



DECEMBER 2022 - JANUARY 2023

UNIVERSITY MISSION AND MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

WWW.UIW.EDU/MINISTRY



In This Holy Season

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

- Author Unknown

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PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have intentions you would like remembered, you may submit requests [here](#).

PRAY WITH US ON MONDAYS:

Our UMM staff will be gathering on Mondays at noon for Mass in Our Lady's Chapel to pray for all intentions submitted. Come pray with us!





A Letter from Vice President of Mission and Ministry, Sr. Walter Maher, CCVI



Christmas: The Womb to the Tomb

Dear University Community,

I invite you to take a careful look at this icon representing the birth of our beloved Incarnate Word.

Note three things about this depiction of our Lord's birthday.

- *First*, the "manger" is a small rock-hewn cave that mirrors Jesus' tomb.
- *Second*, the cradle is a stone box, that is, a coffin.
- *Third*, baby Jesus is wrapped in linens, almost like a mummy.

What is going on here?

Obviously, this is not some sick, macabre joke. Instead, it is an invitation to remember that the Son of God, the Incarnate Word, came into the world to save humanity, that is, to die for us so as to bring us back to God, the Father. A different way to think about this is by pondering about and praying with this old dictum: "A virgin womb, conceiving thee, revealed thee; a virgin tomb, receiving thee, concealed thee."

Once we have established the deep meaning of this icon, we can now go back to the better known elements of it, expressly, Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds, the magi - and yes, of course, the sheep and the donkey and the cow... all are there.



However, every single one of them looks serious, somber, pensive. It is as if every single one of them understands that this baby has come to fulfill an incredible promise and that his presence will change everything for everyone. So they are experiencing a mixture of joy and sadness; anticipation and trepidation; fear and resolve.

How about us? Are we supposed to celebrate Christmas with gloom and doom? Of course not! However, before we move too quickly into gift-exchanging, drinking, eating, and dancing, let us pause, ponder, and pray for at least a little while about the wondrous event we are celebrating:

- Our all omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent God has become like one of us. Look at Him! He is now a baby who is vulnerable, dependent, frail.
- His reason for being here, among us, is to show us how much God loves all of us and how far God is willing to go to get us all back.
- The price He is willing to pay for his decision will be a horrific death at the hands of those who felt threatened by his message of love and justice.
- Our reward - our real Christmas gift - is that, through Him, we are now sons and daughters of God the Father; brothers and sisters in Christ, through the Holy Spirit.

(Continued on p. 3)



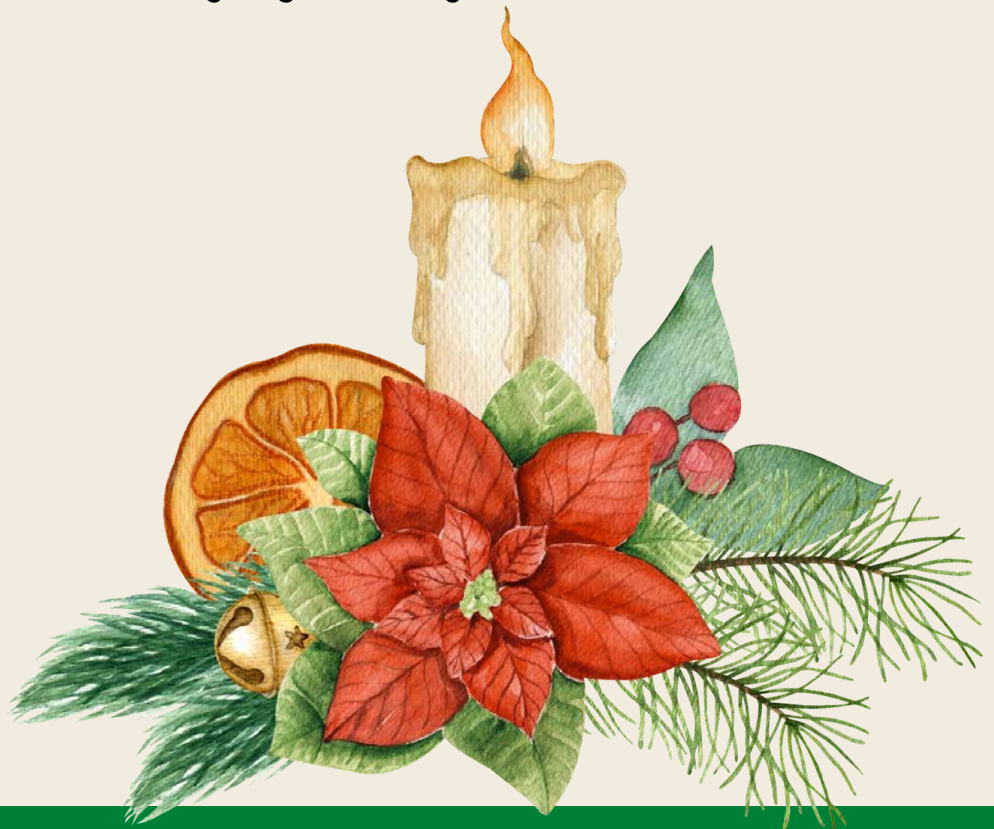
A different way to express all this can be found in the words written by a 15th century English Jesuit and Martyr named St. Robert Southwell. He wrote:

