



**MARY**  
*Queen of the Apostles*



**MARÍA**  
*Reina de los Apóstoles*

November 29, 2020

[www.MQOA.org](http://www.MQOA.org)

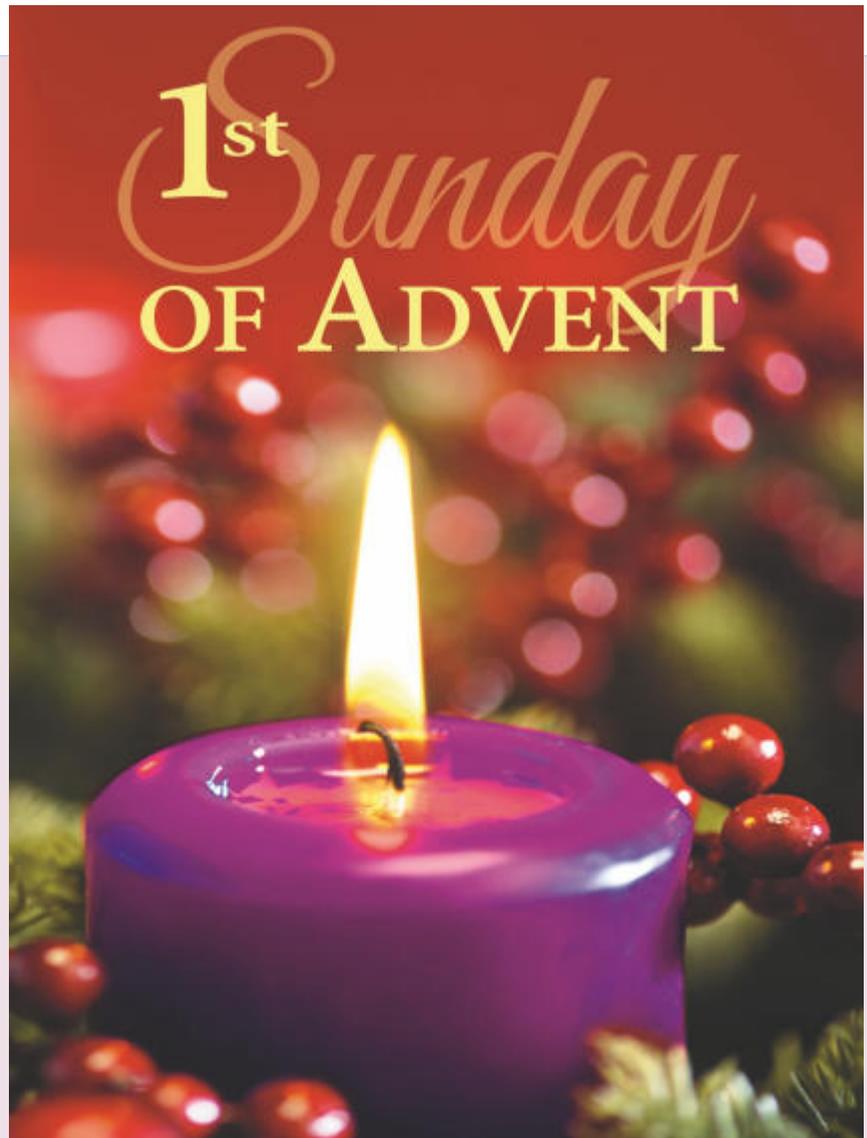
978-745-9060 | [info@MQOA.org](mailto:info@MQOA.org)

## WELCOME

Thank you for staying connected with us in prayer, wherever you are.

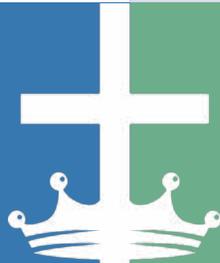
We hope that you find us to be Holy Spirit-filled disciples of Jesus Christ, centered in the Eucharist.

