

Método de la Lectura Divina

Hay cuatro pasos al este método: 1. Lectura. 2. Meditación 3. Contemplación 4. Oración. Sigue el ejemplo abajo para usar este método:

LECTURA DIVINA PARA LA SOLEMNIDAD DE MARÍA, MADRE DE DIOS. Empecemos como siempre: En el nombre del Padre...; Padre Nuestro; Una Ave María, etc.

1. **Lectura:** Lucas 2:16-21. De su biblia, lee esta Escritura dos o tres veces.
2. **Meditación** Después de la lectura, toma unos momentos para reflexionar en silencio acerca de una o más de las siguientes preguntas
 - ¿Cuál palabra o palabras en este pasaje captaron tu atención?
 - ¿Qué parte en este pasaje te consoló?
 - ¿Qué parte en este pasaje te desafió?(Si practicas la lectura divina como familia o en un grupo, luego del tiempo de reflexión, invita a los participantes a compartir sus respuestas.)
3. **Contemplación:** Lee nuevamente el pasaje de la Escritura, seguida de esta reflexión:
Los pastores fueron a toda prisa hacia Belén y encontraron a María, a José y al niño. ¿Hacia qué me apresuro: hacia Dios o hacia las preocupaciones mundanas? ¿Cómo puedo encontrar a Jesús en mi vida laboral y vida de oración?

Contaron lo que se les había dicho. ¿De qué manera puedo compartir la Buena Nueva de Jesús con aquellos que conozco? ¿De qué manera refleja mi vida el mensaje salvador de Dios?

María, por su parte, guardaba todas estas cosas y las meditaba en su corazón. ¿Con qué frecuencia tomo unos momentos para orar y reflexionar en silencio? ¿Qué cosa puedo hacer esta semana para conservar a Dios y su Palabra más cerca de mi corazón?

4. **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. Después que todos hayan tenido la oportunidad de hacer su oración, se termina este momento de la Lectura Divina simplemente con un Padre Nuestro. (Fuente: USCCB)

Platicas Prematrimoniales van a empezar

de nuevo este miércoles, el 4 de enero a las 6:30 en la capilla como antes. El párroco Padre Paco había sido dando estas charlas y están para las cinco parejas que habían sido asistiéndolas en el otoño pasado y están en el proceso ahora de discernir un decisión a casarse por la iglesia en el año 2017.

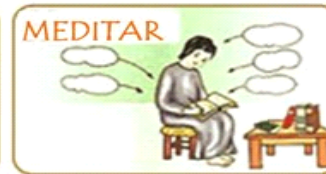
Una Hora Santa delante de La Santísima:

Todos están invitados a venir a la iglesia este jueves, el primero del mes, para adorar, rezar, y cantar juntos en una información favor póngase en contacto con Doña Rocio: 229-938-5826 o por correo electrónico: chio0531@hotmail.com



¿Cuándo las próximas pláticas pre-Bautismales? Para el sacramento de bautismo de su niño/a, se requiere que los padres sean miembros registrados de nuestra parroquia y asistan en una clase pre-bautismal y los padrinos también.

El día y la hora del clase normalmente es en la tarde de un día de la semana a las 7 PM. Es necesario que uno de los padres debe llamar los coordinadores de las platicas, Juan y Angélica Alejo, (229-591-9846) para comunicar su interés en asistir en el clase y tener bautizado su hijo/a. Se debe traer una copia del acto de nacimiento de su hijo (a) al clase pre-bautismal.



“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart... When eight days were completed... he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.” (Luke 2)

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.

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.

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

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 - Couples must contact Father at least 6 months before planned 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.

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

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: 10:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

January 1, 2017 Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

Holy Hour Resumes This Wednesday



Our weekly Holy Hour on Wednesday mornings and evenings starts again this Wednesday. The time slots are 11AM to 12 Noon in the

chapel with Mass immediately following and 6:25 to 7:25 in the evening in the Church. A fitting resolution for New Year 2017 would be to make time to attend more of these than you might have done last year, to come at least for fifteen minutes to a half hour of adoration.

But what do I do at a holy hour? Briefly, pray in silent adoration. That is, from your heart speak then listen, to Christ Eucharistically present in the monstrance before you on the altar. Some “adorers” bring a Bible to prayerfully read from, some a devotional booklet, some the rosary. At times, when he is present, the pastor leads the people in a prayer or a hymn before all return to silence. Finally, all are expected to observe a quiet reverence throughout the holy hour out of respect for others there praying in silent adoration.



Our beloved parishioner, Helen Dill, reaches her 100th birthday on January 7th. Those wishing to send her a card can do so at the address below:

Ms. Helen Dill
Sumter Retirement Village
2124 Hwy 280 West
Plains, GA 31780

Post Abortion Healing Retreat called



“Rachel’s Vineyard” is a beautiful opportunity for any woman, man, or family member who is struggling with the emotional, spiritual or psychological pain of abortion to find healing.

