



Photo: Bob Parks

January 09, 2022 / The Baptism of the Lord

# Saint George CATHOLIC CHURCH

REV. DAVID BITTMENN, PASTOR  
Rev. Kelechi Alozie, Parochial Vicar



## A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE on MARRIAGE

A covenant or partnership of life between a man and woman, which is ordered to the well-being of the spouses and to the procreation and upbringing of children. When validly contracted between two baptized people, marriage is a sacrament (Matrimony) (1601).

*Catechism of the Catholic Church-Second Edition*

### DIVORCE

The claim that the indissoluble marriage bond validly entered into between a man and a woman is broken. A civil dissolution of the marriage contract (divorce) does not free persons from a valid marriage before God; remarriage would not be morally licit (2382; cf. 1650)

*Catechism of the Catholic Church-Second Edition*

### ANNULMENTS

A declaration by a Church tribunal (a Catholic church court) that a marriage thought to be valid according to Church law actually fell short of at least one of the essential elements required for a binding union.

The annulment process is frequently misunderstood.

*United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*



**I am no longer married; I now have a decree of divorce. Does this mean I am not allowed to receive Holy Communion when I attend Mass?**

*My husband and I were married by a Justice of the Peace. Can we still receive Holy Communion and the other Sacraments?*

**My husband and I decided to separate and have now divorced. I am wondering about an annulment. If my marriage is annulled, what is the 'status' of the children we conceived? What effect does an annulment process have on them?**

## SAINT GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH KUZU HALL

**TUESDAY Evening, JANUARY 18**

*Doors Open 6:00pm - Seminar begins 6:30pm*

**PRESENTED BY: Father David Bittmenn, Pastor**

**Deacon Jesse and Monica Robles - Annulment process facilitators**

*Free Admission*

**Questions? Please call (435) 673-2604 Ext 104**



## STEWARDSHIP / CORRESPONSABILIDAD

### Gratitude in Action: Our Way of Life / Gratitude en Acción: Nuestra forma de Vida

*“After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.*

*And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.’” (Luke 3:21-22)*

The voice of God we all long to hear so clearly, so distinctly, speaking directly to us as we pray for something in particular, or for answers to questions or concerns, seeking direction to guide us.

There certainly are times when we feel God is speaking to us; we hear the message clearly, knowing it was meant for our ears. The homily at Mass can open our ears as it responds to a prayer we have placed in God’s hands.

The voice of a friend or relative, perhaps on the other end of a telephone line, offers us an avenue of resolution we had not thought about in addressing a personal difficulty.

Challenging times and struggles bring us unrest, sometimes despair. Where do we find a peace that can dwell in our heart and mind as we move through disturbing times?

God also speaks to us in the quiet beauty of His creation. On a recent evening as I gazed out the window, preparing to lower the window covering, I stopped. The late evening sky was a crimson red across the horizon outside my window. No artist can equal the breathtaking beauty that God paints for us each and every day, if we but take the time to notice.

The holidays have passed. A new calendar year has begun. Where will life lead us; are we ready for the journey? What is our goal, our expectation of the future lying before us? Where is God in our life – now and in the days, weeks and months ahead?

*“How much this one God in three persons acts in your soul and in your life is determined by how much you open the door to him, by how much faith, hope, and love you have.”<sup>1</sup>*

*“God is not a sleepy grandfather; he is a loving and therefore demanding Father. He is easy to please but hard to satisfy. He is not comfortable. He is not boring. He is not lukewarm. He is a volcano of love.”<sup>1</sup>*

*“Love is a living fire. ... God’s love is ... like laser light ... Whenever you pray, you are submitting to laser surgery on your soul. Prayer is God’s operating room. He’s waiting for your consent to operate. And you can trust this surgeon because the hands that hold the scalpel have nail holes in them.”<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>Food for the Soul by Peter Kreeft



~Carole Drake  
Pastoral Assistant and Community Outreach

*“Después que todo el pueblo fue bautizado y Jesús también fue bautizado y estaba orando, se abrió el cielo y el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre Él en forma corporal como una paloma.*

*Y vino una voz del cielo: ‘Tú eres mi Hijo amado; estoy muy complacido contigo.’” (Lucas 3: 21-22)*

La voz de Dios que todos anhelamos escuchar tan claramente, tan patentemente, que nos habla directamente mientras oramos por algo en particular, o por respuestas a preguntas o preocupaciones, buscando una dirección que nos guíe.

