



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 20, 2025
16º DOMINGO DE TIEMPO ORDINARIO

**ANDERSON-
ALEXANDRIA
PASTORATE**

A Pastorate of the Diocese
of Lafayette in Indiana

**ST. AMBROSE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
2801 Lincoln St.
Anderson, IN 46016
765-644-5956

**ST. MARY
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
305 E. 11th Street
Anderson, IN 46016
765-644-8467

**ST. MARY
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
820 W. Madison St.
Alexandria, IN 46001
765-724-4459

Joyfully proclaim, lovingly serve. † Proclamar con alegría, servir con amor.

Visit our pastorate website to see this bulletin online and
learn about what's going on at our parishes: stambrosestmary.org



OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD...

Recently we completed our Pastorate Vision Plan summer information sessions. We learned in last winter's sessions that some (including me) assumed people were more familiar with the plan and with the Anderson-Alexandria Pastorate than they actually were.

This and my next bulletin column(s) will give summaries of those sessions. And, with the aim of "overcommunicating," we will continue to share information in the bulletin, at Mass, on our Pastorate website, and in other forms.

This week I'll describe the Anderson-Alexandria Pastorate.

The Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana uses the term "pastorate" to describe an organization of parishes with one pastor, one Pastorate Leadership Team and one Pastoral Council. Parishioners form one faith community, called to share their gifts in the service of a shared mission. The Anderson-Alexandria Pastorate consists of St. Ambrose, St. Mary Alexandria, and St. Mary Anderson parishes, along with our two parochial schools and all the other ministries supported by our parishes.

The Pastorate is not a merger of the parishes or schools. To illustrate this, we have separate budgets for each of the three parishes and two schools. But we also have Pastorate staff whose work and ministry are not focused on any one parish, but on the whole Pastorate.

Our mission statement, developed by our Pastorate Leadership Team and Pastorate Pastoral Council, declares: "We, the Anderson-Alexandria Catholic Pastorate, united in Jesus Christ through His Word, the Sacraments, and the Eucharist, are called to joyfully proclaim His Gospel and lovingly serve His people."

We summarize the statement with these words: "Joyfully proclaim, lovingly serve."

We also have a Pastorate Logo. Several of you submitted ideas for the logo, and I am grateful. The logo colors are blue (for the Blessed Mother) and gold (for St. Ambrose). Over images of three churches and three crosses, is an arc or "bow." The arc does not depict any specific object, but evokes the sun, the moon, the Eucharistic host, a rainbow, and even an embrace. (One participant worried that it looked like an Islamic symbol.) Rather than define "what the arc means," we will let it remain "richly ambiguous" as it unites the images of the three churches.

We still have some finishing to do, e.g. inserting the correct script, "Pastorado Católico/Anderson-Alexandria/Catholic Pastorate." Then we will incorporate it into our bulletin, letterhead, website, etc. Stay tuned!

Fr. Tom Metzger

July 20, 2025

PENSAMIENTOS DEL PADRE TOM...

Recientemente finalizamos nuestras sesiones informativas de verano sobre el Plan de Visión del Pastorado. En las sesiones del invierno pasado, nos dimos cuenta de que algunos (incluyéndome a mí) asumíamos que la gente estaba más familiarizada con el plan y con el Pastorado de Anderson-Alexandria de lo que realmente estaba.

Esta columna del boletín y las próximas ofrecerán resúmenes de dichas sesiones. Y, con el objetivo de "sobrecomunicarnos," seguiremos compartiendo información en el boletín, en la misa, en el sitio web de nuestro Pastorado y de otras maneras.

Esta semana describiré el Pastorado de Anderson-Alexandria.

La Diócesis de Lafayette, Indiana, utiliza el término "pastorado" para describir una organización de parroquias con un párroco, un Equipo de Liderazgo del Pastorado y un Consejo Pastoral del Pastorado. Los feligreses forman una comunidad de fe, llamados a compartir sus dones al servicio de una misión compartida. El Pastorado de Anderson-Alexandria está compuesto por las parroquias de San Ambrosio, Santa María de Alexandria y Santa María Anderson, junto con nuestras dos escuelas parroquiales y todos los demás ministerios que apoyan nuestras parroquias.

