

MERRY
Christmas



GIVING AND RECEIVING

Have you ever worried about the gifts you give for Christmas? Well, not the gifts themselves but whether the person receiving them will like them? What if the giftee forces a courtesy smile and says, "Oh how nice," or something similar? What if, later in the year, by accident, waiting for the person to answer the door, you see the family rushing to bring your gift up from the basement and hang it up in the living room?

In view of this, I used to keep second-guessing myself on every gift I shopped for. Look right there, I would say, that is the perfect gift for this person, just right! But wait a minute, they don't have a fireplace mantle to sit it on. Or, will it go with their décor. Or does he or she even like that kind of thing. Maybe I will look like a fool. Or, or, or, or.

That's normal, isn't it? But agonizing. A great friend of mine from South Africa helped me out with this dilemma. Kolile was his name and he said, "You are trying to do someone else's job. Do your own. Your task is to give the gift. Let them take care of receiving it."

He gave two examples. In Africa the women at the parish take five days to prepare a feast at the parish. All the food is beautiful, tasty, and set out perfectly. At last the feast day arrives, they open the doors, and within a few minutes the whole presentation looks like plowed earth—the food picked over, the people happy but oblivious. This does not bother the women, he said. It is up to the people to receive it in whatever way seems right. The women's part

of the exchange is to make the gift ready, and they love doing it.

Then he said, in his gruff but gracious way, that in his part of Africa it is the custom to bring a present to the person you are visiting. He and others walked the long journey to visit his father, who happened to love roast beef. Kolile brought along a big chunk of roast and put it on the table when they got there. His father said, no, thank you, I do not like that any more.

Kolile was not particularly happy but he wasn't bothered either. "I did my part," he said, "and my father did his." All was well.

So I began a change in my shopping habits. I began to choose gifts that just felt right for each person on my Christmas list. I did not worry and worry whether it would please them, I let the person fill my mind and when I saw something that matched my feel for them, I got it. Without worry. Every gift did actually delight the person who received it, but that isn't the point. My job was to open my heart and give. I let them take care of receiving it.

Maybe this is what God does at Christmas. So many people do say "No thanks" to the Christ child that God gives to us. But the Christmas child is not born in order to get accepted. He is the spilling over of God's immense love, without worry, without manipulation, without restriction. When God lets each of us into his mind, he senses that the baby Jesus is the perfect Christmas gift for us.

Face Masks Requirements

You are required to wear face masks for the entirety of Mass.



NO MASK, NO MASS



Christmas Schedule:

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24

4:30 pm Family Mass In English

8:00 pm Midnight Mass in Spanish

10:00 pm Midnight Mass in English

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25

10:00 am Mass in English

12:00 pm Mass in Spanish

There will be no evening masses on Saturday Dec 25, Regular Sunday Schedule resume on Sunday, December 26.

