

# St. Francis of Assisi Mission



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**Mailing Address—P.O. Box 329, Orange Grove, TX 78372**

**Physical Address—303 County Road 185, Sandia, TX 78373**

## Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 5, 2026

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (A)**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 /  
John 20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10



## Good News!

April 5, 2026

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (A)**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 / John 20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10

MIGUEL DULICK

We celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring, which is also the first Sunday after Passover. The whole history of the world comes to this point, and today's gospel catches the eternal thrill of that day. A desperate Mary Magdalen cannot find her Lord in the tomb. Thinking that his body has been stolen, she alerts the apostles. Peter and John go running, and a moment of unforgettable suspense follows as first Peter and then John enter the tomb. The details are significant. They saw the burial cloths there and "the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place" (John 20:7). Thieves would not have taken the time to unwrap the body and fold the face cloth. These details are intended to point to the truth of the resurrection. They saw and believed!

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the centurion Cornelius, the first prominent pagan convert. (His story is fascinating—take time to read it this week.) Peter gives a speech including a kind of catechism that had been standardized in a formula repeated at least six times in Acts. This proclamation, or kerygma, incorporates the message and the motivation for a change of life. God anointed Jesus, raised him from the dead, and promised that all who believe in him will be forgiven their sins and rise with him. Happy Easter! ●

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### Mass Schedule

**Sunday: 9:15 AM**

**St. John of the Cross**

**Saturday: 6:00 PM**

**Sunday: 7:30 AM, 11:00 AM ~ English**

**6:00 PM ~ Spanish**

**Daily Mass:**

**Mon., Tues., & Fri. ~ 8:00 AM**

**Thurs. (Sp.) ~ 6:00 PM ~**

**Adoration ~**

**Thurs. (Sp.) - 6:30PM**

**1st Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM**

### Reconciliation

**Thursday: 5:30 PM**

**Saturday: 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

**Sunday: 5:30PM**

Please contact Fr. Patrick by phone or email if you need to make an appointment for Confession or **Anointing of the Sick.**

### Parish Office Hours

**St. John of the Cross**

**Mon., Tues., Wed., and Thurs.**

**8:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

**1:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

**CLOSED FOR LUNCH**

**12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**

**OFFICE IS CLOSED**

**Fri., Sat., & Sun.**

# Worship & Prayer

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Sun.-April 5</b>	<b>9:15 AM</b>	† Terry Boudreaux by Robert & Nancy Vial † Jerry Cross by His Loving Family Altar & Rosary Society on their Communion Sunday People of the Parish
<b>Sun.-April 12</b>	<b>9:15 AM</b>	† Stuart Wofford by Robert & Nancy Vial People of the Parish

## PRAYER LIST

May He bless all who are in need of His strength, especially:

**Ana Culpepper, Henry Garrett, Kenton Heider, Paula Heider, Gerald Lindsey, Melba Malik, Cheryl Marshall, Adrian Nunez, Daniel Nunez, Phillip Torres, Paige Trevino, Adolfo Trevino, and Bo Weaver**



Praying for expecting mothers and their babies:  
**Theresa Laurienti and Ricki Rodriguez Choat**

Please contact the parish office for any additions or deletions.



## Praying for our Military

**We remember these service personnel in each 'Mass for the Families of the Parish'**

**Air Force:** Vincent Gordon, Preston Holliday, Christopher Lauer II, Alayah Moore, Deborah Thomas, Audrey Winstead

**Army:** Father Jim Craig, Magdeleena Delaney, Celine De Los Santos, Allen McDonald, Jacob Madrid, Eduardo Enrique Perales, Robert Ponce, Fernando Ramos III, Anthony Rios, Tyree Winstead

**Coast Guard:** Corey Bunton and Joshua Salinas

**Marines:** Aurora Alarcon, Hunter Frees, and Andre Rodriguez

**Navy:** Cory Elyasevich, Diane Martinez, and Noah Vasquez



Please pray for our  
**ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY!**

Please call the parish office or use the online form to submit names & branch of service.

