

Welcome to OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL CHURCH

**12175 Stringfellow Road,
Bokeelia, FL 33922
(239) 283-0456**

"Oh, Emmanuel, thank you for these weeks of prayer. In the spirit of the season, my waiting, my patience, feels sacred. Refine and purify my heart with the hottest flame of your love. Give me the courage of your prophets and let me do what is right even when others don't understand."
onlineministries.creighton.edu

**DECEMBER 22, 2019
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT
"LOVE"**



Rev. Jacek Mazur, Pastor

Fr.Jacek@olmm.org

Rev. Mr. William "Bill" Beck, Deacon

deaconbill@comcast.net

Parish Secretary—Donna Wallis

donna.wallis@olmm.org

Bookkeeper—Diane Gleason

diane.gleason@olmm.org

Parish Office Hours

9:00 am—1:00 pm Monday—Friday

www.miraculousmedalch.org

Email: office@olmm.org

Knights of Columbus—Contact Luis Ramos (239) 560-6380

Baptisms—Parents must meet with the Pastor for instructions and a date for the ceremony*

Marriages—Couples must see the Pastor at least six months before the intended wedding date*

Visits to the Sick and Homebound—(Holy Communion and/or Anointing of the Sick)—Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements

Religious Education—Sundays, Sept.-May from 9:30 to 11 am. Pre-K through secondary grades

RCIA— (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) - Please contact the Pastor for more information

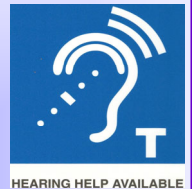
New Parishioners—Registration forms are located in the entrance of the Church, at the Parish Office and on our website

Prayer & Scripture Group—Meets the First & Third Tuesdays of every month

***Registered parishioners only**

MASS SCHEDULE

- ♦ **Daily Mass** Monday—Friday 8:30 am
 - ♦ **Saturday Vigil** 4:30 pm—Year Round
 - ♦ **Sunday Masses**
 - **September through May** 8:30 am & 10:30 am
 - **June through August** 9:30 am
 - ♦ **Spanish Mass** 5:00 pm Sunday—Year Round
 - ♦ **Holy Days of Obligation** 8:30 am & 6:00 pm unless otherwise noted
- + + + + +
- ♦ **Confessions** Fridays after the 8:30 am Mass, Saturdays 3:30 to 4:30 pm or by appointment
 - ♦ **Rosary** A half hour prior to daily Mass. Wednesdays the Rosary is dedicated for the protection of our area against disasters. Rosary begins 45 minutes before the first Sunday Mass
 - ♦ **Miraculous Medal Novena** Monday following the 8:30 am Mass
 - ♦ **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** First Friday of every month beginning at 9:00 am concluding with a brief prayer service and Benediction at Noon
 - ♦ **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** First Fridays after the opening of Adoration



Mass Intentions

Mon. Dec 23 Members of the Parish

8:30 am

Tues. Dec 24 +Patrick & Maureen Murphy

8:30 am

Requested by Their Children

4:00 pm

+Dutch & Betty Jacobs

Requested by Greg & Lucy Lambrecht

Weds. Dec 25 +Scott Smith

8:30 am

Requested by John & Vicki Jaunich

10:30 am

+Ken Kloiber

Requested by The Kloiber Family

Thrs. Dec 26 Ed & Barbara Anderson-60th Anniv.

8:30 am

Requested by Ed & Barbara Anderson

Fri. Dec 27 +Catherine Cunningham

8:30 am

Requested by Betty McDevitt

Sat. Dec 28 +David Firman

4:30 pm

Requested by Judy & Gary Gorman

Sun. Dec 29 +Eugene Sittniewski

8:30 am

Requested by Marylea Lewellyn

10:30 am

+Marcella Rowe

Requested by Kathleen Hecksher & Tom Christiansen

Time, Talent & Treasure

WEEKEND OF DEC 7-8, 2019

ATTENDANCE -453

OFFERTORY-\$5,682.00

SECOND COLLECTION-\$1,179.00

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners through their selfless offering of time, talent and treasure. Thank you and God Bless!



