

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

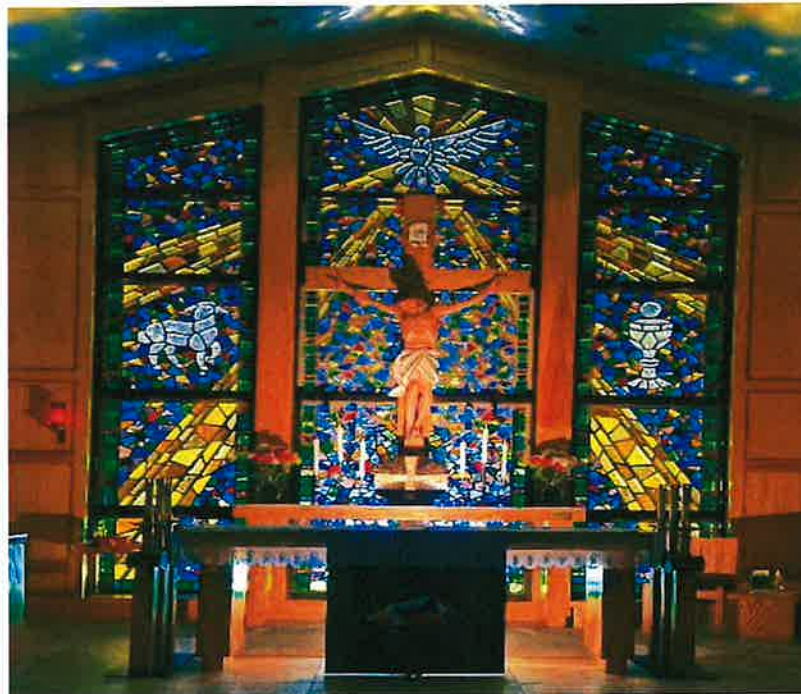
DIocese of TYLER

This week's Celebration of the Mass

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am
Monday 9:00 am
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

Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025

TODAY'S READINGS

1ST READING
IS 11 : 1 - 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
PS 72 : 1 - 2; 7 - 8; 12 - 13; 17

2ND READING:
ROM 15 : 4 - 9

GOSPEL:
MT 23 : 1 - 12



A special Christmas season welcome to:

Bishop Gregory Kelly-Tyler

**On behalf of the parishioners of Holy Spirit Catholic
Church, we would like to wish you a Blessed and
Holy Christmas.**

With regards,

Father Francis O'Dowd

Second Sunday of Advent



Pope Leo's December Intention

For Christians in area of conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Church Organizations

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

PARISH SUPPORT

Attendance:	11/29	SAT: 64	11/30	SUN: 96
Collections from 11/29 - 11/30				
Building & Maintenance		\$		300.00
Offertory		\$		1,648.00
Votive Candles		\$		36.75
Flowers		\$		63.00
Campaign Human Dev		\$		102.00
Catholic Charities—Diocese		\$		142.00

DECEMBER SECOND COLLECTIONS

12/6 & 12/7: Building and Maintenance Fund
 12/13 & 12/14: Retirement fund for Religious
 11/29 & 11/30: Caring for Priests

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



Mass Intentions

Sat	12/6	+Michael Jernigan (M/M Clymer)
Sun	12/7	+Rudolph and +Marie Soukup (Ruddie)
Mon	12/8	Hilary Moore (Carolyn Aucoin)
Tues	12/9	+John McGrane (Nitja)
Wed	12/10	+Dale Boman (M/M Clymer)
Thurs	12/11	Justin Mahaffey (Knights of Columbus)
Fri	12/12	Joseph Fazio (Knights of Columbus)



Remember the sick of our parish: Sharon Ryan; Marge Clymer; Mary Langhoff; Lillian Speights; Rebecca Niebruge; 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 Fazio; 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

DECEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Sat 12/6:</u>	9:30 am Patriotic Rosary 5:00 pm Mass
<u>Sun 12/7:</u>	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
<u>Mon 12/8:</u>	9:00 am Mass Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
<u>Tues 12/9:</u>	9:00 am Mass Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
<u>Wed 12/10:</u>	9:00 am Mass 10:30 am Bible Study 12:00 pm FINAL ANGEL TREE DROP OFF 3:00 pm Cenacles of Life
<u>Thurs 12/11:</u>	9:00 am Mass 1:00 pm Legion of Mary
<u>Fri 12/12:</u>	9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Rosary Makers
<u>Sat 12/13:</u>	12:00 pm FINAL TOYS FOR TOTS DROP OFF 5:00 pm Mass
<u>Sun 12/14:</u>	8:30 am Mass
<u>Mon 12/15:</u>	9:00 am Communion Service
<u>Tues 12/16:</u>	9:00 am Mass ADVENT CONFESSIONS: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration 9:30 am - 12:30 pm ADVENT CONFESSIONS: 5:00 pm - 7:00pm Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
<u>Wed 12/17:</u>	9:00 am Mass 10:30 am Bible Study 3:00 pm Cenacles of Life 5:30 pm Parish PotLuck Dinner
<u>Thurs 12/18:</u>	9:00 am Communion Service 1:00 pm Legion of Mary
<u>Fri 12/19:</u>	9:00 am Mass 9:30 am Rosary Makers 10:00 am CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES DELIVERED 3:00 PM Divine Mercy and Rosary Hour

Holy Spirit Food Ministry Community
CHRISTMAS

Food Boxes

The Holy Spirit Food Ministry is gathering donations for our Christmas Food Boxes. We are looking for the following items:

cake mixes with icing, Jiffy muffin mix, instant potatoes, stuffing mix, brown gravy packets, cranberry sauce, and \$30 grocery gift cards (to help pay for meat products)

Donations need to be in by December 17th as the boxes will be delivered on December 19th.

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

Saturday: St. Nicholas, Bishop (Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor; model pastor noted for charity; popularizes as Santa Claus [anglicized from Dutch "Sinter Claus"]; patron of children, bankers, pawnbrokers, sailors, perfumers, brides, unmarried women, travelers, fishermen, dock workers, brewers, poets, and prisoners.)

Monday: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Originated in the 7th c the "Conception of Mary by St. Anne" by Pope Clement XI, establishing the Solemnity for the entire Church in 1708; patroness of the United States of America, Spain, Tanzania, and Democratic Republic of the Congo.)

Tuesday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin (In 1531, Our Lady appeared 4 times to a native convert, Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin [meaning "the talking eagle"], at Tepeyac, near Mexico City. A member of the Chichimeca people, he was perhaps a leader of his own people and may have been involved in the area's textile industry. Known for his holiness, he devoted himself, tradition says, to the pilgrims who came to see the miraculous image of Mary imprinted on his cloak. Pope John Paul II canonized him.)

Wednesday: Our Lady of Loreto (Recently added to the General Roman Calendar by Pope Francis, the Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto recalls the mystery of the Incarnation. Since the Middle Ages, veneration for the Holy House of Loreto has powerfully illustrated the evangelical virtues of the Holy Family. A Marian Litany, also known as the Litany of Loreto, has its first-known origins at the Shrine of Our Lady of Loreto—Italy, where its usage was recorded as early as 1558. She is the patron saint of aviation.)

Thursday: St. Damasus I, Pope (Preserved papal archives; devoted to the relics and resting places of martyrs; combated the anti-pope, Ursinus, as well as Arian and Donatist heresies; first pope to speak of Rome as the "Apostolic See"; encouraged St. Jerome to produce a new translation of the Latin Bible, later to form the main part of the Vulgate.)

Friday: OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE (Today's feast recalls the apparitions of Mary at the hill of Tepeyac from Dec 9 - 12, 1531 to the native convert, St. Juan Diego; known to the Aztecs as "Tecoatlaxope" [or "de Guadalupe" in Spanish] meaning "she will crush the serpent of stone"; declared patroness of the Americas by Pope Pius XII and raised to the rank of Feast for all the countries of the Americas by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, March 25, 1999.)



