



*Archdiocese of Galveston Houston
St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
Catholic Church*

*816 Park Dr. La Porte, Texas 77571
281-471-2000 Fax: 281-471-9365
Website: www.stmaryslaporte.com
E-mail: stmaryslpcc@sbcglobal.net*

*Parish Office Hours
Monday - Friday
9:00 am-12:00 Noon
1:00 pm-4:00 pm*

*CCE Office Hours:
Sunday 8:30 am-12:00 pm*

*Second Sunday of Lent
March 12, 2017*

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st Sunday of the month. Classes are held on the 2nd & 3rd Tuesday of each month. Please come by the Parish Office to register or call for more information.

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Penance is offered on Saturdays, from 4:30p.m. to 5:30p.m. or by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the Parish Office at least (6) six months prior to your desired wedding date to arrange a meeting with Father Tony or one of the Deacons. If you want a Mass, you must call Father Tony.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you a non-Catholic who is interested in joining the Catholic faith? Are you a baptized Catholic who has never received the sacraments of 1st Communion and Confirmation? If your answer is yes to either of these questions, call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of First Communion

First Communion candidates must be baptized, at least in the second grade, and have been attending CCE classes for two full years previous to their receiving the Sacrament. Adults needing First Communion should refer to the rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Confirmation candidates must have previously received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Communion. They must have faithfully attended Life Teen for at least one full year prior to beginning preparation for the Sacrament (more than three absences without a valid excuse can alter the process). A signed form stating that the parent/guardian and the candidate understand all requirements is also necessary before the preparation begins. Adults needing confirmation should refer to the Rite of Christian initiation of adults.

Eucharistic Celebrations

Saturday: 6:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:30 p.m. (Spanish)
4:00 p.m. Life Teen Mass

Weekday Masses in St. Joseph's Chapel

Monday (No Mass)
Tuesday – 12:00 noon
Wednesday – 8:30 a.m. &
(1st Wednesday Only 6:30 p.m.)
Thursday, & Friday – 8:30 a.m.

Parish Staff

Rev. Tony A. Castro, Pastor
Deacon Hector Cantu
Deacon Julio Matallana
Deacon Stan Avallone
Bookkeeper-Patty Detweiler
Bulletin/Sacramental Records– Cheryl Frobenius
Maintenance-Humberto Villalobos
Parish Secretary-Debbie Heasty
Receptionist-Peggy Holland
C.C.E. Director-Jessica Jaramillo
EDGE Director-Renee Cortez
Life Teen Director-Shari Davis

Vision Statement

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception is a Catholic Community of Believers called to serve Christ by gathering together at the Lord's Table in worship and praise, by serving our brothers and sisters in Christ, and by being a welcoming beacon of light to all. We are many parts, yet one body in Christ.

Dear parish family,

2 Sunday of Lent Year A

In this second Sunday of Lent we are reminded that we enter into the most appropriate time to pay closer attention to the Lord. The episode about Transfiguration of the Lord is this Sunday's gospel highlights not only the glimpse of the heavenly glory of the Lord but more strongly also about the emphatic words of the Father in heaven saying, "Listen to him!" Oftentimes we are so carried away by the confusing voices of the secular world rather than be transformed by the words of the Redeemer who is the Lord. So Lent must be for us a time to let the words of Jesus transforms us in order that we may too in our own small ways transform the immediate world we live in. And though how insignificant it may seems at least we contribute something in making the world a better place to live.

In the first reading this Sunday, Abram, or as he would later be called, Abraham, is presented as a model of faith – of how he listened to God, responded an unequivocal yes to his message then act on it with complete trust. He was at that stage of his life where he should settle back and enjoy the fruits of years of labor – to retire in style, as we say. Certainly, the last thing anyone would have expected an aged leader to do is to set himself and his people off into a new direction. But that is exactly what Abraham did in response to God's call. It may not have seemed wise for him to lead his immediate family from their homeland. The talk of his progeny becoming a new nation would have seemed particularly foolish taking into account his age and the fact he had no children. But Abraham put his faith completely in God, and God worked wonders through him.

This is the type of faith that we are called to embrace. We are called to be different from those elements of the world that do not make God their priority. We are called to leave sometimes our "comfort zones" and to put our faith completely in God. We are called to be part of a new people, a new breed, who are radically different from the world.

