

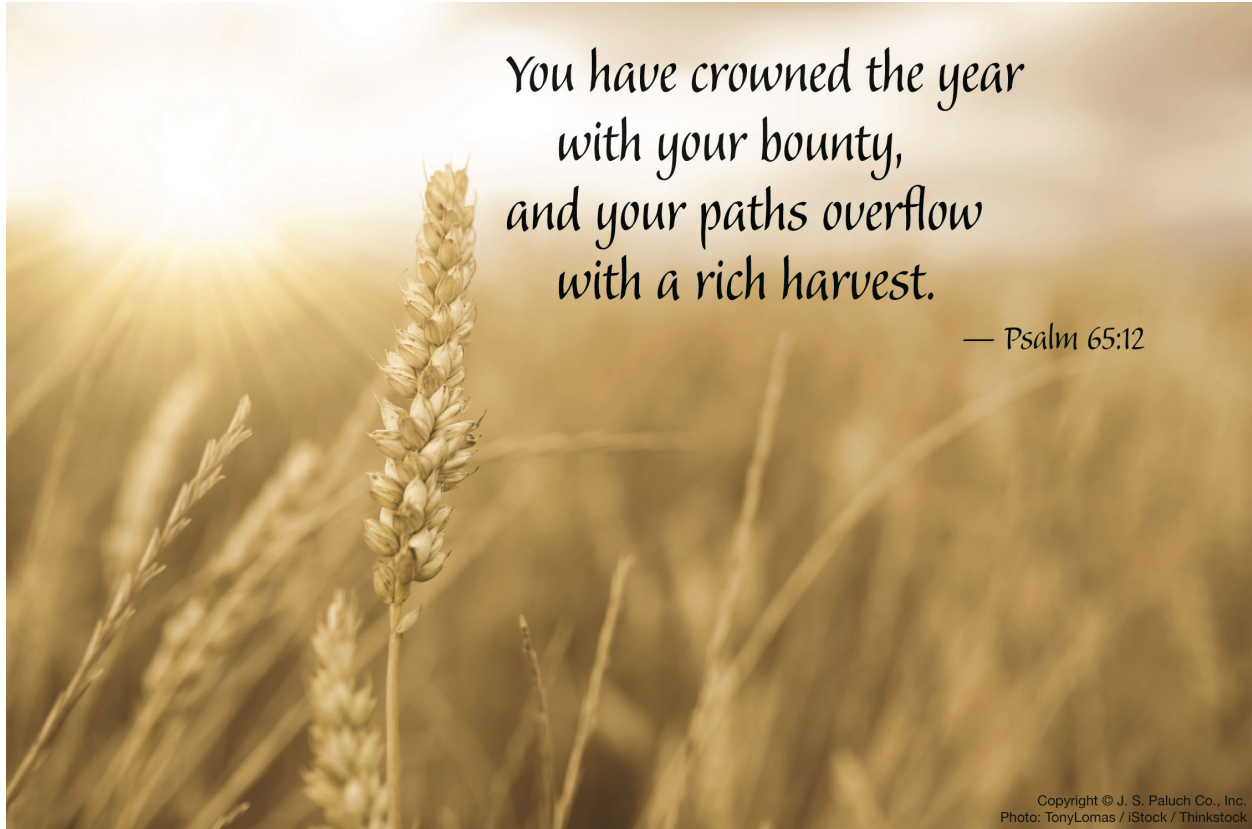
Saint Mary Roman Catholic Church

1603 Edgerton Street, Goldsboro NC 27530-3141

919-734-5033

Rev. Alex Gonzalez, Pastor

July 16, 2017—Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



You have crowned the year
with your bounty,
and your paths overflow
with a rich harvest.