El Pastorado no es una fusión de parroquias ni escuelas. Para ilustrarlo, contamos con presupuestos separados para cada una de las tres parroquias y dos escuelas. Además, contamos con personal del Pastorado cuyo trabajo y ministerio no se centran en una sola parroquia, sino en todo el Pastorado.

Nuestra declaración de misión, desarrollada por nuestro Equipo de Liderazgo Pastoral y el Consejo Pastoral, declara: "Nosotros, el Pastorado Católico de Anderson-Alexandria, unidos en Jesucristo a través de su Palabra, los Sacramentos y la Eucaristía, estamos llamados a proclamar con alegría su Evangelio y servir con amor a su pueblo."

Resumimos esta declaración con estas palabras: «Proclamar con alegría, servir con amor».

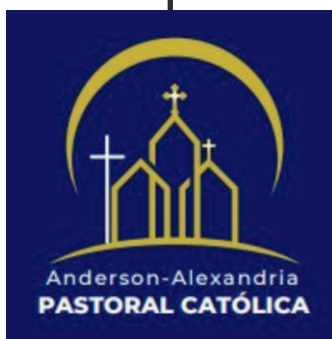
También contamos con un logotipo para el Pastorado. Varios de ustedes enviaron ideas para el logotipo, y les estoy muy agradecido. Los colores del logotipo son azul (por la Santísima Virgen) y dorado (por San Ambrosio). Sobre las imágenes de tres iglesias y tres cruces, hay un arco. El arco no representa ningún objeto específico, sino que evoca el sol, la luna, la hostia eucarística, un arcoíris e incluso un abrazo. (Un participante expresó su preocupación por su parecido con un símbolo islámico). En lugar de definir el significado del arco, lo dejaremos muy ambiguo, ya que une las imágenes de las tres iglesias.

Aún nos quedan algunos detalles por pulir, por ejemplo, insertar la escritura correcta: "Pastorado Católico/Anderson-Alexandria/Catholic Pastorate." Después, la incorporaremos a nuestro boletín, membrete, sitio web, etc.

¡Estén atentos!

P. Tom Metzger

a 20 de julio de 2025



Our Mission: We, the Anderson-Alexandria Catholic Pastorate, united in Jesus Christ through His Word, the Sacraments, and the Eucharist, are called to joyfully proclaim His Gospel and lovingly serve His people.

Nuestra misión: Nosotros, el Pastorado Católico de Anderson-Alexandria, unidos en Jesucristo a través de su Palabra, los Sacramentos y la Eucaristía, estamos llamados a proclamar con alegría su Evangelio y servir con amor a su pueblo.

ORDINARY TIME—TIEMPO ORDINARIO INTENTIONS & READINGS FOR THE WEEK INTENCIONES Y LECTURAS DE LAS MISAS

MONDAY, JULY 21 / LUNES, 21 DE JULIO

Exodus 14:5-18 / Matthew 12:38-42

8:00 AM St. Mary, Anderson +Filberto Montes Flores

TUESDAY, JULY 22 / MARTES, 22 DE JULIO

Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

Song of Songs 3:1-4b or 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 / John 20:1-2, 11-18

8:00 AM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Harry & Rosalie Metzger

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23 / MIÉRCOLES, 23 DE JULIO

Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15 / Matthew 13:1-9

8:00 AM St. Mary, Alexandria* +Dave Libler

11:30 AM St. Vincent Hospital, Anderson +John Bundy

THURSDAY, JULY 24 / JUEVES, 24 DE JULIO

Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b / Matthew 13:10-17

8:15 AM St. Mary, Anderson +Jerry Gorman

7:00 PM St. Mary Anderson (Spanish) +Jeremiah Armington

FRIDAY, JULY 25 / VIERNES, 25 DE JULIO

Feast of St. James, Apostle

2 Corinthians 4:7-15 / Matthew 20:20-28

8:00 AM St. Mary, Alexandria* +Harry & Rosalie Metzger

8:10 AM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Omar Gadedo

SATURDAY, JULY 26 / SÁBADO, 26 DE JULIO

Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Bl. Virgin Mary

Exodus 24:3-8 / Matthew 13:24-30

4:00 PM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Dorothy Washburn

4:30 PM St. Mary, Alexandria* Living & deceased of the Tuerffs & Sullivan fams.

