

The Roman Catholic Community of Saint Joseph

16 East Somerset Street, Raritan, NJ 08869

We, the Catholic Community of St. Joseph, are committed to follow Jesus Christ. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we strive to be good stewards in our lives.

We pray for peace, forgiveness, and for one another as Christ loves us!

Baptisms

Baptisms are usually held on Saturday mornings any time throughout the year (**with the exception of the Lenten Season**). Parents must be registered parishioners and complete a Baptismal Preparation class. It is required that godparents are no less than 16 years of age and have completed the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. If the godparents are a married couple, they need to have been married by the Catholic Church. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange for the class and the date of Baptism.

Sponsor Certificates

Sponsors (Godparents) for Baptism and Confirmation are required to verify their eligibility. They must be fully initiated Catholic who actively practice their faith and are in good standing with the Church. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you are considering becoming Catholic, or desire to complete your sacraments, please contact the Parish Office for more information about RCIA.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please call the rectory and let us know when a member of your family is in the hospital so a priest can arrange to visit them. Make sure you contact the Pastoral Care Office in the hospital so the Chaplain can bring you communion daily. **In the event of an emergency please call 908 392-7962 anytime of the day or night.**

Marriages

Please call the office to meet with the Pastor as soon as you become engaged and before any preparations are made. Arrangements should be made one year in advance. Couples preparing for marriage must attend required Pre-Cana sessions within the Diocese along with F.O.C.C.U.S. and sessions with your Parish Priest or Deacon.



Under the Pastoral Care of the Priests and brothers of the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri.

Very Rev. Jeffrey Calia, C.O., Provost

Rev. Kevin P. Kelly, C.O..... Administrator
Nora Martin Parish Office Manager
Anthony R. Nardino..... Director of Music & Liturgy
Ramon Salazar..... Multi-Parish Facilities Manager

The Lord's Day Mass Schedule

Saturday..... **St. Joseph 4 pm English**, Holy Trinity 5 pm
Sunday..... **St. Joseph 7:30 am Spanish**, St. Ann 7:30 am,
St. Joseph 9 am English, St. Ann 10:30 am,
Holy Trinity 10:30 am, Shrine of the Blessed
Sacrament 10:30 am (Latin EF)
St. Joseph 12:00 pm Spanish, St. Ann 12:00 pm,
St. Ann 5 pm

Holy Days

7:00 pm Vigil Mass—St. Joseph (English)
8am: St Ann, 12:15pm: Shrine Chapel, Holy Trinity
7:00 pm: St. Ann, Shrine Chapel (Latin EF), 7:30 pm St. Joseph (Spa.)

Weekday Masses

Monday through Friday..... 8 am St. Ann, 12:15 pm Shrine (E)
Friday 7 pm Holy Trinity (E)
Saturday..... 9 am St. Ann (E)
First Saturdays..... 9 am Shrine (Latin)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday..... St. Ann after the 9 am Mass
St. Joseph 3:00 –3:30 pm
Wednesday..... Holy Trinity 11 am –12 pm
Friday..... Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament 11 am –12 pm
or by appointment

Parish Office

Open Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (NEW)
908 725-0163 • parishoffice@sjraritan.org • www.sjraritan.org
Fr. Kevin Email..... padrekevin2024@gmail.com

The Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 11, 2025



HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

INTENCIONES DE LA SANTA MISA



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

LECTURAS PARA LA STA. MISA ESTA SEMANA

Saturday, May 10, 2025

4:00 pm Mother's Day Remembrance
+Margaret Salek R/o Irene Sixt
Priest remembered today: Rev. John Szczepanik

Sunday, May 11, Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:30 am* Pro-populo (for the people)
Priest remembered today: Rev. Mauricio Tabera-Vasquez
9 am Mother's Day Remembrance
Priest remembered today: Rev. Tabenero
12 pm * Por todas las madres y por +Elieth Artavia
Priest remembered today: Rev. George Targonski

Saturday, May 17, 2025

4:00 pm +Mary Prokop R/o Michael R. Prokop
Priest remembered today: Rev. Pauly Thekkan, CMI

