SANTA MARIA del MAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

—SURSUM CORDA—

CATHOLIC PARISH by the sea

WELCOME TO SANTA MARIA DEL MAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 12, 2021

FR. MANNY B. LOPEZ
Pastor

DEACON BOB KROL
deaconbob@smdmcc.org

DEACON JOHN HARVEY
deaconjohn@smdmcc.org

DEACON MANNY ALMEIDA
deaconmanny@smdmcc.org

JOHN CARNEY
Special Advisor

CHRISTINE SUDANO
Parish Administrator
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DENISE COLLINS
Director of Religious Education
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MARIA FLAKE
New Members/Hospitality
maria@smdmcc.org

KIM CAZZANIGA
Music Director/Youth Ministry
kim@smdmcc.org

JEANNIE JOHNSON
Parish Secretary
jean@smdmcc.org

NILTON BOTELHO
Maintenance Supervisor
nilton@smdmcc.org

IN-PERSON MASS TIMES
Tues (Portuguese) 9am
Wed-Fri: 9am
Sat (Vigil): 4pm
Sun: 9&11am
Sun: 1pm

HOLIDAY Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
Friday, December 24
Masses at 4pm (Children's Mass) and 9pm (Adult Choir Mass)

Christmas Day
Saturday, December 25
Masses at 10am and Noon

New Year's Eve
Friday, December 31
10am Mass

New Year's Day
Saturday, January 1
10am Mass

Regular Vigil Mass
Saturday, Jan. 1 at 4pm

WWW.SMDMCC.ORG

915 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE | FLAGLER BEACH, FL 32136 | PHONE: 386-439-2791 | FAX: 386-439-1362

KNOWING YOUR FAITH
with Fr. Manny

A once-a-month series of articles that will address different topics of our Catholic faith. Many times some of the faithful and some ordained mistake personal preferences and opinions on matters of worship with official Church doctrine and what the Church teaches. This monthly series will attempt to clarify, illustrate and explain that doctrine through official documents and guidelines.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The other sacrament of healing is the Anointing of the Sick. During this sacrament, the church brings healing, comfort and strength to those who are ill, elderly or in danger of death. The person can be suffering of physical, emotional or spiritual illness.

A priest administers this sacrament because the individuals sins are forgiven. The oil of the sick and laying on of hands by the priest are the symbols of this beautiful sacrament that can be received more than once if necessary.

As St. Paul said about the Body of Christ, "If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it" (1 Corinthians 12:26), therefore, the church reaches out to the suffering with the healing of the anointing. As the Body of Christ, we are called to visit the sick, pray for them often and look for ways to be a sign of Jesus' love and care for them.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

"By the sacred anointing of the sick and the prayer of the priests the whole Church commends those who are ill to the suffering and glorified Lord, that he may raise them up and save them. and indeed she exhorts them to contribute to the good of the People of God by freely uniting themselves to the Passion and death of Christ." CCC #1499

"Illness and suffering have always been among the gravest problems confronted in human life. In illness, man experiences his powerlessness, his limitations, and his finitude. Every illness can make us glimpse death." CCC #1500

"Christ's compassion toward the sick and his many healings of every kind of infirmity are a resplendent sign that "God has visited his people"103 and that the Kingdom of God is close at hand. Jesus has the power not only to heal, but also to forgive sins;104 he has come to heal the whole man, soul and body; he is the physician the sick have need of...His preferential love for the sick has not ceased through the centuries to draw the very special attention of Christians toward all those who suffer in body and soul..." CCC #1503

"However, the apostolic Church has its own rite for the sick, attested to by St. James: "Is any among you sick? Let him call for the presbyters of the Church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven." Tradition has recognized in this rite one of the seven sacraments." CCC #1510

ON-LINE CHURCH DOCUMENTS AND SCRIPTURE:

- **Holy Bible** (NAB 3rd Edition), see (James 5: 14-16; Mark 6:7-13) at: https://bible.usccb.org/bible
- **Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)**, paragraphs 1499-1535 at: https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM- **Catechesis of the 7 Sacraments** at: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/techism/2s2c2a5.htm

Parish Resources During the COVID-19 Crisis

Santa Maria del Mar Catholic Church
915 North Central Avenue
Flagler Beach, FL 32136
386-439-2791
www.smdmcc.org • Facebook (www.facebook.com/smdmcc/)

Parish Office: The parish office is open Tues—Fri, 9am-4pm with a break for lunch. Please see Mass schedule below:

- **Sunday Mass:** 9 am ,11am and 1pm in the church. .
- **Saturday Vigil Mass** at 4pm.
- **Weekday Masses:** Wednesday—Friday at 9am in the church.
- **High-Risk Individuals**—Sunday 1pm Mass is recommended as the attendance is low.
- **Adoration**—Wednesday—Friday, 9:30am-2pm. (Contact Ginette Consentino (508) 423-9360 to sign up for Adoration.)
- **Confessions**— Saturday 3:30-3:50pm (before 4pm Vigil Mass), Sunday 8:30-8:50am (before 9am Mass), 10:30-10:50am (before 11am Mass) 12:30-12:50 (before 1pm Mass).

Visit the parish website for additional information.

Daily Readings: Daily Mass readings (http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) and brief video reflections (http://www.usccb.org/bible/reflections/) are available from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Spiritual Communion: The Church encourages us to make an act of 'spiritual communion' when we are prevented from receiving the Eucharist at Mass: "My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen." (*St. Alphonsus Liguori*)

