

# St. Michael Catholic Church

## Tybee Island, GA 31328

December 15, 2019 | Third Sunday of Advent

**Mission Statement:** St. Michael's is a Community of believers rooted in Catholic tradition that seeks to serve others through living out the Gospel message by witnessing to the values of love, community, stewardship, and service.

*Our Parish Community extends a warm welcome to all our guests and visitors.* If you would like to register as a member of our parish community, please call the Parish Office or register on-line.



### PARISH STAFF

Rev. Jerry Ragan – Pastor [hapragan@hotmail.com](mailto:hapragan@hotmail.com)  
Ms. Delia Robinson – Office Manager  
Mrs. Ginny Murphy – Youth Coordinator  
Mr. Ryan Beke – Music Director

**Parish Office** – (912) 786-4505 Phone (912) 786-4166 Fax  
Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. (Closed noon until 1 p.m.)  
[office@saintmichaelstybee.org](mailto:office@saintmichaelstybee.org)

**Mailing Address:** 802 Lovell Avenue

### Parish Religious Formation Program

Fr. Jerry Ragan – RCIA  
Ginny Murphy – Youth Program  
Contact the Parish Office regarding PREP

**Baptismal/Wedding Preparation:** Call office for information

**Websites:** <http://www.saintmichaelstybee.org>  
<http://www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection>

### PARISH CONTACTS

Pastoral Council Co-Presidents – Mike Beytagh/Carolyn Williams  
Parish Finance Mgr. – Mark Schroder  
Holy Name Society – Tommy Edenfield  
Administration/Buildings and Grounds – Mike Beytagh/Matt Ferry  
Endowment Fund – Tommy Butler

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.

### Weekday Mass Schedule:

Monday - Thursday - 8:00 a.m.  
Friday – No Morning Service

### Holy Day Mass Schedule:

8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. – *consult the bulletin*

**Low-Gluten hosts** – please check in the sacristy

**Sound amplification system** – please contact the office

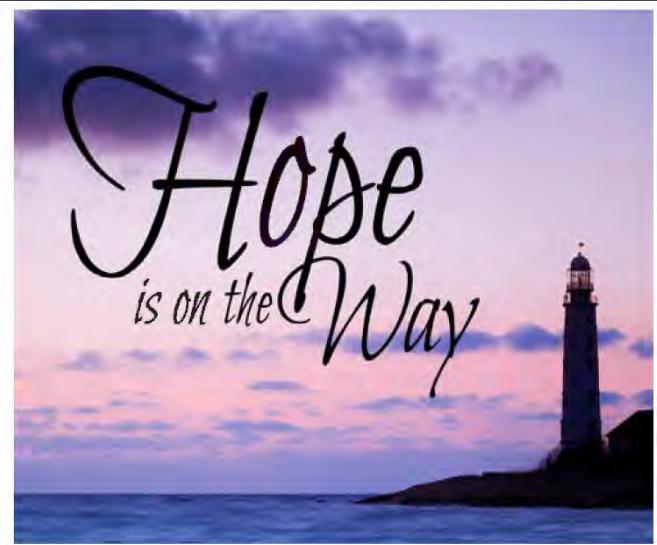
**Accessibility/seating** – ramp to left of main entrance; seating available in front pews

**CONFESIONS: 5:00-5:45 p.m. on Saturday OR by appointment**

### St. Michael Thrift Store Hours

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10 a.m. – 12 noon  
Corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Butler Avenue

[www.facebook.com/SaintMichael1891](http://www.facebook.com/SaintMichael1891)  
[www.instagram.com/stmichaelstybee](http://www.instagram.com/stmichaelstybee)



### December 21 and 22, 2019

#### 6:00 PM

Lectors: \_\_\_\_\_  
Altar Servers: Cameron Beke  
EMEs: Cathy Anderson/Karen Sheehan/Betty Dixon  
Ushers: Tim Sheehan/Kevin Cook  
Cantor: Carol Weidner

#### 8:00 AM

Lectors: Tom/Mary Ellen Beytagh  
Altar Servers: Matt Ferry  
EMEs: Theresa Pottratz/Gayle Valbuena/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Ushers: Dana Johnson/Matt Alt  
Cantor: Theresa Bossick

#### 11:00 AM

Lectors: Christine Ristuccia/Ginny Murphy  
Altar Servers: Mike Lynch  
EMEs: Theresa Cannady/Terri O’Leary/Mark Schroder  
Ushers: Joe O’Leary/Frank Kelly  
Cantor: Kathy Yonka

## Fr. Jerry's Corner – December 15, 2019 – Third Sunday of Advent

The worst advertisement for Christianity is a gloomy pessimistic face. The philosopher, Nietzsche, once said, "If you Christians want me to believe in your redeemer, you will have to look more redeemed." This has always been a challenge for me. In my vocation as a priest it is important that I be social, but I am naturally somewhat introverted. So, I often have this very pensive, stern look on my face as my mind is trying to process things. My childhood nickname was "Happy". When Sister Ann Williams, my eighth-grade teacher, heard the other students calling me Happy she said to me, "If you are Happy, you ought to notify your face."

