

PROTECTING GOD'S PEOPLE

As God's people, we are called to celebrate, promote, and when necessary to defend the life and dignity of every person. We must treat everyone with respect, and do what we can to protect others from harm.

Suspected misconduct with minors by lay church personnel should be reported to the pastor of the parish, the principal of the school, or the head of the Catholic institution involved. Suspected misconduct with minors by a priest, deacon, or religious should be reported directly to the Bishop or Vicar General (P. O. Box 2279, Brownsville, TX 78522-2279; 956-542-2501). A form for a *Confidential Notice of Concern*, may be used, and obtained on request from the local pastor, school principal, institution head, or Diocese, or it may be downloaded from the Brownsville Diocese website (www.cdob.org)

Please be aware that it is a state law that anyone who suspects abuse or neglect of a minor must report it to local law enforcement officials or to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services at 1-800-252-5400.

Our faith assures us that we will not be overcome by evil but will overcome evil with good (cf. Rm 12:21).

PROTEGIENDO AL PUEBLO DE DIOS

Como el pueblo de Dios, cada uno de nosotros está llamado a celebrar, promover, y, si es necesario, defender la vida y la dignidad de todas personas. Tenemos que tratar a cada persona con respecto, y hacer lo posible para asegurar que nunca se dañe a los demás.

Una sospecha de mala conducta con los menores de edad, cometida por el personal laico de la iglesia, deberá reportarse al párroco de la iglesia, al director de la escuela, o al encargado de la institución católica en cuestión. Una sospecha de mala conducta con los menores de edad cometida por un sacerdote, diácono, o religioso deberá reportarse directamente al Señor Obispo o al Vicario General al (P.O. Box 2279, Brownsville, TX 78522-2279; 956-542-2501). Una forma para un *Aviso Confidencial de Inquietud (Confidential Notice of Concern)* puede obtenerse a través del párroco local, del director de la escuela, del encargado de la institución, de la Diócesis, o puede bajarse de la página oficial de Internet de la Diócesis de Brownsville (www.cdob.org).

Por favor recuerde que hay una ley estatal que cualquier persona que sospeche el abuso o la negligencia hacia un menor de edad debe reportarlo a las autoridades oficiales locales o al Departamento de Servicios Familiares y Protectores de Texas (Texas Department of Family and Protective Services) al 1-800-252-5400.

Nuestra fe nos asegura que el mal no nos vencerá, pero que venceremos al mal con el bien (cf. Rm 12:21).

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and friends, through our monthly Collection for the Poor, many families and individuals, of our area, are receiving some very much needed assistance. These items are an example of what is being provided to families/persons in need: Flour, Sugar, Oil, Beans, Canned Food, Oatmeal, Pasta, Rice, etc. **In the month of November 2023, due to our parishioners' generosity, 80 families (170 adults and 83 children) received assistance.** If you are interested in helping, please bring donations to our Sunday Masses or the parish office, during office hours (Mon.-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.). Now we are affiliated to the Rio Grande Valley Food Bank, and hope to serve our community better. For more information, please call our office. May the Lord reward your generosity and kindness!

LET'S PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY

For the families and care givers, for the Health Community System, Regina Peña, Angela Paita, Pepe Forina, Luisita Jimenez, Mary Helen Cano, Maggie & Ramon Cisneros, Lalita Davila, Francisca Jimenez, Jorge Garcia, Maria Zepeda, Alicia Hernandez, Esthela Gonzales, Olivia Mueller, Guillermo Lara, Sr., Guillermo Lara, Jr., Gloria Rubalcaba Mercedes Baez. **If you would like to request for the sick of your family to be included in our weekly list of Prayers for the Sick of Our Community, please call weekly, so that they may be included in this Prayer list..**

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2023

Parish Staff

Rev. Robert Charlton, SS.CC., Pastor
Rev. John Sawchenko, SS.CC., Parochial Vicar
Rev. Ajit Baliar Singh, SS.CC., Parochial Vicar
Rev. Paulo Lui Voreqe, SS.CC., Parochial Vicar
Rev. George Gonzalez, PhD, In Residence
Lou Montes, Secretary
Blas Hernandez, Handy Man
Sam Rosales, Sacristan

Councils

Pastoral Council
Finance Council
Scholarships' Committee

Ministries

Extraordinary. Ministers of Holy Comm.
CCD Teachers & Assistants
Choirs: English & Spanish
Lectors: English & Spanish
Altar Servers
Ushers
Homebound Ministry
Nursing Home Ministry
Adoration Committee
Charity (Food Pantry)

Prayer Groups

Asamblea, Oración y Alabanza (Español)
Glory and Praise (English)

Religious Education

Children's Catechism (CCD)
Bible Class (English & Spanish)
Adult Faith Format: English & Spanish
Sacramental Preparation
Baptismal Preparation
Marriage Preparation

Organizations

Guadalupanas Franciscanas
I.H.M. Ladies' Club I.H.M. Men's Club
Caballeros de San Jose
Knights of Columbus

412 S. "C" Street, Harlingen, TX 78550

(956) 423-0855

Office Hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm
(Monday thru Friday)

Web-page: www.ihmc-hgn.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays:

Monday-Friday: 7:00 a.m. Daily Mass
First Friday: 7:00 a.m. Mass

Saturdays: 5:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation for
Sunday in English

Sundays: 8:00 a.m. Misa en Español,
12:00 Noon Mass in English

Holy Days of Obligation: 7:00 am & 6:30 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

First Friday: 8:00 to 11:55 a.m. (12:00 Noon Benedic-
tion).