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DECEMBER 22-30, 2019

HANUKKAH



PLEASE PRAY FOR:



Rose Adams, Tony Ambrose, Toni Anfinen, Carmen & Nilsa Aponete, Glenn Armani, Helen Armani, Nora Baker, Barbara Basgall, Jacob Basilotto, Patricia Benson, Peter & Peggy Bercik, Angela Biondello, Ami Blachowiak, James Blachowiak, Patricia Blackwell, Peggy Brick, Dolores Brown, Betty Bulifant, Tom Cabot, Chuck Cabot, Patricia Clemens, Mario Corso, Steve DiCristo, Larry DiOrio, Wendy Edwards, Aiden Foley, Connor Foley, Michael Fontaine, Justin Fiesta, Suzie Goldberg, Carmelle Goodridge, Mary Gruesser, Judy Hage, Harry Haskins, Shawn Heeter, Pete & Alice Herber, Pat Herbert, Sally Hooper, George & Betty Hoyt, Carol Humme, JoAnn Ippolito, Everette & Nancy James, Stephanie Jefferson, Diane Jezek, Stan Jock, Anthony Joseph, Arlis Kelly, Jim Kirk, Ginny Kloiber, Eddie Knowlton, Kent Krabill, Zal Kutar, John Lambrecht, Larry Larson, Ginny LeClaire, Margaret Lines, Anne Lintner, Eric Marinelli, Catherine Mazzola, Jim & Joan McCaffrey, Cindy McClure, Kenneth McCurdy, Jim McDannell, Patty McGlone, Rick McKenna, Jr., Gloria McKeown, Connor McKinnon, John McKinnon, Gema Moreno, Regina Mulherin, Ruth Nayard, Elizabeth Nomorosa, Bernadette Nyka, Danny O'Herron, Max & Mila Perez, Tyler Peryea, Leslie Peterson, John Pitale, Pal Polster, Shirley Porter, Catherine Porthouse, Greg Printy, Kristin Ramsey, Tina Reichenwallner, Phil & Louise Ritchey, Elly Rode, Jimmy Rosso, John & Janet Rovaldi, John Rozell, Heather Sallstrom Sanchez, Malte Sallstrom, Clarence Schuetz, Paul Sepczynski, Donnie Sheetz, Ann Speitel, Colleen Sullivan, Julienne Thorstenson, Pat Tweed, Virginia Waggle, Robert Wallace, Pink Wesorick, Lynn Wickham, Mary Wilcox, Norman Willebrandt, Glenna Wolshlager, Donna Zawadski

???QUESTION OF THE WEEK???

What is my mission? What is God calling me to do? How can I fulfill my mission?

This Week

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Monday, Dec 23, 2019

• St. John of Kanty

Tuesday, Dec 24, 2019

CHRISTMAS EVE

- Vigil Mass 4 pm English
6 pm Spanish

Wednesday, Dec 25, 2019

CHRISTMAS DAY

- Masses at 8:30 & 10:30 am
English Only

Thursday, Dec 26, 2019

• St. Stephen

Friday, Dec 27, 2019

• St. John, Apostle

Saturday, Dec 28, 2019

• The Holy Innocents

• Vigil Mass at 4:30 pm

Sunday, Dec 29, 2019

- Masses at 8:30 & 10:30 am
and 5:00 pm (Spanish)
- NO Coffee Social
- NO Religious Education



PARISH CALENDAR

Dec 24-Christmas Vigil Mass-4:00 pm-English and 6:00 pm-Spanish

Dec 25-Christmas Day Masses-8:30 & 10:30 am English Only

Dec 31-Eve of Solemnity of Mary-4 pm Mass—English -Wine & Cheese-PLC 5 pm—6:30 pm

Jan 1-Solemnity of Mary-9:30 am Mass—English

Jan 7-Ladies' Guild Monthly Gathering -Prayer & Scripture Group Meeting

2019 CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL



OLMM 2019 CFA STATUS

Parish Goal	\$ 85,000.00
Pledged	\$ 84,797.75
Total Paid	\$ 83,158.05
Balance Due	\$ 1,841.95

a/o 12/06/19
Thank you for your generosity.