New Year's Day

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

10 AM English

12 PM Spanish

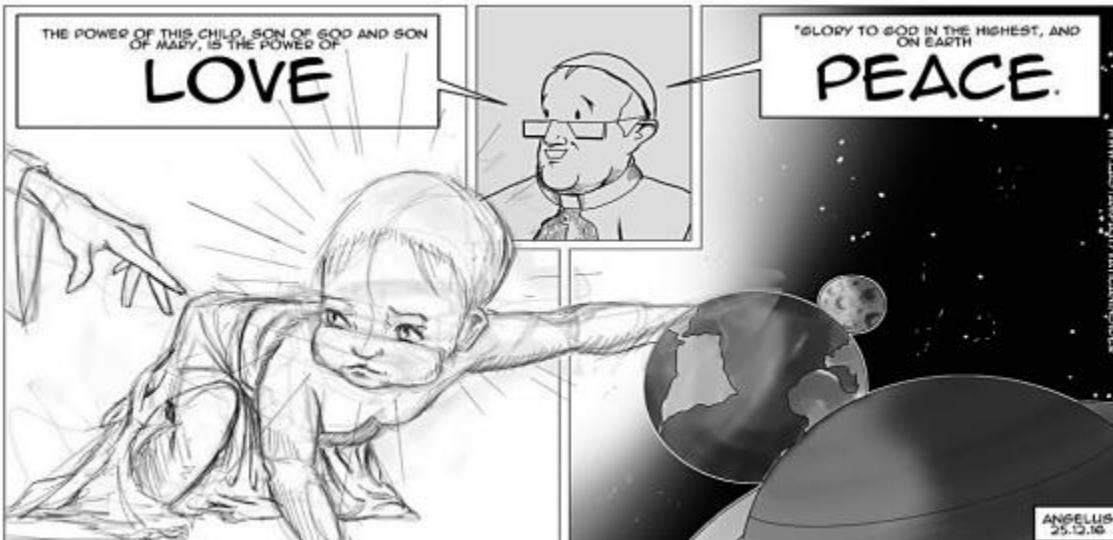
No vigil Masses

Counting Our Blessings:

Offertory

December 20, 2021

\$6,209.00



DIOS PRESENTE

Para que la familia cristiana responda a su función, ha de ser el lugar donde se fomenta el cariño y respeto hacia todos; donde la comunicación, abierta y sincera, encamina a los hombres hacia la libertad; donde la presencia de Dios, se vive no en momentos puntuales y extraños, sino como alguien cuya cercanía se destaca en miles de detalles que lo hacen parte de la misma familia y, por eso, está presente en todos los acontecimientos y circunstancias.

Contexto donde el misterio de cada persona es apreciado y valorado tal como es, con la seguridad de que cada vida es una historia sagrada en la que hay que admitir, a veces, el desconcierto y la incertidumbre –“¿por qué nos has hecho esto? Mira que tu padre y yo te buscábamos angustiados”-, pero sabiendo que se suavizan cuando en ella se favorece la comprensión y la escucha.

Valorar hoy la familia en cristiano no es estar en contra de nada ni de nadie. Es vivir desde un convencimiento: el amor, que viene de Dios, es la raíz de un proyecto humano-cristiano que da origen a esa minisociedad de donde surgen vínculos fuertes que enlazan a sus miembros para siempre y los inicia en una convivencia fructífera. Tiene como base el amor de unos progenitores cuyo objetivo es seguir fortaleciendo ese amor primero, de donde fluye un ambiente generador de confianza, cariño y seguridad. Equivale a responsabilizarse, también, de un proyecto que atraviesa el tiempo para dar sentido a una opción de fe hecha desde la libertad, la responsabilidad y la fidelidad. Frente a la cultura del individualismo, la soledad y la inestabilidad, la gran afirmación cristiana es que Dios es amor, que a la vida le da sentido el amor y que Dios nos ha pensado para nacer, crecer, vivir y morir en este nido de amor que es la familia. Por eso, es preciso valorarlo y cuidarlo por encima de todo, ayudándole a madurar con el pasar de los días.

Postura cristiana ante las distintas realidades que hoy se viven en el ámbito familiar:

Desde la familia hacerse persona

Creer en la familia es vivir la seguridad de que en ella es posible dar a las personas “raíces para crecer y alas para volar”. Así lo quiso Dios al hacernos como nos hizo.

Hoy miramos a la familia de Nazaret porque sigue siendo un referente para cuantos seguimos creyendo en la familia como realidad querida por Dios, seguros de que es para todos bastión contra la soledad, el miedo y la desesperanza.

La familia, un gran proyecto que se construye en la fragilidad

Es conveniente en este día proclamar que, frente a las desafecciones, son muchas las familias que celebran con alegría el recuerdo de Nazaret, reflejando, dentro de los límites de la fragilidad humana, los valores que definieron a aquélla y manteniendo vivo el deseo de imitarla. A ellas hay que agradecerles su testimonio. Otras se sienten frágiles y desanimadas ante el ambiente que nos rodea y viven con temor ante el futuro. A ellas hay que acompañarlas y estimularlas. Otras viven la tristeza de un proyecto familiar roto. Junto a ellas hay que estar desde la comprensión y la amistad. Los fracasos nunca son definidores de una vida. Por eso, es necesario seguir alentando la esperanza de que un proyecto roto no es la última palabra a pronunciar desde una perspectiva cristiana.

