

The child
grew and
became strong,
filled with
wisdom; and
the favor
of God
was upon him.

Luke 2:40

THE HOLY FAMILY OF
Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
December 31, 2023



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Our Lady of Grace Church

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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*

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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, Jim & Beth O'Brien, 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.



MONDAY, 1ST SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

- Office Closed
- Morning Mass 10:30am

WEDNESDAY, 3RD

- RCIA - The Sacraments:
Baptism & Confirmation
- 6:30pm
- Choir Practice - 7pm

FRIDAY, 5TH FIRST FRIDAY

- First Friday Mass &
Devotion 5:30pm
- First Friday Potluck
Dinner - 6:00pm

SATURDAY, 6TH FIRST SATURDAY

- First Saturday Mass -
8:00am
- Pastoral Council
Retreat- 8:00am

SUNDAY, 7TH SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

- Adoration of the Child
Jesus after every Mass

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary,
and Joseph

December 31, 2023

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all
the peoples.

—Luke 2:30-31

2023 YOUR PARISH AT WORK!



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- ○
- ○
- ●
- ○
- ○
- ○

We welcomed 20 new families to our parish!

In addition to your generous donations to our Wine & Onsie, Thanksgiving & Wheelchair Drives and Angel Tree Project, our Parish Outreach Fund enabled us to help coordinate emergency housing for a parishioner who was facing eviction, help a family maintain their employment by facilitating the purchase of used tires for their vehicle, and help a person with travel funds to pick up his grandchildren after his daughter passed away in a car accident out of state. We also provided a Christmas Party & Gifts for the residents of the San Antonio North Nursing Home.

- ○
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We hosted & funded
3 ACTS Retreats, 2 Marriage
Preparation Retreats, 1 World Marriage
Day Retreat & 1 Ministry Leader Retreat.

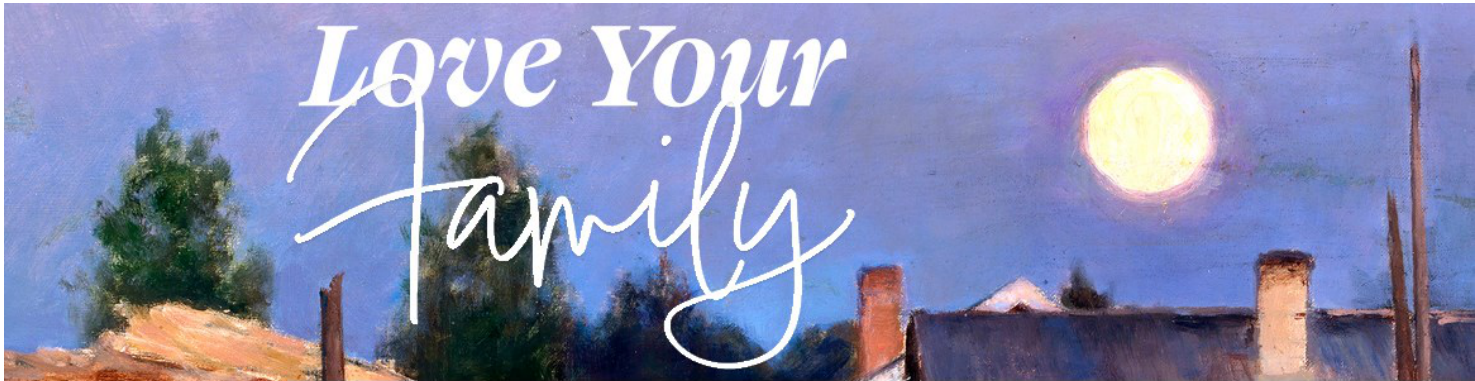
We also offered no cost space use to Foster
Grandparents, Adopt-a-Senior, CYO,
Ministry of the Third Cross, MAAC &
St. Anthony High & Elem. Schools for
Retreats, Outreach & Sports.