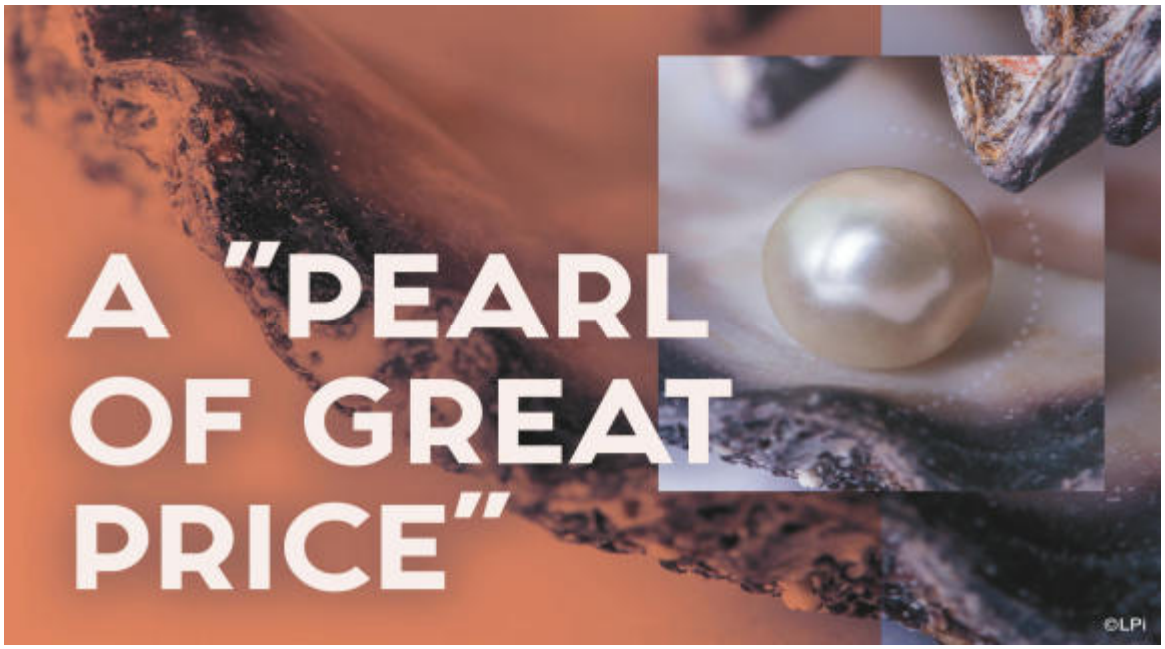
Diocesan Resources: The Diocese of St. Augustine (https://www.dosafl.com/) has a special Coronavirus resource page (https://www.dosafl.com/coronavirus/), including links to televised, online, and radio Masses in our diocese and beyond.

Magnificat: This monthly publication used for our weekday Masses is offering complimentary access online (https://us.magnificat.net/free) and via its iOS and Android apps.

Laudate: The free Laudate app (iOS and Android) is a gateway to many Catholic prayers and other resources.

Want to help others? You can help others in our community by mailing donations to Society of St. Vincent de Paul (https://www.facebook.com/flaglersaintvincentdepaul/), P.O. Box 1328, Flagler Beach FL 32136. Contributions for international relief can be sent to Catholic Relief Services (https://www.crs.org/).

Offertory Contributions: please continue to support Santa Maria del Mar by mailing your offerings (checks only) to the church (address above) or use our convenient online giving system: www.osvonlinegiving.com/1748



GOSPEL REFLECTION

"From silly devotions and sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!" St. Teresa of Avila

We've all heard the adage, "Laughter is the best medicine." In many ways, it really is. When was the last time you really laughed? The gift of imagination allows us to see possible things that are yet to be. Imagine a world filled with laughter. We take life too seriously sometimes. Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of the joy needed for laughter. God never promised us an easy road, and we do have to take the course of our lives seriously. However, there is a balance to be sought and a possible joy that can be brought even to the darkest and most challenging of encounters.

St. Therese of Lisieux reminds us that, "Joy is not found in the material objects surrounding us but in the inner recesses of the soul. One can possess joy in a prison cell as well as in a palace."

Falling in love with God, who is present in all of creation, allows us to bring a depth of understanding to everything we do and experience. We can more easily see above and beyond things while pursuing the only One who can truly satisfy our hearts. When we realize that God, the king of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We can celebrate the wonder and beauty of God's gift of joy. It is no wonder that many saints radiate joy and have no reservations expressing laughter. They are happy because they have found a pearl of great price.

We celebrate with joy today with hearts filled with expectation, wonder, awe, and beauty as we ready ourselves, even more excitedly, for the coming of our Savior. Do not fear and do not be discouraged.

If you haven't laughed in a while, why? Something is preventing you from expressing the magnificence of your soul and the presence of God who dwells within. God's power and presence within us assures us that we are loved and kept in that presence. What more is really needed?

Rejoice and laugh in the presence of God! It really is the best medicine and a most perfect way to convince others that God is really with us. "Go ahead, laugh! Live your life with joy and serve the Lord with laughter! Joy, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter." (St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina)

©LPi

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:
The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness. (Zep 3:17)

PSALM:
Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. (Is 12:6)

SECOND READING:
The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. (Phil 4:6)

GOSPEL:
The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" (Lk 3:10)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

MON DEC 13	TUES DEC 14	WED DEC 15	THU DEC 16	FRI DEC 17	SAT DEC 18	SUN DEC 19
ST. LUCY **Nm** 24:2-7, 15-17a **Ps** 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4] **Mt** 21:23-27	ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS **Zep** 3:1-2, 9-13 **Ps** 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a] **Mt** 21:28-32	**Is** 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25 **Ps** 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8] **Lk** 7:18b-23	**Is** 54:1-10 **Ps** 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a] **Lk** 7:24-30	**Gn** 49:2, 8-10 **Ps** 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7] **Mt** 1:1-17	**Jer** 23:5-8 **Ps** 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7] **Mt** 1:18-25	4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT **Mi** 5:1-4a **Ps** 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4] **Heb** 10:5-10 **Lk** 1:39-45

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE

Your offering of as little as one hour's wage will help us meet our daily needs.