As Christians, our joy is not primarily rooted in the money or possessions we have or the job that we may love or having a great family. The sad reality of human existence is that any or all of these could be taken away in the twinkling of an eye. So, when our joy is dependent on stuff outside of us, it rests on shaky ground.

As followers of Christ, our joy must be rooted in the belief and hopefully the felt experience that God loves us unconditionally and that Christ, through his resurrection has defeated suffering, evil and death. We will experience suffering, evil and death in this life but they do not have the last word. In the end if we are connected to Christ, we will defeat all the enemies of life and enter into the joy of the Lord.

This third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. It is the Sunday on which we wear pink vestments and light the pink candle on the Advent wreath as a sign of our joy. Gaudete is the Latin word for "let us rejoice." These words are found in the Entrance Antiphon for this day, which are taken from Philippians 4:4-5: "Gaudete in Domino semper" ("Let us rejoice in the Lord always").

Today I rejoice in our Faith Community. I rejoice in our beautiful little Church and more importantly, I rejoice in the wonderful people of faith who gather to worship our gracious God in this Church. And even though joy is not rooted in money I rejoice in your generosity to our offertory, which makes it easier for me "to notify my face that I am Happy." Such generosity allows us to contribute \$1000.00 to our Endowment Fund every month. Fr. Tom started this Fund just four years ago so that there'd be a Catholic presence on Tybee for years to come. I rejoice to report that its market value surpassed a million dollars last month. I rejoice that your generosity allowed us to contribute \$800. to the Social Apostolate in November and as we approach Christmas \$1000. to the Franciscan Sisters who taught in our parish school for so many years. As Catholic educators they formed our children in the faith without receiving a just or living wage. I am happy that we can help them in their retirement.

I rejoice that so many of you are actively involved in our parish. I rejoice in the great work the Pastoral Council is doing in developing a set of priorities for us to move forward in the Spirit. I rejoice in the great affirmation that I receive from so many of you in our faith community. Your care for me is humbling and very much appreciated. I rejoice in the strength we find as we celebrate God's love in and through the Sacraments.

As we approach Christmas, I'd ask you to consider sharing the good news of our Faith Community. Many of us know those who have fallen away from the Faith --- who perhaps never attend Mass even on Christmas or Easter. Consider taking a moment to invite someone who is no longer affiliated with the Church back to Mass on Christmas Day. And, because it is a day of celebration, extend the invitation to Christmas brunch or dinner.

Christmas Eve Mass will be at 4pm (with Children's Nativity Play) and 6pm  
Christmas Day Mass will be at 10am

Fr. Jerry Ragan

**PRAYER ANGELS** - The following families will be remembered in prayer the week of December 15th:

- Laura and Larry O'Hayer
- Amorette Zittrauer
- Walter Muller



**PRAYER LIST:** Chuck Brown, Anna Bryant, Ken Colquitt, Margaret Duloher, Cheryl Di Giovanni, Charlie Johnson, Judy Kuchera, Brenda Manucy, Jeff Oliver, Teah Stillings, Tara Watkins, Angie Weidner, Janey Welch and Dena White.



#### **ALTAR FLOWERS:**

The altar flowers are for St. Michael's Parishioners.



If you would like to donate flowers for an anniversary, birthday, or memorial, call the Parish Office. Cost: \$80.

**MARTIN DE PORRES SOCIETY:** will be hosting their 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Blessings Project at Hubert Middle School, 768 Grant St. Volunteers are needed to box and bag food and toys for 150 disadvantaged families on: Friday, Dec. 20 1:30 PM – 7:00 PM, Sat., Dec 21 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM and Mon., Dec. 23 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM. Please contact Mrs. Yolanda Negron at 912-667-5091 or [ysnegron@gmail.com](mailto:ysnegron@gmail.com). Confirmation of participation is needed.

#### **ST. MICHAEL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS**

**PARTY:** Santa Claus is coming to town! Sun., Dec 22 St. Michael's Holy Name Society will be hosting a children's Christmas party at All Saints Episcopal Church from 2 PM to 4 PM. There will be arts and crafts as well as refreshments. Bring your children and grandchildren.

**THE SUPER BOWL OYSTER ROAST:** Sun., Feb. 2, 1-4 PM, Memorial Park! Reverse raffle, entertainment, all you can eat! Super fun, and food before the Super Bowl! Contact Mike Beytagh [mbtflm@comcast.net](mailto:mbtflm@comcast.net) or 912-856-0379.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES** must be in by NOON on Mon., Dec. 16 to be in the Christmas bulletin.

**MARCH FOR LIFE 2020:** On Friday, Jan. 24, 2020 Youth Rally, Mass and March for Life on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Overnight charter bus leaves Savannah on Fri., Jan 23 and returns Sat., Jan 25. Register at <https://diosav.org/marchforlife>.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Each of us has his or her own role to play in the coming of the kingdom of God. John the Baptist was called to be the herald of the Messiah, preparing the way of the Lord. To what is the Lord calling me?