†**SAINTS/FEASTS OF THE WEEK**†

Dec 23-St. John of Kanty-A Polish country lad, Priest and professor of theology, St. John of Kanty was a brilliant student at the University of Cracow. Falsely accused and ousted by university rivals, at age 41 he was assigned as parish priest at Olkusz, Bohemia. He took his position seriously, and was terrified of the responsibility, but did his best. For a long time that wasn't enough for his parishioners, but in the end he won their hearts. After several years in his parish, he returned to Cracow and taught Scripture the rest of his life. —*catholicsaints.info*

Dec 26-St. Stephen-A deacon in the early Church at Jerusalem, he inflamed the enmity of members of the various surrounding synagogues by his Christian teachings, for which he was martyred.

Dec 27-St. John, Apostle-One of the twelve Apostles of Jesus, St. John was one of the youngest of the twelve. He and his brother James were in their fishing boat with their father and mending nets when Jesus called them. They immediately left their boat and their father and followed Jesus.

Dec 28-Holy Innocents-Patrons of choir boys and foundlings, the Holy Innocents were the first Christian Martyrs. The massacre is in the nativity narrative of the Gospel of Matthew in which Herod orders the execution of all male children two years old and under in the vicinity of Bethlehem.

“Christmas isn’t just a temporal celebration or the memory of a beautiful (event); Christmas is more . . . Christmas is an ENCOUNTER!” -Pope Francis



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❄️ **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE** ❄️

Tues, December 24, 2019

Christmas Vigil Masses:
4:00 pm (English) & 6:00 pm (Spanish)

Weds, December 25, 2019

Christmas Day Masses:
8:30 am & 10:30 am (English only)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Alice Ambrose, Sal Anastasio, Ed Anderson, Joe Arcuri, Pat Auge, Mary Lou Beck, Wally Bermingham, Roger Bolduc, Colleen Curtis, Al Doerman, Jo Ann Grabenstetter, Gerry Green, Mary Hagan, Leo Hage, Beverly Henderson, Daniel Higgins, Helen Holfelner, Ed Holloway, Lil Honc, Dave Humme, Ed Hughes, Pat Jock, James Kennedy, Ken Kloiber, Betty Licari, Edward Lodema, Sandra Marcil, Kathryn McGuineas, Vincenzo Miceli, Sr., Leo Miller, Wes Morris, Maureen Murphy, Jim O'Neill, John "Jack" O'Neill, Volker Oelze, Richard Peterson, William "Joe" Porthouse, Mark Rodgers, Fred "Fritz" Schoenbaechler, Jeanette Smith, Jean Turner, Muriel Urrico, Gus Ventimiglia, Melanie Voris, Victor Zawadski

"Eternal rest grant unto them Oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they Rest in Peace."

"Fight all error, but do it with good humor, patience, kindness, and love. Harshness will damage your own soul and spoil the best cause." -St. John of Kanty

HOPE
AFTER ABORTION

Sylvia Jimenez
Project Rachel
Coordinator

Compassionate &
confidential help:
941-412-5860
(English, español & Deutsch)

project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org
www.hopeafterabortion.com

project rachel
Peace starts here



Sponsored by Diocese of Venice
Respect Life Office
1000 Pinebrook Road
Venice, FL 34285
941-441-1101



www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife

OLMM LADIES' GUILD PRESENTS:

**"An Afternoon in Paris
Card Party!"**

Tickets are
available at the
Parish Office or
ask a Guild
Member!

