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Cover

Second Sunday of Advent

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new parishioners!

Website: http://seaspcfl.org/

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(after hours ONLY)

Mission Chapel St. Stephen's Chapel 2400 E. Highway 100, Bunnell, FL 32110

Church Hours 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday

Rectory Office & Ministry Center 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday Closed Good Friday and National Holidays



"Your Gift Today is Our Treasure for Tomorrow"

The wearing of face masks is optional (per new CDC guidance), and safe distancing is no longer required.

Thank you God bless!

November 19

Offertory-\$21,001 Online Giving-\$7,774.67 Total-\$28,775.67 Human Development-\$1,003 Grand Total-\$29,778.67

November 26

Offertory-\$19,488 Online Giving-\$4,187 School Support-\$1,863 Total-\$25,538.00

Thank you for your support. Donate to our parish by using Online Giving. Go to www.seaspcfl.org

All restrictions have been lifted related to COVID-19 in our parishes. Parishioners are asked to take the necessary precautions they feel most comfortable with for their own health and safety.

Masses

Monday - Friday 7 am and 8:30 am Saturday 8:30 am and 4 pm Vigil

> Sunday 8, & 10 ám and 12 noon.

St. Stephen 6 pm Saturdays

5 pm Sundays

Spanish Mass Sunday 5 pm.

Portuguese Mass: Saturdays at 6 pm

Office Hours Monday - Fridays 9:00- 4:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday- 2:45-3:45pm Sunday-30 minutes before Mass & by appointment

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From the desk of Fr. Jose Panthaplamthottiyil, December 10, 2023



Advent Penance Service: To Cleanse Our Souls Tuesday, December 12, 5 pm

would ever break the law of charity, which was paramount to his religious community. However, he broke this law several times and was disappointed with himself. He went to an old monk for guidance and counseling. As the young monk poured out his heart, the old man said, "My son, if you sin, try to rise from sin by repenting. It is the only way to your sanctification."

"But I fell and rose from sin several times already," the young man lamented. "And now I have fallen once

again." The old man replied sympathetically, "If that is the case, try to rise from sin once again." "But how many times can I do this?" There was anxiety in his words. "As often as you fall," the sage replied. "For when death comes, it will see you either fallen in sin or risen from sin. Which is better?" Yes, it is better to rise from sin and stay that way. We can always rise from sin by making a good confession and amending our lives.

Once, Jonathan Swift, who wrote the famous Gulliver's Travels, was on a journey with his servant. On the way, they spent the night at an inn. Early in the morning, when Swift was ready to continue his journey, his servant brought his boots. Swift was surprised to see his boots still covered with dust from the road. "Why didn't you clean the boots?" Swift asked the servant.

"I thought there was no point in cleaning the boots,"

After becoming a monk, a young man never thought he $\,\,$ replied the servant. "Because when we continue the journey, they will be covered with dust again." "Is that so?" Swift asked him in mock anger. "All right. Get the horses. Let us go now." Swift acted as if he was in a hurry to leave. "We can't leave now," the servant cried. "We have to have breakfast before we leave." "I see no point in eating breakfast now," Swift said swiftly. "After a few miles on the road, we will be hungry again."

> The wit of Swift had a bit of wisdom in it. Yes, the boots will become dirty again on the road. However, we still

- need to clean and polish them daily before continuing our journey. In the same way, we need to cleanse our souls now and then as we continue our journey forward. Once we cleanse our souls, there is no guarantee that we will not accumulate any sins on the way. However, the more often we cleanse our souls, the better. The accumulation of impurities in our souls will make the washing and cleansing difficult at the end of our life's jour-

Hence, let us always remember to make a good confession when we begin to accumulate sins and impurities in our souls. On Tuesday, December 12, at 5.00 pm, there will be more than a dozen priests to hear confessions in the church. Let us use this opportunity to cleanse our souls and receive the gifts of peace and joy from the Lord in preparation for the celebration of Christmas.



Funny Stories



Lent versus Yom Kippur: A priest and a rabbi were discussing the pros and cons of their religions, and inevitably the discussion turned to repentance. The rabbi explained Yom Kippur as the solemn Jewish Day of Atonement and as a day of fasting and penitence, while the priest told him all about Lent and its 40 days of selfdenial as reparation for sins.

After the discussion, the rabbi went home to tell his wife about the conversation and how they discussed the comparative merits of Yom Kippur versus Lent. She turned her head and laughed. The rabbi asked, "What's so funny, dear?" "What a comparison!" she said. "Forty days of Lent for the poor Christians and one day of Yom Kippur for the Chosen People of God!"

Signs and Wonders

Sign outside Seventh-day Adventist Church in Palatka, FL: "Mary wrapped the first gift to us in swaddling clothes." – via Bill Reynolds Palatka, FL.

Sign outside Timonium (MD) United Methodist Church:

"Feel cold? Come in and feel the warmth of the Son." – via Lorene Irving Lutherville Timonium, MD.

Sign posted on the doorway of a house: "No soliciting. We are too broke to buy anything. We know who we are voting for. We have found Jesus. Unless you are giving away something for free, please go away." – via Dr. Risa Samra Saginaw, MI.

Sign outside Trinity Church, Palatka, FL: "God gave Him. "Mary wrapped Him. "Will you receive Him?" – via Bill Reynolds Palatka, FL

Rev. Dale Schoening of Madrid, IA, spotted this sign: "If God can make a bug's butt light up, think what He can do for you."

New Year's sign outside Seventh-day Adventist Church, Palatka, FL: "Ŏld has gone. The new has come. "In Christ, you are a new creation." – via Bill Reynolds Palatka, FL.

Desde El Escritorio del Pastor, Fr. Jose Panthaplamthottiyil, 10 de Diciembre de 2023

Servicio de Penitencia de Adviento: Para Limpiar Nuestras Almas

Martes 12 de Diciembre, 5:00 PM

Después de convertirse en monje, un joven nunca pensó que alguna vez violaría la ley de la caridad, que era primordial para su comunidad religiosa. Sin embargo, violó esta ley varias veces y quedó decepcionado consigo mismo. Acudió a un viejo monje en busca de orientación y consejo. Mientras el joven monje derramaba su corazón, el anciano dijo: "Hijo mío, si pecas, trata de levantarte del pecado arrepintiéndote. Es el único camino hacia vuestra santificación".

"Pero ya caí y me levanté del pecado varias veces", se lamentó el joven. "Y ahora he caído una vez más". El anciano respondió con simpatía: "Si ese es el caso, intenta levantarte del pecado una vez más". "¿Pero cuántas veces puedo hacer esto?" Había ansiedad en sus palabras. "Tan seguido como te caigas", respondió el sabio. "Porque cuando llegue la muerte, os verá caídos en el pecado o resucitados del pecado. ¿Cual es mejor?" Sí, es mejor levantarse del pecado y permanecer así. Siempre podemos levantarnos del pecado haciendo una buena confesión y enmendando nuestra vida.

Una vez, Jonathan Swift, autor de los famosos Los Viajes de Gulliver, estaba de viaje con su sirviente. En el camino pasaron la noche en una posada. Temprano en la mañana, cuando Swift estaba listo para continuar su viaje, su sirviente trajo sus botas. Swift se sorprendió al ver sus botas todavía cubiertas de polvo del camino. "¿Por qué no limpiaste las botas?" Swift le preguntó al sirviente: "Pensé que no tenía sentido limpiar las botas", respondió el sirviente. "Porque cuando contin-

uemos el viaje, volverán a estar cubiertos de polvo". "¿Es eso así?" Swift le preguntó con fingida ira. "Está bien. Consigue los caballos. Vámonos ahora". Swift actuó como si tuviera prisa por irse. "No podemos irnos ahora", gritó el sirviente. "Tenemos que desayunar antes de irnos". "No veo ningún sentido en desayunar ahora", dijo Swift rápidamente. "Después de algunos kilómetros de carretera, volveremos a tener hambre".

El ingenio de Swift tenía un poco de sabiduría. Sí, las botas se volverán a ensuciar en el camino. Sin embargo, todavía necesitamos limpiarlos y pulirlos diariamente antes de continuar nuestro viaje. De la misma manera, necesitamos limpiar nuestras almas de vez en cuando a medida que continuamos nuestro viaje hacia adelante. Una vez que limpiamos nuestras almas, no hay garantía de que no acumularemos pecados en el camino. Sin embargo, cuanto más a menudo limpiamos nuestra alma, mejor. La acumulación de impurezas en nuestra alma dificultará el lavado y la limpieza al final del viaje de nuestra vida.

