31). He has come to reveal that all peoples are “coheirs” of the royal family of Israel, as today’s Epistle teaches.

His manifestation forces us to choose: will we follow the signs that lead to Him as the wise Magi did? Or will we be like those priests and scribes who let God’s words of promise become dead letters on an ancient page?

From: St. Paul Center

FORMED: St. Mary’s has a subscription to the FORMED platform. This is a very good site with videos for all ages. It includes Bible Studies, previews of the Sunday Readings, movies, audio series, audio books, teaching series, etc. You just need to register your email address and look at the drop-down menu for St. Mary New Boston. **Learn your faith, know your faith, so that you can live your faith.**

My Suggestions:
 This Week: What Catholics Believe (VIDEO SERIES)
 Charity In Truth by Pope Benedict XVI (AUDIO BOOK)

==>DONATIONS<==

December 25 \$135.00
December 28-29 \$574.00
YOUR OFFERINGS ARE MOST APPRECIATED!
THANK YOU!

January 05: St. Mary Building and Maintenance Fund

CHRISTIAN PRAYER SECTION ONE PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

2558 "Great is the mystery of the faith!" The Church professes this mystery in the Apostles' Creed (Part One) and celebrates it in the sacramental liturgy (Part Two), so that the life of the faithful may be conformed to Christ in the Holy Spirit to the glory of God the Father (Part Three). This mystery, then, requires that the faithful believe in it, that they celebrate it, and that they live from it in a vital and personal relationship with the living and true God. This relationship is prayer.

WHAT IS PRAYER?
 For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.

Prayer as God's gift

2559 "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." But when we pray, do we speak from the height of our pride and will, or "out of the depths" of a humble and contrite heart? He who humbles himself will be exalted; humility is the foundation of prayer, Only when we humbly acknowledge that "we do not know how to pray as we ought," are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer.

"Man is a beggar before God."

2560 "If you knew the gift of God!"
 The wonder of prayer is revealed beside the well where we come seeking water: there, Christ comes to meet every human being. It is he who first seeks us and asks us for a drink. Jesus thirsts; his asking arises from the depths of God's desire for us. Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him.

2561 "You would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." Paradoxically our prayer of petition is a response to the plea of the living God: "They have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water!" Prayer is the response of faith to the free promise of salvation and also a response of love to the thirst of the only Son of God.11

Prayer as covenant

2562 Where does prayer come from? Whether prayer is expressed in words or gestures, it is the whole man who prays. But in naming the source of prayer, Scripture speaks sometimes of the soul or the spirit, but most often of the heart (more than a thousand times).

According to Scripture, it is the heart that prays.

If our heart is far from God, the words of prayer are in vain.

2563 The heart is the dwelling-place where I am, where I live; according to the Semitic or Biblical expression, the heart is the place "to which I withdraw." The heart is our hidden center, beyond the grasp of our reason and of others; only the Spirit of God can fathom the human heart and know it fully. The heart is the place of decision, deeper than our psychic drives. It is the place of truth, where we choose life or death. It is the place of encounter, because as image of God we live in relation: it is the place of covenant.

2564 Christian prayer is a covenant relationship between God and man in Christ. It is the action of God and of man, springing forth from both the Holy Spirit and ourselves, wholly directed to the Father, in union with the human will of the Son of God made man.

Prayer as communion

2565 In the New Covenant, prayer is the living relationship of the children of God with their Father who is good beyond measure, with his Son Jesus Christ and with the Holy Spirit. The grace of the Kingdom is "the union of the entire holy and royal Trinity . . . with the whole human spirit." Thus, the life of prayer is the habit of being in the presence of the thrice-holy God and in communion with him. This communion of life is always possible because, through Baptism, we have already been united with Christ. Prayer is Christian insofar as it is communion with Christ and extends throughout the Church, which is his Body. Its dimensions are those of Christ's love.

THE REVELATION OF PRAYER - THE UNIVERSAL CALL TO PRAYER

2566 Man is in search of God. In the act of creation, God calls every being from nothingness into existence. "Crowned with glory and honor," man is, after the angels, capable of acknowledging "how majestic is the name of the Lord in all the earth." Even after losing through his sin his likeness to God, man remains an image of his Creator, and retains the desire for the one who calls him into existence. All religions bear witness to men's essential search for God.

2567 God calls man first. Man may forget his Creator or hide far from his face; he may run after idols or accuse the deity of having abandoned him; yet the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response. As God gradually reveals himself and reveals man to himself, prayer appears as a reciprocal call, a covenant drama. Through words and actions, this drama engages the heart. It unfolds throughout the whole history of salvation.