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you! Please consider making your weekly donation to Santa Maria del Mar online at:
www.osvonlinegiving.com/1748

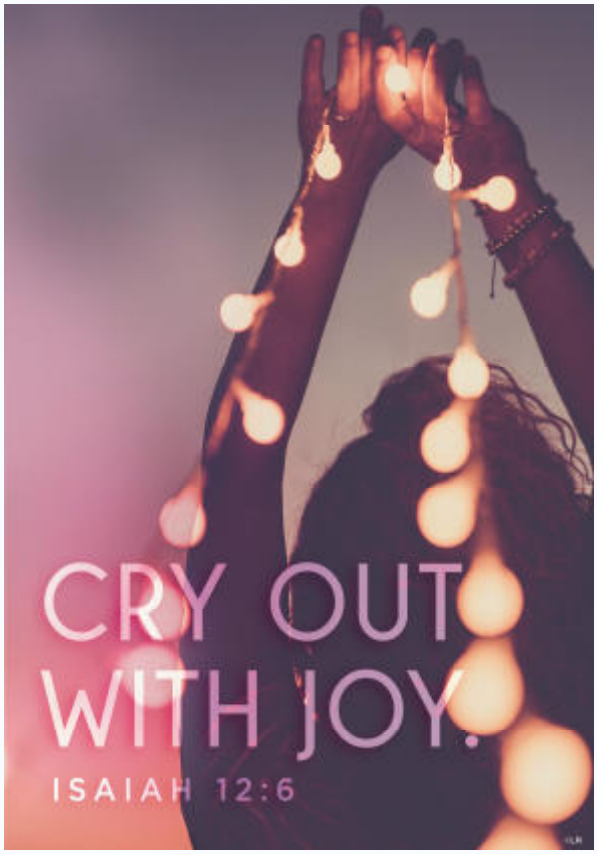
WEEKLY OFFERTORY

3rd Week November 2021	4th Week November 2020
Offertory: $9,514.01	Offertory: $14,483
Online Giving: $3,717.50	Online Giving: $3,842.50

STEWARDSHIP ~ A WAY OF LIFE

The joy of Christmas, our Savior's birth is identical to the joy of salvation. We must prepare to be ready and filled with wonder.

Offer your needs to God and let go of anxiety, despair and doubts. Express gratitude and share your personal possessions whether monetary, belongings or deeds. John the Baptist urged all followers to prepare and anticipate the coming of our Savior. As *Stewards,* be filled with strength, courage and gladness to fulfill your destiny of heaven.



ATTENTION: The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call the police or the Department of Children & Families at (800) 962-2873. Or call the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (904) 208-6979 or email inquiries@dosafl.com. To report abuse by a bishop, call (800) 276-1562 or visit www.reportbishopabuse.org.

THIS MONTH'S MINISTRY SALUTE

IN GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT TO US, WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE AND BLESS:

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Holy Eucharist is the Sacred Sacrament, which as Catholics, we believe, becomes the body and blood of Christ with a priest's consecration of the communion wafers and wine. Holy Eucharist is the Source and Summit of Christian Life (Vatican II, Lumen Gentium). Eucharistic Ministers, sometimes called Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, help priests to prepare and to serve the Eucharist – Holy Communion – at Mass.

In case of sickness or those infirmed, the church is obliged (as possible) to meet the spiritual needs of those in hospitals, homebound or elderly. Involved with carrying the Eucharist to those unable to physically attend liturgies is the sharing of prayer and the word of God during visits. The Eucharistic Minister must also be in contact with the pastor or deacon as to the condition and circumstances of those they visit.

Santa Maria del Mar Parish has 72 active members involved in this ministry. Eucharistic Ministry is truly a gift to the minister to be able to share the Body and Blood of Christ with others. The parish is grateful and humbled that these members take their commitment to their faith with compassion and love. We salute all those involved in this vital ministry who share with our parish community.

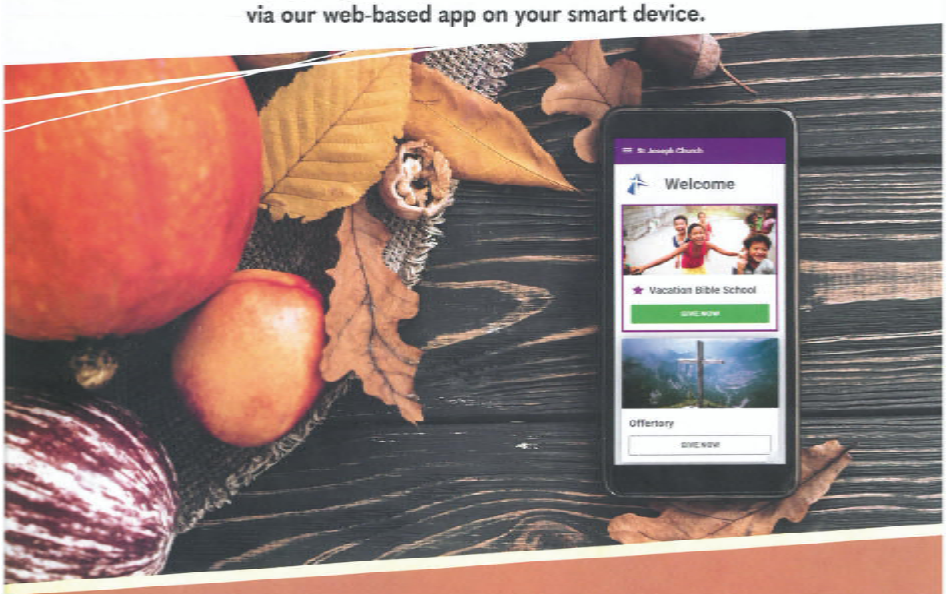
ONLINE GIVING

GROUNDED IN **FAITH.** GROWING TO **SERVE.** GIVING MADE **EASIER.**

Schools are back in session, and we're all adjusting to a new normal this autumn. The ability to support and participate online is more important than ever. That is why our church offers Online Giving as an option to support our continued mission and ministries. Our church is a spiritual home for all of us which relies on our time, talent, and treasure in order to fulfill that mission. It is time to come together now and moving forward to keep our faith, so that we can continue to offer hope and healing to those around us.

Online Giving allows you to make donations, payments, and pledges via your mobile phone, smart device or computer to our church.

Set up your gift today or consider an additional gift via our web-based app on your smart device.



VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE TODAY TO SIGN UP AND GET STARTED

NOTE FROM FATHER KEN BEALE

To the good people of the parish family of Santa Maria del Mar: words cannot express the gratitude in my heart for your hospitality during my stay at your wonderful parish. Your spirit has been emblazoned on my heart.

Please be assured that I will remember you all in prayer and look forward to being with you the last weekend in March and First weekend in April. Save the date for Friday, April 1, 2022 (no April Fools) for our **Lenten Retreat: "Are you just dust?"**

Finally, as you continue to say "Yes" to God's call, kindly remember me in your prayers. May God bless you!

