



December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ONE MIGHTIER
THAN I IS
COMING.

— MARK 1:7A —

**The Priests who serve Mary Queen Catholic Church
are Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette.**



Pastor

Rev. Thomas Vellappallil,
M.S.



Parochial Vicar

Rev. Trey Crespo,
M.S.

Priests in Residence

Rev. James H. Kuczynski, M.S.

Deacons

Vince Eklund, 281-482-1391
Darrell Moulton, 281-482-1391
Paul Robison, 281-482-1391
Derick Soares, 281-482-1391
Chuck Turner, 281-482-1391

Pastoral Administration

John Laine
Business Manager, ext. 309
Anita Shorosky
Archivist, ext. 315
Ray Valadez
Bookkeeper, ext. 313
Yolanda Linky
Bookkeeper, ext. 313
Rose Mary Baez
Coordinator of Ministries & Functions, ext. 219
Sofia Medrano
Communications Coordinator, ext. 334
Loretta Delaney
Receptionist, ext. 310

Pastoral Formation

Eby Kurian, M.A.
*Director of Adult Faith Formation & RCIA &
Confirmation Coordinator*, ext. 319
Carol Stuart
Director for Elementary Faith Formation, ext. 333
Terri Ryan
Director for Adolescent Catechesis & Evangelization, ext. 317
Tino Quiocho
Associate Youth Minister & Confirmation Coordinator, ext. 100
Olivia Snyder
Jr. High Faith Formation Coordinator
Andrea Richards
Faith Formation Administrative Assistant, ext. 329

Liturgy & Music

Dylan Ramirez
Director of Liturgy & Music, ext. 227
Ilani Marquez
Audio-Visual Assistant, ext. 334

Food Pantry/Social Concerns

Chris Austgen
Coordinator of Food Pantry/Social Concerns Ministry, ext. 328

Facilities Management

Chuck Turner
Facilities Manager, ext. 316
Chris Meaux
Maintenance, ext. 316
Charles Ganter
Maintenance Coordinator, ext. 316

606 Cedarwood Drive
Friendswood, TX 77546-4551
281-482-1391 281-482-4886 (fax)

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
**Missionaries of
Our Lady of La Salette**

www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org
www.lasalette.org

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Mass Schedule

Saturday

5:30 PM Vigil Mass

Sunday

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM and 4:30 PM

First Saturdays

8:30 AM

Daily Mass

8:30 AM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
6:30 PM Wednesday

Daily Rosary

after 8:30 AM Mass Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday (except First Friday)

First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

4:30 PM Tuesday - 5:45 PM Wednesday

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the church
Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 PM in the church

Welcome to Mary Queen!

If you are new to Mary Queen parish or visiting, please stop by with any questions regarding our parish. We would love to meet you! If you have been attending Mary Queen Church and consider this your parish community, please register with the Parish Office so we can keep an accurate census. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact our parish office or visit our website: www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org.

Mission Statement

Our Mary Queen community, inspired by faith and love, will live, worship, teach, welcome and support one another in the imitation of Christ.

2023 Mass Intentions

We are no longer accepting Mass Intention requests for the 2023 year. Call the parish office for information on Mass Intention requests for 2024.

If you have any questions about Mass Intentions, please contact Anita Shorosky at 281-482-1391 or anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org.

THIS WEEK

DECEMBER: MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sunday, December 10th

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM RCIA - "Breaking Open the Word" - AFF - Mini Hall
 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Respect Life Holy Hour - Chapel
 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Sisters Seeking Scripture - AFF - Rm 110/Library
 3:45 PM - 6:45 PM ARK - Junior High Sessions - Youth Center

Monday, December 11th

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Mary Queen Woodworkers - Mary's House
 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Gabriel Project Christmas Party - Mini Hall
 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM "Soulcore Session For Men & Women" - AFF-Main Hall
 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Special Friends Program - Main Hall
 6:15 PM - 8:15 PM Men's Small Study Group - AFF - Rm 110/Library
 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Cub Scout Bears Den Meeting - Rm 118
 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Cub Scout Lions Den Meeting - Rm 120
 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Cub Scout Tigers Den Meeting - Rm 116
 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Cub Scout Webelos Den Meeting - Rm 119
 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Cub Scouts Arrow of Lights Meeting - Rm 114/115
 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Cub Scouts Wolves Den Meeting - Rm 117
 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Our Lady of La Salette Prayer Group - Rm 125
 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM Cub Scout Committee Meeting - Rm 114/115