As I in hoary winter's night stood shivering in the snow,
Surpris'd I was with sudden heat which made my heart to glow;
And lifting up a fearful eye to view what fire was near,
A pretty Babe all burning bright did in the air appear;
Who, scorched with excessive heat, such floods of tears did shed
As though his floods should quench his flames which with his tears were fed.
"Alas!" quoth he, "but newly born, in fiery heats I fry,
Yet none approach to warm their hearts or feel my fire but I!
My faultless breast the furnace is, the fuel wounding thorns,
Love is the fire, and sighs the smoke, the ashes shame and scorns;
The fuel Justice layeth on, and Mercy blows the coals,
The metal in this furnace wrought are men's defiled souls,
For which, as now on fire I am to work them to their good,
So will I melt into a bath to wash them in my blood."
With this he vanish'd out of sight and swiftly shrunk away,
And straight I called unto mind that it was Christmas day.

Christmas brings us a Savior, a loving God-with-us, a servant Messiah. It doesn't get any better than that! So, let us rejoice and be glad. Let us receive Him with joy, and love, and true adoration. And let us make sure to commit to be the kind of people who honor Him by living lives worthy of his sacrifice.

Merry Christmas, everyone!

Sr. Walter Maher, CCVI
VP for Mission and Ministry



REFLECTIONS

Día de los Muertos

Dr. Adrienne Nock Ambrose, Associate Professor,
Religious Studies

I didn't grow up observing Día de los Muertos, but after years of teaching at UIW and living in San Antonio, a perfect opportunity to learn more about the tradition finally arose. One of the goals of the new Religious Studies course I'm teaching (The Word in the World) is to help students deepen or become better acquainted with traditions native to San Antonio and south Texas. So, with encouragement and guidance from colleagues and students I helped construct a small ofrenda on the second floor of the Columkille Administration building, where most RELS professors have their offices and many RELS courses are taught. Working on the ofrenda gave me the opportunity to learn more about my students and their families and to remember my Polish grandmother, Polly Bowling (birthname Apolonia Ludvica Dziadosz), who was influential in shaping my Catholic identity. She was a smart and hard-working woman who has passed her dedication to family on to her descendants. Working on the ofrenda was a meaningful and fun process that I hope will become an annual tradition!