SUNDAY, JULY 27 / DOMINGO, 27 DE JULIO

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:20-32 / Colossians 2:12-14 / Luke 11:1-13

7:30 AM St. Mary Anderson +Nellie & Harry Grimes

8:30 AM St. Mary, Alexandria* People of our pastorate

9:30 AM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Sherman Mackey

11:30 AM St. Mary, Anderson (Spanish) +David Kroll

*St. Mary Alexandria Masses are livestreamed. Access at stambrosestmary.org. (Masses are transmitted live, but not recorded.)

*Las misas en St. Mary Alexandria se transmiten en vivo. Se pueden acceder el video en stambrosestmary.org. (Las misas están disponibles en vivo, mas no se graban.)

Please note:

The list of pastorate staff that used to appear on this page has moved to the inside back cover of the bulletin.

Aviso:

La lista del personal del pastorado que antes aparecía en esta página ha sido reubicada a la contraportada del boletín.

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament will take place this Sunday, July 20th, from 9:30am to 12:30 pm at St. Mary Church in Alexandria.

Habrá Adoración al Santísimo Sacramento este domingo 20 de julio de las 9:30am hasta las 12:30 pm en la iglesia de St. Mary en Alexandria.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

- ✠ Most Thursdays/Jueves, 6:00-6:45pm
St. Mary, Anderson
- ✠ 1st Sunday of the Month/1er domingo del mes, 10:30-3:00 - St. Ambrose
- ✠ 3rd Sunday of the Month/3er domingo del mes, 9:30-12:30 - St. Mary, Alex.

CONFESSIONS

- ✠ Thursdays/Jueves 6:00-6:45 PM
St. Mary, Anderson
- ✠ Saturdays/Sábados 2:30-3:30 PM
St. Ambrose
- ✠ Saturdays/Sábados 3:30-4:00 PM
St. Mary, Alexandria



Read and/or listen to each day's scripture—and see a video with a short reflection about it—at the USCCB website: bible.usccb.org

Ud. encontrará las lecturas diarias en español en la página web de los obispos de los Estados Unidos: bible.usccb.org/es

St. Ambrose Church is in need of volunteers to act as sacristans on weekdays and weekends and as Eucharistic ministers for the weekday Masses.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Anita Myers at the St. Ambrose parish office: 765-644-5956.



A poster for a softball game. At the top, it says "DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA" with a small logo. Below that, "PRIESTS VS SEMINARIANS" in large white letters. The main title "SOFTBALL" is in very large white letters, with "GAME" underneath. The background shows a softball field at night with stadium lights. At the bottom, it says "GATES OPEN AT 6PM", "JULY 25, 2025 - 7PM", and "KOKOMO MUNICIPAL STADIUM". There is a QR code and a website link "DOL-IN.ORG/SERRASERIES". A banner at the bottom says "FAMILY FUN * CONCESSION STAND * NEARBY FOOD & ICE CREAM * TICKETS AT GATE".

DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA

PRIESTS VS SEMINARIANS

SOFTBALL

GAME

FAMILY FUN * CONCESSION STAND *
NEARBY FOOD & ICE CREAM * TICKETS AT GATE

MORE INFO [DOL-IN.ORG/SERRASERIES](https://dol-in.org/serraserie)

GATES OPEN AT 6PM

JULY 25, 2025 - 7PM

KOKOMO MUNICIPAL STADIUM

Please pick up your cooler!

If you furnished a cooler for the Pentecost Picnic, please come by St. Ambrose Rectory to get it.

¡Pase a recojer su hielera!

Si usted trajo una hielera para el picnic de Pentecostés, favor de pasar por la Rectoría de San Ambrosio a recogerla.



