

PARISH CALENDAR AND MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THE WEEK OF December 25, 2017 — December 31, 2017

MASS READINGS and INTENTIONS

(† Indicates Deceased)

Monday, December 25	The Nativity of The Lord (Christmas)
10:00am †Alois "Ollie" Ketterman †John Yun †Carolina Espinosa Flores	Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Tuesday, December 26	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59
5:30pm †Donald Neff	Mt 10:17-22
Wednesday, December 27	1 Jn 1:1-4
8:30am †Eleonora Pick	Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Thursday, December 28	1 Jn 1:5—2:2
5:30pm Communion Service NO MASS	Mt 2:13-18
Friday, December 29	1 Jn 2:3-11
8:30am †Mrs. Marcella Stokes	Lk 2:22-35
Saturday, December 30	1 Jn 2:12-17
5:00pm †Frances Kohut	Lk 2:36-40
Sunday, December 31	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
8:00am David Peterson (Special Intentions) †Nickolas Dunn	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3
11:00am †Dr Edward Bellens	Col 3:12-21 or 12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
5:00pm †Richelle Strickland	Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Monday, December 25

8:30am **Mass** (Chapel)

Tuesday, December 26

5:30pm **Mass** (Chapel)

Wednesday, December 27

8:30am **Mass** (Chapel)

4:00pm-5:50pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)

5:00pm-6:00pm **Confessions** (Church)

5:50pm-6:00pm Vespers/Benediction (Chapel)

Thursday, December 28

5:30pm **Communion Service NO MASS** (Chapel)

Friday, December 29

8:30am **Mass** (Church)

Saturday, December 30

4:00pm-4:45pm **Confessions** (Church)

5:00pm **Mass** (Church)

Sunday, December 31

8:00am **Mass** (Church)

11:00am **Mass** (Church)

5:00pm **Mass** (Church)



Epiphany Party Saturday, January 6, 2018

Mark your calendar! Please plan to join the whole parish as we celebrate at our annual Epiphany Party pot-luck dinner in the parish hall after the 5:00pm Mass. More info to come.

Merry Christmas

Feliz Navidad

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2017**



Dear Friends in the Lord,

Glory to God in the highest and peace to people on Earth! It is Christmas and the love of the Father for humanity is made manifest in the baby Jesus born in a manger. We are glad to behold him Emmanuel, God is with us.

The Trappist monk Thomas Merton gives a truthful and precise understanding of Christmas. This is what he said: "Christ is born to us today so that He may appear to the whole world through us. This one day is the day of His birth, but every day of our mortal lives must be His manifestation."

With the saying above, I now understand why the novitiate director during my seminary formation years always wishes us a "Merry Christmas" and celebrates it every 25th day of each month. For him, it was a reminder that Christ must be born every day and at every moments in our lives. This leaves us with the critical and obvious question, is Christ born in our lives today? If that is the case, then let us celebrate his Christmas!

Friends, what an incredible understanding of the event that we celebrate today, that it is not a onetime event that comes to pass swiftly as the lights are put out and the decorations removed. If only we could celebrate him this December 25th with pomp and pageantry and proceed to acknowledge him in our hearts daily, then would the Lord's birth transform the world in which we live. Christ birth is neither a gift of God given to admire, nor a gift of God given to keep. Rather, Christ is gift given to humanity to nourish and share.

In this holy season where gifts hold sway in our thoughts, it is so refreshing to get to know and accept that you are a gift to the world. To this world, God sends you. In this world, you have a mission to accomplish, a task to fulfill, to bear Christ the incarnate One, and to manifest him joyfully. As another monk James Tahaney advised, "This is only possible if I make a total response to God's spirit within me." In case you forget, *remember, "To those who accept him he gives power to become children of God" [John 1:12]. That's awesome!*

For those who generously planned and bring to fruition our Advent and Christmas liturgies, I congratulate you and wish you the joy of knowing the Lord and giving him a reverent place in our community worship. And to you dear people of God and to all who blessed us with their presence in this most holy season; may the Divine Messiah, Jesus Christ the Incarnate Son of God grant you a joy-filled Christmas! Glory to God and Peace on earth!

Fr. James Ekeocha

Pope Francis encourages us that time spent with the sick is holy time. It is a way of praising God who conforms us to the image of His Son. It is in the care and prayers for the sick that love becomes a witness of hope in the Resurrection.

We encourage you to call the office with the names of those who need prayer. They will be mentioned in the Sunday liturgy and then placed in the bulletin following week. Their names will remain in the bulletin for two weeks.

Please cut out the prayer list and put it somewhere that will remind you to pray for those in need. Thank you!

Please pray for. .