#### **Sacrificial Giving** December 8, 2019



<b>Yearly Offertory Budget</b>	<b>\$324,000.00</b>
<b>Weekly Average Needed</b>	<b>\$ 6,230.77</b>
<b>Collected Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 3,995.00</b>
<b>Same Time Last Year</b>	<b>\$ 4,139.00</b>
<b>Religious Retirement</b>	<b>\$ 1,856.00</b>
<b>Budgeted YTD</b>	<b>\$ 143,307.71</b>
<b>Collected YTD</b>	<b>\$ 142,392.78</b>

#### **Mass Intentions** FOR THE WEEK

Sat., Dec 14	6:00 PM † Jake Bock
Sun., Dec 15	8:00 AM The Parish
	11:00 AM † William Cox
Mon., Dec 16	8:00 AM † Harry Persse
Tues., Dec 17	8:00 AM † Anna Miller
Wed., Dec 18	8:00 AM † Linehan Pinckney (A)
Thurs., Dec 19	8:00 AM † Eid Yusef
Fri., Dec 20	8:00 AM <u>No Morning Service</u>
Sat., Dec 21	6:00 PM † Anna Chuc Nguyen

#### **UPCOMING Events**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sun., Dec 15 Sunday School for Disciples 10:00 AM  
Sun., Dec 15 Town Hall Meeting 4 PM Followed By  
Rectory Open House 5-7 PM  
Wed., Dec 18 Choir 5:45 PM  
Thurs., Dec 19 Parish Networking 7:00 PM  
Sun., Dec 22 Children's Christmas Party 2-4 PM at  
All Saints Episcopal Church

#### **COME FOLLOW ME:**

A discernment retreat for men ages 18 to 40 to learn more about the Priesthood. Retreat starts Fri., Dec. 20 at noon and ends Sat. Dec. 21 at 2:00 PM. Located at Little Ocmulgee State Park & Lodge in Helena, GA. For more information contact Maggie Blanc at 912-201-4126 or [mmblanc@diosav.org](mailto:mmblanc@diosav.org).

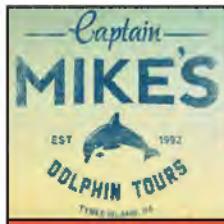


**ABUSE HOTLINE NUMBER:** To report sexual abuse of a minor by a Diocese of Savannah employee or volunteer, call the abuse hotline number at 888-357-5330 or the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People, 912-201-4074. To read the diocesan policy on sexual abuse of minors, go to [www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection](http://www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection)

#### **2020 DIOCESAN GOLD & SILVER (25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup>) WEDDING JUBILEE MASS & CELEBRATION:**

Sun., Feb. 23, 2020 @ 11:30 AM  
Mass; [www.diosav.org/gold-and-silver](http://www.diosav.org/gold-and-silver)  
Register on-line by Dec. 21 to receive a formal invitation with all details.  
912-201-4068.





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Accountants  
on Tybee

Alfred D. Waite  
Ted Lynch, C.P.A.

786-0878

Need Prayer?  
Got Prayer?

The Intercessory Prayer Team prays for the needs of our parishioners. If you, or someone you love, has a prayer request, please email [stillmaam51695@gmail.com](mailto:stillmaam51695@gmail.com)

This team is always looking for additional members to lift our parishioners' needs in prayer.

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**St. Michael's Thrift Shop**

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## CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Tuesday, December 24, 2019**

