



October 3, 2021

**Oldest Parish in Diocese of Dallas celebrates 150-year Anniversary  
Corsicana Church community observes Sesquicentennial**

(Corsicana) An historic past will be celebrated in Corsicana as Immaculate Conception Catholic Church observes its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this weekend. Established in 1871, 19 years before the Diocese, the church holds the distinction of being the oldest continuously operating parish in the nine counties that make up the Diocese of Dallas.

The parish was established in 1871 by Bishop Claude Dubuís of Galveston after people followed the newly laid railroad lines to take up residence in Navarro County. It was a time when the country was still recovering from the Civil War and Ulysses S. Grant was the President.

Immaculate Conception has had three different church buildings and two schools through the years to keep up with the growing congregation. To date, 27 pastors have served the parish.

**A Mass observing the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be held at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 3000 W. Hwy. 22 in Corsicana on Sunday, October 3, 2021 at 10 am.** Bishop Edward Burns will preside as the main celebrant with at least three former pastors and current pastor Father Juan Carlos Marín concelebrating.

Corsicana City Manager Connie Standrich will be in attendance to announce an official proclamation naming October 3, 2021 as Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Day in the city. A festival to celebrate the anniversary will begin immediately following the Mass with food, fun and fellowship for the community.

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