Ciertamente, hay momentos en los que sentimos que Dios nos está hablando; escuchamos el mensaje con claridad, sabiendo que está destinado a nuestros oídos. La homilía de la Misa puede abrirnos los oídos, ya que responde a una oración que hemos puesto en las manos de Dios.

La voz de un amigo o familiar, quizás al otro lado de una línea telefónica, nos ofrece una vía de resolución en la que no habíamos pensado al abordar una dificultad personal.

Los tiempos difíciles y las luchas nos traen malestar, a veces desesperación. ¿Dónde encontramos una paz que pueda habitar en nuestro corazón y en nuestra mente mientras atravesamos tiempos perturbadores?

Dios también nos habla en la tranquila belleza de Su creación. Una noche reciente, mientras miraba por la ventana, preparándome para bajar la cubierta de la ventana, me detuve. El cielo de la tarde era de un rojo carmesí en el horizonte fuera de mi ventana. Ningún artista puede igualar la impresionante belleza que Dios pinta para nosotros todos los días, si nos tomamos el tiempo para notarlo.

Han pasado las vacaciones. Ha comenzado un nuevo año calendario. ¿A dónde nos llevará la vida? ¿Estamos listos para el viaje? ¿Cuál es nuestro objetivo, nuestra expectativa del futuro que tenemos ante nosotros? ¿Dónde está Dios en nuestra vida, ahora y en los días, semanas y meses venideros?

*“Cuánto este Dios en tres personas actúa en tu alma y en tu vida está determinado por cuánto le abres la puerta, por cuánta fe, esperanza y amor tienes”<sup>1</sup>.*

*“Dios no es un abuelo somnoliento; es un Padre amoroso y, por tanto, exigente. Es fácil de complacer, pero difícil de satisfacer. No se siente cómodo. No es aburrido. No es tibio. Es un volcán de amor”<sup>1</sup>.*

*“El amor es fuego vivo. ... El amor de Dios es ... como una luz láser ... Siempre que oras, te estás sometiendo a una cirugía láser en tu alma. La oración es el quirófano de Dios. Está esperando su consentimiento para operar. Y puede confiar en este cirujano porque las manos que sostienen el bisturí tienen orificios para clavos”<sup>1</sup>.*

<sup>1</sup>Food for the Soul by Peter Kreeft

~Carole Drake  
Asistente pastoral y alcance comunitario



**He seemed to fit well with the day.** His drive to school was uneventful but that gave him time to pay a bit more attention to things he normally overlooked. The leaves were brighter this fall and the breeze was gentle. The coffee he drank on the way warmed him just enough. Parking at the college was an issue, it always was, but he didn't mind the walk to the lecture hall. He found a decent seat and made some small talk with a few of the people around him. All of them greeted the beginning of the lecture with slight but satisfied smiles. The drive to work was usually more relaxed and the songs he listened to on the way seemed to fit the gift the day was becoming. Work was busy in the produce department of the grocery store because the produce manager was out and he was picking up the slack. He joked with some of the regular customers and from the corner of his eye, he saw someone in an overly large coat run from the counter where some of the higher value items were. He immediately ran after the large coat, caught up with the person in the parking lot and convinced the person to return to the store before the police needed to be involved. Both the store manager and the kid trying to steal a few things were pleased. As he returned from lunch someone came into the store yelling that a car in the parking lot was on fire. He grabbed a fire extinguisher and put out the fire. People couldn't believe the day he was having. The routine and the difficult were done with ease and he couldn't wait for what would come next.

Quite a few saints lived many more days than normal in the way of the student who was also a crime fighter and a fireman. Like the student, the lives of these saints did not pass on some rarified plane where each day was guaranteed to be memorable. Like the student, these saints realized that their days were a gift and they did their best to appreciate their gift by living it fully. Like the student, these saints knew dangers but these dangers could not turn their days into worry or resentment. Instead the dangers gave way to something brighter. These saints lived the gift of Emmanuel, God-with-us. They recognized something other people overlooked, the life of Christ given by the Holy Spirit in baptism. For these saints the words of this weekend's second reading are more than just words, they are a lived experience. "Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior, Jesus Christ...."