Tuesday, December 12th

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Mary Queen Seniors - Mini Hall
 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Mary's Chain of Love Ministry - Rm 114/115
 3:30 PM - 7:00 PM First Grade Christmas Play - EFF - Main Hall
 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM EFF Classes - Mini Hall - Classrooms
 4:30 PM Exposition for Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel
 5:45 PM - 7:00 PM EFF Classes - Mini Hall - Classrooms
 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Troop Scout Committee Meeting - Rm 114/115

Wednesday, December 13th

5:45 AM - 7:00 AM "That Man is You! Year 7 - Theme: 'Thy Kingdom Come' - AFF - Main Hall
 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Christian Meditation Prayer Group - Mary's House
 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM Church Audio System Upgrades Installation - Church
 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Queen's Bee Quilters Christmas Party - Main Hall
 3:30 PM - 7:00 PM First Grade Christmas Play - EFF - Main Hall
 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM High School Fall Open Hours - Youth Ministry - Youth Center
 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM EFF Classes - Mini Hall - Classrooms
 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Confessions - Church
 5:45 PM - 6:00 PM Benediction Concludes Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel
 5:45 PM - 7:00 PM EFF Classes - Mini Hall - Classrooms
 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Bay Area Serra Club Meeting - Rm 114/115
 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM College Students & Young Professionals Faith Sharing Small Group & Bible Study - Mary's House
 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Mary Queen Woodworkers - Mary's House
 7:15 PM - 8:15 PM "Soulcore Session For Men & Women" - AFF-Main Hall
 7:15 PM - 9:15 PM Women's Ministry Gift Exchange - Mini Hall
 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM "Flow Camp" Faith Sharing Group - Rm 110/Library

Thursday, December 14th

6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Sacrament Preparation - First Reconciliation Class - Main Hall
 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Main Hall Readiness Interviews - Main Hall
 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM RCIA & Adult Confirmation Sessions - Mini Hall
 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Creation Care Ministry Meeting - Rm 110/Library

Friday, December 15th

9:00 AM - 9:30 PM Bay Area Serra Club Christmas Banquet - Mini Hall

Saturday, December 16th

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM Men's Prayer Group - Rm 110/Library
 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Mary Queen Woodworkers - Mary's House
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM First Reconciliation - EFF - Church
 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hispanic Ministry - Posada - Main Hall
 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Reconciliation - Church

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 9th

5:30 PM †David Harrison, †Jayne Zehentner, Lucia Boone

Sunday, December 10th

7:30 AM †Joe Hartman, †George Whittet, †Luppino Family
 9:30 AM All Our Mary Queen Parishioners
 11:30 AM †Arnold Avillanoza, Shirley Weaver, Connie Zmurk
 4:30 PM †Hectory Tobon, †Timothy Mack, †Nestor Cruz, †Larry Larson

Monday, December 11th

8:30 AM †Edmund Zielke, †Michael Montz, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of the Chatron Family

Tuesday, December 12th

8:30 AM †Marie Kucera, †Juan Carlos Pujalt, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of the Arellano-Enriquez Families

Wednesday, December 13th

6:30 PM †Nestor Cruz, †Gloria Cruz, Respect Life

Thursday, December 14th

8:30 AM †Joe Russo, †Mike Vukelich, Miriam Kurian Eby – Birthday Blessings

Friday, December 15th

8:30 AM †Steve Young, Rita Madden, Michael & Susan Grygier – Anniversary Blessings

Saturday, December 16th

5:30 PM †Alan Norris, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of the Crawford Family, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of Billie & Milley Talley

Sunday, December 17th

7:30 AM †Thomas Chennadu, Carolina Pumarejo & Family, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of Judy Hodges
 9:30 AM †Whitney Wilson, †Ron & †Carol Handy, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of Clint & Dottie Carlin, Living & Deceased Loved Ones of Briggs & Smart Families
 11:30 AM All Our Mary Queen Parishioners
 4:30 PM †Alma & †Frank Berger, George Camara, †Dana Adams

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 10

That we are called to live holy lives and invite others to do the same.

"Prepare the way of the Lord..." - Mark 1:3

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?