"Bear your share of hardship for the Gospel with the strength that comes from God," we heard in the second reading this Sunday. It is tough being a Christian. We cannot be part of the pagan world. At the same time, it is wonderful being a Christian. We have been given a great gift of strength, strength that comes from God. Thus we move on in our journey, aware of our frailties and challenges of the world we live, yet we know we journey towards the final transfiguration – heaven.

Blessings to all and have a good week!

Fr. Tony

Querida familia parroquial,

2 Domingo de Cuaresma Año A

En este segundo domingo de Cuaresma nos recuerda que entramos en el momento muy apropiado para prestar más atención al Señor. El episodio sobre la Transfiguración del Señor en el evangelio de este domingo no sólo realza la vislumbrante gloria celestial del Señor, sino también las palabras enfáticas del Padre Celestial diciendo: "¡Escúchenlo!" Muy a menudo las confusas voces del mundo secular nos apartan, en vez de ser transformados por las palabras del Redentor que es el Señor. Así que la Cuaresma para nosotros debe ser un tiempo en permitir que las palabras de Jesús nos transformen, con la finalidad de que en nuestros pequeños cambios, transformemos el mundo inmediato en el que vivimos. Y aunque parezca insignificante al menos contribuimos a transformar el Mundo en un lugar mejor para vivir.

En la primera lectura de este domingo, Abram, o como sería llamado más tarde, Abraham, se presenta como un modelo de fe - de cómo escuchó a Dios, respondió un indiscutible sí a su mensaje y luego actuó con plena confianza. Estaba en esa etapa de su vida en la que debía relajarse y disfrutar de los frutos de años de trabajo: retirarse con estilo, como decimos. Ciertamente, la última cosa que alguien hubiera esperado de un anciano líder es reiniciarse él y su gente en una nueva dirección. Pero eso es exactamente lo que hizo Abraham en respuesta al llamado de Dios. Puede que no le pareciera prudente sacar a su familia inmediata de su patria. La conversación de que sus descendientes se convirtieran en una nueva nación habría parecido particularmente tonta teniendo en cuenta su edad y el hecho de que no tenía hijos. Pero Abraham puso su fe completamente en Dios, y Dios hizo maravillas a través de él.

Este es el tipo de fe que estamos llamados a abrazar. Estamos llamados a ser diferentes de la mayoría del mundo que no ponen a Dios como su prioridad. Estamos llamados a dejar a veces nuestras "zonas de comodidad" y a poner nuestra fe completamente en Dios. Somos llamados a ser parte de un nuevo pueblo, una nueva raza, que sea rigurosamente diferentes del mundo.

"Resistan vuestra parte de las dificultades para el Evangelio con la fuerza que viene de Dios", escuchamos en la segunda lectura de este domingo. Es difícil ser cristiano. No podemos ser parte del mundo pagano. Al mismo tiempo, es maravilloso ser cristiano. Se nos ha dado un gran don de fortaleza, fuerza que viene de Dios. Así avanzamos en nuestro camino, conscientes de nuestras debilidades y desafíos del mundo que vivimos, pero sabemos que viajamos hacia la transfiguración final - el cielo.

¡Bendiciones a todos y que tengan una buena semana!

Fr. Tony

Activities of the Week

Sun. March 12: No CCE, EDGE or Life Teen
~Spring Break~
Bible Study/ Prayer Group, PH Conf. Rm 8:45am
Bible Study:
Biblical Walk with Blessed Mother, RH 5:15pm
Mon. March 13: ESL Rosary Hall 9:30am
Women's AA Rosary Hall 7pm
Tues. March 14: ESL Rosary Hall 9:30am
Baptism Class PH Conf. Rm (English) 7pm
Citizenship Class Rosary Hall 7pm
Wed. March 15: Bible Study:
Biblical Walk with Blessed Mother, PH 9:15pm
Thurs. March 16: RCIA 6:45pm PH Conf. Rm
Fri. March 17: Stations of the Cross English-6:30pm
Spanish-Holy Hour with Jesus Lizalde Church 7pm

ALTAR FLOWERS

March: No Altar Flowers during Lent

2017 Flower Dates Available

April 22/23, 29/30 May 6/7, 13/14, 20/21, 27/28

To place flowers on the altar contact Jan Hughes @ 281-402-5401 or 903-780-5090 to reserve your date as soon as possible.

