



# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

826 Cottonwood St.  
Abilene TX 79601

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## OUR MISSION

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is a community living out Christ's mission by extending our hearts to those in need through evangelization, nourished by the word and bread of life and with a **full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage**, to become witnesses in faith and strive to empower our community to live as Disciples of Christ.

## NUESTRA MISIÓN

*La iglesia católica de San Francisco de Asís es una comunidad que vive a cabo la misión de Cristo mediante la ampliación de nuestro corazón a los necesitados a través de la evangelización, alimentada por la Palabra y el pan de la vida y con el corazón lleno enriquecida por un servicio honesto, amor, sacrificio y valor, a convertirse en testigos de la fe y se esfuerzan por capacitar a nuestra comunidad a vivir como discípulos de Cristo*

### PASTOR :

Rev. Fr. Innocent Eziefule

### PARISH SECRETARY:

Mrs. Joanne Herrera

### CRE:

Mrs. Jennifer Lopez

### DEACONS

Dcn. Marc Main

Dcn. Eduardo Castillo

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Wed, & Fri. 9:00AM—5:00PM

Tues. & Thurs. 9:00AM—3:00PM

Closed for Lunch from 12:00PM to 1:00 PM

Saturday, Sunday: Closed

Bulletin Deadline Wednesday @ Noon

E-Mail: [abilene.stfrancis@sanangelodiocese.org](mailto:abilene.stfrancis@sanangelodiocese.org)

Website: [www.stfrancisabilene.com](http://www.stfrancisabilene.com)

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## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 7, 2024

Pastoral Council	John Ford.....676-3708
Finance Council	Jose Corral
Vocations	Rev. Innocent Eziefule Rosalba Serrato.....201-3102
Funeral Meals	Parish Office.....672-6695
Religious Education	Jennifer Lopez.....338-0139
Knights of Columbus	Ismael Fernandez.....338-5591
Cursillo de Cristianidad	Faviola Corral.....665-4887
Guadalupeana Society	Rosalba Serrato.....201-3102
Hijos de Maria	Socorro Hernández.....721-1709
Youth Ministry	Rebecca Arredondo.....660-4177
Lectors	John Ford.....676-3708
Eucharistic ministers	Brad Stone.....701-4745
Altar Servers	Rev. Innocent Eziefule.....672-6695 Maria Elena Devora-Portillo.....518-4600 Linda Castillo.....325-455-6746

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Saturday, January 6

Vigil Mass 4pm.....+ Robbie Bolden, III  
.....by Gloria Delgado  
.....+Daniel Henley [Novena Mass]  
.....by Maria & Hortencia

## Sunday, January 7

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Mass 9:00am .....FAP  
Mass 11 am.....+Daniel Henley  
.....by Maria & Hortencia

## Monday, January 8

### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Private Mass.....+Daniel Henley  
.....by Maria & Hortencia

## Tuesday, January 9

### First week of Ordinary Time

Mass 6:30pm.....Healing for Guillermina Ortega  
.....by Martha Ortega-Diaz  
.....+Daniel Henley  
.....by Maria & Hortencia

## Wednesday, January 10

### The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Mass 8:30am.....+Daniel Henley  
.....by Maria & Hortencia

## Thursday, January 11

### Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

Mass 8:30am.....+Daniel Henley  
.....by Maria & Hortencia

## Friday, January 12

### Saint Marguerite, Bourgeois (OBL)

Mass 8:30am.....+David Henley  
.....by Maria & Hortencia

## Saturday, January 13

Vigil Mass 4pm.....+ Monica Torres  
.....by Roger & Jovita Torres  
.....Lizbet Avitia, Novena for Health and Healing  
.....by Maria Rodriguez

## Sunday, January 14

### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 9:00am .....+Jerri Main  
.....by Sylvia & John Herrera  
Mass 11 am.....FAP  
.....Lizbet Avitia, Novena for Health and Healing  
.....by Maria Rodriguez

## Saturday, January 6

3—3:45pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Mass

## Sunday, January 7

9am Mass  
11am Mass (Spanish)

## Monday, January 8

7:00pm Legion of Mary

## Tuesday, January 9

6:00pm Prolife Rosary  
6:30pm Weekday Mass  
6:30pm **RCIA**  
7:00pm Ultrella

## Wednesday, January 10

8:30am Weekday Mass  
5:30-6:30 pm **RCIC**  
6:30-7:30pm **RE**  
7:30-8:30pm **YOUTH GROUP**

## Thursday, January 11

8:30am Weekday Mass  
6:30pm K of C Meeting

## Friday, January 12

8:30am Weekday Mass

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
Is 42: 1-4, 6-7 or ACTS 10: 34-38 Ps 29: 1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b 9b-10  
Mk 1: 7-11

**Tuesday Weekday [ Week 1 in Ordinary Time ]**  
1Sm 1: 9-20 Ps 1Sm 2: 1, 4-8 Mk 1: 21-28

**Wednesday Weekday [1]**  
1Sm: 3 1-10, 19-20 Ps 40: 2, 5, 7-10 Mk 1: 29-39

**Thursday Weekday [1]**  
1Sm 4: 1-11 Ps 44: 10-11, 14-15, 25-26 Mk 1: 40-45

**Friday SAINT MARGUERITE, BOURGEOYS (OBL)**  
1Sm 8: 4-7, 10-22a Ps 89: 16-19 Mk 2: 1-12

**Saturday Weekday [1]Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**  
1Sm 9: 1-4, 17-19: 10: 1a Ps 21: 2-7 Mk 2: 13-17

### STEWARDSHIP 12/30/2023 and 12/23/2023

Weekend Masses	\$	3931.57
Children's	\$	15.38
Our Lady of Guadalupe Votive Candles	\$	75.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4022.37</b>

Thank you for your continuous contributions and sacrifices you make to our church community. You are greatly appreciated.

