

# THE WORD THIS WEEK

## PASTOR'S NOTE

### Connecting to a Parish—Joining Our Family

Last week we started a “Parish Census” to update our membership information.

But why are we concerned about that at all?

Some might say, “I’m a ‘Roaming’ Catholic—I like to go to all the churches.” Others will say, “I got my sacraments here so you should already have my records.” And perhaps a few are wondering, “Why do you want my information? What are you trying to get from me?”

The main reason for a Parish Census? - to be better connected.

A parish is much more than a social organization and it is definitely not an exclusive club. A parish is a family that stays in a certain place. And just like in your own home, not everyone who visits is a member of your family. Sometimes they’re just guests.

So, do you consider yourself to be a member of our family? Would you like to be? Connect with us and welcome home!

***Sunday, December 6, 2020***

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Psalms 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14(8)

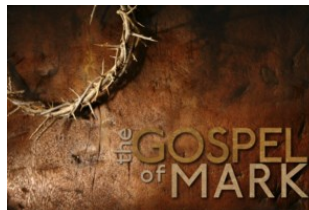
2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

Sunday December 6, 2020

## REFLECTIONS

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his path.”



The first week of Advent calls us to repentance. This second week we are reminded that repentance, living an upright life alone is not enough. We must submit ourselves in humility to the will of God. Be it

our stubbornness or spiritual pride (one of the seven deadly sins) we refuse to humble ourselves to the will of God. It is only then that we can experience the peace that He wants us to have. We light a 2nd candle this week to represent the hope of Christ coming to the world. This week we see the attitudes of self-denial and humility of John the Baptist. This week we celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary who combines all these attitudes as she humbly offers herself for the restoration of the world. Let us learn through her example.

During this time of Advent, join us in using this season to take stock of our past failings and resolve to do better in the future. We can then be prepared not only for birth of Jesus at Christmas but for his second coming. Will we be prepared?

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

**DECEMBER 7 & 8**

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

#### Mass Schedule

OLS: Monday, December 7 @ 6 p.m.

Tuesday, December 8 @ 6 p.m.

ST: Martes, Diciembre 8 @ 7 p.m.

## PRAYER AND WORSHIP

### WHY DO WE DO THAT?

#### Questions about the Mass

It's Advent—a time of preparation for Christmas, when God the Son took on a human nature and became like one of us. This is such an incredible mystery and in the Mass, there is a prayer that is spoken by the priest or deacon that's a perfect meditation on this mystery.

When the altar is being prepared during the offertory, wine is poured in the chalice and then a drop of water is added. Why do we do that? The answer is found in the prayer: "By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity." The mixture of the two points to what happened to Jesus at Christmas and to what happens to us when we receive communion. Jesus humbled Himself and made Himself small so that He could take our smallness and incorporate us into His greatness. "God became man, so that man could become God," as the Church Fathers put it. This is Good News! Through Jesus, in the Mass, we become like a drop of water in a chalice of wine, totally immersed and surrounded. But instead for us, we're immersed in Divinity, the life and presence of God.



## Mass Intentions

For the week of Dec. 5, 2020—Dec. 11, 2020

|           |            |  |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Saturday  | 5:00 p.m.  | Fidel Alvarez Hernandez                          |
| Sunday    | 8:00 a.m.  | Consuelo Trevino                                 |
|           |            | Isidore & Olivia Ozuna & Deceased family members |
|           | 10:00 a.m. | Guadalupe Huerta                                 |
|           | 2:00 p.m.  | Viviano/Viviana Escalona                         |
|           | 9:00 a.m.  | Robert Luna                                      |
|           | 11:00 a.m. | For all Parishioners                             |
| Monday    | 6:00 p.m.  | Tadeo/Vicenta Ozuna                              |
| Tuesday   | 6:00 p.m.  | Holy Day of Obligation                           |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | For all Parishioners                             |
| Wednesday | 6:00 p.m.  | Amador Torres                                    |
| Thursday  | 6:00 p.m.  | Gregoria Quintanilla                             |
| Thursday  | 7:00 p.m.  | Eloisa Martinez                                  |
| Friday    | 6:00 p.m.  | All Parishioners                                 |

### May They Rest in Peace

Please pray for the response of the souls of Gerald Jacobs, Elvira Medina, Rangelio Ortega, Alfredo Rodriguez and all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and their families find comfort and peace in God, our father.

