

Cómo Confesarse: Cinco pasos breves



1. El sacerdote empezará con la Señal de la Cruz ó un saludo y bendición.

2. Tú dirás: “Perdóname Padre porque he pecado y hace _____ (aquí mencione el número de días, semanas, meses, o años) desde mi última confesión, y tengo estos pecados”. Ahora mencione sus pecados principales (sin rodeos y tantos detalles), terminado con: “Por estos y todos los pecados de mi vida estoy arrepentido(a)”. (Con esto le dejas saber al sacerdote que has terminado.)

3. El sacerdote puede hacerte preguntas para clarificar o darte algunos consejos. Contéstale brevemente.

4. Haga un acto de contrición, por ejemplo, “Yo confieso...” o use sus propias palabras.

5. El sacerdote te dará una penitencia. Escúchala, recuérdala, hágala.

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...



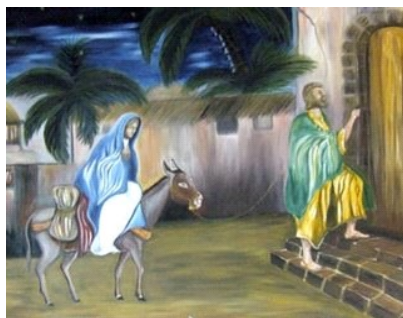
CORESPONSABILIDAD: 17 de Diciembre, 3do. de Adviento
 Todas las personas en las lecturas de hoy – el profeta Isaías, la Virgen María, San Pablo, San Juan Bautista- parecen entender claramente y alegrarse de lo que Dios les manda a ser o hacer. ¿Yo también?

Confesiones miércoles a las 7 PM



Para prepararnos bien a celebrar la Navidad, tendremos el rito comunal de reconciliación con confesiones particulares este miércoles el 20 de diciembre a las 7 en la iglesia. Tendremos cinco padres confesores (cuatro son bilingües). Se urge la asistencia de adultos, jóvenes y chicos, inclusive chicos que deben hacer su primera Confesión este Adviento.

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 Panquetzalitzli, 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.



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.

December 17, 2017 3rd Sunday of Advent

“And this is the testimony of John the Baptist: ‘I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord’ as Isaiah the prophet said. ... I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” (John 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.

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



THIS WEDNESDAY EVE IS OUR PARISH'S COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE WITH INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

Going back to the time of John the Baptist during the first Advent there is the call to repent, to convert from errant ways and to convert more to the gospel of Jesus. This "turning of our hearts" is to prepare ourselves for the coming of our Savior Jesus at Christmas. Intrinsic to this is partaking in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). All Catholics are urged to celebrate this blessed sacrament in a communal setting at a parish. Our parish holds its service this Wednesday evening starting at 7 PM. As before, this service is for adults, youth and children who have made or will make their first confession. On hand will be four other bilingual confessors besides our pastor, Consult an Examination of Conscience ahead of time to prepare yourself properly for your confession.

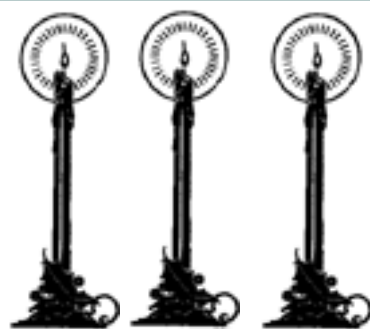
The box below presents a handy reminder on how to go to confession listing the customary five steps. Finally, as Pope Francis reassures us about going to confession: "Do not be afraid.."



POPE FRANCIS ON CONFESSING DURING ADVENT: "If you have something ...on your soul, ask the Lord's forgiveness. This is a beautiful chance Christmas gives us – to clean up our souls...! Don't be afraid... God forgives everything."

Remind Me: How do I make a Confession? The following 5 steps summarize the way to confess.

- 1) First prayerfully make an examine of conscience to identify your sins.
- 2) Once inside the confession space, make the sign of the cross then say: "Bless me Father for I have sinned, it has been ____ (days, weeks, months, years, decades) since my last confession and I want to tell God I am sorry for the following sins"
- 3) State your sins as you have prepared them beforehand guided by an examination of conscience.
- 4) Afterwards the priest gives you a penance. Then you say audibly an act of contrition (you can either bring your own or use the one that will be available for confession).
- 5) When you are finished the priest administers absolution to you. After he is done, you depart.



