

Joy Alegria



DECEMBER 17, 2023

Advent Adviento

© Diocese of

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OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD...

It's just under a month away, but in between now and then there's this small period of time called the Christmas Season, which begins December 24.

What is this event that is just under a month away, following the Christmas Season? It's called CommUNITY Care Day, and it will take place at St. Mary Parish/Holy Cross School North Campus in Anderson.

That's what it's called, but what is it? CommUNITY Care Day is a partnership between the two parishes in Carmel (Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, joined by St. Elizabeth Seton) and the Anderson-Alexandria Pastorate. The purpose of CommUNITY Care Day is to help provide local families (not only families of our Pastorate parishes and schools in Anderson and Alexandria) with a variety of needed items, including new shoes, socks, underwear, book bags, coats, hats, gloves, shirts and sweatshirts to finish the school year. Children and parents will be able to choose the color, size, and style of some items. Families will also receive boxes of household items and food.

Although this project is a partnership between our Pastorate and the Carmel parishes, almost all of the organization comes from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. The donated items come from the Carmel parishes, as do the great majority of the volunteers. The Anderson-Alexandria Pastorate is not in a position to provide the thousands of dollars worth of donated items. We ARE, however, in a position to provide volunteers. This includes helping to unload trucks but also with other less physically demanding involvement.

We will soon receive a link to an online scheduling program ("Signup Genius") that will enable members of the three parishes in Anderson and Alexandria to help with this effort. (Because of early holiday deadlines, I need to publish this column before that link is available, but we will continue to keep this before the eyes of our parishioners.)

CommUNITY Care Day will take place on Saturday, January 13, at Holy Cross School North Campus/St. Mary, Anderson. Recipients are required to pre-register, and registration is closed. Because of the large number of people being served and the high level of organization that is required, we cannot respond to "walk-in" requests.

But we CAN fill the open volunteer spots that are available. Stay tuned for more information on how to volunteer.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Fr. Tom Metzger
December 17, 2023

PENSAMIENTOS DEL PADRE TOM...

"Falta un poco menos de un mes, pero entre tanto, hay este pequeño periodo llamado la Temporada de Navidad, que comienza el 24 de diciembre.

¿Qué evento está a poco menos de un mes, después de la Temporada de Navidad? Se llama Día de Atención a la ComUNIDAD y tendrá lugar en el campus norte de la Parroquia de Santa María / Escuela Holy Cross en Anderson.

Eso es lo que se llama, pero ¿qué es? El Día de Atención a la ComUNIDAD es una colaboración entre las dos parroquias en Carmel (Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo, junto con Santa Elizabeth Seton) y la Pastoría de Anderson-Alexandria. El propósito del Día de Atención a la ComUNIDAD es ayudar a proveer a familias locales (no solo a familias de nuestras parroquias de la Pastoría y escuelas en Anderson y Alexandria) con una variedad de artículos necesarios, incluyendo zapatos nuevos, calcetines, ropa interior, mochilas, abrigos, gorros, guantes, camisas y sudaderas para terminar el año escolar. Los niños y los padres podrán elegir el color, tamaño y estilo de algunos artículos. Las familias también recibirán cajas con artículos para el hogar y alimentos.

Aunque este proyecto es una colaboración entre nuestra Pastoría y las parroquias de Carmel, casi toda la organización proviene de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo. Los artículos donados provienen de las parroquias de Carmel, al igual que la gran mayoría de los voluntarios. La Pastoría de Anderson-Alexandria no está en posición de proveer los miles de dólares en artículos donados. SIN EMBARGO, estamos en posición de proveer voluntarios. Esto incluye ayudar a descargar camiones, pero también con otras formas de participación menos exigentes físicamente.

Pronto recibiremos un enlace a un programa de programación en línea ("Signup Genius") que permitirá a los miembros de las tres parroquias en Anderson y Alexandria ayudar con este esfuerzo. (Debido a los plazos anticipados por las vacaciones, necesito publicar esta columna antes de que esté disponible ese enlace, pero seguiremos manteniendo esto ante los ojos de nuestros feligreses.)