WHEN: JANUARY 24, 2020
10 AM—3 PM

WHERE: OLMM PARISH LIFE
CENTER

COST: \$15.00



**SOLEMNITY OF MARY/
NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

December 31, 2019

New Year's Eve—4:00 pm (English)

Wine & Cheese—5:00 pm PLC

January 1, 2020

New Year's Day—9:30 am (English)

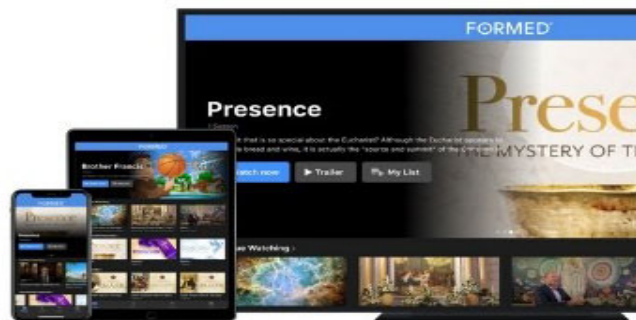
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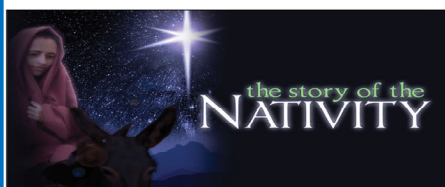
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5. Enter your email - and you're in!

Visit **FORMED.org** or search for "Formed" on your favorite app store

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

go to miraculousmedalch.formed.org



The Story of the Nativity

Understanding the Full Story of Jesus' Birth

The birth of Jesus is often misunderstood, but this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity clarifies widespread misunderstandings of Jesus' origin. Join top scholars, inspirational speakers, and popular authors as they explain the story behind the story of the birth of Jesus.

