ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

535 Rucker Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 P: 770-475-4501 F: 770-772-0355 www.sta.org



24° DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

What relationship in my life could be healed or strengthened through forgiveness?

PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA:

¿Necesitas perdonar y reconciliarte con alguien?



Office Hours, Parish News

OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F. The Faith Formation Office is closed.

Confessions Mondays and Wednesdays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Come to the front office.

HORARIO DE OFICINA

La oficina de la parroquia está abierta de 9 a.m. a 4 p.m. de lunes a viernes.

Confesiones lunes y miércoles a partir de las 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

PASTORAL STAFF

Msgr. Daniel Stack Pastor Fr. Roberto Herrera Parochial Vicar Fr. Paul W. Berny In Residence

FOLLOW US

MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday On Facebook Live at 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday Mass is open to Seniors (62 and over)

Misa del jueves en español - 7:00 p.m.

Weekend Mass (Outdoors)

Sunday 9 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (English) and 11a.m. (En español)

The Sunday Masses in English and Spanish can be found on our website, Facebook, and YouTube on Saturday at 4:00 p.m.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What relationship in my life could be healed or strengthened through forgiveness?

Each week, members of the staff gather to study and reflect on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel, and from that study and reflection they prepare the Question of the Week. Refer back to today's Gospel to reflect on your personal response.

Today's Gospel is MT 18:21-35

PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

¿Necesitas perdonar y reconciliarte con alguien?

Cada semana, miembros del personal se reúnen para estudiar y reflexionar en el próximo evangelio del domingo y en base de ese estudio y reflexión ellos preparan la Pregunta de la Semana. Usa el evangelio y las lecturas para encontrar tu respuesta personal a la pregunta.

El Evangelio de hoy MT 18:21-35



STARTING SEPTEMBER 20, THE 7 P.M. SUNDAY MASS WILL MOVE TO 5 P.M. INDOORS

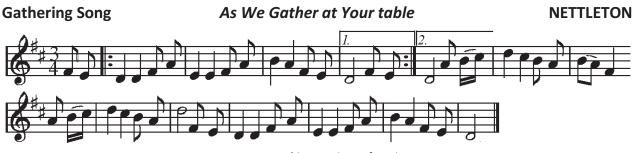
This mass and all subsequent indoor masses will have limited seating. Seating for this Mass is limited and will take place on a first come, first served basis. Those who wish to remain outdoors are welcome to participate in Mass from the prayer garden or the social circle. For your safety, all who participate from inside the church will be expected to follow the guidance of the hospitality ministers for seating, Holy Communion and for exiting the building. Masks required, no exceptions. We encourage you to arrive early and with your full party for easier accommodations.

Questions regarding our new 5:00 p.m. indoor Mass:

- 1. When does the 5:00 p.m. Mass begin? The 5:00 p.m. Mass will start on Sunday, September 20.
- 2. Do I need to reserve a seat? No, at this time we will not use a reservation system, but that may change. We will accommodate all on a first come, first served basis.
- **3.** How many people can sit inside the church? For the parish to comply with social distancing regulations, 140 people are allowed in the church at one time.
- 4. What time will doors open? Doors open at 4:30 p.m.
- 5. What if the Church is full when I arrive? We will set up areas outside of the sanctuary for you to celebrate the mass. Overflow space will be available in the narthex and chapel. As noted above, seating will be available outdoors in the prayer garden and social circle. Communion will be distributed using our plexiglass screen.

A PARTIR DEL 20 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2020, LA MISA DEL DOMINGO DE LAS 7PM SE VA MOVER A LAS 5PM EN LA IGLESIA

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME September 13, 2020



NETTLETON, 87 87 D; J. Wyeth's Repository of Music, Part II, 1813.

As we gather at your Table, As we listen to your Word, Help us know, O God, your presence: Let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story Till we claim it as our own; Teach us through this holy banquet How to make Love's vict'ry known.