Por eso, recordemos siempre hacer una buena confesión cuando empecemos a acumular pecados e impurezas en nuestra alma. El Martes 12 de Diciembre, a las 5:00 PM, habrá más de una decena de sacerdotes para confesar en la Iglesia. Aprovechemos esta oportunidad para limpiar nuestras almas y recibir los regalos de paz y alegría del Señor en preparación para la celebración de la Navidad.



Historias Graciosas



Cuaresma versus Yom Kipur: Un sacerdote y un rabino estaban discutiendo los pros y los contras de sus religiones e inevitablemente la discusión derivó en arrepentimiento. El rabino explicó Yom Kipur como el Solemne Día Judío de la Expiación y como un día de ayuno y penitencia, mientras que el sacerdote le contó todo sobre la Cuaresma y sus 40 días de abnegación como reparación de los pecados.

Después de la discusión, el rabino fue a casa para contarle a su esposa sobre la conversación y cómo discutieron los méritos comparativos de Yom Kipur versus la Cuaresma. Ella volvió la cabeza y se rió. El rabino preguntó: "¿Qué es tan gracioso, querida?" "¡Qué comparación!" ella dijo. "¡Cuarenta días de Cuaresma para los Cristianos pobres y un día de Yom Kipur para el Pueblo Elegido de Dios!"

Señales y Maravillas

Cartel afuera de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día en Palatka, Florida: "María nos envolvió el primer regalo en pañales". – a través de Bill Reynolds Palatka, FL.

Letrero afuera de la Iglesia Metodista Unida de Timonium (MD): "¿Sientes frío? Entra y siente el calor del Hijo". – a través de Lorene Irving Lutherville Timonium, MD.

Un cartel colocado en la puerta de una casa: "Prohibido solicitar. Estamos demasiado arruinados para comprar cualquier cosa. Sabemos por quién votamos. Hemos encontrado a Jesús. A menos que estés regalando algo, vete". – a través de la Dra. Risa Samra Saginaw, MI.

Letrero afuera de Trinity Church, Palatka, FL: "Dios lo dio. "María lo envolvió. "¿Lo recibiréis?" – a través de Bill Reynolds Palatka, Florida

El Reverendo Dale Schoening de Madrid, IA, vio este letrero: "Si Dios puede hacer que el trasero de un insecto se ilumine, piense en lo que puede hacer por usted".

Cartel de Año Nuevo afuera de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día, Palatka, Florida: "Lo viejo ya pasó. Ha llegado lo nuevo. "En Cristo sois una nueva creación". – a través de Bill Reynolds Palatka, FL.

Do Escritório do P. José Panthaplamthottiyil, 10 de Dezembro de 2023



Serviço de Penitência do Advento: Para Purificar as Nossas Almas

Terça-feira, 12 de Dezembro, 17h

Depois de se tornar monge, um jovem não pensou que iria infringir a lei da caridade, que era necessária para a sua comunidade religiosa. No entanto, ele infringiu essa lei várias vezes e ficou decepcionado consigo mesmo. Ele visitou um idoso monge para orientação e aconselhamento. Quando o jovem monge confessou, o velho disse: "Meu filho, se pecar, tenta levantar-te do pecado arrependendo-te. É o único caminho para a vossa santificação."

"Mas já caí e ressuscitei do pecado várias vezes", lamentou o jovem. "E agora eu caí mais uma vez." O velho respondeu com simpatia: "Se for esse o caso, tente ressuscitar do pecado mais uma vez". "Mas quantas vezes posso fazer isso?" Havia ansiedade nas suas palavras. "Quantas vezes você pecar", respondeu o sábio. "Porque, quando vier a morte, vê-lo-á caído no pecado ou ressuscitado do pecado. Qual é melhor?" Sim, é melhor levantar-se do pecado e permanecer assim. Podemos sempre ressuscitar do pecado fazendo uma boa confissão e emendando a nossa vida.

Certa vez, Jonathan Swift, que escreveu as famosas *Viagens de Gulliver*, foi numa viagem com o seu criado. No caminho, passaram a noite numa pousada. Pela manhã, quando Swift estava pronto para continuar a sua jornada, o seu servo trouxe-lhe as botas. Swift ficou surpreso ao ver as suas botas ainda cobertas de poeira da estrada. "Por que não limpou as botas?" Swift perguntou ao criado.

"Achei que não fazia sentido limpar as botas",

respondeu o criado. "Porque quando continuarmos a viagem, elas estarão cobertos de poeira novamente." "É assim?" Swift perguntou-lhe com raiva e zangado. "Tudo bem. Pegue os cavalos. Vamos agora." Swift agiu como se tivesse pressa em sair. "Não podemos sair agora", respondeu o servo. "Temos de tomar o pequeno -almoço antes de partir." "Não vejo sentido em tomar café agora", disse Swift rápidamente. "Depois de alguns quilômetros na estrada, voltaremos a ter fome."

A resposta de Swift tinha um pouco de sabedoria. Sim, as botas voltarão a sujar-se na estrada. No entanto, ainda precisamos limpá-las e poli-las diáriamente antes de continuar a nossa jornada. Da mesma forma, precisamos limpar as nossas almas de vez em quando, enquanto continuamos pela nossa jornada em frente. Uma vez que limpamos as nossas almas, não há garantia de que não acumularemos nenhum pecado no caminho. No entanto, quanto mais vezes limparmos as nossas almas, melhor. O acúmulo de impurezas nas nossas almas dificultará a lavagem e a limpeza no final da jornada da nossa vida.

Por isso, lembremo-nos sempre de fazer uma boa confissão quando começarmos a acumular pecados e impurezas nas nossas almas. Na Terça-feira, 12 de Dezembro, às 17h00, haverá mais de uma dezena de padres a ouvir confissões na igreja. Aproveitemos esta oportunidade para purificar a nossa alma e receber do Senhor os dons da paz e da alegria, em preparação para a celebração do Natal.



Histórias Engraçadas



Quaresma vs. Yom Kipur: Um padre e um rabino estavam discutindo os prós e contras das suas religiões, e inevitávelmente a discussão virouao arrependimento. O rabino explicou Yom Kipur como o solene Dia Judaico da Expiação e como um dia de jejum e penitência, enquanto o sacerdote lhe contou tudo sobre a Quaresma e seus 40 dias de abnegação como reparação pelos pecados.

Após a discussão, o rabino foi para casa para contar à esposa sobre a conversa e como eles discutiram os méritos comparativos de Yom Kipur versus Quaresma. Ela virou a cabeça e riu. O rabino perguntou: "O que é tão engraçado, querida?" "Que comparação!", disse ela. "Quarenta dias de Quaresma para os pobres cristãos e um dia de Yom Kipur para o Povo eleito por Deus!"

Letreiros e Sinais

Letreiro da Igreja Seventh-day Adventist em Palatka, FL: "Maria embrulhou o nosso primeiro presente em paninhos." - via Bill Reynolds Palatka, Flórida.

Letreiro da Igreja Timonium (MD) United Methodist: "Sente frio? Entre e sinta o calor do Filho." - via Lorene Irving Lutherville Timonium, MD.

Placa afixada na porta de uma casa: "Não aceitamos solicitações. Estamos pobres e não podemos comprar nada. Sabemos em quem iremos votar. Encontrámos Jesus. Se você não tiver a dar algo de graça, por favor, vá embora." - via Dr. Risa Samra Saginaw, MI.

Letreiro na Igreja da Trindade, Palatka, FL: "Deus Iho deu." "Maria embrulhou-o." "Você vai recebê-lo?" - via Bill Reynolds Palatka, Flórida

O Rev. Dale Schoening de Madrid, IA, viu esta nota: "Se Deus pode fazer a cauda dum insecto iluminar, pense no que Ele pode fazer por você".