Come and experience the mercy of God through this healing ministry. For information or to register contact Stephanie May: (912) 306-0406 or email her at stephmay@bellsouth.net, or visit the website at www.rachelsvineyard.org All calls and inquiries are confidential. Come and be restored. The next weekend retreat is February 24-26.

Mass Intention Requests:



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

Pedida Para Una Misa: Si quisiera pedir una intención por una Misa, favor de llamar la oficina parroquial y

dejar un aviso al párroco.

Dec. 31-Jan 1	Mass Intention	Requestor
Saturday		
Sunday	Parishioners	Pastor
Tuesday	Angelica Carranza	M. Turner

Pope’s Prayer Intentions for January

Pray with the Pope As part of the Apostleship of Prayer and in union with our Pope, please remember the following intention this month in your prayers.

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER
Christian Unity. That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord’s teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

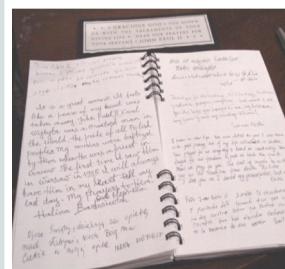
OUR CHURCH’S CHRISTMAS SEASON

Christmas Season (White)

- Christmas Day (December 25)
- Symbol: The Nativity or “Belen”
- Octave of Christmas
 - (8 days, Dec 25 – Jan 1)
- Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
 - (January 1)
- Ends on Sunday of the Baptism of the Lord

begins with the vigil Mass commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. It is for the Catholic Church not just a single day, i.e., Dec. 25th, but an extended liturgical season of joy and celebration, involving many different symbols and traditions and biblical persons, special music, activities, prayers by the priest from the Sacramentary and special readings proclaimed by the lectors from the Lectionary. Christmas is for us a season lasting 12 days and ends with the Sunday celebrating the Baptism of Jesus. The secular world, by contrast, commercializes the season, starting it after Halloween and ending it on December 25th.

Has Someone Asked You for Prayers?



Perhaps a friend or relative? Of if you have a prayer intention of your own, remember we have a Prayer Intention Binder for your use. The intentions you write in it might pertain to an illness, employment situation, military deployment, death, anniversary, end to terrorism, etc.. The Prayer Intention Binder is located in our church by the statue of Saint Anthony. The intentions you write will then be included in a general way at the weekend Masses. Have you an intention to write in so to have others pray for with you?



Stewardship Thought for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. The Blessed Virgin Mary was the model steward with her unqualified, “yes” and complete trust in God’s will. How might she be for me an example of stewardship of time and talent?

Pope Francis On The Maternity of Mary



“At the beginning of a new year, the Church invites us to contemplate Mary’s divine maternity... The ancient promise finds fulfilment in her person. She believed in the words of the angel, con-

ceived her Son and thus became the Mother of the Lord. Through her, through her “yes”, the fullness of time came about.

The Gospel we have just heard tells us that the Virgin Mary “treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart” (Lk 2:19). She appears to us as a vessel filled to the brim with the memory of Jesus, as the Seat of Wisdom to whom we can have recourse to understand his teaching aright. Today Mary makes it possible for us to grasp the meaning of events which affect us personally, events which also affect our families, our countries and the entire world. Where philosophical reason and political negotiation cannot arrive, there the power of faith, which brings the grace of Christ’s Gospel, can arrive, opening ever new pathways to reason and to negotiation.

Blessed are you, Mary, for you gave the Son of God to our world. But even more blessed are you for having believed in him. Full of faith, you conceived Jesus first in your heart and then in your womb, and thus became the Mother of all believers Send us, O Mother, your blessing on this day consecrated to your honor. Show us the face of Jesus your Son, who bestows upon the entire world mercy and peace. Amen. “ (Vatican, 1/1/ 2016)



Stay in touch with what is going on in your parish by accessing our parish bulletins, past and

current, which can be found on our web page at: www.stmaryamericus.com.

Besides the posting of your weekly parish bulletins, other relevant links and parish material is posted, so do visit it regularly.

Weekend	Offertory	Budget/Presupuesto	Surplus/(+Sobre)Deficit/(—Falta)	2nd Collection
December 4	\$3,989	\$2,588	\$1,401	
December 11	\$1,923	\$2,588	(\$ 665)	Relgi. Retirmt. Fund \$1,221
December 12				O. L. of Guadalupe Mass \$345
December 18	\$2,915	\$2,588	\$ 327	
Christmas 25	(Not available at time of printing of bulletin)			