

In the Peace of Christ

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

CATHOLIC CHURCH
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

625 Nottingham Oaks Trail
Houston, TX 77079

Tel.: 281-497-1500
Fax: 281-584-2024
www.stjohnvianney.org

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. R. Troy Gately
Pastor

Rev. Gregorio F. Can
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Charles J. Talar
Rev. Daniel L. Warden
Priests in Residence

Deacons

Fred Kossegi,
Dale Steffes, Al Vacek

PARISH STAFF

Adult Formation

Yvonne Gill, Marguerite Campos

Youth Formation

Daniel Marcantel, Carolina Sayago,
Gabbi Browne, Trish Bodman

Music Ministry

Richard Robbins, Sabine Kintzele,
David San Miguel

Parish Life/Activity Center

Richard Fairly, Carolyn Greene

Social Service Ministries

Sal Guttilla

Business Office

C.J. Pete Prados

Parish Finance Office

Belinda LeBouef, Vivian Maestas

Parish Office

Barbara Hassig, Trish Scheffler
Christa Zamarripa

Dear friends in Christ:

A few weeks ago at one of the daily Masses, I gave a homily that I understand still has some people talking. Unfortunately, it wasn't my wonderful oratorical skills that precipitated such a response. No, it was my message. My basic point was that with the rapidly declining number of priests in our archdiocese, many of our long held expectations of priestly ministry and service are not going to be met in the near future. What many of us have taken for granted will no longer be feasible or in some instances possible. Things are going to change and we will not be able to continue parish ministry in regards to priestly service with a 'business as usual' understanding. Up to this point, we have managed by building bigger buildings, hiring lay staff and importing priests from foreign countries. To a point this has helped delay the changes, but it will not stop the changes from coming. Things are going to change.

Many people simply say "Let's get priests from another part of the country!" My response is 'go get your knitting needles and try knitting a priest, for you will be far more successful'. No diocese in this country has an abundance of priests. Others suggest that we hire some priests who are doing something else like teaching at the high schools or the university. First, there are far fewer of these priests today than in years past. Secondly, they are already working full-time and helping out at parishes above and beyond their regular duties. Fr. Chuck is good example. Then others suggest we give more of the work load to deacons. Well, you may be surprised to know that the average age of deacons is higher than that of priests! Deacons already have full time responsibilities, not to mention family obligations and deacons cannot offer the Mass, absolve sinners in confession or anoint the sick. These are the essential tasks that only a priest can do by virtue of the sacrament of Holy Orders. What about lay people? Well, thanks be to God, we have dedicated and talented laity who serve us in the church. Unfortunately, there is a growing shortage of trained lay persons as well. The number of people desiring to go off to college then rack up bills from pursuing a graduate degree and raise a family on \$30,000 a year is not what you might think it is. Or maybe it is! Besides, we are still left with the issue of what only a priest can do through the power of the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Even if we were miraculously blessed by God with a 100 new seminarians tomorrow, it would be at least eight years before they were ordained and then only about 15% would make it. During that time, our current priests would be getting older, a good number would pass away and others would become sick or retire. Currently, the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston counts nearly 1.5 million Catholics with 132 active diocesan priests, 61 retired diocesan priests, 42 extern priests (priests serving here from other dioceses), and 211 religious order priests (many of whom are retired). This school year we began with 44 seminarians (of all levels) of whom two will be ordained priests this summer. One is a young man in his late-20's, the other is a widower in his 60's. Things are going to change.

The answer of course, is that we must change by praying more everyday for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. We also need to actively encourage and invite our children and grandchildren to consider a religious vocation. God who loves us, has something in store for us through all of this, so stay tuned!

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Troy

Adult Formation

Time Out!

Take some time out and treat yourself to spiritual refreshment!

Familia and Regnum Christi are sponsoring a Silent Day of Reflection for Women on Sat., Feb. 6, 8am-5pm.
Fee: \$40

Contact Carrie Frain for more information:
cgoethals@yahoo.com

Rev. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI, popular author, will be the retreat master for the **women's silent retreat** at the Cenacle. "The Challenge to a More Adult Discipleship" March 12, 7pm - March 14, 2pm. Fee: \$185 (overnight accommodations and 5 meals). For more information contact Yvonne Rabalais, 281/497-3244 or The Cenacle Retreat House, 281/497-3131.

Women's Club Day of Prayer: March 17m 9am-2:30pm. Facilitator: Sr. Mary Dennison; fee \$30 (includes lunch). For more information contact Kris Hamby at lizinka2007@yahoo.com.

Saint John Vianney's Men's Club and Knights of Columbus invite all men to a retreat on the weekend of Friday March 26-28, at Holy Name Retreat Center Contact Tom LaFaver at: tlafaver@swbell.net

Men's ACTS retreat is scheduled for Thursday, June 3-6

Women's ACTS retreat will be held July 15-18 Both at Holy Name Retreat Center

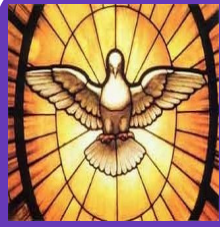
More to come!