Turn our worship into witness In the sacrament of life; Send us forth to love and serve you, Bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion To forgive as you forgave; May we still behold your image In the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon Other guests to share that feast Where triumphant Love will welcome Those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us Nor will pride our peace destroy, As we join with saints and angels To repeat the sounding joy. Text: 87 87 D; Carl P. Daw, Jr., © 1989 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

First Reading

Sirach 27:30-28:7

Forgive the injustice of your neighbor, for then your own sins will be pardoned. Remember death, stop sinning, recall the commandments, love your neighbor, think of God's covenant, and overlook the faults of others.





Second Reading

Romans 14:7-9

Owen Alsott

We are not our own masters, but we are responsible to the Lord as servants. In life and in death we belong to the Lord. Christ died and rose to life in order to become "Lord of both the dead and the living."

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

The Nicene Creed

In a lesson on forgiveness, Jesus compared the reign of God to a king settling accounts with his officials. Moved by compassion, the king forgave some or all of each debt. An official then extorted the full amount he was owed and the king punished him.

Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation

he came down from heaven.

At the words that follow, up to and including "and became man," all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,and became man.For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Excerpt from the English translation of The Roman Missal, ©2010, ICEL. All rights reserved.

er Pontius Pilate,

Prayer of the Faithful

Response: Make us vessels of mercy, Lord.

Today's Second Collection supports our parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society.



The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is my life and my refuge, when I call God hears.

If you dwelt, O Lord, upon our sinfulness, then who could stand? But with you there is mercy and forgiveness and a guiding hand.

O Lord, hear the sound of my call and answer me, My heart cries out for your presence; it is you I seek.

As sentinels wait upon the daylight, wait for the Lord. I trust in your kindness and redemption; and your faithful word.

Before all the mountains were begotten and earth took shape, even then, O Lord, you were our refuge throughout ev'ry age. Text: Based on Psalms 25, 27, 90, 130; Mike Balhoff. Text and music: © 1973, 1978, Damean Music. All rights reserved.

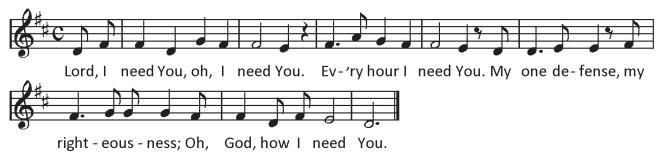
Songs for the Communion Procession



Lord. I Need You Matt Maher, Daniel Carson **Christy Nockels, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill**

Lord, I come, I confess, Bowing here, I find my rest,

And without You, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.



Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are. And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

So teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.

And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

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Go Make a Difference **Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek** Go make a diff'rence. We can make a diff'rence. Go make a diffrence in the world. Go make a diff'rence. We can make a diff'rence. Go make a diffrence in the world.

We are the salt of the earth, called to let the people see

the love of God in you and me.

Recessional Song

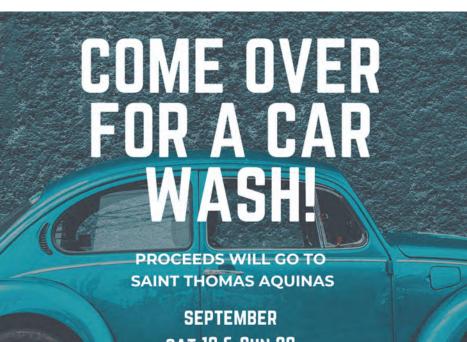
We are the light of the world, not to be hidden but be seen.

Go make a diff'rnce in the world.

We are the hands of Christ reaching out to those in need, the face of God for all to see. We are the spirit of hope, we are the voice of peace. Go make a diff'rnce in the world. Text: Based on Matthew 5:13-16. Text and music © 1997, Steve Angrisano and Thomas N. Tomaszek.

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SAT 19 & SUN 20 8AM TO 8PM

535 RUCKER RD, ALPHARETTA, GA



8AM A 8PM

DISCIPLES AROUND YOU

Parish News

WHY NOT TRY ALPHA?