TIME·TALENT·TREASURE

Offertory: November 18, 2023 - November 24, 2023

This includes offertory at Mass, mail-in and online giving.

Weekly Offertory Received: \$39,746.02

Weekly Budgeted Amount: \$44,592.00

Difference: (-\$4,845.98)

MP-Debt Reduction: \$854.00

Future Development & Maintenance: \$221.00

Total Food Pantry Donations with online: \$4,275.00

**Loan Balance as of November 30, 2023 was
\$1,263,567.52.**

*Thank you to all who have donated to the
Master Plan Debt Reduction.*

Upcoming Special/2nd Collections

December 10 - Retirement Fund for Religious

Diocesan Services Fund

2023 DSF Summary as of November 30, 2023

Parish Goal: \$185,000.00

Total Amount Paid: \$164,763.00

Total Number of Mary Queen Donors: 344

Total Number of Gifts received: 735

Total Number of Mary Queen Households: 2,545

To make your gift or for more information, please visit
www.archgh.org/dsf.

IGNITE Campaign

2022 IGNITE Summary as of November 30, 2023

Parish Goal: \$1,886,649.00

Total Amount Paid: \$526,424.00

Total Amount Pledged: \$591,091.54

Total Number of Gifts Received: 1,943

Total Number of Mary Queen Donors: 273

Total Number of Mary Queen Households: 2,545

To make your gift or for more information, please visit
www.archgh.org/about/ignite-capital-campaign.

We kindly request that all who submit donations by check please use black or blue ink to fill out the check. Unfortunately, our check reader is unable to read any other color ink. Thank you, and we appreciate your understanding with this matter!



Current Mary Queen 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 Mary Queen to obtain confirmation.
4. Once you receive confirmation, you may set a permanent password and make changes to your family information.

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 Anita Shorosky at 281-482-1391 or anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org.

FORMED

To sign up for FORMED, visit www.formed.org/signup

- Select your parish – Mary Queen 606 Cedarwood Dr., Friendswood, TX
- Register with your name and email address
- Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

They have also created a series of videos to guide you through logging in, signing up, and using the platform at <https://watch.formed.org/formed-help-1/season:1>.

FLOCKNOTE



Flocknote is the email communications platform Mary Queen uses to keep our parishioners informed about what's going on in the parish. The weekly eNews is sent out using Flocknote, and many of our ministries and other parish groups also use it to keep their members up to date with meeting news and other information.

If you are not receiving email communications from Mary Queen, sign up for Flocknote at <https://maryqueenchurch.flocknote.com/>.

ARCHIVES & ROOM RESERVATIONS

To request a copy of your parish records or to update your personal information, contact Anita Shorosky at anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org.

For room reservations and/or to schedule calendar events, contact Rose Mary at baezrm@maryqueenchurch.org.

- SACRAMENTS -




Sacrament of Baptism

Contact Anita Shorosky at the Parish Office to inquire about preparation for Baptism.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. in the church
Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the church
or by appointment.



Sacrament of First Eucharist

Youth Sacrament Classes are going on now! For more information or to register your child, contact Carol Stuart in the Parish Office.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Youth Confirmation classes are going on now! For more information or to register your child, contact Terri Ryan at the Parish Office.



Sacrament of Matrimony

Engaged couples or couples interested in validating their marriage through the Church should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance for preparation.



Sacrament of Holy Orders

The Religious Order of priests serving Mary Queen are Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette. To learn more about their order or our Vocations Ministry, visit our website.



Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

If you know someone who is sick or in the hospital, contact the Parish Office so we can visit and include them in our prayers.



RCIA: Christian Initiation of Adults

For inquiry into the Catholic Faith, contact Eby Kurian at the Parish Office.

Eucharistic Adoration



24 Hour Adoration

4:30 PM Tuesday - 5:45 PM Wednesday


First Friday Adoration

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
St. Joseph's Chapel

Respect Life Holy Hour

Sunday, December 10, 2023
2:00 PM - St. Joseph's Chapel

The Respect Life Ministry invites all to join to pray for all human life from the moment of conception until the last moment at death.