3rd Week of Advent is here The word Advent derives from "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to". Advent is the liturgical season encompassing the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, intensify our focus on preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas day.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Next Sunday, the 24th of December, we make the required observance of the 4th and last Sunday of Advent with the usual Mass times of 9:30 and 11:30. Right after the last Mass, with the aide of many volunteers, we put up our Christmas decorations. There are

two Masses for Christmas and they are as follows:
CHRISTMAS EVE: MASS AT 7:00 (BILINGUAL)
CHRISTMAS DAY: MASS AT 9:00 AM (ENGLISH)
 (N.B. CHRISTMAS DAY MASS IS 9:00 NOT 9:30)



Christmas Decorators Needed Next Sunday

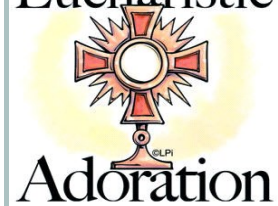


Since next Sunday is the 4th and last one in Advent, volunteers are needed right after the last morning Mass (about 12:45 PM) to help put up the Christmas Season decorations. Men, women, youth and supervised children

are asked to share their time and talent to help, e.g., take down, fold, and store advent decorations; hoist banners; spread altar and other cloths; hang ribbons and bows; arrange flora and greenery; unbox manger figures and help set them; spread straw, lay out extension cords, and decorate the tree. John Vastbinder and Maureen Turner will help coordinate our labor force of stewards from the multi-lingual segments of our parish.

Hiatus in Schedule of Exposition of the

Eucharistic



Adoration

Blessed Sacrament With the pause in the schedule of our Wednesday evening Faith Formation classes, there also will be a pause on Wednesday evenings of Exposition. It will resume on the evening of January 3rd, 2018 when classes begin again. Similarly there will be a hiatus with Friday morning Exposition, i.e., none this Friday or the next. Exposition resumes on Friday morning January 5th, 2018, at 11 AM.

Away and missed your parish bulletin? Your



parish bulletin is edited weekly by our pastor and contains items of pastoral relevance. It is posted on our parish website thanks to

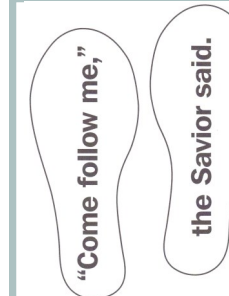
Louise Bosse usually by Sunday. To keep yourself informed while away on Christmas holidays go to: www.stmaryamericus.com

YEAR END DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TO ST.



MARY CHURCH
 As the year 2017 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 the operating budget of our parish, or help a specific ministry, area or activity of our parish you choose to specify. Also, if you are 70 ½ or older, you can also use your IRA to make a tax-free charitable gift to St. Mary's. For any of these options consult your tax professional, the Diocesan Stewardship Office or our pastor. Thank you.



Discernment Retreat

Jesus said to him : "Come Follow Me". The Savannah Diocese's annual Discernment Retreat for a vocation to the priesthood, open to single men between the ages of 18 and 40, will be held at Little Ocmulgee State Park &

Lodge, 80 Live Oak Trail, Helena, Ga. (south of Dublin). It begins noon Friday December 29th and goes through noon Saturday December 30st. There is no cost for the retreat. For more info call bilingual vocation director Fr. Pablo Migone: 912-201-4113; pmigone@diosav.org. or simply register by going to: www.diosav.org/vocations and click on the retreat icon.



STEWARDSHIP 3rd Sunday of Advent

Be ever poised to share your God give allotted time and talents as God calls you to do so, using them to benefit your church and neighboring community.

| Weekend | Offertory | Budget/Presupuesto | Surplus/(+Sobre)Deficit/(—Falta) | 2nd Collection |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| December 3 | \$ 3,479 | \$ 2,925 | \$ 554 | |
| December 10 | 2,413 | 512 | | |
| December 12 | | | | |

Retirm't: (Nuns, Brs., Priests) \$997
 Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass \$449