



Our Lady of Perpetual Help
St. John the Apostle
John 17:21

Archdiocese of Galveston – Houston

The Catholic Churches of

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

310 North McKinney St, Sweeny, Texas 77480

& St. John the Apostle

807 Loggins Dr, West Columbia, Texas 77486

Join us in celebrating



Our Lady of Guadalupe

DECEMBER 4TH – 12TH

- 6 pm – Novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Grotto at OLPH)

DECEMBER 12TH – FEAST DAY

- 5 am – Mañanitas & Holy Rosary (OLPH)
– *breakfast will be served afterwards in the hall*
- 6:30 pm – Spanish Mass (OLPH)

DECEMBER 14TH

- 10:45 am – Matachines Performance (Grotto at OLPH)
- 11 am – Procession to the Church
- 11:30 am – Holy Rosary
- 12:30 pm – Spanish Mass

Reception to follow in the hall. The Matachines will be dancing and the youth will be reenacting The Apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Everyone is welcome to bring a dish or dessert!

Second Sunday of Advent

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Father Preston Quintela
pastorolphsja@gmail.com

Business Manager

Trish Speers
olphsjaoffice@gmail.com

Parish Receptionist

Jolie Orsak
reception.olphsja@gmail.com

Director of Sacred Music –

Assistant Liturgy Coordinator

Mary Hanning
music.liturgyolphsja@gmail.com

Parish Caretaker –

Quinceañera Coordinator

Adela Gutierrez

Youth Ministry Coordinators

Bianca Heinroth – OLPH
Ellaina Madera – SJA
youtholphsja@gmail.com

Director of Sacramental Prep

Rebecca Giles

Annulment Coordinators

Paul & Amye Kibodeaux

Assistant Coordinators

Petra Armendariz, Jessica Balderas,
and Michael & Bianca Heinroth

Our Lady of Guadalupe Coordinator

Rosa Patino

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dennis Mican (*President*), Tim Whitt (*Vice President*), Lee Ann Phillips (*Secretary*), Brenda Baca, Jessica Balderas, Alvin Bannert, Danny Buentello, Ed Knight, Ellaina Madera, and Chuy Rodriguez

FINANCE COUNCILS

OLPH Members

Glenn Krauskopf (*President*), Kelly Bertsch, Paul Kibodeaux, Colleen Knight, and Penny Mican

SJA Members

Oscar Greak III (*President*), Brian Devine, Steven Giles, Larry Phillips, Trent Roundtree, and Ron Smith

MAINTENANCE GROUP

Steve Bennett, Dennis Mican, Felix Nunez, Larry Phillips, Tom Ronayne, and Ron Smith

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday @ 12:00 noon

PARISH INFORMATION

WELCOME VISITORS & NEWCOMERS!

Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. John the Apostle are Catholic Churches rooted in Truth, Beauty, and Goodness to help spread the good news of Jesus Christ in Brazoria County.

Call or come by the Parish Office to register in our parishes!

CONNECT WITH US

Facebook | @Our Lady of Perpetual Help & St. John the Apostle

Instagram | olph.sja.youth

Flock Note | Text OLPHSJA to 84576 or visit olphsja.flocknote.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

SUNDAY

8:30 am in English

12:30 pm en Español

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

8:30 am

Adoration & Benediction

WEDNESDAY: 9:00 - 10:00 am

St. John the Apostle

SATURDAY

Anticipated Mass: 5:00 pm

SUNDAY: 10:30 am

TUESDAY: 5:00 pm

THURSDAY: 8:30 am

Adoration & Benediction

THURSDAY: 9:00 - 10:00 am

PARISH OFFICE

Address

310 N. McKinney St.
Sweeny, TX 77480
(Middle building behind church)

Phone Number & Fax

979-548-2020 ext. 4

979-548-4253

St. Vincent de Paul

979-548-2020 ext. 3

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Friday

9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Email

reception.olphsja@gmail.com

Website

www.olphsja.org

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Preparation classes are required for the parents and godparents. The next class is **December 6, 2025 @ 9:00 am at OLPH.**

Confession: Held 15 minutes before or after daily Masses and by appointment. **SATURDAY: 4:15 pm - 4:50 pm**

Confirmation: Youth Confirmation is part of our Faith Formation program and Adult Confirmation is part of our OCIA program.

