

DECEMBER 14, 2025 | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday - 4:30 pm (Vigil)

Sunday - 8:30 am & 11:00 am

DAILY MASSES

Tuesday—Friday 8:00 am

1st Saturday of the Month 8:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00 pm— 4:00 pm

or by appointment

ROSARY

30 minutes prior to Mass on weekends.

ADORATION

Friday 9:00 am-6:00 pm

In the Family Life Center

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

CHURCH EMAIL

st_josephbaytown@stjosephbaytown.org

PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Thuc Nguyen

DEACON

Deacon George Rincon

BUSINESS MANAGER

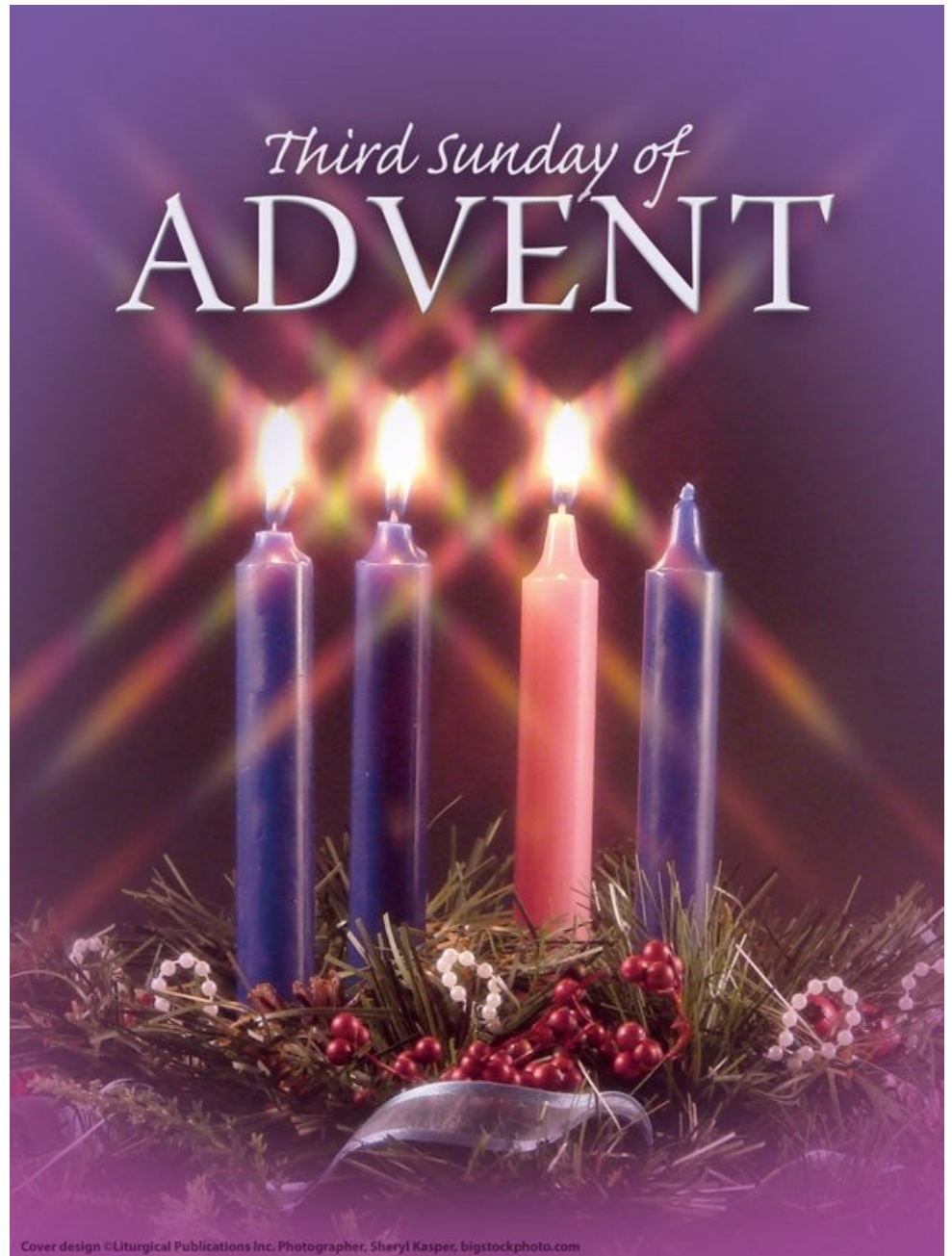
Mrs. Natalia Charles

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Ms. Ruth Venegas

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Sr. Maureen Nwajiobi, DMMM



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"Together we grow in faith through love for generations to come"

Address: 1907 Carolina Street, Baytown TX 77520 | Phone: 281.420.3588 | Website: stjosephbaytown.org

PRAYER & WORSHIP

December 14, 2025 | Third Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY 12/16	
8:00 am	
WEDNESDAY 12/17	
8:00 am	
THURSDAY 12/18	
8:00 am	Ed & Stephanie Kubicek
FRIDAY 12/19	
8:00 am	Lucy Deleon
SATURDAY 12/20	
4:30 pm	† Ruben Gutierrez, Sr.
SUNDAY 12/21	
8:30 am	
11:00 am	All the faithful
2:00 pm	All the faithful



SACRED HEART ALTAR

This week the candle on the Sacred Heart Altar will burn in memory of Carl Koenig. Requested by Peggy Koenig

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

If you would like to recognize a special person or group by having the flame of the Sanctuary Lamp burn for one week in the person’s memory of honor, please contact Peggy Koenig, coordinator at 281-427-1834.

CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM	