Sunday, May 18, Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:30 am* Pro-populo (for the people)
Priest remembered today: Rev. Tholitho
9 am +Anthony Perna R/o Roderick & Pat McNealy
Priest remembered today: Rev. Jonathan Toborowsky
12 pm * +Geiner Solano
Priest remembered today: Rev. Virgilio Tolentino
* En Español, in Spanish

SUNDAY MASS READING 5/11

First Reading: Acts 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas addressed many people, and large crowds gathered to hear them. Some of the Jews became jealous, and argued with whatever Paul said. But Paul and Barnabas continued preaching their message of salvation and everlasting life, until they were eventually forced to leave the town.

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

John saw a vision of many people surrounding a throne and the Lamb. One of the elders told him these were the people who had survived great periods of trial, but maintained strong faith in God. Now they would receive eternal protection and comfort from God as reward for their loyalty.

Gospel: John 10:27-30

Jesus states that his sheep know his voice and follow him, and will receive eternal life. Jesus also says that no one can snatch his followers away, because God is greater than anyone who might try, and Jesus is one with God.

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Monday

Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17

Thursday

Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

Friday

Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday

Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14



CANDLE INTENTIONS

Sanctuary: +Catherine & Strelko
R/o Irene Sixt

Blessed Virgin Mary +Helen Sixt
R/o Irene Sixt

St. Joseph: +Jerry Kovak
R/o The Capetta Family

The Paschal Candle:
In Memory of The Krachun & Fattori
Families R/o Their loved ones

Pray for the Sick

George Riehman, Jr.	Arthur & Maryann
Jennifer Rose	Gosenski
Robert Valance	Mary Grande
Thomas McGrath	Donna Kelly
Irene Sixt	Roseanne Kielar
Annmarie Bizub	Jerry Kovac
Joseph Carter	Antonia LaCorte
Jane Chiesa	Ralph Lombardi
Joan Chopay	Steve & Geri Max
Elizabeth Anne Dwyer	Jack McElhinney
Randy Fisher	Allsya Miller
Tony & Sandy Franchino	Francis M. Mishak, Sr.
	Pinzy & Rachel Petro-

Sunday's Gospel Reflection

written by a Daughter of St. Francis de Sales



In today's Gospel we experience Jesus as the Good Shepherd who cares for His flock. St. Francis de Sales reminds us that we too must be good shepherds who tend our flock:

Some say that shepherds represent all those who wish to become holy: but if each of us is a shepherd, who are our sheep? They are our desires, feelings and emotions. We must keep watch over this spiritual flock. Jesus teaches us how to govern and rule over our desires, feelings and emotions, our flock that we must shepherd.

Like a shepherd who cares for his flock, our Good Shepherd gathers us all around Himself in order to make us His own. He wants us to manage our lives in light of the Will of God, rather than our own willful desires. In Jesus, we learn how to govern our flock and direct our desires, feelings and emotions in a way that leads to spiritual health.

What can be more pleasing to Our Divine Shepherd than to bring to Him the lamb of our love? Love is the first desire of the human spirit. True love is accomplished when we live according to the inspirations and promptings that God places in us.

Our God is the God of the human heart. Our hearts thirst for God. We have a natural inclination to know and love God. No other love can satisfy us as the infinite goodness of God, from whom we gain infinite nourishment.

St. Augustine said: "Love God, then do what you will." When all of our loves flow out of God's love, then we can say that we truly love God. How happy we will be if we remain in the presence of Our Good Shepherd and faithfully imitate Him by following His example! We will then serve God as God wills and be a good shepherd to ourselves as well as others.

(Adapted from the writings of St. Francis de Sales)

Oblates.org

Spiritual Maternity

Saint Faustina constantly affirms in her Diary the great title of Mary as Mother of God. Of course, St. Faustina understood Mary's Divine Motherhood as more than that; she is spiritual mother to us all. Father Donald Calloway, MIC, explains this in the following excerpt from his book *Purest of All Lilies* (Marian Press):

A consequence of the Divine Motherhood is Mary's role as spiritual mother of God's people. Saint Faustina deeply understood that, because of Mary's intimate maternal union with the Savior, there also existed an intimate maternal union between Mary and Christian disciples. For example, within the Diary we note that she refers to Mary as "spiritual" mother 20 times, to herself as the daughter of Mary 11 times and the terminology of "child" five times.

