

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners, friends, and visitors: In these last few days before Christmas, we try to take care of many things before we meet the newborn Child of God, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. We are focused on buying gifts, decorating our houses, planning family gatherings, and many other details. But, during this special time of Advent, the Church calls us to also examine our spiritual lives, and amend and correct those faults that separate us from God. One of the best and most effective ways we can draw closer to God is the Sacrament of Confession. It is through this Sacrament that the Church provides us with the means to make our relationship stronger and right again with Jesus Christ. The Sacrament of Confession is a healing sacrament, because through it we obtain absolution, mercy, God's forgiveness, and relief for the soul.

As you know, after Jesus' Resurrection, He stood among the Apostles and said: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them, if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20) As we frantically wrack our brains trying to think of the most perfect Christmas gifts for our loved ones, good meals, and other things we feel we must do, there is a wonderful present that you can give to yourself this year. It is the gift of a close, deep, and beautiful relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. So, try to make time on Monday, December 19 from 6:00 p.m. until ... and come to Confession at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Vancleave. We'll have three priests available to hear your Advent confession. It is through this sacrament that you can tell Jesus Christ you wish to atone for your sinful life, to draw closer to Him, and to gratefully welcome the Baby Jesus into your personal life and the lives of your family this coming Christmas.

Hour of Mercy

We will not have an "Hour of Mercy" in December.

Holy Spirit Parish CYO

We would like to Congratulate our new Youth Ministers, Nathan & Kristen Smith.

Fr. Peter and the community of Holy Spirit would like to thank Gloria Sumter for 34 years of Service to the Catholic Church.

**Advent Penance Service
Holy Spirit Catholic Church and
Christ the King Mission**

We will have an Advent Penance Service on Monday, December 19th at 6:00 p.m. for Holy Spirit Catholic Church and Christ the King Mission at Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Three priests will be available to hear your confession.

**Mass Schedule For the Nativity of the Lord
A Holy Day of Obligation**

Saturday, December 24th Vigil Mass:

Christ the King: 4:00 p.m. with Fr. Bob
Holy Spirit: 4:00 p.m. with Fr. Peter

Sunday, December 25th Solemnity Mass:

Christ the King: 9:15 a.m.
Holy Spirit: 11:00 a.m.
We will not have a 4:00 p.m. Mass at Holy Spirit

Las Posadas Novena

Please join us on Sunday, December 18th, for this year's Las Posadas novena. We will have a one-night event from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. We will begin in the Church and then pray with Mary and Joseph as they travel and make their way to Bethlehem. We will travel around our Church property to 9 different stations, that will represent each of the 9 nights of the Las Posadas novena, and end up at our Parish Hall (Bethlehem) for a celebration and meal. Please let Deacon Johnny know if your family would be interested in hosting the Holy Family for a night. Everyone is invited to join us and are encouraged to bring your favorite Christmas side dish or desert for our meal.

HOMEBOUND VISITS: Fr. Peter is able to visit the homebound parishioners and Minister to them the Sacraments of Confession, Communion and Anointing. Contact the Parish Office if you would like him to visit your relative.

MASS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS: You can have Masses offered for the deceased as well as for living family and friends (\$10 stipend per Mass). Mass cards and envelopes are available at the Parish office. We strongly advise that you contact the office if you wish to have a Mass celebrated on a specific date. If a Mass Intention has already been scheduled for that date, your Mass Intention will be scheduled on the next available date.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Fr. Peter is available for Confession every day, before daily Mass and after, or by appointment.

CK & HS COMBINED ACTIVITIES

K of C Meeting: 1st Wed. of the month at 7pm.- KC Hall
Parish Charity: Tuesdays- 4:30pm.-5:00pm C.K.
Boy Scouts Troup 826: Michael Rosas -Tuesdays- 6:30pm- HSCC

HOLY SPIRIT ACTIVITIES: 6705 Jim Ramsay Road, Vancleave, 39565

Altar Society – Margaret Brenke, President
Maintenance – Mark Hopkins 2nd & 4th Saturday.
Bible Study – Wed. after 8:00am Mass and Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall.

**CHRIST THE KING ACTIVITIES
10601 Daisy Vestry Rd, Latimer, MS 39565**

Altar Society/Flowers – Tina Shoemaker, President.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Religious Life. Please pray for our seminarians:, Chris Collins, John Olivier, Deacon Adam Frey, Marcelo Gois, and Jacob Lott,; **and permanent deacons; our Service Men & Women:** Robert Brown, Chad Parker, James Griffith, Scott

Fisher, Patrick Ekhlis, Josh Iler, Michael Ferencak, Bruce Spearnock, Kris Moe, Joshua Cook, Adriana Hill-Cook and Matthew Ekhlis; **those in nursing or assisted living homes and those who are ill:** Maria Kmiecik, Rhonda Borries, Richard Arguelles, Pam McKay, Jane Benoit, Nathan Smith, Doug Borries, Pat & Pete Dacri, Bunny & Albert Lechner, Joe Martin, Albert Santa Cruz, Thomas Newman, Sandra Hill, Beverly Reese, Mary Osterman, Nell Kieff, and Miguel Saavedra.

Stewardship			
Date	Holy Spirit	Christ the King	
12/11	3631.95	1194.25	Offering
	95	20	Bldg. Fund
	801	191	St. Vincent de Paul
	512	372	Immaculate Conception

MASS	LECTOR	Altar Servers
Sat Dec 24 4:00 pm CK	Suzy Humphrey	
Sat Dec 24 4:00 pm HS	Joseph Cook	
Sun Dec 25 9:15 am CK	Tina Shoemaker	Addie Illich
Sun Dec 25 11:00 am HS	Bonnie Croker	Cooper Flurry Addison Smith Brileigh Brown
Sun Dec 25 4:00 pm HS	No Mass	No Mass