Row 1 (L-R): Dr. Ambrose "The Word in the World Class, UMM Music and Liturgical Ministries, UIW School of Professional Studies



Row 2 (L-R): Facilities Office, Our Lady's Chapel, Rosenberg School of Optometry Library



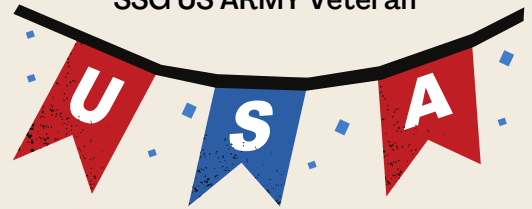
Row 3 (L-R): St. Anthony Catholic High School, The Village at Incarnate Word, Feik School of Pharmacy

REFLECTIONS

Veteran's Day Prayer Service 11/11/2022



First time attending the UIW Veterans Day Ceremony and the experience was breathtaking. Being a Veteran myself, it brought a sense of pride due to the overwhelming support from the UIW community and surrounding community that participated. Looking forward to future experiences at the UIW Veterans Day Ceremony- Gilbert Lauriano
SSG US ARMY Veteran



"This was my first Veteran's Day ceremony here at UIW, and I was astonished with all the support from the faculty, staff, and students. It was wonderful to hear from a student veteran on what this day meant to him and being able to relate. I really did appreciate Bishop Trevor Alexander, his humor, and camaraderie during the event. I am looking forward to next year's ceremony!"
Belinda Guerra - UIW Student - PO2 USN Veteran



"I have attended the Veterans Day ceremonies for several years, and they are always something I look forward to each November. They always bring out a good crowd of Veterans, and it's great to get support from the faculty and staff of UIW"
Byron Perez - Military and Veteran Center Staff
SSgt USMC Veteran



**Click the image above to access our slide show
(A second internet window will open)**



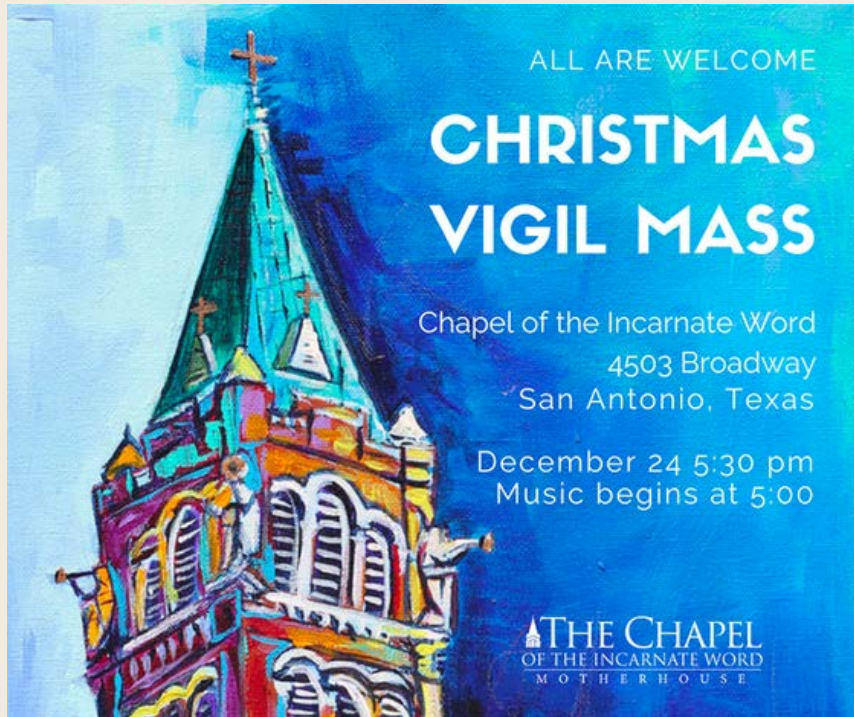
Congratulations to UMM Media Ministry Graduate Assistant Gia Gutierrez

Words cannot express how grateful we are for this young woman. Gia joined us during the pandemic as one of our Media Ministry Graduate Assistants. Through her work, we incorporated Zoom and live-streaming into our worship services, the monthly newsletter, and she aided in the supervision of the Media Peer Ministry Interns. Her education in the Communications Department and UMM graduate assistant experience aided her in obtaining a full time job just prior to graduation.

We are so proud of you, Gia. May God continue to bless you during this next chapter in your life. Know you are always home at UIW.