We walked side by side in the faith
journeys of 208 Religious Education
students & 12 RCIA Catechumen.
We administered the Sacraments of
First Communion to 55 children & 10
Adults, Confirmation to 35 Students &
12 Adults. We celebrated 11 marriages
and baptized 24 infants & 7 adults.

We were able to complete some
major property projects including
an overhaul of our
plumbing/water system, an
upgrade to our church sound
system and begin our security
upgrades to the church
& property.

Through the donation of time, labor
and technical skills of staff members
Deacon George Wunderlich & Kevin
Mehl, our Baptismal Font and some
Sacred Vessels have been serviced
and polished and our parish sign has
been repurposed & restored to its
former place in front of our church.

*While this is in no way a complete record of all of the many ways our parish
walked in the path of Our Lord Jesus and worked to fulfill His mission for us,
it is a small reflection of how Our Lady of Grace Parish & its parishioners truly are
A Faithful & Caring Catholic Community!*



Love Your Family

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.
Luke 2:39–40 (Gospel Year B)

Today we honor family life in general by pausing to ponder the particular and beautiful hidden life within the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In many ways, their daily life together would have been very similar to other families at that time. But in other ways, their life together is entirely unique and provides us with a perfect model for all families. By God's providence and design, the family life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was spoken of in the Scripture very little. We read of the birth of Jesus, the presentation in the Temple, the flight into Egypt and the finding of Jesus in the Temple at age twelve. But other than these stories of their life together, we know very little. The line from today's Gospel quoted above does, however, give us some insight worth pondering. First, we see that this family "fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord..." Though this is in reference to Jesus being presented in the Temple, it should also be understood to apply to all aspects of their life together. Family life, just like our individual lives, must be ordered by the laws of our Lord. The primary law of the Lord regarding family life is that it must share in the very unity and "communion of love" found in the life of the Most Holy Trinity. Each person of the Holy Trinity has perfect respect for the other, gives selflessly to each other without reserve, and receives each person in their totality. It is their love that makes them one and enables them to act together in perfect harmony as a communion of divine Persons. Though Saint Joseph was not immaculate in his nature, the perfection of love did live in his divine Son and in his immaculate wife. This overwhelming gift of their perfect love would have daily drawn him into the perfection of their lives. Ponder your own closest relationships today. If you are blessed with a close family, ponder them. If not, ponder the persons put into your life who you are called to love with familial love. Who are you to be there for in good times and in bad? Who are you to sacrifice your life for without reserve? Who are you to offer respect, compassion, time, energy, mercy, generosity and every other virtue? And how well do you fulfill this duty of love?

Reflect, today, upon the fact that God wants you to share in a communion of life, not only with the Most Holy Trinity but also with those around you, especially your family. Try to ponder the hidden life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and seek to make their family relationship the model for how you love others. May their perfect communion of love be a model for us all.



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.



Holy Hour for Priests
Tuesday, January 9th, 2024
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Rosary, Prayer & Benediction

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4 -7; Lk 2:16-21
- Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
- Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
- Friday:** 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
- Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
- Sunday:** Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

MASS, CONFESSION & INTENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, January 1

10:30 AM Fr. Abe
Carmen Muniz (d) - Parish

Tuesday, January 2

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Abe**
5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Abe**
Adolfo Valadez (d) - Parish

Wednesday, January 3

7:00AM Fr. Jorge
In Thanksgiving

Thursday, January 4

4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Abe**
5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Abe**
Ian Michael Threadgold (d) - Pierrel Family

Friday, January 5 - First Friday

7:00 AM Fr. Jorge
Pat Hedemann (d) - Marilyn Johnson
5:30 PM TBD
Steven McKenna (d) - Parish

Saturday, January 6 - First Saturday

8:00 AM Fr. Abe
Ernest H. Horton (d) - Pierrel Family
4:45 PM **Confessions - Fr. Abe**
5:30 PM **Mass - Fr. Abe**
Gabriel Salazar (d) - Veronica & Ruben Escobedo

Sunday, January 7

8:30 AM Fr. Jorge
Our Lady of Grace Parishioners
10:30 AM Fr. Frank Santucci, OMI
Yvonne Soucie (d) - Pedraza Family
12:00PM Fr. Abe
Kate Leary (d) - Dehan Family

Next weekend's second collection
is for the
Parish Outreach.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) *or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.*
Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) *or Psalm 105.*
Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) *or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.*
Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

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.