*3:45 p.m. Congregational Singing*

**4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Vigil – Children's Mass**

*5:45 p.m. Congregational Singing*

**6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Vigil**

**Wednesday, December 25, 2019**

*9:45 a.m. Congregational Singing*

**10:00 a.m. Mass**



**Tuesday, December 31, 2019**

**Solemnity, Mary, Mother of God**

*Holy Day*

**Vigil Mass 6:00 p.m.**

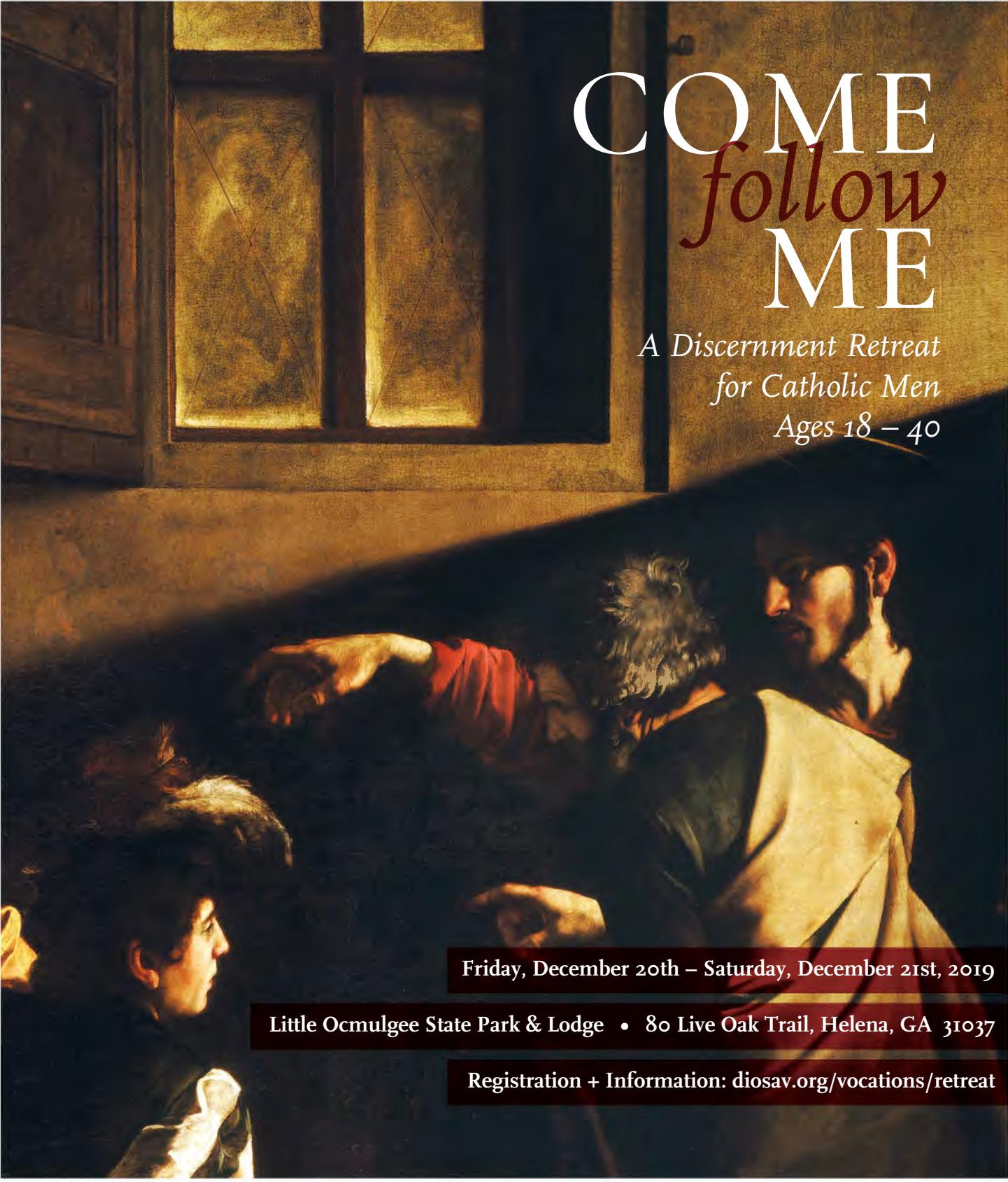
**Wednesday, January 1, 2020**

**Mary, Mother of God**

**10:00 a.m. Mass**



**NATIVITY PLAY:** The children will once again be presenting the Nativity play at the 4 PM Christmas Eve Mass. Any children in the parish or those visiting, such as grandchildren, nieces or nephews, are welcome to join us. Please contact Theresa Pottratz for more information, [thescollie@aol.com](mailto:thescollie@aol.com) or (317) 372-5641.



# COME *follow* ME

A *Discernment Retreat*  
for Catholic Men  
Ages 18 – 40

Friday, December 20th – Saturday, December 21st, 2019

Little Ocmulgee State Park & Lodge • 80 Live Oak Trail, Helena, GA 31037

Registration + Information: [diosav.org/vocations/retreat](http://diosav.org/vocations/retreat)



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE *of* SAVANNAH  
DEPARTMENT OF VOCATIONS

Fr. Pablo Migone, *Vocations Director*

2170 East Victory Drive, Savannah, Georgia 31404 :: p / 912.201.4113 :: e / [pmigone@diosav.org](mailto:pmigone@diosav.org) :: w / [diosav.org/vocations](http://diosav.org/vocations)

**The Most Reverend Gregory Hartmayer, OFM**  
**Conv., Bishop of Savannah**

Invites all couples celebrating their Silver or Gold (25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup>) Wedding Anniversaries in 2020  
to join him in celebrating the

*Gold & Silver  
Wedding Jubilee  
Anniversary Mass*



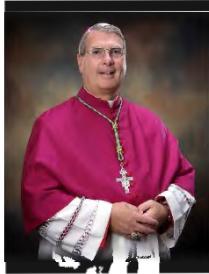
in your honor at the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist  
in Savannah, Georgia  
on **Sunday: February 23, 2020 @11:30 am**

Those wishing to attend should contact the parish office or register online at

[www.diosav.org/gold-and-silver](http://www.diosav.org/gold-and-silver)

by December 21, 2019 in order to receive a formal invitation with the detailed information.

Questions? Contact the Diocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life, 912-201-4068.



## *Gold & Silver Jubilee Mass and Celebration* *Misa y Celebración de Bodas de Oro y Plata*

Sunday: February 23, 2020 – 9:30 Breakfast, 11:30 Mass

Domingo: 23 de febrero de 2019 - 9:30 am Desayuno, 11:30 am Misa

**Congratulations on the 50<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of your Marriage! Bishop Gregory John Hartmayer, OFM Conv., would like to thank you for your perseverance and faithfulness to the path you began when you proclaimed your vows to one another before God. He is grateful you can celebrate the Gold & Silver Jubilee Mass and Celebration with him in your honor.**

¡Felicitaciones por el 50 o el 25 Aniversario de su Matrimonio! El Obispo Gregory John Hartmayer, OFM Conv., Desea agradecerle por su perseverancia y fidelidad en el camino que iniciaron cuando proclamaron sus votos ante Dios. Él está agradecido de que ustedes puedan asistir a la Misa y Celebración de Bodas de Plata y Oro que se realizará en su honor.

