

Weekly Highlights

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 February 19th: \$5,462.51
Under budget for the week of February 19th: \$1,633.64
Second Collection for: \$1,973.71

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

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Saturday, February 25 / Sábado 25 de febrero

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time / Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
Is 49:14-15; Ps 62:2-3,6-7,8-9; 1Cor 4:1-5; Matt 6:24-34

Sunday, February 26 / Domingo 26 de febrero

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time / Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
Is 49:14-15; Ps 62:2-3,6-7,8-9; 1Cor 4:1-5; Matt 6:24-34

11 a.m. †Estorgió Cárdenas de parte de sus Hijos
†Pablo y Juanita Olguín de parte de su Hijo Santana Olguín
†Jorge Luis Olguín de parte de Santana Olguín

Monday, February 27 / Lunes 27 de febrero

Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2,5,6,7; Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday, February 28 / Martes 28 de febrero

Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-6,7-8,14 and 23; Mark 10:28-31

6:30 p.m. †Jose Rubio by Esperanza Rubio and Family
†All Souls in Purgatory by Santana Olguín
For the Parishioners of St. Mary

Wednesday, March 1 / Miércoles 1 de Marzo

Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4,5-6ab,12-13,14 and 17; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Matt 6:1-6,16-18
8:30 p.m. For Vocations to the Priesthood by Santana Olguín

Thursday, March 2 / Jueves 2 de Marzo

Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2,3,4 and 6; Luke 9:22-25

Friday, March 3 / Viernes 3 de Marzo

Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4,5-6ab,18-19; Matt 9:14-15

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.

Guadalupe Ybarra, Abigail Arias, Graciela Garcia, Alberto Garcia, Rogelio Calvillo, Ignacio Damian Sr, Lillie Damian, Gabriel Gallegos, Will Windham, Melissa Garcia, Angelica Silva, Gary W. Callaway, Joyce Hargrove, Tim Kolafa, Joan Horr, Luz Santos, Chano Lopez, Linda Melnar, Francis Emily Cyr, Justin Salazar, Roy Martinez, Craig Cameron, Jennifer Hermosillo, Lou Roberts, Josephina Chavez, Leong Mendoza, Janice Gartman, Gloria Irwin, Maria Gonzales, David Jauregui, Marizol Esquivel, Rosa Segovia, Susan Phillips, Albert Gonzalez, Abbie Rodriguez, Amador Garza, Juan Garza, Erica Ayala, Becky Shawver, Kevin Green, June Lowery, Jay Garcia, Doug Staff, Bill Schultz, Alvin Blanchard, Pete Gutierrez, Paul Schoppe.

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

Lent



Our Lenten journey begins this Ash Wednesday. Yes, sometimes Lent is called a journey. During the Middle Ages people took actual physical journeys from one place to another. These holy journeys were called pilgrimages. They were usually long holy journeys to the Holy Land or some other holy place. But the journey was also meant to be an inward spiritual journey, a journey into one's own soul. The key to the success of such a holy journey was repentance. "Repent" is often the word that is said to us when we receive the ashes on our foreheads on the first day of Lent. It's sort of a sending-off to us on our journey. Repentance means a genuine and complete change of mind or even of direction in life.

This idea of life as a journey, a pilgrimage or holy journey, became a model of the Christian life itself that was seen as a hard journey toward God. It wasn't a physical journey from one place to another, but a spiritual journey that took place over time, a whole lifetime. A holy priest named Thomas À Kempis wrote a very famous book about this inward journey of the soul, *The Imitation of Christ*, a spiritual classic that countless people, including saints, have taken as the guide for their holy journey.

À Kempis says that we need to have some very demanding qualities to have a successful holy journey: a "burning" desire to make progress in the virtues (strengths); love for sacrifice; the fervor of penance, renunciation of one's self and being able to put up with every sort of adversity . . . sort of like joining a painful fitness program that is spiritual and lasts a lifetime.

These are certainly great qualities that anyone could benefit from, even us. But the question is: How are we to actually obtain them and become so spiritually fit? The answer is clear: for us who God has placed in the midst of the world – we cannot run away to monasteries and escape from the world like À Kempis and his contemporaries were able to do.

The Church recommends three pillars for us to focus us on during Lent: Almsgiving, Prayer, and Fasting. But I would like to propose a fourth pillar: Love of neighbor. Love of neighbor helps us to live those very demanding qualities À Kempis says we need to have a successful holy journey. In fact, love of neighbor means to sacrifice oneself in order to be dedicated to the service of others.

