



Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the Infant Jesus, bringing Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts we bring – our time and service and a share of what we earn from the work we do – are far more precious in His sight.

MONDAY	1Jn 3:22—4:6; Mt 4:12-17,23-25
TUESDAY	1Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44
WEDNESDAY	1Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52
THURSDAY	1Jn 4:19—5:4; Lk 4:14-22
FRIDAY	1Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
SATURDAY	1Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30
SUNDAY	Is 42:1-4,6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17



We will have our regular monthly collection of food for our ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY this weekend. We are especially in need of peanut butter, jellies, dried beans and dried rice. Please pick up a bag from the back of church today and bring it back filled to help us feed the poor of our area. Thanks for your continuing help.

YOUTH MINISTRY

SPIRIT: 6th: 6:30-8pm Spiritual Learning Center
Al Rangel, 265-4343

JR. TEAM: 7th-8th: 6:30-8pm Spiritual Learning Center
Joan Rowan, 299/3509/297-5943

TEAM: 6:30-8:30pm FLC
Toni Stotts, 299-3508/297-0887

CONFIRMATION: 6:30-8:30pm FLC
Alice & Sean Artman 299-0048



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: The best gift a father can give his children is to love their mother. Consider a Marriage Encounter Weekend as a Christmas gift for you spouse and yourself. The next weekend will be held February 15-17. For further information contact Mark and Janet Glaser at (713) 665-4417 or Brian & Tina Little at (281) 485-5648 or visit www.geocities.com/~mehouston



The Beginning Experience Weekend is designed to help men and women who are widowed, separated or divorced, gently close the door on their former marriage. Healing, transformation, and the freedom to love again can occur when one works through the grief process associated with the end of a marriage. Persons suffering from the loss of any close relationship may also benefit from a Beginning Experience weekend. The next weekend is scheduled for January 25-27. Please contact Beginning Experience Information line at (281) 568-3418 or Judy Zrubek at (713) 771-7205 for registration or other information. Space is limited, confirmation required.
E-mail: beinfo@juno.com On line: www.beinfo.com

LORD, every nation on Earth will adore You.

MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 8 THROUGH JANUARY 13

TUESDAY	5:30P.M.	+Dr. James Nicholson, II offered by the Stotts Family
WEDNESDAY	8:30A.M.	+ Dorothy Sablatura offered by M/M Gilbert Bohuslav
THURSDAY	5:30P.M.	Kenneth George offered by M/M Erv Sterzinger
FRIDAY	8:30A.M.	+John Alfred "Buddy" Collins, Jr. offered by Irene McGaughey
SATURDAY	5:30P.M.	+ Evelyn Callahan offered by Joni Bergeron
SUNDAY	8:00A.M.	+ Josie Wleczyk offered by M/M Frank Novosad
	9:30A.M.	+ Juanita Garcia offered by the Menzel Family
	11:00 A.M	+ Jose Azevedo offered by M/M Forse

Please pray for those of our community who have requested our prayers:

Savana Allen, Hugo Arevalo, Billy Ray Barnett, Janet Barone, Robert Behr, Scott Blanchard, Josephine Bogo, Larry Cavaness, Ruth Cleaver, James Conalty, Mary Coxle, Cecil Cromeans, Lorene Cromeans, Anita Cromis, Pete D'Augusta, Barbara Dillon, Cody Drapela, Lenora Duval, Clarence Ebey, Payton Ewald, Marcella Ezell, Marcia Flournoy, Jared Floyd, Clarence Forse, Lucille Fourrier, Colette Easter Garcia, Craig Garrison, Barbara Grant, Edith Hall, Elizabeth Hance, Venita Harang, Dorothy Harnden, Mary Harnden, Lorraine Hayes, Kristen Hinojosa, Rae Holt, Brenda Kelley, Rebecca Kelly, Gloria Kissinger, Jerry Lacoume, Morris Landry, India Lane, Sarah Langston, Tim, & Larry Loftus, Robin Loftus, Cindy Lusk, Michael Maddox, Dionisio Martinez, Mary Martinez, Syl Matula, Mary McClintock, Irene McGaughey, Ed McGuckin, Vicky Melton, Royce Mullens, Ounida Muniza, Heloise Murray, Margaret Pasztor, Natalie Pena, Johnny Peres, III, Joe Dale Psencik, Elizabeth Record, Anna Mae Reixach, Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh, Christina Robinson, Jim Seidler, Sandy Sendejo, Erv Sterzinger, Coletta Stover, Billie Stricklin, Barney Supak, Joshua Teague, Lynda Thompson, Y Tran, Evelyn Tumlinson, Jennifer Villarreal, Anna Mae Walters, Patricia Williams, Shane Williams, Reese Williams, Ed Windler, Margaret Young, and Jack Yong