Contact us soon to find out how you can be a part of what MQOA is doing to offer welcome and healing to all.



## THIS WEEK AT MQOA:

- |           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>03</b> | THIS WEEK'S READINGS |
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# 02 A MESSAGE FROM FR. MURRAY



Happy New Year! I have written this every time we've started a new liturgical year since I became responsible for a weekly column.

This year's liturgies were planned by the Church a long time ago, and every liturgical year is based on Easter. First, the Church sets the date of Easter (the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox). Then, the important liturgical dates of the year all fall in line based on the date of Easter (Triduum, Ascension, Pentecost). Christmas is a time for celebration because the promise of salvation through the incarnation has begun, but it all hinges on the great message of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

As we look back into this year, from a liturgical point of view, there are some highlights despite the challenges we have faced. We were able to celebrate and welcome two people into our community this past Easter weekend. We also have celebrated baptisms indoors with small groups and First Communions in the parking lots at St. James and Immaculate Conception. This past Sunday, we celebrated three baptisms and the Confirmation of 12 students. We have celebrated weddings and, sadly, have had

funeral Masses for families of loved ones lost to this awful virus or from other conditions. As this Month of Remembrance comes to a close, and this liturgical year concludes, we entrust these beloved souls to the mercy of God. I never tire of saying that we need to remember our faith instructs us that for all those who have died, Jesus was sent for each of them, as if they were the only one who would need this grace. This is the love of God we proclaim in the good news of the Gospel.

We've experienced losses, to be sure. But we can give thanks for all the blessings we received this year. We have been blessed to be able to respond and to continue to reach out to those who need healing. Also, through Zoom, we conducted the Alpha series multiple times in English and in Spanish. Two weekends ago, we had a retreat day online, during which we had lunch delivered to 19 households. Using Google maps, we had pizza delivered to people in Salem, Lynn, Marblehead, Connecticut, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, and Spain (I volunteered to go to Spain for the delivery but could not book a flight in time)! We all ate at more or less the same time, and shared during the lunch. I am so grateful to the team who organized all this, and those who generously gave their time and resources to make it all happen. We also had a wonderful

evening of healing and praying for those who contacted us online.

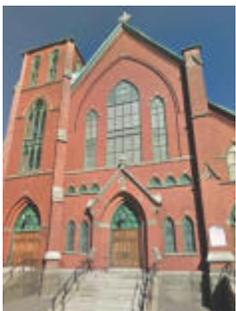
In addition, this past week, one our parishioners, Dr. Christine Williams, an area psychologist, along with one of her colleagues, hosted a discussion for our newly formed 20:30 Young Adult Community on how to confront the anxiety caused by this pandemic. Steven Antonio, our Director of Family Evangelization, organized the well-received event online. It was a wonderful event, and the two therapists talked about the symptoms of anxiety and more importantly some strategies to help negotiate these difficult times.

We are now setting our sights on how to best celebrate Advent and Christmas within the limitations due to COVID. Jesus Christ is Lord, in His infancy and in His life, death, and resurrection. It is our blessed task to remember and proclaim this, regardless of the times and conditions. So off we go to a new year, to proclaim this message once again.

*Peace,  
Father Murray*

## PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Offices: 158 Federal St. Salem, MA 01970 | 978-745-9060 | Open: Please call.



### ST. JAMES CHURCH

156 Federal St. Salem, MA 01970

Conference Room:

158 Federal St.

Rear Hall: enter from rear parking



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

15 Hawthorne Blvd. Salem, MA 01970

Rectory: 30 Union St.

¡Feliz año nuevo! He escrito esto todos los años al comenzar el nuevo año litúrgico desde que me hice responsable de una columna semanal. Este año fue planeado por la iglesia hace mucho tiempo y cada año litúrgico se basa en la Pascua. La Navidad es un momento de celebración porque ha comenzado la promesa de salvación a través de la encarnación, pero todo depende del gran mensaje de la vida, muerte y resurrección de Jesús. Entonces, la iglesia primero establece el día de Pascua (el primer domingo después de la primera luna llena, después del equinoccio de primavera) y luego las fechas litúrgicas importantes del año, que coinciden en función de la fecha de Pascua. (Triduo, Ascensión, Pentecostés).