Christian love, even though it is a source of great joy, is synonymous with sacrifice. It is through a life of loving our neighbor that we will find the greatest and principal penance to perform. Love of neighbors always implies self-denial. Since many sufferings in the world are caused by living alongside others, we can bear everyone, and love them out of love for the suffering Jesus. Living love of neighbor also helps us overcome many obstacles in life.

God has placed us in the midst of the world and our path to God passes through our neighbors. By loving our neighbors and each other we will find to our surprise that our soul will be enriched with all those qualities À Kempis mentions. Our neighbor will be both our penance and our reward here on earth, our purgatory and our heaven. Let's get moving then!

Fr. Jesse Garcia

Pastoral Staff/Personal Pastoral

Pastor/Padre

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

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Coordinator/Coordinadora de
la formación catequética, jóve-
nes 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

De Parte de Nuestro Pastor

Pastoral Staff/Personal Pastoral

LA CUARESMA



Nuestro viaje Cuaresmal comienza con el miércoles de ceniza. Sí, a veces lo llamamos un 'viaje.' Durante las edades medias las personas viajaban físicamente de un lugar a otro. Estos 'santos viajes' los llamaban peregrinajes. Generalmente eran largos viajes a la Tierra Santa u otro lugar santo. Pero el viaje también era un viaje espiritual, un viaje al interior de la propia alma. Para tener un viaje exitoso, la clave era el arrepentimiento. "Arrepiéntete" es la palabra que se nos dice cuando recibimos la ceniza en nuestras frentes en el primer día de la Cuaresma. Es un tipo de despedida que inicia nuestro viaje. El arrepentimiento requiere un cambio genuino que incluye cambiar la dirección de nuestro caminar.

Esta idea de la vida como un viaje, una peregrinación o santo viaje, se convirtió en un modelo de vida cristiana que se veía como un viaje arduo hacia Dios. No fue un viaje físico de un lugar a otro, pero un viaje espiritual a través del tiempo durante toda la vida. Thomas Á Kempis, un sacerdote santo escribió un libro muy famoso sobre el viaje interior, *La Imitación de Cristo*, que es un libro clásico de la espiritualidad que innumerables personas, incluyendo muchos santos, han usado como guía en su propio santo viaje.

Á Kempis dice que hay que tener algunas cualidades muy exigentes para tener un viaje exitoso: un "ardiente" deseo de progresar en las virtudes; amor al sacrificio; el fervor a la penitencia; renunciar a sí mismo; y ser capaz de aguantar todo tipo de adversidad...es como empezar un programa doloroso de entrenamiento pero en este caso espiritual que dura para toda la vida. Estas son sin duda grandes cualidades que benefician a cualquier persona, incluso a nosotros. Pero la pregunta es: ¿Cómo podemos adquirirlas para estar espiritualmente entrenados? La respuesta es clara: para nosotros quienes Dios ha puesto en medio del mundo, no podemos entrar en monasterios como pudieron Á Kempis y sus contemporáneos. Tenemos que lograrlo estando en el mundo.

La iglesia nos enfoca en tres pilares durante la Cuaresma: dar limosna, la oración, y el ayuno. Pero me gustaría proponer un cuarto pilar: el amor al prójimo. El amor al prójimo nos ayuda a vivir esas cualidades muy exigentes que Á Kempis nos recomienda. De hecho, el amor al prójimo significa sacrificarse para dedicarse al servicio de los demás.

El amor cristiano, aun siendo una fuente de gran alegría, es sinónimo con el sacrificio. Es a través de una vida de amor al prójimo que se vive la penitencia más grande. El amor al prójimo siempre implica el sacrificio. Puesto que muchos sufrimientos que nos vienen son causados porque vivimos lado a lado con nuestros prójimos, podemos tolerar a todos y amarlos por amor a Jesús sufriente. Viviendo el amor al prójimo también nos ayuda a superar muchos obstáculos de la vida.

Dios nos ha puesto en medio al mundo y nuestro camino hacia Dios pasa por nuestros prójimos. Amando a nuestros prójimos uno por uno, y amándonos recíprocamente, encontraremos a nuestras sorpresas que nuestra alma se enriquezca con todas las cualidades que menciona Á Kempis. Nuestro prójimo será nuestra penitencia y nuestra recompensa aquí en la tierra; será nuestro purgatorio y nuestro cielo. Adelante entonces!