La familia de Nazaret nos habla de una vida que se hace en medio de alegrías, también de dificultades. Éstas no impiden llevar a cabo el proyecto de Dios; al contrario, lo purifican y fortalecen, fomentando el crecimiento de quienes la integran. Renovar esos principios este día, es la forma de proclamar la actualidad entre nosotros de aquella Familia, que conocemos como ‘Sagrada’, y cuyo ejemplo sigue nutriendo un estilo de vida que quiere dar continuidad a sus valores en este mundo nuestro. Como cristianos hemos de procurar que todas nuestras familias sean también ‘sagradas’. Lo serán cuando dejemos que la presencia de Dios vaya definiendo nuestras relaciones, dejándonos llevar por la fuerza del Espíritu que Él ha garantizado a través del sacramento del matrimonio.

Mascaras

serán requeridas para todas las misas sin excepción.



NO MASCARA,

NO MISA



HORARIO DE NAVIDAD:

Noche Buena:
Viernes, 24 de Diciembre

- 4:30 pm Misa de Niños (Ingles)
- 8:00 pm Misa de Gallo
- 10:00 pm Misa de Gallo (ingles)

Día de Navidad:
Sábado, 25 de Diciembre

- 10:00 am Misa del día en Ingles
- 12:00 pm Misa del día en español

No habrá misas de Vigilia para ese día... El horario regular se reanuda para el domingo 26 de diciembre.

Sábado 1 de enero 2022
Solemnidad de María Santísima, Madre de Dios

10 AM Ingles
12 PM Español
No misas de Vigilia

Contando las bendiciones:

Ofertorio
20 de Diciembre 2021
\$8,962.00



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Please pray with 40 Days For Life at the Metropolitan Family Planning Clinic for a couple that is 7 weeks pregnant. One of our Sidewalk Counselors offered help to this couple and we remain prayerfully hopeful that our prayers have changed their hearts. Please prayerfully consider coming to the sidewalk at 5915 Greenbelt Rd, College Park anytime but especially Tuesdays 12-4, Wednesdays 1-4, Fridays 9-1 and Saturdays 9-1 when the clinic is opened. Come with a friend or family member just for an hour or two. You can sign up for the day and time you would like at <http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/collegepark> or just come and pray. God Bless You.: 301-802-6402.


BAPTISM

For infant children are held monthly in our parish. The classes for parents and godparents are typically held during the second week of each month. To register for a baptism you must provide the required documents. For more information, please contact the parish office. No appointment is necessary.


**BILINGUAL
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
FOR THE
FOOD PANTRY**

Bilingual volunteers are needed for our food pantry to greet and register families in need. Hours are 8:30 am to 12 Noon on Tuesday in the Albert Room. Please contact the parish office at 301-422-8300 for details.


**FOOD PANTRY
NEEDS
YOUR HELP**

The Food Panty needs and appreciates your support. Please consider making a gift to this ministry today. We need YOUR help to feed disadvantaged families in our community. Any questions, please contact the rectory at 301-422-8300. Donations may be dropped off at the office or the church. Thank you! God Bless you!

BULLETIN DEADLINE

All bulletin announcements (even regularly recurring ones) should be submitted in writing or email no later than Friday of the week before (9 days before) the publication date. Please make any submissions to the rectory office via email to rectory@stmarkhyattsville.org. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 301-422-8300.


**THE ADORATION
CHAPEL**

Our Chapel remains open from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm, every day of the week. All are welcome to adore. Please come

COMMUNITY
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

All children and YOUTH! If you are interested in becoming a Lector between the ages of 10 and 17 years of age,

please contact 301-502-5096 or 240-610-3336

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**ENVELOPES FOR
DONATION**

If you have been receiving your envelopes and this month you did not, please contact the parish office at 301-422-8300. Thank You!


