

Weekly Highlights

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Welcome This Week**St. Mary Star of the Sea**

extends a warm welcome to our new parishioners. We hope that they will come to find peace and joy as they become active members of our worship community

Parish Membership

We joyfully welcome new members to our parish community. Please register in the Parish Office or online at our website:

stmarystarofthesea.org

... Please also let us know if you plan to move from the parish.

New Email**Address for Photos**

If you would like to send us photos of parish events for the parish website, please send them to:
smsosphotos@gmail.com

Sacrament of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office at
979-233-5271

Stewardship Report

Collection for December 17: \$4694.10
Under budget for the week of
December 17: \$3598.41
No Second Collection

Your faithful stewardship helps us meet our needs.

“His Mercy Endures Forever” - Psalm 136

“We are called upon to focus on the heart to see how much generosity everyone is capable of.” ~ Pope Francis

Saturday, December 23 / Sabado 23 de Diciembre

Saturday of the Third Week of Advent

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

5:30p.m. Blessings for Olguin Family

Sunday, December 24 / Domingo 24 de Diciembre

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

9:00a.m. †Ignacio Cabrera by Valentina

†Lucy Cabrera by Valentina

†Michael Jasso by Valentina

11:00a.m. †Nadia Mendoza

†Armando Gutiérrez de la Familia Mendoza

Monday, December 25 / Lunes 25 de Diciembre

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

10:00a.m. †Diane Flynn by her Family

†Augustin V. Mendoza

†Anita Salazar Mendoza

Tuesday, December 26 / Martes 26 de Diciembre

Feast of Saint Stephen, first martyr

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

6:30 p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's

Wednesday, December 27 / Miércoles 27 de Diciembre

Feast of Saint John, Apostle and evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

8:30a.m. †Lucy Cabrera by Daughter Valentina

Thursday, December 28 / Jueves 28 de Diciembre

Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs

1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

6:15p.m. †Jose Rubio by Esperanza Rubio & Family

Friday, December 29 / Viernes 29 de Diciembre

The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

8:30a.m. † Tammi Hawkins

PRAY FOR THEM/RUEGA POR ELLOS:

Please note an individual who's name appears on the list will be published for two weeks. For an extension, please call Parish Office.

Esther Melaragno, Lupe Mendoza, Kenneth Purdy, Peggy Brumley, Johanna Blanchard, Melody Hernandez, Mary Taylor and family, Jessica Gutierrez, Jill L.Armstrong, Annette Masi, Christina Rivas and Family, Leticia Villareal

At all Masses, please pray for holy marriages and families and most especially for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and diaconate.

From Our Pastor



Today, a friend told me about a survey she and her husband recently took part in. One of the questions was about Christmas: “What is Christmas for you?” It’s an interesting question, one which we might not really be so prone to ask anyone. My friend said that in that survey “family” came out on top. Christmas is about family. It’s true. Probably the most beautiful memory about Christmas is the time spent with family in a warm and friendly atmosphere. It’s a deep need of our soul.

Christmas is also the once-a-year celebration of God-the-Son becoming a human being, and He did it because he loves us. We all need to hear that: God loves you! He really and truly loves you!! His presence is not something that happened 2,000 years ago and stopped once he ascended. Since He loves us, He made sure to remain present to us in various ways, such as: in His word; in each neighbor especially the poor; in the bishops of the Church; in the Eucharist; and, most perceptibly, among us as we live his commandment to love one another. Knowing that He loves us and does so by being present to us causes us to love in turn and we accomplish his plan for us even amid our individual and collective failures.

Christmas is an invitation to work at bringing Jesus’s presence back into the midst of society in a real way. We know that Jesus is there wherever two or more are united in his name (Mt 18:20). This presence is a spiritual Christmas that can happen every day of the year.

Christmas seems to open our hearts to the whole human family. The light and warmth of Christmas extends beyond the confines of the Christian world and seems to flow into every land: as a sign that the newborn Jesus has come again today – for everyone. It’s precisely the plan that flows from Jesus prayer to the Father: ‘that *all* be one’ (Jn 17:21).