From St. Mary in Muncie

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Orphanage in Haiti Annual Rummage Sale

If you feel called to donate to the cause, we accept household items, sporting goods, home decor, books, toys, children's clothes and more!
(No adult clothes, please)

Drop Off Dates:

July 12, 19, 26; August 2, 9, 16 from
3-4 pm at St. Mary, Noll Hall

Muncie Catholic Sale Date

Wednesday, August 20, 3-6 pm

Public Sale Dates

Thursday, August 21, 8 am - 5pm
Friday, August 22, 8 am - 3 pm
Saturday, August 23, 8 am - Noon

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

is seeking
volunteer soccer coaches
to work with our students in
grades 4-8. Practices and games
will be in August and September.
Coaches need to complete online
Safe & Sacred training and pass a
criminal history check.

Contact HCS Athletic Director
Holly Wheeler directly or through
your school or parish office.



Resurrection is our call to do what is right in this world. If we come to Mass, share the scriptures, stand together at the altar and receive Communion, then we are compelled to carry the implications of the Mass into the world, especially through the corporal works of mercy. The risen Christ waits for us to serve him in the poor, in the hungry, thirsty, naked, abandoned people around us. The message could not be clearer: If you say you love me, come and find me in these, your least brothers and sisters. "As long as you do it to one of these, you have done it to me." (Matt 25:31-46)

Everyone is invited to bring any of the following food items to church and place them in the collection baskets during the weekend Masses in Anderson on July 26/27, 2025:

- 15 oz cans of diced potatoes
- Stick of or package of butter;
- Onions
- Package of American cheese
- Box of Saltine crackers
- 29 oz. or gallon size can of fruit.

These items will be used to prepare 20 gallons of Cream of Potato soup and other menu items to be served on July 30, 2025.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food. (Mt 25:35)



La resurrección es nuestro llamado a hacer lo correcto en este mundo. Si asistimos a Misa, compartimos las Escrituras, nos reunimos en el altar y recibimos la Comunión, nos sentimos impulsados a llevar las implicaciones de la Misa al mundo, especialmente a través de las obras corporales de misericordia. Cristo resucitado espera que le sirvamos en los pobres, en los hambrientos, sedientos, desnudos y abandonados que nos rodean. El mensaje es innegable: Si dicen que me aman, vengan a encontrarme en estos, sus hermanos y hermanas más pequeños. "En cuanto lo hagan con uno de estos, a mí me lo han hecho." (Mt 25,31-46)

Se invita a todos a traer cualquiera de los siguientes alimentos a la iglesia y depositarlos en canastas de colección durante las misas del fin de semana en Anderson del 26 y 27 de julio de 2025:

- Latas (de 15 onzas) de papas en cubos
- Paquete o barra de mantequilla
- Cebollas
- Paquete de queso americano
- Caja de galletas saladas
- Lata de fruta (de 29 onzas o un galón)

Estos artículos se usarán para preparar 75 litros de crema de papa y otros platos del menú que se servirán el 30 de julio de 2025.

Porque tuve hambre, y me disteis de comer. (Mt 25:35)

Wanted: RaiseRight Coordinator

Holy Cross School is hoping to reestablish the RaiseRight (formerly "Scrip") fundraising initiative. We are seeking an organized and enthusiastic volunteer to coordinate this effort. Responsibilities would include record keeping, placing orders, and handling money.

The RaiseRight Coordinator will NOT be expected to sell cards at Masses, as this program is now largely online and more streamlined than before.

If you are interested in learning more, contact rfrey@holycrossschool-anderson.org.

Classroom Catholic School

We're
Hiring!

Kindergarten and After-care Teachers

St. Mary School
Alexandria, Indiana

is seeking passionate and dedicated Kindergarten, Grade 1, and After-care Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. The ideal candidates will create a nurturing and engaging learning environment where young learners can thrive academically, socially, and spiritually. Teachers are responsible for implementing a developmentally appropriate curriculum that fosters a love of learning while integrating Catholic teachings and values.

**For detailed information, contact
Principal Rachel Duckworth at rduckworth@stmaryalex.net**

Don't get taken...