We will attend the Mass / Asistiremos a la Misa: Yes/Sí \_\_\_\_\_ No/No \_\_\_\_\_

***Breakfast for family and guests will be provided prior to the Mass from 9:30 am to 10:45 am***

*Se ofrecerá un desayuno para la familia y sus invitados entre 9:30 am a 10:45 am*

We will attend the Pre-Mass Breakfast: No: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_  
Asistiremos al Desayuno Previo a la Misa: No: \_\_\_\_\_ Sí: \_\_\_\_\_ Número de personas: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please enter the “Name of Couple” as you wish them to appear in the Program and on the Certificate.**

**Example:** Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, or John and Eleanor Smith

**\*\*Ingrese “el nombre de la pareja” como desea que aparezcan en el Programa y en el Certificado.**

**Ejemplo:** el Sr. y la Sra. John Smith, o John y Eleanor Smith

Name of Couple / Nombre de la Pareja: \_\_\_\_\_

Husband's Name/ Nombre del esposo: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's Name/Nombre de la esposa: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address / Dirección: \_\_\_\_\_

City / Ciudad: \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip Code / Estado, Código Postal: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish / Parroquia: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish City / Ciudad de la Parroquia: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address / Correo Electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone / Teléfono: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Married / Año en que se casaron: \_\_\_\_\_ 1970 (Golden Jubilee / Jubileo de Oro)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1995 (Silver Jubilee / Jubileo de Plata)

Special Assistance Needed: Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Necesita ayuda especial (Espacio para silla de ruedas u otro): Sí: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be considered for having your wedding story shared in the Southern Cross?

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

¿Les gustaría ser considerados para compartir su historia de bodas con el Southern Cross?

Si: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send completed forms to/ Por favor envíe los formularios completos a:**

Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life

Catholic Pastoral Center

2170 East Victory Drive

Savannah, GA 31404

**Or Scan and email to/ Escanee y envíe un correo electrónico a: [familylife@diosav.org](mailto:familylife@diosav.org)**

**Thank you / ¡Gracias!**



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE *of* SAVANNAH

Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life

# MARCH FOR LIFE 2020

January 24, 2020 | Washington, D.C.



## Overnight Charter Bus Trip to Washington D.C.

**Thursday, January 23, 2020:** 7:30 pm leave from Savannah area (no scheduled stops)

**Friday, January 24, 2020:** Youth Rally, Mass and March for Life on the National Mall in Washington, DC. There will be time after the March to explore the monuments on the National Mall.  
8:30 pm Departure from Washington, DC

**Saturday, January 25, 2020:** 6:00 – 7:00 am return to Savannah area

**Who:** Everyone!!! (under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian).

**Cost:** \$60 if paid registration by **October 31, 2019** (bring own snacks for bus and breakfast; and money for food in DC)

\$80 if paid registration November 1-15, 2019

\*\*\*\*\*All paid registrations include a Diocese of Savannah Beanie \*\*\*\*\*

**Register:** <https://diosav.org/marchforlife> (only 50 spots – register NOW!)



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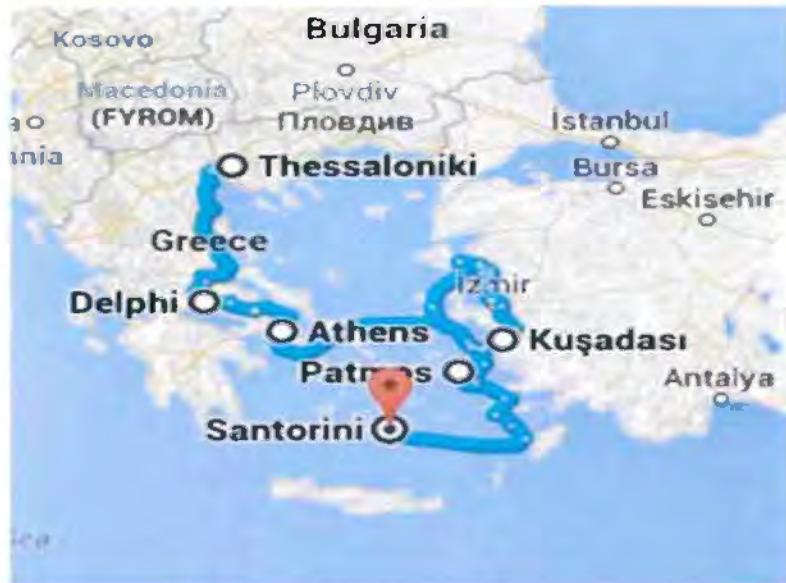


### Trip Includes

- Flights from anywhere in the United States and flights between countries as per your itinerary (all necessary flights on your trip are included).
- Daily Mass will be scheduled.
- Airport Taxes, Security Fees & Fuel Surcharges Saving you an average of \$400-\$600!
- Transfers as per itinerary.
- 4 or 5 star hotels in downtown areas.
- Transportation by luxury bus.
- All breakfasts and all dinners. Wine included with all dinners.
- All tips to driver, hotel, and tour guide. If you feel that the tour guide did a great job, offering them extra tips is greatly appreciated.
- Guided Tours and Tour Fees ~ Our tour guides are very caring, licensed, and well educated. Many of our guides have their PhD's.
- Luggage handling (1 suitcase and 1 carry-on per person).
- Single Supplement (as long as the passengers is willing to room with someone and allows us to provide them with a roommate. If the passenger wants a guaranteed room to of their own, then they have to pay the \$900 single supplement).
- Remember: Our trips are not more expensive during high season ~ Passengers will never be expected to pay extra for anything while on the trip.

