

SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Church of the Diocese of Victoria in Texas

306 S. Avenue F, Shiner, Texas 77984-8208

**Parish Office: 361-594-3836 Fax: 361-594-2850 Email: rectory@sscmshiner.org
Church Website: www.sscmshiner.org Diocesan Website: www.victoriadiocese.org**

**The Most Rev. Brendan J. Cahill, S.T.D., Bishop
The Rev. Bryan Heyer, Pastor**

**Bishop Emeritus David Fellhauer
Deacon: The Rev. Mr. Joe Machacek**

January 8, 2017

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sacred Liturgies

January 8 – Sunday

7:30 a.m. People of Sts. Cyril & Methodius

9:30 a.m. Edward Beal

January 9 – Monday

6:30 a.m. Hilda Schmidt

10:00 a.m. Isidor Camacho (Nursing Home)

January 10 – Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Charles Kucera

January 11 – Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Fr. Dan O'Brien

January 12 – Thursday

6:30 a.m. Healing for Pamela Neff

January 13 – Friday

8:10 a.m. John Polasek

January 14 – Saturday

5:00 p.m. Belle Matula

January 15 – Sunday – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. Marvin Kram

9:30 a.m. People of Sts. Cyril & Methodius



From The Pastor's Desk

The visit of the Magi in the Gospel of Matthew is the Gospel for the Feast of Epiphany. The Magi have been described in two ways in our tradition. This Latin/Greek word has been translated from the Gospel of Matthew to mean "wise men". We also refer to them as "kings". Their identification as kings in later Christian writings is probably linked to Psalms 72:11, "May all kings fall down before him". There is probably truth in both traditions. They were not kings themselves but rather the priestly advisors to Kings and they would be official emissaries of their kings. For reflection, I would ask to view them as kings and in doing so we find the Gospel to refer to four kings. We have the three kings from "the East" (traditionally meaning Persia, Arabia, India) who come and have an audience with King Herod; the fourth king. The three foreigners come to pay homage and bring gifts. They do not know the prophecy or the Jewish Faith and what is promised but their hearts burn within them to seek out this "Newborn King of the Jews". Herod, on the other hand, knows the prophecy and the promise. His heart burns as well but not with expectation but with fear. He is afraid to lose power and position; messiah or not. His fear leads to deception and ultimately to murder.

The life of faith today confronts this same conflict. We see it in our government, and our world. Faith and discipleship confronts the world and calls it to repentance and invites it to union with the Father and Jesus our Savior. Our response to that call coupled with expectation should make us overjoyed. That although we may not know fully to what God is calling us; we must trust his love for us and follow; like the "three kings". We absolutely cannot allow fear of change or allow our worldly endeavors to bring us to fear God or His call; like Herod. Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Jesus as Lord and God to the world. May this manifestation fill us with joy which leads to discipleship and not fear which leads us to perdition.

I would also like to give everyone an update with our different building projects. First, the storage building is coming along and we will see structure going up soon. It is projected to be completed by the end of February. The stained glass windows of the church

are roughly halfway done. They will not take another window until after Easter. The Convent Renovation Project Campaign has brought in \$2.4 million from grants and the generosity of parishioners and alumni. This is 60% of our goal of \$4 million. This project will have a significant impact in our abilities to provide education and youth ministries for the parish. Please pray and please consider donating (if you haven't already) so we can move ahead with construction beginning the day after school gets out in May. Lastly, I have heard many complaints about the sound system in the Church. I agree that it is inadequate and I am securing plans to resolve and replace it. Fr. Gerry Cernoch was the last priest to do anything to the sound system about 25 years ago. I hope to have a new system in place by Easter

Father Bryan Heyer

Church Bulletin

In Memory of Deceased Members of
Couvillon & Maillet Families

Sanctuary Candles

In Memory of John Polasek by Harvey Picha Family and
Agnes Polasek

Memorial Candle for the Unborn

By the Martinsen Family

Vocations Cross

David & Virginia Vinklarek



The Pastoral Council will be taking down the Christmas decorations in church after 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 8. Other parishioners willing to help are welcome. Volunteer workers will receive a poinsettia.

2017 Church Calendars are available at the church entrances. Please take one per family.



Bible Study: Monday, January 9, 8:00 a.m. in the PAC. All are welcome.

Ministry Schedules for January and February are available in church and on our parish website.

Next Baptismal Class: Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Pre-registration required by calling the parish office at 361-594-3836.



Totus Tuus Chorum: Rehearsals resume on Wed, Jan. 18, 8:00 – 8:50 p.m. All students in grades 7 – 12 are eligible for membership. Now would be a great time to join! Contact Mrs. Egan at marthaegan110@gmail.com or 594-8554 for details and information.

Laudate Dominum: Rehearsal on Monday, Jan. 9 at 7:00 p.m. for the 9:30 Mass on Jan. 15. New members welcome!

Parish Choir Notice: No practice this Monday, January 9. Next practices are on Jan. 16 and 23 for singing at Mass on January 28.