Al mirar hacia atrás en este año desde un punto de vista litúrgico, hay algunos puntos destacados a pesar de los desafíos que hemos enfrentado. Pudimos celebrar y dar la bienvenida a dos personas a nuestra comunidad el fin de semana de Pascua. También hemos celebrado bautismos en el interior con grupos pequeños, y Primeras Comuniones en el estacionamiento de St. James e Inmaculada Concepción. Este pasado domingo celebramos tres Bautismos y las Confirmaciones de diez alumnos. Hemos celebrado bodas y lamentablemente, hemos tenido misas funerarias para las familias de los que murieron por este terrible virus durante la pandemia y de los que murieron por otras enfermedades. Al cierre de este mes de la con-

memoración y la conclusión del año litúrgico, los encomendamos a todos a la misericordia de Dios. No me canso de decir que debemos recordar que nuestra fe nos instruye en que, para todos los que han muerto, es como si Jesús fuera enviado por cada uno de ellos, como si cada uno fuera el único que necesitara esta gracia. Este es el amor de Dios que proclamamos en las buenas nuevas del Evangelio.

Al cambiar el año, podemos dar gracias por todas las bendiciones que recibimos en este año pasado. Hemos tenido la bendición de poder responder lo mejor posible y de continuar ayudando a aquellos que necesitan sanación. Además, a través de nuestra cuenta Zoom hemos realizado la serie Alpha en inglés y en español (dos veces). Hace dos fines de semana, tuvimos un retiro en el que nos entregaron el almuerzo a 19 hogares. Mediante el uso de mapas de Google, enviamos pizza a personas en Salem, Lynn, Marblehead, Connecticut, República Dominicana, Argentina y España. (Me ofrecí para ir a España para la entrega, pero no pude reservar un vuelo a tiempo). Todos comimos más o menos a la misma hora y compartimos durante el almuerzo. Estoy muy agradecido con los equipos que organizaron todo esto y con aquellos que generosamente dieron su tiempo y recursos para que todo sucediera. También tuvimos una noche maravillosa de sanación, orando por aquellos que nos contactaron en línea.

Además, la semana pasada, uno de nuestros feligreses, la Dra. Christine Williams, psicóloga que trabaja en Salem State, junto con uno de sus colegas, fueron entrevistados en nuestro sitio web por Steve Antonio. El tema fue cómo enfrentar la ansiedad que genera esta pandemia. Fue un evento maravilloso y permitió a los dos terapeutas hablar sobre cuáles son los síntomas de la ansiedad y, lo que es más importante, algunas estrategias para ayudar a superar estos tiempos difíciles.

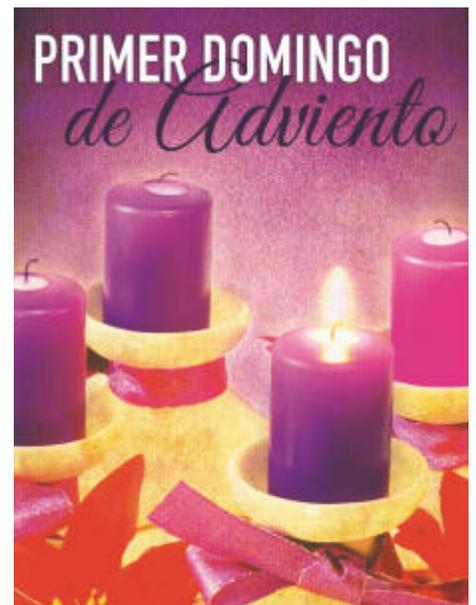
Ahora estamos configurando nuestros sitios tomando en cuenta cómo celebrar lo mejor posible la época navideña y el período previo al Adviento. Jesucristo es el Señor, en su infancia y en su vida, muerte y resurrección. Es nuestra bendita tarea recordar y proclamar esto, independientemente de los tiempos y condiciones. Así que vamos a un nuevo año, para proclamar una vez más este mensaje.