Church Sanctuary Candle

Special Intention Vanessa Cariaga

By: Mom

Chapel Sanctuary Candle

Sherry Paschal Birthday Celebration

By: Paschal Family

Bay Area Council of Catholic Women

will hold their monthly meeting March 15 at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Beck Hall, 18223 Point Lookout Drive, Nassau Bay. We will meet at 9:30 for Social time, with a presentation entitled **Reflections on the Catholic Church in the Solomon Islands: A Seminarian Teacher Shares His Experiences** given by Mark Daniel, Parishioner of St. Paul's, at 10am. Business mtg. @ 10:45 and potluck lunch. Please bring dish to share. The CCW is an affiliated network of dedicated Catholic women who come together for fun, growth in spirituality, leadership and service to Christ, His church and society. For additional information contact Gretchen Mitchell @ 832-605-8360; gretchenmitchell@gmail.com.

Upcoming Baptismal Dates

April 2, May 7, June 4

Baptism classes are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in English and the 3rd Tuesday of the month in Spanish @ 7pm. Baptisms are the first Sunday of the month after the 10am & 12:30pm Masses.

If you are baptizing here, you need to fill out a registration form for your child's baptism, and we will need to make a copy of your birth certificate from the state before you attend the class.

If you do not live in La Porte, you must be a registered, active member of St Mary's to baptize your child here. You cannot register in our parish only to baptize your child. Please come by or call the office to fill out the paperwork.

SAVE THE DATE...

"Extravaganza 2017"

Dinner & Auction

Saturday, April 22nd

Our "Extravaganza 2017" is only 6 weeks away. We are in need of items for the auction as well as monetary donations to help defray our expenses as well as to help pay for the auctioneer.

Do you know of a family or business who would be willing to make a donation of \$100. or more and have their name or business displayed on one of our tables at the dinner?

The profits will be used to offset our expenses and purchase items needed to ensure the success of our bazaar in the fall.

AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED!!!

Entertainment

Electronics

Household/Decorative Items

Heirloom Type Antiques

Kitchen Items

Hand Crafted Items

Garden/Garage/Outdoor Items

To make a donation, please contact Savanna @ savannacashi@yahoo.com or call the Church office.

Spend a Weekend with Us...

Husbands and Wives... Only YOU can set your marriage on fire: Want to find out how to keep yours burning? Take each other on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Some upcoming dates are March 24-26 & May 19-21. For more information contact Brian & Tina Little @ 281-773-4014 or go online to www.houstonme.org.

Please Pray For Our Troops and ...



Sean & Brittany Griffis, Destiny Perez, Monica Lesenski, Elizabeth Cisneros, Keith Platt, Jose Antonio, Villalobos, Jayden Hernandez, Genesis Gonzalez, Bradley Espinosa, Kelli Wilson, Lucita & Juan Lopez, Margaret, Ralph Flores, Janie Abila, Craig Wade, Jennifer Wade, Seth Permenter, Bob & Barbara Jennings, Lloyd Wells, Dianne Lemons, Paula Lambright, Jennifer Minor, Jarred H., Cindy & Dave Schmitz, Faith A., Tami Sills, H.C. Wade, LeeAnn & Family, Dennis, Peggy & Erica Hargens, Ruth Christian, Marilyn James, Jordon Binkley, Annie May Bounds, George Narancic, Kathy Gay, Anselmo Jacobo, Ron Pogue, Rena Espinoza Carroll, Charles Sharpless, Jorge Cortez, Roy Gonzales, Larry Williams, Donna Henson, Ida Trejo, Barbara Rodriguez, Luis Antonio Arambula, Tanisha Taylor, Evelyn & Jerry Vidos, MaKinzi, Peterson, Aliyah Mendez, Jessica Redow, Edward Salinas, Candelaria Ortiz, Diana Villarreal, Rebecca Ramos, Mike Rupley, Martin Muetzel, Ron Balsam, Laura Lewis Rocchino, Carlota Carmona, Jesse Lopez, Dianne Verret, Mike Rupley, Chuck Thompson, Debi Cariaga, Michael Kelly, Francis Williams, Sally Johnson, Murphy Guillory, Gayle Phillips, Britton Phillips, Alberto Rodriguez, Lee Molina, Gabriella Mendoza, Judy Irlbeck, Luck Lewallen, Rose Ellen Pena, Sherry Paschal, Noah & Veronica Riley, Gary Tandy, Joseph Morgan, Pedro Sanchez, Monica Lesenski, Ana Baez, Marybeth Hays, David Copous, Daniel Vasquez, Pedro B. Sanchez, Kim Mobbs, Marcey Salinas, Edward Salinas, Nell Martin, Angela Catlun.