**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Please call the Parish Office at 301-422-8300 as soon as you can, no later than Thursday for Mass Intentions. These requests can not be done few minutes before the Mass starts.


SOME SUNDAY

The third Sunday of every month is St. Mark's weekend to cook for SOME. Please drop off donations of UN-COOKED OR FROZEN BOXED chicken, UN-COOKED rice, and/or individually packaged snacks to the black SUV outside the Msgr. Albert Room by 9:45 am. We appreciate your donations. Contact Shanna Stringfield with any questions: 301-802-6402.



**NECESITAMOS
VOLUNTARIOS
BILINGÜES
PARA LA
DESPENSA DE
ALIMENTOS**

Se necesitan voluntarios bilingües para que nos ayuden en nuestra despensa de alimentos a saludar y registrar a familias. Las horas son de 8:30 am a 12 del mediodía todos los martes en el Albert Room. Por favor de llamar a la oficina parroquial al 301-422-8300 para más detalles.



**NECESITAMOS
SU AYUDA
PARA EL
BANCO DE
COMIDA**

Necesitamos su ayuda para el banco de comida. Nuestra alacena de comida de los pobres siempre necesita su ayuda. Donaciones financieras también ayudarían mucho. Gracias por su generosidad. Pueden escribir un cheque y destinarlo al banco de comida. Pare mas información, pueden llamar a la oficina parroquial. Que Dios los bendiga por su generosidad.



**LUGAR PARA
FIESTAS Y
EVENTOS**

No se rentara el Salón Mons. Wells Center hasta futuro anuncio.

Discover SFIS .INFO

Saint Francis International School

Educación Católica: la escuela St. Francis International (de edad preescolar hasta 8vo. Grado) está inscribiendo para el año escolar 2021-2022. SFIS está ubicada en la parroquia San Camilo en Silver Spring. SFIS. es una escuela regional que sirve a la parroquia de San Marcos Evangelista, y nuestros estudiantes se benefician de muchas formas de apoyo para ayudarlos a prosperar en un ambiente familiar. Los graduados de 8vo grado de SFIS reciben ofertas de admisión en las mejores escuelas secundarias locales. Los feligreses de San Marcos reciben un descuento de \$1,000 debido al apoyo financiero de San Marcos, de SFIS y nuestra asociación.

Comuníquese con SFIS para obtener más información al 301-434-2344 o

visite nuestra página web en www.sfismd.org



BAUTISMO

Para niños menores de 6 años se llevan acabo bautismo varias veces al mes en nuestra parroquia. Las charlas para los padres y padrinos regularmente se llevan acabo durante la primera semana de cada mes. Para inscribirse, traiga la partida de nacimiento del niño a la oficina parroquial. No es necesario hacer una cita.

COMUNIDAD

NOTICIAS DE LA CATEQUESIS

Niños y JOVENES. Si esta interesado en convertirse en lector entre las edades 10-17 años de edad
por favor llamar al
301-502-5096 o al 240-610-3336

PARTICIPA, AYUDA Y GANA

BAUTISMO

Para niños menores de 6 años se llevan acabo bautismo varias veces al mes en nuestra parroquia. Las charlas para los padres y padrinos regularmente se llevan acabo durante la primera semana de cada mes. Para inscribirse, traiga la partida de nacimiento del niño a la oficina parroquial. No es necesario hacer una cita.

INTENCION PARA UNA MISA

Por favor llame a la Oficina Parroquial al 301-422-8300 tan pronto como sea posible, antes del jueves para las intenciones de Misas. Si es una muerte reciente favor buscar al monitor para inscribir a su deudo.

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS / INTENCIones DE LA MISA

Mon., December 27 Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00 am Magdalene Bih (D), Richard Mulhare (D)

Tues., December 28 The Holy innocents, Martyrs

8:00 am Magdalene Bih (D) , Richard Mulhare (D)
12:00 am Melany Gomez (L),

Wed., December 29 Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am Aileen Elliott Stark (D)
12:00 am Magdalene Bih (D) Richard Mulhare (D)

Thurs., December 30 Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am Jean Patterson (D), Rita Drass (D)
12:00 am Magdalene Bih (D), Richard Mulhare (D)

Fri., December 31 Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am Jean Patterson (D),
12:00 am Magdalene Bih (D) , Richard Mulhare (D)

Sat., January 1 The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary Mother of God.