— Psalm 65:12

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EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

Weekend

Fin de Semana

Saturday Vigil

5:00PM English Sábado ~ 5:00 PM En Inglés

7:00PM Spanish Sábado ~ 7:00 PM En Español

Sunday

10:00 AM English Domingo ~ 10:00 AM En Inglés

1:00 PM Spanish Domingo ~ 1:00 PM En Español

Weekdays

Días de Semana

9:00 AM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

Lunes, Martes, Miércoles, Viernes

7:30 PM Jueves en Español

No 9:00 AM Mass on Thursday

No hay Misa los Jueves a las 9:00 AM

Holy Days check inside Bulletin

Días Santos revisar el interior del Boletín

First Friday Adoration begins after morning Mass
and ends with Benediction at 9:30 PM.

Todos los viernes primero de mes de 10:00 AM Adoración
al Santísimo a 9:30 PM.

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS

New members may register by calling the parish
office (weekdays from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM).

BIENVENIDOS LOS NUEVOS MIEMBROS

Para registrarse hablar con Elvira Ponce
o llamar a la oficina

Mission Statement

Saint Mary is a diverse Catholic community working
together to live the Gospel, grow in faith through the
Eucharist, and share our gifts in service to others.

Misión de la Parroquia

La parroquia de Santa María es una comunidad
católica y diversa que trabaja unida para vivir el
evangelio, crecer en fe por la Eucaristía y compartir
nuestros talentos en servicio a otros.

**PARISH DIRECTORY
CHURCH**

Office (Oficina): 919 734-5033
 FAX: 919 580-0730
 E-Mail:
office@saintmarygoldsboro.org
 web: www.saintmarygoldsboro.org

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Alex Gonzalez, Pastor....ext.227
 Mrs. Carole Sears.....ext.234
 Liturgy Coordinator
 Mrs. Debbie Gambella,
 Parish Secretary.....ext.210
 Mrs. Diana Ponce,
 Parish Secretary.....ext.226
 Mrs. Tracey Davis,
 Parish Bookkeeper.....ext.228
 Mrs. Vicki Ellis,
 Choir Director, 10:00 AM
 Mr. Philip Eubanks, Organist
 Mr. Mike Nault, Organist & Choir
 Director, 5:00 PM
 Mr. Van Tran, Sacristan
 Dan Panza.....ext.229

SCHOOL

Office: 919 735-1931
 Fax: 919 735-1917
 E-Mail:
lynnmagoon@smsgoldsboro.org
annemariegambella@smsgoldsboro.org

SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs. Lynn Magoon,
 Principal.....ext.222
 Mrs. Anne Marie Gambella,
 Admn. Assistant.....ext.211

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Mr. Harold Jones,
 Supervisor.....ext.231
 Mr. Larry Jones,
 Assistant.....ext.231

PASTORAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chair Harold Breindel, Vice-Chair,
 Secretary Robert Lewis, Finance
 Council Chair John Heeden, Silverio
 Bárcenas, Ralph Benedetto, Pat Emery,
 Renisha Gonzalez, Anne Hurrey,
 Paula Long

The Parish Advisory Council meets August through May. All parishioners are invited to attend.

**Mass Intentions and Readings
for July 15 to July 23**

Sat. 7/15	Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Psalms 105:1-4, 6-7; Matthew 10:24-33 5:00PM Mary Knauf, dec. by Tommy & Sterling Jarrett 7:00PM Pro Populo
Sun. 7/16	Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalms 65:10-14; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9] 10:00AM Robert Ames, dec. by His wife Ramona & Family 1:00PM Community
Mon. 7/17	Exodus 1:8-14, 22; Psalms 124:1b-8; Matthew 10:34 -- 11:1 9:00AM Stop Baby Abortion by Gia Nguyen
Tue. 7/18	Exodus 2:1-15a; Psalms 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Matthew 11:20-24 9:00AM For a Special Intention by Kuczynski Family
Wed. 7/19	Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Psalms 103:1b-4, 6-7; Matthew 11:25-27 9:00AM Shirley Wilcox dec., by Kuczynski Family
Thu. 7/20	Exodus 3:13-20; Psalms 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27; Matthew 11:28-30 7:30PM Spanish Mass
Fri. 7/21	Exodus 11:10 -- 12:14; Psalms 116:12-13, 15, 16bc, 17-18; Matthew 12:1-8 9:00AM Robert Ames dec., by his wife Ramona & Family
Sat. 7/22	Exodus 12:37-42; Psalms 136:1, 23-24, 10-15; John 20:1-2, 11-18 5:00PM Donald G. Bero dec., by Bob & Diane Bero & Family 7:00PM Pro Populo
Sun. 7/23	Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Psalms 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43 [24-30] 10:00AM Benjamin Fernandes, by Olinda De Araujo 1:00PM Community