Continuing Faith Formation and Education

One's personal faith can become stale or routine without an ongoing effort to grow in faith. There are numerous opportunities available to help accomplish this through programs offered by our parish and diocese as well as on the Internet for people of all ages. Listed below are several such opportunities.

Continuing Adult Education: Next Class begins on Tuesday, January 10 and will continue weekly through February 14 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Paul H.S. (upstairs). The course will be taught via distance learning and is provided by the Diocese of Victoria. The topic will be "The Trinity." New members welcome.

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FORMED.org is a revolutionary online platform featuring the best Catholic videos, audio talks, eBooks and movies from trusted partners like the Augustine Institute, St. Paul Center, Marian Fathers, Lighthouse Catholic Media, Ignatius Press and Word on Fire. Our parish has subscribed to this website that offers personal faith formation and catechism for parishioners of all ages. It makes learning conveniently accessible for all ages at your fingertips. Visit our parish website at sscmshiner.org, under Faith Formation click on FORMED.org to learn about the wide variety of programs available. Enter our **parish code: 6Z3HJX** and check out the unbelievable number of resources for you and your family.

Seek 2017 for Young Adults: Inspired by Pope St. John Paul II's call to a "New Evangelization," FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) is a Catholic collegiate outreach whose mission is to share the hope and joy of the gospel with college and university students. Since 1998, FOCUS has grown from a handful of missionaries on one campus to more than 550 missionaries on 125 campuses across the U.S. Today, FOCUS continues to encourage young men and women to encounter Jesus, share the gospel and transform the world for Christ through various programs.

One such program that FOCUS offers is **SEEK 2017**, a conference for young adults. However, SEEK is not your typical conference. On its website, it is promoted as "the start of a journey" with "fabulous speakers, cool artists, amazing worship, awesome entertainment and one unforgettable experience." Hundreds of young adults gathered in San Antonio January 3-7, 2017 for one of these conferences. We are pleased to report that three young adults from our parish attended: Hannah Nevlud, Ashlyn Patek and Derek Kapavik. For more information on SEEK and locations of future conferences, check out <https://seek2017.com>. Or better yet, ask these young adults about their SEEK experience. Other college students are encouraged to check at their Catholic Youth centers on college campuses for opportunities to not only stay in touch with their faith but to grow in their faith.

For questions or more information on any of these programs contact Sharon Patek at 361-594-3234.



Gregorian Chant: St. Basil's School of Gregorian Chant of the University of St. Thomas, Houston, invites you to five days of learning and singing the eternal song of the Church's liturgical prayer. This will take place at the 8th Winter Chant Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico, from February 20 – 24. Visit www.chantschool.org or call Lowell Davis at 281-855-2358 for information.

Shiner Catholic School News

If you are interested in sending your child to Shiner Catholic School next school year, please call the school office at (361)594-3843. We'd love to meet with you and schedule a tour.

Save the Dates: Catholic Schools Week Jan. 29 – Feb. 3 Sunday, January 29

Pancake Breakfast in the Cafeteria 7:30-11:00 a.m.

Thursday, February 2

Noodle Soup Dinner/School Talent Show

Please watch the bulletin in the next few weeks with times and details pertaining to Catholic Schools Week.



Strudels for Sale: If you depleted your supply of these tasty pastries during the holidays, why not stop by the parish office and pick up some extras for unexpected guests or special occasions. Price: \$15. Remember, they keep for months in the freezer.

Our Gifts to God: December 25 – January 1

Envelopes.....	\$24,039.00
Loose Collections.....	\$ 2,948.00
Repair Fund.....	\$ 1,614.36



February 12, 2017 – 10th Annual Catholic Knowledge Bowl.

For more information go to the diocesan website at www.victoriadiocese.org or call 361-573-0828, ext. 2224.



Painted Churches of Texas Novels: Author, Carol Voelkel, a member of our parish, has written two religious fiction novels. The books are entitled "Random Act of Love" and "Final Act of Redemption." The story of the first one revolves around our church, Sts. Cyril & Methodius, while the second one features St. Mary's Church in Fredericksburg. Carol is generously donating the proceeds of these books to our parish. The books are available at the parish office for \$20 softcover and \$30 hard cover. Both of these books offer easy reading on these long winter evenings.



Counseling in the Catholic Tradition – Emmaus Center, Victoria:

To make counseling and spiritual direction appointments go to www.emmauscounselingcenter.com or call 361-212-0830



Church and School Memorials:

In grateful appreciation we wish to acknowledge Memorials received in December, 2016.

Church Memorial Fund:

In memory of Fred Koenning, Jr., \$185

In memory of Isidor Camacho, \$10

Church Repair Fund:

In memory of Ernest J. Hajek, \$25

In memory of Adela Berger, \$10

St. Nicholas Society:

In memory of Adela Berger, \$25

Shiner Catholic School Endowment Fund:

In memory of Adela Berger, \$15

Shiner Catholic School Memorial Fund:

In memory of Fred Koenning, Jr., \$120