

# Saint Mary's

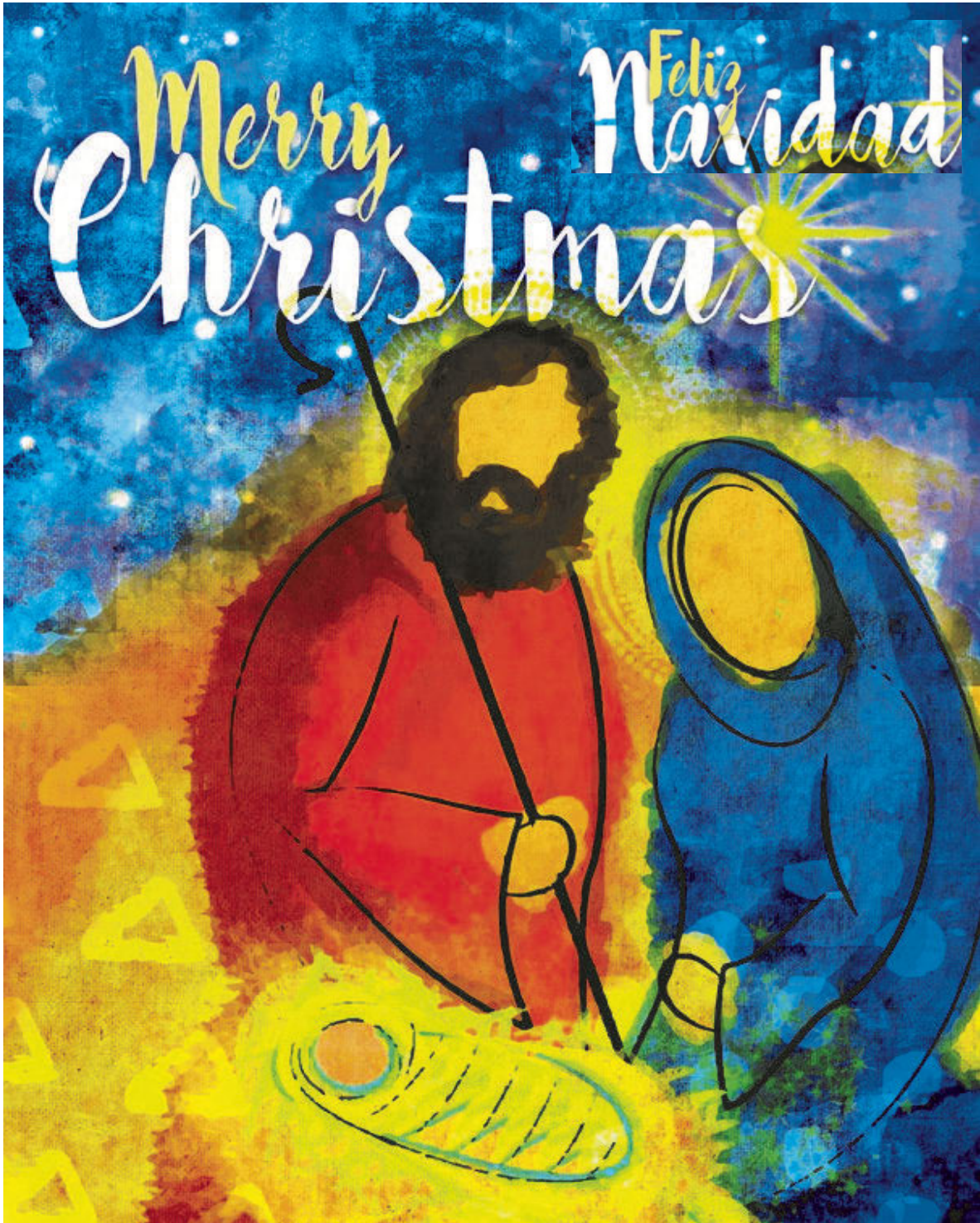
Catholic Church ~ Comunidad Católica

2612 W. State St., Boise, Idaho 83702 ~ 208-344-2597

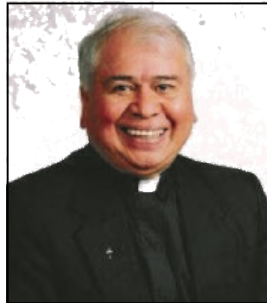
The Birth of Christ - El Nacimiento de Cristo

