

### ¿Las próximas pláticas Bautismales?



Para el sacramento de bautismo de su niño/a, se requiere que los padres asistan en una clase pre-bautismal y los padrinos también. Los padrinos pueden asistirle en otra parroquia. El día y la hora del clase normalmente es en la tarde de un día de

la semana a las 7 PM. Para mas información favor llamar los coordinadores de las platicas, Juan y Angélica Alejo, (229-591-9846). Se debe traer una copia del acto de nacimiento de su hijo (a) al clase pre-bautismal.

### LA CAMPAÑA 2017 DEL OBISPO está realizando por una serie de segunda colectas en la Misas. Ya tomamos cuatro.



Nuestra parroquia ya logramos \$4,228 o 30% de nuestro reto parroquial de \$13,901. Gracias a los que están contribuyendo y favor a continuar. El lema de la campaña por este año es: "NUESTRO VOLVER AL SENOR"

### ENCUESTAS



Como ya fueron informado boletines anteriores, las primeras encuestas ya fueron analizadas, inclusive con la ayuda del liderazgo hispano y del Concilio Pastoral de la parroquia. El resultado propuesto

es el horario de las misas del fin de semana serian el cual sale abajo. Pronto los feligreses tendrán otra oportunidad a través de encuestas firmadas 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

### Requisitos Para La Primera Comunión.



Como ya fue comunicado a los padres de familia en septiembre, los chicos que estarán aprobados por su Pri-

mera Comunión son los que habían participados regularmente en las clases de formación, asistían regularmente en las Misas, proporcionaron su acta de bautismo, hicieron su Sacramento de Reconciliación (Confesión), y muestran su entendimiento del Sacramento de la Eucaristía y su deseo de recibirla. Por niños aprobados, la misa de la primera comunión es el próximo sábado, 29 de abril con misa a las 10 AM. Los padrinos no tienen que estar presentes pero por supuesto, están bienvenidos. Para mas información favor, póngase en contacto con la maestra de estos niños preparados, la Sra. Louise Bosse, y favor, lea la información escrita que ella les proporcionó a los alumnos.



Gracias a todos que participaron en la colección Rice Bowl el cual ayuda los que sufren hambre en África y otros países. Si todavía tienen las cajitas Rice Bowl en casa, por favor tráiganlas la próxima semana y las dejan en la mesa en el fondo de la iglesia.

### Corresponsabilidad: 2do. de Pascua.



"Benditos los que no han visto y han creído," dice Jesús en el Evangelio de hoy. Sin

embargo, para que crean los que no han visto, tenemos que ser buenos administradores de nuestra fe, viviéndola alegremente y compartiéndola generosamente. Entonces, en nuestro tiempo también, "hombres y mujeres en gran numero serán añadidos al Señor."



## St. Mary Catholic Church

332 S. Lee St., Americus, GA 31709

Tel: (229) 924-3495

PASTOR: Father Fran Gillespie SJ ("Padre Paco")  
email: fgillespie@diosav.org

OFFICE EMAIL: stmaryamericus@gmail.com

PARISH WEB PAGE: www.stmaryamericus.com

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday: 9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.  
2nd Sunday of the Easter Season April 23, 2017



*"Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.' Thomas answered and said to him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.'" (John 20)*

**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



Proposed New Weekend Mass Times



As reported in previous bulletins, the results of the first wave of surveys and their subsequent processing by our Pastoral Council and our leadership group of Hispanics, yielded the proposed change of Mass times listed below.

As also reported in previous bulletins, our regularly attending parishioners will be provided an opportunity very soon to again express their views favoring or disfavoring the new proposal. In the meantime, we all do well as was stated several times previously, “to continue to invoke the Holy Spirit to guide us in our discernment process and not let the Evil Spirit hold sway.”

PROPOSED NEW MASS SCHEDULE:

- 5:30 Mass Saturday evenings in English;
- 9:30 Mass on Sunday in English;
- 11:30 Mass on Sunday in Spanish.



A special thanks to our parishioners, especially our Faith Formation students and parents, who participated in Rice

Bowl this Lent. For those who still have theirs, Rice Bowls can be placed on the table in the back of the Church where they will be processed and a check remitted to the Catholic Charities Office of the diocese.

ONE WEEK LEFT FOR MATCHING FUNDS!



Parishioners are reminded of Bishop Hartmayer’s BAA Challenge To Us. Recall that owing to a surprise offer of matching gifts by an anonymous benefactor effective through April 30th which is just one week from now, Bishop Hartmayer offers this appeal and also challenge to us.

\* 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.

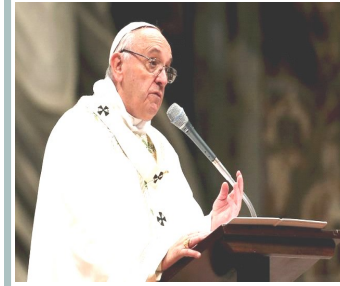
2017 Bishop’s Annual Appeal: “Our Return to The Lord” is this year’s theme.

