

Fourth Sunday of Advent



Mary

"BEHOLD, I AM THE HANDMAID
OF THE LORD. MAY IT BE
DONE TO ME ACCORDING TO
YOUR WORD." LUKE 1:38

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

December 24, 2023



223 EAST SUMMIT
SAN ANTONIO, TX
78212

PH: 210.734.7285

FAX: 210.734.8334

OFFICE@OLGSA.ORG

WWW.OLGSA.ORG

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OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY
9:00AM - 5:00PM

MASS SCHEDULE

MON, WED, FRI
7:00AM
TUES & THUR
5:30PM
SATURDAY
5:30PM
**1st Saturdays - 8:00am*
SUNDAY
8:30AM
10:30AM
12:00PM

CONFESSION/ RECONCILIATION

TUES, THURS, SAT
4:45PM - 5:15PM

SUNDAY

**Please see weekly schedule*

STAFF

PASTOR:
FR. JORGE CAMPOS-COVVARUBIAS
frjorge@mailbox.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR:
FR. ABRAHAM ANTONY
Abraham.Antony@archsa.org

DEACON:
DCN. GEORGE WUNDERLICH
deacon.george.wunderlich@olgsa.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL:
CARLOS R. LEOS,
PRESIDENT
carlos.leos.olg@gmail.com

PARISH STAFF:
BUSINESS MANAGER:
DIANE WYRICK
Diane.Wyrick@olgsa.org

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY
& PASTORAL CARE:
PATRICIA POLLACK
Patricia.Pollack@olgsa.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:
RICK MCLAUGHLIN
rickmcl100@gmail.com
RELIGIOUS ED. COORDINATOR:
ASHLEY SALVADOR
Ashley.Salvador@olgsa.org

YOUTH MINISTRY:
KIM MORRISON
Kim.Morrison@olgsa.org

PARISH SECRETARY
& BULLETIN EDITOR:
HORTENCIA 'TENI' MEHL
office@olgsa.org

PART TIME SECRETARY:
MARIE EISENHOFER
office@olgsa.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL

pastoralcouncil@olgsa.org

AFTER HOURS ANNOINTING REQUEST

210-239-1322

BAPTISMS

*Call the office six weeks
in advance to prepare
registration documents*

WEDDINGS

*Call the office at least six
months in advance to reserve
date and complete marriage
preparation.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Eugenio B., Neomi Balderas, Marie Black, Mary Blake, Rosa Becnel, Michael Castro, Juliana Cavazos, Maria Chavez de Hernandez, Esther Contreras, Ashley Cuellar, Emiliano Cuellar, David Davis, Kate DeWein, John Ferguson, Dcn Frank Gallardo, Vangie Gallardo, Sadie Garcia, Juan Garza, Danny Gusme, Erlinda Hamilton, Eric Hawbecker, Marialice Hayes, Josephine Janczar, Steve Janosek, Markus Klink, Joe Mangione, Kathy McCoy, Sally McDuffee, Joseph McKinley, Gracie Miller, John David Navejar, George Perez, Rina Pollack, Jose Sanchez, Jeanie Sanders, Carlos Saucedo, Edward Jacob Sciantarelli, Jim Sciantarelli, Laurie Seligman, Jerry SESCO, Carolyn Smith, Henry Wolff, Stephen Wyrick.

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2023

The child to be born will be
called holy,
the Son of God.
—Luke 1:35



Christmas SEASON SCHEDULE

Parish Advent Reconciliation Service
Monday, Dec. 18th 6:30pm

4th Sunday of Advent

Dec. 23rd Confessions 4:30pm & Mass 5:30pm

Dec. 24th 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

*Choose one

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, Dec. 24th

3:30pm

Children's Pageant-OLG

4:00pm

Children's Mass-OLG

4:00pm

Christmas Eve Mass-SAHS Chapel

6:30pm

Christmas Eve Mass

9:30pm

Christmas Carols

10:00pm

Christmas Eve Mass

Monday, Dec. 25th

Christmas Day Mass

10:30am

*Choose one

Feast of the Holy Family

Dec. 30th Confessions 4:30pm & Mass 5:30pm

Dec. 31st 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Mon. Jan. 1st

10:30am

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Jan. 6th Confessions 4:30pm & Mass 5:30pm

