

# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF TYLER

## This week's Celebration of the Mass

Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 8:30 am  
Monday 9:00 am  
**Communion Service**  
Tuesday 9:00 am  
Wednesday 9:00 am  
Thursday 9:00 am  
Friday 9:00 am

## Adoration

Tuesday  
9:45 am - 12:30 pm  
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



## Reconciliation

Tuesday 9:45 - 10:30 am  
Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm  
Sunday Upon request  
Weekdays Upon request

## Sacrament of the Sick

Offered at first Friday  
Mass upon request.

## Marriage or Baptism

Contact the parish office  
six (6) months prior to the  
anticipated date.

1612 S FM 2869  
HOLLY LAKE RANCH, TX 75765

Parish Priest:	Fr. Francis O'Dowd PP; VF	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com
Deacon:	Dcn. John Erdag	949-285-5695	jerdag@hotmail.com
Office Manager:	Bridget Rich	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Kim Sine	903-769-3235	holy.spirit2@yahoo.com

First Sunday of Advent  
November 30, 2025

## TODAY'S READINGS

1ST READING  
IS 2 : 1 - 5

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:  
PS 122 : 1 - 9

2ND READING:  
ROM 13 : 11 - 14

GOSPEL:  
MT 24 : 37 - 44

*"Therefore, stay awake!  
For you do not know  
on which day your  
Lord will come."*

# First Sunday of Advent



## Pope Leo's November Intention

For the prevention of suicide. Let us pray that those who are tempted to die by suicide might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

## Church Organizations

<b>Financial Council</b>	Charlie Clymer
<b>Pastoral Council</b>	John Rigney
<b>Virtus</b>	
<b>Knights of Columbus</b>	Jerry Hauck
<b>4th Degree Knights</b>	Gary Laudt
<b>Legion of Mary</b>	Marge Clymer
	Jane Bidlack
<b>Food Pantry</b>	Bob Mailliard
<b>Music Ministry</b>	Carol Gleaves
<b>Rosary Makers/Prayer Blankets</b>	Carol Szczepanski
<b>Cenacle of Life</b>	Vicki Hauck
<b>Welcome</b>	

## Mass Intentions

<b>Sat 11/29</b>	<b>+Mary &amp; +David McNally</b> (M/M Clymer)
<b>Sun 11/30</b>	<b>+Tessie Lamadrid</b> (Lou Masferrer)
<b>Tues 12/2</b>	<b>+Charley &amp; +Beatrice Clymer</b> (M/M Clymer)
<b>Wed 12/3</b>	<b>Richard Boultinghouse</b> (Knights of Columbus)
<b>Thurs 12/4</b>	<b>Luke Davis</b> (Knights of Columbus)
<b>Fri 12/5</b>	<b>+John McGrane</b> (Nitija McGrane)



**Remember the sick of our parish:** Sharon Ryan; Marge Clymer; Mary Langhoff; Lillian Speights; Rebecca Niebrugge; Greg Mooney; Claire Sullivan; Kirk Wilder; David Barber; Deacon Sam; Elaine Arellano; Marissa Cowles; Judy Terry; Randy Munoz; Jess & Eva Corrigan; Elaine March & Rosemary Seltzer; Maureen Tucker; Patrick Wood; Margaret Smith-Cauley; Elmer Mulhollon; Pat Schmeier; Barbara Schneider; Helene Kaczowka; Emily Walker; Cindy Sue Erdag; Joe Bonneville; Joe Fazzio; Juan & Barbara Delgado; Avery Boultinghouse; Jo & Doris Hoffman; Roy Marchak; David Borel; Verna Sloan; Mike Stephens; Kathy Bowers; Msgr. Ron Diegel; Chris & Dave Paape; Richard Schuetz; Jodie Woods; Jean Hamilton; Kathleen Fleming; Jaye Anderson; Greg Mooney; Karee Haney; Charlie Parker; Jacob Stephens.



**Remember the active military of our parish:** Senior Chief Petty Officer, James Nichols, (Nephew of Dcn John & Cindy Sue Erdag). Cody Mitchell, LTJG Navy (Son-in-law of Stan & Terrie Evans). Ben Clymer, Sr Airman USAF (Grandson of Charlie & Marge). Captain Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan). Lt. Gary Buchanan; Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno AMT 2nd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Petty Officer 2 Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).



Need an extra hand around the house?  
Call a Knight. We are here to help with small projects around the house.  
Call: Bruce Becker 214-679-8331.

Anyone involved in any Ministry at our Parish, must be compliant on your Ethics and Integrity training with VIRTUS.