~ Father Ken Beale

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

Every Tuesday at Santa Maria del Mar Parish Hall
Doors open at 11am
A free lunch is served at 11:30am when you buy a bingo pack for only $15
Bingo starts promptly at 12:15pm
Jackpot up to $200
Contact E.Y. at 986-1163 or John at 225-4456

ELISABETH CARUSO: A Momentous Life to Share

Catholicism is and was very important in Elisabeth's life. She was raised in Paris, had a Catholic education and then she and her husband John raised their own two children in the Catholic faith and attended Mass wherever they were. They have been married for 50 years and are blessed with two children and four grandchildren.

John and Elisabeth have lived in many different parts of the world as John was a diplomat for the American Embassy in various countries. They lived in Portugal, Paris, Ireland, four different West African countries (John was even shot at a few times), Madrid, and Mexico City to name some, each only for 2-4 years. During that time Elisabeth was employed in clerical areas in some of the Embassies.

A story that Elisabeth shared was that her grandmother was awarded the Congressional Medal of Freedom by the United States for harboring 13 American aviators while living in occupied Paris and being part of the French Resistance

during the Second World War. She housed and fed them and one by one saw that they reached safety. Elisabeth's mother even was a carrier (on her bicycle) of documents so important that, if stopped, she would have been arrested. Hopefully, we will never forget how brave individuals were during that historical time.

When the Caruso's retired 20 years ago, they relocated to Palm Coast. Like others who moved to this area, they explored other parishes but found their home here at Santa Maria del Mar. Elisabeth joined the parish choir with the encouragement of Alana Fitzgerald. She volunteers at St. Vincent De Paul, is an adorer and helps in the parish office. She loves to cook and bake and enjoys reading historical novels, books about World War II and books centered on spirituality.

Elizabeth had in her possession a relic of St. John Vianney that she donated to our parish. The relic was placed into the church altar on the 25th anniversary of Santa Maria del Mar Catholic Church. Having relics in parish altars is a tradition of the Catholic Church.

Elizabeth would like to be remembered as a beloved mother and grandmother. May her life be a loving example to her family.

~ Maria Flake

Who were Jesus' Grandparents? Saint Ann and Saint Joaquim

The beautiful statue in the Gathering Area has drawn a lot of attention, and a lot of questions about who were Anne and Joachim. Most sources indicate St. Anne (sometimes spelled Ann) and her husband St. Joachim (sometimes spelled Joaquim or Joaquin) were the parents of the Virgin Mary. While there is no mention of either St. Anne or St. Joachim in the Bible, some non-biblical books from the early Christian centuries acknowledge Mary's parents as Anne and Joachim. These sources claim Anne and Joachim were childless until the Angel Gabriel appeared to them and declared they would have a child who must be dedicated to God. The church celebrates their feast day on July 26. There is a beautiful prayer to St. Anne and St. Joachim that speaks to the power of their intervention with Jesus. Holy cards are available in the Gift Shop for $1.00. Many other special prayers are found on Holy Cards and are also available in the Gift Shop. **Stop by before or after weekend Masses to see what's available.**

SVDP FOOD COLLECTION

In November, thanks to your generosity, we served 139 families, 247 adults, 213 children. Thank you! Drop off food at church foyer any time during the week. For assistance—(386) 693-4806.

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY

Join us after the 9am Mass for a time of reflection on the Sunday Gospel readings. What is He calling you to? How is God speaking to you? Where is He touching your heart? Come listen, reflect and share as we break open the Word.
Questions? Contact Theresa at 386-517-3739 or Judy at 407-491-4982 judyncih@yahoo.com

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is one of the largest lay apostolic associations in the Catholic Church, with several million members serving in most countries of the world. The goal of the Legion is to make its members better Catholics – through a balanced program of prayer and service in union with the Holy Spirit as He operates through Mary, the Mother of the Church.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy every Wednesday at 12pm in the Chapel.

Our members participate in the life of the parish by visiting families, the sick (both in their homes, nursing homes, and hospitals), and by collaborating with other ministries in any apostolic undertakings sponsored by the Parish.

Our members meet weekly for prayer, spiritual reflection, discussion, and planning in a family atmosphere. Then, we are assigned an apostolic work and report back the following week.

For more information, contact Steven Neyer at 215-527-7411.

WE KNOW IT HURTS AND WE WANT TO HELP!

TUESDAYS, 9:30AM, LEARNING CENTER

Contact: Lois Ambrosia: 386.871.5371

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY, 9:30AM—2PM IN THE ADORATION CHAPEL

God gives us every breath and second of our lives, why not give Him back one hour in Adoration? Contact Ginette Consentino (508-423-9360) for information or to sign up for Adoration.

ADORERS NEEDED FOR WED-FRI 9:30-10:30AM

COLD WEATHER SHELTER HELP

CHURCH ON THE ROCK, BUNNELL

Need for Assistance:

- A dinner team of friends to make and serve dinner for approximately 20 guests, and clean up. This is a hearty high-protein meal...consisting of soup, salad, entrée, vegetable and dessert. Coffee and juice are provided.
- An overnight team of two or three people from 10pm to 6am to stay awake and oversee both the guests and the facility. Guests have been 'vetted' and approved. They received dinner earlier and will be provided a breakfast. This is not for only one person—a team is needed.
- The next morning, a team of two or three to assist in the replacement of the bedding, wipe tables, throw out trash and get the 'sanctuary' back to a workable position. This normally takes 30-60 minutes and starts around 7:30am.

This is done in coordination with Sheltering Tree, headed by Sue Bickens. Please contact Deacon Bob at 630-640-3552 if you are available to assist.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

Every Tuesday at SMdM Parish Hall. Doors open at 11am. A free lunch is served at 11:30am when you buy a Bingo pack for only $15. Bingo starts promptly at 12:15pm. Jackpot up to $200. Contact E.Y. at 986-1163 or John at 225-4456.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS BOOKS

To help us get in the mood to celebrate The Birth of Jesus, the Library Ministry has sent up a special table in the back of the sanctuary next to the Chapel. There are books available for all ages. As we make preparations for Christmas, let's also prepare our hearts. You are invited to borrow and enjoy one of the parish's holiday books. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Una Noche de Navidad

December 18 & 19 • 5pm – 9pm

Las Posadas Procession • Eucharistic Adoration • Live Nativity • Hot Cocoa & Cookies