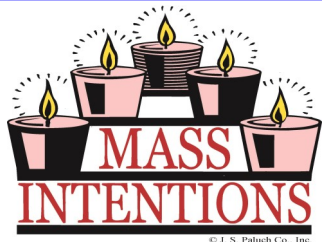
SACRAMENTS

Confessions: Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. (or by appt.)

Baptisms: On first Sunday of every other month.
Please, contact the parish office, ahead of time, for a
copy of the policy and information on classes. Par-
ents and sponsors of this parish need to attend the
Baptismal Prep. Classes here, before receiving a
letter to be sponsors & the Certificate of Attendance.

Marriage: Engaged couple needs to make an ap-
pointment with the pastor, at least six months before
the intended wedding date.

Quinceañeras: (Not a Sacrament) Candidates
need to be members of IHM, attend Sunday Mass
(regularly) and CCD Classes for the last two years, at
this parish. Please, no exceptions.



SATURDAY, December 23rd

5:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation (English)

- +Helen Caughern
- +Esperanza (Hope) Trevino
- +Baldo & Alice Zamora
- +Gregoria Ruiz

SUNDAY, December 24th

8:00 a.m. Misa en Español

- +Juan O. Luna
- +Corina Gomez
- +Esperanza (Hope) Trevino

12:00 Noon Mass in English

Pro Populo

5:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation (Bilingual)

Christmas Eve

- +Ofelio & +Teresa Muniz
- +Jesus Muniz
- +Dul Valdez

MONDAY, December 25th - Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

- +Francisco Banda

TUESDAY, December 26th

7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

- +Guillermo Arguello Guzman

WEDNESDAY, December 27th

7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

- +Fr. George Richard (Anselm) Stoner, OFM

THURSDAY, December 28th

7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

- +Josefina Carpio

FRIDAY, December 29th

7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

- In Thanksgiving

SATURDAY, December 30th

5:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation (English)

- +Beau Smith
- +Esperanza (Hope) Trevino
- +Guillermo Arguello Guzman
- +Juan Munoz, Jr.

**TODAY'S WORD OF GOD
December 24, 2023**

Every so often the fourth week of Advent consists only of the fourth Sunday of Advent. This is one of those years. For three weeks we have been encouraged to use this season to prepare for the Jesus' coming. Now it's time for the procrastinators to begin! But seriously, the fact that this Sunday falls on Christmas Eve is a wonderful opportunity for us all. On this day, may the word of God we hear and the Eucharist we share inspire us to prepare a home in our hearts for the Lord.

In the first reading, David worries about finding a proper home for the ark of God. After all, it was housed in a tent as if they were still journeying through the desert. In the Gospel, the angel Gabriel comes to a young virgin in Nazareth to announce that God has chosen her to bear the son of God, to provide a home for the Lord. Let us now make a home in our hearts for the Lord, so that we, like Saint Paul, may make known to the nations the wonders and glories of Jesus Christ.

**PALABRA DE DIOS DE HOY
24 de diciembre, 2023**

De ves en cuando la cuarta semana de Adviento consiste nomás que del cuarto domingo de Adviento. Este año es una de esas veces. Durante tres semanas se nos ha exhortado a usar este tiempo para prepararnos para la venida de Jesús. ¡Es el momento ahora para que los negligentes pongan manos a la obra! Fuera de broma, el hecho de que este domingo sea también la Nochebuena o víspera de Navidad presenta una gran oportunidad para todos nosotros. Que en este día la palabra de Dios que escuchamos y la Eucaristía que compartimos preparen un lugar permanente en nuestro corazón para el Señor.

En la primera lectura vemos a David preocupado por construir una casa para instalar el arca de Dios, pues hasta ahora estaba alojada en una tienda de campaña como si aún estuvieran caminando por el desierto. En el Evangelio el ángel Gabriel visita a una joven virgen en Nazaret para anunciarle que Dios la ha elegido para concebir y dar a luz al Hijo de Dios, o sea para que ella le proporcionara esa casa al Señor. Hagamos ahora de nuestro corazón una casa para el Señor a fin de que, igual que san Pablo, manifestemos a las naciones los prodigios y la gloria de Jesucristo.



APOLOGETICS COURSE IN ENGLISH

An Apologetics course will be offered this January here at Immaculate Heart of Mary parish. Classes will meet Monday nights at 6:30 p.m. for six weeks. Registration will begin on December 10th. Please call the Parish Office.

APOLOGETICS COURSE IN SPANISH

An Apologetics course in Spanish will be offered this January at Queen of Peace. Classes will meet Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Registration will begin on December 10th. Contact Queen of Peace office at 956-423-6341.

NO CCD

Sunday, Dec. 24th
& Sunday, Dec. 31st

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, Dec. 25, 2023
Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2023
Monday, Jan. 1, 2024

REUNION DE FRANCISCANAS

Martes, 26 de diciembre, a las 7:00 p.m., en el edificio de la escuela de I.H.M.



**REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE
AND CONFESSIONS**

SUNDAY MASSES:

- 5:30 p.m. Mass in English (Saturday)
- 8:00 a.m. Misa en Español
- 12:00 Noon Mass in English

DAILY MASS (Monday thru Friday):

- 7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

CONFESSIONS: Sat. at 4:00 p.m.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

- 7:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Masses



**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE
NATIVITY OF THE LORD JESUS
(CHRISTMAS DAY)
(A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)
DECEMBER 25TH**

- Sunday, Dec. 24th - Bilingual Mass
- 5:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation
- Christmas Day - Monday, Dec. 25th
- Bilingual Mass - 10:00 a.m.



**MASS SCHEDULE FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY—
HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

- New Year's Eve - Sunday, Dec. 31st
- Bilingual Mass-5:30 p.m.
- New Year's Day - Monday, January 1st
- Bilingual Mass -10:00 a.m.