To sign up for training, please notify Holy Spirit's contact person:  
Justin Mahaffey 903-714-3649 or email him at:  
justin.mahaffey@icloud.com

## PARISH SUPPORT

<b>Attendance:</b>	11/22	SAT: 82	11/23	SUN: 69
<b>Collections from 11/22 - 11/23</b>				
Building & Maintenance		\$		0.00
Offertory		\$		2,486.99
Votive Candles		\$		4.00
Flowers		\$		0.00
Mass Intentions		\$		0.00

## NOVEMBER SECOND COLLECTIONS

11/1 & 11/2: Building and Maintenance Fund  
11/8 & 11/9: Christmas Flowers  
11/29 & 11/30: Campaign for Human Development  
Catholic Charities - Diocese of Tyler

Thank you for your generous contributions.  
Please remember Holy Spirit Catholic Church in your Will.

## NOVEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sat 11/29:** 5:00 pm Mass  
**Sun 11/30:** 8:30 am Mass

## DECEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mon 12/1:** 9:00 am Communion Service  
**Tues 12/2:** 9:00 am Mass  
Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
9:00 am Mass  
**3:00 pm Cenacles of Life**  
**5:00 pm Fundraiser Meeting**

**Thurs 12/4:** 9:00 am Mass  
**1:00 pm Legion of Mary**

**Fri 12/5:** 9:00 am Mass and Healing Service  
**9:30 am Rosary Makers**

**Sat 12/6:** 9:30 am Patriotic Rosary  
5:00 pm Mass

**Sun 12/7:** 8:30 am Mass  
**Knights of Columbus Breakfast**  
**Diocesan Offices & Holy Spirit Offices closed**  
**9:00 am Mass - Holy Day of Obligation**  
**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
6:00 pm OCIA Class

**Tues 12/9:** 9:00 am Mass  
Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Wed 12/10:** 9:00 am Mass  
10:30 am Bible Study  
**3:00 pm Cenacles of Life**

**Thurs 12/11:** 9:00 am Mass  
**1:00 pm Legion of Mary**

**Fri 12/12:** 9:00 am Mass  
**9:30 am Rosary Makers**

Happy Birthday, Fr. Francis  
December 3rd



## Holy Spirit Food Ministry

Our monthly Fill-a-Bag to Fight Hungry Ministry is this weekend. Please pick up a grocery bag in the narthex after Mass on October 18th & 19th. Then, return the filled bag the following week. Filled bags can be put in the bin outside the church office or handed to a Food Ministry member. Thank you for your continuing support of this crucial ministry that serves our community at HLR and its surrounding area.

If you know of anyone who needs help, please contact: Bob Mailliard (503-559-6022).

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US FEED THE HUNGRY IN OUR COMMUNITY



### SPECIAL OBSERVANCES



**Wednesday: St. Francis Xavier Priest** (Died in 1552 at age 46 on the island of Sancion off the China coast; from Navarre; one of the founding Jesuits; preached in India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and Japan; with St. Therese of the Child Jesus, co-patron of the Apostleship of Prayer and of the foreign missions.)



**Thursday: St. John Damascene Priest, Doctor of the Church** (Born in Damascus, a Muslim city, c 656; raised a Christian yet served as a finance minister or "grand vizier" at the court of the caliph where he was respected for his competence, fairness, and humility; became a monk, later a priest at the monastery of St. Sabas, near Jerusalem; first of the East to formulate a comprehensive synthesis of Christian dogma; main dogmatic work: "The Fount of Knowledge"; defended the veneration of images against iconoclasts; composed hymns and preached many homilies in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, especially her assumption; last of the Greek Fathers.)

### Toys for Tots Marine Corps Reserves

Unwrapped donations need to be dropped off in the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots box (located near the church office) no later than Sunday, December 13th.

### 2025 Angel Tree



Our angel tree is located in the Narthex of the Church. Please stop by and select on "Angel" (one of the less fortunate children, infants, or adults in our area). Return the unwrapped gifts in a white bag with the "Angel" tag tied to the outside.

"Angel" gifts must be returned by Sunday, December 7th so that they can be distributed within the community.

Thank you so much for your consideration of these children.



## Special Announcements

- First United Methodist Church invites our parishioners to their Christmas Concert, "Sounds of Praise" featuring their Handbell Choir, on Sunday, December 7th at 4:00 pm.
- **Monday, December 8th is the feast of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - a holy day of obligation. Please join us for Mass at 9:00 am. The Diocesan offices and Holy Spirit offices will be closed.**
- All Angel Tree donations need to be returned next Sunday, December 7th in a white plastic bag with the Angel attached to it.
- Toys for Tots items will be collected on Sunday, December 13th.
- Holy Spirit's Christmas Potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th. The list of needed side dishes will be posted this next week.