- Do you have questions about your purpose in life?
- Do you want to know who Jesus is and what Christianity is?
- Would you like to create new and engaging friendships?

Alpha online begins on Sept. 16. Join the over 200 parishioners and parish guests who have successfully completed this course. Don't know what ALPHA is? Well, it's a series of interactive online courses exploring the basics of Christian faith. If you are looking for a space to connect with God and connect with each other --Alpha is for you! If you would like information about Alpha online or if you are interested in signing up, please stop by the Alpha table after mass or contact Mimi Madrid or Martha Zamorano at alpha@ sta.org or call 770-475-4501.

Alpha Online starts Sept. 16 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. via Zoom.

Register with Mimi Madrid at 832-334-8284, call Martha Zamorano at the Parrish Office 770-475-4501 or email us at alpha@ sta.org

TE INVITAMOS A ALPHA

- ¿Tienes preguntas sobre el propósito de tu vida?
- ¿Quiéres saber quién es Cristo y qué es el cristianismo?
- ¿Te gustaría formar nuevas amistades?

Alpha en línea inicia el 16 de septiembre. Unete a más de las 200 personas que han tomado el curso de Alpha aquí en Santo Tomás de Aquino. ¿Qué es ALPHA? Alpha es un programa de 11 sesiones donde podrás aprender de una forma abierta y amigable sobre qué es el cristianismo, hacer preguntas y compartir tu punto de vista. Si estás buscando como conectarte con Dios y con otras personas, Alpha es para ti. Si deseas registrarte o más información, busca la mesa de Alpha al término de la misa. O contactanos, Mimi Madrid o Martha Zamorano alpha@sta. org o llamando al 770-475-4501.

;lniciamos Curso Alpha en Línea el 16 de septiembre de 7:00 p.m. a 8:45 p.m. vía Zoom.

Registrate con Martha Zamorano Ilamando a la Parroquia al 770-475-4501 o manda un email a alpha@sta.org



FAITHFUL IN THE LORD Amen Corner & Parish News



Amen Corner Kathy Kuczka

My mother often expressed her Catholic faith in ways that were subtle but sure. For example, whenever a piece of food that had been blessed fell on the floor, she would pick it up and reverence it with a

kiss. Whenever we would drive by a Catholic church, she would make the sign of the cross. Whenever Palm Sunday arrived, she would loop a palm around the crucifix that hung in her bedroom and then would burn that palm in the garden the following year. These small acts of devotion told us that church wasn't the only place where God was found. God was revealed in the smallest piece of blessed food, in the sign of the cross, and in a palm branch that had been sprinkled with holy water. These actions and objects are part of what the Church calls "sacramentals".

Sacraments vs. Sacramentals

Sacraments were instituted by Christ and have their roots in Scripture and in the apostolic traditions. Sacramentals, on the other hand, were not instituted by Christ, and do not share the same pride of place. Like sacraments, sacramentals are sacred signs. They too point to a spiritual reality beyond what meets the eye. Sacramentals prepare the faithful to celebrate the sacraments, and many sacramentals are instrumental to those very celebrations. For example, holy water is used at Baptism. Blessed oil is used at Confirmation, at Ordination and in the Anointing of the Sick.

Blessings

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "Among sacramentals, blessings (of persons, meals, objects, and places) come first." Catholics love blessings! Blessings are assurances of God's presence and protection. The Hebrew Scriptures are filled with stories of God's favor bestowed in the form of a blessing. The Bible begins with God creating the earth and blessing all living creatures. In the gospels, Jesus is often seen blessing others, especially children.

One of the first things we do when we walk into church is to bless ourselves with holy water from the baptismal font. This is only one of several blessings we experience at Mass. The deacon is blessed before he proclaims the Gospel. At the end of Mass, the entire community is sent forth with a blessing. Oils are blessed at the Chrism Mass, and a newly married couple is blessed after they've bestowed the sacrament on each other.