Jan. 7th 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

Adoration of the Child Jesus after every Mass

**The Baptism of the Lord (Jan. 8th- 7am Mass)
is the conclusion of the Christmas Season**



Peace on Earth



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Community News

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

FRIDAY, DEC. 22	Closes @ 3pm
MONDAY, DEC. 25	Closed
TUESDAY, DEC. 26	Closed
WED - THUR - Altered Hours	10 am - 3pm
FRIDAY, DEC. 29	Closed
MONDAY, JAN. 1	Closed

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SUNDAY, DEC. 24	No Classes
SUNDAY, DEC 31	No Classes

PARISH MINISTRIES

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP	Tuesday, Dec. 19th
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION	Contact parish office
MORNING BIBLE STUDY	ON BREAK
	**will resume meeting on February 28th
THAT MAN IS YOU	ON BREAK
	**will resume meeting on January 9
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP	Not Meeting
CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD	ON BREAK
	**Children will not be gathered at Mass for CLOW on Dec. 24, Dec 31 or Jan. 7 -will resume Jan. 14



The second collection on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is designated for the mission and ministry of Assumption Seminary.

Many THANKS to all of our parish 'Christmas Angels' that participated in this year's Angel Tree Project. Our community was able to bless the children at Healy-Murphy with their requested gift cards.

We would also like to thank everyone that donated to the Knights of Columbus Wheelchair Drive. Your willingness to share in the spirit of Our Lord to care for the infirm in need raised \$6,500 and will enable the Knights to purchase more than the hoped for 3 or 4 wheelchairs. As always, we are amazed and humbled by the generosity of our faith community!



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**"BEHOLD, I AM THE HANDMAID
OF THE LORD. MAY IT BE
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The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." Luke 1:26–28

What an amazing experience this would have been. This humble servant of God, a young girl, was visited by the archangel Gabriel and greeted with the salutation, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." Try to imagine her experience. She was humble beyond comprehension, filled with every heavenly virtue, loved God with all her heart and suddenly came face-to-face with this glorious and most magnificent archangel. And this heavenly visitor showered the deepest of praises upon this lowly servant of the Lord. At first, in her humility, Mary simply pondered this greeting. She pondered it in her heart through prayer and faith. Then the archangel spoke further: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Though Mary inquired further about how this could be, she quickly gave her consent: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." And it was these words of this young woman that continuously echoed in her heart throughout her life. Mother Mary was great for many reasons. She was the Immaculate Conception—the one singularly conceived without sin in the womb of her own mother. She was the one chosen by the Father to bring forth the Savior of the World as her only begotten Son. But her greatness is especially found in her ongoing submission to the will of God. "May it be done to me according to your word." This is what she said over and over throughout her life. This is her perfect "fiat" to her God. All she knew was surrender and submission to all that God asked of her. And it is this, more than anything else, that made her the worthy Mother of God. Though none of us were immaculately conceived within our mother's wombs and none of us have remained without sin throughout our lives, we must all strive to be inspired by this holy woman. We must all ponder her deep humility and her willing acceptance of God's will in her life. And we must all strive to imitate her fiat and her perfect virtue. Imitation of our Blessed Mother is accomplished by first coming to know her, understand her and love who she is. Gazing upon her interior beauty and holiness presents us with the vision of the perfection to which we are all called. As we prayerfully gaze upon her heart and come to understand her virtues more clearly, we will be inspired to open our own hearts so as to imitate her by the grace of God. This prayerful exercise is one of the best and quickest ways to obtain the heights of holiness to which God has called us.

Reflect, today, upon this holy daughter of the Most High. She is not one we can "figure out." Instead, she is one whom we can come to know through prayer and through God's inspiration. Ponder her prayerfully. Be open to her inspiration. And allow the Holy Spirit to also overshadow you so that you will more closely be able to imitate her in her holy virtues.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

All are welcome to the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Exposition begins on Tuesdays in the Adoration Chapel after the 5:30pm Mass and ends on Friday at 7am. For more information please contact Becky Prieto at 210-725-2383.

All are welcome to join the Rosary Prayer Group the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Please join us from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Madonna Room. For more information, contact Greg Clary at 903-714-0232.