**GOD BLESS YOU ALL**

### Please pray for our brothers and sisters, especially for:

Don Zullo, Susie Rodriguez,, Eloidia Dominquez, Rudy Gaona, Paulina Rodriguez, Anthony Prieto, April Martinez, Sonya Gracia Tellez, Richard Ramirez, Noah Rangel, Christopher Rangel, Stella Deleon, Julia Jurado, Christina Biera White, Monica Rodriguez-Kelly, Elvira Biera, Angelina Biera Rodriguez, Juanita Biera Valdez, Luis Biera, Zac Biera Rodriguez, Nic Biera Rodriguez, Cooper Biera Lucas, Adolfo Hernandez, Frankie Estrada, Michael Gonzales, Sr, Pete Gallardo Sr., Robert Hernandez, Francisca Marquez, ,Faviola Corral, Rick Badillo, Joyce Bacon-Whitt, Taz Herrera, Carola Ashworth, Pete Flores, Jr., Laura Alvarez, Jerri Main, Rudy Jacques, Alfonso Garcia, Dora Ramirez, Jimmy Rangel, Jr. Paulina Garcia, Diana Jimenez, Dorian Barrientes, Monique Cisneros, Tracy Herrera, Rachel Cox, Sharon Wilson Valdez, Adolfo Hernandez, Jr., Mario Carrillo, Joe Vargas, Maria Mendez, Francisco Herrera, Daniel Rodriguez, Missy Matherly , Tristan Sanchez, Guillermina Ortega, Berta Fernandez , Lola Sanchez, Robert Carrion, John Danel Holguim, Rosa Chavirra, Laura Amador, Barbara Hughes, Sylvia Urban, Jason Murillo, Olga Valdez





Today, **Sunday, January 7, 2024** the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.** "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a

perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season. —Pius Parsch

**Epiphany** means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.

That is the meaning, too, of the wonderful prophecy from Isaias which the liturgy appoints to be read in the first nocturn at Matins and at the Epistle of the Mass. This same thought of universal redemption the Church returns to as she sings, in the antiphon to the Magnificat at 2nd Vespers, applying the words to herself, of the union with Christ typified by the wedding feast at Cana, by the baptism of her children foreshadowed by that of Christ in the waters of the Jordan. Formerly the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.

Food for the Poor  
Mission Appeal

January 5 & 6, 2024  
Weekend Masses

English Baptism Classes

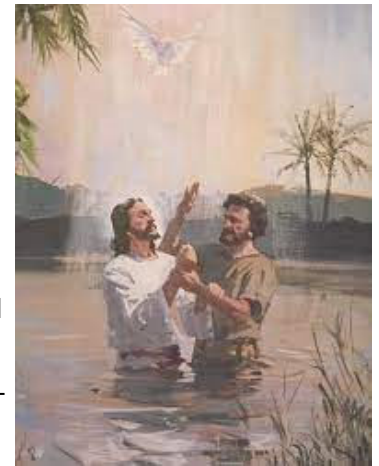
January 13, 2024 at 10am

Youth 2000  
Eucharistic Centered Retreat

January 26-28, 2024  
At Holy Family Catholic  
Church

### **The Baptism of the Lord Monday, January 8th, 2024.**

Jesus' public life begins with his baptism by John in the Jordan. John preaches "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." A crowd of sinners, tax collectors and soldiers, Pharisees and Sadducees, and prostitutes—come to be baptized by him. "Then Jesus appears." The Baptist hesitates, but Jesus insists and receives baptism. Then the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, comes upon Jesus and a voice from heaven proclaims, "This is my beloved Son." This is the manifestation ("Epiphany") of Jesus as Messiah of Israel and Son of God.



The baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." Already he is anticipating the "baptism" of his bloody death. Already he is coming to "fulfill all righteousness," that is, he is submitting himself tirelessly to his Father's will: out of love he consents to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. The Father's voice responds to the Son's acceptance, proclaiming his entire delight in his Son. The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to "rest on him." Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all mankind. At his baptism "the heavens were opened"—the heavens that Adam's sin had closed—and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation.

Today's Feast marks the conclusion of the Christmas Season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. It's a feast of transition from Jesus' hidden life to that of His public ministry. It also echoes the theme of the Epiphany in that the Baptism of the Lord is another manifestation announcing Jesus' divinity to all of His first followers and to the disciples of John the Baptist.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**MONICA TORRES**  
 BY  
**ROGER & JOVITA TORRES**

IN MEMORY OF ALL OUR  
 LOVED ONES  
 BY  
**ANTONIO & JOANNE  
 HERRERA**



**Anthony Rojas**  
*Vocalist and Guitarist*  
 325-269-3971  
 FB: Anthony Rojas  
 Abilene, Tx

Special Events

- Weddings
- Quinceañeras
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Memorials
- Funerals

IN LOVING MEMORY  
 OF  
**+HILIARY "LALA" LOZA**  
*By the family of LALA*

**Ultreya Abilene**

¡Te invitamos!  
 A nuestra Ultreya  
 Todos los Martes  
 A las 7pm  
 En Salon de San Francisco de Asis  
 826 Cottonwood, Abilene, TX.



**VICKI B. RODRIGUEZ**  
 ETERNAL REST GRANT  
 UNTO HER O LORD  
*By the Rodriguez, Biera, Valdez, White  
 Lucas and Graciano Families*

**ABILENE BUSINESS FORMS**



**Neil Tatom**

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