Parents who wish to present their child for Baptism may contact the church office at 281-420-3588 to enroll for a Baptism class.	
MARRIAGE	
Couples wishing to solemnize their marriage in this parish are invited to contact the pastor or one of the deacons not less than six months prior to the anticipated wedding date.	
ANOINTING OF THE SICK	
If you, a family member, or a friend wishes to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the church office at 281-420-3588.	



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Andrew Arceneaux	Alyssa Mena
Peggy Ball	Dahlia Meza
Eugene Bielamowicz	Jennifer Del Toro Mina
Richard Blanchard	Paul Mitchell
Shane Buss	Albert Motte Sr.
Skip Buttaccio	Jerry Mortus
Keith Coburn	Mark Murphy
Jessica Coleman	Ann Nelson
Matthew Connealy	Honour Netek
Governor Crawford	Martina Paiz
Antonio Deltoro	Dcn. George Rincon
Janice Donnelly	Bertha Salazar
Eric Emerson	Hermania Salinas
Mervin Elmore	Richard Salinas
Faustino Flores	Charles Salinas
Debbie Friermood	Alfred Santos
Jan Giroir	Robert “Vance” Sherwood
Dee Gilbert	Pennylane St. John
Paul Golla	Wallace St. John
Travis A. Goss	Helen Stacy
Eugene Grevenberg	Roberto Vasquez
Tammy Hoffeld	Brenda Vojacek
Edwina Hughes	Darrell Vojacek
Dr. Robert Hust	JoAnn Vojacek
Lily Jenkins	Michael Vojacek
Bily Jennings	Sharon Vojacek
Marie Juarez	Kent Wallace
Linda Kelly	Mary Williams
Kathleen Koenig	James Wroten
Peggy Koenig	Lee Wroten
Frank Kotrola	Margaret Wroten
Ed Kubicek	Brooke Zucha
Stephanie Kubicek	
John Lamonte	
Moreno Lundy	
Fred W. Marti	
Marcelino Martinez	
Juan Marquez	



Legion of Mary

Invites you to...

- *Learn more about the Catholic Faith
- *Enrich your prayer life
- *Develop Catholic Friendships
- *Grow closer to Jesus and His Mother

Join us as a guest at a Legion of Mary, we meet every Friday in the Convent at 8:45 am. For more information, please call Susan Wolff 713-542-8951 or Helen Motte 832-661-9969.