On one occasion Mary told St. Faustina that her role as spiritual mother is part of the will of God: "My daughter, at God's command I am to be, in a special and exclusive way your Mother; but I desire that you, too, in a special way, be My child" (Diary, 1414. Cf. Diary, 240). Knowing that Mary's role as personal spiritual mother in regard to St. Faustina was the will of God gave St. Faustina the understanding that she could entrust all of her cares and concerns to Mary, her spiritual mother. Maternity was part of the capacity God had given to the Virgin Mary, namely, to be a maternal presence in the spiritual life, one that nourished, protected, and taught St. Faustina how to grow closer to God.

The maternal presence of Mary in the life of St. Faustina was concrete. For example, on Dec. 9, 1936, she noted: "She [Mary], like a good Mother, watches over all my trials and efforts" (Diary, 798). In addition, the theme of Mary acting as a mother who guards, protects, and instructs her children in the spiritual life is a prominent one in the Diary. Saint Faustina even referred to Mary as "Instructress" (Diary, 620) and "Mother of grace" (Diary, 315).

Another interesting facet of how St. Faustina understood Mary's spiritual motherhood is that, much like her Divine Motherhood in which she co-suffered with Christ, she shares in the sufferings of her children. This theme comes up at least three times in the Diary, giving clear evidence that St. Faustina understood Mary's role as spiritual mother to be that of bringing comfort to her. Perhaps the clearest example of this dimension of Mary's spiritual motherhood can be seen in the following passage: "I know how much you suffer, but do not be afraid. I share with you your suffering, and I shall always do so" (Diary, 25).

Father Donald Calloway, MIC, is vocation director for the Marians of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. You can order *Purest of All Lilies* through our online catalogue. **Marian.org**

Happy Mother's Day!
May God bless you abundantly



4-May-25	Collection	Online G	Total
Offertory	\$5,348.00	\$685.00	\$6,033.00
Other donations			\$0.00
Total for parish operation			\$6,033.00
Diocesan (residual):			
Holy Land	\$51.00		\$51.00
CRS	\$101.00	\$5.00	\$106.00
Diocese of Metuchen			\$157.00

Upcoming 2nd Diocesan Collection: May 17/18, Collection for the Development of the people

Thank you and God bless you for supporting the mission of the church and the ministry of St. Joseph. St Joseph's offers **Online Giving thru ParishSoft**; an easy option for donating to the Sunday Collection. It's simple! Just visit our website and follow the registration steps for recurrent or one time donations sjraritan.org



2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal

PILGRIMS OF HOPE (Campaign Summary Report):

Parish Goal: **\$25,000** | Total Pledged & Received: \$24,432.95 | Amount Received: \$19,797.95 | Under Goal: \$-567.05 | Percent of Goal Received: 79.19% | Average Gift Amount: \$301.64

A Big Thank You!



Bake Sale:

Thank you to our bakers who donated their time and delicious treats. Thank you as well to all who came down to support this spring fundraiser. It was a tremendous success as we raised **\$1,453.00** for our parish.

Baby Bottle Drive:

Thank you to all who participated in our annual collection to benefit the local pregnancy aid center. We were able to deliver a car full of supplies as well as a monetary gift of a little more than **\$1,200.00**. Your generosity and support for this event is greatly appreciated.

