

# 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

## 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**  
908 725-0163 • parishoffice@sjraritan.org • www.sjraritan.org  
Fr. Kevin Email..... padrekevin2024@gmail.com

*The Epiphany of the Lord, January 4, 2026*



## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE LA SANTA MISA

### Saturday, Jan 3, 2026

4:00 pm +Dan Smith R/o Jim & Barb Piccolo  
Priest remembered today: Rev. John J. Bargella

### Sunday, Jan 4, 2026 The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 am\* Pro-populo (for the people)  
Oramos por el sacerdote: Rev. Karolus Bale, SDV

9 am Intentions of Gregory Biada  
Priest remembered today: Rev. Triana

12 pm \* +Patricia Picado y en acción de gracias por el cumpleaños de Killari y Amaru González  
Oramos por el sacerdote: Rev. Ariel Bautista, Jr.

### Saturday, Jan 10, 2026

4:00 pm +Susanna Jae-Ryun Song R/o Sun Ju Valenta  
Priest remembered today: Rev. Msgr. William Benwell, JCL

### Sunday, Jan 11, 2026 The Baptism of the Lord

7:30 am\* Pro-populo (for the people)  
Oramos por el sacerdote: Rev. Jan Bernas, SDB

9 am +The Perna & Ciemniecki Families  
R/o Dennis & Ida Ciemniecki  
Priest remembered today: Rev. Michael J. Bihuniak

12 pm \* En acción de gracias por el cumpleaños de Luz Maria y Aldo Azcona  
Oramos por el sacerdote: Rev. Lukasz Blicharski

\* En Español, in Spanish

## SUNDAY MASS READINGS The Epiphany of the Lord

### First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is extolled as a place of glory and splendor because the Lord has come to His own city.

### Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul tells the Ephesians that his special mission is to make the Gentiles co-heirs with the Jews in Christ — “members of the same body and sharers of the promise.”

### Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Herod learns that Wise Men from the East are searching for the newly born Christ Child. He instructs them to find the Child and to report His whereabouts to him. The Wise Men follow a star to the place where Mary and Jesus are and offer the Child gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They do not return to Herod but follow another route to their own country.

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## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### LECTURAS PARA LA STA. MISA ESTA SEMANA

#### Monday

1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

#### Tuesday

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

#### Wednesday

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

#### Thursday

1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22

#### Friday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

#### Saturday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30



## CANDLE INTENTIONS

**Sanctuary:** Intentions & health of Kathryn Alvaro R/o Michelina Viscido

**Blessed Virgin Mary:** Intentions of Michelina Viscido, Madeline S. & Kathy Alvaro

**St. Joseph:** Krachun & Gall Families R/o Camille Krachun

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

## Pray for the Sick

Richard Wisniewski  
Robert Paulishak  
Michael Galida  
George Riehman, Jr.  
Jennifer Rose  
Robert Valance  
Thomas McGrath  
Irene Sixt  
Annmarie Bizub  
Joseph Carter  
Jane Chiesa  
Joan Chopay

Elizabeth Anne Dwyer  
Randy Fisher  
Tony & Sandy Franchino  
Arthur & Maryann Gosenski  
Mary Grande  
Donna Kelly  
Roseanne Kielar  
Antonia LaCorte  
Ralph Lombardi  
Steve & Geri Max

## The Feast of the Epiphany

The Epiphany of the Lord is a feast that illuminates the mystery of Christ’s revelation to the world. The word “Epiphany” comes from a Greek word meaning “manifestation” or “appearance.” On this day, we remember how the Magi, wise men from the East, were drawn by a star to the newborn King of the Jews. Their journey reminds us that Christ’s light is not for one nation or people alone but shines for all humanity.

The Magi’s gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—each carry deep significance. Gold, a symbol of kingship, acknowledges Jesus as the true King of the universe. Frankincense, a fragrant incense used in worship, points to his divinity and the honor due to him. Myrrh, often used in burial, foreshadows Christ’s suffering and ultimate sacrifice for our salvation. Through these offerings, the Magi honor Jesus not only as a newborn child but as Savior and Lord. The journey of the Magi invites us to examine our own lives. Like them, we are called to seek Christ with earnest hearts, guided not only by what we can see with our eyes but by faith and hope. Their long and uncertain journey reminds us that following Jesus often requires patience, courage, and discernment. The star that led them mirrors the light of Christ that guides us through the darkness of life. In a world often divided by race, nation, and culture, the Epiphany speaks a powerful message of unity. Christ came for all people, and his revelation transcends every boundary. This feast encourages us to extend the gifts we have received in service to God and neighbor. It challenges us to welcome Christ not only in the Eucharist but also in the faces of those we encounter daily.

