



The Holy Spirit draws us together on this Third Sunday of Advent to rejoice as we wait in hope for the coming of Christ. Let our hearts be filled with joy as we hear John the Baptist call us to prepare the way for the Lord.

Readings for the Week of December 14, 2008

- Sunday** Third Sunday of Advent
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54;
1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
- Monday** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25; Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72; Mt 1:1-17
- Thursday** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72; Mt 1:18-25
- Friday** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71; Lk 1:5-25
- Saturday** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24; Lk 1:26-38
- Sunday** Fourth Sunday of Advent
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Daily readings: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/index.htm>



The third Advent candle urges us to be joyful – FULL of JOY. It is an overflowing feeling, much like the “glory of the Lord” which spilled out of heaven that ancient midnight. It spread from angel to shepherd...finally to US. Be joyful!

“Good news of great JOY to all people...” Luke 2:10

The Knights of Columbus will hold their next BLOOD DONOR DAY on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17th from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Hall of the Family Life Center.

Since this is not on a Sunday, we are taking appointments so you can schedule what time you wish to give blood. You can go to “eblooddrive.org” (login & click on “where to donate”—our code is 0628) on the internet or call Gilbert Bohuslav at 297-6800 to schedule an appointment. Appointments take priority over walk-ins but walk-ins are still welcome.

Christmas is a time for giving so please consider giving the **GIFT OF LIFE--your blood.** You may save someone's life.



Give Blood.
Give Life.

Free long sleeve T-SHIRTS to all donors as well as our annual HUG-A-BEAR for the children who are in the hospital during Christmas

Advent Penance Services - 7:00 p.m.

Weds, Dec 17th ANGLETON Most Holy Trinity
Thurs, Dec 18th WEST COLUMBIA St. John the Apostle



Monday, Dec 22nd at 7:00 p.m. will be our **Penance Service** here at **St. Michael the Archangel**. There will be 6 Priests to hear individual confessions following the communal service.

My soul
REJOICES
in my God.

DECEMBER 16 TO DECEMBER 21



Mass Intentions

- TUESDAY 5:30 P.M.** †Evelyn Kotrous Martin;
†Johnnie McGregor
- WEDNESDAY 8:30 A.M.** †Claire Crosley
†Clarence Forse
- THURSDAY 5:30 P.M.** †Theresia Ismiati Tirtowidjojo
- FRIDAY 8:30 A.M.** Staff of St. Michael's
- SATURDAY 5:30 P.M.** †Sylvia & Luis Codina
- SUNDAY 8:00 A.M.** †Larry James Bennett
- 9:30 A.M.** Patricia & Allen Williams
- 11:00 A.M.** Parishioners of St. Michael's

Beginning Dec 31st, names submitted for the prayer list will remain in the bulletin for one month. Please call the parish office with an update if you would like the name to remain on the prayer list for an additional period of time.

Karen Abdelkader, Carolyn Sue Allen, Arnold Areson, Brenda Bartlett, Ann Bomba, Paul Bono, Michael Brown, John Buettner, Doris Causbie, Robert Causbie, Kellie Chaney, John Henry Cook, Cecil Cromeans, Charlie Dirba, Lenora Duval, Leada Fecanin, Marcia Flournoy, Margaret Flournoy, Ann Foster, Betty Lou Furlong, **Emil Galetka**, Ashton Garrett, Michael Gillman, Arthur Haas, Paige Haas, Belia Hardesty, Maury Havlik, Pat Havlik, Dennis Heinroth, Jose Hernandez, Alice Jasek, Vickie Kaatz, John Karacostis, **Emily Krell**, Willie (Bill) Kubala, Mary LaCoume, **Julie Lange**, Sarah Langston, **Pat Latkovich**, Delia Luna, Bobby Marshall, **Marcella Martinez**, Gene Matus, Paula Matzke, Otis Mayes, Myra Lee McFarling, Ora Meritt, Raymond Muniza, Marty Murphy, Heloise Murray, Charlene Burrige Paschall, **Cindy Patlik**, Jim Pawelek, Mary Pelliccia, Lea Marie Perez, Cecelia Peterson, Marilyn Pikas, Joe Ragland, June Ragland, Kenny Rentrop, Ellen Rice, **Celeste Rohde**, Vince Rowan, Prudencia Sanchez, Catherine Schoppe, **Donna Schwertner**, Jim Seidler, June Stanke, Bill Stevens, Bud Stover, Edward John Thigpen, Tommy Tumlinson, Ernie Valdez, Loyd Wainscott, and **Jack Yonge**. (Bold denotes new on prayer list or in crisis.)



If you would like to make a donation towards the **Christmas flowers for the church**, please contact the Parish Office at 297-3041. The requested donation is \$15.00 per poinsettia.



Poinsettias



K of C PANCAKE

BREAKFAST -- Join us in the Family Life Center Hall **after the 8:00 and 9:30 a.m.**

Masses on Sunday, December 14th. Proceeds to

be used to buy Christmas gifts for local needy children.