NEXT FOOD SALE: SUNDAY, MAY 18

Following the
7:30 am, 9am, and 12 pm Masses
In the School Auditorium

MENU:

- Sandwich & a beverage.....\$5
- For kids:
- Chicken fingers & juice\$5
- Empanadas de pollo.....\$4
(Chicken empanadas)
- Gallo pinto Tico\$13
(Rice & beans with sausage, eggs and sweet plantains)
- Gallos de salchichón2 x \$10
(A type of taco made with kielbasa sausage)
- Gallos de picadillo de papa.....3 x\$10
(Potato and shredded beef hash)
- Arroz con pollo (chicken & rice)\$12
- Pernil con yuca y pico de gallo \$12
(Slow-roasted pork shoulder with cassava and pico de gallo)
- Tacos Ticos2 x \$12
(Costa Rican-style fried tacos)
- Zucchini Bread \$4
- Bread Pudding \$4
- Coffee\$2
- Agua dulce\$2
(Beverage made with unrefined whole cane sugar)
- Fresco de Frutas\$4
(Refreshing fruit salad juice)

Holy Trinity Church Bereavement Ministry

The Bereavement Ministry strives to bring consolation and peer support to those who grieve the loss of a loved one. Informal small group gatherings are facilitated by caring parishioners. Sharing thoughts, feelings, and emotions in the atmosphere of our faith with others who are also going through a personal loss can often bring some peace and acceptance, when understanding that these experiences are normal. **A ten-week session will begin at Holy Trinity Church on Monday, May 5th from 6:30pm until 8:00pm. No fee, but registration is required.** Contact Deacon John Phalen at

THE RARITAN ORATORY OF ST. PHILIP NERI PRESENTS

EASTER SEASON FORMATION SERIES:
The Acts of the Apostles

Wednesday, May 14 &
Wednesday, May 28
7:00 pm

 **St. Joseph's Parish Hall**
(Church Basement)
16 E. Somerset St. Raritan, NJ

Join us for a two-part Easter Season formation series on The Acts of the Apostles. The sessions will be held on Wednesday, May 14th and Wednesday, May 28th at 7:00 PM in St. Joseph's Parish Hall. All are welcome—no need to purchase materials.

WORD OF LIFE: “Radical solidarity compels us to come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their preborn children. It requires us to address the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her. We must do all we can to provide mothers, children, and families with the support they need to flourish. This cannot be accomplished by laws or policy alone, but requires the continual transformation of our own hearts, recognizing in every person the face of Christ, and placing their needs before our own.” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

SAVE THE DATE

 **ST. ANN CLASSICAL ACADEMY** **24th Annual**
www.stannclassical.org

Spring Tricky Tray

Saturday, May 17, 2025
St. Ann Classical Academy
School Cafeteria
40 Second Ave. | Raritan, NJ

Don't Delay! Reserve Your Tickets Today!
stannclassical.org/tricky-tray

ID: 412-1-454 RA: 2025-02-02 & RA: 2025-02-03

St. Ann's Knights of Columbus Present

Mother's Day Brunch & Show!

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Bring Mom and the Family to God's House For the Gift of Laughter!

 **From the Borgata Casino**
GEMINI

 **From "Live At Gotham"**
Mark Riccadonna

 **From the Parx Casino**
Larry DiGregorio

Tickets \$35
Table of 8 - \$250
Seats Are Limited

Doors open 1:00
Showtime 1:30

50/50 Raffle!

Tickets Can Be Purchased at the Rectory, After Mass, or Scan This QR Code!

St. Ann's Cafeteria 45 Anderson Street, Raritan

 **St. Ann's Italian Festa**

June 19th-21st, 2025
5:00-10:00 PM

Discounted Festa Food Tickets

\$42 in Food Tickets for \$40*
\$65 in Food Tickets for \$60*
\$110 in Food Tickets for \$100*

* While supplies last. Available after masses starting May 10th or at the St. Ann's rectory office during normal business hours.

Super 50/50 Tickets \$50 each
are also available online
stannclassical.square.site
Drawing held June 21 at 10pm

Scan to buy Tickets



Reflexion Salesiana para el Cuarto Domingo de Pascua

Una reflexión salesiana sobre el Evangelio dominical por una Hija de San Francisco de Sales

El Evangelio de hoy nos permite experimentar a Jesús, el Buen Pastor, que cuida de Su rebaño. San Francisco de Sales nos recuerda que nosotros también debemos ser buenos pastores que cuidan de su rebaño.