Sunday, December 26, 2021 & January 2, 2022

Domingo 26 de diciembre del 2021 y 2 de enero de 2022



**LA ENCARNACIÓN DEL HIJO DE DIOS, NAVIDAD.** El misterio de la Encarnación del Hijo de Dios es para ser contemplado y sentido, más que para ser explicado o entendido. La Biblia usa frases breves para darnos la Buena Nueva del nacimiento de Jesús: “Al llegar la plenitud de los tiempos, envió Dios a su Hijo, nacido de mujer” (Gálatas 4,4); “El Verbo (la Palabra) se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros” (Juan 1,14). El mejor regalo que Dios podía darnos, nos lo ha dado: ¡su propio Hijo! (Juan 3,16). Con su llegada, el Hijo de Dios trajo consigo todas las bendiciones que Dios tenía guardadas para la humanidad (ver Efesios 1,2-5). Deseo que esas bendiciones lleguen a todos y cada uno de ustedes. ¡Feliz Navidad!  
Su amigo y servidor ~ Padre Jesús Camacho



**THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION** of the Son of God is meant for reflection and feeling rather than for explaining and understanding. The Bible uses brief phrases to give us the Good News of the birth of Jesus: “But when the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother...” (Galatians 4: 4). The Word became flesh and full of grace and truth lived among us (John 1: 14). The best gift that God could give us, he has given us: His own Son! (John 3:16). With his arrival, the Son of God brought with him all of the blessings that God had saved for all of humanity (Ephesians 1, 2-5). I wish these blessings upon each and every one of you. Merry Christmas.

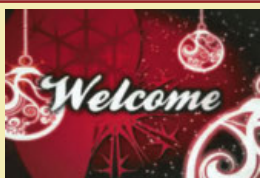
Your friend and servant ~ Padre Jesús Camacho



**LA SAGRADA FAMILIA DE JESÚS.** La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José. Si el mismísimo Dios quiso nacer en una familia, entonces el mensaje está claro: nada hay más sagrado en esta tierra que la familia. Si Dios mismo es una familia, llamada Santísima Trinidad, entonces la familia es el mejor reflejo de Dios. La Iglesia misma está llamada a ser una familia, la familia de Dios en la tierra. Sabemos que la familia es la base de la sociedad y de la Iglesia. Por esto mismo, si la sociedad y la Iglesia no andan muy bien que digamos, es porque se ha descuidado la vida en familia. Hagamos oración por el mejoramiento de nuestra familia; pero sobre todo, hagamos lo que esté de nuestra parte para mejorar nuestra propia vida familiar. Que la Sagrada Familia bendiga nuestros hogares.  
Su amigo y servidor ~ Padre Jesús Camacho

**THE HOLY FAMILY.** If God himself chose to be born into a family, then the message is clear: nothing is more sacred in this land than the family. If God is a family, as seen in the Holy Trinity, then the family is the best reflection of God. The Church herself is called to be a family, the family of God on earth. We know that the family is the foundation of society and the Church. For this very reason, if society and the Church are not going so well we say it is because family life has been neglected. Let us pray for the betterment of our family, but above all, we must each do our part to better our own personal life. May the Holy Family bless our homes.

Your friend and servant ~ Padre Jesus Camacho



We are blessed to have you join us at St. Mary's Catholic Church this weekend! If you are visiting and are looking for a church home, please consider joining our Catholic community. To register in the parish, or if you regularly attend St. Mary's Church but have not registered, complete the forms available on the tables near the windows in the vestibule or come to the parish office during business hours, 9am-4pm Monday thru Friday. Return completed forms to the parish office, place in the collection basket or mail to St. Mary's Church, 2612 W. State St., Boise, ID 83702. You can also register online at [www.stmarysboise.org](http://www.stmarysboise.org). For more information, please call 208-344-2597.



Agradecemos su visita a la iglesia de Santa María. Si anda buscando alguna parroquia a donde asistir regularmente, apreciamos su interés en unirse a esta comunidad. Para más información sobre nuestros grupos o desea registrarse, las formas están en las mesas en el vestíbulo. Si desea venir personalmente, siéntase bienvenido, el horario es de 9am-4pm, también puede ir a nuestra página de internet [www.stmarysboise.org](http://www.stmarysboise.org) y registrarse en línea o llame al 208-344-2597.