Continue to Pray for Clyde Templett, Msgr. Boli Zientek, Felipe Sanchez, Ben Gerdes, Carlos Smith, Jane Middleton, Rosa Reyes, Tom Noonan, Deacon Tom Lewis, Gene Contreras, Romeal Nolan, Becky Melchor, Aaron Rodriguez, Irene Templet, Preston Wolf, Lawretta Fouts, Marcos Vasquez, Clarence Clipper, Gavin Binkley, Clarence Lewis, Kay Gold, Red Cornejo, Kathryn Coleman, Marita Hooper, Linda Jaramillo, Lois Johnston, Minnie Lopez, Deacon Merce Leal, Margarita Klock, Sue Crockett, Joanne Jarrell, Joanie O'Neal, Ben Munoz, Diana Ortiz, Bob Davis, Janet Hoffpauir, Nick Martin, Teresa Eidt, Barry Armstrong and those requesting prayer via our web site.

Remember Our Shut-Ins Joe & Josie Funda, Ophelia Pinard, Ann Blair, Soledad Hernandez, Elida Peterson, Carolyn Douglas, those battling terminal illness and the residents of La Porte Care Center and Parson's House.

Repose of the Soul of Herlinda Garza

Our Sympathy to Rafael Garza and family on the loss of his wife, Herlinda

Please Note: Names on our "Please Pray For" list are left on for four weeks. If someone needs to be put back on the prayer list or added please call the Church Office.

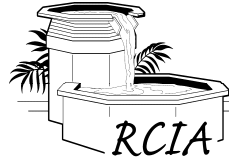
Free ESL & Citizenship Classes

ESL classes will be held Monday & Tuesday mornings 9:30-11am and the Citizenship classes will be on Monday Evenings @ 7pm in Rosary Hall. Provided we have enough interest, both classes will continue for the spring semester. If you need any additional information, please contact the office.

"Un mensaje hecho canción"

Estarán con nosotros la Familia Mejía Misionera ¡Con temas, cantos y reflexiones para llenar tu vida de renovada esperanza, profunda Fe y ardiente amor!
Marzo20-Marzo24 (el miércoles 22 de marzo habrá confesiones)

7:00p.m.-9:00p.m. en el Templo
Gratuito para toda edad



RCIA Classes

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Are you a non-Catholic who is interested in joining the Catholic faith? Are you a baptized Catholic who has never received the sacraments of 1st

Communion and Confirmation and are over the age of eighteen? If your answer is yes to either of these questions you may be interested in joining our RCIA program on Thursday evenings @ 6:45pm in the Parish Hall Conf. Rm. **No class this week. For information about the RCIA program, call the office or email Tracy, stmarysrcia@yahoo.com.**

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Our Lenten Bible Study series, titled: "Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother" has started. This eight week Catholic Bible Study will bring you on an extraordinary Pilgrimage, revealing Mary's unique role in God's Kingdom and in our lives. All Are welcome! We meet on Sundays from 5:15-7:30pm in Rosary Hall or on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-11am in the Parish Hall Conference Room. The cost is \$25. for materials, and scholarships are available. Email Tracy @ stmarysrcia@yahoo.com.



St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

Mon.-Wed., Fri., Sat. 9:00-11:00am
Store Closed Thurs. & Sun.
Our drop-off room is open 24/7

In the Gospel Jesus is transfigured and a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased: Listen to him."

Do we listen to Jesus when he asks us to take care of our brothers and sisters who are suffering? Your donations to our St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store help the needy in our community celebrate the grace of God's love.

Our Resale Shop here at St. Mary's is in need of volunteers (Especially able-bodied males). The hours are 9-11am, and the store is open every day but Thurs. & Sun. You can pick any day you are able to work. If you are available to help out, please contact Norma @ 281-471-1752.

Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial Los invita a vivir un Fin de Semana

Conoce como puedes vivir mas intima y profundamente tu relacion. AQUIERES recuperar la relacion con tu esposo (a) cunado eran novios. 281-948-8690, 281-948-8640, Marco & Mercedes Arrona, marco-51@sbcglobal.net

Te invitamos a una Hora Santa en comunidad

Todos los miércoles

De 7-8 p.m.

En la Capilla de San José.

Para más información

Puedes comunicarte con

Marta y Reino Fernández 832-985-1799

Una Hora Santa y Vueltas de Jericó

Te invitamos a una Hora Santa

Con el Padre Jesús Lizalde

Viernes 17 de marzo del 2017

Comenzando a las 7:00pm

En el Templo



Choir Notes

Join Us...