P. Jesse García

Secretaries/Secretarias

Yolanda Garcia

Marisol Serrano

Barbara Klimpt

secretary@stmarystarofthesea.org

979 233 5271 Ext 302

News and Events

Noticias y Eventos

Baptism Classes in Spanish and English

Effective in May: Spanish Baptism classes will be given the first Saturday of each month from 1 pm to 5 pm. English Baptism classes will be given on the first Mondays and first Thursdays of the month from 7-8:30 pm.

Quinceañera

Requires preparation with Sr. San Juanita ESEH, and must be attending CCE/Lifeteen/Edge classes regularly, attending mass, and preparing for confirmation. Please contact Sister at 979 233 5271.

Altar Duty

March 1-15: James and Marilyn Saccomanno.

Sponsor of February Altar Wine

María J. Gutiérrez in memory of
Jáuregui Venega
and
Jáuregui Algarín



Archdiocesan Youth Conference (AYC) for all high school youth will be July 28-30, 2017 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston. Please contact Sr. San Juanita for registration and more details at 979 233 5271.

Baby shower For Annunciation Maternity Home on June 4, 2017 at 2 p.m. in Heaven's Way. For more information, please contact Sr. San Juanita at 979 233 5271.



LIVING A SPIRITUALITY OF COMMUNION IN THE FAMILY
THE FOCOLARE EXPERIENCE

ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA
 AND AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES AT QUINTANA BEACH

DATE: SATURDAY MARCH 11
 10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
 ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA
 1019 W 6TH ST. FREEPORT, TX 77541

MASS AVAILABLE AT 9AM

RSVP BY MARCH 9TH AT
[HTTPS://FOCOLAREFAMILYMEETING.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://focolarefamilymeeting.eventbrite.com)

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED -
 CONTRIBUTIONS TO HELP COVER
 THE COST ARE WELCOMED!

focolare
 MOVEMENT

Adult Faith Formation-“What is God’s Will for Me?” 6 DVD sessions “**SAYING Yes**” with Fr. Albert Haase, OFM, will be offered during Lent. Sign up now by calling the Parish office 979 233 5271 for Thursday morning sessions beginning on March 2nd at 10:30 a.m. Conference Rm or Wednesday evening sessions beginning on March 8th at 5:30 p.m. Conference Rm.

FISH FRY FRIDAY The Knights of Columbus are having their Annual Lenten Fish Fry starting March 3, 2017 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Plates are \$10.00.



Parish Lenten Penance Service
 On Tuesday, March 7th at 7 p.m. in the Church.



Stations of the Cross
 During Lent begin Friday, March 3 at 7 p.m. in the Church.

Neo-Catechumenal Way Catechesis



Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Heaven’s Way in Spanish. This catechesis will continue for the next seven weeks. Come and discover your Catholic Faith. Contact Benjamin Merino 281 687 6007.

St. Anthony de Padua Mission

St. Anthony de Padua Catholic Church, Danbury, invites everyone to an upcoming mission - “Acts of Mercy”. A drama mission starring TV Star Frank Runyeon. The Mission will be February 26–28, 2017 in the St. Anthony Center. Please see flyers for more information or contact St. Anthony’s Church Office, 979 922 1240.

Festival Fundraiser

Come and enjoy the company of your community and the breakfast we are selling after the 9 and 11a.m. masses every Sunday to help us defray operating expenses for the Festival.



On Thursday and Friday March 2nd and 3rd at Religious Education Rm 1 from 2 to 7 p.m.



Work Day

Help prepare the Church for LENT on Tuesday, February 28th at 9 a.m. Please call Junior Damian at 979 480 5149.



AYC (Conferencia Arquidiosesana para Jóvenes)

Esta conferencia es para jóvenes en edad de bachillerato se llevara a cabo de los días 28 al 30 de julio del 2017 en el centro de convenciones George R. Brown en Houston. Para registrarse o obtener mas detalles favor de contactar a la Hermana San Juanita al 979 233 5271.



CABALLEROS DE COLÓN
SIRVIENDO A UNO. SIRVIENDO A TODOS.

Los Caballeros de Colón tendrán su venta de pescado frito durante la cuaresma empezando el 3 de marzo 2017 de 5 a 7 p.m. en el Salón de la Parroquia - \$10 por plato.