**Parecía encajar bien con el día.** Su viaje a la escuela era rutinario, pero eso le dio tiempo para prestar un poco más de atención a las cosas que normalmente pasaba por alto. Las hojas eran más brillantes este otoño y la brisa era suave. El café que bebió en el camino lo calentó lo suficiente. Estacionar en la universidad era un problema, siempre lo fue, pero no le importaba caminar hasta el aula. Encontró un asiento decente e hizo una pequeña charla con algunas de las personas a su alrededor. Todos ellos saludaron el comienzo de la clase con sonrisas pequeñas pero satisfechas. El viaje al trabajo generalmente era más relajado y las canciones que escuchaba en el camino parecían encajar en el regalo en el que se estaba convirtiendo el día. El trabajo estaba ocupado en la tienda de comestibles porque uno de sus compañeros de trabajo estaba enfermo y por esta razón el estudiante trabajó más tiempo. Bromeó con algunos de los clientes habituales y por el rabillo del ojo, vio a alguien en un abrigo demasiado grande correr desde el mostrador donde estaban algunos de los artículos de mayor valor. Inmediatamente corrió detrás del abrigo grande, alcanzó a la persona en el estacionamiento y convenció a la persona de que regresara a la tienda antes de que la policía necesitaba estar involucrada. Tanto el gerente de la tienda como el chico que intentaba robar unas cuantas cosas estaban contentos. Cuando regresó del almuerzo, alguien entró en la tienda gritando que un coche en el estacionamiento estaba en llamas. Agarró un extintor de incendios y apagó el fuego. La gente no podía creer el día que estaba teniendo. La rutina y lo difícil se hicieron con facilidad y nada podía arruinar su entusiasmo para el día.

Varios santos vivieron la mayor parte de sus días en la manera del estudiante que también era un luchador contra el crimen y un bombero. Al igual que el estudiante, las vidas de estos santos no pasaban en un lugar perfecto donde cada día estaba garantizado para ser memorable. Al igual que el estudiante, estos santos se dieron cuenta de que sus días eran un regalo y ellos hicieron todo lo posible para apreciar su regalo, viviéndolo plenamente. Al igual que el estudiante, estos santos conocían los peligros, pero estos peligros no podían convertir sus días en preocupación o resentimiento. En cambio, los peligros dieron paso a algo más brillante. Estos santos vivieron el don de Emmanuel, Dios-con-nosotros. Reconocieron algo que otras personas pasaron por alto, la vida de Cristo dada por el Espíritu Santo en el bautismo. Para estos santos las palabras de la segunda lectura de este fin de semana son más que palabras, son una experiencia vivida. "Se ha manifestado la gracia salvadora de Dios a todos los hombres, 12 que nos enseña a que, renunciando a la impiedad y a las pasiones mundanas, vivamos con sensatez, justicia y piedad en el siglo presente, 13 aguardando la feliz esperanza y la Manifestación de la gloria del gran Dios y Salvador nuestro Jesucristo...".



# LITURGIES AND MINISTRIES

Please visit our website for more announcements or email us at [sgcc.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:sgcc.bulletin@gmail.com) for questions or submissions.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, 01/08

- 5:00 pm † Alfred Jankus
- † Coach Ray Odette by Family
- † Ken Odette by Family
- † Marilyn Rising by the Rising Family

### Sunday, 01/09

- 9:00 am † Melanie Redman
- † Louis Derickson  
by Joe & Veloris Hickel
- 11:00 am † Elizabeth Cox
- † Joseph & Joan Maurice by Janine
- † Larry J. Jansen
- Sloan E. Clark 1st Birthday
- 1:00 pm † (Spanish) Pro-Populo

### Monday, 01/10

- 8:00 am † John Simmerman

### Tuesday, 01/11

- 8:00 am Father Corey Litzner

### Wednesday, 01/12

- 8:00 am Rita Wayne

### Thursday, 01/13

- 8:00 am † Robert Kowalski by Karen K.

