

IN HER HEART. LUKE 2:19

AND MARY KEPT ALL THESE THINGS, REFLECTING ON THEM



MARIA, MADRE DE DIOS

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

## Mass Intentions for the Week

- Mon** 1/2 8:15 A.M. † Carmen Rodriguez  
**Tues** 1/3 8:15 A.M. † Guadalupe Martinez  
**Wed** 1/4 8:15 A.M. † Michael Garcia  
**Thurs** 1/5 8:15 A.M. † Jerome Marbach  
**Fri** 1/6 8:15 A.M. Reynaldo Vela = SI  
**Sat** 1/7 9:30 A.M. Joe Nath & Family = SI  
Tanna Malveaux & Fam = SI  
5:30 P.M. † Scott Case  
Mary Casper & Fam = SI  
**Sun** 1/8 7:30 A.M. † Rafael/Maria Zuluaga  
Kim Dudley & Fam = SI  
9:00 A.M. † Martha I. Ortiz  
L&D Adolph/Mary Schumann Scheel Fam  
11:00 A.M. Peggy Wendleken & Fam = SI  
The Bailey Fam = SI  
1:00 P.M. † Leonor Minjarez  
† Leonardo Mondragon  
† Quinton Payton  
5:00 P.M. † Margaret Claire  
7:00 P.M. † Felicita y Luis Maldonado

SI = Special Intention L & D = Living and Deceased

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The Sanctuary Lamp will burn for the  
special intentions of  
*St. Monica's Parishioners*

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASSES

Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**

9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. Spanish Mass, 5 p.m. and  
7 p.m. Spanish Mass

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

No class on Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Classes resume January 11, 2017

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, JAN. 2, 2017



If this is your first time in our parish, have been away a while or are a regular face on Sunday, we welcome you with open arms ☺! Thank you for joining us in worshipping Our Lord on this day. We hope you feel at home and will come back soon to see us. If you are not a registered parishioner, we ask that you please take a parishioner registration form located by the bulletin board in back of the church and consider joining our parish family. We hope you leave our church today with the peace and joy of God in your heart! Parish office phone no. 210-658-3816.



### MEN OF ST. MONICA, IS GOD CALLING YOU?

St. Monica's ACTS invites all men to an ACTS Retreat that will be held in Spanish on February 2-5, 2017 at St. Anthony de Padua Retreat Center in San Antonio. This is an excellent opportunity to strengthen your spiritual life, deepen your relationship with God, and meet

other members of our community. The cost of the retreat is \$170, but financial assistance is available. Call Julian Apolinar (210) 316-6988, Julio Rivera (210) 452-1650, or Ernesto Diaz (210) 834-9464 for more information. Registration forms are available at [saintmonicaconverse.net/acts](http://saintmonicaconverse.net/acts).



### EARLY DETECTION MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE!

**DO YOU HAVE:** High blood pressure, high cholesterol, a family history of stroke, heart attack or aortic aneurysm? **ARE YOU:** A smoker, diabetic, overweight, or physically inactive? Identify a potential, serious disease that may be life threatening by calling today to schedule your appointment 832-437-7355 or toll free 866-935-7226. Don't miss this opportunity. These screenings are not part of a routine exam with your primary care doctor. The full package includes 3 vascular screenings and 5 organ ultrasounds for \$145.

## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

### A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION FOR LIFE

The Rosary is the most powerful weapon we have against Satan who comes in many disguises. Sadly, so many Catholics do not pray it regularly. It is not a good luck charm, accessory or decoration for the rear view mirror, but more a necessity for our soul. The message at Fatima from the Virgin Mary in the year 1917 was "pray the Rosary daily for the salvation of souls." Make a New Year's resolution that will change your life. Devote some time daily to saying at least a decade. Start small and you will begin to crave the peace and submission that come with being in the quiet presence of God and His Blessed Mother.



### THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. It is also known as Last Rites, but a person does not need to be at the point of death to receive this Sacrament. As soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time to receive this sacrament has arrived. A person may be anointed before surgery if there is a serious illness requiring surgery. Sick children can also be anointed if they have a critical illness. When a priest administers the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, the desired effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age. Do not wait to request this Sacrament because of fear or uncertainty. It is not a precursor to death!

### OUR GIFT TO YOU!

Don't forget your free parish calendar for 2017. Pick up your copy after Mass this weekend; one per family please!



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Our 2017 parish festival is scheduled for Sunday, April 30. It gets better every year!

### SPECIAL MASSES & CATHOLIC DEVOTIONS

The next 40 Hours of Adoration is Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7 p.m. Please sign up with Christian Zunino, (210) 725-4908.

Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> is the Latin Mass at 7 p.m. Confessions at 6 p.m.

First Saturday Mass in January is January 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. 9 a.m. Rosary.

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### SPANISH BIBLE STUDY

We will begin to offer a Bible Study class in Spanish on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class will be lead by Omar Garnia. You may contact him to register and/or if you have any questions by calling (210) 789-8168. If you have wanted to know more about the word of God and what His plan for you is, now is your chance to satisfy that curiosity ☺

### WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE IN LIFE?

Are you being called to serve others? God has made each one of us for a purpose in this life. In our Church tradition, we call this purpose our Vocation. This Vocation, this reason for being, is a gift from God. There will be a Life Awareness Retreat that is designed to help you become aware of the reason for your life. The retreat will be held at Cordi-Marian Retreat Center on the dates of January 13-15, 2017. At this retreat, you will have the time and space needed to help you discern seriously if the religious life is for you. This retreat is for single Catholic men and women ages 18-45. You may call Vocation Office at 210-735-0553 for more information or to register go to [www.saintmonicaconverse.net](http://www.saintmonicaconverse.net)

### PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Lord,

At the beginning of this New Year, I offer you my life. Come take my voice, may the words I speak be filled with encouragement and goodness.

Come take my hands, may the work they create be generous and giving.

Come take my feet, may the journeys I walk be led by your Spirit within.

Come take my life Lord, for I love your goodness, your kindness and your leading.

Amen

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