Hay quienes dicen que los pastores representan a todos aquellos que desean ser santos. Sin embargo, si cada uno de nosotros es un pastor, ¿quiénes son nuestras ovejas? Nuestros deseos, sentimientos y emociones. Nuestra obligación es velar por este rebaño espiritual. Jesús nos enseña a gobernar y a controlar nuestros deseos, sentimientos y emociones.

Al igual que un pastor que cuida de sus ovejas, nuestro Buen Pastor nos reúne a Su alrededor para hacernos suyos. Él desea que manejemos nuestras vidas a la luz de la voluntad de Dios y no conforme a nuestros deseos. En Jesús aprendemos a dirigir nuestro rebaño y a controlar nuestros deseos, sentimientos y emociones de manera que nos conduzca a la salud espiritual.

¿Qué puede complacer más a Nuestro Divino Pastor que el que le entreguemos la oveja de nuestro amor? El amor es el principal deseo del espíritu humano. El verdadero amor se logra cuando vivimos según las inspiraciones y los impulsos que Dios aviva en nosotros.

Nuestro Dios es el Dios del corazón humano. Nuestros corazones están sedientos de Él. Nosotros tenemos una inclinación natural por conocer y amar a Dios. Ningún otro amor puede satisfacernos como lo hace la bondad infinita de Dios, quien nos da la vida eterna.

San Agustín dijo: "Amen a Dios, y después hagan lo que deben hacer". Cuando todos nuestros amores provienen del amor de Dios, podemos decir que verdaderamente lo amamos. ¿Qué felices seremos si permanecemos en presencia de Nuestro Buen Pastor y si lo seguimos e imitamos fielmente Su ejemplo! Será entonces que podremos servirle según Su voluntad y ser buenos pastores para nosotros mismos y para los demás.

Adaptación de los escritos de San Francisco de Sales).

La maternidad: un maravilloso don de Dios

La maternidad es un hermoso don de Dios. Es verdad que implica esfuerzo, sacrificios y desvelos, pero también conduce al máximo esplendor de la mujer.

La mujer tiene la capacidad de engendrar vida en su vientre. Dice san Juan Pablo II que "aunque a la mujer se le abran espacios de trabajo profesional en la sociedad y de apostolado en la Iglesia, nada podrá equipararse nunca con la eminente dignidad que le corresponde por su maternidad, cuando la vive en todas sus dimensiones. Vemos que María, modelo de la mujer, cumplió la misión a la que fue llamada en la economía de la Encarnación y de la Redención por el camino de la maternidad".

Actualmente, la maternidad es vista como un obstáculo para la mujer; esta idea se ha promovido especialmente en redes sociales difundiendo los aspectos negativos a nivel físico y psicológico, haciéndolo ver como algo feo.

...

La maternidad vista desde los ojos de una madre enamorada

Bere -esposa, psicóloga y familióloga- es sobre todo madre, por lo que nos compartió que cada día es una aventura con sus pequeños: Pío Carlo de dos años, Noé Franco de uno y Leo Santiago de apenas un mes. "¿Quién dijo que la maternidad era fácil? Pero, ¿sabes qué? Aunque hay momentos complicados, también hay un montón de momentos mágicos que hacen que todo valga la pena".

Retos en la maternidad, oportunidades para amar

Bere tiene como ideal ser la mejor versión de mujer que puede ser, por ello, son varios los retos que la hacen amar cada día más a sus hijos.

Sobre todos los aspectos desagradables que se escuchan sobre la maternidad en redes y pláticas casuales, Bere explicó que no se trata de enfocarse únicamente en las dificultades y renunciadas, porque eso solamente genera frustración.

Una decisión que te cambia la vida

Muchas madres aseguran que esta decisión les cambia la vida por completo; y para Bere, el ser madre la ha hecho poner sus ojos en el amor, no solo en el sacrificio.

Es ahí donde cambia la percepción, pues se une el sacrificio a una entrega de amor total. "El sacrificio cobra sentido a través del amor". El amor se demuestra al cambiar un pañal, al levantarse en la noche para alimentar al bebé, "sabiendo que cada gesto está lleno de amor hacia mi hijo y que, al cumplir con mi estado de

vida, estoy siguiendo un camino hacia la santidad".