December

For details and a complete listing of all our events, please see our [UMM Events Calendar](#)



**Sat., December 24, 2022, Christmas Eve
Mass | Chapel of the Incarnate Word
5:00 p.m. Pre-service Music | 5:30 p.m.
Mass**

Christmas Eve Mass will be celebrated at the Chapel of the Incarnate Word, the CCVI Motherhouse Chapel. Pre-service music will be provided by UIW students, faculty, staff, and community members at 5:00 p.m. followed by Mass at 5:30 p.m.

In an abundance of caution due to the recent increase in COVID, flu, and respiratory infections, a **MASK IS REQUIRED** by all to enter in the Chapel and only 400 guests will be allowed entry.

Note: This will be the only Mass celebrated this weekend.
There is no Christmas Day Mass at the Chapel of the Incarnate Word or Our Lady's Chapel.

An advertisement for a charity drive. It features a photograph of an elderly woman with her hands clasped in prayer, wearing a blue headscarf. To the left of the photo is a blue shield logo with a white cross and a star. Below the logo, the text reads: "One-Thousand Thermal Shirt Gift", "People in Ukraine are facing freezing weather without electricity, heat, or water, as January approaches.", and a blue button that says "DONATE TODAY". At the bottom, a red banner contains the text: "To donate, visit <https://tinyurl.com/Ukraine-Gift> or text 'UKRAINE' to 210-750-6712".

From the Archdiocese of San Antonio

People in Ukraine are facing freezing weather without electricity, heat, or water, as January, the country's coldest month of the year, approaches. In response, the Vatican's charity office is holding a drive to collect thermal shirts for men, women, or children with an average cost of \$25 US.

You may click the picture to take you to the Archdiocese of San Antonio Website to donate.

SAVE THE DATES

For details and a complete listing of all our events, please see our [UMM Events Calendar](#)



Sun., January 1, 2023 | Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 11 a.m. | Chapel of the Incarnate Word

There's a beautiful spiritual significance in celebrating her during the heart of the Christmas season. Pope Paul VI, in his apostolic exhortation *Marialis Cultus* (1974), called the Solemnity of Mary "a fitting occasion for renewing adoration of the newborn Prince of Peace, for listening once more to the glad tidings of the angels (Luke 2:14), and for imploring from God, through the Queen of Peace, the supreme gift of peace."



Sun., January 8, 2023 | Feast of the Epiphany | Second Sunday Mass 11 a.m. | Chapel of the Incarnate Word

We will be joining the Sisters for Second Sunday Mass at the Chapel of the Incarnate Word.

NOTE: There are no Masses in Our Lady's Chapel this Sunday.

[Click here for the Epiphany Door Blessing](#)

More information about our worship schedule can be found on p. 11 of the newsletter.

Sun., January 15, 2023 | Masses resume in Our Lady's Chapel 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Masses resume in Our Lady's Chapel. Beginning this weekend, live-streaming will be available on the UMM Youtube page. Registration will no longer be required. You can find details on the

[UMM Event's Registration page](#) or subscribe to our channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/@uiw-umm>



Liturgical Ministry Formation Opportunities

Cantor Workshop

Sat., January 21 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Cantor Workshop with Sr. Susan Olson and Bill Gokelman | Open to UIW Community and Archdiocese of San Antonio

Liturgical Ministries

(Lectors, Altar Servers, Hospitality, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion)

Tue., January 24 | Thurs., January 26 | Tue., January 31

5-6 p.m.

More details to come.



Sunday, January 29, 2023 | Monthly Memorial Mass 11 a.m. Our Lady's Chapel

Once a month we remember our recently departed alumni, faculty, staff, friends, family, Sisters of Charity, and benefactors of the University of the Incarnate Word during our regular 11 a.m. Sunday Eucharist in Our Lady's Chapel.

The link for the JANUARY Memorial Mass is open now and close on Monday, January 23. Names for the January Mass should be submitted [here](#) during this time period. For more information, please contact Lena Gokelman or Carmen Aguilera at ministry@uiwtx.edu.



