

Aniversarios de matrimonio 25 o 50 Años

Parejas casados por la iglesia que van a celebrar en el año 2017 o su aniversario de bodas de plata o de oro, o sea, 25 años, casados en 1992, o 50 años, casados en 1967, están invitados a una Misa en la catedral de San Juan Bautista en Savannah 12 de febrero a las 11:30 AM. Miembros de su familia y amigos están invitados también a una recepción después. Para recibir una invitación por correo del la Oficina Diocesana de Familias, se debe registrarse antemano. ¿Como? Pues por informar al párroco, Padre Paco, o por su correo electrónico o por dejar un aviso en la maquina de teléfono parroquial, no más tarde que este martes el 20 de diciembre. Hay que proporcionarle simplemente los nombres de la pareja, el año de su casamiento, y su dirección postal. Inclusive invitados a la Misa con el obispo son los que fueron casados civilmente en 1967 o en 1992 pero después fueron casados por la iglesia (no importa en cual año).



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OJO: Las Misas Por La Navidad

La próxima fin de la semana, cuando celebramos la Navidad, hay un cambio en el horario de las Misas. Es decir, las dos misas son:

SÁBADO, EL 24, MISA A LAS 7:30 (BILINGÜE)

DOMINGO, EL 25, MISA A LAS 9:30 (INGLES)

(La semana siguiente la cual es el Año Nuevo, Sábado la Misa a las 5 en ingles come normal; pero el domingo, 1/1/17, la Misa será a las 9:30 (bilingüe).



LAS POSADAS son fiestas populares que en México se celebran durante los nueve días antes de Navidad, o sea del 16 al 24 de Diciembre. Estas fiestas recuerdan el peregrinaje de María y José desde su salida de Nazaret hasta Belén donde buscan un lugar donde alojarse para esperar el nacimiento del niño Jesús.

Se dicen que en el México prehispánico celebraban el advenimiento de Huitzilopochtli (Dios de la Guerra) durante la época invernal o Panquetzaliztli, que iba del 17 al 26 de diciembre, que coincidía con la época donde los europeos celebraban la Navidad. Estas celebraciones

fueron cambiando una vez que el pueblo fue evangelizado y la imagen de Huitzilopochtli fue sustituida por la de José y María. Algo que no debes olvidar: Debemos vivir las tradiciones y costumbres navideñas con el significado interior y no sólo el exterior para preparar nuestro corazón para el nacimiento de Jesús. Para mas información sobre nuestras Posadas favor de ponerse en contacto con Martin Lara.

ADVIENTO

Prepararse Para La Navidad Es Enderezar

♥ ese matrimonio nuestro que quizá se nos está “doblando” (como plantita sin agua) por falta de delicadezas mutuas, de demostraciones de afecto, de todos esos detalles que nos encantaban cuando éramos novios...

♥ las relaciones con nuestros hijos, inclinadas, a veces, más a corregir sus faltas de urbanidad (“¿Cuántas veces tengo que decirte que no empujes con los dedos?”), que a convivir con ellos, a interesarnos en sus problemas, a compartir nuestro tiempo con ellos (cuando nos dejen)...

♥ ese asuntito en que le andamos jugando chueco a la novia, al cónyuge, al patrón, al cliente, a nuestros padres, a Dios...

Comida Navideña. El próximo sábado el 24



para compartir.

de diciembre, la víspera de la navidad, después de la misa bilingüe, tendremos una comida en el salón parroquial. Todos están invitados y, se pide por favor, que se traiga un platito



“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. “ (Matt. 1)



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.

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

Advent’s invitation to prepare



to celebrate anew Jesus’s birth can be disrupted by commercial hustle and bustle that is blaring all around us. Hence, this season of joyful anticipation becomes a season of stressful shopping, a season of hope becomes a season of discouragement, a season of uplifting readings from Scripture becomes drowned out by the noisy rush to the next liturgical season of Christmas. Our challenge is to stay in the Advent season and reap the graces of the liturgical package of Scripture readings, hymns, prayers, and rituals like lighting the candles of the Advent wreath by the altar one week at a time (note above the fourth and last candle is now lit). It is to heed the weekly Scriptural messages such as this week’s Visitation to Mary wherein she tells God’s messenger that God’s will be done with her. May we imitate her submission of our will to God’s when God makes it known to us.



Our webmeister Chet Crowly informs us of a needed but slight change to access our parish web page. Those of you with an eye for detail will note “of” has been removed from our former parish web page address. Now the new one is: www.stmaryamericus.com). Besides the posting of your weekly parish bulletins, Chet is posting other relevant links and parish material so do visit it regularly henceforth.

YEAR END DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TO ST. MARY CHURCH

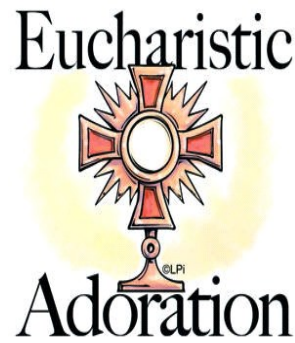


As the year 2016 approaches its end, so too does the opportunity for some to take advantage of charitable deductions for this year. Donating cash, stocks or other securities to your parish of St. Mary’s may help reduce your capital gains tax or provide a special tax deduction. Such a year end gift clearly would have a beneficial impact on our parish operating budget or even go toward a scholarship for Catholic schooling of a child in our deanery. Also, if you are 70 ½ or older, you can use your IRA to make this a tax-free charitable gift. For any of these options consult your tax professional, the Diocesan Stewardship Office or our pastor. Thank you.