### Friday, 01/14

- 8:00 am † Rogelio Olano
- † Vicenti Olano

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday - Friday  
9 am - 3 pm



*Our Lady of Grace  
Candle  
burns this week  
in memory of*

*Matthew Smith*

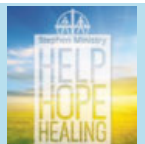
## January 2022

Saturday Mass @ 5:00 pm	Jan. 15
Lector	Tom Crary
Host	Kevin Kyger
Kuzy Hall Host	Shelly Reynolds
Kuzy Hall Host	David Chapman
Sunday Mass @ 9:00 am	Jan. 16
Lector	Ruth Ann Pilney
Host	Pam Lane
Kuzy Hall Host	Elsie White
Kuzy Hall Host	Art Hurtado
Sunday Mass @ 11:00 am	Jan. 16
Lector	Charisma Pinna
Host	Dennis Montoya
Kuzy Hall Host	Herrold Egger
Kuzy Hall Host	Patti Moesinger

**JANUARY JANUARY JANUARY**



**Stephen Ministry**  
*Christ caring for People through People  
Walking with Others during Troubled Times*  
**Saint George Catholic Church**



STEPHEN LEADERS: Father David Bittmenn – Pastor, Carole Drake, Herrold Egger, Diane Gutierrez

*To ask about a Stephen Minister for yourself or someone you know, please feel free to speak with one of these Leaders or call the parish office (435) 673-2604 and ask for Father Dave or Carole.*

STEPHEN MINISTERS: Bonnie Arndt, Ghislaine Brassine, Janice Crum, Marie Dorish, Mary Hogan, Brenda Martinez, Inge Matteucci, Teresa Mendez, Deacon Carlos Mendez, Nadia Neumeier, Joan Opheikens, Sharon Paetzke, Mary Ann Smith.

*These Ministers can help you during a difficult time in your life. Please know they are trained, supportive and everything is confidential.*

# Information

## Church Office

157 North 200 West / PO Box 188  
St. George, UT 84771  
Ph:435-673-2604 / Fax:435-688-2704  
Email: office@sgcatholics.com

Website: [www.saintgeorgecatholics.com](http://www.saintgeorgecatholics.com)

## Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Closed from 12 noon-1:00 pm

## Clergy.....673-2604

Pastor ..... Rev. David Bittmenn  
Parochial Vicar..... Rev. Kelechi Alozie  
Retired..... Rev. Glenn Dare

## Office.....673-2604

Business Manager..... Don Drake  
(ddrake@sgcatholics.com)  
Bookkeeper ..... Kelli Callister  
(kcallister@sgcatholics.com)  
Receptionist..... Nora Escatel  
(office@sgcatholics.com)

## Pastoral Assistant and Community Outreach

Carole Drake... 435-673-2604 Ext 104 or 435-668-9202  
(cdrake@sgcatholics.com)

## Religious Education Coordinator

Mariana Lawrentz ... 720-227-8319 or 435-673-2604  
(mlawrentz@sgcatholics.com)

## Newman Catholic Club

Veronica Gonzales: veronica.gonzales@dmail.dixie.edu

**Online Giving Link** ..... please visit our website

**Bulletin Ministry**..... sgcc.bulletin@gmail.com

**Thrift Store** (Joan Stieger)..... 673-1029

**Gift Shop** (Sharon Rawlins)..... 688-1948

**Parish Council** ..... parishcouncil@sgcatholics.com

**Safe Environment**... Carole Drake, Local DSE  
435-673-2604 or cdrake@sgcatholics.com

## Baptism Preparation

English: Call the Parish Office to register  
Spanish: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat., 2:00 pm (Scanlan)

## Baptism

English: 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 9:00 am

Spanish: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 9:00 am

## Marriage Preparation

English: Contact the Parish Office

Spanish: Contact a Deacon

## Deacons

Rigoberto Aguirre ..... 628-9107

Rogaciano Tellez ..... 652-9219

Jesse Robles (jrobles@sgcatholics.com)... 909-953-0240

## Anointing of the Sick

First Friday during 8:00 am Mass

Call Parish Office for home/hospital anointing

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Weekends

Saturday....5:00 pm; (7:00 pm Spanish)  
Sunday .....9:00 am, 11:00 am; (1:00 pm Spanish )

### Weekdays

Monday - Friday 8:00 am; (7:00 pm Spanish)  
First Saturday..... 8:00 am

### Holy Day of Obligation Masses

8:00 am, 6:00 pm; (8:00 pm Spanish)