May we, like the Magi, follow the light of Christ, fall down in humble worship, offer our gifts joyfully, and bring the Good News of Jesus into the world. In every act of faith, mercy, and love, may Christ be revealed anew through us.

*Anonymous author*



CHURCH OF SAINT JOSEPH  
2026 MASS INTENTION REQUEST  
The 2026 Mass Book is open  
from Jan. 1— Mar. 31



If you wish to request Mass intentions on **Saturday at 4 pm** or a **Sunday at 9 am**, please fill out the Mass Intention Request form found at both church entrances and drop it off in the collection along with a \$10 donation per Mass or in the Parish Office Mailbox. Please note that since we only have weekend Mass, we may take more than one intention per Mass. Please include your phone number and email. God bless!  
[parishoffice@sjraritan.org](mailto:parishoffice@sjraritan.org)

*“There is no prayer or good work so great,  
so pleasing to God, so useful to us as the Mass.”  
St. Lawrence Justinian*



### WORD OF LIFE:

“Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
“The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary”

## WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

21-Dec-25	Collection	Online G	Total
Offertory	\$5,011.00	\$ 615.00	\$5,626.00
			\$0.00
<b>Total for parish operation</b>			<b>\$5,626.00</b>
Diocesan			
Religious Retirement (Res)	\$47.00	\$ 5.00	\$52.00

The 12/28 Collection will be posted next week.

**Thank you to all who supported the Parish fundraiser by purchasing CHRISTMAS KOLACH; this year we realized a profit of \$708.00.**

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](http://sjraritan.org).



**Today's 2nd Diocesan Collection: Jan 3-4 Together in Charity** to benefit Catholic Charities' Parish Emergency Assistance Fund

## Knights of Columbus 2026 Bus Trip to the March for Life

The KOC will be having a bus going on **Fri. Jan. 23** to Washington, D.C. The bus will leave from Immaculate Conception Annandale at **7 am** with another pick up in Flemington at 7:30 am in the Harbor Freight RT 206 parking lot.

**The cost is \$75** per adult which will include dinner at the Golden Corral restaurant on the way home.

**For additional info**, call Bill Smith at 908-797-7359 or email [smithbuilders@hotmail.com](mailto:smithbuilders@hotmail.com)

**Friday, January 23, 1:00 PM**  
**Main St., Woodbridge, NJ**

**Come Pray a  
ROSARY  
for LIFE**

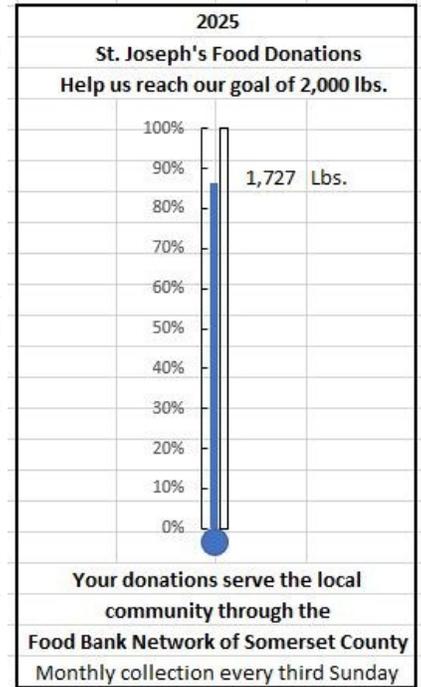
In Solidarity with the National March for Life. You are asked to park and meet in the St. James Parish parking lot at 12:45 pm, **369 Amboy Ave., Woodbridge, NJ**. There is a 12:00 pm daily Mass at St. James for

those who wish to attend. For more information, please contact [magnese@diometuchen.org](mailto:magnese@diometuchen.org)



This year, total food donations are 1,727 lbs. or 86% of the 2,000 lb. Parish goal. This is the third year the total weight donated has increased which demonstrates the growth in partitioners' generosity! The Food Bank Network of Somerset County greatly appreciates St. Joseph's monthly deliveries. **Thanks to all those who participate in this program which now has donated over 2-tons of food items since 2023.**

If you would like to help transport donations or track / report total weight monthly, please contact the Parish Office. **Additional help with this growing program will be welcomed.**



### Book Recommendation:

Abandonment to Divine Providence  
by Jean-Pierre De Caussade, S.J.

