

Presentando nuestro nuevo párroco, Padre Samuel Aniekwe

Me nací en Agulu, Nigeria en 1964. Desde mi Ordenación en 1996, he disfrutado sirviendo en las siguientes funciones: fui Vicario Parroquial de la Iglesia St. John's Baptist en Awka, Nigeria; Pastor de la Iglesia St. Peter's Catholic en Awka, Nigeria y Gerente Escolar en la escuela secundaria "Madonna" en Uga, Nigeria. Serví en las funciones arriba mencionadas desde 1996 a 2004 antes de mi migración a los Estados Unidos en Julio 24 del 2004.

Sobre mi inicio en los Estados Unidos, trabajé con la Diócesis de Pittsburgh, PA. como Vicario Parroquial de la Iglesia de St. Maurice Church en Forrest Hill y como Capellán de Guardia en el Hospital de la Universidad en Pittsburgh. Ayude a la Diócesis de Pittsburgh en las áreas arriba mencionadas, mientras completaba mi Post-Grado en "Éticas al Cuidado de la Salud" en la Universidad de Duquesne, en Pittsburgh, desde el 2004 al 2009. Después de completar mi Post-Grado, fui llamado por el Señor a servir al País, como Capellán de la Armada en USAR. Como Capellán Católico Romano de la Armada (USAR). Serví en Fort Gordon, como Capellán Responsable Activo Movilizado desde 2010 al 2012. Al final de mi gira como movilizado, obtuve un permiso de estudio para mi Doctorado en "Consejero de Comunidad en Educación Pastoral". Complete estos trabajos académicos mientras servía como Administrador Parroquial de St. Boniface's en Springfield, del 2012 al 2014 y como Administrador Parroquial de la Iglesia St. Michael en Montezuma, GA., de Junio 04 del 2014 a Junio 14 del 2017.

Fui asignado a IRR (USAR) incluso serví como Pastor Asociado a la Parroquia St. James en Savannah. Recientemente, re-asignado a la Iglesia de Saint Mary's Americus como Administrador Parroquial. Es un gran honor servir a las buenas personas de Saint Mary's Americus, como su Sacerdote Parroquial. Por favor, oren tanto como yo y siempre los mantendré en mis Oraciones.

Corresponsabilidad 24 de junio 2018, La Natividad de St. Juan el Bautista



San Pablo nos recuerda que Cristo murió para que "aquellos que viven puedan vivir no solamente para ellos mismos." ¡Lo que damos y hacemos por los demás, lo damos y lo hacemos por Jesús!

Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos (RICA)



Cristiana de Adultos

es un proceso por el cual una persona que desea recibir los sacramentos en la Iglesia Católica, es instruida en la fe Católica y luego recibida como miembro plenamente de la Iglesia. Adultos mayores de 16 años que no son bautizados o han sido bautizados y desean recibir la Sagrada Comunión y el sacramento de la Confirmación, participan en este programa. Para mas información, por favor póngase en contacto ahora con los coordinadores de la RICA, Sara o Raúl Yanez (938-8713).

DESPEDIDA PARA PADRE PACO



Todos nuestros feligreses y familias están invitados a traer un plato típico a compartir durante la despedida por nuestro párroco, este miércoles, a las 6:30 en nuestra recién renovado salón. Padre Paco sale el fin de esta semana después cuatro años de pastorearnos. Después su vacación y retiro en el mes de Julio, Padre Paco va a trasladarse al otro diócesis y a una parroquia que el obispo allá solo puede anunciarla (probablemente al fin de julio). Que vengan a despedir nuestro párroco (y vengan sin regalos de cualquier índole).

Queremos expresar nuestra agradecimiento a todos los hombres, mujeres, y jóvenes que trabajaron duros y con alta perseverancia con la las renovaciones al salón, haciéndolas en tiempo por la despedida de Padre Paco este miércoles. Especialmente estamos agradecidos a los Coordinadores Juan Alejo y Miguel Yanez de los equipos de los proyectos, inclusive el re-entarrimados del salón, la pintura de salones y pasillo, y la limpieza final.



SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

332 S. Lee St., Americus, GA 31709

Telephone: (229) 924-3495

Parish Web Page: www.stmaryamericus.com

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

Pastor: Father Fran Gillespie SJ (fgillespie@diosav.org)

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Bernie Bosse, M.A.

Bookkeeper: Randy Vanderwilt (stmaryamericus@gmail.com)

June 23, 2018 Nativity of John the Baptist



"All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be?"

For surely the hand of the Lord was with him.

The child grew and became strong in spirit,

and he was in the desert until the day

of his manifestation to Israel". (Luke 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 nuestros feligreses Juan y Angélica Alejo ((229-591-9846) para registrarse por platicas pre-bautismales a menos un mes antes del Bautismo proyectado.

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

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. This Sacrament can be received more than once, periodically during the year.

Confession/Reconciliation - Saturday 4:30 pm to 5:00 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

“Religious Freedom Week Catholics across



the United States are encouraged to pray and act in support of religious liberty at home and abroad during this week. It is called Religious Freedom Week and it began June 22 and ends on June 29.

The chairman of the Bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, states: "Religious freedom allows the space for people of faith to serve others in God's love in ministries like education, adoption and foster care, health care, and migration and refugee services. We encourage people of faith to reflect on the importance of religious freedom so that we might...carry out our mission of service and mercy, and we invite everyone to pray for our brothers and sisters who face intense persecution in other parts of the world."

How's Our Mass Attendance This Past Year?

