

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 October 2024, due to our parishioners generosity, 43 families (99 adults and 26 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, 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, Griselda Ornelas, Debbie Cruz Brandon Gonzales & Raul Riojas. **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



**THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
December 15, 2024**

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 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

First Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.
(12:00 Noon Benediction).

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. Parents 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 appointment 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 14th Advent
5:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation (English)
 Amalia Sanchez
 +Edward (Pilo) Escobedo Ledesma
 +Roberto G. Gonzalez
 Holy Souls in Purgatory

SUNDAY December 15th -Gaudete Sunday
8:00 a.m. Misa en Español
 Pro Populo

12:00 Noon Mass in English
 Debra Cruz
 +Alejandro Gonzalez
 +Edna Grimaldo
 +Joanna Drolesky

MONDAY, December 16th Advent
7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass
 Fr. Don Giuseppe Castelli

TUESDAY, December 17th Advent
7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass
 +Anacleto Martinez &
 +Consuelo Hernandez
 +Emelio Martinez &
 +Atanasia Maldonado

WEDNESDAY, December 18th Advent
7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass
 +Maria del Rosario Martinez

THURSDAY, December 19th -Advent
7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass
 +Bertha Alvarez

Friday, December 20th Advent
7:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass
 +Teofilo Garcia (3rd Anniversary)

Saturday, December 21st Advent
5:30 p.m. Mass of Anticipation (English)
 Lou Montes (Birthday)
 +Placido Daniel Sunny Cortez
 +Concepcion Martinez
 +Victor Manuel Hernandez
 Holy Souls in Purgatory

TODAY'S WORD OF GOD December 15, 2024

We will hear it at least a few times over the next two weeks: "It's better to give than to receive." We recognize this when we see the expressions of joy in a child's face or tears of appreciation from a parent or spouse when they open a gift we've given them. Jesus himself said the same words to his disciples, though in a context more like the one we hear today with John the Baptist preaching to the crowds to share what they have with those who have less. As we prepare for the Lord's coming, let us share from the bounty the Lord has blessed us with and give to those in need. In our hearts, may we continually relearn the blessings of giving.

We hear Paul say, "The Lord is near," in the second reading today and we can count so many ways this is so. We're just ten days away from Christmas, for one. In a little while we will receive the Lord in the Eucharist. The Lord is here when two or more gather in his name. The Lord is near to us always, by virtue of our baptism. Right now, the Lord is here in the form of God's word. Warmed by the Lord's presence, let us listen for his voice in the words of scripture.

PALABRA DE DIOS DE HOY 15 de diciembre 2024

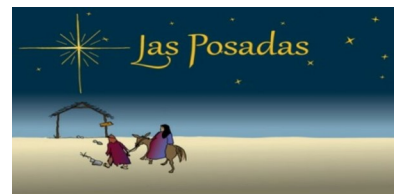
Esta frase la vamos a escuchar por lo menos unas cuantas veces en las próximas dos semanas: "Es mejor dar que recibir". Es fácil reconocer eso al ver la expresión de alegría en el rostro de un niño o las lágrimas de gratitud de una madre o de un padre, o de la esposa o el esposo cuando abren un regalo que le hemos dado. Jesús mismo dijo esas palabras a sus discípulos, aunque en un contexto más parecido al que escuchamos hoy en la prédica de Juan el Bautista a las multitudes, de que deben compartir lo que tienen con los que tienen menos. Al prepararnos para la venida del Señor, compartamos con los necesitados la abundancia con la que el Señor nos ha bendecido. Que nuestro corazón continúe aprendiendo una y otra vez la bendición de dar.

Escuchamos a Pablo decir en la segunda lectura de hoy que "el Señor está cerca" y esto es cierto de muchísimas maneras. Una de ellas es que faltan sólo diez días para la Navidad. En unos pocos momentos recibiremos al Señor en la Eucaristía. El Señor está aquí cuando dos o más se reúnen en su nombre. El Señor está cerca de nosotros siempre, pro virtud de nuestro Bautismo. Ahora mismo el Señor está aquí presente en la palabra de Dios. Arrullados con la presencia del Señor, escuchemos su voz en las palabras de las Sagradas Escrituras.

CHURCH NEWS

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS
(ENGLISH & SPANISH)
 8:00 a.m. – Monday thru Friday
 12:00 (Noon) – Monday thru Friday
 After Posadas – Every night 12/16/24 to 12/23/24
 Saturday, 12/22/24 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS POSADAS



We would like to invite all parishioners and friends to join us, every evening (6:30 p.m.) in church. The following organizations will be leading the Posadas:

- Dec. 16th - Beginning Posadas-All Parishioners
- Dec.17th - CCD Teachers & Students
- December 18th - Choirs
- Dec. 19th - Caballeros de San Jose
- Dec. 20th—Knights of Columbus
- Dec. 21st - IHM Ladies Club
- Dec. 22nd - Franciscans
- Dec. 23rd - Guadalupanas
- Dec. 24th - CCD (Catechism) Children's Christmas Nativity Program at 4:00 p.m. & Posada before Mass at 5:15 pm



CCD (Catechism) Children & Youth Christmas Nativity Program

We would like to invite all to join us before mass on Tuesday, December 24 p.m. at 4:00 p.m. in church for the CCD (Catechism) Children & Youth Christmas Nativity Program.

NO CCD
 Sunday, Dec. 22nd, Dec. 29th & Sunday, Jan. 5th



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



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
 7:00 a.m. Mass; 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon (12:00 Noon Benediction).



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

Tuesday, Dec. 24th - Bilingual Mass
 5:30 pm Mass of Anticipation
 Christmas Day, Dec. 25th - Bilingual
 Mass 10:00 am

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY - HOLY
 FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**
 New Year's Eve, Dec. 31st - Bilingual Mass-5:30 pm
 New Year's Day Jan. 1st-Bilingual Mass-10:00 am