## Travel with Fr. Gerald Ragan October 3-13, 2020 Cost: \$4,499.00

(Airfare included from anywhere in the U.S.)  
Please refer to trip #7280 when registering.



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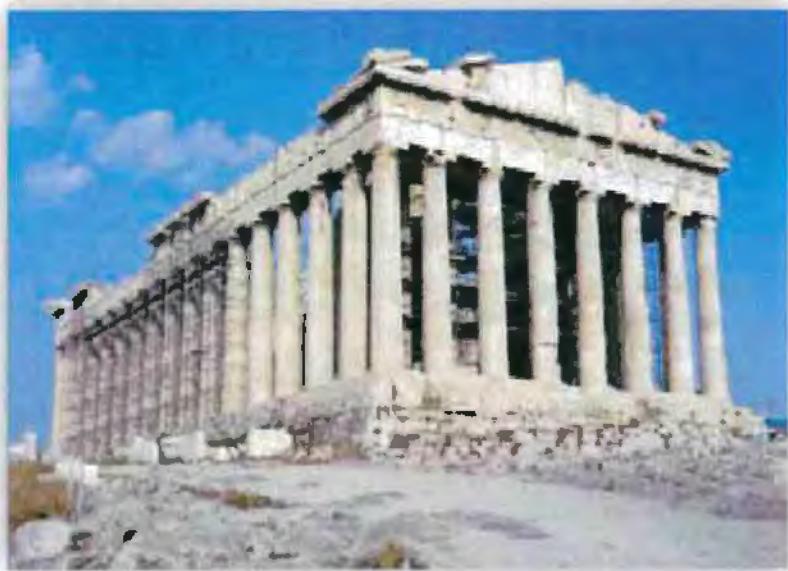
Proximo Travel, LLC  
PO Box 561  
Auburn, MA 01501

## Trip Itinerary

**Day 1:** Departure from USA. ~ Dinner and Breakfast will be served in-flight.

**Day 2:** Arrive in Thessaloniki, Greece. ~ You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Time to relax and meet your fellow pilgrims. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki.

**Day 3:** Philippi, Kavala, Thessaloniki ~ Visit Philippi where Paul delivered his first sermon in Europe, sowing the seeds of Christianity. "And from there (He went) to Philippi" Acts 16:12-18 Here Paul baptized a certain woman named Lydia, the first Christian convert in Europe. Among the ruins, located on the rocky ledge above the town's main road is the prison where Paul and Silas were thrown. Continue into the modern port city of Kavala, ancient Neapolis, where Paul accompanied by Silas, Luke and Timothy, first set foot in Europe. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki.



**Day 4:** Thessaloniki, Meteora: Thessaloniki city-tour ~ Paul preached in Thessaloniki during the winters of 49-50 AD and wrote two epistles to the ancient Thessalonians. See the ramparts of the city, the triumphal Arch of Galerius starting at the Via Egnatia, once a strategic artery of the Roman Empire. Depart for Kalambaka, visit Meteora Monasteries. Among striking scenery, perched on top of huge rocks, that seem to be suspended in mid-air, stand ageless monasteries where you can see exquisite specimens of Byzantine art. Women must wear a skirt, or have a scarf that can be wrapped like a skirt, when visiting the Monasteries. Men will need to wear long pants and have their shoulders covered. If women wear slacks, they need to bring a scarf that will cover their pants so that it looks like a skirt. Dinner and overnight in Delphi.

### About Proximo Travel

Hundreds of people who traveled with us would be happy to speak with you about your trip. Safety is our priority. Proximo Travel hosts Vacation Tours to Italy, Ireland, Greece, the Holy Land, Spain, France, Portugal, Scotland, and many other countries:  
No Rush, No Pressure, Lots of fun!

**Day 5:** Delphi - Athens ~ Visit Delphi, the center of the ancient world (navel) of the earth, whose prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic world. On the slopes of Mount Parnassus, in a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty, lie the ruins of the Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios. Continue to Athens which is one of the most glorious cities in the world and the cradle of western civilization as we know it today. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

**Day 6:** Athens - Excursion to Corinth ~ we will visit the Acropolis to see the ruins of the Parthenon, Erechtheum and Propylae. For twenty five centuries, the panorama of this city is dominated by the rock of the Acropolis; we see the ruins of the Parthenon, the Erechtheum and the Propylae. Afterwards, we will ascend Mars Hill where Paul spoke to the ancient Athenians about the one and only God. From here we have an excellent view of the ancient agora; former center of the Athenian public life. We then drive through the city to see the House of Parliament on Syntagma Square, the Evzones in their picturesque uniforms guarding the Presidential Palace and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We also see the Library, the University, the Panathenaic Stadium where the first Olympics of the modern era were held, the temple of the Olympian Zeus and Adrian's Arch. Continue our tour to Ancient Corinth where, under the shadow of the towering Acropolis, St. Paul preached and lived for two years. The vigorous and mostly Gentile Church he founded here in 50 AD caused him much grief and prompted him to write, at least, four letters to them. Visit the ruins of the ancient city where Paul worked with Aquila and Priscilla. See the remains of the first century shops, the agora where Paul's trial by Gallio took place, the Fountain of Peirene, Temple of Apollo and the Bema. Return to Athens for dinner and overnight.

