

Resultados tentativos del proceso

Gracias a todos que participaron en nuestro proceso del discernimiento de la posibilidad de un horario nuevo por las misas del fin de semana. Ya están analizadas las encuestas y ya tuvimos juntas con el liderazgo hispano y con el Concilio Pastoral de la parroquia. Y como un resultado tentativo, la sugerencia que ha brindada, es que el horario de las misas del fin de semana serian lo que sale abajo. Los feligreses tendrán otra oportunidad a través de otras encuestas firmadas, quizás el próximo mes, de responder si están o no están en favor de este horario propuesto:

5:30 Misa los sábados en inglés;
9:30 Misa los domingos en inglés;
11:30 Misa los domingos en español.

Este jueves es el primero del mes



Todos están invitados a venir a la iglesia este jueves, el primero del mes, a las 6:50 para adorar delante del Santísimo, a rezar, y cantar juntos. Por mas información favor póngase en contacto con Doña Rocio: 229-938-5826.

Lectura Divina Método: Cuatro Pasos



Lectio Divina: Cuaresma 4ta Semana

1. Empecemos: “En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo. Amén.” Y entonces reza esta oración de la Misa 4ta domingo de cuaresma:

“Dios nuestro, que renuevas este mundo por medio de tus sacramentos, concede a tu Iglesia aprovechar estos signos misteriosos de tu presencia y asístela siempre en sus necesidades materiales. Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo. “

2. Lectura: Lee la siguiente Escritura dos o tres veces: Juan 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

3. Meditación : Después de la lectura, toma unos momentos para reflexionar en silencio acerca de una o más de las siguientes preguntas: *(Si practicas la lectio divina como familia o en un grupo, invita a los participantes a compartir sus respuestas.*

¿Cuál palabra o palabras captaron mi atención?
¿Qué parte en este pasaje me consoló?
¿Qué parte en este pasaje me desafió?

4. Contemplación: Lee nuevamente el pasaje de la Escritura, seguida de esta reflexión: ¿De qué manera se relaciona este pasaje con la experiencia de mi vida diaria?

Esta enfermedad no acabará en la muerte, sino que servirá para la gloria de Dios, para que el Hijo de Dios sea glorificado por ella.

¿En qué manera mi vida cotidiana ayuda a glorificar a Dios?

Yo soy la resurrección y la vida. El que cree en mí, aunque haya muerto, vivirá; y todo aquel que está vivo y cree en mí, no morirá para siempre.

¿En qué forma influencia mi esperanza en la resurrección en la manera en la que vivo mi vida diaria?
¿A cuáles acciones o actitudes me obligan mi fe en la resurrección?

Jesús les dijo: “Desátenlo, para que pueda andar”.
¿Qué pecados o fracasos me atan y me impiden actuar como Dios quiere? ¿Qué pasos debo tomar para vivir más plenamente en libertad como un hijo o hija de Dios?

5. Oración: Lee el pasaje de la Escritura una vez más. Dale al Señor la alabanza, petición y acción de gracias que la Palabra te ha inspirado. Termine la oración con un Padre Nuestro.



St. Mary Catholic Church

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PASTOR: Father Fran Gillespie SJ (“Padre Paco”)

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OFFICE EMAIL: stmaryamericus@gmail.com

PARISH WEB PAGE: www.stmaryamericus.com

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday: 9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

April 2, 2017 5th Sunday of Lent, Raising of Lazarus



“ It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, ‘Untie him and let him go.’”

Nuestra Misión: Nosotros, los feligreses de la Iglesia Católica Santa María en Americus, Georgia, compartimos nuestra diversidad mientras abarcando nuestro Bautismo común adorando a Dios, celebrando la Eucaristía, honrando María, difundiendo la Palabra, y sirviendo a los demás.

Mission: We, the parishioners of St. Mary Catholic Church in Americus, Georgia, share our diversity while embracing our common Baptism by worshiping God, celebrating the Eucharist, honoring Mary, spreading the Word, and serving others.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Clases de Preparación Bautismal - Por favor llame la oficina parroquial para registrarse por las platicas pre-bautismales a menos un mes antes del Bautismo.