**WATCH ON
FORMED.ORG**

IN LOVING HONOR AND MEMORY OF

+Lauren Alexander, +Carey Alexander-Charles & Lorraine Alexander
+Rosemary Auge, +Pat Auge-Gene Auge
+Gregor & Juliana Netys-Maria Belke
+Jim Benson, +Mary & George Hauser, +John Quinn, +Ken & Betsy O'Connor
-Patti Benson
Bircher Family-Debra & Duane Skibinski
+Mr. & Mrs. Gastions, +Mr. & Mrs. Boron, +Larry Sanders, +Grandma & Grampa,
+Mary Richards-Mr. & Mrs. Dave Boron
Family and Friends of Vin & Joan Bresnahan-Vin & Joan Bresnahan
+Atlantic & Rose Carpinelli, +Harold & Gloria Beckloff-Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Carpinelli
The Gruber & Delaplane Families-Elaine Delaplane
+Denver Family-Bill & Fran Denver
+Catherine McKenna, +Benjamin L. Dugger-Catherine Dugger
The Effert, Agamites, Van Dyck and Vander Steen Families-Bob & Carol Effert
Frank Family, +William Kovachik & Family-Elizabeth Frank
The Fry and DeSplinter Families-Mr. & Mrs. Willis Fry
+Frank & Georgiana LaPierre-Kathy Gaffey
+Frank & Margaret Kozma-Judy & Gary Gorman
+Casey Hardebeck, +Willard & Rita Mardebeck, +Charles & Velma Rost
-Bob & Carol Hardebeck
+Tim Hayden, +Danny Noll, +James Raimondo, Jr.-The Haydens
Deceased Members of the Healy & O'Connell Families, +Gwen Kelley
-Kevin & Sally Healy
The Hoyt & Strasser Families-George & Betty Hoyt
+Louis & Catherine Iannucci-Deborah Iannucci
+Warren & Doris Wohlers, +Charles & Jessie Lester-David & Diane Lester
+James W. Kennedy, Sr., James W. Kennedy, Jr.-Helen Kennedy
+James Lewellyn-Marylea Lewellyn
+Betty Licari-Mr. & Ms. Vito Licari
+Helen, +Mae, +Jerry, +Justin-Loving Family
+Amber Lundgren-Margaret Lundgren
+Sam & Maryruth Marzella, +Al Sledge, +Ed Stress-Sandy & Jay Marzella
+Barbara Clark-Jeannie McKenna
+Leo Miller, +Terry Miller-Anne Miller
+Elmer & Alvina Geiger, +Dr. Johnny Turner, +Peterson Family, +Rosemary Von
Bank-Carol Ann Turner Peterson
Piazza Family, Heil Family, Sharpsky Family-Cathy Piazza
+Keith Porter, +Scott Porter, +Douglas Porter, +Jefferson Porter
-Morgan & Shirley Porter
+Sandy Harrison, +Jackl & Betty Mullen, Cathi Potter-William & Bonnie Potter
Deceased Members of the Creadon and Powers Families-Margaret Mary Powers
+John & Adele Ritchey, +Guy and Marie Elder-Phil & Louise Ritchey
+Eleanor Roberts-Karen Roberts-Esser
Vincent Dunn-Beverly Rufino
+Howard & Jane Smith, +Malte & Isabella Sallstrom, +Ray & Alma Tourville, +Lois
Williams, +Mark Aspinwall-Mr. & Mrs. Malte Sallstrom
+Fred Schoebaechler, Jr., +Mathias & Marie Hunseder, +Fred & Lydia Hunseder,
+Fred & Elizabeth Schoenbaechler-Marie Schoenbaechler
+Ted, Sue & Gloria Steinken-Don & Helen Shanley
Skibinski Family-Duane & Debra Skibinski
+Wayne Thibodeau, +Margaret & Michael Ryan, +Simon & Marie Thibodeau,
+Anne Marie & Larry Mogielniski-Mr. & Mrs. William Thibodeau
+Maltide Carrion, +Gustavo Pasada, +Luz Ma. Portocanero, +Cesar Carrion,
+Amparo Arranategui-Mr. & Mrs. Carlos Trellis
+Antonio & Lottie Paolantonio, +Frank & Lena Vadas, +Margaret Rutherford
-Steve & Barbara Vadas
+Roger J. & Terry Bolduc, +Roger G. Bolduc, +Joe Arcuri, +Joe & Kay Arcuri,
+Meme & Pepe Bolduc & Lachapelle, +Guy Wallis, +Wally Birmingham-Donna Wallis
+Floyd & Rose Laskey, +Karl & Virginia Werly, +Noah Gray-Mr. & Mrs. Roger Werly
+Hap Boyd-Caprice Woodburn

2020 MEN'S CONFERENCE
Diocese of Venice

But as for you, man of God...

Fight the Good Fight

of the faith!
- 1 Timothy 6:11-12

Featuring:
2nd annual  fest
with a food truck rally!

SPEAKERS:

MARK HART CHRIS PADGETT FR. CALLOWAY





TO REGISTER:
<https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/2020-mens-conference>

WHERE: Bishop Verot High School
5598 Sunrise Dr. Fort Myers, FL 33919

WHEN: 9am-3pm
Doors open at 8am

DATE: Feb. 8

COST:
Pre-Registration: Adults: \$20, Students: \$5
At the Door: Adults: \$30, Students: \$10

More info: Call (941) 484-9543

2020 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
Diocese of Venice

Blessed is **SHE**
who **BELIEVED**
...what was spoken to her from the Lord.
- Luke 1:45

SPEAKERS:

JIMMY MITCHELL SISTERS of LIFE MARY BIELSKI





TO REGISTER:
<https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/2020-womens-conference>

WHERE: Bishop Verot High School
5598 Sunrise Dr. Fort Myers, FL 33919

WHEN: 9am-3pm
Doors open at 8am

DATE: Feb. 22

COST:
Pre-Registration: Adults: \$20, Students: \$5
At the Door: Adults: \$30, Students: \$10