Special Announcements

- Please join us for the "Best breakfast in town". The Knights of Columbus is hosting its monthly breakfast deal after Mass this Sunday. Adults (18 & over) eat for \$5, Everyone else eats for free!
- All Angel Tree donations need to be returned next Wednesday, December 10th (by noon) in a white plastic bag with the Angel attached to it.
- Toys for Tots items will be collected on Sunday, December 13th.
- On Saturday, December 13th, all Liturgy Ministry volunteers will meet from 9:00 am - 1:30 pm for certification training. You should have received an email from Deacon John on November 26th with details.
- Holy Spirit's Christmas Potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex—stop by and add your "gourmet" appetizers, salads, or sides.



**Gracias, Thank you,
 Grates tibi, dziękuję,**

With a heart full of gratitude, I thank each and everyone of you who were so thoughtful to remember me on my birthday and, also, in celebrating my ordination anniversary.

God bless you all,
 Fr. Francis O'Dowd

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas



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

Because of the extreme quick, turn-around, we have a few "Angels" remaining on our tree in the Narthex. Consequently, we have extended the Angel Tree deadline to this Wednesday, December 10th at noon. Please stop by and select an "Angel".

Thank you so much for your consideration of these children.



“Advent Conversion”

“Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand” – Matthew 3:1

Through our Gospel reading for this second week of Advent, we continue to prepare to receive Jesus at Christmas. In today’s reading we hear John the Baptist give us a strong message of God’s mercy and forgiveness. But John’s message is more than a herald of the One who is coming to “Baptize us with the Holy Spirit and fire”. It is also a warning to us as a call to action.

“Repent. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths.” Repent is an action word. And that’s what this season of Advent is about for us. It’s about taking action. It’s about a new start in our lives. A conversion. Through this Advent season of reflection, we are called to continue to mold our lives to live the way Jesus wants us to live.

John the Baptist tells us how we can work towards our conversions. First of all, that we need to recognize and admit that we are sinners. That’s the ‘repent’ part. But more so, once we admit it, we must acknowledge those weaknesses and realize that we need God’s help. We need His mercy to help reconcile with Him, we need to accept His forgiveness, and we need His strength to help avoid the temptations of future sins.

That’s why the season of Advent is such a good time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the Sacrament, we find Jesus present, waiting to forgive us, wanting to show us his infinite mercy, and wanting to give us the strength of his grace to move forward in our conversions. I invite you to take advantage of this Sacrament in Advent.

Throughout December, Fr O’Dowd will be available by appointment for personal Confession, as well as before weekend Masses. Also, on Tuesday, December 16th Fr O’Dowd will hear Confessions during both Adoration sessions. That’s a great opportunity to avail yourself of the Sacrament, plus spend time in Adoration during this penitential and reflective season.

But it doesn’t stop there. The Gospel also tells us that we must “produce good fruit as evidence of our repentance”. Real conversion means that we allow God to act in our lives. Giving charity and serving others during Advent is what we do. We do that here at Holy Spirit parish by feeding the poor through food donations to our Food Ministry and by bringing toys and other critical needs for children and families through Toys for Tots and the angel tree. That’s wonderful charity.

But understand, the evidence of our repentance is not only that we’re doing good for others, but more importantly, it’s that the good we’re doing reveals the glory of God, and His love for them. Because there’s a huge difference between simply performing charitable acts and glorifying God through our charitable acts.

Many secular organizations do great works of charity in helping those in need. And that’s good. But those things only help the corporal lives of the poor. As Christians, we serve others so they recognize Jesus’ mercy through us, which then causes them to turn to Him. Working on our Advent conversion actually helps bring about their Advent conversions.

That not only helps their earthly needs, but also their eternal lives, which are infinitely more important. In our second reading today, St Paul says, “Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name.” We should always sing praises to His name among those we serve; always showing Christ to them.

John the Baptist calls us to repent, and also to show evidence of our repentance. In this second week of Advent and as we move forward in preparation, let’s try to be aware of our repentance. Let’s acknowledge our sinfulness and live with confidence in God’s forgiveness. Let’s find the way to produce good fruits for the good of others and the glory of Christ. And deepen within our hearts our growing conversion to Him.



ADVENT CALENDAR 2025

Week 2

7 Sunday

The Second Sunday of Advent

On this Second Sunday of Advent, light two violet candles on your Advent wreath and ask God for the strength to be like John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord.