**From Fr. John Worster, Pastor**

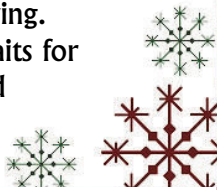
The second reading for our Christmas Masses reminds us of the central mystery that we celebrate during this holy season: "The Grace of God has Appeared". But what exactly is included or is meant by this religiously-charged and well-used word, "grace"?



Mercy is now here as well as forgiveness and reconciliation. The fulfillment of our hopes and desires is light where there was darkness, clarity where formerly there was confusion, knowledge and wisdom where formerly only ignorance reigned. In short, the appearance - no - the entry of Christ into human history brings to us and makes available the totality of all that is good, true and beautiful.

Acknowledging, accepting, savoring, delighting in, being saved by this Grace — well, that is our responsibility. This Christmas mystery is present to us and we celebrate this multi-day series of connected celebrations and feasts. This feast of feasts gives us every opportunity to pause, reflect, clean house and welcome the Gift of God, His grace-filled presence.

This gift of Grace is tailored to each of us individually, even though we are woven into a community of praise and thanksgiving. The Gift who is a Loving Giver, waits for us to be prepared, to be open, and to welcome.



## St. Mary's Staff

**Fr. John Worster - Pastor 208-680-0608**



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[jcamacho@stmarysboise.org](mailto:jcamacho@stmarysboise.org) (Ext. 204)

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Starts January 2022 (Ext. 207)

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**Spanish R.E. / Coordinadora Catecismo**  
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**Coordinadores Confirmación**  
Luis Carrillo y Rosi Terriquez— Deje mensaje en la oficina

**Coordinadora Bautismos**  
Gloria Terriquez-Deje mensaje en la oficina (Ext. 201)

**Principal, St. Mary's School/Director de la Escuela de Santa María**  
Brian Olmes [bolmes@stmarys-boise.org](mailto:bolmes@stmarys-boise.org)  
208-342-7476

**Food Bank Director/Directora del Banco de Comida**  
Stacy McDonough 208-345-2734

Our web page is [www.stmarysboise.org](http://www.stmarysboise.org)  
Follow us on Facebook at  
St. Mary's Church Boise



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDIE SUNDAY DONATIONS

We are so grateful for the excellent reponse to the yearly "undie Sunday" collection of underclothing for those in need. Corpus Christi House gladly accepted the numerous garbage bags full of these items. Thank you, again for your generous contributions.

### EUCHARIST

BY  
BISHOP BARRON  
  
MONDAYS  
JANUARY 24, 2022  
THRU  
APRIL 4, 2022  
7 PM  
ROOM 1

"According to a 2019 Pew Research Center survey, only 31% Catholics actually believe transubstantiation and the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist." In other compelling words, 7 of 10 Catholics either do not believe in or question the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Jesus' words were most prophetic: "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not

believe." (John 4:48)

Risen Christ Catholic Community will offer Bishop Robert Barron's Word On Fire "Eucharist" program. Sessions will be held at Risen Christ, 11511 Lake Hazel Road, Boise, ID 83709 beginning Monday, January 24, 7-9pm. The program text cost is \$20. In order to have the proper number of books on hand, pre-register by January 4 by calling 208-362-6584 or emailing the office at [office@risenchristboise.org](mailto:office@risenchristboise.org), call or pre-register online at <https://www.risenchristboise.org/adult-scripture-study>.

### COME TO THE QUIET

Our popular week-long silent retreat given by Spirit Center's Spirituality Ministry team will be Friday, January 28 - Friday, February 4.

Come for a silent, individually directed retreat with optional faith sharing, creative expression, body prayer, and ritual. Relax in God's presence, surrounded by natural beauty and supported by a praying community.

Arrival time is between 1:30 - 5pm, followed by supper and the first session at 7pm. Suggested donation for single occupancy is \$600. Thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, scholarship funds are available.

To register, or if you are interested in the retreat and would like scholarship assistance, please contact Marilyn Uhlenkott at [retreatregistrations@stgertrudes.org](mailto:retreatregistrations@stgertrudes.org) or call 208-962-2000.

The retreat will be held at the Monastery of Saint Gertrude, 465 Keuterville Rd. Cottonwood, ID 83522.



We Listen to You! We Want to Hear From You!