*Paz, Padre Murray*

## *Scripture for the week of November 29, 2020*

29 SUN Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37  
30 Mon Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22  
1 Tue Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24  
2 Wed Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37  
3 Thu Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
4 Fri Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31  
5 Sat Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8  
6 SUN Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Daily Readings can also be found at  
[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)



# 04 THIS WEEK AT MQOA

## MQOA THIS WEEK In-Person/Online

### SATURDAY

Mass, 4:00 PM Online

### SUNDAY

Mass, 8:30 AM\*\*  
St. James Hall  
Online & In-Person

Mass, 11:30 AM \*\*  
Immaculate Hall  
Online & In-Person  
en español

Mass, 6:00 PM \*\*  
Immaculate Hall  
Online & In-Person

\*\*Listen in your car  
from the church parking lot  
on 88.1 FM

### MONDAY

Online message from  
Fr. Murray  
9:00 AM, en español

### TUESDAY

Daily Mass  
Online at 9 :00 AM

### WEDNESDAY

This Week @ MQOA  
Posted online

### ONLINE POSTS

Mass, Father Murray's Monday message in Spanish and "This Week @ MQOA," can be viewed via our Facebook page: [facebook.com/mqoasalem](https://facebook.com/mqoasalem)

### IN-PERSON MASS

Sunday Masses indoors: **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** before attending one of our Indoor Masses. Sign up, up to four weeks in advance, at [mqoa.org/worship](https://mqoa.org/worship) or call the office. Please only sign up for the Sunday you plan to go indoors to celebrate Mass. Please wear masks and maintain social distancing.

**YOU MAY ALSO REMAIN IN YOUR CAR.** Mass will be broadcast on 88.1 FM and online. Communion will be brought to your car following Mass. If you plan to remain in your car, registration is not needed.

### FOLLOW ALONG WITH MASS!

If you are celebrating Mass in-person or watching Mass online, use this Mass Guide to follow along. Updated weekly with Sunday's Readings.

[mqoa.org/worship](https://mqoa.org/worship)



### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP — RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS In the Unexpected

"What could happen next?" How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don't seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us.



Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, "God with us." He is the expected in all things unexpected.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



## SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospels, we see how Jesus encouraged his followers to treat those in need with mercy. You can also treat the poor with mercy by giving to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Our members use your gifts to directly assist those in need in Salem--through food vouchers, or payments to landlords or payments to utilities. We gratefully acknowledge your generous contributions of money and time to help those in need in Salem.

Due to COVID-19 and associated health and safety rules, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is still not holding our traditional monthly collections with volunteers at the church doors, but we need your donations now more than ever. Our volunteers are still hard at work helping our Salem neighbors in need. During the last six weeks, we have received over 60 calls for assistance, with the majority being for rental assistance and food. We depend on your generous donations to St Vincent's via the baskets in the back of Ste. Anne's church, or in a separate envelope at MQOA or mailed to SVdP at 158 Federal St, Salem, MA 01970. Those who benefit from your donations are most appreciative of your generosity.



TUESDAY, DEC 8 AT 7:00 PM, ON ZOOM

As Catholic Christians, we believe that God still heals in practical and visible ways today. Join us for this bilingual online Healing Prayer Service. Our Healing Team consists of trained priests and lay ministers who guide prayers of healing for physical, spiritual, and emotional needs.



**20|30: Young Adult Community** is an online space for young adults in their 20s and 30s to gather together. A space to share life experiences and build community. Check out our website and Facebook as we will have events throughout the year!