**Day 7:** Athens ~ Start 3-day Cruise (Luis Hellenic Cruise Lines) Mykonos Our first port-of-call is Mykonos. It is the most cosmopolitan of all Greek islands and attracts many visitors from all over the globe, including large numbers of artists and intellectuals. Your coaches will take you to Hora the island's capital where you'll enjoy a walking tour in the narrow cobble streets of the town, passing by chic boutiques, elegant nightclubs and white washed houses till reaching Alefkandra. Alefkandra is a charming corner of Hora, known also as the "Venice" of Mykonos. At one of the famous restaurants of Alefkandra you'll enjoy the sunset on Mykonos Island while drinking your refreshment accompanied by Greek meze. You'll return then to Mykonos Town (Hora) from where you'll take the ship's shuttle service back to the port to meet your ship!

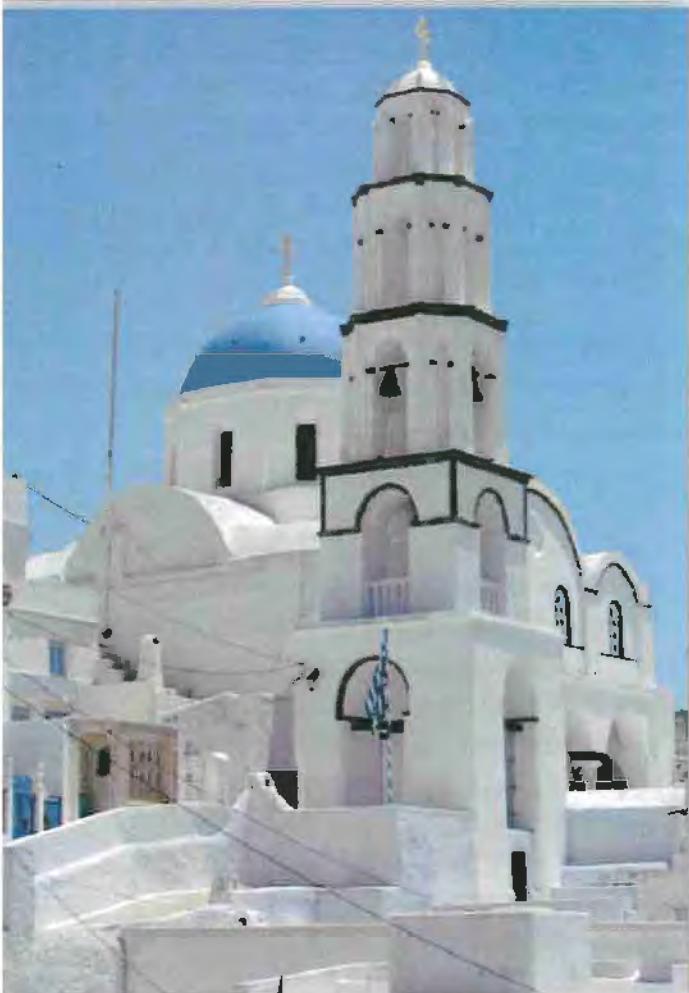
**Day 8:** Kusadasi and Ephesus (Turkey) and Patmos ~ we begin our day arriving at Kusadasi which is a lively Turkish port. Drive through the colorful town of Kusadasi to reach Mt. Koressos. Situated in a small valley, it is here where you will visit the humble chapel which lies on the site of the

## Trip Itinerary

**Hotels**



We only make reservations at 4 or 5 star hotels



little house where The Virgin Mary is believed to have spent her last days. This site has been sanctioned by the Vatican for pilgrimage. Continue on to Ancient Ephesus and accompanied by your guide, walk through the Magnesian Gate which is the entrance to the ancient city of Ephesus. See the Odeon (concert hall), the Fountain of Trajan, the steam-heated Baths of Scolastika, the Temple of Hadrian and the Latrians, the Library of Celsus and The Great Theatre, where St. Paul preached, which is the largest theatre in antiquity having a capacity of 24,000 people. Walk back to your motor coach along the Arcadian Way, where Mark Anthony and Cleopatra once rode in procession. While driving back to Kusadasi and just outside Ephesus, view the Basilica of St. John, which was erected over his grave in the 6th Century AD by the Emperor Justinian. Before returning to the ship, enjoy free time in Kusadasi. Continue our journey, Patmos, where we will enjoy a short journey to the village of Chora, where the monastery of St. John is built within the walls of a strong fortification. As you walk uphill towards the entrance of the

monastery marvel at this magnificent structure, which was build 900 years ago, exceptional in its architecture. View the courtyard, the monk's dining room and the old bakery before you visit the main church noting its outstanding frescoes and interior decoration. Next, see the priceless ecclesiastical treasures housed in the beautiful but small museum: books and manuscripts, mosaics, icons, splendid medieval textiles and vestments as well as jewelry. Return to your motor coach to continue on to the nearby Grotto of the Apocalypse, where above stands the Monastery of the Apocalypse, a sub-unit of the main monastery. Walk down the steps to visit the Grotto of the Apocalypse. Here you will see the silver niches in the wall that mark the pillow and ledge used as a desk by the author of the Book of the Revelation as well as the three-fold crack made by the voice of God emphasizing the honor of the Holy Trinity. Afterwards, drive back to the port of Scala and enjoy some free time in this quaint and picturesque harbor.