LIVE THE LITURGY

Christmas is fast approaching! Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. However, with all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2023 Advent & Christmas Mass Schedule

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23, 2023
5:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday, December 24, 2023
7:30 AM
9:30 AM

The Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24, 2023
4:00 PM (Children's Vigil Mass)
7:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Monday, December 25, 2023
12:00 AM (Midnight)
8:30 AM
10:30 AM



In 1531, Our Lady appeared to a simple Aztec Indian who had converted to the Catholic faith, Juan Diego. Three days later, at Juan Diego's request, Mary provided a sign in the form of roses and an image on his cloak so that all would believe that what he claimed to have seen was true. Today, Christians revere Our Lady of Guadalupe all throughout the world.

When Mary appeared to Juan Diego as Our Lady of Guadalupe, she had encouraging words for him. "Am I not here, I who am your mother?" In the image on Juan Diego's tilma (tunic), Mary identifies herself with the Aztec people. She has their hair and features, their symbolic maternity dress. She incorporated their important symbols of the sun, moon, and stars. The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass includes two Gospel options. Both are familiar passages from the Gospel of Luke - the Annunciation and the Visitation. Both are equally relevant to today's feast because Mary's yes to Christ isn't only to care for him but to come to us. Our Lady of Guadalupe is pregnant. The image bears witness to Mary's yes to conceive the Savior of the World. But even in her pregnancy, she goes to care for Elizabeth. Now Mother to all the world, Mary comes to the aid of her children, reminding them of her presence among them.

Church-approved Marian apparitions always point to her Son, Jesus. For many of us with a strong Marian devotion, Mary is a pathway into a stronger relationship with our Lord. Her generosity shown to Juan Diego is the same generosity shown to each of us that choose to ask her intercession. Families pray for one another and she is a very prominent member of our family. May the miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe be a sign of warmth for you in the cold of winter and of Advent hope for a Christ Child that has redeemed the world.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!

Holy Days Mass Schedule

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 30th
5:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday, December 31st
7:30 AM
9:30 AM
11:30 AM

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Sunday, December 31st
4:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

Monday, January 1st
8:30 AM
10:30 AM

PRACTICING CATHOLIC

PRAY & REFLECT

The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

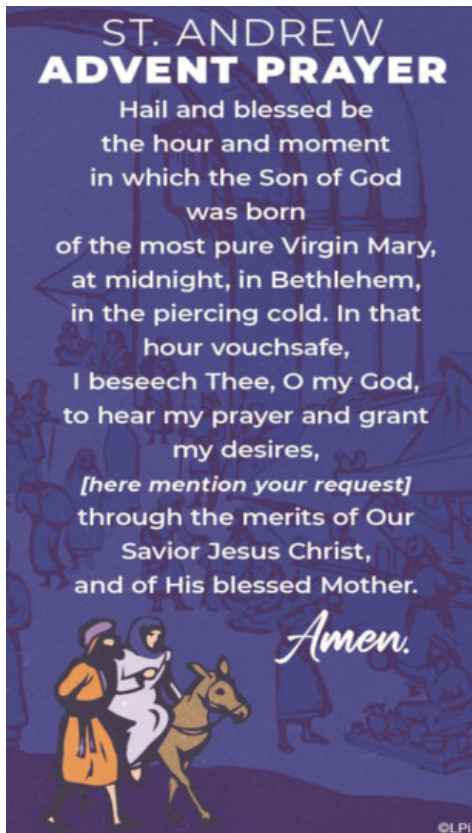
It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." — 2 Peter 3:13

©LPi



December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

DAILY READINGS

Sunday, December 10

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday, December 11

Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 12

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday, December 13

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 14

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 15

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, December 16

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday, December 17

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



Eby Kurian, Director of Adult Faith Formation & RCIA
281-482-1391 Ext. 319
ekurian@maryqueenchurch.org

'That Man is You!' (TMIY)



Fall 2023 Semester of 'That Man is You!' (TMIY) program in Mary Queen started on Wednesday, September 20th and will continue to meet until December 20th from 5:45 - 7:00AM in the Main Hall.

This is the **7th Year** of TMIY program in our parish, and this year's theme is **'Thy Kingdom Come.'**

Registration is **FREE!** Please contact Eby Kurian to sign up.

New Bible Study for Adults starting in January 2024!

Matthew: The King and His Kingdom

The book of Matthew brings the history of Christ to life. We see Jesus as the awaited



Messiah who fulfills the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament, establishes the New Law, and inaugurates the kingdom of heaven. Matthew: The King and His Kingdom, a twenty-four-part Bible study, explores how Jesus is challenging and empowering us to a new level of holiness and shows how we must be thoroughly immersed in the kingdom of heaven on earth, the Church, to live it.