Dear St Mary's Parishioners,

The mini soccer field project follows upon the beautiful new wrought-iron fencing around our playground and parking area. We've had Kathy Haggler, Kathy Opp, Tami Springer and their teams lead lots of valuable conversations with stakeholders here at St. Mary's parish. Again and again, we hear that we are, and need to continue to be, a welcoming environment for everyone. Also very important to people these days is to make our campus a safe and attractive place to meet, worship and go to school. Part of this is our new mini soccer field currently under construction.

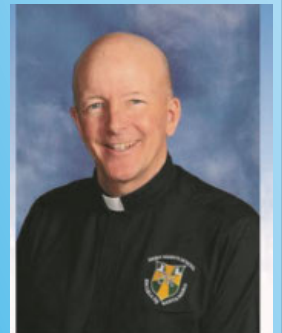
The mini soccer field will be a place of welcome, healthy competition, and socializing. Here we will meet some important human needs for friendship and recreation, multicultural exchange and fun. The field will put us on the map from Ontario to Mountain Home.

Because we don't live in a perfect world, the new construction will cost us eight parking places. We can't see it now, but when the new striping goes in, we will show folks where to park economically and safely.

Comments received recently resulted in enhanced handicapped parking which resulted in blue signs and curbing. We're glad to get ahead in our ministry to folks with mobility issues.

On a first come, first served bases, anyone, anytime can park in the priest parking place outside the north door to our church. So I thank you for your patience. As the Treasure Valley grows explosively, we will all experience some parking challenges. Please know that your safety is our main priority. We schedule events to minimize parking congestion. My cell number continues to be in the bulletin so that you can contact me anytime with issues and concerns.

I remain your friend and servant,  
Fr. John Worster



# MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 28-Jan. 2, 2022

Tues. 28th Pat Oberholzer, repose  
 Wed. 29th Norman Chambreaux and family  
 Thur. 30th Lupe Macker, healing  
 Fri. 31st St. Mary's parishioners  
 Sat. 1st Maryann Hogg and family  
 Sun. 2nd 8:30am- Bob & Rita Franklin  
 10:45am- Mike Sellars, repose



Jan. 4-9, 2022

Tues. 4th Flo Jones, healing  
 Wed. 5th Mike Sellars, repose  
 Thur. 6th Tom Gallagher  
 Fri. 7th Mike Sellars, repose  
 Sat. 8th Mike Sellars, repose  
 Sun. 9th 8:30am- Bob & Rita Franklin  
 10:45am- Jimmy Campbell, repose



## Thank you to those who donated to the Christmas Memorial Flower Fund

Luis Acevedo	John Liparelli
Margaret Huerta Anderson	Mary Mancuso
Judy Bailey	Mel McLenna
Laurence Bauwens	Jackie McPherron
Ann & John Brueck	Mr. & Mrs. Louis Miller
Tom Byrne	Nathaniel Munt
Mr. & Mrs. Glen Campanella	Leo & Anita Perez
Maria Delgado	Angela Purcell
Terence & Menchie Fitzgerald	Doug & Sandy Racine
Mr. & Mrs. George Grala	Rosalyn Rossi
Jeff Grala	Lynn Sprague
Kay Helgeson	Marilyn Stoddard
Marti Helm	Jeff & Shannon Strom
Tom Hogg	Josephine Toomey
Vince Huerta	Georgeanne Welde
Joann Jones	Larry & Jan Winner
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Kirk	



## Weekly Bible Readings

December 20-26, 2021

**MON** Is 7: 10-14; Ps 24: 1-6; Lk 1: 26-38  
**TUES.** Sg 2: 8-14 or Zep 3: 14-18; Ps 33: 2-3. —  
 11-12. 20-21; Lk 1: 39-45  
**WED.** 1 Sm 1: 24-28; 1 Sm 2: 1. 4-8; Lk 1: 46-56  
**THURS** Mal 3: 1-4. 23-24; Ps 25: 4-5. 8-10 and 14;  
 Lk 1: 57-66  
**FRI.** 2 Sm 7: 1-5. 8-12. 14. 16; Ps 89: 2-5. 27 and 29;  
 Lk 1: 67-79  
**SAT.** Christmas Readings  
**SUN.** 1 Sm 1: 20-22. 24-28 or Sir 3: 2-6. 12-14;  
 Ps 84: 2-3. 5-6. 9-10; 1 Jn 3: 1-2. 21-24