### The National Catholic Bioethics Center

24/7 Free Personal Ethics Consultation 215-877-2660

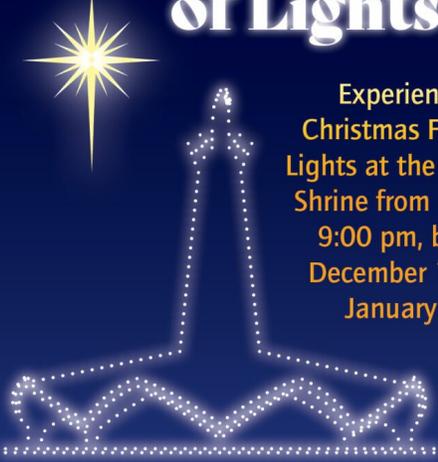
[www.ncbcenter.org/ask-a-question](http://www.ncbcenter.org/ask-a-question)

Advance directives • hospice & palliative care  
organ donation • gender dysphoria  
Infertility • pregnancy complications • and more

## LOOKING AHEAD

- **Food Pantry Collection: Jan 17-18**
- **Upcoming Diocesan/National Collections:**  
**Jan 3-4: Together in Charity**  
**Jan 24-25: Foundation for Catholic Education**  
**Feb 7-8: Catholic Spirit Newspaper**  
**Feb 18, Ash Wednesday: Holy Land Collection**

# Christmas Festival of Lights



Experience our Christmas Festival of Lights at the Blue Army Shrine from dusk until 9:00 pm, between December 12th and January 11th.

*“Why did He come?”*

### Restore Healing Retreat (for men and women)

Thursday Jan 29 - Sunday, Feb 1, 2026

How do anxiety, compulsive behaviors, or emotional wounding get in your way of the meaningful and authentic relationships you were made to experience? Through unique, facilitated healing encounters, our Lord gently invites us into a fully integrated experience – mind, heart, body, spirit, soul. We will follow the Holy Spirit’s promptings as He reveals the memories, the moments, the circumstances that caused dis-integration within us. It is there that our Lord longs to meet us with His mercy and His love, which are the true balm for our wounded hearts. Come... and let Him Restore you!

**Retreat Leaders:** Father Steve DeLacy and De Yarrison of You Are Made New Ministry

**Location:** Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, PA

**More info:**

<https://youaremadenew.com/restore-retreats> or email De at [de@youaremadenew.com](mailto:de@youaremadenew.com).

### CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2026-2027 TUITION ASSISTANCE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Financial Aid Management at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than March 31, 2026. A signed Parish Verification Form is also required by the Diocese, and should be signed by your Pastor, and submitted to the school or schools your children attend. Eligibility requirements, instructions and forms can

be found at <https://diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance>. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school. **PAGE 5**



## St. Ann Classical Academy

Joyfully Catholic, Academically Excellent.








Join us for our Open House & Explore the Classical Difference at our Co-Ed, Pre K - 8th Grade Academy!

# OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 25, 2026 | 10:30am-2:00pm

Mass: The Catholic Church of St. Ann 10:30am-11:30am  
School Tours/Meet & Greet: 11:30am-2:00pm



40 Second Avenue Raritan, NJ 08869 | 908-725-7787 | [hello@stannparish.com](mailto:hello@stannparish.com) | [stannclassical.org](http://stannclassical.org)

### ST. ANN CLASSICAL ACADEMY Save the Date: Catholic Schools Week Open House!

Prospective families are invited to join us on Sunday, January 25 for our Catholic Schools Week Open House. Begin the morning with 10:30 AM Mass at the Catholic Church of St. Ann, then visit St. Ann Classical Academy for school tours from 11:30 AM–2:00 PM.

We welcome families considering Pre-K through 8th Grade for the 2026–2027 school year and look forward to welcoming you.

