



SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Good News!

714 NORTH MAIN • MUENSTER, TX • MARCH 2026



Sacred Heart high school students in St. Joseph's Workshop Program construct 'Speak Room' for Discalced Carmelites.



KC MEN'S RETREAT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



ASH WEDNESDAY



Above, from left: Local volunteers Mark Hesse, Bert Hesse and Bert Walterscheid assist SHCS students Jake Becker, Cason Knabe, Simon Clark, Chaz Cunningham, Sawyer Huchton, Clay Dangelmayr and Arlo Nasche.

Once completed, the 'Speak Room' will be sold as a fundraiser for the shop program, then donated to the Carmelites (*More details coming soon*). The 'Speak Room' will serve as a gateway between the nuns and the community, enabling them to host visitors, receive donations and more without breaking their enclosure.

Assistance from our parish has been tremendous thus far as the Carmelites continue to establish their order here. Support has ranged from locals providing fresh dairy, produce and fish, to land donations, building of facilities and furniture, the formation of a support guild and more.

See full story in *NTX Catholic* (Mar-Apr 26, Pgs 34-35)

See letter of appreciation from our Carmelite Nuns on back cover of this newsletter.



What's happening at Sacred Heart?



A Note from Fr. Hoodenpyle

Sacred Heart in Muenster has a long history of interaction with the priests, monks, and nuns of the Order of St. Benedict. Many of our parish's priests and our school's teachers came from this order. Many of the sons and daughters of our community found their vocations among the ranks of the Benedictines. The motto of the Benedictine order, ora et labora, pray and work, fits the culture and identity of Muenster well.

On December 8th of last year, we received the blessing of a new religious community in our parish boundaries in the Carmel of Jesus Crucified. This monastery, called a carmel, is a community of Discalced Carmelite nuns dedicated to one mission, prayer. For the Carmelites, it is not so much "work and prayer" as the work of prayer. The carmel engages in no other apostolic labor than to pray for the mission of the Church and for all of her members.

As the first neighbors of this new monastery, we have the benefit of assisting the Carmelites in their mission through our own prayers, labor, and almsgiving. I pray that we will also begin to learn from their example of total dedication to prayer to treasure the things of Heaven above all else.

-Fr. Hoodenpyle



Congregation Announcements!

Congrats to our Sacred Heart parishioners who recently received Holy Sacraments for the first time!

Baptism

Margaret Anne Bartush

Parents: Bob & Rebekah Bartush

Charlotte Grace Cochran

Parents: James & Olivia Cochran

Louis Michael Cochran

Parents: James & Olivia Cochran

Heidi Rose McEwen

Parents: Nathaniel & Karli McEwen

August Ruby Walterscheid

Parents: Ben & Taylor Walterscheid

Delton Adam Winters

Parents: Caleb & Shelby Winters

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



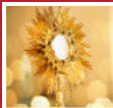
Deadline to apply for TEFA School Choice Tuition Funding: March 17

Apply NOW for tuition funds! **BONUS:** Get \$250 per child at SHCS for 2026-27 school year



Feast of Saint Joseph: March 19

Regarded as Patron & Protector of Sacred Heart Parish; Masses at 8am & 6pm in Church



40 Hour Lenten Devotion: March 20-21

Join us for a special 40hr Lenten Devotion at SH Chapel. Sign up via the parish website



Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry: March 27

Lenten Fish Fry at KC Hall in Muenster from 5:30-7:30pm | \$15 per plate



Happy Easter from SH Parish! Easter Octave: April 5-12

Added Masses on Thur, Apr 9 @8am & Sat, Apr 11 @9am in observance of the Octave of Easter



Kaffee & Strudel: April 12

Fellowship, fresh coffee & breakfast items after 8am Mass to 10:15 am at the SH Cafeteria



Divine Mercy Sunday: April 12

Divine Mercy service starts at 3pm at SH Church, with Confessions prior from 2pm - 2:45pm



2026
Holy Week &
Easter Liturgies

Palm Sunday - March 28 & 29

Blessing of Palms before each Mass (*In Front of Church*)

7:30pm – Tenebrae Service on Sunday (*Church*)

Monday of Holy Week - March 30

8am – Mass (*Church*)

Tuesday of Holy Week - March 31

8am – Mass (*Church*)

6pm – Chrism Mass (*Saint Patrick Cathedral, Fort Worth*)

Wednesday of Holy Week - April 1

9am to 6pm – Adoration (*Chapel*)

3:30 to 4:30pm – Confession (*Church*)

6pm – Mass (*Church*)

Holy Thursday - April 2

7pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper, Washing of the Feet (*Church*)

Good Friday Adoration of the Cross - April 3

No 8am Mass

1:45pm – Live Stations of the Cross (*Parish Grounds*)

3pm – Good Friday Adoration of the Cross Service (*Church*)

Holy Saturday - April 4

5pm – Vespers and Blessing of the Easter Baskets (*Church*)

8:30pm – Easter Vigil Mass (*Church*)

Easter Sunday - April 5

8am – Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord (*Church*)

10:30am – Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord (*Church*)

** Additional Services on Lenten Fridays at SH Church:*

6:30am Mass | 4-6pm Confessions, followed by Stations of the Cross

LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SH Youth Ministry will host a LIVE Stations of the Cross reenactment and reflection at 1:45pm, prior to Good Friday services. Event will take place between HS & Elem buildings.