More info: Call (941) 484-9543

NEW 

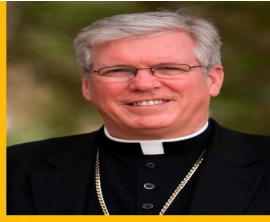
Envelopes

The new 2020 offertory envelopes are here! They are located in the rear of the church and are in alphabetical order. If you requested envelopes, please pick them up. If you would like to start using envelopes, please contact the Parish Office. **Thank you!**

"WITNESSING FAITH WITH BISHOP DEWANE"

LISTEN THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 8:30 AM

Listen anywhere online at RelevantRadio.com



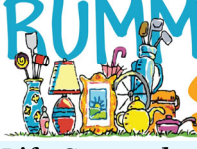
Bishop Invites Couples Celebrating Marriage

All couples celebrating **25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more** years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Mass honoring significant anniversaries will be celebrated in two locations: 11:00 a.m., Saturday, **February 1** at Epiphany Cathedral, 310 Sarasota Street, Venice, and 11:00 a.m., Saturday, **February 29** at St. Leo the Great Parish, 28290 Beaumont Road, Bonita Springs. Information packages will be mailed to Parishes in the coming month.

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Lord Jesus, you have chosen your priests from among us and sent them out to proclaim your word and act in your name. For so great a gift to your Church, we give you praise and thanksgiving. We ask you to fill them with the fire of your love, that their ministry may reveal your presence in the Church. Since they are earthen vessels, we pray that your power shines out through their weakness. In their afflictions let them never be crushed, in their doubts never despair, in temptation never be destroyed, and in persecution never abandoned. Inspire them through prayer to live each day the mystery of your dying and rising. In times of weakness send them your Spirit and help them to praise your Heavenly Father and pray for poor sinners. By your same Holy Spirit put your word on their lips and your love in their hearts, to bring good news to the poor and healing to the brokenhearted. And may the gift of Mary, your Mother, to the disciple whom you loved, be your gift to every priest. Grant that she who formed you in her human image, may form them in your divine image, by the power of your spirit, to the glory of God the Father, **Amen.**

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Vocation Society

RUMMAGE SALE  **DONATIONS**

If you have items you would like to donate for our annual Rummage Sale, you may now drop them off at the Parish Life Center during regular parish office hours. However, we will not be picking up any large items until after the first of the year!

PLEASE: NO electronics - TVs, VCRs, DVD players, computers, printers; NO mattresses or china cabinets. THANK YOU!!!!

HE AQUÍ QUE LA VIRGEN
CONCEBIRÁ Y DARÁ A LUZ UN HIJO,
A QUIEN PONDRÁN EL NOMBRE DE EMMANUEL,
QUE QUIERE DECIR DIOS-CON-NOSOTROS.

MATEO 1:23



CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

22 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2019

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María y José tuvieron un papel protagonista en nuestra devoción y vida espiritual católica. Sin duda, gran parte de nuestra devoción a María, la madre de Jesús, y a José, su padre adoptivo, está enraizada en nuestra apreciación de su disposición a ponerse ellos mismo en las manos de Dios, para buscar lo que Dios más deseaba de ellos y a llevarlo a cabo. Descubrimos su ejemplo inspirador, y su cercanía con el Señor, consolador y esperanzador. Conociendo que ellos dijeron sí a Dios en esas formas fundamentales y extraordinarias, incluso cuando había tanto en juego y demasiados obstáculos a considerar, nos da mucho en que reflexionar. Sin embargo, hay algo más que no debemos olvidar; aunque Dios pudo haber venido a estar con nosotros como un niño de cualquier manera, Dios eligió estar con nosotros mediante la cooperación activa y humilde de una mujer y un hombre, María y José.