El Día de Atención a la ComUNIDAD se llevará a cabo el sábado 13 de enero en el Campus Norte de la Escuela Holy Cross / Santa María, Anderson. Se requiere que los beneficiarios se registren previamente y las inscripciones están cerradas. Debido al gran número de personas que se atenderán y al alto nivel de organización que se requiere, no podemos atender solicitudes sin cita previa.

¡Pero SÍ podemos ocupar los espacios disponibles para voluntarios! Estén atentos para más información sobre cómo ser voluntario.

¡Ven, Señor Jesús!"

Padre Tom Metzger
17 Diciembre 2023

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS FOR THE WEEK / INTENCIONES & LECTURAS DE LAS MISAS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18 / LUNES, 18 DE DICIEMBRE

Jeremiah/Jeremías 23:5-8 | Matthew/Mateo 1:18-25

8:00 AM St. Mary, Anderson +Mirella Ippolito

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 / MARTES, 19 DE DICIEMBRE

Judges/Jueces 13:2-7, 24-25a | Luke/Lucas 1:5-25

8:00 AM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Kathleen Degitz

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 / MIÉRCOLES, 20 DE DICIEMBRE

Isaiah/Isaías 7:10-14 | Luke/Lucas 1:26-38

8:00 AM St. Mary, Alexandria +Steve Duckworth

11:30 AM St. Vincent Hospital, Anderson +Betty Ann Myer

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 / JUEVES, 21 DE DICIEMBRE

St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Song of Songs/Cantar de los Cantares 2:8-14 or Zephaniah/Sofonías 3:14-18a | Luke/Lucas 1:39-45

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

7:00 PM St. Mary, Alexandria Int. of Leonel & Mayra Sierra

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 / VIERNES, 22 DE DICIEMBRE

1 Samuel 1:24-28 | Luke/Lucas 1:46-56

8:00 AM St. Mary, Alexandria +Al Duffy

8:10 AM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Rachel Lakes

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 / SÁBADO, 23 DE DICIEMBRE

St. John of Kanty, Priest

Malachi/Malaquías 3:1-4, 23-24 | Luke/Lucas 1:57-66

4:00 PM St. Mary, Anderson +Dan Ippolito

4:30 PM St. Mary, Alexandria +Macy Jo Brunt

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 / DOMINGO, 24 DE DICIEMBRE

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 | Romans/Romanos 16:25-27 |

Luke/Lucas 1:26-38

7:30 AM St. Mary, Anderson +Dan Ippolito

8:30 AM St. Mary, Alexandria People of the Pastorate

9:30 AM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Frossard Family

11:30 AM St. Mary, Anderson +All Souls' Day Intentions

CHRISTMAS EVE / NOCHE BUENA

Isaiah/Isaías 62:1-5 | Acts/Hechos 13:16-17, 22-25 |

Matthew/Mateo 1:1-25

4:00 PM St. Mary, Anderson +All Souls' Day Intentions

4:30 PM St. Mary, Alexandria +Janice Jackson

5:30 PM St. Ambrose, Anderson +Frossard Family

6:30 PM St. Mary, Anderson (Spanish) +All Souls' Day Intentions

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ASSOCIATE PASTOR

..... Fr. John Johnson

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

..... Fr. Matthew Jakupco

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DIRECTOR DE LA ESCUELA HOLY CROSS

..... Rob Frey

ST. MARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL/

DIRECTORA DE LA ESCUELA STA. MARIA

..... Rachel Duckworth

PARISH SECRETARIES /

SECRETARIAS DE LAS PARROQUIAS:

