



## *Church of St. Joseph*

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*The Rev. Joe A. Francis*

*Priest*

*Rev. Mr. José Luis Velásquez*

*Deacon*

*Mrs. Carmen Ureña*

*Parish Secretary*

*Mr. Frank Dietrich*

*Cemetery Superintendent - 914 963 0780*

*The Priest and Staff of St. Joseph's wish you  
a Merry Christmas and a  
Very Happy New Year!*

*El Sacerdote y el personal de San José les  
desean una Feliz Navidad y un  
Prospero Año Nuevo!*

**Sunday/Domingo, , December 20th**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16/Rom 16: 25-27 / Lk 1: 26-38

**9 AM** Living Members of the Meade Family

**11 AM** † Rolando Rios (Aniversario)  
† Carlos Arturo Monroy  
† Rosa Cometa

**Monday/Lunes, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

Sg 2: 8-14 / Lk 1: 39-45

**8:30 AM** † Vicente Flores

**Tuesday/Martes, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

1 Sm 1: 24-28 / Lk 1: 46-56

**7 PM** Available

**Wednesday/Miércoles, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24/Lk 1: 57-66

**9 AM** † Honorio Sanchez Lucero

**Thursday/Jueves, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Christmas Eve**

Is 62: 1-5; Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25/Mt 1: 1-25

**7 PM** † James, Teresa & Patrick Mooney

**Friday/Viernes, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

Is 52: 7-10; Heb 1: 1-6/Jn 1: 1-18

**9 AM** † Amorosa Valente (Anniversary)

**11 AM** Available

**Saturday/Sábados, December 26<sup>th</sup>**

**St. Stephen**

Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 57-59 / Mt 10: 17-22

**9 AM** Available

**Sunday/Domingo, December 27<sup>th</sup>**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14; Col 3: 12-21/Lk 2: 22-40

**9 AM** † Maria Ayuso (11th Anniversary)

**11 AM** † Emilio German Garcia  
† Humberto Lopez, Bertha Angel

**Reconciliation Monday - December 21 from 4 to 7 PM in church.**

**Lunes de Reconciliación - 21 de diciembre de 4 a 7 PM en la iglesia.**

**COLLECTIONS/COLECTAS December 13, 2020**

Weekly need is / Necesidad semanal es: \$6,600.00

Sunday Offering \$2,095.25  
(9 AM \$999.00 & 11 AM \$1,096.25)

Retirement Fund for Religious \$966.00

Immaculate Conception Collection \$659.50

Feast of Guadalupe—Mañanita \$693.00

May God Bless you for your generosity!  
¡Que Dios los bendigas a todos por su generosidad!



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**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24th**

7 PM Vigil Mass (Family Mass).....Bilingual  
Misa de La Noche de Navidad

**Christmas Day - Friday, December 25th**

9 AM.....Mass of Christmas Day

11 AM.....Misa de Navidad

**New Year's Eve - Thursday, December 31st**

**Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**

7 PM Adoration followed by Holy Mass  
Adoración seguido de la Santa Misa

**New Year's Day - Friday, January 1st**

9 AM.....Mass of New Year...English

11 AM.....Misa de Año Nuevo...Español

The Rectory will closed December 24th and 25th.  
La Casa Cural estará cerrada el 24 y 25 de diciembre.

## Reflection on the Prologue of St John

(1:1-18)

St John prefaces his gospel with a stunning account of the Incarnation. Instead of a narrative story as we have in the gospels of Mathew & Luke – with singing angels, shepherds, the Magi and so on - we have a theological story. We might say, we are overhearing things from God's perspective. If we hear but one Christmas story, if there is to be only one mass at Christmas, John's version is the one we hear. From the earliest days of Christianity and in many traditions, this Prologue has been read as the Christmas gospel, because of its central and earth-shattering announcement: 'and the Word became Flesh and dwelt amongst us' - literally, pitched his tent among us.

That is the mystery which lies at the heart of Christian faith and life. It's the mystery at which the other two great monotheistic faiths, Judaism and Islam, completely balk. Christianity dares to assert that the One, true and living God pours out his very self into created flesh, that the playwright himself comes on stage and takes the leading part, because no one else can play it.