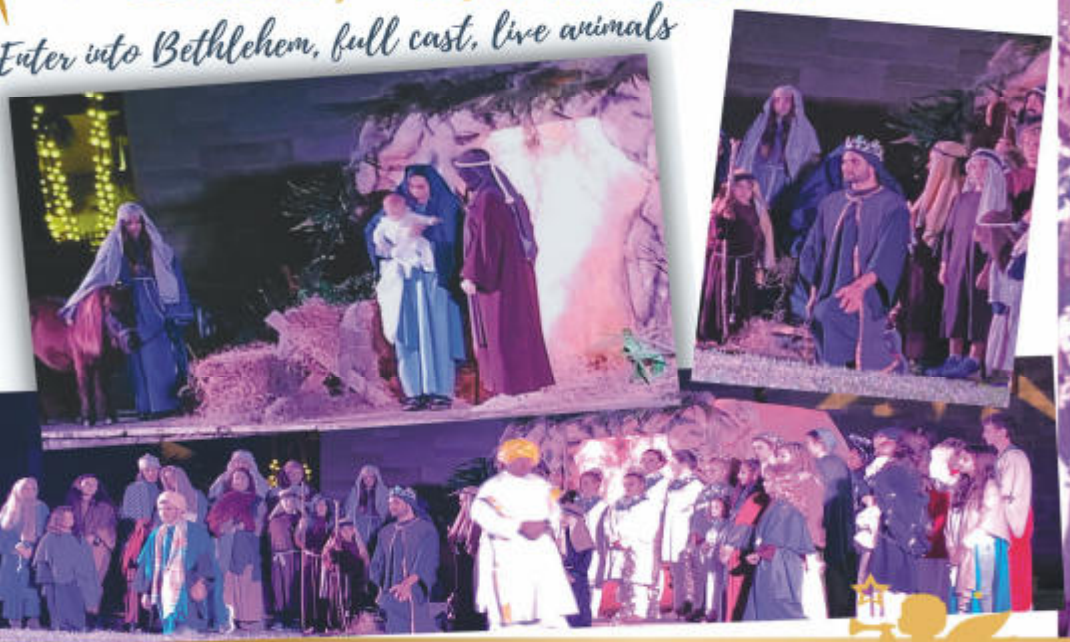
COME TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LA LECHE
& BRING THE FAMILY FOR ALL ACTIVITIES

Live Nativity Presentation

SATURDAY, 12/18 AT 6:30PM & 7:30PM

SUNDAY, 12/19 AT 6:30PM

Enter into Bethlehem, full cast, live animals



THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT, THRE ARE MANY ACTIVITIES

LAS POSADAS WALK

A 16TH CENTURY SPANISH PROCESSION OF "LAS POSADAS" (THE INNS)

*Las Posadas in the historic acre of the Shrine grounds
Sat. & Sun 5pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8pm & 9pm Meet at the Bridge
(FREE Tickets on eventbrite) Logon to shrine website

ADORATION in the Shrine Church, with Harp Music 6-9PM

ROSARY GARDEN Walk to Great Cross & New Rosary garden

LIVE NATIVITY Open to All (NO Tickets needed)

HOT COCOA & COOKIES

101 San Marco Avenue, St. Augustine, FL 32084 904.824.2809 www.missionandshrine.org

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Heal us, Lord, and we shall be healed; save us, and we shall be saved; for it is You we praise. Send relief and healing for all our diseases, our sufferings and our wounds; for You are a merciful and faithful healer. Blessed are You Lord, who heals the sick.

- Lois Ambrosia
- Dagmar Barron
- Kenneth Bebealt
- Joseph Beneducci Jr.
- Lorraine Bianculli
- Tina Bjorkum
- Leo & Barbara Blank
- Suzanne Bryant
- Ralph Buchanan Jr.
- John Caruso
- Will and Shirley Chappel
- Lisa Dakdduk
- Nicole Davidis
- Patty Davis
- Elaina Dawson (baby)
- Rosario "Rocky" DiBella
- Noah Dionizio
- Renee Donaghy
- Susan Donlon
- Shalini & Vernon Drego
- Patricia Federico
- Tabitha Fernandez
- Fr. Sal
- Rob Frank
- Yolanda Germano
- Cheryl Greenier
- Susan & Roger Gronert
- Fran Hayes
- Patricia Johnson
- Sivestre Labaredas
- Scott Lavonas
- Frank Leonardo
- Lounsberry Family
- Claude Mancini
- Dina Mancuso
- Frankie Mancuso
- Teresa Mancuso
- Gordy Maske
- Jane Maske
- Matthew H.
- Joseph T. Milici
- Baby Minicozzi
- Americo Morgado
- Stacey Morris
- Barbara Motta
- Irene Munson
- John Newsome
- Shirley O'Hern
- Gary Paterno
- Diane Pires
- Vanessa Powers
- Ronald Ramsey
- Rick Rider
- Robert Rizzo
- Lenai Rocco
- Casey Ryan
- Amanda Schark
- Cindy Ser
- Nelson Shaffer
- Michael Sheridan
- Sandy Silva
- Dan Smith Jr.
- Paula Staffer
- Steven G.
- Ed Stowe
- Carol Tures
- Janice Williams
- Baby Wise
- Carol Woodard

WE COMMEND TO GOD'S LOVING EMBRACE

† *Barbara Petrella*
† *Laurance Coppa*
† *Henry Canale*
† *John Walsh*
† *Jonah Finn*
† *Judy Finsterbush*
† *George Betz*

Mass INTENTIONS

12/15: 9am †Townsend Family, †Anna O'Hara, †Jane Mahalak

12/16: 9am †John Kuchta, †Eric Brennen, †Richard Carter,†Luis Alvarado

12/17: 9am †Roger Jasko, †Nicholas Osbourne, †Bernardio Malagisi, †Maria Conte, †Silvana Malagisi

12/18: 4pm †Rose Cole, Martha Martinez (Birthday), †William Christie

12/19: 9am †Anna and Salvatore Di Modica, †Tony Gasparino, †Roger Descoteaux
11am †Lucia Aresco, †Adam Dennis, †Walter Arzonetti
1pm †George Betz