Mass Intention Requests: Please contact the pastor by the parish office phone to arrange a Mass intention, either for a weekend or weekday Mass.
Pedida Para Una Misa: *Si quisiera pedir una intención por una Misa, favor de llamar la oficina parroquial y dejar un aviso al párroco.*

<u>Dec. 17-23</u>	<u>Mass Intention</u>	<u>Requestor</u>
Saturday	Jerry Roe	Maureen Turner
Sunday 8:30	Parishioners	Pastor
Sunday 10:30	Jerry Roe	Maureen Turner

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Schedule



Adoration will be held as usual this Wednesday morning from 11 to noon in the chapel but no exposition in the evening.

There will be a pause in exposition after that until January 11th when it will resume both in the morning and in the evening.



Pope Francis on Mary’s “Yes”

“Mary first conceived Jesus in faith and then in the flesh, when she said "yes" to the message God gave her through the angel. What does this mean? It means that God did not want to become man by bypassing our freedom; he wanted to pass through Mary's free assent, through her "yes". He asked her: "Are you prepared to do this?" And she replied: "Yes".

Do we think that Jesus' incarnation is simply a past event which has nothing to do with us personally? Believing in Jesus means giving him our flesh with the humility and courage of Mary, so that he can continue to dwell in our midst. It means giving him our hands, to caress the little ones and the poor; our feet, to go forth and meet our brothers and sisters; our arms, to hold up the weak and to work in the Lord's vineyard, our minds, to think and act in the light of the Gospel; and especially to offer our hearts to love and to make choices in accordance with God's will. All this happens thanks to the working of the Holy Spirit. And in this way we become instruments in God's hands, so that Jesus can act in the world through us.”

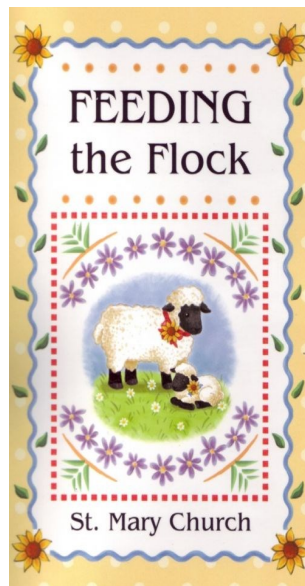
IMPORTANT NOTICE:



Since Christmas Eve and Christmas Day fall this year on Saturday and Sunday respectively, our weekend Mass schedule changes accordingly. Thus, there are two Christmas Masses available next weekend, one on Saturday evening and one on Sunday morning:
CHRISTMAS EVE: MASS AT 7:30 (BILINGUAL)
CHRISTMAS DAY: MASS AT 9:30 AM (ENGLISH)

FYI: The schedule for our Masses the following weekend are:
New Year’s Eve, Saturday evening, 5 PM (English);
New Year’s Day, Sunday, Mass at 9:30 AM (Bilingual)

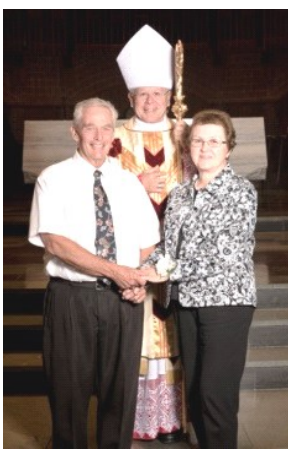
Our Parish Council of Catholic women



(PCCW) is selling St. Mary’s Cookbooks for \$10 each. As PCCW member Carolyn Campbell announced at recent Masses, the proceeds will be donated to Hands of Hope, the local pregnancy center. Our parish cookbooks are a timely gift in this season of looking for creative and inexpensive Christmas gifts for family and friends while also supporting those who help to bring to term innocent life.

For more information contact Carolyn Campbell (carolynrdc@att.net or 229-924-9537), PCCW president Carole Wilkinson (229-928-9886) or Judy Wanner.

Your Wedding Anniversary Silver or Gold?



Couples who were married in 1992 and thus will celebrate their Silver Wedding Anniversary in 2017, or couples married in 1967 and thus will celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 2017, are invited to the Mass for World Marriage Day, February 12, 2017, in Savannah celebrated by our Bishop. The Mass will be at 11:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. John the

Baptist. A reception for couples, family and friends follows the Mass. The Diocesan office of Family Life informs us that the names, postal addresses, and year of marriage of such couples are to be provided the pastor by this Tuesday, December 20th (emailing him or phoning him at our parish office).

<u>Weekend</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Budget/Presupuesto</u>	<u>Surplus/(+Sobre)Deficit/(—Falta)</u>	<u>2nd Collection</u>
December 4	\$3,989	\$2,588	\$1,401	
December 11	\$1,923	\$2,588		
December 12				Relgi. Retirmt. Fund \$1,221
December 18		\$2,588		Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass \$345