



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

March 10th – March 11th

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 LENT - THE DILEMMA OF BEING LOVED



"God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not die but may have eternal life." —John 3:16

God loves us with so great a love (Eph 2:4) that we are put in a position where we are obligated to respond. God decided to empty Himself (Phil 2:7) and become a human being. Then He decided to die on the cross for love of us. Next, He knocks on the door of our lives (Rv 3:20) so He can come in and permanently live inside us (see Jn 14:23). Then He decides to give us His body and blood under the appearance of bread and wine (see Mt 26:26-28).

We are free to ignore Jesus' Incarnation, crucifixion, and repeated knocks on our door; however, we may sense that this would be the grossest ingratitude bordering on blasphemy. If the Lord hadn't loved us so much and so faithfully, we wouldn't be in this constant dilemma of what to do about His love. However, if the Lord hadn't loved us so much, we wouldn't even have the opportunity to be free, saved, pure, and holy.

Because God is love, He gave us freedom. He will not force a person to love Him. Because we are free, we can decide to accept or reject God, to be with Him forever in heaven or without Him forever in hell. The greatness of God's love implies the magnitude of our freedom. God's love implies the existence of heaven and hell.

God has loved you with a perfect, infinite, crucified love. This is an unchangeable fact. What are you going to do about it? Will you love Him in return? Prayer: Father, You are Love. May I decide to live in Your love and live in You (1 Jn 4:16).

"You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working, and just so, you learn to love by loving. All those who think to learn in any other way deceive themselves." St. Francis de Sales

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 PREPARATION: 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, March 11--8.30 a.m. For our Christian Mothers

Monday, March 12--7:30 a.m. Sambo Kotara By Mike and Marla Britten

Wednesday, March 14--6:00p.m. Stations of the Cross by Children

Thursday, March 15--7:30 a.m. Sambo Kotara By Mike and Marla Britten

Friday, March 16--7:30a.m. Sambo Kotara By Mike and Marla Britten

Saturday, March 17--5:30 p.m. Earl Britten by Donnie & Marcia Conrad

Church Cleaning for March

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, Charleen Weller, Leonard Koetting, Alina Becker, Anna Marie Wink, Gary Collins, , Willie Mae Barnett, Dylan Stafford, James Weinheimer, Alice Britten, Alan Acker, David Swieres, Sherry Koetting, Georgann Hinson, Dale Brooks and Pam Bouse

Family Chalice Program

March 17/18 Mike and Marla Britten

March 24/25 Jerry, Melanie, and Trent Britten

March 31/ April 1 Cobb and Kay Britten

Birthdays

March 11th Jerry Britten

March 12th Toby Burgin, Karen Brown and Amy Weinheimer

March 14th Blake Barnett, Leo Britten and Bill Britten

March 15th Ava Ingram

Anniversaries

March 12th Kevin and Kara Brown

March 15th Corkey and Sandie Hickey

Stewardship Reports

02-25-18

Individual	\$1,543.00
Loose	\$ 291.00
Children	\$ 12.00
Total	\$1,846.00
Building Fund 2-25-18	
Total	\$ 350.00

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, March 10th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Stephen and Damon
Lectors: Ron Kuehler
Extraor. Com. Minister: Kevin Brown

Sunday, March 11th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Braxton and Zadyn
Lectors: Marcia Conrad
Extraor. Com. Minister: Michele Bohr, Sharon Britten and Tabitha Eggemeyer

Saturday, March 17th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Phineas and Kacie
Lectors: Jason Eugea
Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea

Sunday, March 18th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Grace and Kate
Lectors: Nick Kuehler
Extraor. Com. Minister: Nicole Kuehler, Sandie Hickey, and Susan Britten

Saturday, March 24th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Phineas and Kacie
Lectors: Jason Eugea
Extraor. Com. Minister: Vanessa Eugea

Sunday, March 25th, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Owen and Derek
Lectors: Cari Weinheimer
Extraor. Com. Minister: Joanie Kling, Melanie K. Britten, and Tabitha Eggemeyer

Announcements:

March 11th – Second collection for Building fund. **March 18th – Second collection for Catholic Relief Services**

Hello Parish Family,
Mike, myself and our children are hosting a 60th Birthday party for Mike. It will be Saturday March 24th after the 5:30 mass in our Parish Hall . We will serve a meal, ice tea, and birthday cake. B.Y.O.B. Bring the kids and let's party! R.S.V.P. by March 16th to Marla 806-223-8803.