Clases de Preparación de Matrimonio - Las parejas necesitan comunicarse con el Padre por lo menos seis meses antes de la fecha de la boda.

Sacramento de la Unción de un Enfermo - Si alguien está enfermo, llame el párroco para recibir este sacramento (favor, no esperar al ultimo momento).

Confesión/Reconciliación - Sábado 4:00 pm a 4:30 pm o llame el párroco por una cita particular.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptismal Preparation Class - Contact the pastor by phone /email to register for a pre-Baptism class at least a month ahead of a Baptismal date.

Marriage Preparation - Contact the pastor at least 6 months before expected wedding date.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick - Those quite ill, hospitalized, or facing surgery who wish the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the pastor sooner rather than later.

Confession/Reconciliation - Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm or call Fr. Fran for an appointment.

HORARIO DE LAS MISAS

Salado en la tarde—5 PM Ingles

Domingo—Sunday: 8:30 am (Español)

Martes a Viernes a las 12:00 pm (ingles) en la capilla

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 pm - English

Sunday: 8:30 (Spanish) 10:30 am (English)

Tuesday thru Friday, 12 Noon, in chapel, English

Diocesan Office for Protection of Children and Young People toll free reporting hotline is (888) 357-5530



Last Lenten Communal Confession Services in neighboring parishes

Intrinsic to our conversion process during Lent is celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). All are urged to celebrate this blessed sacrament in a communal setting. There are two remaining services in neighboring parishes which are listed below, both with individual confessions and start times at 7 PM. Be sure to consult an Examination of Conscience guide ahead of time so you arrive prepared to make your confession. Catholics should go to Confession especially during Lent.

April 4 Tuesday St. Theresa, Cordele
 April 5 Wednesday St. Teresa, Albany

Mass Intention Requests: Please contact the pastor by phoning the parish office to arrange a Mass intention, either for a weekend or weekday.

April 1-7	Mass Intention	Requestor
Saturday	Joey Thompson	Carol Short
Sunday 8:30	Parishioners	Pastor
Sunday 10:30	Izzie Slayton	Lorna Slaton



Easter Lilies need to be pre-ordered to ensure they will arrive just before Easter. Parishioners wishing to help in their purchase can find envelopes for donations in our vestibule. The suggested donation remains the same as in past years: \$12. For more information please contact Maureen Turner: 229-815-1473.

Bishop Hartmayer's BAA Challenge To Us



To ensure the success of his Appeal this year, and owing to a surprise offer of matching gifts challenge by an anonymous benefactor effective until the end of the next month, April, Bishop Hartmayer offers this challenge to parishioners throughout the diocese:

** If a donor from our parish of St. Mary's increases his/her gift from last year, the amount of the increase will be matched dollar for dollar.*

** If a donor has already given or pledged to this year's BAA, and they increased their gift from last year, the increase will be matched dollar for dollar.*

** If a new donor gives a gift or makes a pledge (which could be spread out until December 31, 2017) the entire gift or fulfilled pledge will be matched dollar for dollar.*

Please make the above incentive applicable to your BAA contribution or pledging this year. And when you remit your increased contribution or pledge, be sure you identify yourself as a parishioner of St. Mary's Church of Americus.

“Our Return to the Lord” is the theme for the Bishop's Annual Appeal this year.

St. Mary's 2017 BAA Goal is: \$13,901

Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW)



Our next PCCW Meeting is scheduled for this Monday, the 3rd of April, at 6:00 PM in classroom #3 in the parish hall. All women of our parish are invited to attend and help plan special events for our parish. For more info, contact Carolyn Campbell 229-942-2801 or carolynrdc@att.net.

UPDATE ON "MASS" SURVEYS & PROCESS

Thanks again to all parishioners who participated in the survey process by answering structured and unstructured questions and submitting, in most cases, constructive comments. Thank you also for invoking the Holy Spirit to guide our process. Our discernment process has yielded an outcome that was unexpected and it seems, beneficent, one which the majority of parishioners will likely favor.