Letreiro do Ano Novo da Igreja Seventh-day Adventist, Palatka, FL: O velho foi-se. O novo chegou. "Em Cristo, sois uma nova criação." - via Bill Reynolds Palatka,

Sunday Readings Explained - 229- Fr. Tony Kadavil

Second Sunday of Advent, Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

Repent and Return to the Lord

Introduction

comings of Jesus into the world are the fulfillment of the picture of God leading the exiles as a shepherd cradles saving plan of God. Today's Scripture readings deal with coming home – Babylonian exiles coming home, the shalom or perfect peace coming home, our going home with Jesus Isaiah originally spoke these words in the 6th century at his Second Coming, and Jesus, the Savior, "coming home" into our lives during Advent. All three readings focus on the Babylon, and those who had been exiled from Judah to absolute necessity of our readying ourselves by repentance Babylon were allowed to return home. God first and reparation for Christ's coming. In the first reading, accomplished the salvation proclaimed by Isaiah by leading Isaiah assures his people that the Lord will restore their the exiles back from Babylon. However, on a deeper level homeland to them and care for them as a shepherd cares for this word foretold the coming of Jesus. The words of Isaiah the sheep. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 85) also speaks of about the "voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the the return of shalom (perfect peace), and pardon to the way of the Lord, make straight his paths," were a prediction people. The second reading gives an answer to those who of John the Baptist. He was calling upon people to prepare

scoff at the expectation of the Second Coming of Christ, explaining that God's way of reckoning time is different from ours and that God has His own reasons for delaying Christ's second coming. Peter gives us the assurance that Jesus is sure to come again although we do not know when.

Hence, while we wait, we should be leading lives of holiness and godliness. Finally, the Gospel tells us that the restoration of the fallen world has already begun, starting with the arrival of John the Baptist, the messenger and forerunner of the Messiah. John speaks of one, more powerful than he - Jesus Christ - who will

baptize us with the Holy Spirit. Each of us has received the Taken from the second letter of Peter, this reading makes it gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism, and now we live in the clear that the salvation promised by Isaiah was not Spirit each day, waiting for the return of our Lord. Thus, we completely accomplished even by the first coming of become John the Baptist's successors, preparing for Christ's Jesus. It is only when Jesus comes again at the end of time return which will bring a new and perfect world.

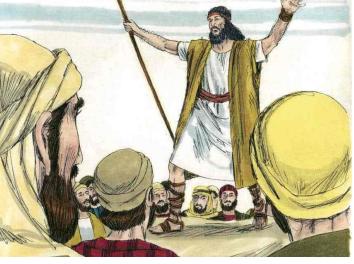
First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah consoles the Jews in exile in Babylon, giving them Yahweh's assurance that their 60 years of Babylonian captivity will end soon and that they will be going home as free people. He assures them that they will be brought back to Israel by the power of God. Isaiah is not shy about saying that the Exile was a punishment for sin. But Israel's sins are delusion. So, Peter reminds them that even though the forgiven now, and the exile is over. Isaiah wants the people Second Coming seems to be delayed, Christ will indeed to consider their return journey as their second Exodus, with come as promised. Peter also reminds them that God Yahweh once more their loving Father and faithful doesn't reckon time the way we do since, to Him "one day is Shepherd. He describes God's marvelous love for the as a thousand years and a thousand years are as a undeserving. If Yahweh is now their Redeemer rather than day" (Psalm 90). In other words, the risen Lord is eternal and their punisher, then their relationship with Yahweh also has infinite and so is not restricted or measured by time in to change. Isaiah instructs the exiles that they are to return fulfilling promises. Besides, God "is patient" with us, giving home in a grand religious procession, with God leading us more time to repent of our sins and renew our lives. The them. To pave the way for this procession, valleys and longer we are allowed to wait for Christ's Second coming the mountains are to be leveled, and a highway is to be created more people will have an opportunity to be converted and in the wilderness. God will lead them to Judah and, within take part in God's glory. So, Peter assures his people that Judah, to the city of Jerusalem and, within Jerusalem, to Christ's promise will be fulfilled. That is why we say in the Zion, the hill where their Temple had stood. Seeing the Nicene Creed, before him, at peace.

procession in his mind, the prophet exclaims with joy, "Here Today's readings remind us that the past, present and future comes your God with power!" Then he presents the tender

BC. On one level they were fulfilled when Persia conquered

for the coming of the Lord. And the Lord was who brought about true liberation from the bondage of sin for all mankind. It is because of this deeper meaning of the prophet's words that this reading has been chosen for



Second Reading, 2 Peter 3:8-14

Traditionally attributed to Simon Peter, this letter was probably written c. 50 or 60 years after the apostles death (ca. 110-120 C.E.) ("The Second Epistle of Peter", The New Jerome Biblical Commentary).

that Isaiah's words will be entirely fulfilled.

Hence, Peter warns against false teachers who have given up any expectation of Christ's return because of its long delay. As the years rolled by, non-Christians began ridiculing those Christians who still expected Christ's second coming. A few Christians, in fact, began to believe that it would never happen. They laughed at what they thought was error and

"He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His Kingdom will have no end." We, then, are expected to wait, leading lives of holiness and godliness. We should be self because the first step in repentance is to admit his sin to holy in conduct and devotion, being "eager to be found with-himself. (ii) He must make confession to those whom he out spot or blemish

Gospel Reading, Mark 1:1-8

The context: While Matthew and Luke start their Gospels by giving us a brief account of the conception, birth, and early boyhood of Christ and John begins his Gospel by pointing to the eternal life of Christ as the Word of the Father, Mark opens his Gospel with the preparation for Christ's public life, in which the chief actor is John the Baptist. This wilderness prophet proclaims the "here-ness" of an event and person every Jew has been anticipating. "One more powerful than I," John announces, "is to come after me....I have baptized you in water; He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit." The essence of the Baptizer's message is "repent and return to the ways of the Lord." John preaches

that the appropriate behavior for those preparing "the way of the Lord" is to be baptized "as they confess their sins."

Repent and return to the Lord – the priorities set by John: There are two traditions from which John's baptism could be derived: One is the ritual washings by which people cleansed themselves of spiritual impurity. Ritual bathing was especially important in the Qumran community with which John may have had some connection. The other tradition is proselyte baptism of Gentile converts to Judaism; an initiatory cleansing rite performed by immersion. It seems likely that John borrows from both traditions (ritual washings and proselyte baptism) but establishes his own baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John recommended a baptism of repentance in the river Jordan to the Jews who

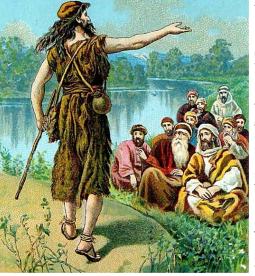
were familiar with ritual and symbolic washings (Lev.11-15). The Jews insisted that when a male Gentile became a Jew, he had to do three things: i) accept circumcision as the mark of the covenant people; ii) offer sacrifice because he stood in need of atonement, and iii) undergo baptism by immersion in water, which symbolized his cleansing from all pollution.

The most amazing thing about John's baptism was that he, a Jew, was asking fellow-Jews to submit to that which only a Gentile was supposed to need. John was convinced of the truth that even the chosen people needed true repentance and renewal of life to receive their long-awaited Messiah. We tend to think of repentance as feeling guilty about our sins, but it is more—much more. The Greek word, *metanoia*, means a change of mind or direction. It is related to the Hebrew word tesubah, used by prophets to call Israel to abandon its sinful ways and to return to God. Both words (metanoia and tesubah) imply "a total change of spiritual direction." The baptism of a Gentile was accompanied by a

confession made to three different recipients as a sign of repentance for sin. (i) A man must make confession to himhas wronged. This involves humiliation and is a test of real repentance since there can be no forgiveness without humiliation. (iii) He must make confession to God because it is when a man says, "I have sinned," that God gets the chance to say, "I forgive."

John's message calls us also to confront and confess our sins; to turn away from them in sincere repentance; to receive God's forgiveness; and most importantly, to look to Jesus. Do we need to receive God's forgiveness? There are basically two reasons why we fail to receive forgiveness. The first is that we fail to repent, and the second is that we fail to forgive. Jesus was very explicit about this second failure in Matthew 6:14-15. He says, "For if you forgive men their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." Is there someone we need to forgive today? Let us not allow what others have done destroy our life. We can't be forgiven unless we forgive. Let us let go of that bitterness and allow God to work healing in our life. Perhaps we need to draw closer to Him. Like the prodigal son's father, God will run to meet us. He will throw His arms around us and He will forgive us and restore us. He will receive us as His sons and daughters. Let us draw close to Him today, and He will draw close to us.