LIGHT is the major symbol of Christmas time. It is the chief metaphor for this cosmic event that we call Incarnation. In the Spanish language, the very word for giving birth is 'dar la luz' - literally, to give light to. It's a beautiful, mellifluous phrase to describe the beauty and wonder of childbirth.

The very first word God speaks in the Bible is 'fiat lux' - 'let there be light!' That theme is basic to St John's gospel. He describes Christmas simply as 'the true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the world'.

At Christmas the metaphor of light surrounds us, sparkling on our trees and wreaths, shining on candles and the crèches. John's gospel begins with Light. The metaphor is sustained throughout his gospel - 'The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it'.

Darkness has not engulfed, surrounded or extinguished the Light that comes into the world in the person of Jesus Christ. In fact, it can never do so. Elsewhere in this gospel, Jesus will say 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me shall not walk-in darkness but will have the light of life'.

(Jn 8:12)

We know there's so much darkness around us - the corona virus pandemic that is ravaging the world at the moment, and the outrageous gun violence in our own cities, just to mention two examples. In dark days and times, we can still be haunted by anxieties and more contemporary worries - will the light return, will the world come back to life. Even when darkness threatens to engulf us, we have the assurance that it will never take over - it will never have the last word.

In Jesus' birth we see the light of God's glory. And he is our only hope. It's said that gift better than himself, even God cannot give. Gift better than one's God, no one will ever know. Let's thank God, for the gift of himself. Merry Christmas!!!

## Reflexión sobre el Prólogo de San Juan

(1:1-18)

San Juan introduce su evangelio con un relato asombroso de la Encarnación. En lugar de una historia narrativa como la que tenemos en los evangelios de Mateo y Lucas - con ángeles que cantan, pastores, los Magos y así sucesivamente - tenemos una historia teológica. Podríamos decir, que estamos escuchando cosas desde la perspectiva de Dios. Si solo escuchásemos una historia de Navidad, si solo hubiese una misa en Navidad, la versión de Juan sería la que escucháramos. Desde los primeros días del cristianismo y en muchas tradiciones, este Prólogo se ha leído como el evangelio de Navidad, debido a su anuncio central y estremecedor: "Y la Palabra se hizo carne, y puso su Morada entre nosotros" - literalmente, plantó su tienda entre nosotros.

Ese es el misterio que yace en el corazón de la fe y la vida cristiana. Es el misterio al que las otras dos grandes religiones monoteístas, el judaísmo y el islam, se oponen por completo. El cristianismo se atreve a afirmar que el Dios Único, verdadero y vivo se derrama en la carne creada, que el propio dramaturgo sube al escenario y toma el papel principal, porque nadie más puede interpretarlo.

La LUZ es el símbolo principal de la época navideña. Es la principal metáfora de este evento cósmico que llamamos Encarnación. En español, la palabra correspondiente al parto es "alumbramiento", que significa literalmente, "dar a luz" que es el otro concepto utilizado para denominar un nacimiento. Es una frase hermosa y meliflua para describir la belleza y la maravilla del parto.

La primerísima palabra que Dios pronuncia en la Biblia es "fiat lux": "¡Haya luz!". Ese tema es básico en el evangelio de san Juan. Él describe la Navidad simplemente como "la luz verdadera que ilumina a todo hombre venía al mundo".

En Navidad, la metáfora de la luz nos rodea, brillando en nuestros árboles y coronas, brillando en las velas y los pesebres. El evangelio de Juan comienza con Luz. La metáfora se sostiene a lo largo de su evangelio:

"La Luz brilla en las tinieblas, y las tinieblas no la vencieron".

La oscuridad no ha engullido, rodeado o extinguido la Luz que viene al mundo en la persona de Jesucristo. De hecho, nunca podrá hacerlo. En otra parte de este evangelio, Jesús dirá: "Yo soy la luz del mundo; el que me siga no caminará en la oscuridad, sino que tendrá la luz de la vida." (Juan 8, 12)

Sabemos que hay mucha oscuridad a nuestro alrededor-la pandemia del coronavirus que está asolando el mundo en este momento y la escandalosa violencia armada en nuestras propias ciudades, solo por mencionar dos ejemplos. En los días y tiempos oscuros todavía podemos estar atormentados por ansiedades y preocupaciones más contemporáneas - ¿volverá la luz, volverá el mundo a la vida? Incluso cuando la oscuridad amenaza con engullirnos, tenemos la seguridad de que nunca tomará el control - nunca tendrá la última palabra.