### Confession

Saturday ..... 3:30 - 4:30 pm  
Church or by appointment

## Mission Churches Mass Schedule

### Saint Paul's - Hurricane (171 S. Main)

Sunday Mass—12:30 pm

### San Pablo Mission - Beryl Junction (721 S. Highway 18)

Sunday Mass—4:00 pm

### Saint Christopher's - Kanab (39 West 200 South)

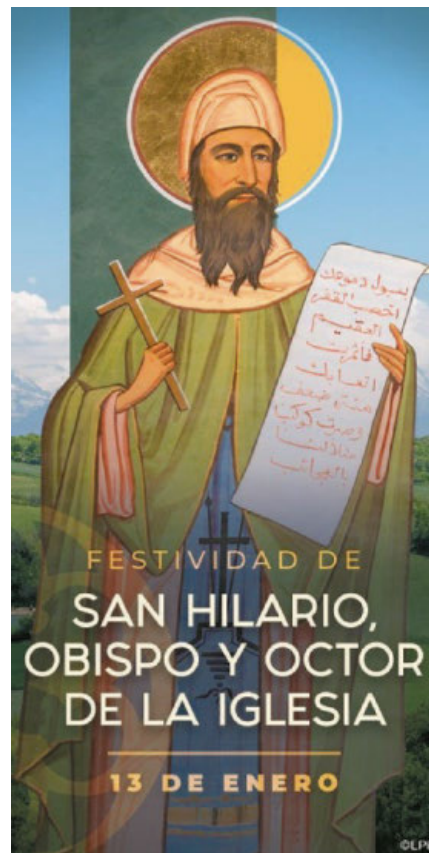
Daily Mass - 8:00 am, Saturday - 5:00 pm, Sundays - 9:00 am

### Zion Park - Springdale

(Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd.)

SCAP...Sundays at 8:00 am

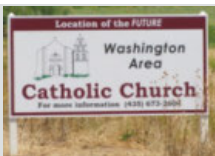
Palm Sunday through December 1<sup>st</sup>



**Bulletin submissions for January 23rd due on January 12th**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS and REPORTS

Please visit our website for more announcements or email us at [sgcc.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:sgcc.bulletin@gmail.com) for questions or submissions.



## Washington Fields Building Fund

Next weekend's second collection will benefit construction of a new Catholic Church at 2500 South Washington Fields Road. Your support of this project will be most appreciated!

### Fondo de Construcción de Washington Fields

La segunda colecta del esta fin de semana beneficiará la construcción de una nueva iglesia católica en 2500 South Washington Fields Road. ¡Su apoyo a este proyecto será muy apreciado!

### Monday Church Tours

Call Sharon Paetzke at 435-656-4618 to schedule. This tour is an informative activity for parishioners and their guests.

**This weekend's second collection benefits the Church in Latin America.**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

**La segunda colecta esta fin de semana beneficia a la Iglesia en América Latina.  
Gracias por su apoyo.**



### Knights of Columbus Food Collection Next weekend

We always need canned meats, cereal, canned fruit, spaghetti and pasta noodles, cooking oil, and mayonnaise.

### Caballeros de Colón Recogida de Alimentos el próximo fin de semana

Siempre necesitamos carnes enlatadas, cereales, frutas enlatadas, fideos con pasta y espagueti, aceite de cocina y mayonesa.

### Weekly Collection Report

Collection (12/26).....\$ 17,257  
Collection (01/02).....\$ 11,615

### Capital Improvement Project (December)

Building Fund Saint George..... \$ 13,791  
Building Fund Washington Fields..... \$ 12,533

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### Diocesan Development Drive - DDD (Dec.)

Online Giving, Checks, Cash 12/30..... \$ 12,809

**Diocesan Quota.....\$110,600**

**Diocesan Payment thru 12/09.... \$ 68,704**

**DIOCESAN QUOTA DUE..... \$ 41,896**

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are one community nourished and transformed by the Eucharist.

As the body of Christ, we are led by the Holy Spirit to know, love and serve God and one another.

*Somos una comunidad alimentada y transformada por la Eucaristía.*

*Como cuerpo de Cristo, somos guiados por el Espíritu Santo para conocer, amar y servir a Dios y unos a otros.*



We need men to volunteer for the workshop. We also need help on our intake table and Stockers. Please join us for a few hours each week

Stop into the Thrift Store or call 435-673-1029 and speak with Joan.