Effectiveness of John's ministry:

John's ministry was effective primarily because his life was his message: he lived what he preached. He was a man from the desert. In its solitude, he had heard the voice of God,

and, hence, he had the courage of his convictions. His camel's hair garment and leather belt resembled those of Elijah and other great prophets of Israel. His food, too, was very simple: wild locusts and honey. The Israelites had not had a prophet for four hundred years, and the people were waiting expectantly for one. John's message was effective also because he was completely humble. His role was to serve Jesus and to serve the people. "He must increase, I must decrease," he says elsewhere (John 3:30). That is why he publicly confessed that he was not fit to be a slave before the Messiah. He frankly admitted that he was the Messiah's humble and obedient messenger, preparing a straight way for the Messiah in the hearts and lives of the Jews. His message combined three Scriptural passages familiar to the Jews, namely, Exodus 23:20, Malachi 3:1 and Isaiah 40:3. That is why John's influence continued to live on after his death. When the apostle Paul went to Ephesus nearly 30 years later, he found a group of John's disciples (Acts 19:1-7).



Advent Penance Service Tuesday, December 12, 5 pm

Dear friends, the Scriptures urge us to acknowledge our sins, and not to conceal them in the presence of God our heavenly Father, but to confess them with a penitent and obedient heart, so that we may be forgiven through his boundless goodness and mer-

Life messages

1. We need to make use of Advent as a season of reflection and preparation. We are invited by the Church to prepare for Christmas. Christmas is the time for reflection and personal renewal in preparation for the coming of Jesus into our lives. Through the section of his letter which we read today, St. Peter reminds us, on the one hand, of God's great desire to come into our lives and, on the other, of our need to be prepared for that event when it happens. We want God's help and comfort, but we are not always prepared to change our ways to enhance genuine conversion. For God to come to us, we also need to go to Him. We need to let every day become Christmas and the "Day of the Lord" for each one of us.

2. We need to accept Jesus instead of ignoring him during this Christmas season. It was their stubborn pride and self-centeredness, which blinded the eyes of the Jews and kept them from recognizing Jesus as their long-awaited Messiah. The same stubborn pride, the same exaggerated sense of our own dignity, blinds the intellects of many of us today who not only fail to accept Christ and his good tidings, but also prevent others from accepting him. The mad rush

for earthly possessions and pleasures, the casting-off of all the reasonable restraints and restrictions which are so necessary for the survival of human society, the rejection of all things spiritual in man's make-up, the general incitement of the animal instincts in man — all these are signs of the rejection of Christ. Let us accept Jesus as our personal Savior and Lord during this Christmas season and remain, or become, true Christians in our daily conduct. Let us use these days of preparation for Christmas to ready ourselves for Christ's daily coming and Second Coming, remembering that the Second Coming will occur for each one of us on the day of our death, or on the Day of the Lord, whichever comes first.

3. We need to become preachers of the Good News: John's preaching reminds us also of our important task of announcing Christ to others through our lives at home and in the community. When we show real love, kindness, mercy and a spirit of forgiveness, we are announcing the truth that Christ is with us. Thus, our lives become a kind of Bible which others can read. John the Baptist invites us to turn this Advent season into a real spiritual homecoming by making the necessary preparations for the arrival of the Savior and his entrance into our lives.

Eucharistic Revival Talks at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton



Come! Listen to the Presentations. Learn more about the Eucharist. Join the discussion. Strengthen and deepen your faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The talks will be at 6 pm in the church.

See the schedule below.

December 18, 2023: Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist: Fr. Jose

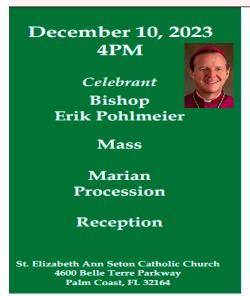
January 15, 2024: Mass, Before and After Vatican Council II: Fr. Rob Trujillo

February 19, 2024: Mass: Rites and Countries: Deacon Tom Alayu

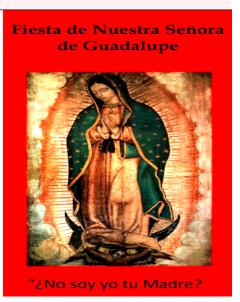
March 18, 2024: Roman Missal: Fr. Jim May

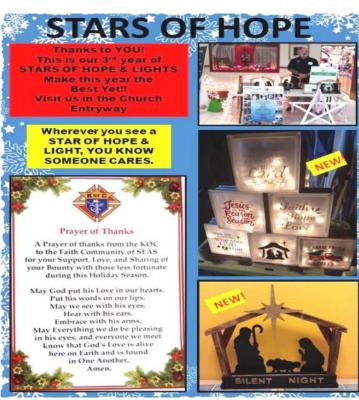
April 15, 2024: Saints and the Eucharist: Deacon Mike McKenna

May 20. 2024: Eucharistic Miracles: Deacon Ed Wolf June 17, 2024: Eucharistic Devotions: Deacon Tom Alayu















Following Filipino religious tradition, the Filipino community of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (SEAS) parish is inviting everyone to a novena (nine-days) of masses as a spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus on

Christmas. The dates/times/location of these masses:

Dec 15 (Friday) 5:00 PM *St. Stephens

Dec 16 (Saturday) 4:00 PM *St. Stephens

Dec 17 (Sunday) 7:00 PM SEAS Dec 18 (Monday) 5:00 PM SEAS

Dec 19 (Tuesday) 5:00 PM *St. Stephens

Dec 20-22 (Wednesday-Friday) 5:00 PM SEAS

Dec 23 (Saturday) 7:30 PM SEAS

*St. Stephens is located in 2400 E. Highway 100, Bun-

Please join us in this cherished tradition and spiritual preparation. A fellowship/reception follows the final Dec 23 mass.

Christmas Dinner

The SEAS Men's Club presents the annual Christmas Parmesan Dinner to be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday December 9 at 6 PM. Hall doors open at 5 PM and the complete dinner includes



dessert and coffee with adult ticket donations \$16. and children donations under 12 years are \$ 8. Soda, wine and beer will be available. A surprise visit by "Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus can be expected.





St Elizabeth Ann Seton New Years Eve Party Fundraiser for the Capital Campaign



Sunday, December 31st 8:00 pm - 1:00 am

Doors open at 7 pm. Dinner at 8 pm. A Latin dance sit down dinner party. Cash bar (beer, wine, mix drinks) bottle of water and sodas.

Formal or semi formal attire.







Music by D.J Marco.

Reserve a table for your family and friends. Call 445-2246, Ines 445-7759 or Marina 445-2200. Tickets can be purchased after all masses and at the rectory office. Tickets must be purchased before Dec. 23. No tickets will be sold at the door.













3rd Grade "Saints"

Saints of the Week

Tuesday, December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe This celebration commemorates the appearance of Mary to the Mexican peasant Juan Diego in 1531.





Wednesday, December 13 Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr She is one of eight women explicitly commemorated by Catholics in the Canon of the Mass.

Thursday, December 14 Memorial of Saint John of the Cross. Priest and Doctor of the Church 1542-1591



John of the Cross, venerated as Saint John of the Cross, was a Spanish Catholic priest, mystic, and a Carmelite friar of converso origin. He is one of the thirty-six Doctors of the Church. John of the Cross is known especially for his writings.

ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

•Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?

- •Has a child over the age of seven who hasn't been baptized?
- •Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season.

For information please contact Katie Allio at 386-445-2246, ext 112 or by email at kallio@seaspcfl.org.

Women's Prayer Breakfast

The Ladies Guild of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (SEAS) is sponsoring a Women's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, January 13, 2024 from 9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. at Seton Hall. In addition to a Continental Breakfast and fellowship, there will be a period of time spent in communal praise and worship, a time for intercessory prayer, and a personal testimony given by Meri Pozo, a woman in our midst.

