

# Saint Ann's

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Fr. Robert A. Busch, Ph.D.  
Pastor

Deacon Beck Knox  
Deacon Dave Rausch, Ph.D.  
Deacon Gabe Rivas

Stefani Wilhelm  
Administrative Assistant

Adrian Johnson  
Director of Religious Education &  
Youth Ministry

Mykel Byersmith  
Director of Music Ministry

## This Week at St. Ann's December 10 - December 16

(Any unanticipated changes to this schedule will be announced through Flocknote.)

### Monday, December 10

9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

### Tuesday, December 11

12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
(For +Jerry Hayes)

### Wednesday, December 12

5:00 p.m. Children's Choir  
6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
(For All Living & Deceased  
Catholic Life Members)  
6:30 p.m. Youth Ministry

### Thursday, December 13

12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
(For +Christopher Casey)  
6:00 p.m. WTAMU Horn Choir Concert  
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

### Friday, December 14

12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
(For +Joe Rickwartz)

### Saturday, December 15

4:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation  
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
(For +John Rickwartz)

### Sunday, December 16

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
(For Souls in Purgatory)  
9:55 a.m. Faith Formation  
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
(For the People of God)  
12:30 p.m. RCIA

### Upcoming Events

December 23 Hanging of the Greens Party  
December 24 Christmas Eve  
December 25 Christmas Day  
January 1 New Year's Day

## The Pastor's Corner

One of the most common and popular devotions associated with this season of Advent is the Advent wreath. As we prepare for our celebration of the birth of light shining in the midst of darkness on Christmas, lighting the candles on the Advent wreath each day helps us to anticipate this reality. The season of Advent takes place during the darkest time of the year, when days are at their shortest. But Christmas occurs just a few days after the winter solstice, when night is so much longer than day. So as we progress through the season of Advent, we light more candles on the wreath so that by the third and fourth weeks of Advent, light is greater than darkness, signaling the approach of that most holy day when we proclaim (in the words of the prophet Isaiah) that "the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!" (Is 9:1). The circular shape of the Advent wreath symbolizes the never-ending life of God, into which we are given a share through the Incarnation. God becomes flesh in Jesus the Christ, who shares our human nature so that we might be raised up into God's own eternal life of love. The evergreen branches of the wreath reinforce this belief, representing a life which lasts forever. Finally, the four candles of the Advent wreath signify the virtues associated with this season - hope, love, joy, and peace. Advent reminds us of what we are called to hope for - a new world recreated and refashioned by God as a world saturated with love and peace, which will bring us nothing but joy. That new world is the ultimate destiny towards which history is moving, and we are challenged to bear witness to it by the way we live our lives in the present, as messengers and beacons of God's everlasting light and life!



Our parish community extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Nancy Shehan, the wife of Pat Shehan and the mother of Joe Shehan and Angie Lawson. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## Stewardship of Treasure

**December 1-2:** \$11,203.81 (Weekly Goal: \$9,000)  
**Month of December:** \$11,203.81 (Budget: \$45,000)  
**Building Fund:** \$3,708.66

Thank you for your generosity!

## Liturgical Ministers' Schedule for December 15-16

### Lectors

5:00 p.m. Chris Hall  
8:30 a.m. Joe Shehan  
11:15 a.m. Mark Porter

### Altar Servers

5:00 p.m. Derrick Martin, Harper Miller,  
Hayden McClanahan  
8:30 a.m. Russell & Olivia Trask, Kilian Leheska  
11:15 a.m. Karstyn Salazar, Justin Backus, Dylan Troyer

### Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

5:00 p.m. Darlene Fetsch, Sharon Hampton  
8:30 a.m. Phillip Birkenfeld, Cliff & Angie Lawson,  
Trish Karr, Jennifer Sperry, John Block  
11:15 a.m. Ramon Pacheco, Anna Gutierrez, Tori Klose,  
Cindy Rohrbach, Juanita Ruiz,  
Michael Harrett

### Ushers

5:00 p.m. \*Bruce Hartman, Keith Dietz  
8:30 a.m. \*Kendall Karr, Mike Smith, Marcelo Ruiz,  
Ron Railsback  
11:15 a.m. \*Martin Lopez, Bill Stocker, Robert Posadas,  
Wayne Davis

\* Usher to select gift bearers

### Accompanists/Cantors

5:00 p.m. Mykel Byersmith, Burkleigh Hund  
8:30 a.m. Mykel Byersmith, Adam Zielinski  
11:15 a.m. Mykel Byersmith, Marcella Crabtree, Choir

### Nursery Care

8:30 a.m. Kris McConnell  
11:15 a.m. Cassi Hernandez

*Communion Ministers to the Sick and Homebound:*  
*Ron & Nancy Railsback, Kevin Rickwartz*

## Around the Parish...

**Adult Education** - There will be no adult education classes today or next Sunday. Adult education will continue beginning in January.

**Youth Ministry** - All students in grades 5-12 are invited to join us this Wednesday evening as we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We will begin with Mass in the church at 6:00 p.m., followed by a meal of tamales and rice. After supper, intermediate/junior high students and high school students will learn more about Our Lady of Guadalupe in separate sessions. See you there!

**WTAMU Horn Choir Concert** - The WTAMU Horn Choir, under the direction of Dr. Guli Manfredi, will perform a concert of sacred music here at St. Ann's this Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the church. Please join us for this evening of music for the Advent/Christmas season!

**Angel Tree Project** - Just a reminder that wrapped gifts should be brought to the parish office or church this Thursday (December 13) through Sunday (December 16). Please make sure all of your gifts are placed in two wrapped boxes with the angel attached. This ensures that all children will be able to open two boxes when they receive their gifts. Thank you for your generosity in helping to provide a merry Christmas to children in our community!

**Hanging of the Greens Party** - Please make plans to join us at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 23, as we adorn the church for our celebration of Christmas. Snacks will be served and there will be plenty of work for parishioners of all ages!

**Babysitters Needed** - We are looking for more babysitters to join us on Sunday mornings during both the 8:30 and 11:15 Masses. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in assisting with this ministry.

## Young Catholics' Corner

John the Baptist was a Jewish preacher and prophet. He invited people to be baptized in the Jordan River.

Baptism was a way of showing that people wanted to make some changes in their lives so that they would be more like the kind of people God wants all of us to be.

During this season of Advent, we spend time thinking and praying about the kind of world that God wants this to be - a world filled with peace, love, kindness, mercy, and justice. Then, like those who were baptized by John, we can make whatever changes we need to so that we can say "yes" to all that is good and "no" to all that is bad, helping God to create a much better world.