In memory of

Paul Guerra

By: Carmelita



#### Virgin de Guadalupe Celebration

Friday, December 11th, 5:30 p.m. procession from CCD Center to OLS for Serenata, Mass at 6p.m.

Saturday, December 12th, 5:00 a.m. Mañanitas, Mass at 6 a.m. followed by Chocolate and sweet bread at Trinity Hall. Come and participate with the celebration of Praise, Worship and Fellowship hosted by the Guadalupanas. All ministries are invited to bring roses for the offertory.

#### Celebración para la Virgen de Guadalupe

Viernes, 11 de diciembre, 5:30 p.m. procesión desde el Centro CCD hasta OLS para la Serenata, Misa a las 6p.m.

Sábado, 12 de diciembre, 5:00 a.m. Mañanitas, misa a las 6 a.m. seguido de Chocolate y pan dulce en Trinity Hall. Vengan a participar con la celebración de La Alabanza, Adoración y Comunidad organizada por las Guadalupanas.

Se invita a todos los ministerios a traer rosas para la ofrenda.

# PARISH FINANCES

## 2020 Jamaica Donation Request

Thank you for your generosity!

Since we weren't able to have our Jamaica this year, we are asking for donations and you are responding.

We appreciate your support!

Maria & Abierto Cervantes, Sofia & Vernal Jervis, Helen & Juan Balderez Jr, Dan & Noemi Galvan, Mary Lou & Joe Rendon, Rosie Reyes, Teresa & Joe Delossantos, Carmelita Guerra, Carolina & Carmen Garza, Felice Guajardo, Janie M. Rubio, Robert & Yolanda Gonzalez, Lalo & Janie Hinojosa, Julio Reyes, Beatrice Castaneda, Blanca & David Valdez, Theresa & Wenceslao Gutierrez, Robert & Margaret Alvarez, Martha Bentley, Cricelia G. Uresti, Linda Longoria, Anonymous, Tali & Loretta Villafranca, Villafranca & Villafranca Law Firm, Dcn. Larry & Lynn Koether, Felix & Guadalupe Chacon, Juanita Lopez, Ester Hernandez, Genaro & Melba Cortez, Raul & Josie Alvarado, Judge Bea & Leandro Gonzalez, Oscar & Rosa Ramirez, Mr. & Mrs. Emilio Flores, Catherine Espindola, Guadalupe Garcia, Lupe & Mary Reyes, Jesse Hernandez, Oscar & Nancy Cisneros, Mr. & Mrs. Jessie Castillo, Anna & Richard Martinez, Rosalinda & Ramon Garcia, Mr. & Mrs. Rogelio Cortines, Amigo del Pueblo, Mary Jane & Roger Cortines, Nilda Loya, Gordon & Diane Beatty, Richard & Darlene Aguilar, Evila Olguin, Ramon Garcia, South Texas Ventilation,

Total collected: \$14,495.00 up to date.

## Monthly Parish Projects

Weekend collections, office income, and your donations go to our monthly projects. Below are a few (not all) of the projects we have to raise money for every month. If you would like to support these projects, you may continue to give online or in the collection. Or you may also support one of these projects directly as a sponsor. Please call the office if you would like to be a sponsor and we will happily provide you with a letter for taxes.

| Project                                 | Cost for December |
|---|-------------------|
| Mortgage for OLS Church Building:       | 7,657.54          |
| OLS and ST Electricity (all buildings): | 9,901.73          |
| OLS Property Insurance:                 | 6,900.00          |
| Diocesan Services Appeal (DSA):         | 7,500.00          |
| Phone and Internet:                     | 1,114.19          |

## Approximate Total To Raise Every Month

\$65,000.