St. Ambrose Anita Myers

St. Mary, Anderson Robin Grose

St. Mary, Alexandria Traci Gates

CONFESSION TIMES / HORARIO DE CONFESIÓN

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

*Until further notice in the sacristy.
Hasta nuevo aviso en la sacristía.*

✠ St. Mary, Alexandria
Saturdays/Sábados 3:30-4:00 PM

✠ St. Ambrose—will resume in April

Find the daily & Sunday readings at
[https://bible.usccb.org/readings/
calendar](https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar)

Encuentra las lecturas diarias y do-
minicales en Español en [https://
bible.usccb.org/es/readings/calendar](https://bible.usccb.org/es/readings/calendar)



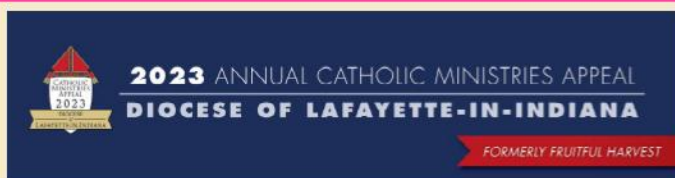
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PASTORATE NEWS / NOTICIAS DEL PASTORADO

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

(Fiscal Year July 1 – June 30)

		DEC. 10, 2023	YEAR-TO-DATE / EL AÑO HASTA LA FECHA
St. Mary, Alexandria	BUDGETED / PRESUPUESTADO	\$4,808	\$115,392
	RECEIVED / RECIBIDO	\$4,266	\$116,120
	OVER/(SHORT) SOBRE / (CORTO)	(\$542)	\$728
St. Mary, Anderson	BUDGETED / PRESUPUESTADO	\$11,110	\$266,640
	RECEIVED / RECIBIDO	\$36,754	\$254,176
	OVER/(SHORT) SOBRE / (CORTO)	\$25,644	(\$12,464)
St. Ambrose	BUDGETED / PRESUPUESTADO	\$8,805	\$211,320
	RECEIVED / RECIBIDO	\$7,092	\$186,254
	OVER/(SHORT) SOBRE / (CORTO)	(\$1,713)	(\$25,066)



St. Mary, Alexandria

2023 Parish Goal/Meta = \$34,472
 Amount Pledged/Cantidad Prometida = \$47,260
 Amount Received/Recibido = \$37,948
 Amount Outstanding/Saldo Pendiente =
 (\$3,476 / \$9,312)



St. Ambrose

2023 Parish Goal/Meta = \$70,176
 Amount Pledged/Cantidad Prometida = \$76,988
 Amount Received/Recibido = \$71,462
 Amount Outstanding/Saldo Pendiente =
 (\$1,286/ \$5,526)



St. Mary, Anderson

2023 Parish Goal/Meta = \$79,507
 Amount Pledged/Cantidad Prometida = \$83,993
 Amount Received/Recibido = \$65,025
 Amount Outstanding/Saldo Pendiente =
 (\$14,482 / \$18,968)



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2023

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

4: 00pm Mass @ St. Mary, Anderson
 4: 30pm Mass @ St. Mary, Alexandria
 5: 30pm Mass @ St. Ambrose
 6: 30pm Mass @ St. Mary, Anderson (in Spanish)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

Midnight Mass @ St. Mary, Anderson
 9: 00am Mass @ St. Mary, Alexandria
 9: 00am Mass @ St. Ambrose



HORARIO DE LAS MISAS DE NOCHE BUENA Y NAVIDAD 2023

DOMINGO, DICIEMBRE 24 - NOCHE BUENA

4: 00pm Misa @ St. Mary, Anderson
 4: 30pm Misa @ St. Mary, Alexandria
 5: 30pm Misa @ St. Ambrose
 6: 30pm Misa @ St. Mary, Anderson (en español)

LUNES, DICIEMBRE 25 - DÍA DE NAVIDAD

Misa a Medianoche @ St. Mary, Anderson
 9: 00am Misa @ St. Mary, Alexandria
 9: 00am Misa @ St. Ambrose



**ALL PARISH OFFICES WILL BE
CLOSED DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 1.
WE WILL REOPEN JANUARY 2ND.**