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- **Col. Andrew Morgado** (US Army)
- **Jay Matthews** (US Navy)
- **SSG Benjamin Wurtz** (US Army/ Ft. Benning, GA)
- **Honor Otmar** (US Air Force)
- **Matthew Callegari** (USCG)
- **Jayson Trucksess** (US Navy)
- **Chief Gregory Worman** (US Navy)
- **Joshua Raffaele** (USMC)
- **Lt. Rachel Mincey** (US Navy)
- **LCDR Brandon Aten** (USCG)
- **Joseph Otmar** (USMC)
- **Chad M.R. Schuch** (USAF)
- **Emma J. Schuch** (US Navy)
- **Col. Daniel O'Connor** (USMC)
- **Sgt. Sean Collins** (US Army)
- **Michael Martins** (USMC)
- **Dr. Nick Patellis** (NG/Kuwait)
- **Justin Smallwood** (USMC)
- **Lt. JG Barret Manfre** (US Navy/ USS San Diego)
- **Bryan Donohue** (USMC)
- **Cpl. Ryan Rindge** (US Army)
- **Trent Jerdon** (US Army)
- **Lt. Adam Aten** (US Navy)
- **Master Chief Samuel Barfuss** (USS Theodore Roosevelt)
- **Chief Daniel Goodwin** (US Navy)
- **Capt. Conner Allender** (USMC)
- **SGT David DiSorbo** (US Army)
- **Nate Guerreiro** (US Navy)
- **Lt. Matthew DiSorbo** (USAF)
- **Lt. Col. Roland Devries** (US Army)
- **Senior MSGT Fernando Buitrago** (USAF) Deployed
- **Austin Wozniak** (A1C USAF)
- **Maj. Christopher Wimscott** (US Army)

If you have a family member in the military and would like us to pray for them, call the parish office to have their name added to the bulletin, or email Denise@smdmcc.org Please advise when a person above is no longer deployed so we can remove their name from our list. God bless them all & continue to pray for them!

DECEMBER 13
Meaganne Doctora, Robert Ewing, Eileen Frysinger, Patricia Gesumaria, Aquila Gonzalez, Alison Moran, Virginia Norberg, John O'Donnell, Rose Petrosino, Reina Robinson, Richard Rubin, Helga Schroder, Elizabeth Silak, Taylor Stevenson

DECEMBER 14
Claudine Alfonso-Mundis, Tessy Bellomusto, Courtney Brady, Robert Chrzanowski, Lauren Holley, Vivianne Holt, Isabella Mikutel, Amy Motta, Antonina Perrone, Richard Phillips, Daniel Rindge, Bianca Robinson, Scenic Root, Tara Ryan, Ralph Santore, Irene Schaefer, John Stella, Regina Subba-Rao, John Tobin Jr., Kim Trettner, Amy Williamson

DECEMBER 15
Fernando Botelho, Grace Davis, Chris Fleissner, Mary Hack, Arnold Hardy, Eugene Koprowski, Charlotte Low, Theresa O'Hara, Charles Oravetz, Thomas Thode, Karlene Torres

DECEMBER 16
Barbara Castillo, Joanne Cejka, Teresa Colon, David Conover, Barbara Dinardo, Jenna Elliott, Regina Finnigan, Irene Goodwin, Joy Gournic, Kris Keiser, Joan King, Grace Maple, Gail Moro, Susan Strutz, Louise Vos

DECEMBER 17
Antoinette Allen, James Armstrong, Mary Burns, Dylan Cappetta, Maria DeAusen, Joseph DeVries, Michael Erbele, Adam Fenty, Terri Klemstine, Ronald Krupa, Lucas Luis, Theresa McLean, Brittany Moore-Vasser, Mason Ortiz, Biserka Palajs, Felicia Palermo, Patricia Perszyk, Donna Romano, Denyse Student, Mark Toft

DECEMBER 18
Dave Adair, Jason Blinn, Michele Cornelius, Edward Davis, Jonathan Dopp, Daniel Gil, Lori Giliberti, Andy Graff, Mario Imperati, Phuong Nguyen, Jack O'Reilly, Jose Papa, Lisa Peterson, Isabella Rodrigues, Jandel Rodriguez, Samantha Ursal, Lillian Villanova

DECEMBER 19
Bridget Arsenault, Mary DeBlasi, Eva Diaz, Nicholas Kubiet, Jessica Rubin, Richard Rubin Jr., Carolann Schiro, Clayton Thomas III, Michele Vitale

Ministry

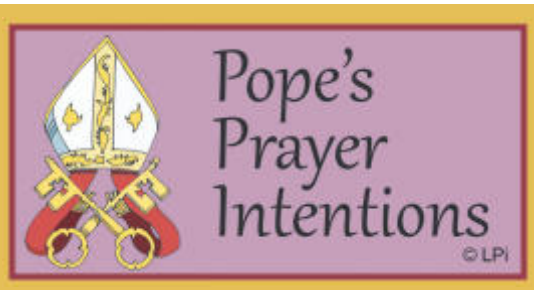
ATTENTION MINISTRY LEADERS!

As we emerge from COVID restrictions, the Parish Council has been working on ways to better connect parishioners with our many ministries and to provide support to our ministry leaders.

Details will be provided at **ministry leaders meetings** on **Jan. 19, 2-4pm and on Jan. 20, 6-8pm**. Ministry leaders need to attend only one of these important meetings—whichever is more convenient.

In preparation for the January meetings, if you are currently leading a parish ministry formally or informally, please provide your ministry's name and your contact information to the Parish Council at parishcouncil@smdmcc.org or put the information in the Listening Post box in the church's gathering area. Questions? Contact the Parish Council via email or call the parish office and leave a message for the Council.

VERY IMPORTANT
Now that ministry events are getting started again, please remember to call Jeannie Johnson in the parish office to place your ministry events on the calendar that occur in the Hall, the Learning Center or the Gathering area. 386-439-2791



DECEMBER: CATECHISTS

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

SANTA'S WORKSHOP IS BACK!

This is a fun opportunity for your little ones to Christmas shop for all their loved ones! We accept gently used and new items for them to select and our elves wrap the gifts for the kids to take home.

Dec 12: 10am-1pm
Dec 19: 10am-1pm

The Sisters of St. Joseph
Invite you to anticipate
The Birth of the Christ Child

A Nativity Open House

Beginning in the beautiful Father Felix Varela Room
and culminating in the spirituality library in the

Villa Flora

Sunday, December 12, 2021
12:00-4:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Renewal Center
234 St. George Street
St. Augustine, FL

All are welcome!