Penance and Reconciliation

Saturday ~ 4 to 4:40PM and by appointment.

Baptism

Baptisms are during Mass the third week-end of each month. Preparation is required before *scheduling* the time and date.

Marriage

Contact the Pastor *six months in advance* of the ceremony.

Sacrament of the Sick

If you wish to receive the sacrament of the sick during a prolonged illness or before surgery, please call the office.

Communion

If you wish to receive communion from a Eucharistic Minister due to illness, age, or handicap, please call the office. These visits are made after the Mass has been celebrated.

Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of **Bertha Kish** by her family.

The Church Lamp is lit in loving memory of **Olin & Ann Stoltz** by Bobby and Marcie Grant.

Chapel Lamp, & Church Office Lamp may be given in memory of a loved one or in honor of a person or event. You may make arrangements for flowers by calling the parish office at 734-5033 ext. 210 or 226.

Summer Hours for the Parish Office...

The Parish Office will close at 2:00pm on the following Fridays: July 21, and 28.



Baptismal Preparation Classes

There will be a Baptismal preparation class on **Monday, July 24, 2017** in the JP II Room at 6:00pm. If you would like to attend please call the parish office at (919) 743-5033 ext. 210 or 226.

Cross Catholic Outreach

Father Hugh Duffy Ph.D. of Cross Catholic Outreach will be visiting our parish next weekend to speak at all the Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. This ministry was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priest and nuns working in the church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

Carowinds trip has been changed to August 19th cost \$70.00 cost covers transportation and park fee. Payment should be paid in full by July 30th. Please see Ann Yursits, Renisha Gonzales or Martha Carter-Bailey if you have any questions or concerns.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, July 16–15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- * Spanish Language Choir Practice Church After 1pm Mass
- * Spanish Prayer Group Chapel 7:00pm

Monday, July 17

- * Spanish Prayer Group Chapel 7:00pm

Tuesday, July 18

- * Perpetual Novena Chapel 3:45pm
- * Legion of Mary Library 4:00pm

Wednesday, July 19

- * 27:17 Fellowship (Men's Group) 5 Star Restaurant 7:00am

Thursday, July 20

- * Spanish Bible Study Church 7:00pm
- * 10am Choir Practice Lounge 7:00pm

Friday, July 21

- * Parish Office Closes at 2:00pm
- * Hispanic Youth Group JP II 6:45pm

Saturday, July 22

- * 5pm Choir Practice Lounge 4:00pm

Sunday, July 23–16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- * Spanish Language Choir Practice Church After 1pm Mass
- * Spanish Prayer Group Chapel 7:00pm

2nd Annual Fashion Show!!!

Our Youth Group, Anchors, will be planning for the 2nd annual Fashion Show in the Fall. Volunteers are needed. See Anne Yurksaitis after Mass in the vestibule if you are interested in helping.

Find Mass while travelling this summer by calling 1-800-mass times or www.masstimes.org .

Just enter the zip code you are in and Mass time & location information is available.

Scrip...

Our next Scrip order goes in on Tuesday, July 25th. If you would like to order Scrip please, be sure to have your order in the Parish Office on Tuesday, July 25th by 8:15am.

Offertory Report

July 2	\$8,577.77
	<u>\$7,750.00</u>
	\$827.77

St. Mary School: \$1,174.00

Second Collection July 23: Family Life Center

laundry LOVE™

Laundry Love is a human care initiative that partners with individuals, groups, and local laundromats. The initiative helps to wash the clothes and bedding of the individual and/or family living in poverty. From the infant to the aged, from diverse ethnicities and cultures, LL seeks to nurture the health, hygiene, economic, and relational well being of each person through networking and friendship.

Free Laundry

All are welcome! Quarters and soap are provided. The 3rd Friday of every month 11:30am - 2:30pm.

For questions, donations, or to volunteer, please email: LaundryLoveGoldsboro@gmail.com

Facebook: Laundry Love Goldsboro
Instagram: LaundryLoveGoldsboro
Twitter: LLGoldsboro

Location nearest you:
Ash Street Laundromat
503 E Ash Street
Goldsboro, NC

affiliated with:
 www.4daymovement.org



In our thoughts and prayers:

Pray for the intentions of those in nursing facilities, the homebound, and those chronically ill. Please remember in a special way the following parishioners who have requested your prayers:

José Antonio Acevedo, Santiago Acevedo, Wayne Barnes, Dolores & Gary Barton, Joseph Brickhouse, Marco Castaneda, James Cobb, Judy Cordeiro, Maria del Socorro Cruz, Lee & Sarah Davis, Marjorie Dixon, Mary Lindsey Edwards, Elaine Evans, Pete Flanagan, Gustavo Gonzalez, Johan Gonzalez, Michael Hamm, Agnes Harris, Mary Hayman, Chuck Hansen, Rogisides Jamies, Laura Jones, Snag Kannan, Dorothy Kates, Chuck Kirk, Lynn Kuczynski, Gary & Emma Lampson, Shy Anne Lampson, Pat Marguglio, Billie Myers, Paul Paquette, Terry Panza, Mary & Wilbert Perry, Jeff Price, Nellie Ryan, Betty Scott, Anthony Scrufari, Edna Earl Simmons, Rafael Torres, Fabiola Trejo, Kevin & Natalie & Christopher Ulrey, José Vega, Azeneth Viafara, Olivia West.

If you would like your name included in the Prayers for the Sick in the Bulletin please contact our coordinators for "Prayers for the Sick", Gloria at 919-736-3265 or Barbara at 919-751-0024.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Two centuries ago, Archbishop John Carroll worried that Americans would not appreciate the linguistic veil over our worship, and asked that the liturgy in the new United States be in English, not Latin. How did our liturgy come to be in Latin in the first place? In the first century, the dominant language in the regions where the church first flourished was Greek. Today in much of the world, almost everyone speaks at least a bit of English. Recently, the European Union even considered making English its official language, a curious proposal since only two English-speaking countries are members. Just as English is a unifying language today, it was hard to function in the ancient world without a smattering of Greek. Even the word "Eucharist" comes from the Greek for "thanksgiving." For a long time, Greek was the language of worship, even in Rome. Slowly, society in the west shifted to a bias for Latin and against Greek. Latin first appeared in public prayer at the end of the second century, in the colonial outposts of North Africa. Soon, Latin became the language of culture, and so as fixed prayer forms were written, they were transmitted in Latin. From Rome and Africa, over the next four centuries, the new liturgical language of Latin spread north to Gaul and Britain.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



Congratulations to **Dean Ablan** for being the Knight of the month for June.

Congratulations to **Wayne and Kay Barnes & Rich and Barbara Wagner** for being the families of the month for June.

Diocese of Raleigh

www.dioceseofraleigh.org

Stress in Your Marriage? –

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation. This program has helped many couples experiencing such difficulties. For confidential information or to apply to attend the program beginning with a weekend on September 22, 2017 call 800-470-2230 or email: retrouvaillenc@msn.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.

