

MÉTODO DE LA LECTURA DIVINA: Hay 4 pasos al método:



1. Lectura. 2. Meditación 3. Contemplación 4. Oración. Sigue el ejemplo abajo para usar este método. (Fuente: USCCB)

Lectura Divina para la Epifanía. Empecemos como siempre: En el nombre del Padre...; Padre Nuestro; Una Ave María,

1. **LECTURA:** Mateo 2, 1-12. De su biblia, lee esta Escritura dos o tres veces. Jesús nació en Belén de Judá, en tiempos del rey Herodes. Unos magos de oriente llegaron entonces a Jerusalén y preguntaron: “¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que acaba de nacer? Porque vimos surgir su estrella y hemos venido a adorarlo”.

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: ¿Qué conversión de la mente, del corazón y de la vida me pide el Señor? Vayan a averiguar cuidadosamente qué hay de ese niño. ¿En qué lugares busco significado religioso? ¿Cómo sé si encuentro lo que estoy buscando?
Postrándose, lo adoraron ¿Cómo doy a Dios el honor que merece? ¿Cómo se extiende mi relación con Dios más allá de pedir por mis propias necesidades?
Regresaron a su tierra por otro camino ¿Qué caminos antiguos siguen conduciéndome a Dios? ¿Qué nuevos caminos tendría que emprender para acercarme más a Dios y Iglesia?

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.

LOS REYES MAGOS : El

Día de la Epifanía —el cual se celebra en los Estados Unidos el domingo después del 1 de enero— es el día en el que celebramos el banquete y qué significa para nosotros como católicos.



La fecha tradicional del banquete, 6 de enero, marca el final de los 12 días de la Navidad, y celebra la llegada de los Reyes Magos a Belén donde nació Jesús.

La palabra epifanía significa “manifestación”, que es exactamente lo que representan los Reyes Magos —la manifestación de Jesús al mundo exterior. México y otros países de habla hispana son lugares en los cuales los Reyes Magos se tienen en muy alta estima y en ellos se celebra el Día de los Reyes Magos.

Sin embargo, a pesar del importante papel que jugaron los Reyes Magos en la historia de Jesús, el día de fiesta en honor a ellos y lo que ellos representan es con frecuencia pasado por alto con el bullicio de la pos-Navidad.

Al llegar el 6 de enero, la mayoría de la gente ya tiene sus decoraciones Navideñas empacadas para el próximo año. Resiste esa tentación y deja las decoraciones puestas hasta el Día del Bautismo del Señor, que este año cae lunes, el 8 de enero, el cual marca el final de la temporada Navideña.

(Fuente: American Catholic/Messenger)



“The Magi...on entering the house... saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” (Matthew: 2)



St. Mary Catholic Church

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Telephone: (229) 924-3495

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

email: fgillespie@diosav.org

Bookkeeper: stmaryamericus@gmail.com

Parish Web Page: www.stmaryamericus.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

January 7, 2018 Epiphany Sunday

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 pláticas 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 último 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

Sábado: 5:30 PM (Ingles)

Domingo: 9:30 (Ingles); 11:30 (Español)

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

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY MASSES

Saturday: 5:30 pm - English

Sunday: 9:30 (English); 11:30 (Spanish)

Tuesday thru Friday, 12 Noon, in chapel (English)

Diocesan Office for Protection of Children & Youth (912-201-4074); toll free hotline is (888) 357-5330

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY



The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated in the United States on the Sunday after January 1st. The feast's traditional date, January 6, marks the end of the 12 days of Christmas, and celebrates, as St. Matthew writes, the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

The word epiphany means "manifestation" which is exactly what the Magi represent: Jesus' manifestation to the outside world.

The arrival of the Magi is celebrated in Spanish speaking countries like Mexico, e.g., with El Dia de Los Reyes.

Yet, despite their "manifestation" role in the story of the birth of Jesus, the feast day honoring them and what they represent is often overlooked in the post-Christmas hustle and bustle.

By the time January 6th rolls around, many people already have their Christmas decorations packed away until next year. We can resist this secular, non-liturgical temptation to cut short the Christmas Season by leaving the decorations up until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord which occurs this Monday, the 8th of January. It is that day which marks the end of the Christmas Season in the Church's Liturgical Calendar. Next Sunday begins the season of "Ordinal" time.

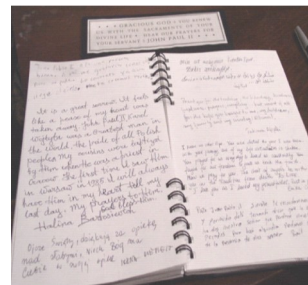


Stewardship Thought For Epiphany Sunday

The Magi brought the child Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. What gifts do I place before Jesus? How much of my time? How many of my talents? Am I giving cheerfully of my treasure?