Mary Queen's Adult Faith Formation Department will begin Matthew: The King and His Kingdom on January 16th. The course includes 24-lessons, online access to videos (1-year), a workbook & the small group discussions. All these are included in with purchase of the material for \$40.

Classes will be held weekly on Tuesdays from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at Mary's House.

For more information, please contact Eby Kurian.

Don't miss our upcoming SoulCore sessions, offered by our Adult Faith Formation Department, in collaboration with Certified SoulCore Leader, Aimee Kindle. These bi-weekly sessions are open to all men and women ages 18 and above. Join anytime! Learn more and register at bit.ly/SCMaryQueen.



Monday Morning Sessions
9:30 - 10:30 am in the Main Hall
Wednesday Evening Sessions
7:15 - 8:15 pm in the Main Hall
December - 11th & 13th



Journey through Advent with Fr. John Burns

Calling all the Young Adults: whether you are navigating life post-high school, attending college or trade school, or establishing yourself as an early career professional, join us for a new series during this season of Advent- 'Adore'.

You have a choice this Advent: Get caught up in the annual rush of shopping, decorating, and parties, or slow down and take a few minutes each day to remember who this season is about- JESUS.

In Adore, popular author and speaker Fr. John Burns and illustrator Valerie Delgado of Pax will help you reclaim the sacred sense of longing and joyful hope at the heart of Advent, focusing on a new theme each week - vigilance, preparation, nearness, and Emmanuel - that you can relate to your own life.

Join us on the following Wednesday evenings: December 6th, 13th & 20th after the 6:30 PM Holy Mass. All young adults of ages 18-35 are invited to attend our faith sharing small group session from 7:00-8:30 PM.

Please contact Eby Kurian at ekurian@maryqueenchurch.org or 281-482-1391 to get more information and/or to sign-up for this new series. To watch a promotional video of the series, visit <https://bit.ly/AdorePromo>.



The Mary Queen community joyfully and prayerfully welcomed 1 Child, 4 Youth, and 8 Adult Catechumens into the Order of Catechumens through the Celebration of the Rite of Acceptance, and 15 Adult Candidates during the Rite of Welcome to be received into Full Communion of the Catholic Church.

Find more photos on our social media pages!



Terri Ryan, Director for Adolescent Catechesis & Evangelization
 281- 482-1391 Ext. 317
tryan@maryqueenchurch.org

Final Meeting Dates of the Year

CAST

December 17th
 (Christmas Party)

ARK

December 10th
 (Wear ugly Christmas sweater)



Scan the QR code to sign-up on Flocknote!

TRIVIA NIGHT

FUNDRAISER
 SUPPORTING MARY QUEEN YOUTH MINISTRY

\$240

8-person table



\$30

individual ticket

REGISTER TODAY!



MUST BE 21 YEARS AND OLDER TO ATTEND

DINNER • TEAM COMPETITIONS • PRIZES • PHOTO BOOTH & MUCH MORE!



Carol Stuart, Director for Elementary Faith Formation
 281- 482-1391 Ext. 333
cstuart@maryqueenchurch.org

Final Class Dates of the Year

Tuesday Class Dates

December 12th

Wednesday Class Dates

December 13th

***Please direct children to the Mini Hall at the start of class.**

Other Important Upcoming Dates

12/12 & 12/13

First Grade Play – All relatives are invited. The play will be in the Main Hall during your 1st Grade child's class time.



FIRST RECONCILIATION

Interviews for First Reconciliation

Interview date: Thursday, December 14th

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Main Hall

Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Date: Saturday, December 16th

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Church

Students who have prepared during our fall classes will receive this beautiful Sacrament! Please arrive early and you will be seated as a family in the order which you arrive.

Two Hands of Christ

Only a few more weeks in the year remain to complete your act of service as a family. Please consider joining in an event to be the two hands of Christ for others.

Upcoming ways to assist:

Procession of Our Lady Of Guadalupe
 Posada

Assisting with an RCIA meal

Visit <https://bit.ly/HandsofChrist> for more information.

AROUND THE PARISH



Reminder!

The nursery will be closed Sunday, December 24th and Sunday, December 31st so that the staff may enjoy the holidays with their families.

Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) Update

With your gifts so far, our parish has funded \$164,000 toward our DSF commitment of \$185,000, leaving an unpaid balance of \$21,000, which is due by the end of the year.

And so, we ask two things of you – first, if you have already pledged a donation but not completely funded it yet, please do so before the end of the year. Second, for those of you who have not yet committed to this cause, prayerfully consider contributing before December 31st.

You can do so online through our Mary Queen app, by dropping off a check in the collection basket or at the church office, by scanning the QR code, or by visiting give.archgh.org. Please make sure all checks have DSF written in the memo.



Thank you for your consideration, and may God continue to bless you, your families, and our Mary Queen community.



Looking for a meaningful gift to give for Christmas?

Consider our Christmas Gift Catalog!

Christmas is right around the corner! Please consider donating a gift from our Mary Queen Social Concerns Gift Catalog in honor of a loved one. There are many options to choose from, ranging from \$5 to \$1,700. Each donation receives a card to send to the person whom you are gifting. Families in need will greatly benefit from your gift.

For more information, pick up a Gift Catalog from the Narthex or Reception Desk, or scan the QR code.

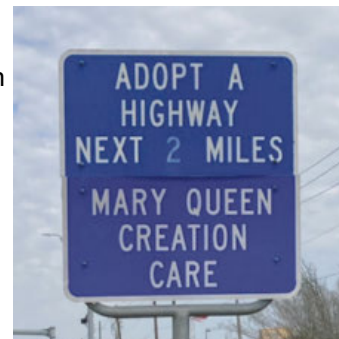


Our Christmas Giving Tree tags are now available.

Gifts need to be returned by this Sunday, December 10th.

The Mary Queen Creation Care Ministry will be having an Adopt-a-Highway event on Saturday, December 16th. We will meet in the parking lot of Windsong Elementary School at 7:30 AM.

For more information, contact Jen Hammerle at 281-961-1796.



We're Hiring

Dear Mary Queen Families,

After much discernment with her husband and family, Terri Ryan made the decision last spring to begin transitioning out of her staff position as Director of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization here at Mary Queen. Over the last nine months, our leadership has made significant progress in staffing the Youth Ministry Department with faithful, talented people that will be able to assist our next Director in picking up where Terri is leaving off to continue faithfully serving our Youth. She has loved her time serving the individuals and families of Mary Queen these last four and half years and wants to thank you for your support, friendship, and love. She has also expressed her gratitude for all the youth she has been able to share our Catholic faith with. They have given her the energy and drive necessary to strive to be the best she could be, and she will always cherish the time she had with them.

While Terri will be present for most of the remaining Sunday CAST nights scheduled for fall and spring, she is doing so as a volunteer. Her last official day as a staff member of Mary Queen will be on January 1st, 2024. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Terri for her time here and her willingness to assist Mary Queen in this period of transition. Our prayers are with her and her future ministry in the Church, and we'll be seeing Terri and her family in the pews here at Mary Queen.

Mary Queen Catholic Church is currently seeking a full-time Director of Youth Ministry.

For more information about the position and to view the full job description, visit www.maryqueencatholicchurch.org/employment-opportunities.

Interested candidates who meet the requirements listed in the job description are invited to submit a cover letter, resume, and references via email to John Laine, Business Manager, at jlaine@maryqueencatholicchurch.org.



Parishioners Don and Janice Goins celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, December 1st!

Congratulations to the happy couple on this incredible milestone! May God continue to bless your marriage for many more years to come.


PICK UP YOUR COPY OF THE WORD AMONG US

As part of the Eucharistic Revival Initiative, our Department of Adult Faith Formation is pleased to gift our families 'The Word Among Us' magazine, which is the largest monthly devotional for Catholics based on the Scripture readings from Mass.

Pick up the *Advent issue for December* in the Narthex!

The magazine is free to all, but donations are greatly appreciated and will be used to cover the subscription cost.

Donate at bit.ly/AdultFaithDonation or scan the QR code.



If you'd like to make a donation to our Adult Faith Formation department, visit bit.ly/AdultFaithDonation or scan the QR code.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A Catholic Conference on Aging: January 2024

Nurturing the Roots of Our Communal Tree:
A Catholic conference to honor and support aging

The event will be held in English and Spanish on
January 27th for older adults and family members.