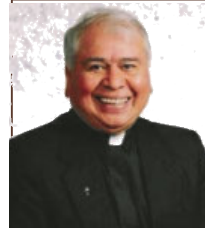
December 27-, Jan. 2 2022

**MON** 1 Jn 1: 1-4; Ps 97: 1-2. 5-6. 11-12; Jn 20: 1-8  
**TUES.** 1 Jn 1: 5 -- 2: 2; Ps 124: 2--8; Mt 2: 13-18  
**WED.** 1 Jn 2: 3-11; Ps 96: 1-3. 5-6; Lk 2: 22-35  
**THURS** 1 Jn 2: 12-17; Ps 96: 7-10; Lk 2: 36-40  
**FRI.** 1 Jn 2: 12-17; Ps 96: 7-10; Lk 2: 36-40  
**SAT.** 1 Jn 2: 18-21; Ps 96: 1-2. 11-13; Jn 1: 1-18  
**SUN.** Is 60: 1-6; Ps 72: 1-2. 7-8. 10-13; Eph 3: 2-3. 5-6;  
 Mt 2: 1-12



### PRAYER ANGELS REQUESTED

If you'd like to be part of our powerful St. Mary's Prayer Network, please contact Sandy Racine through the parish office. This commitment asks you to pray for the person requesting prayers and to call one person on your chain to forward the request. We all know the power of prayer!



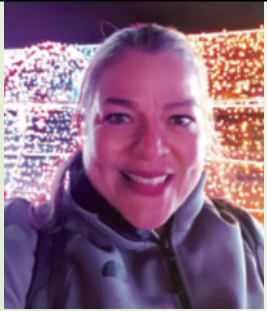
### VISITAS CON EL PADRE JESUS CAMACHO

El Padre Jesús está disponible en su oficina los domingos de 10am a 12pm. No necesita cita, favor de esperar su turno si no le abre inmediatamente la puerta y para cuidar al Padre, traer su mascarilla y guardar su sana distancia si no se ha vacunado.

### Bautismos

En español, se llevan a cabo el último sábado de cada mes. Las clases son el segundo y tercer jueves del mes a las 7pm. Llame a la oficina para anotarse y ofrecerle más información al 208-344-2597.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS



GLORIA MUNOZ

Hello parishioners, I was born and grew up in Mexico. Boise is my home since 1990 and I have been part of Saint Mary's family since 1999. I helped Father Jesus start and coordinate the Spanish Sunday School Program 10 years ago. I have been volunteering for Saint Mary's school for 15 years, teaching students Mexican folkloric dance. I have been a volunteer for 6 years, helping Saint Mary's with Quinceañera preparation. Being part of Saint Mary's staff is a privilege and a blessing because I love serving in projects that help improve the lives of people, especially the vulnerable. Saint Mary's is home, the place that brings me closer to God.

Nací y crecí en México. Boise es mi hogar desde 1990 y he sido parte de la familia de St. Mary desde 1999. Apoyé al Padre Jesús con el inicio y coordinación durante 10 años, del Programa de Catecismo en español. He sido voluntaria para la escuela St Mary's durante 15 años, enseñando a los estudiantes danza folclórica mexicana. He sido voluntaria, durante 6 años, con la coordinación del programa de Quinceañeras. Ser padre del personal de St. Mary's es un privilegio y una bendición, porque me encanta servir en proyectos que ayudan a mejorar las vidas de las personas, especialmente las más vulnerables. St Mary's es mi hogar, el lugar que me acerca más a Dios.



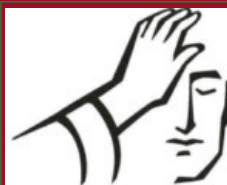
LUPITA MARTINEZ

Hello St. Mary's! My name is Lupita Martínez and I am the new part-time bookkeeper and office assistant. I am excited and so thankful to have the opportunity to work for such a beautiful community! I have had the pleasure to be the coordinator and participant of Father Camacho's Friday Bible Study for over 10 years.

Thanks to Father Camacho, I have learned so much about our Catholic faith. My family and I have lived in Idaho for 16 years and we love it. I am truly looking forward to meeting you all and to be of service. Happy Advent and blessings to all.

¡Hola Santa María!