There will also be an opportunity to purchase inspirational books, DVDs and CDs of music. The cost is \$15.00 a person. Checks may be made payable to SEAS and mailed to: SEAS AT 4700 Belle Terre Pkwy Palm Coast, FL 32164 Attn: Ladies Guild At SEAS, registration will be available after Masses on the weekends of Dec. 16-17 and Dec. 30-31

Ladies Guild-Mark Your Calendars

General Membership.... Christmas Luncheon: DEC. 14th from 11 AM to 3 P.M. we will have lunch and entertainment as well as a Gift Exchange. Bring a gift and get a gift valued at \$15.00.



All Parish Women are Invited Come and have FUN, enjoy LUNCH AND ENTERTAINMENT as well as pick a Christmas gift. Looking forward to seeing all of you at this event.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Capital Campaign

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Capital Campaign Growing in Faith, Building on Our Foundation for the Future



Capital Campaign Goal: \$7 million Family Pledges: \$3,807,656.85 Participating Parish Families: 633 Payments received: \$988.219.68

We thank all of you who have already made the pledges and made the initial payments. If you still have not had the opportunity to turn your pledge in, please do so by mailing it to the rectory office, delivering it to the office, or dropping it in the offertory basket. We need every parish family to participate in the Capital Campaign to accomplish the ambitious goal of doing the maintenance and renovation work of the church building, Holy of Holies, parish hall, maintenance work of the school buildings, and the construction of a new Family Life Center, which will also serve as a gym for our school children.

Adoration—Saturday Group

All are invited to join the Group Eucharistic Adoration led by one of the deacons on Saturdays at 9:15 am. Adoration booklets will be available. For more information, Marilou Mallada at 609-468-1477.

SEAS Black Catholic Guild

Please join us on the second Tuesday of every month from Sept-June at 1:30pm in Seton Hall Come a little early for refreshments and fellowship time and stay to pray for our families, church, community, and country. All are welcome. Contact Madeline (386) 864-0911.

Cancer Support Group

Meets in Rectory Meeting room every 2nd Thurs. at 9:30 am and every 4th Thurs. at 2:30 pm. Join us for support, education and resources. Contact Louise 386-235-5310



Caregiver Support Group

Support groups create a safe, confidential, supportive environment for participates to develop informal mutual support and social relationships as they deal with a loved one suffering from Alzheimer's/Dementia. We meet the 2nd & 4th Monday at 3:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room.

Seasons of Hope

For those who have lost a loved one, the Grief Support Group meets on Wednesdays at 10:00am in the Rectory Meeting Room. To sign up please call (386) 445-2246 or contact Healthministry@seaspcfl.org



Charismatic Prayer Group

Please join us on Thursdays at 1:30pm in the Russo Room



Cursillo-Ultreya

Please join us the third Wednesday of month at 6:30 in the Russo room for Ultreya! Please bring a covered dish to share! Anyone interested in Cursillo is encouraged to attend. Join us for a night of fellowship, witness and song! De Colores!"

Faith & Fellowship

To follow on Social Media or for more info, visit the SEAS website at cookers. visit the SEAS website. at seaspcfl.org/ lellowship community-groups.



Feeding Hands Mission at SEAS

Hopelessness ends. Enjoy a free hot meal every first and third Monday of the month at Seton Hall from 5 pm to 6.30 pm. Dine in or Drive-thru-Carry Out. Anyone in our community who is struggling financially to feed themselves or their children is invited to share a free hot meal with us.

Health Ministry

The Health Ministry meets at 9:30 AM on 2nd Tues of the month in the Cody Room. Please call Louise Kummer for more info at 386-235-5310 or Pam Cowles at 386-523-7152. We need of volunteers for shopping, light housekeeping, wellness checks and rides to Mass.

Knights of Columbus Auxiliary

The Knights of Columbus Auxiliary meets the third Thursday of the month at 11.00 a.m. in the Rectory Meeting room. Come join us and be a part of this organization of the Knights of Columbus, which does so much for our parish.

Lay Carmelites

If you are a practicing Catholic over the age of 18 and are looking to deepen your faith, come join the Lay Carmelites. We are a Christ centered community that strives to get closer to God through scripture, prayer, meditation and contemplation. We meet the second Saturday of every month. For more information contact Ramonita Fiorentino @ 445-7477

Legion of Mary

The Legion is a lay apostolic organization that meets every Tuesday at 9:30am in the Rectory Meeting Room.

Listening for God

The 'Listening for God' Ministry will be on the first Friday of the month from 6:30pm -7:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. For more info call the rectory or 386-264-2049.



Our Lady of Fatima Portuguese Committee

Meetings are at 7:00pm on Wednesdays in the Rectory Meeting Room.



Mother of Perpetual Help (MPH)

Monthly Schedule

First Wednesday Novena will be held at the Cody Room from 3:00 - 4:30 pm first Wednesday of the month.

Mother Seton Rolling Library

The aim of this library is to spread the word of our faith via Catholic books. The cart is available in the Gathering Space after all Church Library weekend masses. These books are free. Meetings are on Fridays at 9:30am in the Rectory Meeting

Padre Pio Prayer Group

Our St. Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet every Second Friday of the month at 9:30 am until 10:30 am. in the Russo. Please join us. All are welcome!



Rosary Cenacles

The Rosary Cenacles is in response to Our Lady's call which was made known in her message to Fr. Stefano Gobbi. We pray for the Holy Father and his intentions, for priests, to end abortion and for world peace. We say fifteen decades of the rosary. All are welcome to attend weekly meetings on Wednesday's at 1:00pm.

For more information call Marie Estabrook 386 447-0847

Rosary Makers Ministry

Our Ministry is devoted to our Lady of Fatima and assembles rosaries to be distributed and sent to other parts of the world free of charge. Join us to pray the rosary on Mondays at 9:30 am in the Rectory Meeting Room. We offer training and supplies to all members.

Secular Franciscans

The Secular Franciscans meet monthly on the first Saturday of the month at 9:30 in the Cody Room.

If you are interested in learning more about the Secular Franciscans, please join us. Please call Pam Cowles 386-523-7152 for more information.

Sunday Scripture Prayer Group

Come join us each week for reflection on and sharing Sunday scriptures, the Bible, the Living Word of God. Our goal is to enrich each other by sharing the Living Word of God. We meet weekly each Friday at 1pm in the Rectory Meeting Room.



Homebound and Living Alone?

Do you have a friend or a family member who is a parishioner, homebound, and living alone? If you think they would like to get a phone call from a member of our parish, please give us a call at 445-2246, and we will make arrangements to have someone CALL them.

Catholic Charities

Human trafficking is a situation in which an individual is compelled to work or engage in commercial sex through the use of force, fraud or coercion. If the individual is under the age of 18 and engaging in commercial sex they are experiencing trafficking regardless of force, fraud, or coercion. National Human Trafficking Hotline toll-free at 1-888-373-7888 or text "Be free" to (233733). For more info, contact Ruby Peters, at rubygeerspeters@gmail.com (904) 448-6555.

Attention Talented Ladies

There is a group of ladies in our Parish who meet on Tuesday mornings at 10am in the Russo Room. We get together and make a variety of crafts and sell them at the many events that our Church has throughout the year. We have a lot of fun while making our crafts and it is very satisfying to know that others appreciate what we make. Forget the department stores that manufacture and mass produce, each item is handmade with precision and care. For any questions please call Dorothy at 386-283-4298.

In Need of Counseling?

The Catholic Therapist Network is a listing of Catholic therapists in the diocese for those in need of counseling and support. More information is available at https://family.dosafl.com/therapists.

Parking Lot Patrol

We are looking for volunteers (women or men) for both the 10am and Noon Sunday Mass. Volunteers would need to be available 15 minutes before Mass to pick up people in the parking lot. Once Mass begins you would patrol the parking lot as security. After Mass you would need to shuttle people back to their cars for 15 minutes.

To volunteer: Dennis Boucher-386 315-9994 or dboucher136@gmail.com

Teleministry

This new ministry has been busy calling new parishioners. We would also like to be able to call the retired elderly of the parish who can no longer attend mass. We need you to let us know who they are and their phone numbers. Leave their name and number at the rectory at 445-2246.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for skilled and motivated individuals to work on a volunteer basis with the SEAS Buildings Ministry to remodel the interior of Seton Hall. Specifically, we are looking for a locally licensed plumber; drywall installers/tapers/spacklers; floor tile installers; and assistants to help with demolition, painting, tile work, etc. Ron Cowles @386 -478-6133

Diocese of St. Augustine- How to Report Abuse

ATTENTION: The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call the police or the Department of Children and Families at (800) 962-2873. Or call the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (904) 208 -6979 or email inquiries@dosafl.com. To report abuse by a bishop, call (800) 276-1562 or visit www.reportbishopabuse.org.