Please remember that neither our priests nor anyone else from our pastorate or diocese will ever email or text you a message requesting confidential and/or urgent financial assistance (such as buying gift cards or sending money through a payment app).

Even if Father's name is on the message and the email looks real (and it very well may, as the fraudsters are becoming more sophisticated every day), it is not a legitimate request. It is a SCAM created to con you out of as much of your hard-earned money as possible.

If you are ever in doubt, find a way to speak directly to the person—ideally, face to face—before you take any action. Don't become the next victim!



SCAM ALERT

No se deje engañar...

Recuerde que ni nuestros sacerdotes ni ningún otro miembro de nuestro pastorado ni diócesis le enviará jamás un correo electrónico o un mensaje de texto solicitando asistencia financiera confidencial y/o urgente (como la compra de tarjetas de regalo o el envío de dinero a través de una aplicación de pago).

Aunque el nombre del padre aparezca en el mensaje y el correo electrónico parezca real (y muy bien podría suceder así, ya que los estafadores son cada vez más sofisticados), no es una solicitud legítima. Es una ESTAFA creada para robarle la mayor parte posible del dinero que tanto le ha costado ganar.

Si usted tuviera duda, busque la manera de hablar directamente con la persona, idealmente cara a cara, antes de tomar cualquier medida. ¡No se convierta en la próxima víctima!

ARE YOU BEING **DRAWN** TO SERVE MORE **PROFOUNDLY?**



Learn more about serving
God's Church as a Deacon:
dol-in.org/vocation-information



DIOCESE
of
LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity*
enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.



May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and
the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Join Us to Visit a Diocesan Jubilee Year of Hope Holy Site

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025

**Jubilee Year of Hope Site:
St. Mary, 2300 Jackson Street, Muncie**

- Meet at Muncie Church for 8:15 am Mass
- Attend Eucharistic Adoration 9 to 10 am (includes First Friday Prayers & Benediction)
- Learn about the church & stamp your passport
- Enjoy breakfast treats

Contact St. Mary, Alexandria
Parish Office if you need a ride and
to give us a count for breakfast.
Please respond by July 28.



National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week: July 20-26, 2025

nothing



not a thing

no pills, no barriers...nothing, but love
understand the gift of fertility God gave you
try **natural** family planning...it works.

For more information about...

- Natural Family Planning options
- Infertility resources
- Finding supportive physicians
- Reliable fertility tracking apps
- How to understand your cycles

Contact...

Susan Hoefer, NFP and Respect Life Coordinator
(765) 421-1998 / shoefer@dol-in.org

See a brief video from
Bishop Robert Barron about
National Family Planning
Awareness Week



DIOCESE
of
LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA



United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops

THE BENEFITS OF NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

IT'S EFFECTIVE

Modern NFP is not your grandmother's "rhythm method". NFP is based on researched fertility science and is up to 99% effective at postponing pregnancy.



IT'S NATURAL

There are no pills, no devices, no implants, nothing except you and your amazing body!

IT'S SPIRITUALLY BENEFICIAL

Natural Family Planning methods respect our dignity as human persons, encouraging couples to think of the other, and promoting a chaste, family-centered lifestyle.



IT'S EMPOWERING

When a woman observes and records her fertility signs, the knowledge gained gives her a sense of confidence and empowerment.

IT'S HEALTHY

Unlike artificial forms of birth control which can cause cancer or infertility problems, NFP is very healthy. The information a woman observes through her use of NFP not only aids her with her fertility awareness, but can point to her overall health.



IT'S VERSATILE

There are many options available for couples who want to use NFP, so you can find a method that meets your needs and your lifestyle.

IT'S A BLESSING FOR MARRIAGE

Couples who use NFP frequently report increased communication, empathy, trust, and marital and sexual satisfaction.