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.



Our Lady of Grace

World Marriage Day Retreat

February 10, 2024 6 -9 pm

The observance of World Marriage Day is an opportunity for married couples to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. Married couples are invited to an evening of reflection to spend time together and renew their marriage.

Please email the parish office at office@olgsa.org to register.



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

Follow us on Instagram



OLGSATX

Scan the QR Code to follow us on Instagram for updates on parish activities and daily inspiration.

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**



FIRST FRIDAY MASS - January 5th

Please join us for the
5:30pm Mass and Devotion to the
Sacred Heart of Jesus.



First Friday Potluck

The Parish Guild First Friday Potluck Dinner
will be held this Friday, January 5th.

Please join us after the
5:30pm Mass and Devotion to the
Sacred Heart of Jesus.

For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.
~Matthew 6:21

The Our Lady of Grace parish endowment provides important income to the parish each year for as long as the parish exists. Yet, that income depends on the size of the endowment. Your generous support of this endowment helps the parish each year for as long as there is a parish here.

And, your support does not need to affect your current income. The very best support of the parish endowment fund comes from planned or end of life gifts.

There are many more ways to make such a gift. Please reach out to Deacon John Benage at the Catholic Community Foundation to discuss other opportunities, let him know that you have made a gift to the *Our Lady of Grace Endowment Fund*, or just to chat.

Catholic Community Foundation
Deacon John Benage, VP Planned and Estate Gifts
(210) 732-2157; John.benage@ccfx.org



If you would like to donate flowers for the Altar in memory of a loved one, or in honor of a birthday or anniversary, please call the office at 210-734-7285. In each week's bulletin we thank all those who sponsor the Altar flowers.

If you have moved, recently married, or had any change in your contact information, please call the office at 210-734-7285 so that we can update our records.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH



O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

GOD BLESS THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES



The Sorrows of Mary

"Your sufferings, accepted and borne with unshakeable faith, when joined to those of Christ take on extraordinary value for the life of the Church and the good of humanity". (Message of the Holy Father Pope John Paul II for the First Annual World Day of the Sick, 5)

As the mother of Christ, one of Mary's many titles is "Our Lady of Sorrows". Fittingly, the name "Mary" has roots in the Hebrew word "marah" meaning "bitterness". Commonly depicted in art with a sword piercing her heart, Monday's Gospel introduces us to the first of Mary's Seven Sorrows: "And you yourself a sword will pierce". The Holy Family went through many trials together, but Mary, in particular, endured steadfast in her faith and never once wavered in her devotion to God although she was exposed to so many trials.

Saint John Paul II declared: "[T]he Blessed Virgin advanced in her pilgrimage of faith, and faithfully persevered in her union with her Son unto the cross... uniting herself with a maternal heart with His sacrifice" (Lumen Gentium, 58). In her apparitions as Our Lady of Kibeho in the 1980's in Rwanda, Mary asked that we pray the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows for repentance, and also noted that we must "bear our sufferings every day" if we want to be with Christ in Heaven. If we imitate Mary's faith, we too will survive whatever wounds this hard world inflicts on us and one day rejoice with God's Holy Family. What suffering in your life is God using for His glory?

By Alexis Dallara-Marsh - Diocesan

Are you interested in a convenient and secure way to make your Offertory gift? E-giving is available for our parish through the Faith Direct program. Click on the QRCode to register for monthly, one-time or catch up giving.



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

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