



SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS CHURCH

Serving God's People and building His Kingdom since 1891

100 NORTH BRAZOS STREET PO BOX 608 GRANGER, TEXAS 76530

Email: sscmchurch@gmail.com Website: www.sscmchurch.org

Diocese of Austin~ www.austindiocese.org

SSCM Parish Office: 104 N. Brazos Street Phone & Fax: (512) 859-2223

Office Hours: Tuesday -Friday: 9AM-1 PM (After hours by appointment)

Parish Hall: 500 West Davilla Street (512)859-2236 sscmhall@gmail.com

Religious Education: Coordinator: Virginia Loza Lee 512-859-2634 sscmre@gmail.com

Youth Ministers: Wendy & Mark White hafa_adai65@hotmail.com

Bible Studies: Mondays 8:30AM; 1st Saturdays 8:30AM (FMI: Virginia Lee)

Holy Rosary: 30 minutes before every Holy Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 5:15-5:45PM/Thursday 4:30-5:30PM during Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 4:00-5:45 PM concluding with Benediction

Healing Mass: First Thursday of every month

Baptism: Class Required/Darve Horak 512-859-2646 or darve.horak@gmail.com

Marriage: Meet with Pastor six months in advance to set date.

Marriage Prep required/Darve & Karen Horak 512-859-2646 or darve.horak@gmail.com

Quinceanera: Religious Education Attendance and Instruction required.

Pastor: Very Rev. Chris Ferrer

(512)859-2224-Rectory

pastorsscmchurch@gmail.com

Deacon: John Thornton

(512)627-1815-Cell

Business Manager: Joanne Selucky

Pastoral Council: Deborah Hensel

Finance Council: Chris Nemeec

Holy Cross Cemetery: Cecilia Stefek

Calvary Cemetery: James Cervenka

Second Sunday of Advent—December 6, 2015

Saturday Dec. 5 6:00 PM

Sunday Dec. 6 10:00AM

Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish

† John & Christina Vrabel; †Johnny & Antonia Knappek & Nathan Huf;

† Joseph & Donna Poplawski; †Germilla Pavlasek

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday Dec. 8 8:00AM

Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish

7:00PM Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish

Wednesday Dec. 9 *8:00AM

† Vince Marek; † Albina Dykowski

Thursday Dec. 10 *8:00AM

† J.D. Shirocky **No Adoration or Reconciliation this Thursday

10:00AM Granger Villa: Mary Labaj & Buck Spinn (Fr. Stephen)

Friday Dec. 11 *6:30 PM

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday Dec. 12 6:00 PM

†Margie Hajda; †Marie Repa; †Henry & Angeline Dillard; †Betty, Alfonse, Ted & Nicholas Stojanik

Sunday Dec. 13 10:00AM

Living and deceased members of SSCM Parish

We pray for Healing: Dennis Henry, Albert Hajda, Joe Perez, Louis Kaderka, Bobby Bohac, Ann Geil, John Gonzales, Rudy Bohac, Nina Ash, Susan Steffek, Lee Gaydos, William Pedroza, Sharon Long, Ethel Martinka, George Remerdo, Robert Degollado, Nicole Geil, Linda Mazoch Dlouhy, Bernice Vrabel, Brianna Rivera, Alice Hajda, Josh Hughes, Edwin Matysek, Annie Vanek, Liz Vrana. *

Offering: Sunday: \$3,513.00 Children: \$17.17 Thanksgiving: \$784.00 2016 Tithing Envelopes are in the Cryroom

Liturgical Ministers December 12-13 (December 8 Masses: Volunteers needed)

Saturday 6PM Lector: Terry Lee Pekar/Mark White Servers: William & Nicholas Novak Celebrant: Fr. Joseph Nisari

Music: Volunteer EMHC: Mark & Wendy White, Jaime & Cirila Gomez

Sunday 10AM Lector: Patsy Polasek/Theresa Valdez Servers: Kurt Kaderka, Dwayne Gaida

Music: Kathy Janke EMHC: Griselda Steglich, Elena Castro, Theresa Valdez, Darve Horak

Route EMHC: Virginia Loza Lee, Angie Pavelka, John Pavelka, Diana Kerlin

RE Store: 6PM: Gail Heger 10AM: Rita Marburger

Special collection this weekend is for the Clergy Medical & Retirement Fund. Aging religious need your help. Please give to those who have given a lifetime of service to our Church. **Special collection next weekend** is for the Parish Building & Maintenance.