Spirituality books will be displayed along the Flora Promenade and available to consider as special Christmas gifts this year!

SANTA MARIA del MAR
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WELCOME TO SANTA MARIA DEL MAR SPIRITUAL UNIVERSITY

Father Manny's *Bible Study* sessions will be held the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Upcoming courses include:
Morning sessions, Fridays at 10-11:30am in the Learning Center

- Jeff Cavin's *"Revelations"* Jan 7, 14, 21, 28; Feb 4, 11, 18, 25; Mar 4, 11 ($30 for study materials)
- Dr. Ed Sri's *"No Greater Love, A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion" Mar 18, 25, Apr 1, 8 ($27 for study materials)*

Evening session, Thursdays at 6-7:30pm

- Steve Ray's **"Footprints of God"** Apr 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; Jun 2, 9, 16

We pray the Holy Spirit will move you to join us in these sessions.

Exciting news! Back by popular demand! *REVELATION: The Kingdom Yet to Come*

Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come is an intriguing eleven-session study program that shows how the kingdom established by Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven.

Join with presenter Jeff Cavins (video) as he pulls back the veil on the rich symbolism present in Revelation. Discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." Discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." Explore the Church's teaching on the second coming of Christ and the Last Judgment. Understand how God, the Divine Bridegroom, and the Church, his spotless bride, enter into a heavenly, holy, and mystical marriage every time we celebrate Mass.

This course will be held in our Learning Center on Friday mornings at 10am on the following dates: Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11,18 and March 4, 11.

Please contact Jeannie in the office or call her at 386-439-2791 to register. Course material cost is $30.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY SUPPER MINISTRY

FEEDING THE POOR: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A little over five years ago a new ministry was created at Santa Maria del Mar to help individuals and families in need of food and friendship. The Bread of Life (BOL) Ministry was developed to meet some of those needs.

On May 12 we fired up the ovens and opened the virtual doors to begin take out service once again. We are currently serving nearly 200 meals each week.

Please consider spending a few hours of your time in this very worthwhile ministry. Call the office and leave your name, phone number and email address. We will contact you with orientation and team assignment.

You can donate to Bread of Life by going to this website: https://www.osvhub.com/smdmcc/funds/bread-of-life

The Parish Council Listening Post

Do you have a comment or suggestion for the Parish Council to consider? Submit items on paper by placing them in the **Listening Post box** located on the cabinet under the wall-mounted TV in the Gathering Area, or you can submit items via email by sending them to: **listeningpost@smdmcc.org**.

All submitted items must be civil and respectful, and be within the scope of the Parish Council, i.e., the pastoral life of the parish.

From the Office of the Chancellor COVID-19 Safety Note: Given Bishop Estévez's recent decision to lift the mask requirement for fully vaccinated persons attending Mass begs the question concerning persons who are unvaccinated. Persons who have hesitated in obtaining the vaccination are strongly encouraged to do so. Until such time, unvaccinated persons older than age two should wear a mask. DO NOT put masks on children younger than 2-years-old. Additional CDC guidance may be obtained at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html

WHY DO WE DO THAT?
Catholic Life Explained

Question: What is holy water and how do I explain the reason that it is placed at the entrances of churches to my non-Catholic friends?

Answer: Holy water is a sacramental, a reminder of the life of the Church expressed and celebrated through the sacraments. God's grace is mediated through word and gesture (the outward signs). This comes to us through Jesus (instituted by Christ) as he entrusts to the Church his saving mission (to give grace). In turn the Church, through the sacraments, shares that grace and mission with us.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes on our foreheads to remind us of our origins, humbly created from the dust. But by blessing ourselves with holy water, we are reminded of our destiny! We are baptized sons and daughters of God. This is also a call to conversion, to live more fully our baptismal call to live as disciples of Jesus. We see holy water whenever we renew our baptismal promises. This will occur during the Easter liturgy as well, reminding us that we are indeed on a journey of faith and renewed in Christ. Blessing ourselves with holy water reminds us that we are baptized into a community faith, and always in need of turning from sin and toward God. Holy water is a visible sign of our baptism!

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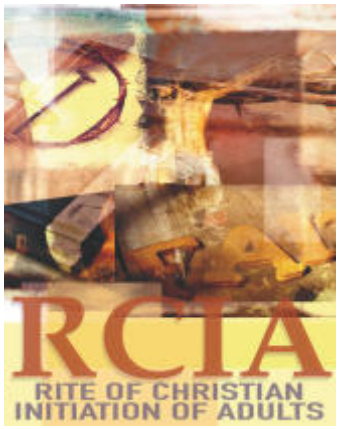
WELCOME HOME

Wednesday 6pm RCIA Classes
September 22, 2021 to June 12, 2022

Catechumenate Period

Dec 15	The Gospels
Dec 22	Old Testament
Dec 29	New Testament

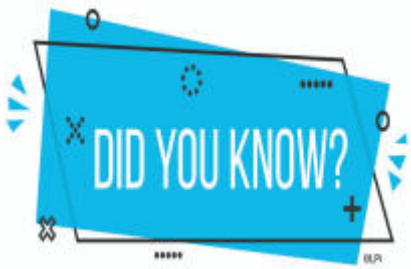
RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. It is a rite which welcomes people seeking to explore the Catholic Faith and join our church family.



Seeking Volunteers to Assist in Faith Sharing!

If you would like more information please contact:

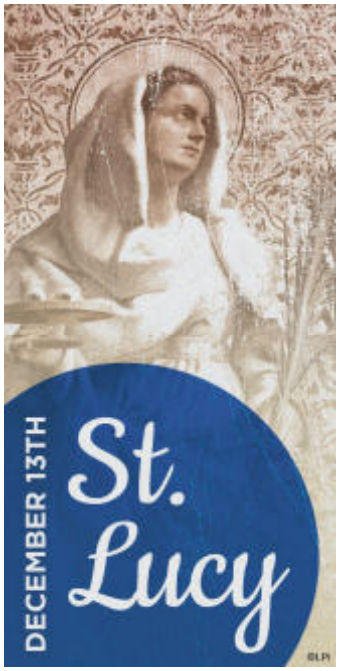
- Jack Williamson, RCIA Coordinator (buvezvin@aol.com).
- Denise Collins, DRE (denise@smdmcc.org)



Just as the Word of the Father, taking flesh became like men so also the words of God, expressed in the words of men, are like human language in every way. The Church welcomes Scripture, however, not as a human word but as that which it really is, that is, the word of God. Christianity is not a religion of the book but of the Word of God. (CCC 101,104,108)

CHILDREN'S MASS

ST. LUCY
Feast Day December 13



A name that means "light," St. Lucy (283 – 304) is the patron saint of those blind or suffering with eye trouble. Not much is known about her life, except that she was determined to remain a virgin and thus refused marriage.