### Scripture Readings for the Week of January 9<sup>th</sup>

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Ps/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

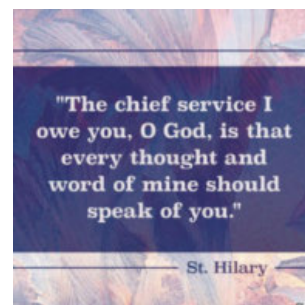
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11



## ANNOUNCEMENTS and EVENTS

### LOOKING AHEAD

**January 17 Office Closed for Martin Luther King Holiday**

### Kuzy Hall Schedule - January 9 - 15

#### Sunday 01/09

2:30 - 5:30 pm New Years music ministry *Rm # 3*  
 4:00 - 6:00 pm Youth Group *Hall*  
 6:00 - 9:00 pm Interfaith Choir Practice *Hall*

#### Monday 01/10

9:00 - 11:00 am Music Practice *Rm # 2*  
 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Hall Prep for Lunch *Hall*  
 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Everyday God *2nd Floor*  
 3:30-5:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Group *Rm # 3*  
 4:30 - 6:30 pm Altar Servers *Rm # 2*  
 5:00-9:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training/Host Church *Hall*  
 7:00 - 8:00 pm V Encuentro *Rm #3*

#### Tuesday 01/11

8:00 am - 11:00 am K of C Breakfast *Hall*  
 10:00 - 11:00 am Grief Support Group *Rm # 3*  
 6:00 - 8:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Group *Rm #1*  
 6:00 - 7:00 pm Cub Scouts *Rm # 3*  
 6:30 - 7:30 pm Choir Practice *Rm # 2*  
 8:00 - 9:00 pm Neocatechumenal Way II *Rm # 2*

#### Wednesday 01/12

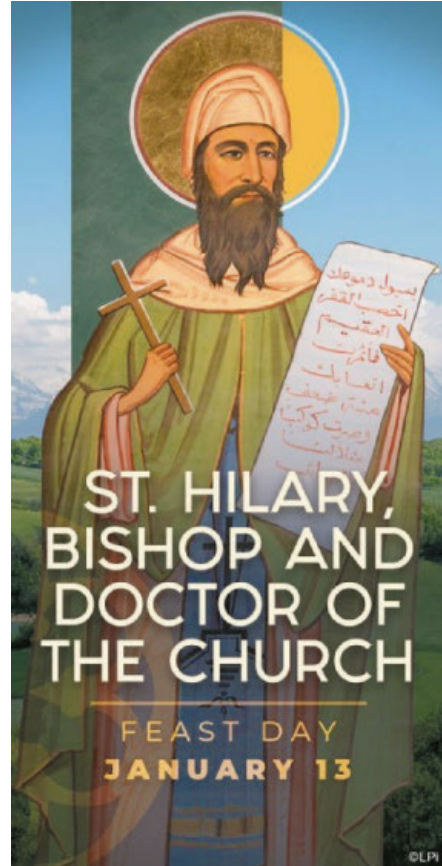
6:00 - 8:00 pm Holy Spirit Prayer Group *Rm # 3*  
 7:00 - 8:30 pm CERS *Rm # 1*  
 7:00 - 9:00 pm Neocatechumenal Way *Rm # 2*

#### Thursday 01/13

5:00 - 8:0 pm Sponsors Meeting Confirmation *Hall*  
 7:00 - 10:00 pm Misioneros de Jesus y Maria *Rm # 2*  
 7:00 - 9:00 pm Deacon Tellez Marriage Prep *Rm # 3*

### Everyday God Meeting Schedule 2022

January 10  
 January 24  
 February 14  
 February 28  
 March 14  
 March 28  
 April 25  
 May 9  
 May 23



### Scanlan Conference Room Schedule January 10 - 14

#### Monday 01/10

7:30 - 10:30 am Counters  
 7:00 - 8:30 pm RCIA

#### Tuesday 01/11

10:00 - 11:00 am Staff Meeting

#### Wednesday 01/12

7:00 - 9:00 pm Spanish Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers Meeting

#### Thursday 01/13

6:00 - 8:00 pm Adult English Bible Study with Fr. Dave

#### Friday 01/14

5:30 - 9:00 pm Single Seniors Group Movie Night



### What? and When?

A lector formation workshop will take place Saturday morning, January 29, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. This workshop is a training experience designed to teach the spirituality and the vocal skills essential for proclaiming the Word of God at Mass. This opportunity is for those who would like to respond to a call and desire to serve God as a lector.