Reconciliation Time extended during Advent: Saturday 4:30PM-5:45PM/Thursday during Adoration 4:30-5:30PM

Calendar of Events

Sunday Dec. 6 : 11:30AM KJT bingo kitchen—hamburgers/2PM KC Bingo

Monday Dec. 7 : 7PM Knights of Columbus meeting (Hall)

Tuesday Dec. 8 : 8AM & 7PM Masses for the Immaculate Conception—Holy Day of Obligation

: Parish Offices Closed

Wednesday Dec. 9 : 7PM RE Classes/Confirmation Meeting

Friday Dec. 11 : 6:30PM Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day Mass and Celebration

: Deadline for Marriage Recognition Certificates

Sunday Dec. 13 : 11AM Youth Ministry kitchen—hamburgers /2PM KC Bingo

: 2PM Nativity Set Up (Volunteers needed)

Parish

Thank you to everyone who supported the Parish Kolache Bake. With your generous gift of time, talent and treasure we were able to raise \$3496.40 for the parish. God bless you all.

Nativity set-up: We will be setting up the stable and decorating the church for Christmas on Sunday December 13 @ 2:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to help with the set up.

More Ministers of the Eucharist are needed to visit our homebound parishioners. Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry! It is a wonderful way to help those in need both in their homes and in the nursing homes. Over 50 people are visited each Sunday on four different routes. All current Ministers of the Eucharist who are not on a route, please consider going on the route with one of our ministers. If interested in becoming a new minister, please contact Rosanne Naizer [512-431-4959](tel:512-431-4959) or email rnaiz@yahoo.com for more information. Some of our ministers serve at Mass only and some serve the route only or do both. Ministers will be commissioned in 2016.

Annulment Seminar: Due to the changes being implemented in the annulment process beginning December 8 an inquiry session is being planned to provide information and answer questions. If you or someone you know are interested in attending please contact the Parish Office via phone or email. Date and time will be confirmed according to interest.

The SSCM Recreation Hall has an opportunity for your group, family, or friends to make some extra money. There is a need for a group to cook dinner on the 3rd Tuesday of each month for Bingo. Also a need for 5th Tuesday, occasional 4th Sunday and occasional 5th Sunday. Please contact the Hall Manager, Deborah Todd at [512-930-8747](tel:512-930-8747).

Save the date: Monday, December 14, 2015 is the SSCM meal for the homebound, sick, elderly and disadvantaged. Parishioners are asked to help prepare the meal and fill to-go plates at the hall starting at 7am. Helpers and recipients are invited to eat at the hall and socialize. If you know of someone or would like to receive a plate please contact John Pavelka ([512-859-2748](tel:512-859-2748)) to organize delivery or time to come to the hall.

Mission to McAllen: Thank you for your generous donations to our Fall Trip to McAllen. We are **not accepting** any more donations at this time.

Year End Giving: Remember to make all 2015 donations to the Church by December 31. The Parish Office will be closed from Dec. 24-January 5 so please mail or use the Sunday collection basket to make your yearend donation as soon as possible. Thank you for your generous support of our Parish.

Christmas Flower Fund envelopes are available at the bulletin tables. Please make your donation by December 13. St. Flora Altar Society depends on the generosity of your donations at Easter and Christmas. The fund is depleted at this time as we also try to cover the altars for various occasions during the year and provide the candles at the South door prayer candle stand. Thank you for your support of our efforts to keep our altars beautiful.

KJZT Members: The annual meeting and election of officers of the KJZT St. Helen Society #18 will be held on Sunday, December 27 at 2:00 PM at the recreation center. Members are encouraged to attend.

Religious Education

All 9th grade parents are asked to attend a Confirmation meeting December 9 at 7:00pm in the Church. Please bring a copy of your child's Baptism certificate. If you are unable to attend, please notify Virginia at sscmre@gmail.com or [512-859-2634](tel:512-859-2634). Thank you.

ROAR II Progress Report ~ We have exceeded our goal!

Because of your generous support additional improvements will be possible with excess funds pledged toward this project. Make your pledge or donation today!

116 of 400+ parish families (Businesses) have answered the call. Pledge cards are available by the Church Rendition in the foyer.

Thank you and may God bless you abundantly. You may drop your pledge/payments in the collection basket.

Pledged: \$119,220.68 72 Pledges Paid in Full Fundraisers thus far: \$21,165.30 Memorials and Donations: \$12,020.33

\$150,000-152,406.31= (\$2,406.31) OVER our goal

Message from Our Pastor

Today's gospel highlights John the Baptist who would introduce Jesus of Nazareth to Israel (and eventually to the world).

EXEGESIS:

Luke takes pains to situate Jesus in a firm historical-geographical setting, and he does this indirectly by focusing on John the Baptist, Jesus' forerunner. Luke too is the only evangelist to say that John "received the word of God," because he wants to place John in the great tradition of the Old Testament prophets. John begins baptizing in the Jordan River region because of its importance for the Jews whose ancestors crossed it into the Promised Land. "A voice crying in the desert" was an important theme for the Essenes living in the desert caves on the outskirts of Jerusalem. The Essenes, a small religious group of Jews, believed the end of the world was imminent, and thought that regular Judaism in Jerusalem had become corrupt for its cooperation with the pagan Romans. This supports the belief of some theologians that John the Baptist himself was an Essene who left his desert community to begin his public preaching. His preaching ("made straight, made smooth") is strongly marked with God's demand for ethical righteousness.