The Men's Fellowship Group (formerly Bishop Sheen group) continues to meet on Saturday mornings from 8:30-9:30 am in the Madonna Lower Level. Currently, the focus of our discussions, after completing the Sheen series, is now the weekly readings and sermons by Bishop Barron. All men are invited to join us as we prepare for Sunday Mass with scripture, spiritual discussion and fellowship. Coffee is provided.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will fix a place for my people. I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

Psalms — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

Gospel — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday 24 **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
- Monday 25 **During the Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
- Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
- Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

MASS, CONFESSION & INTENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, December 25

10:30 AM Fr. Abe
Pat Hedemann (d) - Marilyn Johnson

Tuesday, December 26

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Jorge**
5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Jorge**
Donald Johnson's Birthday - Marilyn Johnson

Wednesday, December 27

7:00AM Fr. Abe
In Thanksgiving

Thursday, December 28

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Jorge**
5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Jorge**
Rose Ripplinger - Mari Carmen Romero

Friday, December 29

7:00 AM Fr. Abe
Alejandra Bellicio - Mari Carmen Romero

Saturday, December 30

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Jorge**
5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Jorge**
Our Lady of Grace Parishioners

Sunday, December 31

8:30 AM Fr. Jorge
Dr. Deborah Mueller (D) - Family
10:30 AM Fr. Jorge
Pedro Urrutia (d) - Dora Urrutia
12:00PM Fr. Art Flores, OMI
Mary Jane Diaz (d) - Friends

Monday, January 1

10:30AM Pat Hedemann (d)



Holy Hour for Priests

Tuesday, January 8th, 2024

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Rosary, Prayer & Benediction



All men are invited to join the Spring semester of That Man Is You beginning Tuesday Jan. 9. The program starts at 6:30 am and we adjourn promptly at 7:30 am. The theme of this year's program is "Thy Kingdom Come" which focuses on the fact that "The kingdom of God is among us. Indeed, it is here now. For where the King is there is His Kingdom.

Let us live with an eternal perspective."

Come join men gathering to learn more about our faith and to support each other We strive to be better holier men for our families and communities.



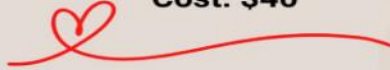
Marriage Preparation Weekend Retreat

January 12 - 14, 2024

**Our Lady of Grace Church
223 East Summit San Antonio, Tx 78212**

Madonna Room

Cost: \$40



Friday 6:30pm - 9pm

Saturday 9am - 12pm

Sunday 4 - 6:30pm

For registration information visit olgsa.org/events



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OLGSATX

CALLING ALL YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

We are looking to start setting up meetings and events for middle school and high school youth and young adults (age 18-39) and we need your input. Please fill out the form with your preferred day(s).



Scan to fill out survey

Upcoming Steubenville 2024



"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." - John 1:5

We ask that high school youth and parents spend the next few weeks prayerfully considering attending the Steubenville conference. Registration will open **January 1, 2024** for incoming 9th graders through outgoing 12th graders.

Watch the promotion video by scanning the QR Code



For more information or if interested in being a chaperone please email kim.morrison@olgsa.org

Upcoming Young Adult Events

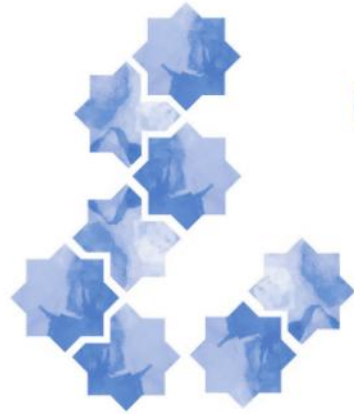
- 16 January **Young Adult Night**
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
At St. Peter Prince of the Apostles Mark and Luke room
- 21 January **Young Adult Night**
5:30 pm
5:30 pm Mass at St. Peter Prince of the Apostles followed by fellowship at a near by restaurant
- 25 January **Young Adult Night**
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
At Our Lady of Grace in the Lower Madonna Room
- 30 January **Young Adult Night**
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
At St. Peter Prince of the Apostles Mark and Luke room

UPCOMING JANUARY YOUTH NIGHTS

- 8** BACK TO SCHOOL GAME NIGHT 7 PM - 8:30 PM AT OUR LADY OF GRACE LOWER MADONNA ROOM
- 20** NEW YEAR NEW ME YOUTH NIGHT 3 PM - 4:30 PM AT ST. PETER PRINCE OF THE APOSTELS PARISH HALL
- 22** "THESE ARE THE DAYS" BIBLE STUDY 7 PM - 8:30 PM AT OUR LADY OF GRACE LOWER MADONNA ROOM

Diocesan is proud to now be printing *Our Lady of Grace's Sunday Bulletin*

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