ATENÇÃO: A Diocese de St. Augustine toma muito sériamente todas as alegações de má conduta sexual e resolve todas as alegações de forma rápida, confidencial e completa. Para denunciar abuso(s), ligue para a polícia ou para o Department of Children and Families pelo (800)962-2873. Ou ligue para o Diocesan Victim Assistance Cordinator pelo (904)208-6979 ou por e-mail inquiries @dosafl.com. Para denunciar abusos cometidos por um bispo ligue para (800)276-1562 ou visite a website www.reportbishopabuse.org.

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Monday, December 11 7:00am Fleta Larrazabal

8:30am Loao Sousa & Maria Moura

Tuesday, **December 12**

Philip & Theresa Harvey 7:00am

8:30am **Epifanio Dimas**

Wednesday, December 13

Fernando Costa 7:00am 8:30am Fanny Rodriguez

Thursday, December 14 7:00am Mariano Cadavillo 8:30am Teresa Becerro

December 15 Friday.

7:00am Deceased members of the

Storino family

8:30am Cristina H. Mendoza

Saturday, December 16

8:30am Good health for Luz Idica 4:00pm Americo 'Flip' Filippi 6:00pm* Richard Roberge 6:00pm(P) Antonio Lopes

December 17

Sunday, 8:00am

Hilda G. Wells 10:00am **SEAS Parishioners** 12:00pm Rosalia Arcuri

5:00pm (S) 5:00pm*

Ortiz Cuadrado Family Ana Freitas & deceased

family

* St. Stephens



Prayer Garden

Our Prayer Garden is a peaceful place for prayer and meditation. Purchasing a brick in the Prayer Garden for someone who has January 26, 2024—6 pm -Mass and Eucharistic Adoration with Healing Serdied is a wonderful way to remember that the person is still with you in thoughts and through prayer. The purchase of a brick is details.

In Memoriam

We remember all our departed brothers and sisters with love and gratitude.



Mario Roberto DiCerbo

December 5, 1934 -November 7, 2023

Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Amen.



Friday

Retirement Fund for Religious, Dec. 9-10

Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Collection will be taken up in all parishes of the Diocese of St. Augustine.

Visit retiredreligious.org.



Tuesday, December 12 at 5:00 pm in the church



Sunday Readings

Readings for the 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time may be found on page 911 of St. Augustine Hymnal.

Readings for the Week of December 10

Sunday Second Sunday of Advent Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Monday Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26 Tuesday Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Is 40-25-31; Ps 103: 1-2, 3-

4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30 Memorial of Saint John of Thursday the Cross, Priest and Doctor

> of the Church Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9,

10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15 Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt Saturday

17:9a, 10-13 Sunday Third Sunday of Advent

ls 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28





December 18 5:00pm **Seton Hall**

Mark Your Calendar

December 10, 2023—5 pm -Mass by Bishop Erik Pohlmeier to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Dec. 12, 2023 — 5 p.m., Advent Penance Service

Dec. 19, 2023 — 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., All Day Eucharistic Adoration and Confession

December 23, 2023— 6 pm, St. Stephen Chapel -- Mass by Bishop Pohlmeier to celebrate the feast of St. Stephen.

vice by Fr. Martin Ibeh

Feb. 11, 2024 — 2 p.m., Confirmation March 4-7, 2024 — Lenten Retreat by Fr. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P.

\$100.00; please consider honoring a loved April 21, 2024— 2 p.m., First Holy Communion

one. Contact the Rectory Office for more Sept. 9-12, 2024—Parish Mission by Fr. Wade Menezes

December 9- December 15

IN MEMORY OF:

Roseann & Jim Bradley; Elena Espino; Mickey Ammirata; Paulo Malheiros; David Jose Tavares; Diomal & Rosa DaSilva

FOR INTENTIONS OF:

Paul Tavares; Robert E. Allen; Betty Beveridge; Kelly Girtin

In our Holy of Holies, we have ten candles always burning around the tabernacle, just as in the temple in Jerusalem there were ten lights always burning around the Ark of the Covenant. They indicate the presence of our precious Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

The candles used are seven day candles and may be purchased either in memoriam or for the intentions of a loved one for a \$10 donation through the Seton Shop. This space lists the names of those for whom candles have been purchased.

Please Pray for Our Military

Although we pray for all of our military, space does not permit everyone's name to be printed.

Please advise when a person below is no longer deployed so we can remove their name from our list. Please contact the parish office if you wish to have the name of someone listed for 4 weeks. As a courtesy please notify the office when the name can be removed or if you wish to have the name continued. Be sure to get the person's permission first!

God bless them all & continue to pray for them!

Charles Salerno TSgt (US Air Force/Germany)
CPT. Brendan Leonard (US Army)
Stephen Hayes (US Air Force/Iraq)
Kevin Daley (US Navy)
LCP Dylan Vanore. USMC

Please Pray for Our Sick

Alfred Torris Andrew Macready Barbara Parziale Betty Beveridge Brian Sugden Carol Wissing Cash Krempecki Charlie Salerno Christine Salerno Cynthia Blake Dale Nusbaum Daniel Tearpock David Leonard Derek Patrick Freeman Diane Ackeson Elizabeth Cretella Fllen Denzel Florence Elaine Smith Gary Martin George Bley Gerry DePalo Hank Theiling Harriet Accocella Henry Gardner Jack Évans Jake Fontaine Jake Romaine James Doggett Janine Kerry Jerry DePalo Jim Popour Joan Carter Joe Biggs John Frangipane John Kortas John Placenti John Relgan Jonathan Schofield Joseph Bartollotta Joseph Robert Keating Joseph Vacellaro Judy Vershave Juliá Barrett Karen Murphy

Kathleen Theiling Larry DeCamillo Les Reid Lisa Robak Louis Stanley Lubin Lynn Englehart Madison Hope DeVane Maria Barros Maria Stewart Marie Bernadette Lamarre Marie Berry Mary Callaghan Mary Ann Ahern MaryAnn DePalo Mary Doris Kolesar Mason Brian DeVane Mason Wurtz Michell Pinto Mina Bico Myrtha Darboux Nancy Wright Nathaniel Burgess Neil Dorian Nivia Sandoval Noreen Bradley Noreen Derrig Pat Meenan Patricia Baver Patricia Derrig Paul Masi Randy Martin Richard Heinrich Rita Morris Rose Marie Friest Ruby Strickland Sally Lombardo Scott Parkstrom Steven Fedak Tara Handsman Teresa Kinert **Theodore Simmons** Tom Bentzley Vincent Drahan



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Mass on TV for the Homebound

https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule Sunday Mass-8:00am

DIRECTV—Channel: 370/DISH—Channel 261
SPECTRUM— Channel 169/ATT U-Verse Channel 562
SIRIUS Radio—Channel 130 /XM/SPECTRUM—Channel 20



William Phillips Jr.

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Let us not loose our energy as the final days approach to Decline to Sign. The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops (FCCB) has published 3 WARNINGS concerning the proposed amendment to limit government interference with abortion.

#1 Amendment would allow abortion up until birth, including partial birth abortion and when the baby is capable of feeling pain, while eliminating parental consent laws and healthcare regulations.

#2 Amendment would NOT require an actual medical doctor to determine if an abortion is necessary to protect the mother's health. It would allow any "health care provider" to make these decisions. Under Florida law, a "health care provider" is not limited to doctors, so even employees of abortion clinics who are not doctors would be able to approve late-term abortions.

#3 Amendment would legalize full term abortion, including partial-birth abortion, for any age, without parental "consent" in Florida. (wording only includes parental "notification") Parishioners have informed me of people who are in Flagler and St. John's County trying to obtain signatures: at Walmart, Dollar Tree, the Government Building, at the recent Creekside Festival at Princess Preserve and at the St. Augustine Amphitheater Farmer's Market (1340C A1AS, St. Augustine, FL 32080) on Saturday mornings from 9 to noon. PLEASE continue to DECLINE TO SIGN. If you are traveling in Florida during the holidays, please be alert at events and in shopping malls and DECLINE TO SIGN. If the Holy Spirit encourages you, speak out and explain what this initiative is really saying to any who are being encouraged to sign this proabortion initiative.