FOR MEN ONLY!

Tuesday mornings, from 6am – 7:15am.
For more information: Email Steve Neyland steve.neyland@enbridge.com or Randy Graham at rgraham967@aol.com.

Contemplative Prayer Group: Combining centering prayer with *lectio divina*. Tuesday evenings in Room E1, 7:45 pm - 8:30pm:
All are welcome!
Contact Maria Pavik at 281.531.7057

Charismatic Prayer Group
Mondays 7:30pm-9pm. Room E2 Contact Joe Raia at 281.493.5834 or raia.joe@gmail.com
Prayer and Share: Mondays in Room C8, 7:45pm-8:15pm.
Contact Angie Barber at 281.497.0962



The Legacy Series

Presents

Church History

Choose your session:
Sunday's
9:30 am - 10:45 am or
11am - 12:15pm

(Class schedule: Jan. 24, 31,
Feb., 7, 14, 21, 28)

Room C-25

Call or email to pre-register
ygill@stjohnvianney.org
281/584-2022

*A Continuing Christian Education
Program for Adults*

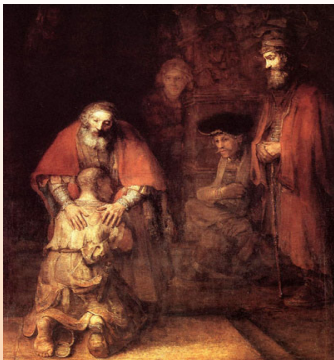
Re-Membering Church

*Welcoming back Catholics
who have been away
from the Church.*

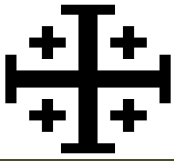
Sessions designed to "catch you up" on what's been happening while you've been away. They also offer a wonderful opportunity to ask questions, be heard and heal wounds.

**January 19 and 26;
February 2, 9, 16 and 23
7:00pm — 8:15pm
Room C26**

For more information contact:
Yvonne Gill 281.584.2022
ygill@stjohnvianney.org



Welcome Home!



SAINT JOHN VIANNEY ADULT FORMATION

Scripture Studies

The Gospel of Luke

A new liturgical year, Year C, began with Advent. Throughout this year the gospel of Luke will be proclaimed. Often called the historian of the Church, Luke emphasizes that salvation is for everyone and situates salvation history within ordinary history.

Two opportunities to choose from:

Five Monday mornings, 9:45 am—10:45 am, beginning January 25

Or

Five Tuesday evenings, 7:30 pm—8:30 pm, beginning January 26

Led by Fr. Chuck Talar

Both will be held in the Music Lecture Hall

Little Rock Scripture Studies (below)

\$15 per participant

Hebrews

Written to Jewish Christians who have left Jerusalem, this Letter suggests that their new faith is not very strong as persecution discourages them and they are tempted to revert to Judaism.

Room C26

Seven Sunday Morning Sessions

11 am—12 pm

Begins January 17

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Called the “Good News Prophet,” Isaiah is the most quoted prophet from the Hebrew Scriptures.

Room C25

Thirteen Tuesday Morning Sessions

9:30 am—11:30 am

Begins January 19

Register for these studies by contacting the Office of Adult Formation:

Yvonne Gill

ygill@stjohnvianney.org

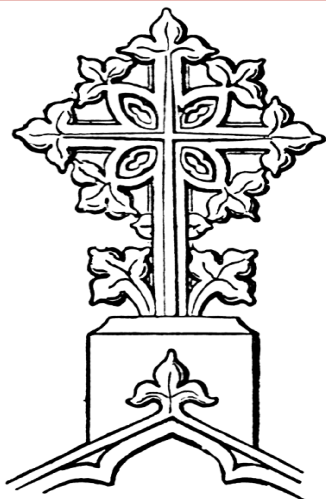
281.584.2022

Marguerite Campos

mcampos@stjohnvianney.org

281.584.2028

Music Ministry



Solemn Vespers

Join us in one of the Church's oldest traditions of prayer: the beautiful Office of Evening Prayer.

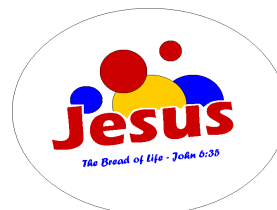
Sung vespers will take place next Sunday, January 31st at 4:45pm in the Church.

Youth Formation

**Journey to
The Kingdom**
2010 Jr. High Youth Rally



**A Journey of Faith
like no other**
Contact Trish Bodman
For information
281-497-6665



High School Winter Retreat 2010
Feb. 12-14, 2010

**Forms available online and in the
Youth Office**
Contact Daniel Marcantel for info.
281-497-6665

GOD'S IMAGE

God's Image and Word Up will not meet this week due to the Jr. High NET retreat on Wed.

Next meeting will be Feb. 10.

Bible Story Time

Bible stories, crafts, prayer, and fun for children 5 years and younger. We meet on Wednesdays in E-8 at 10:30am.

Our next story will be
"The Bridesmaids Parable"
Jan. 27

No registration required, just come!