Single/SingleAgain Ministry

If you are single, separated, divorced or widowed person, please join us for our 22nd Annual Single/Singleagain Beach Retreat, August 4-6, 2017 at Trinity Retreat Center in Salter Path NC. It is a weekend of prayer, renewal and relaxation. The theme this year is "Power of Story" and our retreat leader is Fr. Charley Miller. For more information, contact Celia Keator at ckeator@nc.rr.com

Elimination of Fees for a Declaration of Nullity.

As of July 1, 2015, the Diocese of Raleigh eliminated all costs associated with a Declaration of Nullity. Bishop Burbidge decided the Diocese will absorb all costs related to the nullity process in order to make it more accessible to those who have been previously married and divorced. If you are interested in beginning or learning more about the nullity process, please contact Mrs. Susan Stanton (919-821-9754) or Mrs. Vikki Newell (919 821-9759). If you speak Spanish, please contact Ms Teresa Aldahondo (919-821-9758).

SVDP Needs the Following...

Pantry needs: Tomato soup, cereal, canned vegetables (not green beans or corn), macaroni and cheese, and hamburger. Thank you in advance for helping us help the poor in our community.



Saint Mary School Corner

Keeping Spirit and Faith in Education

Summer Hours for St. Mary School -- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays, 8:30am - 3pm and by appointment

Accelerated Readers testing days/times:

- Tuesday, July 18th, noon - 2 p.m.
- August 10th during Meet & Greet Drop In Open House, 3 - 6 p.m.

**Other times by prior arrangement—just call or email Mrs. Maگون!

The Office of Vocations invites rising HS Juniors and above (IE: HS, College and Professional men) to the:

6th Annual Men In Black Games

FRIDAY - July 21st at 3PM
Knights of Columbus Fields
4301 Columbus Club Drive
Raleigh, NC

Arrive at 3PM - parent pickup at 6PM

Meet our 29 Seminarians, play soccer, kickball, ultimate Frisbee and enjoy prayer and dinner together. Lets Send a good group from "our parish", Please let the parish secretary know if you can go or visit NCPRIEST.org....or the Facebook Page for the Diocese of Raleigh Office of Vocations.



The Miracle of LIFE

The human body is the most complicated and incredible machine in the world.

Its bones, muscles, arteries, veins and internal organs are organized with marvelous design. Every part of the body, though each may seem to be so different from another, is made up of the same material: cells.

Cells, each of which is one thousandth of a millimeter, are the structural units that form our body and everything in it. Some of these cells unite to form bones, others to form nerves, the liver, the inner layer of the stomach, the skin or the cornea of the eyeball. Each has the size and shape that exactly meet the requirement of that part of the body.

How and when did cells, which have such varied functions, come into being? All the approximately 100 trillion cells that make up your body today came from the division of one single cell. That single cell which had the same structure as all the cells in your body now, came from the union of your mother's egg cell and your father's sperm cell.

Yes, life begins at conception!

Please, pray the Rosary for an end to abortion.



St. Mary Church has received a donation in memory of **Mary Nell Hansen** by Mr. & Mrs. William Powell, Jr.

Holy Name

Cathedral dedication Mass

Our Diocese is just days away from the dedication Mass, which is planned for July 26 at 2:00 p.m. Due to limited seating, the dedication Mass is a ticketed event. However, they will be live streaming the Mass and each deanery is hosting a special Mass in the future (Mass for Newton Grove Deanery will be on Monday, October 9 at 10:00 am) "This is an event for the whole diocese," Mr. Sanders said. "In order to participate well in a liturgy, people should have an understanding of what's happening. Not everyone will be able to be there on site, but people may be following along at home. The more we know about what is happening and why, the freer we are to pray along with it instead of wondering, 'Why are they doing that?'"