SAVE THE DATES

For details and a complete listing of all our events, please see our [UMM Events Calendar](#)

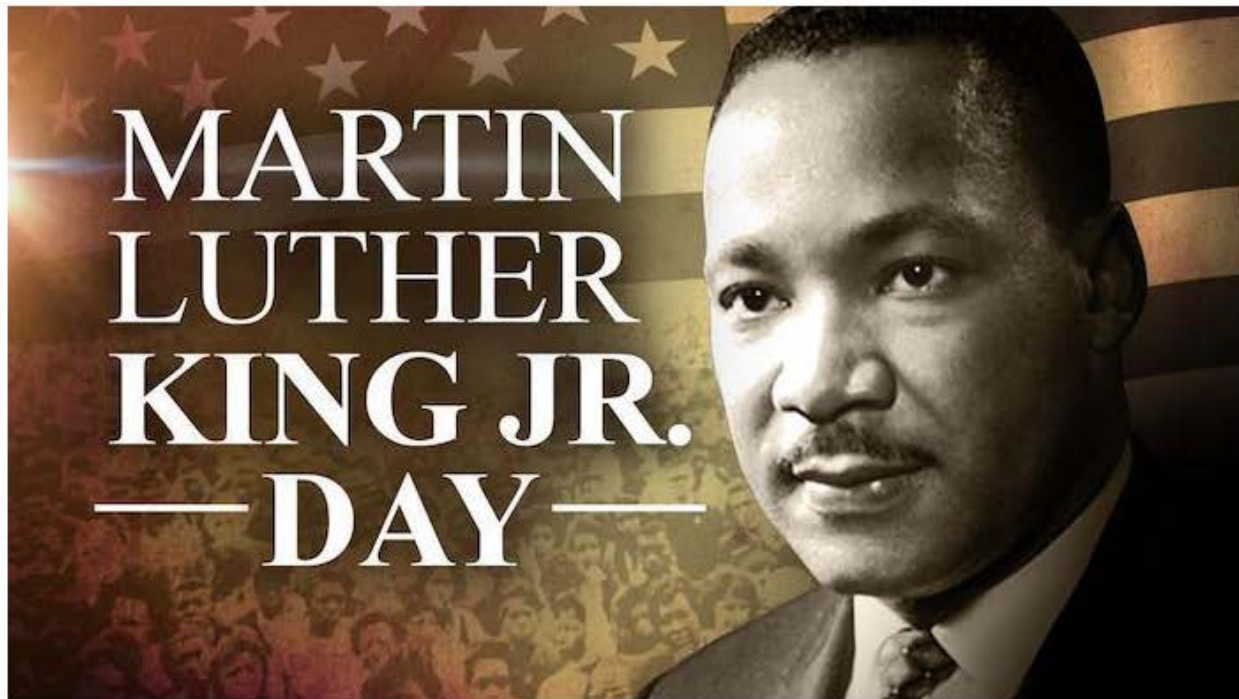
UIW, CALL TO ACTION!

JOIN US for the 36th annual
Martin Luther King, Jr. March for Justice

“Together We Can Be THE Dream”

Meet at the Convocation Center at 8:30 a.m. for bus transportation and return by 1 p.m.

Earn 4 Service Hours



Scan the QR Code or
[Click here to register](#)

January 16, 2023

For more info
Dr. Arturo Chavez – DEI
210-259-1060

aechavez@uiwtx.edu

Liturgical Ministries

We have many ways you can become involved in the worship life of our university community: Altar Servers, Environment Team, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Lector (Reader), Music Minister, and St. Isidore Virtual Ministry. Learn more about any of our ministries here. Students, faculty, staff, administrators, Incarnate Word Sisters, alumni, and community members -- both seasoned and new -- are always welcome to participate! Students, volunteering in any of our ministries is also an opportunity to earn service-hours.

For more information, see our [Worship Page](#) on our website. Questions? Please contact Lena or Carmen at ministry@uiwtx.edu.