Upcoming EventsDecember 28, 2023 - Thursday - Special Respect Life meeting - call Priscilla for time and directions - 352-697-9436 January 5, 2024 - Friday - Stand for Life 4 - 5 pm in front of SEAS January 13, 2024 - Saturday - 9:30am Respect Life Committee meeting in Cody Room

January 13, 2024 - Saturday - 10am - March for Life Jacksonville (full information in Dec. 3 SEAS bulletin and posted on Respect Life bulletin board)

February 6 & 7, 2024 - Tuesday and Wednesday - Catholic Days at the Capitol (FCCB.org has full information or see Respect Life bulletin board)

Important Numbers

SEAS Respect Life Coordinator - Priscilla Positano - 352-697-9436 pcposi2324@gmail.com Pregnancy Help Line - 800 - 848 - LOVE Human Trafficking Hotline - 888-373-7888

Las Posadas, Dec. 16

The National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche at Mission Nombre de Dios in St. Augustine invites you to experience a truly silent night on the Sacred Acre, complete with a Live Nativity, Eucharistic Adoration, cookies, hot cocoa and food trucks. A 16th-century Spanish procession of "Las Posadas" (The Inns) is presented by the Historic Florida Militia. This bi-lingual family-friendly event runs from 3 to 9 p.m. Open to the public. Reservations are required for participation in 'Las Posadas' and can be made online by visiting missionandshrine.org

Angel Tree

Available in the gathering space and at St. Stephen's until Sun. Dec 10th. Please take an Angel, purchase and wrap a gift for that child, and place Angel Tree the wrapped gift under the tree no later than Wed, Dec 13th. If you prefer, monetary donations and gift cards can be placed in the poor box or dropped off at the rectory. Please indicate that the donation is for The Angel Tree.

Daily Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar for adoration after all the weekday Masses at 8.30 am till 10 am. Kindly join us and adore the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Eucharistic Adoration Hours

The hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Holy of Holies are from 6:30 am to 12 midnight, Monday through Friday, and 9 am to 9 pm, Saturday and Sunday.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar for adoration on Fridays from 9 am to 9 pm. The Blessed Sacrament is also exposed on the altar Monday to Saturday for adoration after the 8.30 am Mass until 10 am.

Please remember that if the Holy of Holies is filled you are encouraged to pray in the main worship area of the church.

Adorers Needed For:

Sundays: 2-3pm, 9-10pm, 10-11pm, 11pm-12am Mondays: 6-7pm, 10-11pm, 11pm-12am Tuesdays: 9-10pm, 10-11pm, 11pm-12am Wednesdays: 2-3pm, 6-7pm, 10-11pm

Thursdays: 2-3 pm, 4-5pm, 9-10pm, 10-11pm, 11pm-12am

Fridays: 9-10pm, 10-11pm, 11pm-12am

Saturdays: 11am-12pm, 9-10pm, 10-11pm, 11pm-12am

Anyone interested in spending time with Our Lord in Adoration should contact Candice Ringberg (386-213-0863 or candiceringberg@gmail.com) for availability and information.

"La Llama de Amor del Inmaculado Corazón de María"

Cuando: Miércoles/Hora: 6:30pm Plataforma Zoom: Zoom.us (Bajar Zoom en las aplicaciones) Meeting ID: 2239918037 clave: lallama Preguntas: Alba Dimas, 939-332-5615 Norma Maisonet, 917-834-6181 email: flameoflovepcfl@gmail.com

Las Reunionés del Comité Hispano

Son el último lunes del mes a las 6:30 pm en el Cody Room adjunto al salón social. Este comité sirve para hablar de todos los asuntos de la comunidad hispana de la parroquia. Todos invitados. Para mas informacion llamar a Marina Medina a la oficina al 386-445-2246

Acompañamiento en el proceso del Duelo

"Si estás pasando por la pérdida de un ser querido, dile sí a Jesús y María que quieren acompañarte en ese dolor. Únete al grupo "Acompañamiento en el proceso del Duelo" una vez a la semana y nos ayudamos uno al otro. Para más información comunicarse con Marina Medina en la oficina.

Noches de Formación de Fe para Adultos

Son cada miércoles a las 6:30 pm en el Rectory Meeting Room. El propósito de estos seminarios es para ampliar y profundizar nuestro conocimiento y experiencia de la fé. Incluyen series en estudio bíblico, teología y misión. Todos son invitados. Para más información llamen Padre Rob Trujillo al 386-445-2246.

Sacraments

Every First and Third Sunday of the month after Noon Mass. One preparation class is required. Classes are offered every second Monday of the month at 7 pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Please contact the Rectory office in advance.

Holy Matrimony

Please contact the Rectory office at least 8 months prior to wedding.

Anointing of the Sick
If you or your loved one is in need of the Sacrament of Anointing please call the Rectory office. We also have dedicated Eucharistic Ministers to bring Holy Communion to the sick and the homebound.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 2:45-3:45pm, Sunday 30 minutes before Mass, & by appt.

Devotions

Eucharistic Adoration

9 am to 12 midnight, Monday through Friday, and 9 am to 9 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9 am on Fridays till 9 pm. The Blessed Sacrament is also exposed on the altar Monday to Saturday for adoration after the 8.30 am Mass until 10 am.

8 am Monday-Saturday; Before all weekend Masses

Miraculous Medal Novena

After 8.30 am Mass every Tuesday.

Religious Education

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

Classes for Grades 1-8 on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6.15 pm to 7.30 pm. For more information, please contact the Director of Religious Education at the Rectory office (386-445-2246; extension 112)

Children's Catechism Classes

All children from 1st through 8th grade who are not attending Catholic school should be attending PREP classes. Children preparing for the Sacrament of the Eucharist or Confirmation need to attend a two-year catechetical program.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Eucharist need to attend a two-year catechetical program which includes six Sunday classes of Sacramental preparation prior to each Sacrament.

Confirmation Formation

Children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation need to attend a two-year catechetical program which includes three Sunday classes of Sacramental preparation and the annual Confirmation retreat.

For more information about Catechism, First Holy Communion or Confirmation, please contact Katie Allio at 386-445-2246 extension 112.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Please call the Director of Christian Formation at the Rectory office if any non-Catholic is interested in joining the Catholic Church (386-445-2246; extension 112). Classes will begin in October.

Holy Orders and Religious Life

If you believe that you or someone you know has a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, please contact Fr. Jared DeLeo at frjared@saccfl.org



Quotes of Saints

"When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now,' Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"Be careful, therefore, to take part only in the one Eucharist; for there is only one Flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ and one cup to unite us with His Blood."

"I no longer take pleasure in perishable food or in the delights of this world. I want only God's bread, which is the Flesh of Jesus Christ, formed of the seed of David, and for drink I crave His Blood which is love that cannot perish." St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

"Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament has His hands full of graces, and He is ready to bestow them on anyone who asks for them,

- St. Peter of Alcantara

Second Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know how they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards.



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Christmas items will be appearing soon get yours early, especially Advent candles. Thank you for responding to my call for help in the Shop. The position for the Sunday 10:00 mass has been filled, however we could still use substitutes.

Thank you and God bless. See you in the shop!