History tells the story of a frustrated suitor who eventually accused St. Lucy of being a Christian (at crime at the time), and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304.

Today, we celebrate a number of traditions that incorporate symbolic meaning of St. Lucy as the "bearer" of light in the darkness of winter. This is particularly seen in Scandinavian countries, with their long dark winters. There, a young girl dressed in a white dress and a red sash (as the symbol of martyrdom) carries palms and wears a crown or wreath of candles on her head. In Denmark, Norway and Sweden, girls dressed as Lucy carry rolls and cookies in procession as songs are sung.

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2021-2022 Faith Formation Schedule

Visit our website: www.smdmcc.org
or contact Denise@smdmcc.org
for more information!

Faith Formation (K-8) Sunday 9:45-10:45

*First Sunday of the Month Children's Mass at 11am. Attendance encouraged.

Dec. 12	Class	Jan. 30	Class	Mar. 27	Class
Dec. 19	Class/ Pageant (Main Cast) 2-5	Feb.6	**Class/Children's Mass 11am**	Apr. 3	**Class/Children's Mass 11am**
Dec. 23	Pageant (All Cast) 10-1	Feb. 13	Class	Apr. 10	Class
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Pageant (4pm)	Feb. 20	Class	Apr. 17	**Easter Sunday**
Dec. 27	No Class/ Christmas Break	Feb. 27	Class	Apr. 24	Last Class
Jan. 9	**Class/Children's Mass 11am**	Mar .6	**Class/Children's Mass 11am**	Apr. 30	**First Communion time TBA**
Jan. 16	NO CLASS	Mar. 13	Class	May 7	**Confirmation @ 10am**
Jan. 23	Class	Mar. 20	No Class/ Spring Break		

Life Teen met in November for "Teensgiving." We enjoyed our families, food and lots of fun! It was a great event and special thanks to the Barnier family for hosting!

Congratulations to Lino Giovanneti! The winner of the Life Teen Christmas Basket Raffle!

Is your IRA an IOU to the IRS? Is your IRA or 401k Tax Free? Is your Will or Trust updated?

Frank Benischeck
As seen On…

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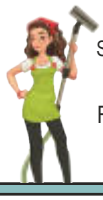

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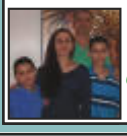

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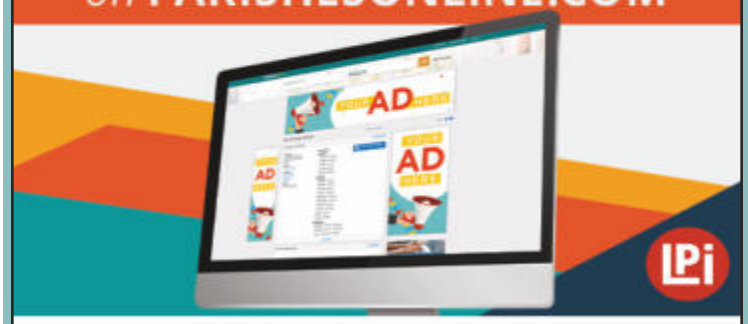

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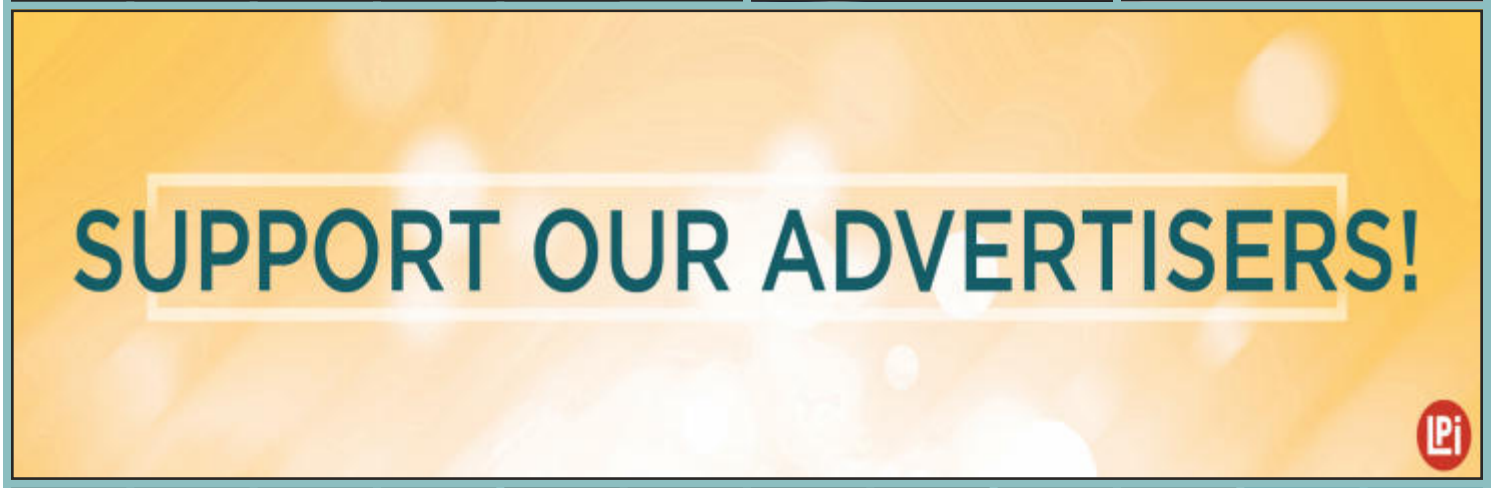

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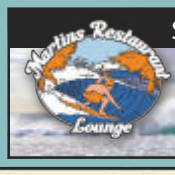

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