Saturday, January 27th

8:30 AM -12:30 PM

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
(St. Andrew Community Center)

19222 Tomball Parkway Houston, TX 77070

Presentations featuring:

- Support for In-Home Care
- Essential Legal Planning
- Pre-Planning Funerals
- Aging with a Healthier Lifestyle
- Spiritual Care for Aging
- Senior Care Housing Options
- Community Providers to Support Aging

Registration required. This is a free event but seating is limited. For questions or assistance with registration, please call 713-741-8712 or visit www.archgh.org/aging.



"Come and Click" 2024

7 pm ET via ZOOM

January 22, February 26,

March 25, April 22

"Come and See" Weekend

June 7-11, 2024

contact

lasalettevocations@gmail.com to
register or for more info

Texas Catholic Herald

Find out what's happening around the Archdiocese in the digital edition of the Texas Catholic Herald! Read the latest issue online now at www.archgh.org/digitaleditions or visit www.archgh.org/tch.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE BRAVE MEN AND
WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES**

US Air Force:

A1C Jake Ainsworth, SSgt Chris Aubuchon,
Capt James Barrington, 2d Lt Paul Birmingham
Capt Andrew Bossert, Capt Stephanie Bossert,
Capt Stephen Chauvin, AB Nicholas Chavez,
Capt Benjamin Clements, A1C Miles Coleman,
A1C Alexis Copeland, A1C Phillip Downey,
Lt Col Bashir El-Khoury, Capt James Gregory,
A1C Jasper Gregory, SSgt Christopher Hammer,
SMSgt Joel Hebert, Maj Ramon Hernandez,
A1C Austin W. Laird, Capt Shane Lockridge,
A1C Andrew Merrifield, Capt Rachel Miller,
SSgt Brandon Ojala, Maj. Zac Pendleton,
2d Lt Joseph Revell, SrA Patrick Rettke,
Capt Chad Roberson, 2d Lt Harrison Spexarth,
C3C Jackson Spexarth, Col Brandon Sokora,
SSgt Amanda Solis, SSgt Nicholas Wolford

US Army:

SPC Andrew Burnett, PFC Isaac Gross,
SGT Matthew Knight, MAJ Michael Moad,
2LT Julian Monroig, CPT Brandon Nesrsta,
LTC Ryan Nesrsta, WO2 Patrick Nagorski,
SPC Brandon Patterson, SSG Kyle Perkins,
SPC Jesse Roberts, SPC Kaitlyn Strassner,
Sgt Emmanuel Thomas, MAJ Brian Y'Barbo,
CPT Christopher Zavesky

US Marine Corps:

2ndLt Ryan Cunningham, Capt Joshua Butts,
Lt Col Andrew Kelemen, 1stLt Jacob Perez,
Maj Norman Renfro

US Navy:

PO1 Chase Bourque, PO1 Randall Carmicheal,
CM3 Cullen Kelly, MA3 Marcus Reyes,
PO1 Anthony Rinehart, PO3 Kyle Shenkir, Jr.,
SN Rand Smith, CAPT Mike Svatek

US Space Force:

Spc3 Lucy Gregory

US Coast Guard:

Cadet 4/c Manon Murphy

If you have loved ones in the Armed Services and wish their names be listed in this column and to be remembered in our prayers, please email anitashorosky@maryqueenchurch.org. Include the rank of the individual, their name and their branch of service.

Thank you and God Bless America!

WE PRAY FOR...

Thekla Adam
Jonie Adams
Cindy Aguirre
Maria Mercedes Alva
Jose Arellano
George Arnold

Mike Barnard
Dolores Bolanos
Lucia Boone
Jonathan Brezinia
Toni Brown
Jesse Bustamante Family
Timothy Buzby

Rachel Chavez
Frances Collins
Thomas Cunningham

Dement Family
Jordan deCardenas

Enriquez Family
Patrick Ezeli

David Fattig
Guadalupe Flores
Milagro del Carmen
Sanchez Flores
Carol Foulker
Xavier Franco

Alonzo Ponce Garza
Natalie Genoa
Cloey Gomez
Juan Gonzalez
Matthew Gonzalez
Rev. Hugh Grace
Henry Gutierrez

Glenn Hannigan
Hunter Harris
Torivia Huerta

Renee Ives
Jose Juarez

Cati Kennepohl
Larry Kinane
Mimi Kinane
Suzie Kornblit
Gerry Kovach
Rev. James H.
Kuczynski, M.S.