The Life After Loss Bereavement Support Group

will be on break through mid January, 2026. The Support group will resume meeting on Saturday morning January 24, 2026 from 9:00 am - 11:00 am at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 816 Park Drive, La Porte in the education building. The support group is offered to adults grieving the loss of a loved one. Pre-registration is welcome but not necessary. For more information please contact Susan Wolff at (713) 542-8951.

Impostor priest email/texting scams

Recently, there has been an increase in reports of fraudulent email solicitations for financial support, usually in the form of gift cards. These reports are coming from email accounts or text messages identifying as Archdiocesan priests. To minimize fraudulent impact, pastors are encouraged to remind their membership that priests/churches would never make such appeals to the parish community. Advise parishioners to notify the church office immediately if they receive any unfamiliar donation requests.

3rd Sunday of Advent December 14

That through daily prayer we gain patience and align ourselves with God and His plan for us. "You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." James 5:8 Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.



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Church Bazaars	Birthday/Anniversaries Receptions	Rectory Repairs	School Gala	Food for Families	Coats4Kids Program
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Public drawing to be held at the St. Joseph Church Family Life Center after all tickets are sold or February 8, 2026, whichever comes first.

Must be 18 yrs of age. Responsible for all taxes.
Need not be present to win.
All prizes must be claimed within 14 days of drawing.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

December 14, 2025 | Third Sunday of Advent

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who lived in a land of gloom, a light has shone." (Isaiah 9:1-2)

Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph,

Another liturgical year has begun! This scriptural passage beautifully captures Advent's themes of expectation and joy, reminding us that Christ's birth illuminates our path through sin and uncertainty as it fulfills the ancient promises of the prophets. It encourages reflection on how God's light enters our lives today, preparing us for the fullness of his presence at Christmas and beyond.

I am sure you have already noticed what Advent has brought that is different from other liturgical seasons, especially the Advent wreath. The Advent wreath is a cherished symbol in Catholic popular piety, particularly in homes and parishes during the Advent season, which prepares us all for the celebration of Christ's Nativity.

The wreath consists of evergreen branches forming a circle, symbolizing eternal life and God's unending faithfulness, with four candles that are lit progressively each Sunday of Advent. This practice serves as a domestic reminder of the Church's liturgical journey, fostering prayerful anticipation of Christ's coming in history, always present in the Eucharist, and at the end of time.

As Pope Benedict XVI explained, Advent reminds us that God "did not take himself away from the world" but enters our history as a humble visitor, transforming our daily struggles into opportunities for encounter. The wreath's candles are often violet, which symbolizes penance and preparation, with one rose-colored for Gaudete Sunday, which emphasizes joy.

Meanings of the Four Candles:

The Church's official documents emphasize the collective symbolism of the four candles as recalling "the various stages of salvation history prior to Christ's coming," rather than assigning rigid, individualized meanings to each one. Catholic tradition, rooted in the same salvation history, often interprets them as follows, drawing from the Sunday themes of Advent and the prophets' messages:

First Candle (Hope) - Lit on the First Sunday, it represents the hope given through the patriarchs and prophets, such as Abraham's covenant and Isaiah's visions of a coming Savior. It calls us to trust in God's faithfulness amid uncertainty.

Second Candle (Peace or Preparation) - Added on the Second Sunday, it symbolizes peace and the prophetic call to repentance, exemplified by figures like John the Baptist who prepare the way for the Lord (Is 40:3-5). It invites reflection on reconciling with God and others.

Third Candle (Joy) - Lit on the Third Sunday (Gaudete Sunday), often in rose to signify rejoicing, it evokes the joy of God's closeness, as proclaimed by the prophets and echoed in Mary's Magnificat. Despite trials, it reminds us of the Messiah's healing presence.

Fourth Candle (Love or Purity) - Kindled on the Fourth Sunday, it points to love manifested in the Annunciation to Mary, highlighting her fiat ("let it be done") as the culmination of salvation history's preparation. It focuses on pure-hearted waiting for Christ's birth.