Mi nombre es Lupita Martínez y soy la nueva contadora y asistente de oficina de medio tiempo. ¡Estoy muy emocionada y agradecida por tener la oportunidad de trabajar en tan hermosa comunidad! He tenido el placer de ser la coordinadora y de tomar parte del Estudio Bíblico de los viernes del Padre Camacho por más de 10 años. Gracias al Padre Camacho he aprendido mucho sobre nuestra fe católica. Mi familia y yo hemos vivido en Idaho por 16 años y nos encanta. Espero conocerlos pronto y poder servirlos. Feliz Adviento y bendiciones a todos.



### SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES AFTER HOURS

For those in need of anointing for a **TRUE LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY**, call Fr. Worster at 1-208-680-0608. For someone who is in the hospital, is homebound or is in a nursing home and wishes to be anointed, please call the office during business hours at 208-344-2597.

### EMERGENCIAS SACRAMENTALES, FUERA DE HORAS DE OFICINA

Les recordamos que si tiene una emergencia de vida o muerte y necesita la presencia de un sacerdote para ungir a alguien que este en el hospital o muy grave en casa o casa de asistencia, llame al Padre John Worster al 1-208 680-0608. Puede programar una visita llamando al 208-344-2597.



### INFANT BAPTISM CLASS

If you are interested in having your child baptized, please contact the parish office at 208-344-2597 for more information. You need to register to attend the class.



THE DIOCESE OF BOISE is looking for a finance administrative assistant for the finance department to handle routine correspondence and calls, provide clerical assistance and manage accounts payable. Job details can be

found on the diocesan website. Please fill out a job application at [www.catholicidaho.org/human-resources](http://www.catholicidaho.org/human-resources) and send with your resume to [clawrence@rcdb.org](mailto:clawrence@rcdb.org)



## IDAHO CATHOLIC REGISTER

### RENEWALS AND NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS

Now is the time to renew your subscription to the Idaho

Catholic Register, the Catholic newspaper of the diocese, and winner of eight national awards from the Catholic Press Association this year. The annual subscription price is \$20. Subscription envelopes are in the vestibule and at the parish office. St. Mary's earns a \$3 credit for each subscription made through the parish which helps reduce the required assessment our parish receives from the diocese. Put a check in the collection basket and indicate that the \$20 is for the *Idaho Catholic Register* or you can subscribe online at [catholicidaho.org](http://catholicidaho.org), and indicate your home parish.



### MANAGE GIFTS

Another easy way to manage your church giving is with online giving. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift right from your phone. Visit the

church website at [www.stmarysboise.org](http://www.stmarysboise.org) and click the online giving link and register with the church. Your support during the year helps sustain Saint Mary's parish.



RCIA is a process used by Catholic parishes to welcome and prepare adults who:

- ◆ Have questions about faith and prayer
- ◆ Are interested in becoming Catholic
- ◆ Want to return to the Catholic Church
- ◆ Would like to complete their sacraments of Confirmation and/or the Eucharist.

We gather to learn about the Catholic faith, to pray and to share our journey together in community each Sunday from 9:45 - 10:30am at the parish office.

For more information, please contact Deacon Gene Fadness at the parish office, 208-344-2597 or email [gfadness@rcdb.org](mailto:gfadness@rcdb.org)

### CRISIS HOTLINES

Crisis Hotlines have empathetic listeners who provide referrals to educational programs. The hotlines are anonymous and confidential. Call any time, 24/7.

Ada, Boise, Elmore, Valley counties 208-334-0808  
Adams, Canyon, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Washington counties 208-459-0092

### IDAHO SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

(208) 398-HELP (4357)

Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Text support is available Monday through Friday, 3pm to midnight.



# MASS SCHEDULE

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE HORARIO DE LAS MISAS EN FIN DE SEMANA

Saturday, 5pm- English  
 Sábado, 7pm- Español  
 Sunday- 8:30am and 10:45am-English;  
 Domingo, 12:45pm- Español

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4-4:30pm  
 or by appointment.

### RECONCILIACION

Sábados 4-4:30pm y  
 6:30-6:50pm o previa cita.

