

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

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 30/ Sabado 30 de Diciembre

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a,8b-9,10; Lk 2:36-40

5:30p.m. †Eugenia & Rosalio Hernandez by Esperanza, Jacinto & Ramona

Sunday, December 31 / Domingo 31 de Diciembre

Feast Of The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2,3,4-5; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

11:00a.m. †Estorgio Cardenas de parte de sus Hijos

†Juan Zapata

†Jorge Aguilera

Bendiciones para el Movimiento Familiar Catolico Cristiano

Monday, January 1 / Lunes 1 de Enero

Solemnity Of The Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother Of God

Nm 6:22-27, Ps 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Heb 1:1-2; Lk 2:16-21

6:30 p.m. †Becki Shawver by Stephen Shawver

Tuesday, January 2 / Martes 2 de Enero

Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

1Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1,2-3ab,3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

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

Wednesday, January 3/ Miércoles 3 de Enero

Weekday of Christmas Time

1Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1,3cd-4,5-6; Jn 1:29-34

8:30 a.m. †Alejandro Salazar by Family

Thursday, January 4 / Jueves 4 de Enero

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1,7-8,9; Jn 1:35-42

Friday, January 4 / Viernes 5 de Enero

Memorial of St. John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-2,3,4,5; Jn 1:43-51

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



On January 1st the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Mother of God. It celebrates the fact that Mary's maternity encompasses both the human nature and the divine nature of Jesus who is the God-Man. The term "Mother of God" is a translation of the original Greek term that defined Mary as "the one who brings forth God". In the Catholic Church this truth is a dogma of the faith. Mary is also honored as the Mother of God in other Christian Churches, such as the Orthodox, the Lutheran, Anglican and Methodist. In the earliest pictures of Mary, she is depicted as Mother of God, holding Jesus and always pointing to him with her hand. She shows us the Way: Jesus, who holds the book of the Gospels which contains his Law.

The central idea in Jesus's commands is always love. This is why he wants us Christians to love *everyone*, to try to be perfect as our Father in Heaven, who loves *everyone* (Mt 5:48). There is a story in the Gospel of John about an indignant crowd that wanted to stone to death, as the law of Moses required, a woman caught in the act of adultery. Jesus pronounces those famous words that reveal what being perfect means in the eyes of his Father: "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to cast a stone" (Jn 8:7). There is someone who is without sin and could have cast a stone, but it certainly wasn't anyone in that crowd, nor any one of us.

We all know who it is: the Mother of Jesus, the Mother of God. Could the Mother of God "throw a stone" at someone who erred? Did she ever do such a thing? We know our Mother. We know what the Scriptures say about her, what Tradition has handed down to us about her, what the People of God have always believed about her. The Mother of God loves *everyone*. She forgives everyone. She's the friend and the advocate of the most unfortunate. Countless people have turned to her with confidence and trust when they felt that God's justice was upon them. The Mother of God never throws stones; on the contrary, no one except Jesus and the Father in Heaven shows such perfect love as she does.

Why? Because she's a mother and mothers only know how to love. It's in a mother's nature to love her children as herself, because there actually is something of herself in them. We too can find something of ourselves in others: Jesus our Brother whom we should see in every neighbor.

We can honor the Mother of God by imitating the qualities of that motherhood which perfectly reflect the perfection of our Father in Heaven. We can treat all the people we meet as if we were their mother. Mothers are always serving, finding excuses for their children, being hopeful, welcoming, encouraging, and so on. "As if I were their mother" could be a good New Year's slogan that would help us all – male and female alike – to honor God's Mother and to be living reflections of our Father in Heaven who is Love.

Fr. Jesse Garcia

Pastoral Staff

Pastor/ Párroco

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Deacon/Diacono Wally Shaw

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Coordinator / Coordinadora de
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youthmin@stmarystarofthesea.org

**Faith Formation/Formación en
la Fe**

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**Liturgy Coordinator/
Coordinador de la Liturgia**

Bill Hartnett
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979-233-5271 Ext 302

De Parte de Nuestro Párroco

Personal Parroquial



En el 1° de enero La Iglesia celebra la Solemnidad de la Madre de Dios. Celebra el hecho de que la maternidad de Maria abarca tanto la naturaleza humana como la naturaleza divina de Jesús, que es Dios-hombre. El término “Madre de Dios” es una traducción del término original Griego que define a Maria como “la que da a luz a Dios” En la iglesia católica esta verdad es un dogma de fe. Maria es también honrada como la Madre de Dios en otras Iglesias Cristianas, tal como la Ortodoxa, la Luterana, Anglicana y Metodista. En las primeras pinturas de Maria, ella es representada como madre de Dios, sosteniendo a Jesús y siempre apuntando a El con su mano. Ella nos muestra el camino: Jesús, que tiene el libro de los evangelios los que contienen su ley.

La idea central en los mandamientos de Jesús es siempre el amor. Por eso El quiere que nosotros los cristianos amemos a todos, que tratemos de ser perfectos como nuestro Padre celestial, que ama a todos (Mt [5:48](#)). Hay una historia en el Evangelio de Juan sobre una muchedumbre indignada que deseo apedrear a muerte, como la ley de Moisés lo requería, a una mujer que cometió adulterio. Jesús dice esas famosas palabras que revelan lo que significa ser perfecto a los ojos de su padre: “ el que se encuentre entre nosotros sin pecado que lancé la primera piedra” (Jn [8:7](#)). Hay uno que esta sin pecado y podría haber tirado una piedra, pero ciertamente no fue nadie en esa multitud, ni ninguno de nosotros.