OCIA - Becoming Catholic Program: Contact Rebecca Giles at 832-212-4988.

Marriage: Please contact a priest a minimum of 6 months prior to your intended date.

Anointing of the Sick: This sacrament is conferred upon request, preferably before surgery or hospitalization.

BIBLICAL THEME (AUG 1, 2025 - JUL 31, 2026): JEREMIAH 17:7-8

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

On December 8, the Church celebrates one of the most beautiful truths of our faith: **the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. This solemnity honors the moment when Mary, from the first instant of her existence, was preserved free from all stain of original sin. Many people mistakenly think this feast refers to Jesus' conception in Mary's womb; it does not. Rather, it celebrates Mary's own conception in the womb of her mother, St. Anne.

In 1854, Pope Pius IX defined this teaching: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, **by a singular grace and privilege** granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

This proclamation confirmed a truth long held in the faith of the Church, celebrated in liturgy, and reflected upon by saints throughout the centuries. The Pope's definition made clear what the faithful had already intuited: that God prepared Mary in a unique way to be the Mother of His Son.

Mary's Immaculate Conception was not something she earned, but a pure gift of God. As Pope Pius IX explained, this grace was given "in view of the merits of Jesus Christ." In other words, the redemption won by Christ on the Cross was applied to Mary in a special, anticipatory way. She was saved by Christ, just more perfectly and more completely than any other human being, because she was chosen to bear Him who is the Savior. God made her a fitting dwelling place for His Son. Two passages help us understand Scripture's evidence regarding the Immaculate Conception. In Genesis 3:15, God is speaking to Satan following the sin of Adam and Eve. It contains the "Good News" of God's mercy by promising to deliver us from the enemy.

Genesis 3:15 reads: "**I will put enmity between you and the woman**, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel". The seed or "offspring" of the woman is Jesus Christ. Through His passion, death and resurrection, Jesus will strike at the head of the serpent (Satan) and ultimately defeat him. The words to Satan, "you shall bruise His heel," refers to Jesus' death, but the Lord rose from the dead, winning the victory over Satan, sin and death. The word "enmity" means total opposition that exists between the woman" (Mary) and Satan, which foreshadows the gift of Mary's Immaculate Conception.

The second Scriptural reference is revealed in the words of the Angel Gabriel to Mary: "He came to her and said, Hail, **full of grace**, the Lord is with you!" (Luke 1:28). The title 'full of grace' is used as a substitute for Mary's name by the angelic messenger of God because this fullness of grace is part of Mary's very nature. God chose to apply a "fullness of grace" to Mary so that Mary might give to Jesus a human nature free from the effect of sin.

What This Solemnity Teaches Us

The Immaculate Conception is not just about Mary; it is also about what God desires for all of us. In Mary, we see the fullness of what grace can do. She is the image of the Church in her perfection, the promise of what we hope to become through Christ. As the Pope wrote, Mary is "our most loving Mother, ever spotless and most fair, who shows forth the beauty of holiness."

This solemnity invites us to trust in God's plan for our lives, to open ourselves to His grace, and believe that holiness is possible for us, too. Mary's sinlessness reminds us that God's grace is stronger than sin, and that He is able to make us new.

You are invited to pray this prayer: O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Loving Mother, you were prepared from the first moment of your existence to be the dwelling place of God's Son. Help us to say "yes" to God as you did, that His grace may transform our hearts and lead us closer to your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

[By Ann Lankford, Catechesis & Evangel.](#)