**Calendar Raffle Tickets ON SALE NOW!** Our Annual Calendar Raffle Tickets are now on sale just in time for Christmas! These make great gifts and stocking stuffers. Each ticket is \$25 and provides 181 chances to win prizes ranging from \$25-\$500 for a total of \$5,925! Don't delay! Order your tickets today in person at the school or St. Ann Parish office with cash or check payment. Or, order online at [stannclassical.square.site](http://stannclassical.square.site). ID: 412-4-454 RL: 2024-11-01. Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER.



## Mental Health Navigation Services



## REFLEXIÓN SALESIANA EPIFANÍA DEL SEÑOR

### *Una reflexión salesiana sobre el Evangelio dominical por un Oblato de San Francisco de Sales*

La fiesta de la epifanía nos recuerda que Dios está dispuesto a aceptar a todos aquellos que se acercan a Él con humildad en su corazón. San Francisco de Sales observa:

El nacimiento del Salvador estuvo marcado por varias maravillas. La primera fue la aparición de la estrella que guió a los reyes magos. Ellos llegaron al pequeño establo, sus corazones llenos de humildad, a homenajear y rendir tributo a nuestro nuevo Rey que allí yacía. Amemos a Nuestro Salvador del mismo modo, con sencillez en nuestro corazón, teniendo un solo propósito y objetivo para todo lo que hacemos. La sencillez no es más que un simple y puro acto de caridad, que llevamos a cabo con una sola meta en mente: obtener el amor de Dios. Un corazón que lleno de amor sagrado no demuestra menos afecto en momentos en que debe dirigir su atención al cumplimiento de tareas externas, que cuando está sumido en la oración. En tales corazones el silencio y el habla, sus acciones y sus contemplaciones, su trabajo y su descanso, todo alaba a Dios por igual. Esos corazones realizan todas sus obras, pequeñas y grandes, con un amor inmenso. Así, de este modo, eran las vidas de los santos.

Puede que nos preguntemos, “¿Cómo podemos obtener el amor de Dios?” Hay algunas personas que piensan que debemos dominar cierto arte para lograr la consecución del amor sagrado. Pero en realidad no se necesita ningún arte más que decidimos a trabajar en el amor a Dios, lo cual significa que debemos dedicarnos a la práctica de todas esas cosas que lo complacen; simplemente, sin problemas ni preocupaciones. Ustedes deben imitar ese amor simple que caracteriza a las palomas. Ellas solo tienen una pareja por quien todo lo hacen, a quien desean complacer. Imítenlas también en su sencillez para demostrar su amor. Ellas se alegran con tan solo retozar en silencio, una en presencia de la otra.

La verdadera fórmula para que podamos encontrar y obtener el amor sagrado, implica que permanezcamos en presencia de Dios. Una vez en presencia Suya, deleitémonos en la dicha que produce el poder experimentar las diversas inspiraciones y afectos, por que

pertenecemos exclusivamente a Dios. Acerquémonos a la cuna del Niño Dios, como lo hicieron los reyes magos, y enriquezcámonos en el amor por nuestro Salvador quien desea enseñarnos como debemos amar. (Adaptación de los escritos de San Francisco de Sales).

**Oblates.org**

## LECTURAS DEL DOMINGO

### Epifanía del Señor

#### **Primera Lectura: Isaías 60:1-6**

Jerusalén es exhaltada como un lugar de gloria y esplendor porque el Señor ha venido a Su propia ciudad.

#### **Segunda Lectura: Efesios 3:2-3, 5-6**

Pablo les dice a los efesios que su misión especial es hacer a los gentiles coherederos con los judíos en Cristo: “son miembros del mismo cuerpo y tienen parte en la misma promesa.”

#### **Evangelio: San Mateo 2:1-12**

Herodes se entera de que los Reyes Magos del Este buscan al Niño Cristo recién nacido. Les manda encontrar al Niño y reportarle en dónde se encuentra. Los Reyes Magos siguen una estralla al lugar donde están María y Jesús, y le ofrecen al Niño oro, incienso y mirra. No regresan a ver a Herodes, sino que regresan a su país por otra ruta.

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**9 DÍAS POR LA VIDA**

**REZA PARA TERMINAR CON EL ABORTO**

**9daysforlife.com** **ENERO 16 AL 24**

Los modelos se utilizan exclusivamente con fines ilustrativos.