Todos sabemos quien es la madre de Jesús, la madre de Dios. ¿podría la madre de Dios “lanzar una piedra” a alguien que cometió un error? ¿alguna vez hizo algo así? Conocemos a nuestra madre. Sabemos lo que las escrituras dicen acerca de ella, lo que la Tradición nos dice y lo que El Pueblo de Dios siempre ha creído acerca de ella. La Madre de Dios ama a *todos*. Ella perdona a todos. Ella es la amiga y abogada de los mas desafortunados. Incontables personas se han vuelto hacia ella con confianza y cuando sintieron que la justicia de Dios estaba sobre ellos. La madre de Dios nunca lanza piedras; por el contrario, nadie, excepto Jesús y el Padre celestial, muestran un amor tan perfecto como ella.

¿Porqué? Por que ella es una madre y las madres solo saben amar. Es en la naturaleza de una madre amar a sus hijos como a si misma, porque en realidad hay algo de si misma en ellos. Nosotros también podemos encontrar algo de nosotros mismos en otros: Jesús, nuestro hermano, a quien debemos ver en cada vecino.

Podemos honrar a la madre de Dios imitando las cualidades de esa maternidad que reflejan perfectamente la perfección de nuestro Padre celestial. Podemos tratar a todas las personas que nos encontramos como si fuéramos su madre. Las madres siempre están sirviendo, encontrando excusas para sus hijos, siendo optimistas, acogedoras, alentadoras, etc. "como si yo fuera su madre" podría ser un buen eslogan de año nuevo que nos ayudaría a todos – tanto hombres como mujeres – a honrar a la madre de Dios y a ser reflejos vivientes de nuestro Padre celestial que es amor.

Padre Jesse Garcia

Secretary/Secretaria

Mónica P. Carballo
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 y
America Ramirez
de Elsa y Michael Gonzalez



The office will be closed on Monday January 1st and will re-open on January 2nd.

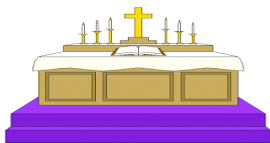


Trinity Publications, Inc.

Will be in the office on January 8th to 11th if you are interested in getting an ad on the back of the bulletin or renewing your ad please call the office at 979-233-5271 to set up an appoint with Joe.

The Altar Society

Will meet on January 9th at 11:00 am



Could you not Keep Watch for one Hour?

We need some volunteers to keep watch with Jesus in prayer for 30 minutes or longer on Thursdays from 9 am to

6 pm please call the office at 979-233-5271 to agree on a time. If you already come to church and spend some time with Jesus please call the office and let us know.



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.



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 estara cerrada el lunes 1° de enero y re-abrirá el 2 de enero.

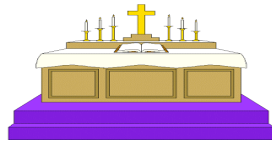


Trinity Publications, Inc.

Estarán en la oficina del 8 al 11 de enero si usted esta interesado en comprar un espacio para su anuncio en el boletín o renovarlo favor de llamar a la oficina al 979-233-5271 para darle una cita con Joe.

La Sociedad del Altar

Se reunirá el 9 de enero a las 11:00 am



¿No Pueden Vigilar conmigo una Hora?

Necesitamos algunos voluntarios para mantener vigilia con Jesús en oración por 30 minutos o mas si desea, los jueves

de 9 am a 6 pm favor de contactar la oficina al teléfono 979-233-5271 si desea ayudar. Si usted ya viene y pasa un tiempo con Jesús por favor llámenos a la oficina y déjenos saber la hora en que viene.



Una bienvenida especial a nuestros catecúmenos y candidatos:

Fernando Díaz, Carlos Paredez, Jr., Vivianna Soto, Leigh Ann Gieseke, Jesse Jasso y Cesar Alcantor. Favor de recordarlos en sus oraciones, ellos celebrarán los sacramentos de Pascua en la Misa de Vigilia Pascual, el 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.

Un Agradecimiento Especial

a todas las personas que han donado para el Nacimiento de Madera de olivo.



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, durante la semana y los fines de semana estarán en

la iglesia para que usted los pueda recoger después de misa.



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, January 1

6:30p.m. English & Spanish Mass
 7:00p.m. Neo Cats Heaven's Way
 Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2

9:00a.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. Peace Rosary Church
 6:30p.m. English Mass Church
 8:00p.m. AA Meeting RE Building

Wednesday, January 3

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

Thursday, January 4

9:00a.m. Adoration Church
 6:15p.m. Spanish Mass Church
 7:00p.m. Pastoral Council Conference Room
 8:00p.m. AA Meeting RE Building

Friday, January 5

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

Saturday, January 6

2:00p.m. Guadalupanas Meeting Heaven's Way
 4:00p.m. Confessions Church
 5:30p.m. English Mass Church
 7:00p.m. Neo-Cat Spanish Mass Heaven's Way

Sunday, January 7

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**

Dollie Hernandez (979) 665-9635

**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

Guadalupana 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

Ramona Ayala
In Loving Memory of
Eugenia Hernandez
 1304 North Ave S
 Freeport, TX 77541
 979/201-6138