MASS INTENTIONS

December 6th — 14th | † Deceased

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

05:00 pm SJA † Jerry Babik

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

08:30 am OLPH Betsy, William, & Ronald Hutson

10:30 am SJA † James Bordelon

12:30 pm OLPH Parish Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

08:30 am OLPH Parish Family

06:00 pm SJA † Theresa Hluza

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

05:00 pm SJA Parish Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

08:30 am OLPH Joan Boulio

Adoration following Mass

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

08:30 am SJA † David Dybala

Adoration following Mass

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

08:30 am OLPH Parish Family

06:30 pm OLPH Parish Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

05:00 pm SJA † Karl Moody

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

08:30 am OLPH Parish Family

10:30 am SJA † Evelyn Dybala

12:30 pm OLPH † Legion of Mary Members

PRAYER LIST

Mary Pavlovsky, Emma Smith, Jace Charlebois, Darin Adams, Edward Stavinoha, Theresa Copperthite, Omar Ramirez, Alex Martinez, Philip Sanchez, Severo Balderama, Maria Ortiz, Jessica Guerrero, Reyes Baltazar, Lorine Golden, MaryAnn Devine, Charles Jenkins, Mary Amason, Libby Wilkins-Rivas, Cayetana Martinez, Tammy Sanderson, Mary Holler, Tom Ronayne, Cesar Efen Rodriguez, Laura Ramirez, Paz Ordóñez, Lucy Pendon, Esther Vera, Stephanie Alejo, Gevie Glowka, Gerald Schmidt, Paula Garza, Jennifer Donald, Bobby Tosch, Irene Costilla, Maria Lowrey, Jan Tilley, Sandra Brabrandt, Ed Waligura, Ruby Barrientez, Jorge Luis Gutierrez, Brittaney Fields, Lori Comley, Ricky Bromonsky, Christine Goodrum, Lillian Rae Saldivar, Gary Evans, Christy Hanson, Bessie Highsmith, Estella Martinez, Lori Duran, Wayne Vinson, Dru Vinson, Willie Butler, Maria Garcia, Naomi Smith, SC Hutze, Dale Hudson, Eric Hatz, Viviana Salazar, Luis Covarrubias, Chrisitan Robles, Michael Rivera, Frances Gonzalez, Fatima Perez, Juan Martinez, Beth McQueen, Wayne Schmidt, Ed Klaiber, Lucy Casarez, JeanMaire Pempek, Dorothy Havel, Eriverto Garcia, Marissa Miska, Myra Houston, Yolanda Guerrero, John Garza, Sr., Erica Janette Reyna, Itzel Rodriguez, Esperansa Curiel, and Rodolfo Curiel

In Loving Memory of
Jerry & Annie Silva, Libert & Pat Vitek,
and Howard "Bubba" Smith
from Sharon Hardwick

CHURCH SUPPORT

The Second Collection this weekend is for
FAITH FORMATION

Our Lady of Perpetual Help — November 30, 2025

Regular Collection	\$1,523.00
2nd Collection — General Maintenance	\$126.00
Online Giving	\$2,032.00
Weekly amount needed	\$4,100.00
Last Year: December 1, 2024	\$2,414.01*
Difference: \$1,140.99	Increase of 47.27%

St. John the Apostle — November 30, 2025

Regular Collection	\$1,655.00
2nd Collection — General Maintenance	\$341.00
Online Giving	\$1,661.00
Weekly amount needed	\$4,100.00
Last Year: December 1, 2024	\$4,511.00*
Difference: (\$1,195.00)	Decrease of 26.49%

**sum of the Regular Collection and an ESTIMATE for Online Giving*

ONLINE GIVING

To donate to **OLPH**, text "Give" to 979-356-3309 or visit
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/olphsweeny>

To donate to **SJA**, text "Give" to 979-364-4259 or visit
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnwestcolumbia>



Scan to donate to **OLPH** Scan to donate to **SJA**
Please consider covering the administrative fee!

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, December 24th

- 03:00 pm | Confession — SJA
- 04:00 pm | Mass — SJA
- 06:30 pm | Confession — OLPH
- 07:30 pm | Spanish Mass — OLPH
- 11:00 pm | Confession — OLPH

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Thursday, December 25th (Christmas Day)

- 12:00 am | Candlelight Mass — OLPH
- 08:45 am | Confession — SJA
- 09:30 am | Mass — SJA

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7TH

Sunday | Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/ Rm
15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Monday | Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gen 3:9-15, 20/ Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday | Is 40:1-11/ Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12,
13/ Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday | Is 40:25-31/ Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/ Mt
11:28-30

Thursday | Is 41:13-20/ Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-
13ab/ Mt 11:11-15

Friday | Zech 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a,
10ab/ Judith 13:18bcde, 19/ Lk 1:26-38
or Lk 1:39-47

**Saturday | Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and
Martyr —** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/ Ps 80:2ac and
3b, 15-16, 18-19/ Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday | Third Sunday of Advent — Is 35:1-6a, 10/
Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/ Jas 5:7-10/ Mt 11:2-11

LEGION OF MARY

Want to know Christ better?
Let Mary lead you to him!



For English, join the ladies every **Monday**

@ 8:15 am (location varies), or to become an auxiliary
member, call Anita Heble at 979-480-3224!