## Amount Left to Raise for November

\$65,000.

## OUR WEEKLY PARISH SUPPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING ON November 22 & 29, 2020

|                                | OLS              |                  | ST              |                 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                | 11/22            | 11/29            | 11/22           | 11/29           |
| <b>Parish Collections:</b>     |                  |                  |                 |                 |
| 1st Collection                 | 4,269.87         | 4,262.23         | 1,628.25        | 1,667.31        |
| Debt—2nd Collection            | 1,123.00         | 1,368.00         | 51.00           | 35.00           |
| Candles (Church)               | 86.00            | 119.00           | 18.90           | 23.00           |
| Online Tithes                  | 1,737.00         | 2,322.00         | 0               | 10.00           |
| Online Giving (Debt Reduction) | 230.00           | 165.00           | 0               | 0               |
| Thanksgiving Mass              |                  | 265.00           | 0               | 0               |
| <b>SUBTOTALS</b>               | <b>7,445.87</b>  | <b>8,501.23</b>  | <b>1,698.15</b> | <b>1,735.31</b> |
| <b>Office Income</b>           |                  |                  |                 |                 |
| Mass Intentions                | 0                | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| Sanctuary Lamp                 | 0                | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| Weddings                       | 600.00           | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| Blessing                       | 175.00           | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| Rentals                        | 100.00           | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| Prayer Signs                   | 436.00           | 140.00           | 60.00           | 0               |
| Missalettes                    | 560.00           | 170.00           | 140.00          | 120.00          |
| Lectors Workbooks              |                  | 54.00            | 0               | 0               |
| Tamales-Guadalupanas           | 1,376.00         | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| Donations (Jamaica Letter s)   | 100.00           | 1,800.00         | 0               | 0               |
| TV Donation                    | 320.00           | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| BBQ Breakfast                  | 1,736.93         | 0                | 1,128.55        | 0               |
| Fire Extinguisher              | 168.30           | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| <b>SUBTOTALS</b>               | <b>5,572.23</b>  | <b>2,164.00</b>  | <b>1,328.55</b> | <b>120.00</b>   |
| <b>Outgoing Collections</b>    |                  |                  |                 |                 |
| Catholic Campaign Human Dev.   | 176.00           | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| Christmas Flowers              | 157.00           | 0                | 0               | 0               |
| DSA                            | 539.36           | 576.23           | 480.85          | 397.20          |
| <b>SUBTOTAL</b>                | <b>872.36</b>    | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b>        |
| <b>GRAND TOTOALS</b>           | <b>13,890.46</b> | <b>11,241.46</b> | <b>3,507.55</b> | <b>2,252.51</b> |

Thank you for your many gifts, heavenly Father.

In the Name of Jesus, accept this offering,

anoint it with your Spirit, and multiply it for your honor and glory.

# FAITH FORMATION

## ADULT FORMATION

### Advent Retreats : Retiro de Adviento

Saturday, December 5, 2020 in Spanish 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mass.

Saturday, December 19, 2020 in English 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mass.

Both retreats will be held at the CCD Center, concluding with the 5 p.m. Mass.

Todos son bienvenidos a venir y prepararnos espiritualmente para la conmemoración del



### Catholicism 101—RCIA

Need Sacraments? Want to Learn?

December 16th, please join us for Mass at 6 p.m. at OLS followed by the Class at Trinity Hall. All are invited to join us, especially those who would like to receive his/her sacraments or would like to become catholic. Come nurture your faith and grow your discipleship to Jesus Christ in His Holy Catholic Church.

### Formación Cristiana — RICA

10 de Diciembre en la Capilla de Santísima Trinidad, después de la Misa de las 7 p.m. Todos están invitados a unirse a nosotros, especialmente aquellos que necesitan sus sacramentos, les gustaría ser católicos o gustan crecer en su fe. Venga a nutrir su fe y crecer en su discipulado a Jesucristo en su Santa Iglesia Católica.