Bring your lawn chairs!

BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKETS

On Holy Saturday, kids can bring traditional Easter Baskets to be blessed by Fr. Hoodenpyle, following 5pm Vespers in Church. Traditional baskets are lined & filled with:

TRADITIONAL BASKET LINING:

- Basket lined with white cloth and decorated with ribbons, flowers & greenery (*Spring, renewal, & Resurrection of Jesus*)
- Filled basket covered with white linen (*Shroud in which Christ's body was wrapped*)

TRADITIONAL BASKET FILLING:

- Decorated Hardboiled Eggs (*Christ's Resurrection*)
- Lamb-Shaped Butter or Sugar (*Christ as the "Lamb of God"*)
- Bread, such as Rye Bread (*Jesus is the "Bread of Life"*)
- Meats, such as:
 - Ham (*Great joy and abundance*),
 - Sausage (*God's favor and generosity*)
 - Smoked Bacon (*Overflowing of God's mercy*)
 - Lamb (*Christ as the "Lamb of God"*)
- Salt (*Prosperity & justice; we are "salt of the earth"*)
- Cheese (*Practice of moderation at all times*)
- Horseradish, Pepper, Oil & Vinegar (*Passion of Christ & bitter herbs of the Passover*)
- Wine (*Blood of the Lord*)
- White Candle (*Christ as "Light of the World"*)
- Sacramentals (*Small crucifixes, rosaries, etc.*)

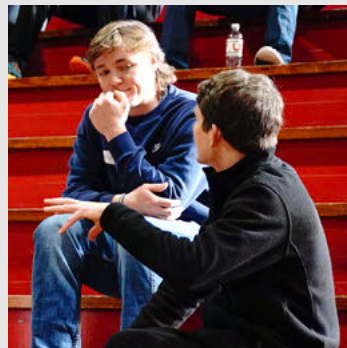
TENEBRAE

Join us at Church on Palm Sunday at 7:30pm for Tenebrae, the Church's celebration of the Hours of Matins and Lauds for Holy Week. Psalms and hymns of lament are read and sung as we reflect on the mystery of Christ's passion and death for us. During the service, every candle and light in church is extinguished—one by one—leaving only one light shining as Christ in total darkness of the silent church. To close the service, a loud noise is heard representing the "shudder of creation" at the Jesus' death and all depart in silence.

*Into the
Deep*



High school boys and girls from Nocona, Muenster, Lindsay, Gainesville, Sanger, and Fort Worth gathered at Sacred Heart Parish for a retreat on Saturday, January 31st. The girls' retreat was led by Sr. James Karol, OP and Sr. Fulton Marie, OP of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist. The boys' retreat was led by Fort Worth seminarians, Michael Marincel, Jeffrey Ambreit, and Quang Nguyen. The theme was "Into the Deep" and the students spent time learning how to deepen their prayer life and their relationship with God. With the help of many parish volunteers, the retreat started with Mass and continued with talks, small group discussion, lunch and recreation. It ended with a holy hour of Eucharistic Adoration with Confession available. Please continue to pray for our young men and women as they learn to hear God's voice through prayer and have the courage to answer Him.



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ECRWSS

Greetings from the Carmel of Jesus Crucified,

Today, we want to take this moment to thank you for your yes to God's call and for all that yes has meant for us: Daily Mass. A place to live while our monastery is being built. A place to build and call home in the beautiful rolling hills of North Texas. Groceries and fresh farm produce on our table. Mail deliveries. Financial support. Hours upon hours of skilled manual labor and construction help. Networking with Doctors and Insurance Agents and Architects and other professionals who can help us chart the path forward. Friendship. Precious new friendships. And the list goes on. God has been so good to us. We see His light shining brightly in you, in the charity with which you have welcomed us. As we pray for all of you and thank you for all that you do to help us maintain the solitude and silence proper to our life, we ask you likewise to pray for us to be faithful to our proper calling—faithful to the hidden prayer to which we have been called.

*In Jesus Crucified,
Your Discalced Carmelite Nuns — Muenster, Texas*