### Who?

It is for those who have never been certified as lectors. It is also for those who have had experience as a lector in other parishes and would like to continue their ministry and be certified in this parish. All candidates should have received all Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist, and also be in full communion with the Catholic Church.

### Where?

We will gather in the Scanlan Building in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room.

### How?

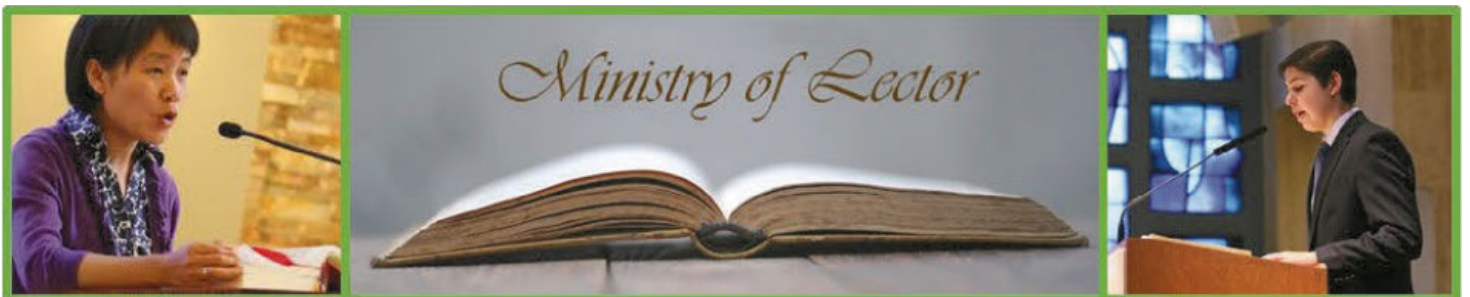
To participate, call/text or email Ruth Ann Pilney at 530.295.7792 or [rapilney79@centurylink.net](mailto:rapilney79@centurylink.net) between now and January 25th.

Please consider becoming a lector. Our parish welcomes people willing to serve in this ministry.

*A Lector lends his or her voice to God, becoming His instrument for proclaiming Sacred Scripture to those assembled for the celebration of Mass and other liturgical services when God's word is shared.*

<sup>1</sup> Isaiah 50:4

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of the Word on parish website: <https://www.saintgeorgecatholics.com/lector>





Once again, our Christmas food box distribution helped a lot of people. We distributed 142 boxes helping 464 family members. It takes a lot of volunteers to make this program a success. Thanks to:

- Our parishioners who contributed both food and money so generously.
- Our Cub Scout troop who collected over 1300 food items.
- The liquor store on 900 E who gave us 150 boxes.
- The Parish Office staff who helped with sign-ins and gift card purchases.
- Our friends at the Thrift Store for letting us use their storage pod, trucks and moving equipment.
- A group of young, hard-working volunteers from Lion's Gate who did most of the heavy lifting and hauling.
- And, twenty-six of our parishioners who brought smiles to our clients and who demonstrated how generous our Parish is.

May God bless you for your kindness to those in need during the Christmas season.



"Este año, fue un honor poder participar en la celebración de La Virgen de Guadalupe . La danza Azteca representa el agradecimiento hacia nuestra Madre la Virgen Maria, por ser intercesora de nosotros ante Dios! También tuvimos la dicha de poder participar en la obra de las Apariciones, fue un momento hermoso, ya que podemos compartir un poco más de nuestra cultura con los demas y los demás pueden aprender un poco más como fue que La Virgen de Guadalupe llegó al tepeyac"



"This year, once again, it was an honor to get to participate in the celebration of La Virgen de Guadalupe. The Aztec dance represents gratitude to the Virgin Mary for being our intercessor before God. We also had the opportunity to participate in the play of the Las Apariciones Guadalupanas, it was such a beautiful moment, we shared a little bit of our culture to others and also they got to learn a little more of how Virgin Mary got to El tepeyac"

*Article by Juan & Abby Carbajal  
Photos by Teresa Guido, Carmen Arias & Nora Escatel*

# THE 2023 BISHOPS SYNOD AND OUR PARISH, PART TWO

(More on the spirit of listening sessions and the plan or details of listening sessions)



Next year bishops representing all the regions of the Church will gather to discuss synodality or the themes of unity, participation, and evangelizing mission. This year the rest of the faithful have the opportunity to help set the agenda for the bishops' conversation through parish listening sessions. These listening sessions gather people's experiences of unity, participation, and mission (evangelization) offered in the context of a particular spirit. Last week's bulletin contained an article describing that spirit in terms of *sensus fidei*. This article begins with a description of the same spirit through the idea of dialogue.