8:00 am Magdalene Bih (D), Alice Anaghara (L)
4:30 am Jenny Mulhare, Richard Mulhare, (D)
7:00 pm Salvador Rivera (D),

Sun., January 2 Epiphany Of The Lord.

8:00 am Roberto Schmitz (D)
10:00 am Magdalene Bih (D) Jenny Mulhare, Richard Mulhare, (D)
12:00 pm Honorato Marca (D)
7:00 pm Ana Julia Romero (L)

The Sanctuary Light is dedicated to the memory of
Sra. Rita Emilia Campos



PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH. OREMOS POR LOS ENFERMOS EN NUESTRA PARROQUIA

Judy Akemon, Ivars Bilmanis, Susana Noyce, Francis Horan, Dennys Leck, Hannah Teresa Thomas, John Hill, Edna Smith, Juan López, Francis Yeatman, Águeda López, Dianne Drass, John Lindsay, Joseph Pekny, Ned Symes , Elvis Suh, Jonathan Tom and Michael Liska .

Please call the rectory to let us know of anyone who should be added to or removed from the list. Unless otherwise informed, we may remove names after one month.

Favor déjenos saber de cualquier nombre que se debe agregar o quitar de la lista. Al menos que se nos informe algo diferente, después podremos remover los nombres.

**Please pray for the intentions
of the Holy Father Francis for December , 2021**

Intention for Evangelization — Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Por favor oremos por las intenciones del Santo Padre Francisco para Diciembre del 2021

Intención para la Evangelización – Los Catequistas, Recemos por los catequistas, llamados a proclamar la palabras de Dios: para que sean testigo de ella con valentía , creatividad y con la fuerza del Espíritu Santo.

INTERESTED? WHO TO CALL

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Altar Guild | Rebecca Duncan | 301-422-8300 |
| Altar Servers | José Argueta Alejandra Argueta | 240-688-6964 240-688-6962 |
| | Jose Antonio Velásquez | 301-779-7493 |
| Bereavement | Sandy Gundersen | 301-277-3315 |
| CENAES | Mario Gamboa * | 202-607-3901 |
| Choirs | Wendy Bonilla Santos Cerón * | 240 551-7124 240-618-9948 |
| Extraordinary Ministers | | |
| Holy Communion | Carlos Dieguez * | 240-507-0144 |
| Familias Victoriosas | Elenilson Ayala * | 301-213-9932 |
| Food Pantry | Kathy Wootten Doug Jones | 301 779-2763 301 852-3816 |
| Health Ministry | Sharon Klees | 301-422-7026 |
| Lectors | Stanislaw Rzeznik Manfredo y Ruth Granados* | 301-422-8300 240-375-4019 |
| Legión de María | Gladis Martínez* | 240-793-2238 |
| Post Cana | Marie Barrett Edda Osborne | 301-779-3918 301-277-8450 |
| Prayer Group | Leke Taku George Guschwan Samuel Rosa * | 240-237-7203 301-502-8245 240-705-3714 |
| RCIA | Dcn. Curtis Turner Dcn. Renato Molina * | 301-422-8300 301-434-6078 |
| So Others May Eat | Shanna Stringfield | 301-802-6402 |
| Ushers | Louis Velis * | 240-688-2676 |
| Young Adults (JAC) | Alondra Saavedra * | 240 413-4701 |
| Youth Group (NOC) | Keisy Bonilla | 240 633-0810 |

* – Spanish-speaking ministry

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If you are a healthcare professional or clergy interested in integrating Christian principles into your life and work, you may be interested in learning more about ACTheals (formerly The Association of Christian Therapists).

ACTheals.org or for more info about monthly meetings in the Mid-Atlantic area, Call George Guschwan 302-502-8245. Check out the International Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, October 2021 at actheals.org.

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