We even have an official ritual book known as the Book of Blessings. This book contains a compilation of blessings pertaining to people, objects, and various occasions, as well as blessings and services connected with official parish events. There are blessings for students and teachers, blessings for travelers, blessings for homes and offices, even blessings for boats and fishing gear. This tells us that everything, even fishing equipment comes from God and is sacred. Blessings are a way for us to acknowledge this reality.



Who can bless? Certain blessings are reserved for ordained ministers, but many blessings, such as the blessing of children by their parents or the blessing of a meal, may be performed by laypersons because of the priesthood bestowed on them in baptism. As the Catechism reminds us, "Every baptized person is to be a blessing and to bless." A blessing is not simply meant to rest upon the person receiving the blessing but is expected to be shared with others.

That same idea applies to objects that are blessed. Incense that is blessed is then used to venerate the faithful, the Book of the Gospels, the Altar and the gifts, and the deceased at a funeral. The fire at the Easter Vigil is blessed and from that fire the Paschal Candle is lit and from the Paschal Candle, the candles are lit and carried in procession by the faithful.

All objects that have been blessed are treated with reverence, so It is customary to dispose of items such as palms, rosaries, and liturgical books by either burying them or burning them. Blessed candles can be melted and the wax can be used to make new candles.

Different Types of Blessings

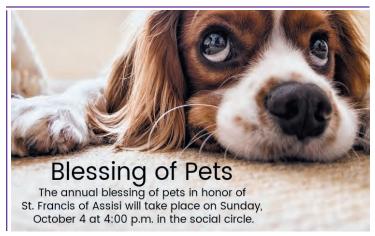
Some blessings are more formal, such as the consecration of a person who is dedicating their life to God through a particular religious order. Objects reserved for special use, such as a church altar, are also consecrated.

An Exorcism too is considered a blessing. It is bestowed upon a person struggling with the powers of evil. A simple exorcism is performed at baptism. Catechumens may also experience a minor exorcism as they journey to the sacraments of initiation.

Sacramental Actions

Sacred actions such as making the sign of the cross, genuflecting, kneeling, bowing the head and sprinkling with holy water are also designated as sacramentals.

Sacramentals, like sacraments, help deepen our relationship to God. They teach the faithful, as my mother taught her children, that no person or thing is outside the grace of God, that every-thing has the potential to encounter the divine, that every morsel of life is holy.



FAITHFUL IN THE LORD

Mass Intentions - Pray for the Sick - Rest in Pease

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Moises Abreu Consuelo Alvarez Vincent Amatulli, Sr. Sebastian Ambrosini I.A Louise Arrington Sister Susan Arcaro Ted Bare **Raymond Barry** Thomas Barts Agnes Bloomberg Dana Brady Lvnn Bradv Rob Brady Kristen Buchanan Stephanie C. Stephanie Callaway Maria Dolores Carrio Paul Carrio Brian Cartwright Elliott Cartwright Armeda Cassell Matthew Chandler Nancy Chandler Lynn Clark Sally Clark **Cecil Collins** Luke Conger leff Cook Mauricio Cuervo Curtis Cullum Joe Dawson Georgeann Delling Ann Del uca Liliana DiFabio Sophi Dolannto Don Morganna Donathan Ellie **Tony Elliott** Juan Esteban Alvarez Debby Evans Judy Faber Gillian Fate Joan B. Feldhaus Jo Ellen Fiorvante Rene Flores

Dough Free Maria Garcia Lori Garth Dora Genesky John Genesky Sally Gifford Joyce Golden Amarylis Gomez Rosalie Gransden Larry Harvey John Hensel Mark Herwaldt Cristina Hernandez Chuck Huber Rebecca Jackson Kim Jette Johnny Steve Kallock Heather Kemer Kathy Kicklighter & Family Marsha Kookan Ryann Kopcka Mary L. Dn. Edmund La House Dorothy Leone Melisa Lewis Joyce Longmire Gerard M. Lynch **Tiffany Lyons** Bob MacPhee Francis Marizan Mollie Martin **Adeline Masters** Ann Masterson Anne McShane Fr. Doug Medlin Sheila Medlin Gabriel Mejorando Sully Miller Jim Musiol Kaye Moran **Byron Morris Rafael Flores Munoz** Betty Murphy Santiago Nava Leanne Nendza Carl Norris Fric Norris

