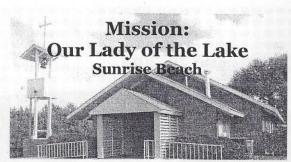
St. Charles Catholic Church
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Pastor: Rev. Anthony Alphonse ~ Diocese of Austin

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 29, 2013

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm at Our Lady of the Lake, Sunrise Beach Saturday 5:30 pm at St. Charles, Kingsland Sunday 9:00 am at St. Charles, Kingsland

Weekday Masses

8:00 am Tuesday-Friday at St. Charles

Reconciliation

Before Masses and by appointment

As chair of the Liturgy Commission, I want to give a special thank you to all those who helped decorate the church for the Christmas Season. They are: Billy and Cathy Ashley, Ken and Pat Blank, Betty Carter, Pat Davis, Jay Harris, Marcella Hudson, Tem Moody and June Schuh. Your sacrifice of your time is greatly appreciated and may you be richly blessed. Lucille Moody

Mass Intentions		
Sat. 12/28	4:00 pm	Special Intention
	5:30 pm	Kevin Anzivino †
Sun. 12/29	9:00 am	All Parishioners
Mon. 12/30	NO MASS	
Tues. 12/31	4:00pm	OLOL
	5:30 pm	St. Charles
Wed. 1/1	9:00 am	St. Charles
Thurs. 1/2	NO MASS	
Fri. 1/3	8:00 am	In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Sat. 1/4	4:00 pm	Special Intention
	5:30 pm	Robert Hess †
Sun. 1/5	9:00 am	All Parishioners

TODAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION FROM FR. ALPHONSE

In today's Gospel, in relating the story about the flight into Egypt, St. Matthew tells about the trials and sufferings of God's people in past times. Jesus must live in exile and anguish as did his ancestors. Persecution beings with His birth and will follow Him until His death. Likewise, we learn here that from the very beginning, Mary and Joseph were associated with Jesus' sufferings and saving mission. Herod is an example of so many government officials who are more zealous for power than for service. But no matter how much innocent blood the enemies of the gospel spill, they will not be able to extinguish the church or to block God's plans. Jesus was probably about two years old when Joseph brought his family back to his village, Nazareth.

Jesus would spend thirty years in this small village where He would grow up and work as a carpenter while the world waited for its salvation.

But, since His life was totally consecrated to the heavenly Father, Jesus was already saving the world. The Church has appointed this Sunday within the Octave of Christmas as the feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The Church wants all Christian families to try to model their lives on this, the holiest of families who ever lived on earth.

I wish each one of you a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2014.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Alleluia, Alleluia

DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

~December 28/29 – Feast of the Holy Family – benefiting Family and Pro-Life Activities, and Maternity homes in the Austin Diocese.

Second Collection next weekend for the Poor.

Please consider sponsoring a weekend in 2014 with flowers for the altar with your special intention. In thanks and adoration or remembrance we bring to the altar fresh flowers each week. You can honor a loved one's birthday or anniversary or life or perhaps a special thanksgiving. Forms can be found in today's bulletin and at the entrances of the Church. (Reminder: no flowers during Advent & Lent)

The Holy Family Prayer

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen

The RCIA class will meet on Sundays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. until further notice. Anyone wishing to attend is welcome. For information call Joan Woods @ 830-596-8569.

The annual Fireside retreat at Cedarbrake will be Feb.7-9. The retreat begins on Friday evening at 6:00 and ends on Sunday after Mass around 11:30. the retreat will be based on the movie "Of Gods and Men". The price for a private room is \$195 and a shared room is \$160 per person. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to come together and share time reflecting on Christian life. Registration forms are on the table in back of church. For more information call Joan Woods at 830-596-

NEWCOMERS OR VISITORS

Newcomers or visitors wishing to become members of St. Charles or OLOL, please fill out a membership form located in the back of church and give the form to one of the greeters/ushers.

Send bulletin announcements by noon on <u>TUESDAY</u> to <u>stcharles@nctv.com</u>. Please put in subject line of email "<u>bulletin announcement</u>". This will help us and it will ensure your important information is not overlooked.

Mother Teresa's Nazareth Prayer for the Family

Heavenly Father, You have given us a model of life in the Holy Family of Nazareth. Help us, O loving Father, to make our family another Nazareth where love, peace, and joy reign.

May it be deeply contemplative, intensely Eucharistic, and vibrant with joy. Help us to stay together in joy and sorrow through family prayer. Teach us to see Jesus in the members of our family, especially in their distressing disguise.

May the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus make our hearts meek and humble like His and help us to carry out our family duties in a holy way. May we love one another as God loves each one of us more and more each day, and forgive each others' faults as You forgive our sins.

Help us, O loving Father, to take whatever You give and to give whatever You take with a big smile.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, cause of our joy, pray for us.
St. Joseph, pray for us. Holy
Guardian Angels, be always with us, guide and protect us. Amen.

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will meet in Llano at Holy Trinity for its quarterly meeting on Saturday, Jan.4, at 9:00 a.m. ALL ladies are invited to come. If you wish to carpool, please call Joan Woods @ 830-596-8569.

Care of the poor is a basic Catholic Christian value for all of us. We touch the Lord when we serve the poor. In the end, the Great Judge will say that's what it's all about. (Matthew 25)

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

St. Charles Parish \$ 1888.55 Flower Donation \$ 614.60 Our Lady of the Lake \$ 313.00 Christmas \$ 516.00 Flower Donation \$ 127.00

We give back to the Lord only what He has first given us — we come into this world with nothing; we shall leave with nothing. Freely we have received of the Lord's blessings; let us graciously return to him the first and the best that we have.

The Offertory is more than the "collection of money." Our offerings represent ourselves and our dedication to God. God loves a cheerful and generous giver. We have freely received an abundance of his blessings; let us freely and humbly return thanks to him by giving of our material gifts.