Youth Ministry 7th – 12th Grade

DECEMBER

Dec 14th CLASS, 6:30-8:30

Dec 21st NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Dec 28th NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Dec 31st NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

JANUARY

Jan 4th NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Jan 11th CLASS, 6:30-8:30 - Vocation Night

Youth Ministry "SAVE THE DATE"

Jr High Youth Rally will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2009

Each Sunday during Advent we will have Evening Vespers. This will take place in the "F" Wing at 6:30p.m. Vespers is a beautiful, peaceful way to end each week and begin the next in this very busy season of Advent. Please join us in the "F" Wing this Sunday, Dec 14th.

Formation Toward Christian Ministry (FTCM) Semester II will begin on Jan 8th at Most Holy Trinity Church in Angleton. Classes will again be on Thursdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Registration Deadline is Dec 30th. This program offers basic theology and spiritual development to Catholic adults who want to deepen their commitment to Jesus and more fully answer their baptismal call to service as a mature disciple. Cost is \$25 to the participant for the semester, with the remaining \$50 being paid by St. Michael's and the Archdiocese. Semester I is NOT required for you to take Semester II. Registration forms can be found in the Hall of the Family Life Center or on-line at www.smlj.org. Contact the Parish office for more information.

Third Sunday of Advent B 1st Reading

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

A Christmas Wish List

Young children sit on Santa's lap to answer the question that consumes them these days: What do you want for Christmas? The child in each of us still wants stuff like toys and new clothes. But deep inside us we have more basic needs. We need security, fairness, and love. We want something huge for Christmas. We want peace on earth and justice for the oppressed. We want poverty eliminated and wars ceased. **Isaiah promises** we will not be disappointed. He promises that God will do such wondrous things that justice and praise will spring up in every nation. When God is the joy of our soul, Isaiah says, a robe of salvation clothes us and a mantle of justice enfolds us. When God is our joy, we feel as rich as royalty, no matter how poor our state. What does the earth want for Christmas? It wants good news for the poor, healing for the brokenhearted, liberty for captives, and release for prisoners. The earth wants what God alone can provide. What do you want for Christmas? Is it something for you or something for the earth? Will it hinder or help the earth get what it needs?

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The winner of the Mass Quiz \$25.00 cash gift card is Paula Price. Thanks to all of you who participated. If you want to learn more about the Mass and the Eucharist, go to ezine@smlj.org and sign up for our free monthly e-zine "Light for the World". Brought to you by Envision's Understanding the Mass and the Eucharist Team.

Mass Quiz

All answers were true except number 6. Candles are a sacramental, reminding us that Christ is the light of the world. They are also a Trinitarian symbol; God revealed himself to Moses in a burning bush and led the Hebrew people as a pillar of fire during the Exodus. The Holy Spirit descended as tongues of fire at Pentecost.

ST. MICHAEL'S VISION STATEMENT:

"A Eucharistic community in continual transformation, surrendering ourselves to God to be His instruments for world change."

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

- Are you searching for a church to call your own?
- Do you struggle with questions about life – death – suffering – hope – forgiveness – love – God?
- Ever Wonder Why Catholics worship the way they do?
- Do you have questions about what we really believe?



Look no further. If you are not Catholic, but are curious about the Church, or have a friend or family member who may be interested, or perhaps have some misconceptions about the Church. Inquiry is the place. All are welcome. For more information call Tommie Holt at 979-265-4685.



Did you miss receiving your Confirmation as a teenager or young adult? If so, now is the time to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Contact Tommie Holt at 265-4685 for more information.

We are in need of Sponsors for our current RCIA



process. You don't need to know all the answers -- you just need to be a practicing Confirmed Catholic, over the age of 18, who is ready to make a new friend and share your personal faith journey with them. A Sponsor gives support to their Candidate/Catechumen by walking their journey with them as a companion, by personal prayer, and of course attending the RCIA sessions and Mass with them. Sponsors also attend the different Rites with their Candidate/Catechumen. **This is a ministry where you get much, much more than you give.** This is an opportunity to grow in your faith as you help someone else grow in theirs. Please prayerfully consider making this spiritual journey with someone who is interested in coming into the Catholic Church. For more information, contact Orville Bellar 292-6750.

*****WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!*****

Shawn & Teresa Rodgers, Carol, Emily & Eileen; Edward & Anne Malik; Sue Kokos, Ralph & Suzanne Guerra, Adriana; Doug & Sarah Sheldon, Samuel; Sam & Rhonda Palasota; Brandon & Brenda Burks, David & Vanessa; Ryan & Cindy Gonzalez, Erin, & Ryan; Roy & Mary Guilherme, Robert & Laura; David & Babette Richardson, Davis; Richard & Susana Womack, Carly; David & Cynthia Adams, Aleigh, & Taylor; Justin & Emily Tucker; Edward & Andrea Harrington, Christopher; Jose & Prudencia Carrasco, Erick, Mercedes & Christina; Lupe & Nancy Lopez, Jamel & Anisa; Amanda White, Robyn & Sara; Patricia O'Dowd; Daniel Ramirez, Jessica & Annyssa; Jared Snyder & Penni Kindred, Trever, Rebecah, & Kelsey Kindred.