IT'S COST EFFECTIVE

While the initial costs to learn NFP may vary, the long term costs are actually quite inexpensive.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.DOL-IN.ORG/NATURAL-FAMILY-PLANNING

METHODS OF NFP AVAILABLE IN THE DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE

METHOD	WEBSITE	DESCRIPTION	ONLINE	IN PERSON	COST
Sympto-Thermal Method*	www.ccli.org	Multi-symptom method	Yes	Yes	\$160
Creighton Model	www.creightonmodel.com	Mucus only method	Yes	Yes	Up to \$500, may be covered by insurance
Marquette Method	www.mmnfp.com	Multi-hormonal method	Yes	No	Prices begin at \$125
Billings Ovulation Method	www.boma-usa.org	Mucus only method	Yes		Approximately \$135

*Denotes Spanish instruction available

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE METHODS, OR TO FIND LOCAL INSTRUCTORS,
CHECK OUT WWW.DOL-IN.ORG/NATURAL-FAMILY-PLANNING

Questions? Contact Susan Hoefer, NFP Coordinator
shoefer@dol-in.org / 765.421.1998



DIOCESE
of
LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA

20th
ANNIVERSARY

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE
FOR SINGLE CATHOLICS**

AUGUST 22-24
DENVER, CO

NationalCatholicSingles.com

REJOICING *in Hope*



Single and Catholic? Join 400+ singles coming from all over the US (and beyond) at the **20th Anniversary National Conference for Single Catholics** in **Denver, Colorado** on **August 22nd-24th, 2025!** (*Can't travel? Join the virtual option with online socials and small group discussions*). This is your chance to connect with like-minded singles of all ages. The weekend includes talks by dynamic speakers, music, social events, Mass with Archbishop Samuel Aquila, adoration, fellowship and more. (Use the promo code **PARISH25** for a discount.) Visit NationalCatholicSingles.com for more information and to register. **This event is for singles of all ages, whether they've never been married, or are annulled, divorced or widowed.**



Scan this QR Code to Register
for a Retreat!

*Refresh
Renew
Retreat*

VISIT STJOSEPHRETREAT.ORG
TO LEARN MORE!

SAINT JOSEPH
RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER

A Ministry of the Diocese of Lockport, IL

Here are some of the upcoming retreats at our
St. Joseph Retreat & Conference Center in Tipton.
For a complete list, visit stjosephretreat.org

- Silent Day Away - Wed., July 30th
- Get Away for a Day— Tue., Aug. 12
- Assumpt. of the Bl. Virgin Mary Day of Reflection - Aug. 15
- Silent Day Away - Wed. Aug. 20
- Men's Silent Retreat - Fri. thru Sun., Aug. 22-24
- Divorce Recovery & New Beginnings Weekend - Aug.22-24
- Our Lady of Sorrows Day of Reflection - Wed., Sept. 10
- Get Away for a Day - Tues., Sept. 16

annulment support group

Are you a divorced Catholic thinking about getting an annulment and have no idea how to get started? Have you started the process but are feeling overwhelmed and or have questions?

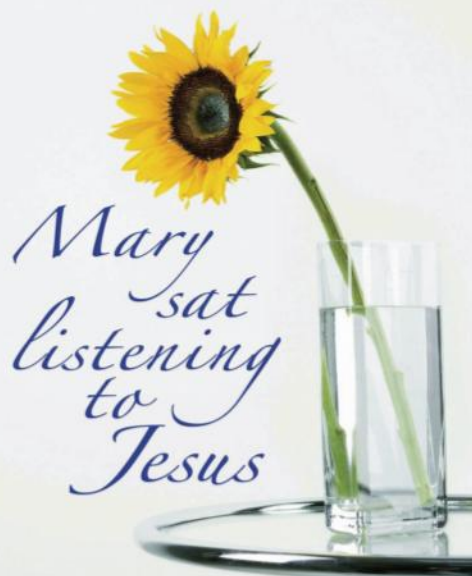
We can help! St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church will be hosting informal annulment sessions every other month for Catholics whose divorce is complete and final. There will be parishioners who have gone through the annulment process who will share their stories and help answer your questions. No registration is necessary.

Upcoming meetings all held at 6:00 pm in
the SMG Parish Narthex Door #5:

- Tues July 22
- Tues Sept 23
- Tues Nov 25

St. Maria Goretti
177102 Spring Mill Road
Westfield, IN 46074

There is a light at the end of
your annulment pathway!