By prayerfully pledging then following through with contributions we help Bishop Hartmayer help support, among other needs, the cost of educating seminarians, the faith formation of children, teenagers, young adults and adults; Hispanic Ministry; the deserving needy throughout our diocese. Our parish’s BAA data appear below:

St. Mary’s BAA Goal	\$13,901
Pledged/Donated	4,228
Percent of Goal Now up to:	30%
Pledge Balance	\$ 9,673

<u>Weekend</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Budget/Presupuesto</u>	<u>Surplus/Sobre;Deficit/Falta</u>	<u>2nd Collection</u>
April 2	\$3,845	\$2,588	\$1,257	BAA 8:30 Mass \$310
April 9	\$2,901	\$2,588	\$ 313	“ “ “ \$270
April 13	\$ 438			
April 14				For Holy Land \$817
April 23	\$3,889	\$2,588	\$1,301	Priests’ Retir’mnt \$1,301

Pope Francis on celebrating Easter Season



“After the Lenten season, time of penance and conversion, which the Church lived with particular intensity in this Holy Year of Mercy, after the thought-provoking celebrations

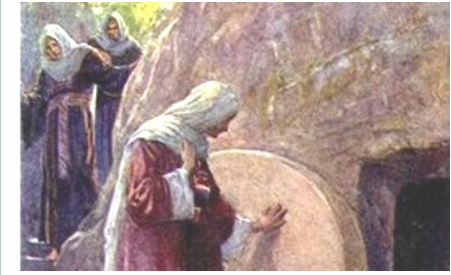
of the Holy Triduum, we pause again today before Jesus’ empty tomb, and we meditate with wonder and gratitude ...the Lord’s Resurrection. Life conquered death. Mercy and love conquered sin! Faith and hope are necessary to open oneself to this new and wonderful horizon. And we know that faith and hope are gifts of God, and we must ask for them: ‘Lord, give me faith, give me hope! We are in such need of them!’ We let ourselves be pervaded by the emotions that resound in the Easter sequence: Yes, we are certain of it: Christ is truly risen. The Lord has risen in our midst! This truth marked indelibly the life of the Apostles that, after the Resurrection, realized again the need to follow their Master and, having received the Holy Spirit, went without fear to proclaim to all what they had seen with their eyes and experienced personally.

In this Easter season we are called to rediscover and to receive, with particular intensity, the comforting proclamation of the Resurrection: “Christ, my hope, is risen!” If Christ is res-



urrected, we can look with new eyes and a new heart at every event of our life, including the most negative. The moments of darkness, of failure and also of sin can be transformed and proclaim a new way. When we have touched the depth of our misery and weakness, the risen Christ gives us the strength to rise again. If we entrust ourselves to Him, His grace saves us! The crucified and risen Lord is the full revelation of mercy, present and operating... Mary...stood beside the cross: she did not yield in face of grief, but her faith rendered her strong. In her tortured Mother’s heart the flame of hope always remained burning. Let us ask her to help us also to receive in fullness the Easter proclamation of the Resurrection, to incarnate it in the concreteness of our daily life. “ (Source: Zenit)

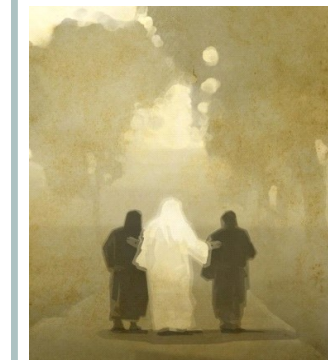
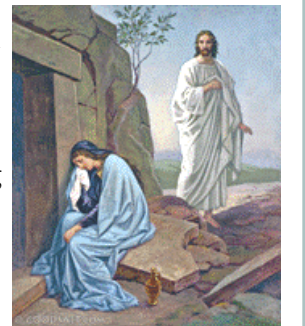
PROFITING FROM THIS EASTER SEASON:



There are different Resurrection accounts, whether of the “empty tomb” or of the “appearances”, which through-

out this season of Easter we do well to invest our time to read over slowly then meditate upon so as to draw profit for our spiritual growth.

For instance, the resurrection accounts of the women meeting the angel at the tomb; Mary Magdalene meeting Jesus in the garden; John and Peter rushing to the tomb; Jesus appearing to the Apostles in the Upper Room, both without and with St. Thomas; Jesus on the shore; and of course, the disciples accompanying Jesus on the road to Emmaus then recognizing him in the breaking of the bread.



At the Masses during the entire Easter season the first reading is always taken from the Acts of the Apostles. The Acts is so action-packed and interesting that it lends itself to reading aloud.



The Apostles and disciples of Jesus radiate pure Easter joy... something we should emulate: Christ is risen, the gates of heaven are opened and we now may share eternal life with Him!”

(Source: Jennifer Gregory Miller “Easter: Fifty Days of Rejoicing “, CatholicCulture.org)