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**MISA ENTRE SEMANA** Tues.-Fri., Mass,  
 8:30am Martes a Viernes, 8:30am



## The Best Bible Emergency Numbers



Upset?.....	John 14
Weak?.....	Psalms 18:1-29
Lonely?.....	Psalms 23
Sinned?.....	Psalms 51
Worried?.....	Matthew 8:19-31
Anxious?.....	Phil. 4:4-9
Unhappy?.....	Col. 3:12-17
In Danger?.....	Psalms 91
Depressed?.....	Psalms 27
Lack of Faith?.....	Exodus 14
Others Unkind?.....	John 15



### Merry Christmas!

May you experience the blessings of God this Christmas and throughout the New Year! From your friends at Salt & Light Catholic Radio. To learn more about Salt & Light Radio and our programming go to [www.saltandlightradio.com](http://www.saltandlightradio.com) or tune in to 102.3FM or 1140AM.



### ¡Feliz Navidad!

¡Que recibas las bendiciones de Dios esta Navidad y durante todo el Año Nuevo! De tus amigos en Sal & Luz Radio Católica. Para obtener más información sobre Sal y Luz Radio y nuestra programación, visite [www.sallyluzradio.com](http://www.sallyluzradio.com) o sintonice 93.7FM o 1490 AM.



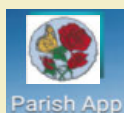
*kindness*

is like snow-  
 It beautifies  
 everything  
 it covers.  
 -Kahlile Gibram



### LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

St. Mary's is connected with you at all times to share the Catholic perspective on what is going on in today's world. Several media options are available on the parish website at [www.stmarysboise.org](http://www.stmarysboise.org), on Facebook at Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Boise, the parish app, Instagram and Twitter.







# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



## The Surprising Meaning Behind "The 12 Days of Christmas"

Originally a poem written by Catholic clerics, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" song was transformed into a carol at a time when celebrating the twelve days of Christmas was one of the most important holiday customs. By understanding the meaning, the clerics chose the twelve days as a wrapping for their poem, the full impact of the tradition of the twelve days of Christmas can be understood.



*On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... a partridge in a pear tree.*

The partridge in a pear tree represents Jesus, the Son of God, whose birthday we celebrate on the first day of Christmas. Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge, the only bird that will die to protect its young.

*On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... two turtledoves.*

These twin birds represent the Old and New Testaments. So in this gift, the singer finds the complete story of Judeo-Christian faith and God's plan for the world. The doves are the biblical roadmaps available to everyone.

*On the third day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... three French hens.*

These birds represent faith, hope, and love. This gift harkens back to 1 Corinthians 13, the love chapter written by the apostle Paul.

*On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... four calling birds.*

One of the easiest facets of the song's code to figure out: these fowl are the four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

*On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... five gold rings.*

The gift of the rings represents the first five books of the Old Testament, known as the Torah or the Pentateuch.

*On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... six geese a-laying.*

These lyrics can be traced back to the first story found in the Bible. Each egg is a day in creation, a time when the world was "hatched" or formed by God.

*On the seventh day of Christmas my true love gave to me... seven swans a-swimming.*

It would take someone quite familiar with the Bible to identify this gift. Hidden in the code are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, leading, and compassion. As swans are one of the most beautiful and graceful creatures on earth, they would seem to be a perfect symbol for spiritual gifts.

*On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... eight maids a-milking.*

As Christ came to save even the lowest of the low, this gift represents the ones who would receive his word and accept his grace. Being a milkmaid was about the worst job one could have in England during this period; this code conveyed that Jesus cared as much about servants as he cared about those of royal blood. The eight who were blessed included the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, and those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.

*On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... nine ladies dancing.*

These nine dancers were really the gifts known as the fruit of the Spirit. The fruits are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

*On the tenth day of Christmas my true love gave to me... ten lords a-leaping.*

This is probably the easiest gift to understand. As lords were judges and in charge of the law, this code for the Ten Commandments was fairly straightforward to Catholics.

*On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... eleven pipers piping.*

This is almost a trick question, as most think of the disciples in terms of a dozen. But when Judas betrayed Jesus and committed suicide, there were only eleven men who carried out the gospel message.

*On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... twelve drummers drumming.*

The final gift is tied directly to the Catholic Church. The drummers are the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed. "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting."

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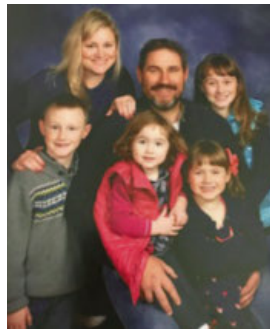
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