The Advent wreath theologically invites us to active waiting, transforming Advent from mere anticipation into a transformative encounter with Christ's light. By lighting these candles weekly, we join the Church in professing that "the Lord is near" (Phil 4:5), preparing our hearts for the mystery of the Incarnation.

Blessings,

Rev. Thuc Nguyen

Pastor of St. Joseph Church Baytown



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH | BAYTOWN, TX

Christmas



“Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.”

*Join our parish family as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
All are welcome to gather in joy, hope, and thanksgiving!*

Christmas Eve Mass:

- 4:30 PM
- Midnight

Christmas Day Mass:

- 10:00 AM

**“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.”
Come, let us adore Him — Christ the Lord!**

WEEKLY DONATIONS

December 14, 2025 | Third Sunday of Advent

Current St. Joseph Parishioners Update Your Family Information Parish Soft gives current parishioners the opportunity to log in and update family information.

- 1. Go to the following link <https://galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com>.
- 2. A New User Registration Form will come up. Fill out the form and hit submit.
- 3. Your request will be sent to St. Joseph to obtain confirmation.
- 4. Once you receive confirmation, you may set a permanent password and make changes to your family information.
- 5. If you are not already a registered parishioner, this will send an email to the office and once approved you may complete your registration online.

This system allows you to add family members, but it does not allow you to delete them. If you need assistance in adding and/or deleting information or would like to provide your updated information via telephone or e-mail, please contact Natalia Charles at 281-420-3588 or businessmanager@stjosephbaytown.org



Capital Campaign
Parish Goal-2.1 Million
Total Given-345,856.20
Total Participants-144
Total Commitments Received-100
Total Households-271

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH BAYTOWN

RESTORING OUR CHURCH

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"Together we grow in faith through love for generations to come"

DSF SUMMARY REPORT
Parish Goal-\$28,000
Total Paid-\$ 22,454
Total Participants- 66
Total Households-271

SCAN HERE TO MAKE A GIFT

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT

The totals received in Mass, Online and in the Office for the week of December 14th will be reflected in next weekend's Bulletin due to early submission times.

COMMUNITY STAFF

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Gregorio Aguilar
Terri Alvarez
Eric Filyaw
Dahlia Meza
Maria Morfin
Jerry Mortus
Helen Motte
Sr. Maureen Nwajobi
Beth Vallagomesa

pastor@stjosephbaytown.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Yara Cardenas
Elizabeth Filyaw
Jennie Garcia
Belinda Gonzalez
Mary Juarez
Leasa Lopez
Linda Lopez
Dawn Mortus
Rita Rull
Phyllis Smith

Safe Environment

As a condition of volunteer service with the Archdiocese of Galveston Houston, all potential volunteers are required to complete the Child and Youth Protection Safe Environment training.

If you have not yet completed the training, please visit: <https://galvestonhouston.cmgconnect.org>

CMGConnect

FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation volunteers are still needed for the 2025-2026 school year.

- Classes have begun!
- Please call the Church office for any questions or to sign up.



CATECHISTS

- Please remember to sign into Capernaum and select a course of your choice to take for continuing education.



The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston has partnered with **MyCatholicWill** to help our parish families with the most essential element of their estate plans.

If you have not created your Last Will and Testament yet, the consequences for your loved ones could lead to unexpected burdens.

Nearly 70% of American adults have not prepared a last will. When a loved one passes without a will, families may face significant challenges to their financial stability. To address this need, the archdiocese is sponsoring free access to MyCatholicWill for all who may benefit.

Through this partnership with MyCatholicWill, we have made writing a will completely FREE for you. This is your opportunity to ensure your wishes are known and your family is protected. It is incredibly EASY. And it is a guided process that covers the needs of most adults and families.

Get started right now by going to MyCatholicWill.com/ArchGH. In as little as 20 minutes, you can protect your family by creating your Will today.

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the
Rosary
Daily.



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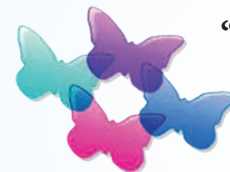
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