## Stewardship of Treasure

<b>PREVIOUS WEEK</b>	03/22/2026	<b>CURRENT WEEK</b>	03/29/2026
<b>Collection</b>	\$922.00	<b>Collection</b>	\$672.00



**2025 Tax statements Church Donation Records** ~ If you would like a statement of your church donations during 2025 for tax filing, please call the Parish Office. To save paper and postage, statements will only be provided upon request.

## Parish Organizations

**ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY** NEXT MEETING: MAY 4, 2026 @ 2PM

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS # 8335** NEXT MEETING: APRIL 6, 2026



**CASA DE LUCY** MEETS ON TUESDAYS @ 9AM.

**Casa de Lucy Helping Hands Quilting Ministry** sews Prayer Quilts for the terminally / critically ill persons needing prayers. Please contact the office if you know anyone in need of a quilt.

## Religious Education



**FHC Masses:** Sunday, May 3, at 9AM and 2PM.  
Practice and third reconciliation Saturday, May 2, at 9AM

**Confirmation Mass:** Wednesday, May 13, at 6:00PM, at SJoC  
Practice: Wed., May 6, at 6PM.



## Works of Mercy

**Loom Kitting** ~ Parishioners are invited to meet in the SJoC parish hall on Mondays at 9AM to knit hats for patients at Driscoll Children's Hospital Oncology Department. Contact the parish office or Bertha Forbes for more information.

The next bread and pastries distributions will be at 9AM at **SJoC** on **Wednesday, April 8**, and at **St. Francis** on **Saturday, April 11**.



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions at 9AM at **St. John of the Cross** on **Thursday, May 7**, and at **St. Francis of Assisi** on **Saturday, April 25**.



# A Note From Our Pastor

¡Feliz Pascua!

Happy Easter!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

As the children go searching for their Easter Eggs, or are smashing cascarnes on the heads of their family, many are gathering the family around the matriarch's (or patriarch's) table to share their Easter meal. I can imagine all of the sliced hams, carne guisada, tortillas, kolaches, and other traditional cultural Easter foods shared at Easter. And I hope, of course, there are some tamales! Lots of Tamales! Then there are the chocolate covered faces of the children who finally get to have candy! Not to mention those who take the first cool refreshing swig of the soda that a person gave up in their Lenten Promises. *And for some it might be a refreshing cold brew or adult beverage!* And that first drink after the long season of Lent seems always to be so truly refreshing. (My dad said that cool beer always tasted a bit more refreshing and sweeter after the sweating and labor of mowing the yard.) It is that refreshing Spring Renewal after the cold and hard Winter. Yes, we are talking about the weather, but also about the human experience of the resurrection after the death.

When each of us has lost a loved one to death there is the time of shock and grieving, followed by a time of reevaluation of what this new life will be like, and then a new dawn – resurrection – to a new and different view of life and the world. This is a cycle that is repeated in our lives in so many ways! It might be just as simple as the dreaded getting out of bed and the first cup of coffee with the stretch and the going forward into the dawn of the new day of school or work or homelife. Or it may be the actual emotional resurrection from a time of loss and death of a former way of living or life, and the resurrection into a new world of reality. During the Paschal Triduum, (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil) my family celebrated these days with some family traditions to connect the days directly to our personal experience.

On Holy Thursday there is the washing of the feet, the Last Supper Meal, and the Agony in the Garden. We would take a moment and think of all of the good things we had done for one another in the family, for friends, or for community. Then intentionally we gathered for our evening meal and always added an empty chair to the table. The empty chair was to joyfully remember all of the many families, friends, and guests who had laughed with us as they joined us at the family meal over the last year! And the empty chair was for us to remember the agony and pain of all the family and friends who were no longer with us this year for which we would make a toast and prayer of remembrance.

On Good Friday, as we ate our Meal of fasting, it was a time to remember the pain, and suffering we had to deal with in the year – sickness, lack of money, painful moments in relationships, difficulties at work or school, and other moments when we thought we could not survive the pain – and realize that we had survived and grown stronger through it.

And then on Easter Sunday, we would see that new day as a “New Years’ Eve”, saying “good bye” to the darkness of the old year and “saying hello” to a new year and a new world of opportunity and light! Then in faith and hope, we would make resolutions and promises for the New Easter Year! Easter is the day when people were baptized, washed of their sins, and dressed in their new Easter garments (Baptism), anointed as new members of the church family (Confirmation), and sat at the family table for their first partaking of the family meal (First Communion), and joyfully entered into a new dawn and vision of God’s love. May your Easter be the same for you and your family. And may it be true for our parish family as well!