BREATHE Young Adult Ministries



A Young Adult Catholic ministry at UIW, Breathe Young Adult Ministries build a better community in which an individual can grow in relationship with Christ. We meet weekly on Wednesdays, alternating Community Night with Crux Men's Group and Fiat Women's Group.

All are welcome.

[Learn More](#)



Ecumenical and Interfaith



The University of the Incarnate Word is a Catholic institution that welcomes to its community persons of diverse backgrounds, in the belief that their respectful interaction advances the discovery of truth, mutual understanding, self-realization, and the common good.

(University Mission Statement) [Learn More](#)

You are invited to join Smiley Buddies!

Smiley Buddies is a "pen pal" program connecting UIW students with a Sister of Charity of the Incarnate Word. Participants will be asked to keep in contact with their assigned Sister on a weekly basis through letter, email, phone call, text message, Zoom meeting, or any other form of contact. Participants will also be required to meet monthly with their Sister in-person or virtually. Students may be eligible for service hours.

If you are interested or want more information, please contact UMM Graduate Assistant, Rozlyn Bermea at rbermea@student.uiwtx.edu.



Worship Schedule

Daily Mass in Our Lady's Chapel

Please join us for daily Mass Monday through Thursday at noon.

During the Fall semester, members of our UMM staff gather on Mondays for Mass at 12 p.m. followed by the Rosary at 12:30 p.m. to pray for all the intentions submitted to us, including through our web- and Flocknote prayer portals. If you have intentions you would like remembered, you may submit requests via our webpage:

<https://my.uiw.edu/ministry/prayer-requests.html>.



Sunday Mass during the Academic Year

- **11 a.m. (Central Time) Our Lady's Chapel (OLC).**
 - Live-streaming will be available on the UMM Youtube page. Registration will no longer be required. You can find details on the [UMM Event's Registration page](#) or subscribe to our channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@uiw-umm>
 - **NOTE:** There are no Masses in Our Lady's Chapel from December 25, 2022 through January 8, 2023.
 - Mass will resume on Sunday, January 15, 2023.
- **7 p.m. (Central Time) Our Lady's Chapel (OLC).**
 - Sunday evening Mass is celebrated during the Fall and Spring semesters except as noted. In-person only.
 - **NOTE:** There will be no evening Mass:
 - December 11, 2022 - January 8, 2023 (between semester break). Mass will resume January 15, 2023
 - March 5, 2023 (Spring Break),
 - April 9, 2023 (Easter Sunday).
 - The last 7 p.m. Mass for the academic year will be April 30, 2023.
- **Second Sundays @ 11:00 a.m. (Central Time) Chapel of the Incarnate Word (CIW).**
 - In addition to the 11 a.m. Mass offered in Our Lady's Chapel, Mass is also celebrated each second Sunday at the Chapel of the Incarnate Word at 11:00 a.m. This Mass is live-streamed. Learn more by visiting the [Chapel of the Incarnate Word](#) website.
 - **NOTE:** Mass will be celebrated on Jan. 1 and Jan. 8. at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of the Incarnate Word. See the *January Save the Date* section for more information.



Reconciliation

By appointment with Fr. Hector Kalaluka, OMI
(210) 829-3131 or Email: kalaluka@uiwtx.edu Office: AD 150.

Additionally, a Catholic reconciliation service (with individual confession) is celebrated in the Fall semester, just prior to the season of Advent, as well as in the Spring semester during the season of Lent.

See our [UMM Events Calendar](#) for more details.

Student Positions Available!

University Mission and Ministry currently has an open GA position (Media Ministry), several intern positions (Music Ministry, Ecumenical and Interfaith, and Faith Formation), as well as several work-study positions. All position descriptions and application information are available through the UIW Cardinal Talent app. Feel free to contact us through ministry@uiwtx.edu if you have questions. We'd love to talk to you!



UNIVERSITY MISSION
and MINISTRY

AD147

MINISTRY@UIWTX.EDU

210-829-3128

**Making visible and tangible
the Incarnate Word of God in the University.**

We  love
having you as part
of our *flock*

Keep in touch with us
via email & text



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