St. Mary's Music Ministry

- Sat. 6pm Mass**— Rehearsals before Mass at 5:15
Contact Kathy McBride 713-628-8387
- Sun. 7:30am Mass** - Rehearsals before Mass at 7am
Contact Yvonne Fisher 832-581-5974
- Sun. 10:00am Mass** - Wed. 6:30-9pm Rosary Hall
Contact Annelise Lagasse 281-459-6453
- Sun. 12:30pm Spanish Mass**-
Contact Jose Vazquez 832-868-4081
- Sun. 4pm Life Teen Mass**- Rehearsals-Sunday 2pm
Contact Alex sttheresa.prolife@gmail.com or 281-543-7794



The Gabriel Project is designed to help women and teenagers who are in a crisis pregnancy. If you are in need of assistance or know someone who is, please contact Belinda @ 713-805-4961 or the Church Office.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
- Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Sunday:** Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

~ Giving to Give ~

If you have a rosary in need of repair, or if you would like to have one made, please contact Rena Hellstein @ 281-889-8043. ***New Rosaries ~ \$20.00 & up (Available in the office) **Repairs** ~ \$5.00 & up. All proceeds are donated to the building fund.

Come Pray With Us...Rosary for Life

Monday, March 13th - Please join us in praying the Holy Rosary, asking for our Blessed Mother's intercession for the unborn, elderly, disabled, sick and all special intentions in St. Joseph's Chapel @ 7:00pm.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word
Every Week @ 10a.m. Mass**

We are currently looking for individuals who enjoy spreading the word to the youth of our church. Training in leading the sessions is available now during the 10am Mass. VIRTUS training will also be required.

For more info. or to sign-up to be a volunteer, please contact Randy or Angie Tercero @ 713-826-0633, randytercero@hotmail.com or angie.tercero@hotmail.com.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MARCH 18 & 19, 2017

SATURDAY 6:00pm

- Altar Servers** Andrew Nguyen, Joseph Schaefer
Lector Dennis Swenson
Commentator Victoria Swenson
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Walter Hayes, Fred Novak

SUNDAY-7:30am

- Altar Servers** Natalie Molina
Lector Jason Woods
Commentator Neal Broussard
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Evarist Coryat, Mose Davis, Leslie Davis

SUNDAY-10:00am

- Altar Server** Jeremiah Arredondo, Jorge Arredondo
Lector Cindy Bremer
Commentator Linda Patten
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Greg Bremer, Eloy Lara, Vanessa Lara

SUNDAY-12:30pm(Spanish)

- Altar Servers** Adriana Calvillo, Mayra Hernandez, Alejandro Rodriguez, Adrian Rodriguez

- Lectors** Enrique Rincan, Sergio Calvillo
Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Victor & Juanita Velasquez

SUNDAY 4:00pm

- Altar Servers** Madalyn Tercero, Oliver Tercero
Lector Randy Tercero
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Jose Lopez, Maria Reyes, Angie Tercero

We Need You...Can You Help? We have a parishioner who is in need of a ride to Mass on Sunday's for the 10am Mass. He lives in Morgan's Point. If you would be able to bring him to Mass, please call the office.



Samaritan Corner

Funeral Coordinator Needed

Are you retired and looking of some way to be of service to your parish community here at St. Mary's? When someone passes away, there is a need to have an individual willing to meet with the family and go over the details and readings for the funeral service. On the day of the funeral you would also be responsible to setup the church for the funeral mass and attend the mass in order to be of assistance to the funeral director and families members. If this might be something you may be interested in, please contact the office as soon as possible.

***We currently have one person handling this responsibility, but would like to have at least two people who would be able to share in this ministry.

CCE PreK - 5th

No CCE Classes Today

Parent Bible Study & Prayer Group Sunday's
@ 8:45am (We follow the CCE Schedule)

EDGE

*Jr. High Youth Program
(6, 7 & 8th Grade)*

No Class Today ~ Spring Break
Class Next Weekend

St. Mary's website @ www.stmaryslaporte.com

EDGE Info. contact Renee @ 832-220-3802

Life Teen

Life Teen Mass 4pm

No Class Today ~ Spring Break

A very special thank you to all
of our Core Team & volunteers
who made our retreat to Cat
Springs last weekend possible.

You are AWESOME!!!

Youth Bible Study

Every Wed. Rm 3 @ 7pm

Adoration @ Charismatic Center

First Wed. of the Month
Carpool meet @ St. Mary's 6pm

Info. contact Shari @ 281-470-6066