Mark LaLonda
Samantha & Brad Laney
Robert Lindgren
Philip Lippold
Chris Lobue
Johnny Lobue
Sue Lobue
Lhey Luna

Anita Mantzel
Jake Martinez
Jean Maxwell
Robert Mireles Family
Gregorio Montoya

Mary Catherine Natali
Kevin Nicosia

Roger Pharris Family
Kelsey Phinney
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Mark Pitre
Curtis Post

Al Radous
Joan Radous
John Revell
Karen Riley-Campbell
Ritchey Family
Leonard Rodriguez
Maria Rodriguez
Rohan Family

Endalecio Salinas
Mary Alice Salinas
Joe Sambrano
Jose Segovia
Short Family
Special Needs Families
Lexie Stine

Bianca Tellez
Steve Telxeira
Preston Trahan
Charles Trovato Family

Unborn In The Womb

Ofelia Valdez
Audrey Van Buren
Zoe Vontour

Jeff Weihe

For all those who are Health Care Workers, First Responders, Social Service Workers,
those who continue to work to serve the community and all who are suffering and recovering from the Covid-19 virus.

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless our friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit and patience with pain. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



We offer the **Vigil Candle** as a Memorial Candle each week to interested parishioners who would like to request that it burn **"In Memory of..."** or **"In Honor of..."** a loved one, living or deceased. To reserve the candle, contact the Receptionist in the Parish Office at 281-482-1391. The name of your loved one will be published in the bulletin and near the Sanctuary Candle in the Church.

Prayer List Requests

If you have a family member or friend who needs special prayers by our parish community, please consider placing them on the Mary Queen Prayer List after getting their permission. Provide the name to Loretta Delaney at reception@maryqueenchurch.org. Names will be added to the list for 60 days. Once the initial time is up, we kindly ask that you not renew your request for another 60 days. Due to the overwhelming amount of requests, we will abide by this policy in order to accommodate all new prayer requests.

Advent Penance Services

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

ST. MARY OF THE EXPECTATION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

ST. HYACINTH CATHOLIC CHURCH
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

*All services begin at 7PM.



Communications Requests - Guidelines & Deadlines

**Bulletin, eNews, pulpit announcements,
website, or social media**

Contact: Sofia Medrano, Communications Coordinator
email: smedrano@maryqueenchurch.org
phone: 281-482-1391 x334
text: 409-218-8213

**Send pulpit announcement requests to Sofia Medrano
by the Tuesday before the requested Mass date.**
(Requests will be announced upon the pastor's approval.)

**Send bulletin submissions by noon on the deadline
dates listed below.**

December 31—already submitted
January 7—due December 13



Our Lady of Guadalupe

Question:

Is Our Lady of Guadalupe only a cultural devotion?

Answer:

You may be familiar with Our Lady of Guadalupe from devotions in Hispanic communities. There is a rich heritage originating in Mexico, the site of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe. But Mary is for all of us! Our Lady of Guadalupe is, in fact, named the patroness of all the Americas, from the Chilean Patagonian mountains to the Arctic islands of Canada. After Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego as a young, mestizo woman, conversions to Catholicism began to grow exponentially throughout Latin America. Our Lady of Guadalupe has been meaningful to the Mexican people, and her image and devotions have been incorporated as broader symbols of culture.

This apparition inspires across lines of nationality and culture. Juan Diego, recipient of the apparition, was a poor laborer. The famous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe did not appear on silk or stone, but on the simple, natural woven fibers of Juan Diego's tunic. The apparition affirms the dignity of the poor and shows striking solidarity. Mary appeared as the people appeared. In the apparition, Mary is indeed radiant, with the sun behind her and a cloak of stars around her. But her dress is simple, and she is pregnant. This apparition also reminds us of the sanctity of life and the need for life's protection at all stages. Mary's moving words to Juan Diego are words for us all: "Am I not here who am your mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Are you not in the folds of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms?"
©LPi

Jubilation to Share

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.

When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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We would like to thank Mary Queen parish for the support they give to St. Helen Catholic School.
Your prayers, donations and gifts are greatly appreciated and help our "Saints" grow in wisdom, age, and grace!

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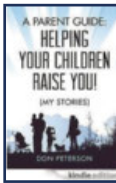
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