We pray the Rosary every Monday night at 7:00p.m. We also have a Communion service. Come join us to beg the Queen of Peace to intercede for us to her Son for world peace.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

St. Michael's now has an e-mail address to enable better, more efficient communication. The address is church@smlj.org. Don't forget to visit our website, www.smlj.org.



PARENT'S CORNER

The Eucharist

Friends are a high priority for your children. Your children's experience of friendship can be a launch pad for talking about the Eucharist, the Sacrament in which Christ is present and shares His life with us. We like to be with our friends. Jesus called us friends. John 5:15. The Eucharist makes it possible for us to be with Him. Jesus is really present in the Eucharist.

Talking to Your Children
About Being Catholic

Would you like to start the New Year getting to know the New Testament better? A course on the "New Testament" will be presented by Dr. Kathleen Weber, Professor of Biblical Studies at Most Holy Trinity Church in Angleton, The 6 week course will begin on Tuesday, January 8 at 7:30p.m. For more information contact Cheryl Scott at 849-2421. Registration forms are on the bulletin board in the Family Life Center Hallway.

PRO LIFE SATURDAY

Every Saturday morning from 8:00a.m. to 9:00a.m. in St. Michael's Adoration Chapel we will gather to honor the Blessed Mother and to pray for the life of the unborn and our nation. A Communion Service follows recitation of the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Please join us.

The Apostles of Life

Women of St. Michael's will meet on the 2nd Tuesday, January 8th, in the church for 8:30a.m. Mass, followed by a meeting and Live Auction in the Angelina Room. Make it, bake it, sew it, grow it, buy it, or bring that Christmas gift that's the wrong color. Use your imagination and bring your pocketbook. All proceeds benefit our St. Vincent de Paul Society.



St. Michael's Boy Scout Troop 324 is selling fertilizer, deco bark, and bark mulch to raise money for camping trips, summer camp, and equipment. The Troop will have a table set up in the Family Life Center the weekends of January 5 & 6 and January 12 & 13 after all Masses. The fertilizer will be delivered to your home in February. For more information contact Asst. Scoutmaster Ed Jacklitsch at 979-849-3467. Thank you for supporting our scouts.

ANGELS

by Paul Turner



"Angels, we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plain." Our voices blend with theirs in an unending hymn of praise at every Mass. They have made it big in recent years on Broadway, major league baseball, the best-seller list, and the top 40. Few doubt their influence.

Angels have secured a place in popular spirituality. The faithful who try to make sense out of good fortune or coincidence frequently attribute the incidents to the presence and activity of angels. For many, they resemble benign spiritual hackers who break into the data of our lives and rearrange the bits according to their own plans. However, in Scripture and in liturgy, they play a far less mischievous role.

Angels, properly speaking, are messengers. In the Bible they appear nearly as manifestations of God. When you ask someone to deliver a message for you, you expect the messenger's words to be received as your own, the messenger's presence to represent your own. That's what angels did. The Book of Tobit tells of the angel Raphael, who heals on behalf of God. Michael appears as the protector against evil in Daniel 10:21, Jude 9, and Revelation 12:7. And Gabriel brings the good news of salvation to Zechariah (Luke 1:11) and to Mary (Luke 1:26-27). However, Paul warned the Colossians against the worship of angels (Col 2:18).

At Mass, angels turn their attention toward God. They appear in every preface, before we sing the Holy, Holy. The first Eucharistic prayer asks that God's angel take the sacrifice to heaven. During the Creed we acclaim the God who has created not only things seen, but also things unseen – like angels. And each fall the archangels get their own feast (September 29) and the guardian angels follow (October 2). Prior to 1965, we ended every Mass with a prayer to St. Michael.

Thus, angels have secured a place in the Scripture and liturgy of our church. For us, they have performed as messengers of God's Word. For God, they worship with all creation. As messengers and worshipers, they model the responsibilities we share in the church to spread the good news and praise God.

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SPONSOR OF THE WEEK