La meta de la maternidad

Así como todos estamos llamados a ser santos y a santificar nuestra vocación, las madres también pueden santificarse por medio de la maternidad. Bere lo explica de la siguiente manera: "Mi experiencia de maternidad: ser santa en lo cotidiano, como diría san Josemaría Escrivá, en mi día a día como madre. Y ¿saben qué? Es lo más hermoso que me ha pasado".

El amor de una madre a cada uno de sus hijos deja una huella indeleble en sus corazones que, además, los motiva a buscar el cielo ellos también.

Fuente: es.aleteia.org

¡Feliz día de las madres!
El Señor las bendiga



Vamos a Coronar a la Santísima Virgen Durante la Misa de las 12pm, el domingo, 11 de mayo

LECTURAS DEL CUARTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA

Primera Lectura: Hechos 13:14, 43-52

Pablo y Barnabás se dirigían a una gran multitud que se había congregado para escucharlos. Algunos de los judíos se pusieron celosos y contradecían a Pablo. Pero Pablo y Barnabás continuaron predicando el mensaje de salvación y vida eterna, hasta que eventualmente los echaron de la región.

Segunda Lectura: Apocalipsis 7:9, 14b-17

Juan tuvo una visión de mucha gente alrededor de un trono y un Cordero. Uno de los ancianos le dijo que esa era gente que había pasado por gran aflicción, pero que se mantuvo fuerte en la fé de Dios. Ahora ellos recibirían eterna protección y cuidado de Dios como recompensa por su lealtad.

Evangelio: San Juan 10:27-30

Jesús declara que sus ovejas conocen su voz y lo siguen, y que recibirán vida eterna. También dice que nadie puede llevarse a sus seguidores, pues Dios es grande, y Jesús es uno con Dios.

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PROXIMA CLASE PREBAUTISMAL

Para padres y padrinos:

Lunes, 19 de mayo, 7:00 pm

en el sótano de la parroquia

Por favor inscribirse por correo electrónico:

parishoffice@sjraritan.org o escribiendo sus datos en el formulario que esta en la entrada principal de la iglesia

¿Quién es elegible para ser padrino?

Católicos practicantes de por lo menos 16 años de edad que hayan recibido los Sacramentos de iniciación: Bautismo, Comunión, y Confirmación; y si están casados, tienen que estar casados por la Iglesia Católica. *El rol del padrino es ayudar a los padres a criar al niño en la fe; por tanto, debe llevar una vida coherente, no contradictoria,*

con las enseñanzas de nuestra Madre Iglesia.

Numero de padrinos Uno o dos (máximo), un hombre y una mujer.

PALABRA DE VIDA

"La solidaridad radical nos obliga a estar al lado de las madres vulnerables con profunda amistad, compasión y apoyo, tanto para ellas como para sus hijos no nacidos. Nos exige hacer frente a los desafíos fundamentales que llevan a una futura madre a creer que no puede acoger al hijo que Dios le ha confiado.

Debemos hacer todo lo posible para proporcionar a las madres, los niños y las familias el apoyo que necesitan para avanzar. Esto no puede lograrse solo con leyes o políticas, sino que requiere la transformación continua de nuestro propio corazón, y reconocer en cada persona el rostro de Cristo, anteponiendo sus necesidades a las nuestras".

Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida de la USCCB,
"Solidaridad radical"

¡Muchas gracias!

Venta de comida:

Muchas gracias a todos los que participaron en la deliciosa venta de postres el fin de semana pasado ya sea cocinando o comprando. Esta venta fue todo un éxito, recaudamos **\$1,453.00** para nuestra parroquia.

Campaña de biberones:

Muchas gracias a todos los que participaron en nuestra campana anual para el centro de ayuda a la mujer de Raritan. Llenamos completamente un carro con donaciones y recaudamos little more than **\$1,200.00**. Apreciamos mucho Su generoso apoyo a esta campana.

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