Dialogue is far removed from spinning an event so that it matches a certain point of view. Dialogue is a conversation in which both people are willing to be influenced by the other. It doesn't mean that one person will convert the other to a different point of view, but rather that each person in the conversation acknowledges the good points and the truths mentioned by the other person. A sense of confrontation and defensiveness is replaced by a sense of ease

and respect in dialogue. Dialogue is less an adversarial approach to truth and more a group effort. It's worth noting that listening sessions seek people's experience of unity, participation and mission and not theological truths about these things. This could help avoid some of the things dialogue is not.

*Sensus fidei* and the idea of dialogue give rise to a spirit and an expectation of the task of those participating in listening sessions. Participants should:

- be willing to offer their experiences
- exercise the capacity to listen to those with differing experiences
- be willing to admit that others might have a point even if their experiences and backgrounds are radically different
- avoid problem-solving in favor of observing
- seek common ground
- include everyone present in the conversation
- follow the lead of the facilitator.

Facilitators are part of the details or plan of listening sessions and these plans are the next topic. Before the listening sessions even begin, the parish council will select questions from a list provided by the preparatory documents for the 2023 synod. These questions call to mind experiences of unity, participation, and evangelizing mission. These same questions also serve to organize input to the diocese and ultimately the Vatican. The questions are arranged into 11 categories: growth in the journey, companions on the journey, listening, speaking out, celebration, sharing responsibility for our common mission, dialogue in Church and society, ecumenism, authority and participation, discerning and deciding, and forming ourselves in synodality. A list of questions and their categories is available. Simply send an email to Father Dave at [frdave@sgcatholics.org](mailto:frdave@sgcatholics.org) requesting a copy.

Each listening session will have a facilitator who will present the questions mentioned in the last paragraph to the participants of the listening session. Facilitators also ensure that those who would like to comment on the questions have the opportunity, keeping in mind that listening sessions last 30-60 minutes depending on the size of the group. Facilitators may need to temper the conversation in a listening session. From time to time one participant's attitude or comments may be aggressive, dismissive, accusative, or condescending. If so, the facilitator should intervene by reminding the group that dialogue is harmed by aggression and promoted by charity. It's also important to understand that participants may offer something painful to them and that others may respond defensively. In these instances the facilitator's job would be to remind people that listening sessions are not trials, that hurt caused may or may not be intentional, and that both sides in these circumstances usually contain some truth and some mistakes. Sometimes facilitators need to keep the group focused on the questions.

Next week's article will continue the description of the plan or the details of listening groups. The next topic - why have a synod on unity, participation, and mission of evangelism now - will be introduced.

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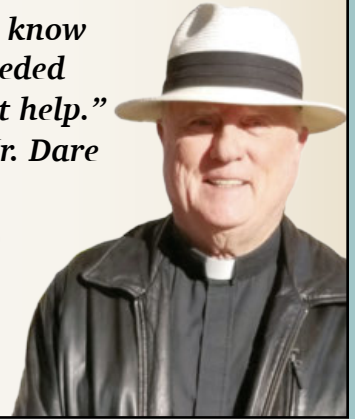


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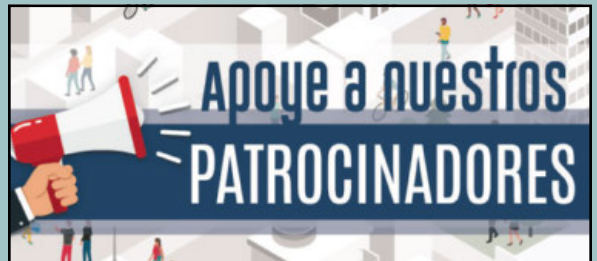
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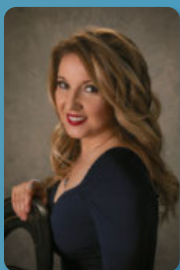
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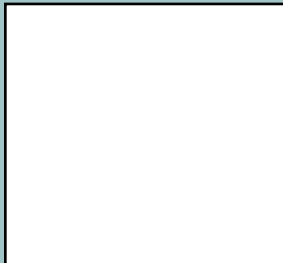
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