Love and Prayers on this Easter Morning!  
Fr. Patrick

## Upcoming Parish Event



# BBQ 1/2 Chicken plate fundraiser Sunday, April 26, 11:00AM—1:00PM

Plates are \$12 and come with pinto beans and potato salad.

Tickets are on sale now!

Get yours from a Knight or the parish office today!

DRIVE THRU with delivery to vehicle ONLY.



## Community

The Coastal Bend Blood Center will be at St. John of the Cross on **Sunday, April 19, from 8AM—1PM.**

Spring into action. Donate Blood.



Appointments are recommended and walk-ins are welcome. Scan the QR code or call the Blood Center at 361-855-4943 to schedule your life-saving appointment.



Donors will receive a Fishing for Donors t-shirt and a Longhorn Steakhouse coupon. While supplies last.



### Senior Corner-

The **St. John of the Cross Joint** and the **Knights of Columbus Scholarships** are now available in the church foyer, the parish office and the high school counselor's office.

**The KC Scholarship deadline is Thursday, April 30, and the Joint Scholarship deadline is Monday, May 4.**

**Graduation Mass—Sunday, May 17, at 11AM.**

Please let the parish office know if your graduating senior will participate.



## Liturgy & Sacraments

**Anointing of the Sick:** Upon request – please call the office. Any person who is sick (either homebound or in the hospital) or about to have surgery, is encouraged to receive Anointing of the Sick. As current Federal Law prohibits hospitals from the release of any patient's name. Father will not know you are in the hospital unless you call the office.

**Baptisms of Infants: (0 to 5 yrs.):** Please bring the child's civil birth certificate to the parish office to register the child, their parents & the Godparents for the one-hour Pre-Baptismal Preparation Class. Godparents must be able to provide Certificates for Catholic Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation, & if married, Marriage Certificate in the Catholic Church. Donation for the class and Baptism is \$30.00, for the class only is \$15.00. Date & time for the Baptism is scheduled after attending the Baptismal Class.

**Confessions:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation (or Confessions) is available on Thursday from 5:30 PM—6:00 PM and on Saturdays from 5:00 PM—5:30 PM and at any time by appointment with the Priest.

**Quinceañeras:** The honoree and their family must be registered and participating in the parish for two years prior to the year of the Quinceañera (or Quinceañero). The young person must have Baptism & Communion in the Catholic Church, & be attending the parish Religious Education Program. The family is strongly encouraged to contact the Church for **2 years** before the intended date.

**Marriage:** Arrangements must be made with the priest or deacon, preferably one year before the intended date, (minimum of six months in advance) to complete the necessary requirements. At least one person must be an active and registered member of this parish. No wedding date is guaranteed until ALL diocesan requirements have been fulfilled.

**Blessing of Civil Marriages –** If you were married before a judge, or a non-Catholic minister, and wish to be readmitted to Holy Communion, there needs to be a Blessing of your Civil Marriage. Please call the parish office and set up an appointment with Father Patrick so he can hear your particular situation and can guide you through the process. Father Patrick is always saying "Don't wait! Start the process NOW!"

# Diocesan News

The **Andrew Dinner** will be at St. Pius X Catholic Church on **Thursday, April 16**, at 6:00 p.m.



The Andrew Dinner is an opportunity for young men earnestly seeking God's will in their lives to share a meal and an evening of fraternity with Bishop Avilés and some of the priests of the diocese. The witness of priests in communion with the bishop is a powerful experience for those who feel they may be called to this life.

Young men interested in attending are asked to speak with their pastor.

Please RSVP to Father James Vasquez in the Office of Vocations at [jvasquez@diocesecc.org](mailto:jvasquez@diocesecc.org) or call (361) 882-6191 ext. 604.

**Let's Brighten Our Community** service retreat for high school teens will happen on **Saturday, April 18**, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Saint Patrick Church, located at 3350 South Alameda in Corpus Christi.