Below is a list of the Mass times associated with each of our deaneries:

Albemarle Deanery Mass -
9/4/2017, 12:00 PM

Tar River Deanery Mass -
9/16/2017, 10:00 AM

Fayetteville Deanery Mass -
9/25/2017, 10:00 AM

Piedmont Deanery Mass -
9/30/2017, 10:00 AM

Newton Grove Deanery Mass -
10/9/2017, 10:00 AM

New Bern Deanery Mass -
10/9/2017, 12:00 PM

Cape Fear Deanery Mass -
10/21/2017, 10:00 AM

Raleigh Deanery Mass -
10/22/2017, 3:00 PM

Saint Mary Catholic Church Stewardship Opportunities

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Pt 4:10). "What identifies a steward? Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord." *Stewardship To Be a Christian Steward: A Summary of the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship*

Our Parish is in need at this time of faithful disciples that may use these stewardship opportunities for returning our gifts of time and talent to God. As stewards of God-given skills and abilities, volunteering in a ministry or organization provides a way to thank God, share our faith with others, and enhance our community.

Some of the ministries that are in need of chairs, coordinators and/ or volunteers among many are:
Cantors: Leads the congregation in the Psalm and hymns selected especially during 5:00 pm Saturday Masses.

Choir: We are blessed to have a wonderful choir who rehearse the music for Mass. Some choir members are cantors also. There is room for you too!

Greeters/Ushers/Ministers of Hospitality: What a better way to go to a church and see a smiling, welcoming, gentle face welcoming you. At the door well before Mass begins, greeters welcome people into our church, answer questions (restrooms, special seating for Baptism family, handicap seating, etc.). Encourages people to be seated by locating available pews. Takes up collection and places it in required security bags.

Assistant Sacristans: Watches that the altar and gift table for Mass, ensuring enough hosts, wine and linens are set out. (the last one to sit)

Bringing the Eucharist to the Sick: The ministry of bringing Communion to the homebound, to Living Centers, or to other establishments is a graced act of service that is dearly needed and sincerely appreciated. A variety of opportunities are available.

Safe Environment Coordinator and Members: Churches, schools, and youth organizations must ensure that children and youth who worship, study, or participate in activities sponsored by a parish can do so in the safest and most secure setting possible. Parents and caretakers have the right to ask these institutions if they meet the requirements of the Charter before they allow their children to become involved with them.

Saint Mary Catholic Church Stewardship Opportunities

We need volunteers that will help our church and school to oversee that a code of conduct for clergy and for any other paid personnel and volunteers in positions of trust who have regular contact with children and young people is maintained. Training for all adults who work with children will be offered.

The Respect Life Committee: The person will be knowledgeable in Church teaching on aspects of life from conception to natural death; be able to coordinate the activities of the Respect Life Committee. This person should have a passion for life.

Liturgical Environment Coordinator and Members: remember the importance of the beauty, quality and appropriateness of the place where the liturgy is celebrated and the vessels, vestments and articles used in the various rites. The Coordinator of Liturgical Environment ministers as part of the parish liturgical planning team. This person considers the primary visual and tangible aspects of the celebration of the sacred rites and insure that appropriate vessels, vestments and articles are used. Plans how the visual arts can appropriately be used in a secondary way to enhance the liturgical celebration (e.g. flowers, hangings, seasonal ornamentation, etc.) Assure that the general liturgical environment (arrangement of space, furnishings, lighting, permanent decorations, etc.) corresponds to the aesthetic and ritual vision found in the church's liturgical books.

Wedding Committee Coordinators: assist engaged couples with church related details regarding their wedding. A wedding coordinator will meet with the couple prior to the wedding. The coordinator and the assistant are also present at the rehearsal and one hour prior to the wedding to assist with the organization of the wedding party and other details.