Angelo Noto Linda Oleszczuk Mary Jo Orr Carol Ortman Mary Peska Pat Quirk Fr. Justino Ramirez Mario Ravry Sr. Andre Reid Victor Rivest Isaac Rojo Marjory Rosser Margarita Rubio Courtney S. Lori S. Wanda S. Bert Sambera Maria Sanchez Naomi Sainchez Nick Schumacher Addy Segerson Fr. Serafin **Mickey Shopenhorst** Mike Sperando Ashley Marleny Stackpole **Mike Steines** Chris Stinnett Mava Stinnett Dn. John Strachan Steve Strader Susan Max Sweeting Angela Tavlor Chuck Thom Jane Thomas Dick Tobin Blanca Trejos Donna Turman Ryan Vaughan Vera Joe Wagner Mike Webber Dr. Josesh Wemers Mary Lois Williams Rhonda Wilson Betty Wylie Greg Zino

This list of those suffering illness is a ministry of Forever Young Friends and is updated at noon on Thursday every week. To be listed for six weeks, removed or extended, contact Marianne Fronek at *marianneFronek@gmail.com*. Let us pray together as a family for your intentions.



Mass

Monday, September 14 12 Noon (+) William F. Pristavec by Claire & Ed Dravis

Tuesday, September 15

12 Noon (+) Larry Mense by Ralph & Jean Mense

- (+) Paul Gerard Engel by Tom & Ellen Hoover
- (+) Leslie Van Vurst by Claire & Ed Dravis

Wednesday, September 16

12 Noon (+) Fabricio Torres by the Andrade Family

Thursday, September 17

12 Noon (+) Marvin Barnes Pugh Sr. by the Leedham Family

- (+) Valerie Casey by Dn. Bernard Casey
- (+) Joe Spinozzi by Ann Masterson

7:00 p.m. (+) Luisa Estrada Rogue by Elena Estrada Rogue

Friday, September 18

12 Noon (+) Robert Angel Sr. by the Leedham Family

Saturday, September 19

5:30 p.m. (+) Mike Feeney & Peggy Daub by Sue Feeney 7:30 p.m. For the Intentions of the Parish Family

Sunday, September 20

7:30 a.m. (L) Ed Dravis by Claire, Cathy & Donna Dravis
9:00 p.m. (+) Velma Austin by Mary Ellen Phillips
10:30 p.m. (L) Philip Newcomer by Tom & Ellen Hoover
12 Noon (+) Julie Terrill Thompson by the Hamblin Family
2:30 p.m. (+) Pedro Concha by His Family
5:30 p.m. (+) Eugene Francis Canal by George Maklakiewicz

ASK FOR MASKS

We are so thankful to those that generously offered to make masks



for our Parish. Over the last few months, they have come in handy for our visitors. Because of this, we are running low. If you are able to make masks, or know someone that is willing to, please contact Cindy Caughman at ccaughman@sta.org.

Estamos muy agradecidos con aquellos que generosamente se ofrecieron a hacer máscaras para nuestra parroquia. Durante los últimos meses, han sido útiles

para nuestros visitantes. Debido a esto, se nos están accabando. Si usted puede hacer máscaras o conoce a alguien que esté dispuesto a hacerlas, comuníquese con Cindy Caughman en ccaughman@sta.org.





"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered. "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times."