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This Week In Our Parish

| SUNDAY, December 10 9:00am 3:30pm MONDAY, December 11 9:00am 9:30am 3:30pm Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group—Rectory Meeting Room 6:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 7:00am 7:00am 7:00am 7:00am 7:00am 7:00am 9:00am 9: | 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 7: |
|--|--|
| 1:00pm Black Catholic Guild General Meeting—Seton Hall | 6:00pm Edge Youth Group—Seton Hall |
| 6:00pm Portuguese Prayer Group-Rectory Meeting Room | 7:00pm Faith & Fellowship Adult Group Meeting—Rectory Meeting Room |
| 7:00pm Spanish Prayer Group—Seton Hall WEDNESDAY, December 13 | 8:00am Angel Tree—Seton Hall 9:00am Exposition & Adoration after 8:30am Mass until 10:00am-Church |
| 9:00am Exposition & Adoration after 8:30am Mass—Church | 9:00am Adoration Prayer Group—Church |
| 10:00am Seasons of Hope Grief Support—Rectory Meeting Room 1:00pm Rosary Cenacle—Rectory Meeting Room | 9:30am Great Adventure Bible Study—Rectory Meeting Room 6:30pm Novena Al Nino Dios Spanish Ministry—Men's Club |
| 4:00pm Rosa Mystica Prayer Group—Russo Room 4:00pm Spanish Bereavement—Rectory Meeting Room | SUNDAY, December 17 |
| 4:00pm Spanish Bereavement—Rectory Meeting Room 5:00pm Spiritual Life Committee Meeting—Cody Room | 8:00am Angel Tree—Seton Hall 9:00am Coffee & Donuts (and 11:00am)—Verandah |
| 5:00pm Spanish Bereavement Meeting -Rectory Meeting Room | 6:30pm Novena Al Nino Dios Spanish Ministry—Men's Club |
| 6:00pm Life Teen—Seton Hall | |

Ministries

Secular Franciscans

Contact: Pam Cowles,

Need to update this list? email pjenkins@seaspcfl.org Prison Ministry Contact: Deacon Bob

bigblue62fla@gmail.com

Prayer And Devotional Groups Adoration Contact:Candice Ringberg 386-213-0863 Adoration Prayer Group Contact: Marilou Mallada 609 468-1477 609 468-1477
Adoration of the Most Holy Trinity
Contact:Gilda Sadio-Kow
Gilda.sadio@yahoo.com
Angels of Mercy
Contact: Hilda Rausini
386 446-4789, 237-8586 (cell)
Rita1947@aol.com
Riblo Strukt Bible Study Contact: Pedyne Joseph 386 445-2246 386 445-2246
Bio Ethics
Contact: Deacon Ed Wolff
edwolff3181@gmail.com
Celebration of the Virgin Mary,
"Un Pueblo Mariano"
Contact: Alba Dimas 386 445-2246
flameoflovepefl@gmail.com
Ines Becker 386 445-7759/
inesbecker@bellsouth.net
Charismatic Prayer Group
Fnolish I anguage Charismatic Frayer Group
English Language
Contact: Betti Masi
Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org
Spanish Language: Salvador Florez
Contact: 386 338-2976
Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org Spirituallite@seaspcfl.org
Cursillo/Ultreya
Contact: Alise Mckinney:
Alisemck@Live.Com
Marina Medina (Spanish Coordinator)
Velez41@Yahoo.Com
Divine Mercy Prayer Group
Contact: Margarita Serrano
786 210-8792 Evangelization
Contact: Denise LaFrance
Palmcoasthomestore.com Flame of Love Contact: Alba Dimas & Norma Maisonet386 445-2246 flameoflovepcfl@gmail.com Kerygma Groups Contact: Deacon Mike McKenna 386 445-2246 386 445-2246
Deaconmike430@gmail.com
Lectio Divina Group
Contact: Irma V. Catalan
Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org
Lord of Miracles

Contact: Ines Becker 386 445-7759,

inesbecker@bellsouth.net

Natural Family Planning Contact: David and Marcela Medina Marcedemedina@Hotmail.com Portuguese Prayer Group Contact: Deacon Jose homem4@aol.com Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org Portuguese Rosary Society Contact: Maria Pereira 446-0356 Regina Pacis & Medjugorje Prayer Group Contact: Carole And Bob Storme Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org Rosa Mystica Prayer Group Contact: Lucy Pono Rosary Cenacle Prayer Group Contact: Marie Estabrook 386 447-0847, spirtituallife@seaspcfl.org Rosary Makers Contact: Marta Quijano 787 605-8887 vequi1@hotmail.com San Lorenzo Ruiz Contact: Deacon Tom/Necitas Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org Spanish Prayer Group Contact: Salvador Florez 386 338-2976 Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org St. Nino Prayer Group Contact: Marilou Mallada 609-468-1477 Marilou.Mallada@verizon.net St. Padre Pio Prayer Group
Contact: Hilda Rausini
Rita1947@Aol.com
Storming Heaven
Prayers Ministry
Contact: Hilda Rausini 286 446-4789, Cell/text 386 237-8586 Rita1947@aol.com Sunday Scripture Prayer Group Contact: Pat Eccleston 386 445-2246 Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org Teams Of Our Lady Contact: Nate & Barbara Flach Contact: Nate & Barbara Flach nwflach@aol.com; Larry and Mary Kay Kuchta, 386-503-7718, marykay@5gators.com Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Contact: Marilou Mallada 609-468-1477 Marilou.Mallada@verizon.net Lay Carmelites
Contact: Ramonita Fiorentino
Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org

plcowles@bellsouth.net Service Groups Altar Servers/Lectors Contact: Elaine Leonard, eleonard@Seaspcfl.org Bingo
Parishlife@Seaspcfl.org
Black Catholic Guild
Contact: Madeline Montgomery
386 445-2246 Extraordinary Ministers Of Holy Communion Contacts Elaine Leonard, eleonard@seaspcfl.org Faith Formation Contact: Katie Allio Kallio@Seaspcfl.org Feeding Hands Contact:Tony Baeza 386 445-2246 386 445-2246
Greeters
Contact: Ron Cowles
Parishlife@Seaspcfl.org
Home Sweet Home/
Cleaning Ministry
Contact: Hilda Rausini
rita1947@aol.com
Knights of Columbus Auxiliary
Contact: Pat Heil
patty.heil@aol.com
Knights of Columbus Knights of Columbus Contact: Owen Thompson 386 445-2246 Ladies Guild Contact: Debbie Cremeans 386 445-2246 386 449-2246
Lazos De Amor (Ribbons of Love)
Contact: John Merced: 732-778-0363
lt195jm@gmail.com
Legion Of Mary
Contact: Dave DiNardi
Spirituallife@Seaspcfl.org
Little Angels Choir
Contact: Cody Lucinda Biggs
littleflowersacademy@aol.com
Men's Club
Contact: Ed Bajer
emtbajer@aol.com
Multi-Cultural
Contact: Marina Medina
multicultural150@gmail.com
Music MinistryChoir
Contact: Don Roy
Droy7@Cfl.Rr.com
Outreach Ministry Lazos De Amor (Ribbons of Love)

Respect Life
Contact: Priscilla Positano
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Sacristans
Contact: E.Leonard eleonard@seaspcfl.org 386 445-2246 Seton Library Contact: Harriett Acocella Paradise1416hv@Cfl.Rr.com Seton Shop
Contact: Sue Shierling
Sshierling1@ Gmail.com
Spiritual Life Committee Contact: Sylvia Reyes srayes@cfl.rr.com Seton Hall Seton Hall Contact: Larry DeCamillo seton-hall@seaspcfl.org Sunday Hospitality Contact: Charlie Salerno 386 503-6288 Ushers Contact: Jamie Burns Parishlife@Seaspcfl.org Welcome Desk Contact: Elizabeth Foran 386 445-2246 ext 122 386 445-2246 ext 122 eforan@seaspcfl.org Youth Ministry Contact: Jeremy Vest Jvest@Seaspcfl.org Youth Praise & Worship Contact: Cody Lucinda Biggs littleflowersacademy@aol.com

SEAS Support Groups

Bereavement Contact: Pam Cowles Healthministry@Seaspcfl.org Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Contact: Pam Cowles Healthministry@Seaspcfl.org Health Ministry Contact: Pam Cowles Healthministry@Seaspcfl.org Cancer Support Group Contact: Louise Kummer Healthministry@Seaspcfl.org Hospital Ministry Contact: Robert Snyder: 407-721-6742 **Telecare Ministry**Contact: Pat Eccleston/Joyce Petrole;

| December 16/17 | Saturday 4:00PM Church | Saturday 6:00PM St. Stephens | Sunday 8:00AM Church | Sunday 10:00AM Church | Sunday 12:00 PM Church | Sunday 5:00PM St. Stephens |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Lectors | Jake Allen Kathy Timlin | Dianne Roberge | Maricella Nunez Pedyne Joseph | Madeline Montgomery Mark Germann | Ed & Peggy Reid | Norm Mugford |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Team #3 | Andrea Parham | Team #4 | Team # 5 | Team # 1 | Linda Mugford |

Outreach Ministry Contact: 386 597-4144



For further information, please call the parish office.



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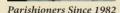


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