PROCESS OF DISCERNING A POSSIBLE CHANGE OF WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Now to report first the salient findings from the surveys; second, report on the outcomes of two pivotal meetings in the recent stages of this discernment process; third, present the suggested weekend Mass time changes that emerged from those meetings and the surveys; fourth, refer to the next stage of our discernment process where parishioners will again be surveyed for their approval or disapproval on the suggested new weekend Mass times.

1. Salient Results. A total of 120 surveys were processed though not all answered all questions.

#2, Bulletin: 89% of English speaking respondents read the bulletin weekly (due to a mistranslation of word “weekly”, Spanish surveys excluded); **#Q 3, Duration:** 35% of all respondents have been attending St. Mary's for 21 years or more; 15% for 16-20 years; 23% for 11-15 years; 14% for 6-10 years; 8% for 3-5 years; 3% for 2 or fewer years. **#Q4, Attendance:** 95% say they attend Mass here 3 or 4 times a month; **#Q5, Which Mass:** 30% say they attend the 5 PM; 40% the 8:30; 27% the 10:30; 3% both/no answer.

2. #Q6, Could attend if Mass moved back an hour
5 PM Mass goers: 66% Yes; 26% No; 8% Unsure
10:30 Mass goers: 80% Yes; 10% No; 10% Unsure
8:30 Mass goers: 98% Yes; 0% No; 2% Unsure
#Q7, Bilingual Masses on occasion: 71% In Favor; 11% Not in favor; 18% Unsure

3. Meetings. The first meeting to review the preliminary survey results was with our Hispanic leadership group, including three members of the Pastoral Council, on Thursday evening 3/23. After about an hour and a half of constructive interchange of ideas, and notwithstanding the surveys' empirical basis for the proposed changed Mass times, and with a desire to generate a stronger consensus among all parishioners and not to offend their Anglo brothers and sisters, it was proposed to change the Sunday Mass

(Continued from the adjacent column)

time for Hispanics to 11:30. It was pointed out that this would provide Hispanics the culturally congenial option of moving their usual post Mass gathering from off premises to Sherlock Hall. As for the Sunday Mass in English, it would move up to 9:30. The English speaking member of the Parish Council felt this proposal would meet with the approval of most English speaking parishioners.

The second meeting was with members of our Pastoral Council and held last Tuesday. Again, preliminary survey findings were presented and a constructive dialogue occurred. As a result, the suggestion, unanimously approved, was to proceed with the above new Mass times, with the added adjustment of Saturday Eve Mass moved back to not 6 PM but to 5:30 PM and that it not be bilingual.

3. New Proposal Thus, the outcome of the above discernment process is the proposed change of Mass times to the following:
 5:30 Mass on Saturday evenings, in English;
 9:30 Mass on Sunday in English;
 11:30 Mass on Sunday in Spanish.

4. Next Surveys Parishioners will be provided an opportunity to again express their views favoring or disfavoring this proposed new weekend Mass schedule. Tri-lingual surveys will again be the means to assess their views. But with Palm Sunday next week, Easter Sunday following, and post Easter breaks for some, the surveys will not be distributed before the end of this month of April. Read your bulletins to stay tuned. Finally, please continue to invoke the Holy Spirit to guide us in our discernment process and not let the Evil Spirit hold sway. Thank you again for your participation.

May a non-Catholic receive communion at



the Mass? Our Church respectfully teaches that non-Catholics are not in full “communion” with the Catholic Church on the belief that the Bread and Wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, many of them believing it to be only symbolic. Therefore they are not in line with the Catholic teaching. To read the full statement of the Catholic Bishops of the United States please see the back page of the misalette found in the church pews.

Weekend	Offertory	Budget/Presupuesto	Surplus/Sobre:Deficit/Falta	2nd Collection
Ash Wednes.	\$ 705	For Church in Eastern Europe	XX	XX
March 5	\$3,455	\$2,588	\$867	BAA 8:30 Mass \$355
March 12	\$3,004	\$2,588	\$416	BAA 8:30 Mass \$206
March 19	\$2,335	\$2,588	(\$253)	BAA 8:30 Mass \$231
March 26	\$2,691	\$2,588	\$103	Cath. Rel Serv \$626