This will be a fun opportunity to gather in faith and fellowship.

Register at <https://diocesecc.org/lboc>



**CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES** ~ Bishop Mario A. Avilés, C.O. is hosting a fun celebration for our graduates on **Sunday, April 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

It will be a gathering filled with food, games, music, and more. Students will have an opportunity to meet fellow graduates and learn more about the Newman Centers and other Catholic groups to help them continue their faith journey after graduation.

There is no cost to attend. **RSVP by April 13th.** Spots are limited.



## The Inaugural Corpus Christi Cathedral Gala a Family Reunion

with Special Guest Speaker The Most Reverend Daniel E. Flores Bishop of Brownsville

Friday, May 22, 2026, 7:00PM,  
at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel.

Tickets and more information at [cathedralgala.com](http://cathedralgala.com)



## High School Leadership Retreat ~

Applications are now available for the upcoming High School Diocesan Leadership program and retreat. The retreat will be on **June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>** at Our Lady of Corpus Christi.

The cost is \$30 per person. Apply at <https://form.jotform.com/communicationsdofcc/leadership-liability>



## SAVE THE DATE

**CAMP ROOTED**, Diocesan camp, will be held **July 9th through July 11th** at the Spirit Center.

The cost to participate is \$75.

Registration details are coming soon.

This will be an amazing experience and parish youth leaders are encouraged to bring their groups of teens to be a part of this gathering that will focus on leadership, fellowship, and faith.

## Flocknote

Keep in touch with us via email & text!  
Text **SJCOG** to **84576**  
**Or Connect with us online at:**  
[www.stjohnog.flocknote.com](http://www.stjohnog.flocknote.com)

## Social Media



### Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/  
Stjohnogtx](http://www.facebook.com/Stjohnogtx)

## Live Streaming

### CORPUS CHRISTI CATHEDRAL:

**Sunday 9:30AM (ENG)  
and 11:00 AM (SPA)**

Available at: KDF-TV Ch 47 (9:30AM only),  
KLUX 89.5HD, or Diocese of CC Website

# Dear Padre,

***I'm marrying my girlfriend! Although she grew up Catholic, she doesn't practice the faith. Is it still OK to marry her?***

Will you enter marriage with your fiancée because of a mutual love for each other? Do you both understand that this love will be strengthened by the sacramental grace of your matrimonial union, a grace you will receive because of baptism, not practice? Will you both try to create a loving family and, together as a family, try to be open each day to the grace of God already at work in your lives? Do you both realize that this grace calls you to create, in the name of Jesus, a witness to the truth of the gospel, which is even more powerful than the love you share?

If you hesitate to answer any of these questions with a wholehearted "yes," then consider exploring these questions together with your pastor or another person helping to prepare you for marriage. Perfect faith is not required for a good, sacramental marriage. Openness to faith is believing that the Lord who has brought you together is not yet finished with either of you. You both have more to learn, and, with God's grace, you will respond to his love. Jesus will work through both of you in ways that you may not even be able to imagine. In that spirit, marry her, build a life together, and know that God's plan for you will always be there. ●

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org**



FUNIOA OEWIRKAWA / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

***Holy Saturday...is the day in which heaven visits earth most deeply. It is the time in which every corner of human history is touched by the light of Easter.... Nothing can be excluded from [Christ's] redemption. Not even our nights, not even our oldest faults, not even our broken bonds. There is no past so ruined, no history so compromised***

***that it cannot be touched by mercy.***

**GENERAL  
AUDIENCE, ROME,  
SEPTEMBER 24,  
2025**



MARCO IACOBELLI EPF / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Thursday	Sunday
April 6 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 2:14, 22-33 Mt 28:8-15	April 9 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 3:11-26 Lk 24:35-48	April 12 <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> <i>(Sunday of Divine Mercy)</i> Acts 2:42-47 1 Pt 1:3-9 Jn 20:19-31
Tuesday	Friday	
April 7 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 2:36-41 Jn 20:11-18	April 10 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 4:1-12 Jn 21:1-14	
Wednesday	Saturday	
April 8 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 3:1-10 Lk 24:13-35	April 11 <i>Octave of Easter</i> Acts 4:13-21 Mk 16:9-15	