Please email Steven Antonio with any questions: [santonio@mqa.org](mailto:santonio@mqa.org)

## YOUR WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT MAKES EVERYTHING HAPPEN

Everything we do at Mary, Queen of the Apostles Parish is supported by your prayerful and financial support.

Your regular weekly contribution makes online ministries like Alpha, our streamed Adoration times, and recorded Masses happen, and supports our efforts to keep in touch, minister to, and serve our parishioners and beyond.



You can give **Online** via Venmo, credit card, or PayPal with **Givebutler**; visit our website: [www.givebutler.com/mqoa](http://www.givebutler.com/mqoa) or scan this code >>>>>>>>>



Become a sustaining giver, learn how you can support the parish with your Amazon purchases, and more at [www.mqoa.org/donate](http://www.mqoa.org/donate)



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

# 06 GRAND ANNUAL

## HOW TO DONATE

### Regular/sustaining:

- Online via WeShare
- Online with Givebutter
- Envelopes: call 978-745-9060

### One-time gifts:

- Online with WeShare
- Online with Givebutter
- Checks written to MQOA Parish

### Legacy:

Wills, bequests, estate planning help is available: 978-745-9060

### In-kind:

Carpentry, electrical, plumbing, cleaning, food preparation, tech, equipment, other expertise. Tax receipts are available.

**MQOA.org/donate**

(or scan below with your phone)



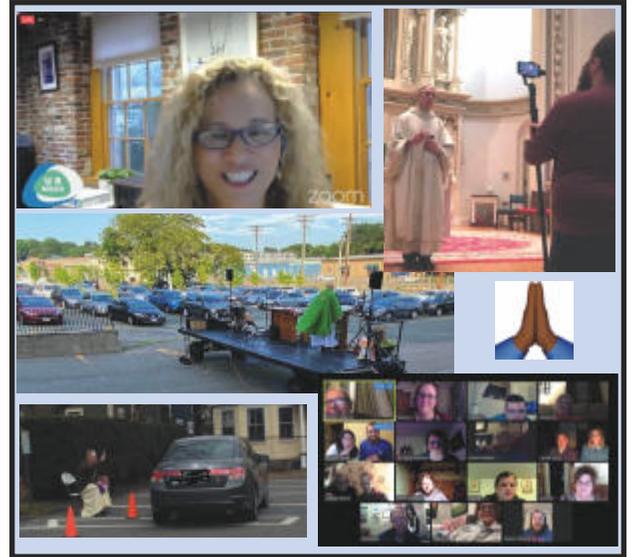
**GRAND ANNUAL** Thank you to those who have already responded to our Grand Annual letter. If you did not receive Father Murray's Grand Annual letter in the mail, you can find it on the Home Page of our website. We know this has been a challenging year for many, especially financially. If you are able, we hope you will consider donating to our Grand Annual. We are grateful for your donations and for your prayerful support.

**GRAND ANNUAL  
UPDATE  
(as of 11-16-20)**

**\$9,167.50  
Thank you!**

**We are grateful for  
you support!**

**Goal: \$45,000**



## NOVEMBER 29 ~ THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Advent is a season of waiting and of preparing for the coming of Christ. As Jesus tells us in the Gospel today, "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." As preparation for Christmas has started to occupy your time and energy, make the effort to take ten minutes each day to turn your attention to Jesus. Ask yourself, what needs to change in order to make room for Christ in your life? Pray for the courage to grow closer to Jesus so that you can introduce him to others.