En el alumbramiento de Jesús vemos la luz de la gloria de Dios. Y él es nuestra única esperanza. Se dice que ese regalo - mejor que él mismo - ni siquiera Dios puede dar. Regalo mejor que el Dios de uno, nadie lo conocerá jamás. Demos gracias a Dios por el don de sí mismo.

¡¡¡Feliz Navidad!!!

## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thanks for giving!** - "We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year," says a Catholic sister "Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters". Thank you for donating to last week's second collection.

**2021 Mass Book** - is now available for your Mass Intention reservations. The suggested offering for an announced Mass is \$25 for Sunday and Holy Days and \$20 for weekdays. It is a wonderful way to remember a special event, a beloved deceased or a special occasion.

**Parish Registration**— All adults (18 years and older) should be registered in the parish . It is not enough to be baptized here years ago but not being registered or participating in the life of the parish; that is not what being a Catholic means. Please register, come to church and use the offering envelopes , no matter what your contribution is. Participate in the life of our parish by being a practicing CATHOLIC.

## **ANUNCIOS IMPORTANTES**

**!Gracias por su donativo!** "Somos conscientes de la gran generosidad de muchos benefactores quienes apoyan el Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos cada año", dice una hermana católica. " El apoyo del fondo ha sido una bendición enorme para nuestras hermanas jubiladas". Gracias por contribuir a la segunda colecta de la semana pasada.

**Inscripción Parroquial** — Todos los adultos mayores de 18 años deben ser miembros registrados de la parroquia. No basta con ser bautizado aquí hace años pero no se inscribió o participó en la vida de la parroquia; eso no es lo que ser católico significa. Inscríbase, venga a la iglesia, use el sobre, no importa cuál sea su contribución y participe en la vida de la parroquia.

### **Novena de Aguinaldo**

Ven acompañar a la Virgen Maria rezando la novena de Aguinaldo al niño Jesús en el templo.

Miercoles, 16 al 24 de diciembre

### **Horario de la Novena en el Templo:**

Miercoles 16,	7PM	Lunes 21,	7PM
Jueves 17,	6PM	Martes 22,	6PM
Viernes 18,	6PM	Miércoles 23,	7PM
Sabado 19,	7PM	Jueves, 24	6PM
Domingo 20,	Después de la misa de las 11 am		

Respetando el distanciamiento social y el uso de la mascarilla. Capacidad de personas en el templo: 206

## PARISH GROUPS –GRUPOS PARROQUIALES

### Monday/Lunes

Cursillistas 7:00 PM School

### Tuesday/Martes

Circulo de Oración 7:45 PM Church

### Wednesday/Miércoles

Silent Eucharistic Adoration 6:30 PM Church

Adoración Eucarística en silencio

### Friday/Viernes

Hora Santa (1<sup>st</sup> viernes) 8:00 PM Church

Hora Apostólica (2<sup>nd</sup> vier.) 8:00 PM Church

Hora Santa en silencio (3<sup>rd</sup> vier) 8:00 PM Church

Hora Santa Pro-Vida (4<sup>th</sup> vier.) 8:00 PM Church

Rosario Pro-Vida 6:30 PM Church

### Sunday/Domingo

Caballeros de Colón(1<sup>er</sup> Dom) 1:00 PM K of C Room

Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 PM School Cafeteria

EL COMEDOR PARROQUIAL - servirá COMIDA CALIENTE PARA LLEVAR, los domingos, desde las 2PM a 4PM. No se permitirá gentes dentro del edificio.

DISPENSA DE ALIMENTOS - abierto los sábados desde las 8 AM a 9 AM.

GRAB A HOT MEAL & GO - the Soup Kitchen will be serving food to go on Sundays, from 2 PM—4 PM. People will not be allowed to enter the building. FOOD PANTRY - Open Saturday from 8 AM to 9 AM.

**Et verbum caro factum est, et habitavit in nobis: et vidimus gloriam eius...** (Ioannes 1:14)



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