**Palabra de Vida:** "Por medio de la Encarnación y el nacimiento de Cristo, Dios nos revela la dignidad de toda vida humana. La vida humana, como un don de Dios, es sagrada e inviolable. El Hijo de Dios se ha unido con todos los seres humanos y desea que compartamos la vida eterna con Él... Cada uno de nosotros está hecho a imagen y semejanza de Dios, y reflejamos su gloria en el mundo." Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida de la USCCB  
"El Evangelio de la Vida: Breve resumen"

**MARCHA NACIONAL  
POR LA VIDA  
Washington, D.C.  
Viernes, 23 de enero**



Los Caballeros de Colon ofrecen boletos para viajar en bus a Washington, DC para participar en la Marcha Nacional por la Vida. El bus saldrá de la Parroquia Inmaculada Concepción, Annandale, NJ a las 7:00 am con una segunda parada en Flemington a las 7:30 am en el parqueadero de Harbor Freight RT 206. El costo del viaje es de \$75 el cual incluye cena en el restaurante Golden Corral de regreso a casa. Si estás interesado, llama a Bill Smith (en inglés) al 908-797-7359 o envía un email a smithbuilders@hotmail.com

### ASISTENCIA PARA LA MATRÍCULA EN LAS ESCUELAS CATÓLICAS 2026-2027

#### EL PROCESO DE SOLICITUD EN LÍNEA ESTÁ ABIERTO

Las familias interesadas en solicitar ayuda en la matrícula para asistir a una escuela primaria o secundaria elegible de la Diócesis de Metuchen pueden presentar su solicitud en línea ahora, a través de la Evaluación de subvenciones y ayuda de FACTS en <https://online.factsmgmt.com/aid>. Las solicitudes en línea deben completarse (incluida toda la documentación requerida) a más tardar el 31 de marzo de 2026. La Diócesis también exige un Formulario de Verificación Parroquial, que debe estar firmado por su Párroco y presentarse en la escuela o escuelas a las que asisten sus hijos. Los requisitos de elegibilidad, las instrucciones y los formularios se pueden encontrar en <https://diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance>. Las solicitudes están disponibles en inglés y español.

Las familias que necesiten ayuda para completar la solicitud en línea o que necesiten acceso a una computadora para presentar la solicitud deben comunicarse con su escuela.



Este año, el total de donaciones de alimentos es de **1,727 libras**, lo que equivale al **86 %** de la meta parroquial de **2,000 libras**. ¡Este es el tercer año consecutivo en que el peso total donado ha aumentado, lo que demuestra el crecimiento de la generosidad de los feligreses!

La Red del Banco de Alimentos del Condado de Somerset agradece enormemente las entregas mensuales de St. Joseph. Gracias a todos los que participan en este programa, que desde 2023 ha donado ya más de **2 toneladas** de alimentos.

Si desea ayudar con el transporte de las donaciones o con el registro y reporte del peso total mensual, por favor comuníquese con la Oficina Parroquial. Se agradecerá apoyo adicional para este programa en crecimiento.

## Guía para la Sagrada Comunión

**Para que un católico reciba la comunión, se requiere:**

- Estar en estado de Gracia, es decir, libre de cualquier pecado mortal no confesado.
- Abstenerse durante al menos una hora antes de la Sagrada Comunión de cualquier alimento o bebida, a excepción de agua y medicinas.
- Saber a Quien se recibe y acercarse al altar con devoción.

*"Por la actitud corporal (gestos, vestido) se manifiesta el respeto, la solemnidad, el gozo de ese momento en que Cristo se hace Nuestro huésped".* (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica 1387)

**No Católicos:** Les damos la bienvenida a unirse a nosotros en la Santa Misa y nos alegramos de que estén aquí. Por favor, siéntase libre de participar cantando, de pie, de rodillas, etc. **Sin embargo, la recepción de la Sagrada Comunión esta reservada únicamente a los católicos en estado de gracia.** En el momento de la Comunión, por favor, siéntase libre de pasar al frente con los brazos cruzados sobre el pecho para una bendición o permanecer en el banco.

(Fuente: "Orientaciones para la recepción de la Comunión", p836 del "Source & Summit Missal 2025")