### ONLINE AND AT HOME FAITH FORMATION

#### HAY MUCHOS RECURSOS EN ESPAÑOL

Great app supporting an authentic Catholic lifestyle. Watch, Learn and Share. Pulling together the best in Catholic movies, children's programming, dramas and books. Our bible studies, sacramental prep materials, documentaries, books and audio talks from leading Catholic experts will help you grow in understanding your faith. Encountering and sharing the content has never been easier.

Go and seek. <https://formed.org>

## YOUTH NEWS

### CCD Has Started!

Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in the CCD Building and Ending with Mass at 2 p.m.

Children who do not come to Mass with parents or guardians will not be able to continue in the

### Family Life Wednesdays

Everyone is invited to spend some time in prayer on Wednesdays throughout the school year. This will be a great way to form the whole family in the faith. Remember, the family that prays together, stays together! Mass at 6 p.m. and exposition of the Eucharist afterwards. Some nights have a target age but all are welcome.

Come join us!

- 1st Wed—Family Life Rosary for all ages
- 2nd Wed—High School Adoration for grades 6-12
- 3rd Wed—Divine Mercy Chaplet for all ages
- 4th Wed—Children's Adoration for grades 1-5
- 5th Wed—Family Life Rosary for all ages



# NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale

Sunday, December 6, 2020

8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Trinity Hall

Get your Christmas Shopping done early and help support our Parish. All proceeds to benefit OLS/ST.

Please bring your crafts and items to the church office before Friday noon.

We will have homemade baked goods as well. Something for everyone.



## PPC will be conducting a Parish Census at OLS & ST on December 6, 2020.

You are important to OLS/ST. Please help us connect with you and keep you informed with upcoming parish events. Sign in with any of the PPC members at the tables ready to assist you with the Parish Census. Gracias



With Christmas around the corner, give a gift that will last year long.

Altar Society will be selling these beautiful signs this weekend at Trinity Hall after all the masses.

For more information, please call Gloria Cano at (361) 920-3127 or the Parish office at (361)575-2293.

Great way to unite in prayer and support our church.

Donate of \$10. or what your heart desires to give.

## CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE:

Sunday, December 6, 2020 – Guadalupanas

Jamaica Team Ministry,

Sunday, December 13, 2020 – Lectors,

Shut In Ministry

Sunday, December 20, 2020 – Eucharistic Ministry,

Knights of Columbus

If you would like to volunteer to help, please join us. God will be pleased.



## POSADA SCHEDULE:

**OLS** – Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Hall, after 6 p.m. Mass.. Hosted by Ballet Folklorico & CDA

**ST** – Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 6 p.m. en la Capilla de Santísima Trinidad.

Para mas informacion llame a Jamie o Lorenza Lopez, 361 652-3893

## Thank you to Parishioners!

Our Parish Jamaica Team extends to you our appreciation and gratitude for your support of our recent Brisket Taco Breakfast. We had a successful fundraiser for a profit of \$ 2,713. Thank you for your donations and your generosity. Our Jamaica Team wishes you and your family well this Advent and Christmas season.

Nuestro equipo de la parroquia, encargado de la Jamaica les extiende nuestro aprecio y gratitud por su apoyo a nuestro reciente desayuno de tacos de brisket. Tuvimos una recaudación de fondos exitosa. El total fue \$2,713. Gracias por sus donaciones y su generosidad. Les deseamos lo mejor a usted y su familia en esta temporada de Adviento y Navidad. Louis Rodríguez y Cruz Cervantes

If you haven't yet, please participate with all our fundraisers and give of your talents and gifts to OLS & ST. We rely on this income from your generosity to help meet the financial needs of our parish. Thank you for your compassionate hearts and constant support.

## UPDATING PARISHIONER RECORDS

Please help us update your records. We need current phone numbers, addresses and changes of members in your household to better serve your needs. Thank you for submitting your information to:

[jmrubio@ourladyofsorrows.org](mailto:jmrubio@ourladyofsorrows.org)