For Spanish, join the ladies every **Tuesday @ 6:30 pm** in
the OLPH hall. They also meet to pray the rosary on

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm in the grotto!

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Dylan Garcia, 1st Class Airman Cody Lozano, Sgt. Abel
Carrasco, SA Reese Whittington, Ashton Thompson,
Pvt. Evelyn Wallace, PV 2 Nicholas Kane, HN Catherine
Kane, Major Stephen Koether, GY Sgt. Phillip James
Sanchez III, Javier Villisana, Major Mike Knight, Major
Ciara Knight, Chris Roche, Jared Nelson, Staff Sgt.
Robert Reynolds, Cpt. Jake Knight, Warrant Officer
Dylan Diaz, Sgt. Gabriel Quinones, Pvt. Edgar
Servantes, Staff Sgt. Jazmin Cisneros, D.J. Cisneros,
and Gage Alderman

God bless the members of our armed forces!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 7

9 to 10:15 am 1st Reconciliation Class — SJA hall
9 to 10:15 am Confirmation 2 Class — SJA hall

Monday, December 8

Parish Office Closed

Deadline to RSVP for the Altar Guild Christmas Party

8:15 am Legion of Mary (English) — SJA hall
8:30 am Immaculate Conception Mass — OLPH
6:30 pm Immaculate Conception Mass — SJA

Tuesday, December 9

9 to 10:30 am Adult Faith Formation — OLPH hall
11:00 am Tamale & Salsa Order Pick-up — OLPH hall
6:00 pm Council Christmas Party — Rectory
6:30 pm Legion of Mary (Spanish) — OLPH hall

Wednesday, December 10

6 to 7 am That Man is You — OLPH hall
7:00 pm Family Adoration — OLPH

Thursday, December 11

11:00 am SOAR Group Meeting — OLPH hall
6:00 pm OCIA Class — OLPH hall
6 to 9 pm Altar Guild Christmas Party — SJA hall

Friday, December 12

See the bulletin cover for Our Lady of Guadalupe events!

Saturday, December 13

9 am to 6 pm Confirmation 2 Retreat — SJA hall

Sunday, December 14

1:30 pm Social Sunday — OLPH hall

ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER 6TH — 12TH

10th | Jimmy & Erika Balderas

15 Years



MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

(THIS IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

8:30 am at OLPH

6:00 pm at SJA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The announcements are no longer read before Mass!
To view them, please visit: www.olphsja.org or see the informational blurbs below.

IN SYMPATHY

Leon Bertsch, OLPH parishioner and father of Mike Bertsch and Marie Nairn, passed away recently. May God grant repose to his soul and comfort to his loved ones!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed **Monday** in observance of the Immaculate Conception! We will reopen Tuesday.

ALTAR GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

****Please RSVP by Monday morning** to Linda Miska at 979-236-3978, as White Apron needs a head count!!**

All ladies of both parishes are invited to the Altar Guild's Christmas party on **Thursday**, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm in the SJA hall! Fellowship will be from 6 to 6:30 pm, and a catered dinner from White Apron will follow at 6:30 pm. Games of Left, Right, Center will be played and those attending are asked to bring nine \$1 bills. Instead of gifts, please bring monetary/canned good donations for our local St. Vincent de Paul Society.

TAMALE & SALSA FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

Orders from the Guadalupeana's fundraiser will be available for pick-up on **Tuesday** @ 11:00 am in the OLPH hall. Please contact Adela Gutierrez at 979-235-0290 or Claudia Garza at 979-216-6566 if you have any questions!



CHRISTMAS DECORATING

The Altar Guild will be decorating the church at SJA for Christmas on **Sunday, December 21**, following the 10:30 am Mass! Please mark your calendars — All help will be greatly welcomed and appreciated.

MASS ATTENDANCE



Weekend of November 29th & 30th

Saturday	05:00 pm	126 people
Sunday	08:30 am	76 people
Sunday	10:30 am	182 people
Sunday	12:30 pm	105 people

Total: 489 people

Total Registered Families: 291



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, please put an envelope in the regular collection or call the Parish Office! We ask that you write "Christmas Poinsettias" on the outside of the envelope, and specify in honor or in memory next to your loved one's names. Poinsettias are **\$15 each**.

The deadline to order is **Tuesday, December 16!**