



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

May 27-28, 2017

P.O. Box 130 – 411 Ware St., Groom, TX 79039

Tele. & Fax: 806.248.7584,

Cell Phone: 806.316.4146

PARISH STAFF:



Pastor: Arokia Raj Samala – Parish Council: Ron Kuehler

Finance Council Chair: Rodney Bohr, Altar Society President: Debbie Ollinger

RCIA: Ron Kuehler, DRE: Nicole Kuehler, Youth Director: Kathleen Barkley, Bookkeeper: Sherri Wieberg

Parish Email: immaculateheartgroom@gmail.com Website: immaculateheartgroomtx.com

7th SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Ascension – The Ultimate Call to Prayer

"Within a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." —Acts 1:5

Jesus tried to give us the Holy Spirit three times. When He died on Calvary He gave over His Spirit (Jn 19:30), although only a few were present to receive the Spirit. Jesus' second attempt to give us the Holy Spirit was on the first resurrection night. He breathed on His apostles and commanded: "Receive the Holy Spirit" (Jn 20:22). It seems that they did not receive because they stayed locked up in the upper room. The Church received the fullness of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, after having devoted themselves to constant prayer for nine days (Acts 1:14).

Prayer is one of the keys to receiving the Holy Spirit. "If [we], with all [our] sins, know how to give [our] children good things, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him" (Lk 11:13). However, Jesus' followers have traditionally had difficulty spending one hour a day with Him in prayer (see Mt 26:40). Like Martha, we are sometimes upset with others who pray and with the Lord Who calls them to pray (see Lk 10:40ff). We must honestly admit that we are not praying people, praying families, or praying couples. However, prayer is necessary to receive the Spirit.

The Ascension of Jesus is the most powerful and successful call to prayer in the Bible. After the Ascension, apostles who didn't pray an hour in the garden of Gethsemani devoted themselves to constant prayer (Acts 1:14).

Prayer: On this holy day of the Ascension, the Lord offers us a special invitation to pray and a gift to pray. Accept the invitation, pray, and receive the Spirit.

Masses & Information

Monday, Thursday, Friday.....7:30 a.m.
Saturday:.....5:30 p.m.
Sunday:.....8:30 a.m.
Wednesday:.....6:00 p.m.
Confession: Saturday.....4:30-5:15 p.m.
Sunday:.....7:55-8:15 a.m. or by appointment
First Wednesday Adoration.7:00 – 10:00 p.m.
MARRIAGE PREPARTION: Contact Father Raj at least six months in advance.

BAPTISMS: Call the rectory for an appointment.

COMMUNION to shut-ins or the ill, call Fr. Raj at 248.7584 or 316.4146

Anyone who cannot come to the communion rail during Mass should let Father Raj know before Mass. Those who are ill or shut in should contact Bill Homer, if you would want communion brought to your home during the week or on weekends.

Masses Intentions

Saturday, May 20---5:30p.m.----- Tom Britten By Family

Sunday, May 21---11:00a.m.-- Tom Britten By Family

Monday, May 22--7:30a.m.---- Tom Britten By Family

Wednesday, May 24---6:00p.m.---Tom Britten By Family

Thursday, May 25---7:30a.m.---Tom Britten By Family

Friday, May 26-----7:30a.m.----- Tom Britten By Family

Stewardship Reports

Individual.....\$ 1615.00
Loose.....\$ 131.00
Children.....\$ 3.00
Total.....\$1749.00

Building Fund

Individual.....\$ 00.00
Loose.....\$ 00.00
Total.....\$5070.00

Pray for Our Sick

Brandi Sustaire, John Detten, Emma Detten, Tammy Bivens, Celeste Connelly, Conner Homer, Daniel Hinson, Schellon Major, Ralph Hutsell, Shamara Husemann, Bill Becker, Shawn Meidinger, Dorothy Weller, Jim Eakin, Charlene Weller, Leonard Koetting, Alina Becker, Leroy Littlefield, Anna Marie Wink, John Blackwell, Gary Collins, Buddy Weller and Floyd Schulte

Family Chalice Program

May 20/21 Nick Ashford Family
May 27/28 Keith, Kathleen, and Hallie Barkley
June 3/4 Pam and Cassie Ashford
June 10/11 Wayne, Adela, and Staci Kotara
June 17/18 Jerod and Tami Keesee
June 24/25 Joanie Kling Family

Birthdays

May 24th Dale Brooks
May 26th Grace Kuehler
May 30th Halle Barkley
June 2nd Loretta Kuehler & Blaine Britten