**TODAS LAS OFICINAS PARROQUIALES
ESTARÁN CERRADAS DEL 23 DE
DICIEMBRE AL 1 DE ENERO.
REABRIREMOS EL 2 DE ENERO.**

HOLIDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES

Bulletin announcements are usually due each week by noon on Mondays for the upcoming weekend. Because of the Holidays the deadlines are as follows for the upcoming bulletins:



All announcements for the **December 31st** bulletin must be submitted by **NOON on Wednesday, December 20th.**



All announcements for the **January 7th** bulletin must be submitted by **NOON on Wednesday, December 27th.**

TEXTS AND EMAILS FROM FATHER TOM

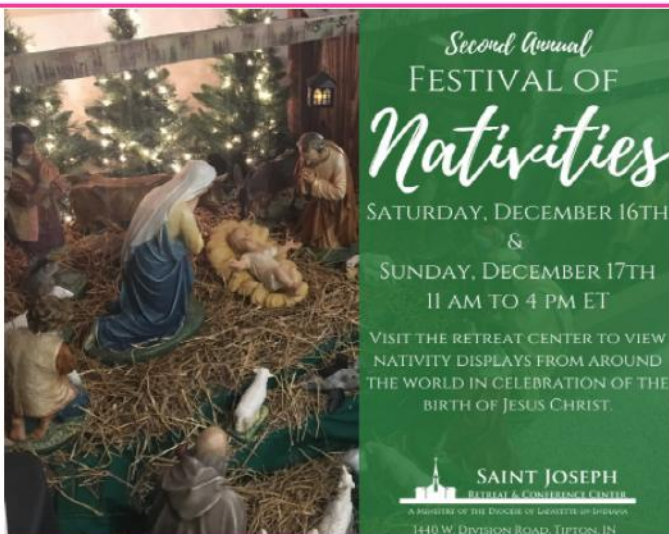
If you receive a text or an email claiming to be from Fr. Tom, making a general request for help, **DO NOT RESPOND**. Block that number/email on your devices. These messages are not from Fr. Tom's phone or email account. If in doubt, call the parish office or send an email to Fr. Tom's correct email address, which is posted on the parish website. **DO NOT RESPOND TO THESE EMAILS AND TEXTS.**



TEXTOS Y CORREOS

ELECTRÓNICOS DEL PADRE TOM

Si recibe un mensaje de texto o un correo electrónico que dice ser del P. Tom, haciendo una solicitud general de ayuda, **NO RESPONDA**. Bloquee ese número o correo electrónico en sus dispositivos. Estos mensajes no son del P. El teléfono o la cuenta de correo electrónico de Tom. En caso de duda, llame a la oficina parroquial o envíe un correo electrónico al P. La dirección de correo electrónico correcta de Tom, que está publicada en el sitio web de la parroquia. **NO RESPONDA A ESTOS CORREOS ELECTRÓNICOS Y TEXTOS.**



PASTORATE NEWS / NOTICIAS DEL PASTORADO

LAS POSADAS—A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The roots of Las Posadas stretch deeply into Latin culture. It originated in Spain, but it's been a yearly celebration throughout Mexico and central America for over 400 years. The tradition commemorates Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a warm place to stay the night. (Posadas is Spanish for "lodgings" or "accommodations.")

In preparation for the birth of Jesus, we would like to invite everyone to join us in the celebration of Las Posadas December 16-24.



December 16-20 @ 6:30pm

December 21 @ 7:45pm

December 22-23 @ 6:30pm

December 24 @ 5:30pm

St. Mary Church, Anderson - Basement



LAS POSADAS

"Las raíces de Las Posadas se extienden profundamente en la cultura latina. Originaria de España, ha sido una celebración anual en México y América Central durante más de 400 años. La tradición conmemora el difícil viaje de María y José desde Nazaret hasta Belén en busca de un lugar cálido para pasar la noche.