Has Someone Asked You For Prayers?



Perhaps a friend or relative has asked you to pray for their intention. Or if you have a prayer intention of your own, remember to write them in our Prayer Intention Binder. 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 be included in a general way at the week-end Masses. Have you an intention to write in so to have others pray for with you?

Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW)



The next PCCW meeting will be held this Monday, January 8th, 2018 at 6:00 pm in classroom #3. The agenda will consist of planning the January International Dinner on Saturday after Mass, January

27, and other parish activities.

All ladies of the parish are invited. Please contact PCCW chairlady for questions: Carolyn Campbell at 229-942-2801 or email: Carolynrdc@att.net.

The Bible: Frequently Asked Questions



What's the difference between a "Catholic Bible" and a "Protestant Bible"? Catholic and Protestant Bibles both include 27 books in the New Testament. But Protestant Bibles have only 39 books

in the Old Testament, while Catholic Bibles have 46. The additional seven books included in Catholic Bibles are Tobit, Judith, 1 and 2 Maccabees, Wisdom, Sirach, and Baruch. Catholic Bibles also include sections in the Books of Esther and Daniel which are not found in Protestant Bibles. These books are called the deuterocanonical books. The Catholic Church believes these books to be inspired by the Holy Spirit and thus includes them.

Have you gone to the web page below yet? www.livingtheeucharist.org



Bishop, Gregory Hartmayer has directed all parishes of our Savannah Diocese to participate in a 3 year program called "Living the Eucharist" (LTE).

LTE is a spiritual renewal program providing us with opportunities to grow in our faith through learning more about the Eucharist, participating more actively in Sunday Mass, and living the Eucharist each day as disciples of Jesus. It involves small group of parishioners sharing together and will begin in a few months. Though LTE begins next month. It involves much planning, and it is important that parishioners educate themselves little by little about LTE by going to www.livingtheeucharist.org. The Coordinator of LTE for our parish's English speaking segment is Lynn Ingles, who is also the Chair of our Pastoral Council. She is available to answer your questions about LTE. Her email is: lynn.ingle@mga.edu

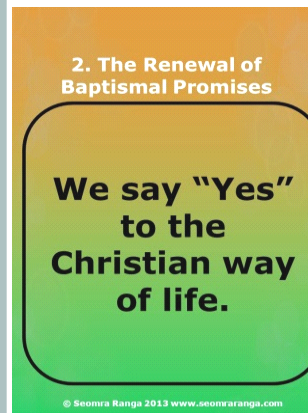
Holy Hour Has Resumed For Wednesdays



Our parish's Wednesday evening Holy Hour resumed last Wednesday with the resumption of our Religious Education classes. The holy hour takes place in the church, begins at 6:25 and goes until

7:25. A fitting resolution for New Year 2018 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 quiet and prayerful adoration before the Blessed Sacrament presented in the Monstrance with Gregorian Chants in the background amidst the fragrance of incense.

AS WE RENEW OUR BAPTISMAL VOWS.



At our three liturgies this weekend, the last Sunday in the Christmas Season, we renew our Baptismal promises seeking renewed resolve to live our lives as better Christians in 2018. What is this public renewal of our Baptismal promises imply? The following addresses this question; it is from a homily by Pope Francis.

“Baptism integrates us into the body of the Church, into the holy People of God. And in this body, in this people journeying on, faith is passed down from generation to generation: it is the faith of the Church. It is the faith of Mary...of St Joseph, of ...the Apostles and of the Martyrs, which has come down to us, through Baptism: the chain of transmission of the faith. This is really beautiful!

It is a passing of the flame of faith from hand to hand: we too (at Easter) express it with the act of lighting candles from the great Paschal candle. The large wax candle represents the Risen Christ, living in our midst.

You, families, take the light of faith from Him in order to pass it on to your children. You receive this light in the Church, in the Body of Christ, in the People of God who are journeying through every time and in every place.

Teach your children that one can not be a Christian outside of the Church, one cannot follow Jesus Christ without the Church, for the Church is Mother, who makes us grow in the love of Jesus Christ.”

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Weekend	Offertory	Budget/Presupuesto	Surplus/(+Sobre)Deficit/(—Falta)	2nd Collection
December 24	\$3,032	\$ 2,925	\$107	
December 25	1,356			Catholic Schools \$814
December 31	3,422	2,925	497	
January 1	316			