EMMANUEL

De todos los nombres asociados con nuestro Señor, hay dos que sobresalen en la forma que describen la identidad y mis-

ión del Señor: "Emmanuel: Dios con nosotros", y "Jesús: Dios salva". Lo más impresionante acerca de nuestra fe cristiana es que Dios no está lejos, es algo abstracto, exigente, un dios de ira y poder militar. Al contrario, Dios desea estar cerca de nosotros, tener una relación, estar con nosotros en nuestros desafíos y alegrías. Dios está con nosotros aun cuando permaneciendo con nosotros nos lleve a la traición, la persecución o una muerte violenta. Dios que está más allá de esta lucha permanece con nosotros para que podamos trascender las limitaciones de nuestra naturaleza humana para llegar a ser más como Dios, para abrazar la luz divina que reside dentro de cada uno de nosotros. Al acercarnos a la celebración de Navidad, consideremos lo siguiente, ¿qué significa para ti que Dios esté con nosotros, ahora y siempre? ¿Qué te llama a ser y hacer como cristiano, como seguidor del Hijo de Dios, Jesús, quien está con nosotros y nos salva?

Lecturas de hoy: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24 (23):1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

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NEW OLMM BEREAVEMENT GROUP

You changed my mourning into dancing;

O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

— Psalm 30:12, 13



Our new Bereavement Group will hold its first meeting on **Wednesday, January 8th, 2020 at 10 am** in the PLC Meeting Room. All are welcome!

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TELEVISED MASS TO THE HOMEBOUND

WFTX-TV FOX 4 – Sundays at 10:30 am

The Mass is also available on the Diocese of Venice website, www.dioceseofvenice.org/tvmass.

Know Your Immigration Rights Conozca Sus Derechos de Inmigración

La Conferencia Estado Unidos de Obispos Católicos (USCCB) ha proporcionado un video en español y en inglés sobre los derechos de los inmigrantes. Por favor vaya a www.dioceseofvenice.org y haga clic en el banner "Conozca Sus Derechos" para ver los videos.

V Encuentro, Sesiones del Decanato Norte

La Oficina del Apostolado Hispano de la Diócesis de Venice organiza una serie de sesiones por decanatos para continuar el proceso del V Encuentro. Los fieles del Decanato Centro están invitados a participar a la siguiente reunión que se realizará en: Epiphany Cathedral, 350 Tampa Avenue West, Venice, Martes 25 de Julio, 6:30 p.m., La alegría de ser discípulos misioneros. Información: pastoralhispana@dioceseofvenice.org.

DECEMBER 22, 2019 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**They shall name
him Emmanuel,
which means
"God is with us."
— Matthew 1:23**

**Lo llamarán
Emmanuel,
lo que significa
"Dios está con
nosotros".
— Mateo 1:23**

TRUST IN GOD

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel.

Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to "tempt the LORD" in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord's enduring protection of God's chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew's reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You will be given this sign: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalms — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:18-24).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Weds: **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



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CHRISTMAS

A young mother, her eyes shining with fatigue, who is arranging her hair; a father who finds himself alone with his pretty wife and baby, straightening the stable to make himself useful in some way; shepherds who bring cheese and perhaps also some curdled milk; sheep who look at their shepherds while bleating; a donkey who is eyeing his manger changed into a cradle; an adorable swaddled baby whom one calls Savior, Christ and Lord: This is the manifestation of the goodness and the tenderness of God. This is the most fantastic birth in the history of humanity, the one which changed the face of the world! This is how far God humbled and compromised himself with us! This is Emmanuel! — From *God's Word Is Our Joy*, Vol. 1 by Lucien Deiss, CSSP, copyright © 1998, World Library Publications. p. 73



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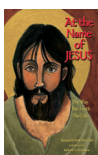
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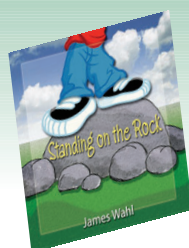
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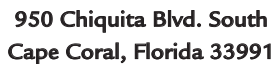
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A photograph of a middle-aged couple sitting at a wooden table. The woman, on the left, has blonde hair and is wearing a teal top. The man, on the right, has grey hair and is wearing a yellow polo shirt. They are both smiling and looking at a laptop screen. The woman is holding a small blue card or booklet. The background shows a white kitchen cabinet and a green plant.