**Day 9:** Heraklion and Santorini ~ in the morning we will visit Heraklion. Heraklion is just three miles away from the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos. Discovered in 1899 and partially reconstructed, the elaborate Palace is believed to be the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of ancient Minoan culture. It is in Heraklion where Paul met the owner and captain of the ship who warned him of continuing his journey to Rome. In the afternoon we will cruise on to the idyllic island of Santorini. Santorini is perhaps the most breathtaking of all the Greek Islands. In the town of Thira white-washed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes and glittering boutiques cling to steep cliffs, accessible by cable-car or mule. Return back to the ship.



**Day 10:** Finish the tour of Athens. Enjoy a free afternoon and evening in Athens. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

**Day 11:** Fly back home.

**Please note:** We do our best to ensure that all sites listed in this itinerary will be seen. However, due to scheduling conflicts, or other circumstances beyond our control, sites may be visited on a different day than listed. If this happens it will also necessitate a change in the restaurant for dinner. However, we will never sacrifice the quality of the meal, all restaurants will meet Proximo Travel's very high standards. Since we have several different trip configurations touring at the same time, it is likely that groups on different tours will be combined when their itineraries overlap in certain areas.

**Visit us on the web**  
[www.proximotravel.com](http://www.proximotravel.com)

**Contact us**  
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**(508) 340-9370**  
**Fax: (508) 854-8003**  
**Hablamos Español: 508-505-6078**

**Proximo Travel, LLC**  
**PO Box 561**  
**Auburn, MA 01501**

## Steps for Registration

1. Call us (855-842-8001) or register online with a credit card to pay your \$500 deposit per person to save your spot. **The \$500 deposit is part of the total price of the trip**
2. A **\$1,000 Airfare Deposit (AD)** per person is due **one month from the registration**. The AD is paid ONLY in the form of Check (personal, money order or bank check).
3. The **balance is due 4 months** before the trip departure date. The balance is paid ONLY in the form of Check (personal, money order or bank check).

**NOTE:** If you sign up for a trip within 4 months of the departure date, you pay the deposit of \$500 with a credit card and the balance is required to be overnighted in the form of a personal check, money order or bank check.

### Make Check Payable and Mail to:

Proximo Travel, LLC  
PO Box 561  
Auburn, MA 01501

## Number of Passengers

Proximo Travel, LLC advertises in many venues; therefore group sizes vary depending on location and time of year. They almost always sell out early, so please keep this in mind when you are planning to book a trip. Many people book up to a year in advance.

## Trip Does Not Include

- Lunch
- Trip Insurance. Work directly with Travel Guard to protect your investment and ensure your money. There are different packages to choose from depending on what your travel needs are. Their link is right below the picture of the Pope on our home page..

## Some Good Things to Know...

- **When I reach my destination, is there someone there to meet me?**

Upon arrival at your trip destination, obtain luggage and exit the baggage area. Outside the baggage claim doors, a representative will greet you with a Proximo Travel sign. If your flight is delayed or you cannot locate the Proximo Travel representative, please contact your tour guide at the number provided in your final packet before proceeding.

- **When will I meet up with the group?**

We have people traveling with us from all of the USA and Canada. Here at Proximo Travel, LLC we try to have the group meet in the USA the day of their departure before the flight to their final destination. However, this is not always possible. Therefore, you will meet your entire group upon arrival to your trip destination.

- **What happens if I cancel my trip?**

Proximo Travel, LLC has teamed up with Travel Guard to provide our passengers with trip cancellation insurance. They offer a variety of policies to choose from. Please visit our website, [www.proximotravel.com](http://www.proximotravel.com) to find a link to purchase Travel Guard or to get more information about the services they offer.

- **Be at the airport at least 3 hours before departure.**  
This applies only to the airport of origination, not necessarily to the airport of connection. For example, if you're flying from Pittsburgh to Paris then from Paris to Rome, you need to be at the airport in Pittsburgh 3 hours before departure. Not necessarily in Paris where your connection time might be less than 3 hours.

*Pilgrimages for Catholics and  
people of all faiths*  
[www.proximotravel.com](http://www.proximotravel.com)



## KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM



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Simply visit <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com>.

Once logged into your Kroger account you can search for St. Michael Catholic Church either by name or **FQ543 – Faith Based organization** – and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *rewards* card.

\*Customers must have a registered Kroger *rewards* card account to link to your organization.

\*If a member does not yet have a Kroger *rewards* card, please let them know they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.

**REMEMBER**, purchases will not count for ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH until after you register YOUR *rewards* card. Participants must swipe YOUR registered Kroger *rewards* card or use the phone number that is related to YOUR registered Kroger *rewards* card when shopping for each purchase to count. This program does not impact the personal rewards credits that you receive from shopping at Kroger.