Dino DeLeon
Cheryl Hunsicher
Roger Rowlett
Larry Placencia
Timothy Biells
Bill Dowdy
Trinidad & Audelia Palomino
Mike Dixon
Steve Cook
Gunner Levi

Coleman Thompson
Ernie and Molly Haynes
Florence Linz
Minda Agtarap
Doris Blair
Janet Murphy
Debbie Fiorini
Leonor Torrez
H.G Barganier
Vanessa Petrarca
Yuriko Murakami

†**Jutta Longoria**



CAFFÉ
St. Luke Catholic Church
Continuing Adult Faith Formation
and Evangelization

New Classes Beginning 2018

Give yourself a Christmas gift by joining a CAFFÉ class in January. There are classes throughout the week to meet your schedule. Look over the list and begin planning now to enrich your spiritual life. Classes will begin the week of January 7th.

To register for CAFFÉ Classes, you may print the Registration Form on the website or pick one up in the Narthex, fill it out, and then either email it to care@slparish.org, turn it into the parish office, or drop it in the basket in the Narthex.

For more information please contact CAFFÉ Chairman Susan Terry at care@slparish.org

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2017**

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

"It is more Blessed to Give than it is to Receive." Acts 20:35

Due to early submission requirement, stewardship will be reported next week.



**2018
New ALPHA Session
begins**

January 10, 2018

**5:30 pm - 8:00 pm
(meal provided)
Parish Hall**

What is ALPHA??

ALPHA is a series of 11 sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each session will include a meal, a talk, and small group interaction. This is the perfect opportunity for you to invite others who have been interested in forming a deeper relationship with Christ or just beginning to discover who He is.

To register go to www.slparish.org or for more information contact Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation Marcella Weisbruch at marcella@slparish.org



Looking for an Advent Program?

We have that

AVAILABLE FREE TO ALL PARISHIONERS:
FORMED.ORG

Inspirational resources for faith formation
Movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, e-books, cartoons!

English and Spanish selections available

To register go to formed.org/register

Click on Register (lower right of page)

Enter the Parish Access Code: **c3a61** (you will only need this code once)

Enter your email and create a password (you will need this to login later)

Enjoy and share with others in your local community!

2017-2018 YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

**Elementary Faith Formation
EFF/EKO**

Pre-K3 - 8th Grade

For Wednesday classes:

Class resumes January 10, 2018

**Meal from 5:45pm - 6:15pm
Class from 6:15pm—8:00pm**

For Sunday classes:

Class resumes January 14, 2018

**Breakfast Café from 9:00am - 9:15am
Class from 9:30am—10:50am**

Please help us keep our children safe.

**Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation
Jordanna Richesin (254) 913-1827
Jordanna@slparish.org**

KEYSIS

**High School Youth Ministry
Grades 9-12th**

Sundays 6:15pm — 8:00pm, Upper Room

Class resumes January 14, 2018

**Middle/High School Youth Minister, Bennett Diano
Bennett@slparish.org—(205) 792-0930**



There will no Fellowship Café Breakfast served after the 8:00am Mass for the next 3 Sundays, December 17th, 24th, and 31st. See you all next year.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2017**



**Knight's Korner
Knights of Columbus
Council 7197**



The Knights meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall/Holy Family Room. Fellowship meal will start at 6:00pm, Rosary at 7:00pm, and meeting at 7:30pm. If you are interested in becoming a Knight please join us.

**Celebrating 50 years
of Ordination**

There will be a celebration of Fr. Joseph Nisari's 50th year of ordination on January 13, 2018 in the Parish Hall. More information will follow. You can check on the St. Luke Facebook page @StLukeTemple or the Parish website www.slp parish.org

FEATURED ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

PET MEDICAL CENTER

Thank YOU for SUPPORTING Our WEEKLY Bulletin!

Warrior Awakening #5 retreat

Warrior Awakening retreat is to "awaken" the hearts to The Lord. The retreat is open to young adults (18-35) in the Greater Killeen/Temple area. Register for our upcoming retreat hosted by the Warriors in Faith from TAMUCT. Cost is \$40.

WHEN: February 9-11, 2018 (Friday-Sunday)

WHERE: Holy Family Catholic Church in Copperas Cove, TX

HOW TO REGISTER TO RETREAT: Email Michael Morrel, Coordinator at warriorawakening@gmail.com.



**How to report an incident
of concern.....**

The Diocese of Austin is committed to preventing harm from happening to any of our children or vulnerable adults. If you are aware of sexual or physical abuse and/or neglect of a child or vulnerable adult, state law requires you to report that information to local law enforcement or the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services at [\(800\) 252-5400](tel:(800)252-5400) or www.dfps.state.tx.us. Additionally, if the suspected abuse is by clergy or an employee or volunteer of any diocesan parish, school or agency, a Notice of Concern should be submitted to the diocesan Ethics and Integrity in Ministry Office at [\(512\) 949-2400](tel:(512)949-2400). The Notice of Concern can be found at www.austindiocese.org (click on REPORT ABUSE OR AN EIM CONCERN). Reports may be made anonymously.