Legion of Mary: Any practicing Catholic who is willing to fulfill the obligations of membership in the proper spirit, attend the weekly meeting, do a minimum of two hours of Apostolic work each week with a partner, recite the Catena Legionis daily. Some of the types of work undertaken are: visitation to establish friendly contact with non-Catholics and/or those Catholics who may not be practicing their Faith, as well as parish families, to foster Catholic devotions such as First Fridays, daily family rosary, missions, etc., visitation of the sick in homes and hospitals, visitation of residents in nursing/assisted living homes, other spiritual works of mercy as needed.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Oh Lord, giver of life and source of our freedom, we are reminded that Yours is "the earth in its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it." We know that it is from your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. Gracious and loving God, we understand that you call us to be the stewards of Your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. We pray this with grateful hearts in Jesus' name. Amen.

Directorio

Padre John Alexander Gonzalez
919 734-5033 ext. 227

Sacramentos

Bautismo: Asistir a la preparación, padres y padrinos y fijar la fecha con el sacerdote. Comuníquese con la parroquia para fechas de preparación.

Confesión: Sábados de 4:00pm a 4:40pm.

Para enfermos en el hospital o en casa comuníquese con la parroquia.

Unción de los Enfermos: Si usted quiere recibir el sacramento por enfermedad u operación favor de comunicárnoslo.

Comunión para enfermos: Si tiene algún familiar en el hospital o en casa que desee recibir la comunión comuníquese con la parroquia.

Matrimonios: Iniciar la preparación con seis meses de anticipación.

Pláticas Pre-Bautismales

Requisitos: Con la señora Evelyn Shafer

- Asistir a las pláticas, padres y padrinos.
- Traer copia del acta de nacimiento del niño (a).
- Traer copia del acta de matrimonio de los padrinos.
- Llenar una solicitud por niño.
- Estar registrados o registrarse en la parroquia.

Confirmaciones

- Estar bautizado.
- Haber hecho la primera comunión.
- Ser mayor de 15 años
- Estar en noveno grado

Presentaciones

Requisitos: Con la señora Evelyn Shafer

- Solicitarla 1 mes antes
- Donación Voluntaria
- Se hacen solo en la Misa del Sábado o Domingo

XV Años

Si cumples y/o deseas celebrar tus XV años en los primeros 6 meses del año te invitamos a inscribirte para la preparación:

Requisitos:

- Estar bautizada
- Haber hecho la primera Comunión
- Inscribirse con 6 meses de anticipación con María la coordinadora.

- Asistir a la preparación
- Donación
- Llevarse un volante de información y seguir las reglas.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Uno de los pasajes bíblicos más bellos tiene que ser el de Isaías 11:6. El profeta proclama la paz mesiánica como una paz en donde animales voraces como el lobo, el leopardo, el león y la osa habitarán tranquilamente con animales mansos como el cordero, el cabrito, el ternero y la vaca "y un niño pequeño los conducirá". Esta es una paz donde la justicia rectifica las desigualdades y pone fin a la violencia. En esta profecía el Cristo es un niño que pastorea el mundo con una eficacia sorprendente. Él hace lo que los gobernantes del mundo pretenden hacer pero nunca logran, pone fin a la guerra, la pobreza y el hambre. Por esta razón hay muchas imágenes del Niño Jesús como el Santo Niño de Atocha, el Niño Jesús de Praga, el Divino Niño de Bogotá y el Niño Jesús en manos de san Antonio, entre otros. Éstas captan el deseo cristiano de que el niño venga a conducirnos hacia la paz mesiánica y a la vez, nos recuerda que hay que ser como niños para entrar en el reino de Dios.

--Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM,
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EL SEMBRADOR SEMBRÓ LA SEMILLA

¿Será que alguna vez ya nos hicimos la pregunta acerca de qué tipo de tierra somos donde cae la semilla? Creemos con alegría, pero entonces ¿por qué la Palabra no se ha enraizado en nosotros? ¿Estamos tan atados a la preocupación por el bienestar material que la Palabra se ahoga en nosotros con preocupaciones? ¿O somos la tierra fértil en la que la Palabra cae, produciendo abundante fruto en nuestras vidas y haciéndolas mejor para los demás? Probablemente somos todos esos tipos de tierra al mismo tiempo u otro en nuestras vidas. Al preocuparnos con estos pensamientos, podemos esperar que somos o estamos convirtiéndonos en la tierra fértil de almas abiertas, abrirse a la palabra efectiva de Dios en nosotros. Si somos devotos a Dios, pedimos a Dios su ayuda para ser las almas para que cada día sean receptivas a la Palabra de Dios.