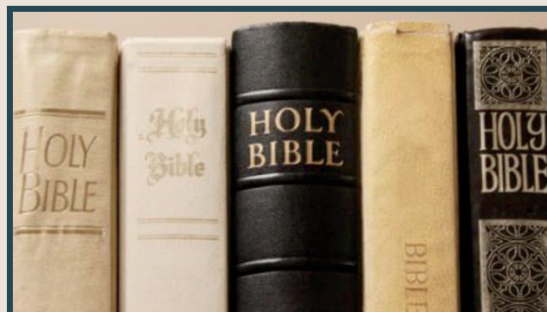
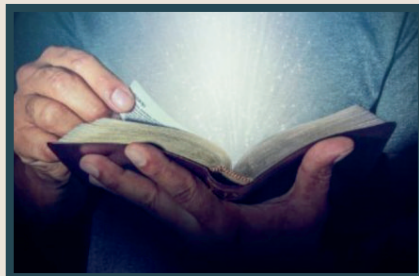
Since our VBS students have been getting an introduction to the sacred scriptures, it's time to ask ourselves:

Why Read the Bible?

The Bible is the world's best bestseller. Not only is it God's inspired Word, it's a great work of literature. It's a collection of books composed over many centuries, with many literary forms, including history, historical novels, parables, allegories, and poems. It tells a tale that stretches back to the creation of the world and forward to the end of time. It speaks of faith, hope, love and forgiveness, describes every human emotion, depicts the heights and depths of human courage and depravity, and above all God's unconditional love for humanity and his salvific plan.

There are numerous reasons to read the Scriptures.

- It is part of the inspired Word of God. The Old and New Testament together form the inspired Word of God in human language. The Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation from the Second Vatican Council states clearly that "the books of Scripture must be acknowledged as teaching solidly, faithfully and without error that truth which God wanted put into the sacred writings for the sake of our salvation."
- It chronicles for us God's loving plan of salvation for all.
- Because the New Testament is hidden in the Old, and the Old is made manifest in the New.
- Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.
- Scripture is a deep font for the Church's worship and prayer life. Since the Second Vatican Council, the Church has provided for an expanded use of Sacred Scriptures in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, in the celebration of the other sacraments and the devotional life of the Church, and in its urgings to the laity to celebrate Morning and Evening Prayer which incorporates recitation of the Psalms.
- It continues to instruct the faithful and call them to faithfulness in their covenant with God.



Ya que nuestros alumnos de la Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones han recibido una introducción a las sagradas escrituras, es hora de que nos preguntemos:

¿Por qué leer la Biblia?

La Biblia es el libro más vendido del mundo. No solo es la Palabra inspirada de Dios, sino también una gran obra literaria. Es una colección de libros compuestos a lo largo de siglos, con diversas formas literarias, incluyendo historia, novelas históricas, parábolas, alegorías y poemas. Narra una historia que se remonta a la creación del mundo y llega hasta el fin de los tiempos. Habla de fe, esperanza, amor y perdón, describe cada emoción humana, describe las alturas y las profundidades de la valentía y la depravación humanas, y sobre todo, el amor incondicional de Dios por la humanidad y su plan salvífico.

Hay numerosas razones para leer las Escrituras.

- Forma parte de la Palabra inspirada de Dios. El Antiguo y el Nuevo Testamento juntos forman la Palabra inspirada de Dios en lenguaje humano. La Constitución Dogmática sobre la Divina Revelación del Concilio Vaticano II establece claramente que "los libros de la Escritura deben ser reconocidos como la enseñanza sólida, fiel e infalible de la verdad que Dios quiso plasmar en las Sagradas Escrituras para nuestra salvación."
- Nos narra el amoroso plan de salvación de Dios para todos.
- Porque el Nuevo Testamento está oculto en el Antiguo, y el Antiguo se manifiesta en el Nuevo.
- Desconocer las Escrituras es desconocer a Cristo.
- La Escritura es una fuente profunda para el culto y la vida de oración de la Iglesia. Desde el Concilio Vaticano II, la Iglesia ha propiciado un uso más amplio de las Sagradas Escrituras en la Liturgia de la Palabra en la Misa, en la celebración de los demás sacramentos y en la vida devocional de la Iglesia, y en sus exhortaciones a los laicos a celebrar las Oraciones de la mañana y de la tarde, que incorporan la recitación de los Salmos.
- Sigue instruyendo a los fieles y llamándolos a la fidelidad en su alianza con Dios.