Fr. Jesse Garcia

Pastoral Staff

Pastor/ Párroco

Fr. Jesse Garcia
979-233-5271 Ext 308
pastor@stmarystarofthesea.org

Deacon/Diacono Felipe Garza

979-233-5271 Ext 305
dcnfgarza@gmail.com

Deacon/Diacono Wally Shaw

979-233-5271
wallace.shaw@outlook.com

**Office Manager/Bookkeeper/
Gerente de la Oficina/
Contadora**

Tina Robledo
979-233-5271 Ext 307
manager@stmarystarofthesea.org

**CCE, Sacramental Prep. & Youth
Coordinator / Coordinadorea de
la formación catequética,
jóvenes y preparación
Sacramental**

Sr. San Juanita Jeffress , ESEH
979-233-5271 Ext 304
youthmin@stmarystarofthesea.org

**Faith Formation/Formación en
la Fe**

Marilyn Saccomanno
979-233-5271 Ext 301
religioused@stmarystarofthesea.org

**Liturgy Coordinator/
Coordinador de la Liturgia**

Bill Hartnett
979-233-5271 Ext 308
billhartnett57@gmail.com
979-233-5271 Ext 302

De Parte de Nuestro Párroco



Hoy, una amiga me contó de una encuesta en la que ella y su esposo participaron recientemente. Una de las preguntas era sobre la Navidad: “¿Qué es Navidad para ti?”.

Es una pregunta interesante, que tal vez no somos tan expuestos a preguntar a nadie. Mi amiga dijo que en esa encuesta la palabra “familia” se repitió con más frecuencia. La Navidad tiene mucho que ver con la familia. Es verdad. Probablemente, el recuerdo más bello de la Navidad es el tiempo que pasamos con la familia en un ambiente cálido y amistoso. Es una necesidad profunda de nuestra alma.

La Navidad es también la celebración anual en la cual Dios -Hijo se hizo uno de nosotros, un ser humano, y lo hizo porque nos ama. Todos necesitamos escuchar eso: ¡Dios te ama! ¡Él realmente te ama! Su presencia entre nosotros no solo fue algo que sucedió hace 2.000 años y que se detuvo una vez que ascendió. Visto que nos ama, aseguró de permanecer presente por nosotros de varias maneras, es decir: en su palabra; en cada prójimo sobre todo los pobres; en los obispos de la Iglesia; en la Eucaristía; y, de modo tal vez más perceptiblemente, entre nosotros mientras vivimos su mandamiento de amarnos los unos a los otros. El saber que Él nos ama y lo demuestra con su presencia nos induce a amar y así cumplir su plan para nosotros incluso en medio de nuestros fracasos individuales y colectivos.

La Navidad es una invitación a trabajar para devolver la presencia de Jesús a la sociedad de una manera palpable. Sabemos que Jesús está allí donde dos o más están unidos en su nombre (Mt 18:20). Esta presencia es una Navidad espiritual que podemos vivir todos los días del año.

La Navidad hace que nuestros corazones se abran a toda la familia humana. La luz y la calidez de la Navidad se extiende más allá de los confines del mundo cristiano hacia cada punto de la tierra como señal de que el recién nacido Jesús ha venido nuevamente hoy, para todos. Esto es precisamente el plan de la oración de Jesús al Padre: ‘que *todos* sean uno’ (Jn 17:21).

Padre Jesse Garcia

Personal Parroquial

Secretaries/Secretarias

Yolanda Garcia

Marisol Serrano

Barbara Klimpt

secretary@stmarystarofthesea.org

979-233-5271 Ext 302

Emergency Email Address and phone number

St. Mary's now has an email address and telephone number for emergency situations:

Call: 832-429-4877

marystaremergency@gmail.com

Correo Electrónico o numero de teléfono para Emergencias

Llame al: 832-429-4877

marystaremergency@gmail.com

Baptism Classes in Spanish and English

Spanish Baptism classes given the first Saturday of each month 1 to 5p.m.

English Baptism classes given on the first Sunday of the month 1- 4:30p.m.

Quinceañeras

Requires preparation with Sr. San Juanita ESEH at least 1 year in advance, must attend CCE/Lifeteen/Edge classes, and mass regularly, and preparing for confirmation. Please contact Sister at 979-233-5271.

Altar Duty

for December 1-15: Dolly & James
December 16-31: Yolanda & Shirley

Sponsor of December Altar Wine

In loving memory of
Celia y Manuel Gonzalez & America
Ramirez de Elsa y Michael Gonzalez

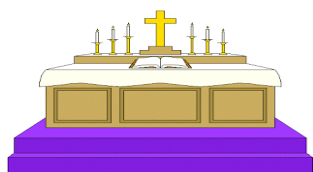


The office will be closed on Monday December 25 and 26 will re-open on December 27th.

The Altar Society would like to give a big Thanks to everyone who donated for the Christmas Flowers we collected \$495.00



The Altar Society will not be meeting on January 2nd but will have it on January 9th at 11:00 am



A Special Welcome to our Catechumens and Candidates: Fernando Diaz, Carlos Paredez, Jr., Vivianna Soto, Leigh Ann Gieseke, Jesse Jasso and Cesar Alcantor. Please remember them in

your prayers ...they will celebrate the Easter Sacraments at the Easter vigil Mass, March 31, 2018.