VIVIR UNA ESPIRITUALIDAD DE COMUNION EN LA FAMILIA: LA EXPERENCIA DEL MOVIMIENTO DE LOS FOCOLARES

PROGRAMA PARA TODA LA FAMILIA EN SANTA MARIA ESTRELLA DEL MAR Y CONTINUANDO EN LA PLAYA QUINTANA

FECHA: SÁBADO 11 DE MARZO
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
1019 W 6TH ST. FREEPORT TX. 77541

MISA DISPONIBLE A LAS 9 A.M.
PARA REGISTRARSE LLAME A LA OFICINA
979-233-5271

SE PROVEERÁ ALMUERZO
HABRÁ TRADUCCIÓN EN ESPAÑOL



Desayuno y Comida!

Venga y goce de la compañía de su comunidad y del desayuno que estamos vendiendo después de las misas de 9 y 11a.m. cada domingo para ayudarnos a sufragar los gastos de operación del Festival.

Lluvia de Regalos para el Bebe

A favor de la Casa de Maternidad Anunciación el 4 de Junio del 2017 a las 2 p.m. en Heaven's Way. Para mayor información favor de llamar a la Hermana San Juanita al 979 233 5271.



Misión en la Parroquia San Antonio de Padua

Comenzando el domingo 26 al 28 de febrero. Para mayor información llamar a la oficina de la Parroquia de San Antonio de Padua al 979 922 1240.



Servicio Penitencial El martes 7 de marzo a las 7 pm en la Iglesia.



Las Estaciones de la Cruz

Cada viernes durante la cuaresma empiezan el Viernes 3 de marzo a las 7 p.m. en la iglesia.



El Camino Neo-Catecúmenal

Los lunes y miércoles a las 7 p.m. en Heaven's Way. Esta catequesis seguirá durante 7 semanas. Venga y descubra su Fe Católica. Llame a Benjamín Merino al 281 687 6007.



Venta de Cochera

El Jueves y Viernes 2 y 3 de marzo en Religious Education Rm 1 de las 2 a las 7 p.m.

Día de Trabajo en la Iglesia



Ayude a preparar la iglesia para la cuaresma el 28 de febrero a las 9 a.m. Favor de llamar a Junior Damián al 979 480 5149.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, February 27

7 pm	Marriage Preparation Class	PH
7 pm	Neo- Catecúmenal	HW

Tuesday, February 28

9 am	Work Day	Church
9:30 am	LOM (Eng)	Classroom #3
4:30 pm	LOM (Sp)	Classroom #3
6 pm	Peace Rosary	Church
6 pm	St. Vincent of Paul	Conf. Rm
6:30 pm	Mass (Eng)	Church
8 pm	AA Mtg	RE Building

Wednesday, March 1

8:30 am	English Mass	Church
12 pm	English Mass	Church
6:30 pm	Spanish Mass	Church
7 pm	Neo-Catecúmenal	HW

Thursday, March 2

10:30 am	Adult Faith Formation "Saying Yes"	Conf. Rm
9 am-6 pm	Adoration	Church
5:30-6 pm	Confessions	Church
6 pm	Benediction	Church
6:15 pm	Spanish Mass	Church
8 pm	AA Meeting	RE Building #9 & #10

Friday, March 3

8:30 am	English Mass	Church
3-4 pm	Divine Mercy	Church
7 pm	Stations of the Cross	Church

Saturday, March 4

4-5 pm	Confessions	Church
10 am	Family Counselor	St. Mary
5:30 pm	English Mass	Church

Sunday, March 5

9 am	English Mass	Church
9 am	First Communion Class	HW
11 am	Spanish Mass	Church
5 pm	Lifeteen Mass	Church
6-8 pm	Lifeteen/Edge	Church

Ministries/ Ministerios

Altar & Rosary Society

Ignacio Damian Jr. (979) 480-5149

Knights of Columbus/Caballeros de Colón

Ramsey Martinez (979) 201-6748

Cristo Renueva Su Parroquia

Maria Cardenas (979) 233-2863
Sonia Montoya (979) 709-2267

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

Miguel y Elizabeth Heredia
(979) 665-2318

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-catechuman Way/Camino Neocatecumenal

Benjamin Merino 281-687-6007

Sponsor of the Week

Tina Nguyen
Shanghai Restaurant & Club
931 Hwy. 332 West
Lake Jackson, TX 77566
979/297-0291