We are grateful to our ushers who carefully count and record the number of persons in attendance at our weekend Masses. We are grateful also to Bernie Bosse for computerizing those counts onto his computer from which Joyce Owsley dexterously generated the graph included with your bulletins this week. As one can see from the trend line at the top of the four trend lines of the graph, our overall Mass attendance has increased slightly during the period from May 7th of last year to June 17th this year (last Sunday). The increase is predominantly due to the rise in Hispanic attendance at the 11:30 Mass; attendance also rose at the 9:30 English Mass; the Saturday evening Mass registered a slight decline. Clearly, our carefully discerned decision as a parish last year to modify the Sunday Mass times was a sound and blessed decision.



Stewardship Thought for Sunday, June 24th, The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

"With each contribution, show a cheerful countenance, and pay your tithes in a spirit of joy." (Sirach 35:8)

Take Action for Religious Freedom



Pray: May the Holy Spirit give us the courage to bear witness to the truth of the gospel, even in the face of social and legal pressure.

Reflect All baptized Christians are called to share the joy of the gospel with others. When most of our co-workers, neighbors, and even family members don't share our faith and perhaps do not practice any faith at all, we might be timid or afraid to talk about our faith. But in a culture filled with so much junk, people are hungry for solid food. When we encounter Jesus Christ, we come to know the bread of life, the truth in which the restless hearts of our age can rest. We love our neighbors by helping them to encounter Jesus.

Act As the Pope Francis teaches, "The Holy Spirit also grants the courage to proclaim the newness of the Gospel with boldness (parrhesía) in every time and place, even when it meets with opposition" (Evangelii gaudium, 259). Let's take this week to exercise our freedom by sharing our faith in Jesus Christ or to talk about religious freedom with others. Try it today!

Mass Intention Requests/Pedida para Misa



Please phone the pastor at the parish office to arrange a Mass intention, either for a weekend or weekday.

Si quisiera pedir una intención por una Misa, favor de

llamar al párroco en la oficina parroquial: 229-924-3495.

June 22-29	MASS INTENTION	REQUESTOR
Saturday	+Mary Mungan	Eileen Johnson
Sunday 9:30	Parishioners	Pastor
Sunday 11:30	+Stanley Strand	Betty Shenk
Tuesday	+Alice Latham	Sherri Weil
Wednesday	+Mary Keegan	Sherri Weil



THIS WEDNESDAY, 6:30 IN PARISH HALL
Come join us in our "out with the ugly old rug and in with the neat new flooring" Sherlock Hall.



St. Mary's Parish Council and its Parish Council of Catholic Women invite all parishioners to a very special potluck dinner in honor of our reassigned

pastor, Fr. Fran Gillespie, SJ. So mark the date, this Wednesday, June 27, at 6:30 PM in our recently renovated parish hall. Bring your family's favorite dish. Come to honor Fr. Fran for his years of dedication to our parish and wish him well as he embarks on his next assignment in the Charleston Diocese (whose Bishop will officially announce which parish late next month). Fr. Fran asks you come to celebrate with your God given gift of self and asks for no gifts of any kind.

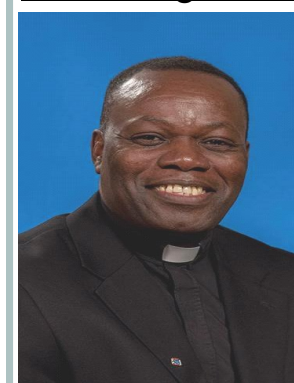
We are grateful to all those who were laboriously involved in preparing Sherlock Hall to be ready in time for Fr. Fran's Going Away Celebration.



Your parish bulletin on our Web Page

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 informed go to: www.stmaryamericus.com

Introducing Father Samuel Aniekwe, who



assumes the role of Parochial Vicar of St. Mary parish July 1st.

Father Samuel was born in Agulu, Nigeria in 1964. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1996. "Since ordination, I have enjoyed serving in the following capacities: I

was a parochial vicar of St. John's Baptist Church in Awka, Nigeria; a pastor of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Awka, Nigeria and a school manager at Madonna Secondary School in Uga, Nigeria. I served in the above capacities from 1996 to 2004 prior to my migration to the United States on July 24, 2004.

Upon entering the United States, I worked with the diocese of Pittsburgh, PA as parochial vicar of St. Maurice Church in Foresthill and on-call hospital chaplain at University Teaching Hospital in Pittsburgh. I helped the diocese of Pittsburgh in the above areas while completing my Master's degree in Healthcare Ethics at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh from 2004 to 2009. After completing my Master's degree, I was summoned by the Lord to serve the country as an Army Chaplain in USA. As a Roman Catholic Army Chaplain (USA) I served at Fort Gordon as a mobilized active duty chaplain from 2010 to 2012. At the end of my mobilization tour I got a study leave for my doctorate in Pastoral Community Counseling Education. I completed this academic work while serving as a parochial administrator of St. Boniface's in Springfield, 2012-2014, and as parochial administrator of St. Michael Church in Montezuma GA, from June 4, 2014 to June 14, 2017.

I was assigned to IRR (USA) even as I serve as Associate Pastor at St. James The Less parish Savannah. It is a great honor to serve the good people of Saint Mary's Americus as your parish priest. Please pray for me as I will for you."

Weekend	Offertory	Budget/Presupuesto	Surplus/(+Sobre)Deficit/(—Falta)	2nd Collection
June 3	\$3,553	\$2,925	\$ 628	
June 10	\$3,991	\$2,925	\$1,066	SAMA \$ 901
June 17	\$2,580	\$2,925	\$ 345	