Están aquellos que "viendo no ven y oyendo no oyen ni entienden. . . , porque este pueblo ha endurecido su corazón" (Mateo 13:14-15). Ellos no se convertirán ni sanarán. Pero aquellos que se preocupen por las cosas de Dios "porque sus ojos ven y sus oídos oyen" (Mateo 13:16) y se alegran en los dones maravillosos dones de Dios a la Tierra. Dichosos aquellos que son tierra fértil y escuchan la palabra de Dios y la guardan.

El Milagro de la VIDA

El cuerpo humano es la máquina más complicada e increíble del mundo.

Sus huesos, músculos, arterias, venas y órganos internos se organizan con diseño maravilloso. Cada parte del cuerpo, aunque cada uno puede parecer ser tan diferente de otro, se compone del mismo material: células.

Las células, cada una de las cuales es la milésima parte de un milímetro, son las unidades estructurales que forman nuestro cuerpo y todo lo que contiene. Algunas de estas células se unen para formar huesos, otros para formar los nervios, el hígado, la capa interna del estómago, la piel o la córnea del globo ocular. Cada uno tiene el tamaño y forma que cumplan exactamente con el requisito de parte del cuerpo.

¿Cómo y cuándo estas células, que tienen funciones tan variadas, llegan a existir? Todas las células que son aproximadamente 100 trillones que componen su cuerpo hoy vinieron de la división de solo una célula. Esa célula única que tenía la misma estructura que todas las células de su cuerpo ahora, vino de la unión del óvulo de su madre y el espermatozoide de tu padre.

Sí, la vida comienza en la concepción!

Lecturas De La Semana

Lunes:	Éxodo 1:8-14, 22; Salmos 124 (123):1b-8; San Mateo 10:34 -- 11:1
Martes:	Éxodo 2:1-15a; Salmos 69 (68):3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; San Mateo 11:20-24
Miércoles:	Éxodo 3:1-6, 9-12; Salmos 103 (102):1b-4, 6-7; San Mateo 11:25-27
Jueves:	Éxodo 3:13-20; Salmos 105 (104):1, 5, 8-9, 24-27; San Mateo 11:28-30
Viernes:	Éxodo 11:10 -- 12:14; Salmos 116 (115):12-13, 15, 16bc, 17-18; San Mateo 12:1-8
Sábado:	Éxodo 12:37-42; Salmos 136 (135):1, 23-24, 10-15; San Juan 20:1-2, 11-18
Domingo:	Sabiduría 12:13, 16-19; Salmos 86 (85):5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Romanos 8:26-27; San Mateo 13:24-43 [24-30]

HACIA EL CIELO

Piensa bien. Habla bien. Haz el bien. Estas tres cosas, por la misericordia de Dios, harán que una persona vaya al cielo.
--San Camilo de Lelis

**FRUTO DE LA PALABRA**

La semilla es la Palabra de Dios. Las metáforas de la agricultura en todas las lecturas de hoy brindan riqueza al mensaje de que la palabra de Dios, cultivada en nuestro corazón, produce mucho fruto en nuestra vida. La creación misma espera la redención de todos, hasta nuestro cuerpo aguarda la resurrección. Así como nos regocijamos por el cumplimiento de la Palabra de Dios, así la creación toda cantará de gozo en el Reino de Dios. La Palabra de Dios es eficaz y santa, produce exactamente lo que dice. No es inútil ni vacía, sino rica en significado para quienes la escuchan y son sanados. Quienes escuchan la palabra de Dios y la guardan, con toda la creación, darán mucho fruto y cantarán de gozo.

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