Special Thanks to all the people that have donated towards the Olive Wood Nativity Scene.



For every fifty dollars donated you will receive an olive wood rosary from Bethlehem.

Calendars

Please don't forget to pick up your calendar after the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgen Mary Mass on January 1, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.



Olive Wood Bethlehem Rosaries

If you made a donation towards the Olive Wood Nativity Scene your rosaries are in the office you can come and pick them up at your convenience we are open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.



CCE

Resumes on January 10, 2018 at 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for Pre-K to 5th grade.

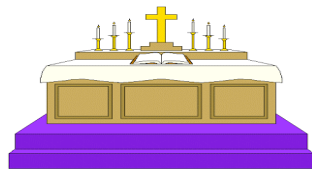
YMA on January 14, 2018 at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.





La oficina parroquial estará cerrada del 25 al 26 de diciembre. Reabriremos el 27 de diciembre en el mismo horario de lunes a jueves de 9:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m.

The Altar Society will not be meeting on January 2nd but will have it on January 9th at 11:00 am



La sociedad del Altar quiere agradecer a todos los que donaron para las flores de Navidad hasta este momento hemos colectado \$495.00



Una bienvenida especial a nuestros catecúmenos y candidatos: Fernando Díaz, Carlos Paredez, Jr., Vivianna Soto, Leigh Ann Gieseke, Jesse Jasso y Cesar Alcantor. Por favor, recuérdelos en sus oraciones, celebrarán los sacramentos de Pascua en la Misa de Vigilia Pascual, 31 de marzo de 2018.

Calendarios

No se les olvide recoger su calendario después de la misa de la Solemnidad de Santa Maria, Madre de Dios el 1° de enero, 2018 a las 6:30 p.m.



Gracias a todas las personas que han donado para el Nacimiento de Madera de Olivo. Justo estamos a la mitad de nuestra meta.

Por cada cincuenta dólares donados usted recibirá un rosario de Madera de Olivo de Belén.

Rosarios de Madera de Olivo de Belén

Si usted hizo una donacion para el Nacimiento de Madera de Olivo su rosarios se encuentran en la oficina, usted puede venir a recogerlo a su propia conveniencia la oficina esta abierta de lunes a jueves de 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.



CCE

Comienza el 1° de enero, 2018 a las 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. para los niños de Pre-K a 5th grade.



YMA comienza el 14 de enero, 2018 a las 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25

7:00p.m. Neo Cats Heaven's Way
Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26

9:30a.m. Legion of Mary (Eng) Heaven's Way Rm.3
5:00p.m. Legion of Mary (Sp) Heaven's Way Rm.3
6:00p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Conference Room
6:00p.m. Peace Rosary Church
6:30p.m. English Mass Church
8:00p.m. AA Meeting RE Building
Parish Office Closed

Wednesday, December 27

8:30a.m. English Mass Church
5:30p.m. NO-CCE PK-5th grades Heaven's Way

Thursday, December 28

6:15p.m. Spanish Mass Church
8:00p.m. AA Meeting RE Building

Friday, December 29

8:30a.m. English Mass Church
3:00p.m. Divine Mercy Church

Saturday, December 30

4:00p.m. Confessions Church
5:30p.m. English Mass Church

Sunday, December 31

9:00a.m. English Mass Church
11:00a.m. Spanish Mass Church
5:00p.m. English-Youth Church
6:30p.m. No Youth Ministry Parish Hall

**Altar & Rosary Society**

Jr. Damian (979) 248-8070

**Knights of Columbus /
Caballeros de Colón**

Ramsey Martinez (979) 201-6748

**Legion of Mary /
Legion de Maria**

Marilyn Saccomanno (979) 233-1726
Carolina Luna (979) 233-7185

**Ushers / Greeters /
Accommodators**

Pete Gutierrez (979) 248-7824

**Movimiento Familiar
Cristiano**

Jesus y Lucy Salazar (979) 233-2316

Guadalupe Society

Michael Gonzales (979) 265-6630

Almas Misioneras

Jose Coronado (979) 201-1164
Maria Oliva (979) 201-6253

Lectors / Lectores

Troy Menendez (979) 233-5271

St. Vincent de Paul

Juanita Cardozo (979) 233-5271

**Work of Mary (Focolare
Movement) / Obra de Maria
(Movimiento de los Focolares)**

Bill Hartnett (979) 233-5271

**Neo-catechumen Way / Camino
Neocatecumenal**

Lorenzo Gomez 979-709-2173

Sponsor of the Week

Oralia Guevara
In Loving Memory of
Jesus Guevara
1131 W. 4th Street
Freeport, TX 77541
979/236-8083