8 Monday

Today is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of the United States of America. It is a holy day of obligation. Offer your Mass intention today for the needs of the nation.

9 Tuesday

Juan Diego carried the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe to his community. Share your faith in word and action with someone you encounter today.

10 Wednesday

“Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land’s afflicted.”

Isaiah 11: 3 - 4

11 Thursday

In the bustle of the holiday season, spend some time this week in silence and prayer, possibly before the Blessed Sacrament, to prepare your heart to receive the Lord at Christmas.

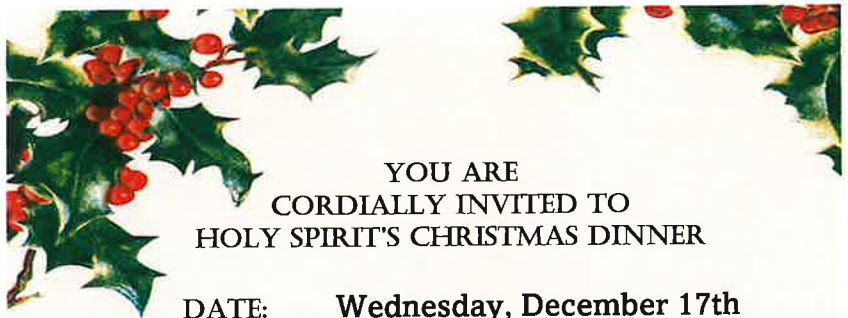
12 Friday

Today is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe who appeared to Juan Diego as a pregnant indigenous woman. Pray for those who are experiencing difficult pregnancies and for those who are experiencing child loss or infertility.

13 Saturday

“Just as no one is born a champion, no one is born a saint. It is daily training in love that brings us closer to vinal victory (cf. Rom 5: 3 - 5) and enables us to contribute to the building of a new world.”

Pope Leo XIV, Homily, 15 June 2025.



YOU ARE
CORDIALLY INVITED TO
HOLY SPIRIT'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

DATE: **Wednesday, December 17th**
 TIME: **Christmas Carols 5:15 pm**
Dinner served 5:45 pm

THE ENTRÉE WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #174. PARISHION-
ERS ARE ASKED TO BRING APPETIZERS,
SALADS, SIDE-DISH VEGETABLES, AND
DESSERTS; A SIGN-UP SHEET IS LOCATED
IN THE NARTHEX OF THE CHURCH.



2nd Sunday of Advent

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

Desert
Repent
Voice
Prepare
Paths
Honey
River
Tree
Fire
Sandals



SUNDAYKIDZ



Holy Spirit Catholic Church Christmas Season Schedule 2025



ADVENT MASSES

Daily: December 1st through December 23rd
 Monday: Communion Service 9:00 am
 Tuesday – Friday: Mass 9:00 am
 Saturday: Mass 5:00 pm
 Sunday: Mass 8:30 am

ADORATION TIMES

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

ADVENT CONFESSION

Tuesday, December 16th 5:00 pm
 (Father Francis will also offer confessions during morning adoration times throughout the Advent season)

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED MARY (Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, December 8th 9:00 am

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24th 4:30 pm Christmas Carols 5:00 pm Mass
 Thursday, December 25th 8:30 am

POST-CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: Communion Service 9:00 am
 Tuesday – Friday: Mass 9:00 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday, January 1st 9:00 am



AREA PARISH MASS TIMES

St. Peter the Apostle – Mineola
 Dec 24: 6 pm (E) 9 pm (S)
 Dec 25: 9 am (E) 12 pm (S)

Holy Family – Lindale
 Dec 24: Children's Choir/
 Mass 4:30 pm
 Dec 25: 9 am (E) 11 am (S)

St. Francis of Assisi - Gilmer
 Contact 903-797-3303

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
 Contact 903-592-1617

Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul
 Contact 903-592-1617

CHARITABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Angel Tree Collection ends December 10
 Diane Laudt

Toys for Tots: Collection ends December 13
 Charlie Clymer

Christmas Food Drive: Food box deliveries
 on December 19
 Bob Mailliard