Anniversaries

May 29th Tony and Mary Treadwell
June 1st Fred and Anita Irby

Church Cleaning for May

Neysa Friemel, Julie Friemel, Jessica Britten, Carolyn Brooks, Joanie Kling, Jan Britten, Tonda Torres, Laura Kuehler, Barbara Homer, Doris Homer, Kathleen Barkley, Adela Kotatra

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, May 27, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Lauren and Stephen

Lectors: Cari Weinheimer

Extraor. Com. Minister: Kay Britten

Sunday, May 28, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Caroline and Saffron

Lectors: Jason Eugea

Extraor. Com. Minister: Michele Bohr

Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Derek and Ryan

Lectors: Gary Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Sharon Britten

Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Cody and Carrigan

Lectors: Kay Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Joannie Kling

Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Madison and Ali

Lectors: Cliff Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, June 11, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Alex and Damon

Lectors: Ron Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Bill Homer

Saturday, June 17, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Phineas and Saffron

Lectors: Jason Eugea

Extraor. Com. Minister: Carri Weinheimer

Sunday, June 18, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Owen and Trace

Lectors: Marcia Conrad

Extraor. Com. Minister: Marla Britten

Announcements:

TYM TEEN ACTS RETREAT June 29th through July 1st. TYM will pay for \$75 and we have a donor that has offered to pay the rest!!

CAMP OLOG Jr. High students TYM WILL PAY FOR THIS! You choose the date you want to go ANY kids can go 4th grade and up. Please ask for an application to any of these from Kathleen

TYM is caught up with our jobs and can take on more. If you have something you need help with just let us know!

***Please note:** This Year, Parish Picnic Mass is cancelled and also the Holy Day of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord has been transferred to the following Sunday, the Seventh Sunday after Easter.

PARISH UCA PLEDGE REPORT 2017-2018

Quota-----\$18,311.00

Pledged Amount----- \$13,465.00

Paid-----\$ 8,740.00

Balance-----\$ 4,725.00

Contact: Cara Ashford at 806-584-6250 or ashfordcar@gmail.com (preferred), if you have information for the bulletin.

Symbols of the Holy Spirit

The seal is a symbol close to that of anointing. "The Father has set his seal" on Christ and also seals us in him.⁵⁰ Because this seal indicates the indelible effect of the anointing with the Holy Spirit in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders, the image of the seal (sphragis) has been used in some theological traditions to express the indelible "character" imprinted by these three unrepeatable sacraments.

The hand. Jesus heals the sick and blesses little children by laying hands on them.⁵¹ In his name the apostles will do the same.⁵² Even more pointedly, it is by the Apostles' imposition of hands that the Holy Spirit is given.⁵³ The Letter to the Hebrews lists the imposition of hands among the "fundamental elements" of its teaching.⁵⁴ The Church has kept this sign of the all-powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit in its sacramental epicleses.

The finger. "It is by the finger of God that [Jesus] cast out demons."⁵⁵ If God's law was written on tablets of stone "by the finger of God," then the "letter from Christ" entrusted to the care of the apostles, is written "with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of human hearts."⁵⁶ The hymn Veni Creator Spiritus invokes the Holy Spirit as the "finger of the Father's right hand."⁵⁷

The dove. At the end of the flood, whose symbolism refers to Baptism, a dove released by Noah returns with a fresh olive-tree branch in its beak as a sign that the earth was again habitable.⁵⁸ When Christ comes up from the water of his baptism, the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, comes down upon him and remains with him.⁵⁹ The Spirit comes down and remains in the purified hearts of the baptized. In certain churches, the Eucharist is reserved in a metal receptacle in the form of a dove (columbarium) suspended above the altar. Christian iconography traditionally uses a dove to suggest the Spirit.

The **Women's & Teen ACTS** Retreats are coming up, and it's time to get yourself or someone you love on board!

TEACHERS -- the June Women's Retreat is your **PERFECT** opportunity to attend this amazing retreat! (The other women's retreat is in October.) So many teachers we talk with in October say, "Remind me for the June one." So here is your reminder!

You can sign up online through June 1 (the day registration ends). Don't let this opportunity pass you by! Women's Retreat, June 8 - 11, 2017 <http://actsamarillo.org/online-adult-registration>

The Teen Retreat is also coming up! Registration for this one will end June 22, so any teen who is 14 to 18 and has finished at least one semester of high school all the way up to those who have just graduated may attend. We hope to have a full retreat! Get signed up **TODAY!**

Teen Retreat June 29 - July 2, 2017 <http://actsamarillo.org/online-teen-registration>