En preparación para el nacimiento de Jesús, nos gustaría invitar a todos a unirse a nosotros en la celebración de Las Posadas del 16 al 24 de diciembre.



Diciembre 16-20 @ 6:30pm

Diciembre 21 @ 7:45pm

Diciembre 22-23 @ 6:30pm

Diciembre 24 @ 5:30pm

St. Mary Church, Anderson - el Sótano



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL NEWS / NOTICIAS DE LA ESCUELA HOLY CROSS

Holy Cross School would like to recognize these **Virtues in Practice** recipients from November. These students modeled the Virtue of Humility (accepting your limitations and God-given talents):

Karson Kay, Preschool, nominated by Mrs. Brinson:

"Karson is always humble and says thank you sweetly to anyone who helps him or gives him something (like a worksheet or snack)"

DeVaun Harris, Grade 4, nominated by Mrs. Brown:

"DeVaun Harris does a great job of recognizing not only his own gifts, but the gifts of others. He is quick to encourage others and allow others to use their strengths in our classroom"

Ailin Rodriguez Rodriguez, Grade 6, nominated by Mrs. Reed:

"I asked the students to nominate each other for Humility. Her classmate said, 'She knows what she's good at and what she's not and it doesn't bother her. She also thinks more about others than herself. For example, whenever someone pushes into her, she always asks, 'Are you okay' even if she's the one who got pushed into.' I see these qualities in Ailin, too. She seems to be very aware of how others are doing and knows her strengths, but is not boastful"

In December, our school will focus on the Virtue of Patience (waiting or enduring without complaint).



PARISH NEWS / NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES—ST. MARY, ALEXANDRIA



ANGEL TREE

Please be sure to return your gifts with tags attached, to under the tree by this Sunday, Dec. 17. Thanks for your love for our school families in need and nursing home elders. If you were unable to return your gift, please call the parish office immediately so we can replace the item.



PULPIT APPEAL UPDATE

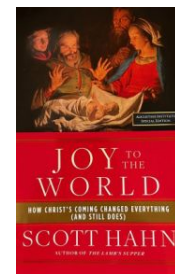
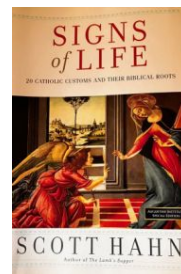
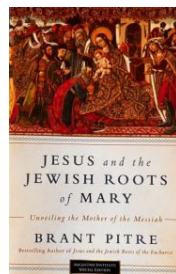
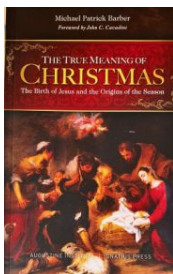
GOAL: \$335,000
AMOUNT RECEIVED AS OF 12/11/2023

TOTAL: \$149,494.87
PERCENTAGE TO GOAL: 45%

NEW MATERIAL IN THE LENDING LIBRARY

Check out the following new materials in the parish lending library at St. Mary, Alexandria. If parents and grandparents are looking for faith-based book ideas for Christmas, free copies of a list are available in the Narthex children's book area.

New materials also available for purchase in the kiosk.



DAUGHTERS OF MARY—NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

The Daughters of Mary are not meeting in December. We hope you will join us in the new year for our January meeting! Have a Blessed Christmas and New Year!



ST. JOSEPH'S HELPERS

The St. Joseph's Helpers invites all men 18 and over to join them Thursday, December 21 at 6pm in Zimmer Hall.

PARISH NEWS / NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES—ST. AMBROSE & ST. MARY, ANDERSON

MIDNIGHT MASS CHOIR

The Christmas midnight Mass in honor of Zach Novak will be at St. Mary's this year. We would like to have a combined choir for this Mass, including singers from St. Ambrose & St. Mary's in Anderson. Practice is scheduled at 9:45am in the St. Mary's annex on Sunday: December 17. We will also practice at 11 pm on Christmas Eve. You don't have to be a cantor to come sing for this choir!!





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