### 2026 Diocesan Women's Retreat

Women of the parish, you're invited to the 2026 Diocesan Women's Retreat on Saturday, March 21, at the Brookshire Center in Tyler. This retreat is a beautiful opportunity to be strengthened and encouraged in your faith through prayer, the sacraments, fellowship, and community. Parishioners in the Diocese of Tyler have early access to register during the month of November. Last year the retreat sold out in early January, so we encourage you to take advantage of this early access window before registration opens to the public.



The 2026 offertory envelopes will be in the narthex of the church next weekend. Our 2026 calendars have been ordered and are expected to be delivered this week.

## ADVENT



C	L	K	D	L	L	S	R	L	S	B	V	R	E	F	X
E	I	K	J	U	V	C	C	X	A	E	U	E	J	V	S
B	F	W	K	T	F	A	B	G	V	L	R	J	O	B	Q
E	P	P	K	I	J	N	V	F	I	X	O	S	E	A	Z
G	K	M	S	G	A	D	Y	L	O	E	G	I	E	N	Z
O	Y	V	B	A	V	L	K	U	U	V	L	C	P	Q	M
O	J	L	B	B	O	E	E	S	R	E	C	H	M	E	R
D	G	B	I	E	S	E	E	M	A	C	D	F	J	N	R
N	L	A	S	U	R	R	K	R	M	V	T	F	F	O	C
E	U	P	D	L	R	F	S	U	W	A	S	G	C	E	A
W	A	K	U	V	S	I	C	K	L	W	N	F	K	A	S
S	B	J	C	R	E	S	A	M	A	R	Y	U	Y	M	L
A	N	G	E	L	P	N	M	Y	A	V	H	R	E	I	Q
I	L	L	E	Y	L	L	T	B	P	N	F	T	L	L	P
S	N	Q	H	L	Y	F	E	B	X	K	D	P	J	D	L
J	E	S	U	S	I	W	R	E	A	T	H	R	D	R	G



MARY  
ANGEL  
JESUS  
ADVENT

CANDLE  
REJOICE  
SAVIOR

EMMANUEL  
GOODNEWS  
ISRAEL

JOSEPH  
PURPLE  
WREATH  
BELIEVE



## What is Advent?

Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the beginning the Church's liturgical year. It is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.



## ADVENT CALENDAR 2025

### Week 1

30 Sunday	1 Monday	2 Tuesday	3 Wednesday	4 Thursday	5 Friday	6 Saturday
<b>The First Sunday of Advent</b> Begin your journey by <u>blessing</u> your advent wreath. Light the first violet candle and sing "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	What can you do this advent to prepare you heart and life for the coming of Christ?	They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. (IS 2:4)	"Peace begins with each one of us: in the way we look at others, listen to others and speak about others." (Pope Leo XIV, Speech 5/12/25)	Spend some time writing Christmas cards or sending Christmas greetings. Before bed, say a prayer of thanksgiving for all of the people who have enriched your life and strengthened your faith.	Make plans to receive the gift of God's mercy in the Sacrament of Penance during this Advent season.	Today is the Memorial of Saint Nicholas. Follow his example of generosity by giving the gift of your time, treasure, or talent to those in need.

## What is an Advent Wreath?

The Advent wreath is one of the most symbolic traditions for the season of Advent. With its colorful candles lit on each of the four weeks of Advent, the wreath is a reminder of the hope and joy coming. Advent wreaths are not exclusive to churches; many families and individuals have an Advent wreath at home and observe the tradition of lighting the candles for each Sunday.



**Circular Shape:** The circular shape of the wreath represents the eternal nature of God—His never-ending love, mercy, and faithfulness. It also symbolizes the unending cycle of seasons and the continuous nature of time.

**Evergreen Branches:** Evergreen branches, which do not lose their leaves in winter, represent the everlasting life found in Christ. They are a symbol of hope and renewal, pointing to the promise of eternal life through Jesus.

**Lighting of Candles:** The lighting of the candles is an important tradition during Advent. Each week, an additional candle is lit to symbolize the increasing anticipation and preparation for the arrival of Jesus. The light from the candles represents the light of Christ coming into the world.

Holly leaves, berries, and seeds are also added to the Advent wreath. Holly leaves can be prickly and, therefore, used to represent the crown of thorns placed on Jesus's head during his crucifixion. Berries, which are typically red, also point to Christ's sacrifice and the bloodshed for sins. Pinecones, seeds, and nuts are also placed within the wreath as a symbol and promise of new life. Together, the elements of the Advent wreath reflect the new life and eternal salvation offered through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who we now celebrate.