It's "Knowvember" in Salem

## Stop the Spread

FREE COVID-19 TESTING

- Help us **KNOW** the prevalence of COVID-19 in our community.
- Help you **KNOW** if you are contagious or have the virus without symptoms.
- Get tested twice a month - it's free and easy and will help us **KNOW** how best to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

You can receive **FREE COVID-19 testing** at the sites below. **Protect yourself and others - get tested at least twice a month.**

**NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 31**

<p><b>WALK-IN TESTING:</b> <b>OLD TOWN HALL</b> Derby Square, enter from Essex Street</p> <p>Mondays - Wednesdays <b>9AM - 2PM</b></p> <p>Thursdays <b>1PM - 6PM</b></p> <p>Fridays <b>9AM - 1PM</b></p>	<p><b>DRIVE-THRU TESTING:</b> <b>SALEM HIGH SCHOOL</b> 77 Wilson Street</p> <p>Mondays - Fridays <b>4PM - 8PM</b></p> <p>Saturdays <b>10AM - 3PM</b></p>
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**SALEM.COM/STOPHESPREAD**



## SHOP AT AMAZON? KEEP US IN MIND



If you do your Christmas shopping on Amazon this year, remember us! For every purchase you make, MQOA will receive a percentage.

Use the website link or QR Code:

Amazon smile link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/82-2263996>

Thank you for keeping MQOA in mind!



## MASS INTENTIONS

We are still offering Mass intentions to remember or honor a loved one. For intentions during the week, Father Murray will pray for each Mass intention during his private daily Mass.

Intentions can also be reserved for our online and indoor weekend Masses. If you are interested in scheduling a Mass intention, call the office at 978-745-9060. Or, email [mbarrette@mqa.org](mailto:mbarrette@mqa.org).

There is no cost to having a Mass said, but we gratefully accept donations.



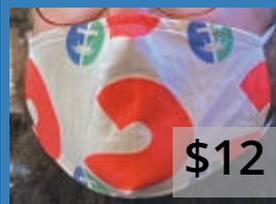
## Can't wait to decorate? CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AND DECORATORS NEEDED!

We want to transform our side lawn at IC into a beautiful Christmas Walk for the month of December, and we need your help! Get your family together and sign up on a day/time in December to add your family's decorative touch to our displays! Contact Margo to arrange a time to deocrate at [mmoring@mqa.org](mailto:mmoring@mqa.org). We want the walk to grow and grow all month. Can't wait to decorate? Get started at IC this week!

If you have no eye for decorating but have decorations to spare, we need Christmas lights (white and multicolored) and any Christmas decorations you are willing to give. If you have new or used decorations/lights to donate or let us borrow, drop them off anytime at our parish office at 158 Federal Street. You can leave them in our lower mailbox or by the door.

This December, take a stroll some evening through a Christmas wonderland to get in the Christmas spirit!

## Do you know an ALPHA fan?



Buy them an ALPHA MQOA mask for Christmas! (They make great stocking stuffers!)

## Are you an Alpha fan?

Buy yourself an ALPHA mask to share the spirit!

Use this QR Code to make your purchase. Or, call the office.



Es "Noviembre de Conocimiento" en Salem

### Detenga la propagación

**PRUEBAS GRATIS DE COVID-19**

- ✓ Ayúdanos a **CONOCER** la prevalencia de COVID-19 en nuestra comunidad.
- ✓ Ayudarle a **SABER** si es contagioso o tiene el virus sin síntomas.
- ✓ Hágase la prueba dos veces al mes: es gratis y fácil y nos ayudará a **SABER** cuál es la mejor manera de detener la propagación de COVID-19 en nuestra comunidad.

Usted puede recibir la prueba de COVID-19 GRATIS en los sitios a continuación.  
Protéjase y protéja a los demás –  
Hágase la prueba al menos dos veces al mes.

**AHORA HASTA DICIEMBRE 31**

<p><b>PRUEBAS SIN CITAS:</b> <b>OLD TOWN HALL</b> Derby Square, entrar desde Essex Street</p> <p>Lunes a Miércoles 9AM – 2PM Jueves 1PM – 6PM Viernes 9AM – 1PM</p>	<p><b>PRUEBAS DE AUTO SERVICIO:</b> <b>ESCUELA SECUNDARIA DE SALEM</b> 77 Willson Street</p> <p>Lunes a Viernes 4PM – 8PM Sábados 10AM – 3PM</p>
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