



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Dec 23 – Dec 25, 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: Jason Eugea

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

RCIA: Tabitha Eggemeyer, DRE: Nicole Kuehler,

Youth Director: Kathleen Barkley, Bookkeeper: Sherri Wieberg

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



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT - THE PEACE OF CHRISTMAS

"I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance."

—2 Samuel 7:10

The Lord promised David rest from his enemies (2 Sm 7:11). This promise of peace was surprising since violence was David's "claim to fame" (see 1 Sm 18:7). From cutting off Goliath's head to setting up Uriah's murder, David lived an extremely violent life. People must have laughed when they heard David was promised peace. Nevertheless, the promise at first seemed fulfilled because David's son Solomon (Solomon means "peace") had a peaceful reign. But David's grandson Rehoboam started a civil war. One war led to more wars. Israel had no peace. It seemed as if God's promise of peace to David's house was not kept.

After almost a thousand years, the archangel Gabriel announced to Mary: "You shall conceive and bear a Son and give Him the name Jesus. Great will be His dignity and He will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of David His father" (Lk 1:31-32). When this Child was born on the first Christmas, the angels sang: "Glory to God in high heaven, peace on earth" (Lk 2:14). It seemed as if God's ancient promise of peace was finally fulfilled, for Jesus talked about loving enemies, turning the other cheek, making peace (Mt 5:44, 39, 9) and giving peace (Jn 14:27). However, we eventually killed Jesus, our Peace (Eph 2:14), and continue warring to the present day.

God's promise of peace to David's house has been fulfilled in Jesus. All who live totally for Jesus have peace beyond understanding (Phil 4:7). This peace is not something imposed on us, but Someone proposing to us. Accept Jesus our Peace.

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

Sunday, December 24--8.30 a.m. Sambo Kotara By Robert Bichsel

Christmas Vigil **5:30p.m.**--Tom Britten by Leon Bohr

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day --**9:00 a.m.** Earl Britten By Leon Bohr

Wednesday, December 27--6:00p.m. Mr.Bowling by Msgr. Raymond

Thursday, December 28--7:30 a.m. Mr.Bowling by Msgr. Raymond

Friday, December 29--7:30a.m.Mr.Bowling by Msgr. Raymond

Saturday, December 30--5:30 p.m Sambo Kotara By Robert Bichsel

Church Cleaning for December

Sandie Hickey, Marcia Conrad, Donna Barnett, Melanie Britten, Janice Koetting, Michele Bohr, Rita Lister, Connie Britten, Susan Britten, Rita Poor, Vanessa Eugea, Krista Johnson, Marissa Clement, Melanie King Britten, Lucita Hinson, and Dayna Britten

Pray for Our Sick

Brandi Sustaire, John Detten, Emma Detten, Tammy Bivens, Celeste Connelly, Daniel Hinson, Schellon Major, Ralph Hutsell, Shamara Husemann, Bill Becker, Jim Eakin, Charlene Weller, Leonard Koetting, Alina Becker, Anna Marie Wink, Gary Collins, Juanita Stacy, Willie Mae Barnett, Hank Winter, Brice Gable and Dylan Stafford

Family Chalice Program

December 23/24 Krista Johnson Family

December 30/31 Krista Johnson Family

January 6/7 Mike and Rita Lister

January 13/14 Nick and Cara Ashford

January 20/21 Johnny and Doris Homer

January 27/28 Rodney and Michele Bohr

February 3/4Clifton and Susan Britten

February 10/11 Rita Poor

Birthdays

Dec 23rd Rebecca Conrad Vincent

Dec 25th Karen Hollingsworth

Dec 26th Jerry Britten

Dec 27th Connie Britten, Kevin Brown and Angie Quintallia

Dec 29th Tony Treadwell, Macie Britten

Ingram, Andrew Britten

Anniversaries

Stewardship Reports

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, Dec 23, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Braxton and Zadyn

Lectors:

Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, Dec 24, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers:

Lectors: Kay Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Kathleen Barkley,
Vanessa Eugea and Tabitha Eggemeyer

Sunday, Dec 24, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers:

Lectors: Cliff Britten

Extraor. Com. Minister: Susan Britten, Jan
Britten and Marla Britten

Monday, Dec 25, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Servers: Derek and Ryan

Lectors: Ron Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Cari Weinheimer,
Michele Bohr and Joannie Kling

Saturday, Dec 30, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Ali and Madison

Lectors: Jason Eugea

Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea

Sunday, Dec 31, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: K'Leigh and Carrigan

Lectors: Marcia Conrad

Extraor. Com. Minister: Jan Britten, Jason
Eugea, and Nichole Kuehler

Saturday, Jan 6, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Lauren and Stephen

Lectors: Ron Kuehler

Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, Jan 7, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: K'Leigh and Carrigan

Lectors: Kay Britten

Announcements:

We need servers for Christmas Eve and Christmas day Masses.

We will be singing Christmas carols 15 minutes before Christmas Eve Mass. Choir members please joins us. No practice, thanks in advance.

Christ Child shower will be donations to Snak-Pak 4 Kids collections will during the Christian Mothers party and all through December.

Faith Formation Calendar:

Christmas Program Jan 7th following 11am Mass

*Christmas Masses: Sunday, Dec 24th at 5:30pm and Monday, Dec 25th at 9am

*New Year Masses: Sunday, Dec 31st at 5:30pm and Monday, January 01st at 9am

“During this Christmas season, we hear a lot about the “spirit of Christmas.” For some it’s giving; for others it’s joy, or family, or peace on earth. However, when we come to Luke’s account of that first Christmas, it is obvious that the “spirit of Christmas” is worship as shepherds on a hillside become the first heralds of the good news the angels proclaim.” “... Having received this news, the shepherds ran to see what the angels had announced, and after seeing with their own eyes they couldn’t keep it to themselves. Luke says, “When they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.” “Then, we are told, “The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.” This part of the story ends very much like it begins, with worship. At the beginning the shepherds were spectators, now they are participants. This is the intended progression for every person who encounters the Christmas story. “Christmas is about God coming to do for us what we could never do for ourselves. We were trapped in sin, so God sent a Savior to deliver us. That’s Christmas. “It’s not simply a story to admire; it’s truth that transforms!” I wish you all a Happy Christmas.

*Christmas & Year End Giving: Christmas and Year end giving is not only a Catholic tradition but Christmas marks the beginning of the Ultimate Gift- God’s gift of His only son, Jesus Christ. Christmas of course, celebrates the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. Tradition holds that the three kings or wise men followed the star to bring gifts to the newborn king, beginning a tradition of gift giving to the Christmas season we enjoy each and every year. But what about the gifts that God has bestowed upon each and every one of us during the year and throughout our life time? We are merely stewards of these gifts. Christmas and year’s end is a spiritual opportunity to make a return to God of His many blessings at Christmas and year’s end...