Divine Mercy Schedule –

Good Friday – March 30th after Mass - Debbie Ollinger
For all mankind, especially sinners

Easter Vigil – Any time during the morning
For the souls of priests and religious

Easter Sunday – following Mass - Melanie Britten
For all devout and faithful souls

Monday, April 2nd – following Mass or other time during the day **VOLUNTEER NEEDED** For all those who do not believe in Jesus and those who do not yet know him

Tuesday, April 3rd - 6:30 p.m. Debbie Ollinger
For the souls of separated brethren

Wednesday, April 4th - after 6:00 Mass – CCD Classes

For the meek and humble souls and the souls of children

Thursday, April 5th – Following Mass or other time during the day **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

For the souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus' mercy

Friday April 6th – Following Mass or other time during the day **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

For the souls who are detained in Purgatory

Saturday April 7th – 9 am - Joannie Kling

For the souls that have become lukewarm
Sunday April 8th – Divine Mercy Sunday, following Mass – Chaplet of the Divine Mercy CD – Debbie or Melanie will start this.

Christian Mothers:

April 21st is the East Deanery Spring meeting at our Place!! Please mark this on your calendars and set up your babysitter now. The fee is \$30 which includes lunch and great speakers are being lined up. We received superior ratings on our hosting the Fall Diocesan Convention. Please come and enjoy this Saturday with ladies of our deanery. I will be updating the information on the speakers and items.

Announcements:

- *During Lent the Station of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 6:30pm.
- * March 7, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7p.m. until 10p.m.
- *March 29, Holy Thursday Mass at 7:30pm
- *March 30, Good Friday, the Lord's Passion at 7:30pm
- *March 31, Holy Saturday Easter Vigil at 8:15pm
- *April 01, Easter Sunday Mass at 8:30am.

***UCA 2017-18 Report**

Quota -----	\$14,797.00
Pledged -----	\$15,615.00
Paid-----	\$13,685.00
Due-----	\$1,112.00

***UCA 2018-19**

Every year the Diocese of Amarillo conducts its annual United Catholic Appeal after Easter. The appeal funds approximately 33% of the operational costs of the various ministries and programs the diocese offers to all of our parishes. This is a vital and very important appeal for the ongoing financial stability of our diocese. This year the united catholic appeal commitment Weekend is on April 21 and 22. This will give you two weekends after Easter to talk about and promote the UCA.

***Five (surprising) Places to Find God - Great opportunities for spiritual growth**

Many of us fall into the subtle trap of thinking the only place to find God is at church. If we're not expecting to find God everywhere, we might just miss great opportunities for help, healing, and spiritual growth. Here are five places where God awaits you:

1. **At Work:** The relationships you have, the results you achieve, the quality and mindfulness with which you do your work can all be the stuff of holiness. Plus, the money you earn to support your family and the esteem you hold as a contributor to the world can either help serve the kingdom or be an impediment to it. Each day we "suit up and show up" at work we get opportunities to learn more about ourselves and to contribute our gifts to the good of the world.
2. **In Difficult Relationships:** It's easy to love other people when everything's going well. But when there are hurt feelings, mistrust, or clashing wills, relationships don't feel very much as though they are of God. Yet it is at just those times, that we can witness the movement of God in our lives, leading us to healing, trust, and cooperation. These can be opportunities to let go of character defects and to exercise virtues.
3. **In Our Failings:** We all like to be heroes. But it's a given that each of us will fail in our lives. Nevertheless, when we hit our limits or even when we sin, we can turn to God for acceptance, mercy, and the strength to make amends and sin no more. In that turning to God and in our opening ourselves up to God's grace and forgiveness, we become better people.
4. **In Loneliness:** Our hearts are restless until they rest in you, O God. Rather than trying to fill the emptiness with mindless entertainment or indulging our cravings, sit still and find God in the emptiness. It takes patience and courage and humility, but you will hear the "still small voice" of God even in the midst of your emptiness responding to your loneliness and restlessness with the only love that fully satisfies.
5. **In Pleasure:** Many people seem to think that if something's fun, it must be at least partially wrong. Yet God gives us the world to live in and enjoy. In the words of St. Irenaeus, the "glory of God is a human being fully alive." Therefore, pleasure is a place to meet God, whether it be the pleasure of nature, of playing, of loving one another, of beauty, or of the occasional overwhelming conviction that we are loved by God.