MATTHEW 18:21-22

SACRAMENTO DE LA CONFESIÓN

Santo Tomás de Aquino, Alpharetta Lunes: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Miércoles: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Sábado: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Sin confesión el 14 de septiembre

San Andrés, Roswell: Martes: 5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Llamar para hacer una cita

BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR

Sunday Mass attendance is increasing as the weeks go on! Because of this, we ask that you please bring your own chair to Mass. There is limited seating in the prayer garden in case you forget your chair, and communion will be provided there as well.

We are so thankful you have decided to join us for Mass outdoors! See you next week!

OUR SISTER PARISH IN HAITI

By Lori McMurray - Dentist for the Haiti Dental Mission - Continued from last week Each visit we drive 5 hours through the rocks and ruts until we arrive at our sister parish, St. Martin. During this ride we have passed many women in children without shoes walking on the rocky dirt path. Donkey's carrying a heavy cargo on their back walking with a young shirtless boy. Getting closer to Delatte where our church is, the faces of the community appear brighter. The people and the children start smiling and waving back to us. I feel happy now! We have come to the place where I believe God wants us to be. God, I am your servant, use my hands to help and to heal my brothers and sisters in Delatte. Can't I do more? The people are so gentle in manner, so grateful that we are here. Why do some people suffer so much?

I believe seeing us, brings them hope. It brings me joy that we can make a difference. I believe that the people of St. Thomas Aquinas has been generous in helping these severely underserved people. I wish their expression of warmth and gratitude can travel across the ocean so you can feel their tender emotions too. We receive signs welcoming us, so many people there greeting us. The food is prepared for us, our bags are taken to our dormitory and to the church where we will set up our dental clinic.

As I share this story with you, I am envisioning every moment. One year, I recall the roads being washed out so the UNICEF truck could not deliver rice and beans to the school children. I recall feeling flabbergasted that here we were being served three balanced and hearty meals each day, while the children did not receive their rice and beans, for most, their only meal each day. I asked Fr. if we could go without a meal or 2 each day so the children could eat. After all we did have plenty of "meat on our bones" while they were all frail and thin. He explained that was not necessary, but my feelings of deep sadness and gluttony caused tears to well up in my eyes.

I will be ever changed from my involvement with St. Thomas's Haiti Mission group. While our group members had to miss work, close offices, finance their own airfare, food and supplies, I believe I received more riches than I donated. I appreciate God's goodness in providing a way to make these trips happen. I have been touched so deeply that now I have become less wasteful and so much more generous. I know now that a donation of \$150 a month fills my heart more than a nice evening out to dinner on a Saturday night.





HOPE IS ALL AROUND US

Stewardship & Parish News

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

Sept. 13 St. Vincent de Paul - STA
Sept. 20 Archdiocesan SvDP
Sept. 27 Georgia Bulletin
Oct. 4 Maintenance Fund
Oct. 11 St. Vincent de Paul - STA

TRAE TU PROPIA SILLA

¡La asistencia a la misa dominical está aumentando a medida que pasan las semanas! Debido a esto, le pedimos que por favor traiga su propia silla a la Misa. Hay asientos limitados en el jardín de oración en caso de que olvide su silla, y la comunión también se brindará allí. ¡Estamos muy agradecidos de que haya decidido unirse a nosotros para la misa al aire libre! ¡Nos vemos la próxima semana!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Take 18 minutes out of your day to watch The Children's Liturgy of the Word with your family.

The Children's Liturgy of the Word is a short video helping children learn Biblical concepts in an engaging and entertaining way. Short and easy to watch, they are a great discussion starter for any age, though designed for the young. Subjects have included The Keys to Heaven, The Treasure of Heaven, Jesus' Parable of the Seeds among others. Now is the time for you to share the gift of our faith with your children as you are the most important person in their spiritual life. Watch The Children's Liturgy of the Word and you will have a shared experience you can refer to when the inevitable storms of life occur.

CLOW comes out every two weeks (on Fridays) on our social media and website!



Children's Liturgy of the Word | 21st Sunday in Ordinary Tim



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 www.4lpi.com