This article is part of a longer one by Dr. Michael Steier at the USCCB. You can read the complete version at <https://www.usccb.org/offices/new-american-bible/rationale-catholics-reading-old-testament>



Este artículo forma parte de uno más extenso del Dr. Michael Steier de la USCCB. Puede leer la versión completa (en inglés) en <https://www.usccb.org/offices/new-american-bible/rationale-catholics-reading-old-testament>

How is the Kingdom of God like the county fair?

Though the Kingdom of God is an eternal spiritual reality and the fair is a very temporary physical place, they do share some interesting similarities:

Free admittance and welcome

- County fairs are open to everyone, regardless of background.
- Admission into the Kingdom of God is a free gift offered to all who believe in Jesus.

Abundance and variety

- Fairs showcase agricultural produce, crafts, entertainment, and food.
- The Kingdom of God represents a spiritual abundance of righteousness, peace, and joy that comes through the Holy Spirit.

Gathering and community

- County fairs bring people together, fostering community spirit and shared traditions.
- The Kingdom of God represents a gathering of believers, united by faith.

Celebration and joy

- Fairs are filled with festivities and enjoyable activities.
- The Kingdom of God is associated with celebration and a joyful spirit.

Potential for transformation and growth

- The county fair can be a place where individuals learn valuable lessons.
- The Kingdom of God empowers individuals to grow in qualities such as empathy, kindness, and compassion.

Pictures are from the Madison County 4-H Fair and the Indiana State Fair in recent years.

This year, the 4-H fair will take place July 20-26 at the Madison County Fairgrounds in Alexandria.



The Anderson High School
Class of 1975 will celebrate its 50th
anniversary with a reunion at
The Edge on Saturday, October 25th
at 5pm. Cost: \$60.
For more information:
anderson.high.1975@gmail.com



Fellowship & Service in Zimmer Hall

(church basement at St. Mary Alexandria)

- Everyone is invited for coffee, doughnuts, and conversation after the 8:30am Mass next Sunday, July 27th.
- The Daughters of Mary, our parish women's group, will meet on Tuesday, July 22 at 6pm. All women over 18 years of age are invited to attend.
- St. Joseph's Helpers, the parish men's group, will meet on Thursday, July 24 at 6pm. All men over 18 years of age are very welcome.



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Weekly Stewardship Report

*Due to the start of a new
fiscal year, this report was not
yet available at print time.*

Have you signed up for FORMED? FORMED is the leading Catholic online streaming service. Our pastorate offers the service **FREE** too all individuals and families in all three parishes and both pastorate schools. For information on how to get access to this great content, visit the FORMED page on our pastorate web site: stambrosestmary.org/formed

¿Ya se inscribió usted a FORMED?

*FORMED es el principal servicio católico de transmisión en línea (streaming). Nuestro pastorado ofrece este servicio **GRATIS** a todas las personas y familias en las tres parroquias y ambas escuelas del pastorado.*

Para ver información sobre cómo acceder este excelente contenido, visite la página FORMED (en inglés) de nuestro sitio web del pastorado: stambrosestmary.org/formed



WHERE'S SISTER?

Can you identify exactly where in the pastorate the photo at left was taken?

Look for the answer here next week.

¿DÓNDE ANDA?

¿Logra usted identificar exactamente en qué parte de nuestro pastorado se tomó la foto a la izquierda? Busque la respuesta aquí la semana que entra.

WHERE WAS SISTER? Last week, Sr. Mary Mary Ambrose was photographed hiding in the church pew during a game of hide and seek with children at St. Mary in Anderson.

¿DÓNDE ANDABA? La semana pasada fotografiaron a Sor Mary Mary Ambrose oculta en una banca, jugando a las escondidillas con los niños de St. Mary en Anderson.



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