First Communion Dresses

We have a selection of dresses for girls to borrow to wear for their First Communion celebration, but could always use more. If you would like to donate a First Communion dress please contact the CCE office at 281-497-6665. Thank you.



YOUNG CHILDREN'S PROGRAM REGISTRATION

We will begin parishioner registration for the YOUNG CHILDREN'S PROGRAM on February 11, 2010. Children of parishioners registered in the parish for at least 6 months may register at 9:30 in the Library Den. Children need to be at least one by September 1, 2010. The registration fee of \$165.00 per child is due at registration. If you have any questions, please email aturner@stjohnvianney.org

January 24, 2010

Mission: New Orleans

High School Summer Mission Trip June 20-26, 2010

Who: All High School Students age
16 and older by June 20, 2010.

Cost: \$450 per person
Includes transportation, meals,
lodging, supplies, t-shirts,
guided free day activity,
and more.

Deadline: All Forms and \$125 Deposit are due no
later than Sunday, March 14.

Remainder of payment is due no
later than Sunday, April 25.

For more information contact
Daniel Marcantel in the Youth office.

Phone: 281-497-6665

Email: dmarcantel@stjohnvianney.org



ST. JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC CHURCH
YOUTH MINISTRY

Parish Life

**Football
Pools**



**Giant
Screen**

SJV Annual Super Bowl Party

FOOD & DRINKS

Sunday, February 7, 3:30pm

Activity Center

\$8 for Adults and \$5 for Students

Make your reservation today 281-497-1555

or rfairly@stjohnvianney.org

Child care available call 281-497-6665

Best Dressed Fan Contest

Door Prizes



Valentine's Dinner & Dance

Saturday, February 13, 7:00 pm

Activity Center

Come enjoy a delicious dinner and
dance the night away with your sweetheart!

Cash Bar

\$25 per person

Table of eight for \$180

For reservations, contact Richard at
281-497-1555 or rfairly@stjohnvianney.org

Stewardship

Do unto others...

Our faith and charity extends beyond the church doors. When driving to and from Church we give witness to our faith and love of Christ by the safety and courtesy of our driving. In the parking lot and especially when driving through the neighborhood on Nottingham Oaks, please drive respectfully. Some of our neighbors have expressed concern that when some of us are running late to Mass or leaving early in attempt to beat the rush that we are driving too fast through the residential streets.

Please remember that we have plenty of parking but not all of it is immediately next to the church doors. Please don't hold up traffic by always trying to find that one elusive magical spot closest to the door and make a line of cars wait behind you. There is always plenty of parking in the back and at the far ends of the parking lot.

THANK YOU

To all who came forward to donate at the parish blood drive last Sunday. We had a record 120 donors!



Last week's flowers were donated in honor of Arthur & Leonora McKenna's 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Social Ministry



Mission trip to Eagle Pass in South Texas

We will leave on March 24 and return on March 28. Our Crew Leader, Mike Mansour will supervise the repair of several homes in the area. Fr. Kelley with the Maryknoll Fathers will also join us. For more information, please call the Social Ministry office at 281-497-4434.

Joseph's Coat Remodeling

Joseph's Coat is closed for remodeling but is again accepting donations. The retail shop will be open for business in March.

English Classes

Beginning on February 2, a new English as a Second Language (ESL) class will be held on Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. Class is for students who speak little or no English. For more information, stop by the Social Ministry office Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm or call 281-497-4434.

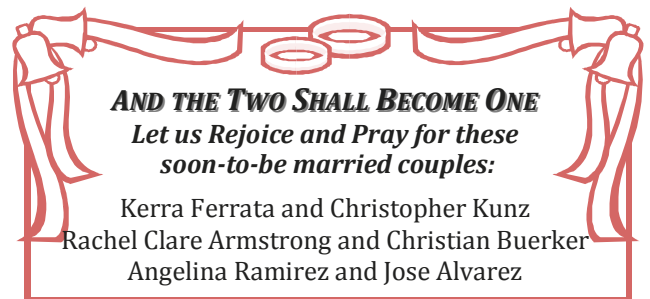
OUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERING TO GOD

Sunday, January 17,	\$60,948.04
Parish Pay—January	\$20,446.09
Parish Mission	\$19,055.15
Haiti Relief	\$49,373.00
Budgeted Need:	\$62,500.00

Thank you for your faithful support

The U.S. bishops' pastoral on stewardship reinforces today's reading from 1 Corinthians: "Because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and well-being are the responsibility of the members — the personal responsibility of each one of us. We all are stewards of the Church."

Liturgy and Life



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

What can you do in 60 minutes? Watch T.V.? Read the newspaper? Take a nap? Or spend it with God in adoration, seeking His blessings for yourself, your family and our world. For more information on Eucharistic Adoration, contact Garrett Graham at 281-793.4355

Have you ever thought about serving God by serving in the liturgy? If so, great! If not, why not?

We always have a need for generous souls to serve at ALL Masses as:

USHERS
ALTAR SERVERS
LECTORS
SACRISTANS
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION