

DIOCESE OF AMARILLO  
Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic  
Church  
10th & Maddox  
P. O. Box 503  
Dumas, Texas 79029  
Office: 806-935-5002  
Fax: 806-934-3382  
Parish Hall: 806-934-4882

Fr. Gabriel Garcia Pastor

Office Staff:  
Carol Valdez  
Mary Swartz

Custodian/Janitor:  
Manuel Velasco  
Martina Sandoval

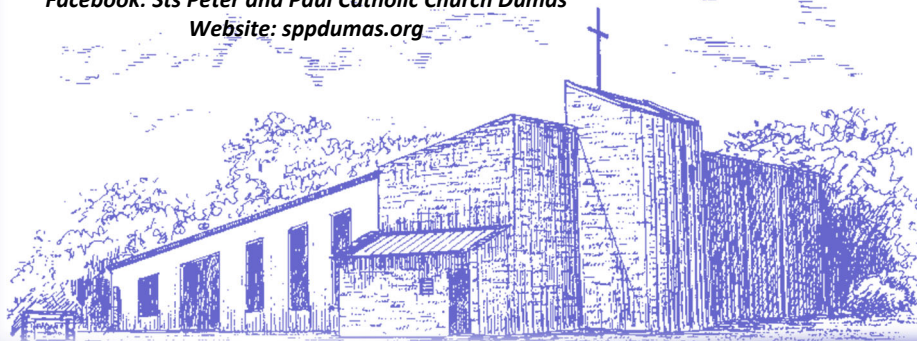
Finally, all of you, be of  
one mind, sympathetic,  
loving toward one  
another, compassionate,  
humble.

Tengan todo unos  
mismos sentimientos,  
sean compasivos, ámense  
como hermanos, sean  
misericordiosos y  
humildes.  
1 Peter 3:8

And let the peace of  
Christ control your  
hearts, the peace into  
which you were also  
called in one body. And  
be thankful.

Que la paz de Cristo  
reine en sus corazones:  
esa paz a la que han sido  
llamados, porque  
formamos un solo  
Cuerpo  
1 Col 3:15

**Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church**  
**10th and Maddox**  
**Parroquia Católica de San Pedro y San Pablo**  
**Email: [stspeterandpaul@hotmail.com](mailto:stspeterandpaul@hotmail.com)**  
**Facebook: Sts Peter and Paul Catholic Church Dumas**  
**Website: [sppdumas.org](http://sppdumas.org)**



Welcome to Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church. It is our hope that you feel at home and among friends here. If you are a visitor for a day, we pray God's speed on your journey. If you are looking for a parish community, we would be delighted to welcome you into our parish family. Please introduce yourselves. To register in our parish, please contact our office located to the north of our church building or call 935-5002.

Bienvenido a la Iglesia de San Pedro y San Pablo. Es nuestra esperanza que usted se sienta como en casa y entre amigos. Si esta aquí de vista por un día oramos a Dios que bendiga su viaje. Si usted esta buscando una comunidad parroquial estaríamos encantados de darle la bienvenida a nuestra familia parroquial. Por favor preséntese. Para registrarse en nuestra parroquia, por favor póngase en contacto con nuestra oficina ubicada al norte de la iglesia o llame al 935-5002.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**December 24, 2017**  
**The child to be born will be called holy,**  
**the Son of God.**  
**--Luke 1:35**

**Cuarto Domingo de Adviento**  
**24 de diciembre de 2017**  
**El Santo, que va a nacer de ti,**  
**será llamado Hijo de Dios.**  
**--Lucas 1:35**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN**

K-5: Sunday, 9:45-11:00 AM  
 6-8: Wednesday, 6:15-8:30 PM  
 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION For those children who did not prepare for or have not received sacraments as scheduled in our parish:  
 9-12: Sunday, 9:45-11:00  
 2-6: Monday, 6:00-7:15 PM  
 7-8: Wednesday, 6:15-8:30 PM

**BAPTISM** Parents must come to the parish office for information

**MARRIAGE** Couples must contact a priest at least 6 months before the proposed wedding date and couples of child bearing age must attend the Marriage Preparation and Natural Family Planning courses as offered and required by the diocese.

In the event of a death, please contact the parish office or priest, as soon as possible

**DOCTRINA PARA NIÑOS**

Grados K-5, domingo, 9:45-11:00 AM  
 Grados 6 – 8, miércoles, 6:15-8:30 PM

**PREPARACION DE LOS SACRAMENTOS**

Para los niños/niñas que no están preparados o que no han recibido los sacramentos como está programado en nuestra parroquia.

Grados 9-12: domingo, 9:45-11:00 AM  
 Grados 2-6 : lunes 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM,  
 Grados 7-8: miércoles 6:15-8:30 PM

**PREPARACION PREBAUTISMAL** Por favor llame a la oficina , 935-5002

**MATRIMONIO** Por favor llame al párroco seis meses antes de poner la fecha de la boda.

Cuando un ser querido fallezca favor de llamar a la oficina parroquial

**Knights of Columbus Council 5061 2015-2016 Officers**

- Grand Knight.....Miguel Nevarez
- Deputy Grand Knight.....Ron Pray
- Recorder.....Gilbert Salinas
- Financial Secretary.....Jim Elzner
- Treasurer.....Edwin Wilhelm
- Chancellor.....Johnny Mendoza
- Lecturer..... Jose Barraza
- Chaplain.....Father Gabriel Garcia
- Advocate..... Mark Hatley
- Warden.....Fernando Guevara
- Inside Guard.....Eloy Gomez
- Outside Guard.....Isaac Gomez
- Trustee 3.....Coby Schacher
- Trustee 2..... Ricky DeLaRosa
- Trustee 1.....David Guevara

If you have any questions regarding the Knights of Columbus, please ask any Knight.

**Ministries**

- Communion to the Sick and Homebound.....Doug Pack & Herb Wethington
- Comunion a Enfermos.....Esperanza Barraza, Cruz Vasquez, Adela Mendoza
- Jail Ministry.....
- Prison Ministry.....
- Finance Council/Consejo de Finanzas.....Joe Rahija.....934-2485
- Pastoral Council/Consejo de Pastor.....
- Director of Religious Education.....Ofelia Garbalena.....570-9656
- Adult RCIA.....Lisa Hatley.....930-8737
- Altar servers/servidores del altar.....Ricky DeLaRosa.....935-9071
- Lectors/communion ministers.....Lisa Hatley English.....930-8737
- Martha Sandoval Espanol.....717-3403
- Caring hearts.....Dora Reyna.....935-3620
- Youth Group/jovenes.....Sue Stout/Dorothy Schwertner, Leticia Borunda
- Cursillistas.....Marcos Marquez.....930-9635
- Marriage Prep.....Miguel & Carol Nevarez.....
- Choice Wine (Marriage Enrichment).....Miguel & Carol.....
- Vocations Ministry.....
- Food Pantry.....Joyce Wethington
- Hospitality.....Joyce Wethington
- Hospital Ministry.....

**Schedule of Masses/Horario de Misas**

**Daily Mass/Misa de la Semana:** Tuesday/martes;  
 Spanish/Español: 6:00 PM  
 Wednesday/miércoles; English/Inglés: **6:15 PM**  
 Thursday/jueves; English/Inglés: 7:30 AM  
 Friday/viernes; English/Inglés 7:30 AM

**Weekend Masses/Misa de fin de Semana:**

Saturday/sabado English/Inglés 5:00 PM  
 Sunday/domingo English/Inglés 8:30 AM  
 Sunday/domingo Spanish/Español 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM  
 Confession/Confesión: Saturday/sabado 4:00-4:45 PM  
 Eucharistic Adoration/Adoración Eucarística: Thursday/  
 jueves 8:00 AM-6:45 PM

**Quinceañeras:**

Debe llamar por lo menos 6-8 meses antes.

Los requisitos son: Asistir a una misa regularmente los domingos, asistir a clases de formación religiosa y catecismo antes de la Celebración. Deben tener todos los sacramentos: Bautizo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación estar asistiendo grupo de jóvenes y asistir platicas de Quinceañera y el retiro. Call at least 6-8 months in advance. Expectations are: regular attendance at Sunday Mass, faith formation classes and appropriate catechesis before celebration.. The young lady should be baptized, have received Communion and been Confirmed. There are classes and a retreat that must be attended before the celebration.

**Finance Council Members:**

Joe Rahija    Becky Gomez  
 Arnie Stork

**Parish Council Members:**

Joyce Wethington    Stella Tan  
 Jim Elzner    Carol Nevarez    Lisa Hatley



**EVENTS**

**Tuesday**

**Rosary:**  
 5:10 PM English  
**Parish Council:**  
 6:45 PM Third Tuesday  
 Parish Office  
**Cursillistas:**  
 7:00 PM Salón

**Wednesday**

**Rosario:**  
 7:30 PM Español Cambio  
 de ubicación  
**Holy Hour for Vocations:**  
 7:00 PM One Wed. a  
 month

**Thursday**

**Finance Council:**  
 Second Thursday  
 6:00 PM Office  
  
**Grupo de Oración**  
 7:00 PM Salon

**Friday**

**Rosario:**  
 2:30 PM Español Iglesia

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] During the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]  
 Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18  
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40  
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128: 1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

**LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA**

Lunes: Vigilia: Is 62:1-5; Sal 89 (88):4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Hch 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Noche: Is 9:1-6; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 11-13; Tit 2:11-14; Lc 2:1-14 Aurora: Is 62:11-12; Sal 97 (96):1, 6, 11-12; Tit 3:4-7; Lc 2:15-20 Día: Is 52:7-10; Sal 98 (97):1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]  
 Martes: Hch 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Sal 31 (30):3cd-9; Mt 10:17-22  
 Miércoles: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Sal 97 (96):1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
 Jueves: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Sal 124 (123):2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18  
 Viernes: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 5b-6; Lc 2:22-35  
 Sábado: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Sal 96 (95):7-10; Lc 2:36-40  
 Domingo: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 o Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Sal 128 (127):1-5 o Sal 105 (104):1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] o Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lc 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]



"A boy — a bishop once told me — a young person, a young professional said to him: "I would like to become a priest, but only for 10 years". The temporary is like this. We are afraid of what is permanent. And to choose a vocation, any vocation, also those vocational "states": marriage, consecrated life, the priesthood, we must choose with a permanent outlook for life. And this is contrary to the culture of the temporary. It is a part of the culture which we are living today, and we must live it and overcome it."

~~Pope Francis

**GOD'S PROMISE**

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given--so different from what we ever could have imagined.  
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**LA PROMESA DE DIOS**

El largo pasaje de Samuel expone de manera maravillosa la promesa de Dios a la dinastía de David: que su trono siempre estaría ocupado gloriosamente por sus descendientes. Oculta en el misterio de la profecía está la promesa del Salvador, el Mesías, Hijo de Dios e Hijo de David. El profeta Natán, quien habla en nombre de Dios, desbarata poéticamente el plan de David de construir una casa para Dios y anuncia que el plan de Dios es construir una "casa", una dinastía, para David. De esta dinastía de David provendrá el Mesías, el Cristo, quien no llegará con el esplendor majestuoso con el que reinó David, sino que vendrá como un hombre humilde, que gobernará por los siglos de los siglos. Cuando Dios hace un regalo; lo que recibimos es asombroso: es muy distinto a lo que podríamos haber imaginado.  
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Rhodes Architects		High Plains Builders		Expenses to date	Current Balance	Building Fund
Fees	\$119,000.00	Invoice #1	\$275,850.00	\$732,561.00	Dec. 14,2017	\$560,016.25
		Invoice #2	\$208,860.00			
		Invoice #3	\$128,851.00			
		Invoice #4	Pending approval			

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 Monday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)  
 Tuesday: St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins  
 Wednesday: St. John  
 Thursday: The Holy Innocents  
 Friday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket  
 Saturday: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

**LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES**

Domingo: Cuarto Domingo de Adviento  
 Lunes: La Natividad del Señor  
 Martes: San Esteban; Kwanza  
 Miércoles: San Juan apóstol  
 Jueves: Los Santos Inocentes  
 Viernes: Quinto día de la Octava de Navidad; Santo Tomás Becket  
 Sábado: Sexto día de la Octava de Navidad

Dec. 30th 5:00 PM Lectors: Justin Hill & Kalina Hill Communion Ministers: Mark Hatley, Lisa Hatley, Henry Perez	<b>Dec. 31st 6:00 PM</b> Lectors: Kevin Easterling & Nora Guerrero Communion Ministers: Kevin, Ann & Rachel Easterling, Doug & Sharon Pack	<b>Jan. 1st 11:00 AM</b> Volunteer  Bilingual/Bilingüe	<b>Jan. 6th 5:00 PM</b> Lectors: Curtis Schwertner & Dorothy Schwertner Communion Ministers: Jamie Schacher, Henry Perez, Susan Herrera	<b>Jan. 7th 8:30 AM</b> Lectors: Elizabeth Noggler, Kelly Gerber Communion Ministers: Miguel Nevarez, Carol Nevarez, Mary Pena, Chris Gerber, Kelly Gerber
<b>31 de dic. 11:00 PM</b> Lector: Daisy Villa & Teresa Piñon Ministro: Martha Lopez, Silvia Garcia, Hugo Morales, Voluntarios	<b>31 de dic 8:00 PM</b> Lectores: Irene Reyes and Sara Vega Ministros: Amanda Garcia, Cruz E. Vasquez, Jose Garcia, Lizette Hernandez, Martha Sandval	<b>1 de enero 11:00 AM</b> Lectores: Teresa Piñon Ministros: Adela Mendoza and Martha Lopez	<b>7 de enero 11:00 AM</b> Lectores: Syma Mendoza, Martha Lopez Ministros: Norma Muñoz, Adela Mendoza, Maria Avila Voluntarios	<b>7 de enero 1:00 PM</b> Lectores: Perla Sanchez, Jesus Mendoza Ministros: Inocencia Mendoza, Guadalupe Garcia, Rosa Garcia, Amanda Garcia, Martha Sandoval

Mass Intentions			December 25th-January 7th		
<b>Dec. 25</b>	11:00 AM	Our Parish			
<b>lunes</b>					
<b>Dec. 30</b>	5:00 PM	✠Jesus Chavez			
<b>Saturday</b>		Req. Family Chavez			
<b>31 de dic.</b>	11:00 PM	✠Manuel Salas			
<b>domingo</b>		Req. Jose Salas			
<b>Dec. 31</b>	6:00 PM	Vocations			
<b>Sunday</b>					
<b>31 de dic</b>	8:00 PM	✠Simplicio Arballo y ✠Amparo Granillo			
<b>domingo</b>		Req. Amanda Garcia			
<b>Jan. 1</b>	11:00 AM	Our Parish			
<b>Monday</b>					
<b>2 de enero</b>	6:00 PM				
<b>martes</b>					
<b>Jan 3</b>	6:00 PM	✠Pete Elzner			
<b>Wednesday</b>		Req. Jim & Brenda			
<b>Jan 6</b>	5:00 PM	✠John Garcia			
<b>Saturday</b>		Req. Tony & Efnita Garcia			
<b>Jan 7</b>	8:30 AM	✠Filemon Franco			
<b>Sunday</b>		Req. Castillo Family			
<b>7 de enero</b>	11:00 AM	✠Maximiano Villa Vicencio			
<b>domingo</b>		Req. Su Hija			
<b>7 de enero</b>	1:00 PM	✠Nora Patricia Villalobos Olivas			
<b>domingo</b>		Req. Adan Villalobos			

**Weekend Collection: \$8597.76**

**Diocesan Collection: \$1410.01**

**Building Fund: \$552.00**

Remember, collection amounts for the next two weekends and the Holy Days will be in the January 7th bulletin. Thank you for your patience.

#### Birthdays/Cumpleaños

**Dec. 25th:** Miguel Balderrama, Maria de Jesus Chavez, Andrea Fierro, Edwin Galicia, Ashley Gonzalez, Branton Hatley, Elvira Herrera, Damian Rivera, Manuela Saldaña

**Dec. 26th:** Estefana Cobos, Maria Gonzalez, Ediel Jaramillo, Edwiges Valles

**Dec. 27th:** Calixta Aldana, Eloy Apodaca, Pat Aragon, Elena Archibeque, Michael Artho, Bertha Heredia, Clare Hill, Joseph Hill, Roberto Jaramillo, Priscilla Quintana, Alejandra Ramirez, Erika Solis

**Dec. 28th:** Lidia Cruz, Claudia Gomez, Gerardo Hernandez, Victoria Mendoza, Margarita Ramirez

**Dec. 29th:** Chris Abalos, David Borunda, Miguel Carbajal, Amber Garcia, Javier Gonzalez, Gerardo Hernandez, Margarita Lujan, David Mendoza, Yanizel Mendoza, Alfredo Ovalle

**Dec. 30th:** Jesus Calderon, Oneida Jimenez, Jasmin Mendoza, Amancio Rodriguez, Elva Soto, Carlos Talamantes, Karla Velarde

**Dec. 31st:** Sabino Acosta, Rochelle Garcia, Yubisai Ortiz, Yesenia Valdez

#### Birthdays/Cumpleaños

**Jan. 1st:** Juan Bautista, Francisco Bueno, Tina Garcia, Ariana Jaramillo, Athiam Madat, Maria Martinez, Evelyn Omnes, Gilbert Salinas, Cing N. Zam Thang

**Jan. 2nd:** Elier Arenas, Karen Chavez, Neida Mendoza, Maria Orozco, Cody Watson

**Jan. 3rd:** Teresa Castro, Jessica Diaz, Elliot Foran, Pamela Jimenez, Gael Mendoza, Veronica Mercado

**Jan. 4th:** Sandra Aguinaga, Emilio A. Baca, Jesus Eduardo Esqueda, Rebeca Gomez, Lisa Hatley, Sandra Luz Hernandez, Jaqueline Mendoza, Francisco Ortiz, Leonardo Reyes

**Jan. 5th:** Ezmere Avila, Manuel Estrada, Maria Fuentes, Ana Lilia Hernandez, Monica Khup Khun Do, Leyla Martinez, Lucas Martinez, Oscar Melendez

**Jan. 6th:** Ethan Foran, Angel Gonzalez, Oscar Prieto, Geronimo Rivera

**Jan. 7th:** Ana Karina Bonilla, Lilliana Carrasco, Anahi Chacon, Luciano Gutierrez, Axcel Loya, Maryann Monzalvo

**Please note:** There will be no daily Mass the week between Christmas and New Years. This bulletin will cover all Mass intentions for the next two weeks. The parish office will be closed until January 2nd. We hope everyone has a safe and Blessed Christmas and New Years.

Father Gabriel, Carol and Mary

### PRAYER LINE/LINEA DE ORACIÓN

Bruno Schwertner, Esther Lerma, Kayla Harkrider, Dorothy Harkrider, Esperanza Rueda Solis, Tony and Efnita Garcia, Linda Paetzold, Jude & Jake Hannemann, Jessie Frausto, Roger Dunn, Inocente Leyva, Keith Good, Joel Huerta, Jose Huerta, Adan Reyes, Lee Sheppard, Joe Beauchamp, Hilario Loya, Adelina Catano, Irma Madrid, Maria Rivera, Amalia Velasco, Jayden Nevarez, Leon Ramirez, Bo Bohannon, David Fetsch, Imelda Quintana, Gabriel Ramirez, Beatriz Ramos, Ty and Nicole Williams, Steve Gauna, Diana Marquez, Gustavo Pena, Socorro Pena, Shasta Espinoza, Sister Dolorene Lopez, Arthur Bohannon, Adelaida Sanchez, Irene Huseman, Mark Humphrey, Willie Weick, Georgette Perez, Martina Marquez, Familia DelaLuz-Hernandez, Bernice Schwertner, Christina Miguel, Efren Lopez, Elizabeth Ragon, Michael Hester, Victor Gonzalez, Larry Garcia, Carlos Herrera, Joe Rahija Sr., Maria Concepcion Ibarra, Roberto Bernal, Luz Lerma, Ofelia Gomez.

*We know everyone needs prayers and there are many, many people suffering from illnesses. We will keep your family member/friends on the prayer list for 3 months. If after 3 months your family member is still in need of healing prayers, please call for an additional 3 months. You can either call Mary at 935-5002 or email stspeterandpaul@hotmail.com Thanks!*

***On January 1st we will start over on this list, if there is someone who needs to remain on here please contact us before then.***

Our Brick Campaign has begun. If you would be interested in purchasing a brick with your name, your family name, the names of your children, the name of a deceased loved one or even a date that celebrates sacrament reception (i.e. baptism, marriage, etc.) they are \$500.00 each and all profit from this goes directly to our building fund. We are quickly using up the funds we had gathered to begin the project and soon we will be working to pay off debt. Our bricks are a wonderful way to show future generations that we wanted to provide a place for them to celebrate, learn, worship, and gather. The bricks will be placed in the entry way hall by the south doors of our new building. They will be there for many years to come to show the hard work and dedication of our current parish family in providing for future generations. You can purchase one anytime at the office, make payments until the total is reached or fundraise until the total is reached. Stop by the office/contact Brenda Elzner or visit [www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/sppdumas](http://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/sppdumas) if you want to do this.



### **“YO SOY LA ESCLAVA DEL SEÑOR; CÚMPLASE EN MÍ LO QUE ME HAS DICHO”**

Los ángeles rebeldes -creaturas limitadas-, por el misterio de su soberbia y desobediencia, se perdieron de la alegría de estar con Dios en su Reino celestial. Adán y Eva tampoco supieron conservar la amistad con su Hacedor, porque le creyeron más a la astuta serpiente y quisieron determinar lo que es bueno y lo que es malo, sin tomar en cuenta al Señor.

Dios quiso contar con la participación humana en la obra de nuestra redención. Para eso, eligió a una jovencita de la pequeña ciudad de Nazaret, la Virgen María que puso toda su confianza en él, lo obedeció en todo y fue tan humilde, que se llamó a sí misma :la esclava del Señor”. Ella se convirtió, por la gracia divina, en la puerta “que dio paso a nuestra Luz”, que es Jesucristo.

La respuesta de María permite que el plan divino de salvación se abra paso. El Hijo de Dios entra en el tiempo para darnos la salvación.

**Preparémonos para recibir al rey que va a nacer, abrámosle nuestro corazón.**

### **"I AM THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD; BE IT DONE UNTO TO ME ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD "**

The rebellious angels - limited creatures -, by their own arrogance and disobedience, lost the joy of being with God in His heavenly Kingdom. Adam and Eve also did not want to follow the simple plan of their Maker, they were deceived by the devil and desired to determine what is good and what is bad, they wanted to do it all without God.

God wanted human participation in the work of our redemption. For that, he chose a young girl from the small city of Nazareth, the Virgin Mary's reaction to God was quite different, she obeyed him in everything and was so humble that she called herself: the handmaid of the Lord. " She was converted, by divine grace, into the door "that gave way to our Light", which is Jesus Christ.

Mary's response allows the divine plan of salvation to break through. The Son of God enters to give us salvation.

**Let's prepare ourselves to receive the king that is going to be born, let's open our hearts to him.**

### **LA SAGRADA FAMILIA FUE EL AMBIENTE PROPICIO PARA EL DESARROLLO DE JESÚS**

En el hogar de Nazaret, Jesús “iba creciendo y fortaleciéndose, se llenaba de sabiduría y la gracia de Dios estaba con él”, bajo los cuidados amorosos de sus padres.

La Sagrada Familia es el modelo de toda familia: un niño necesita ser acompañado por sus padres, que se le hable de Dios y se le acerque a él.

En su Encíclica *Lumen fidei*, n. 53 Papa Francisco dice: “es importante que los padres cultiven prácticas comunes de fe en la familia, que acompañen el crecimiento en la fe de los hijos. Sobre todo los jóvenes, que atraviesan una edad tan compleja, rica e importante para la fe, deber sentir la cercanía y la atención de la familia y de la comunidad eclesial en su camino de crecimiento en la fe.”

### **THE HOLY FAMILY WAS A LOVING AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR JESUS**

In the home of Nazareth, Jesus "was growing and strengthening, he was filled with wisdom and the grace of God was with him", under the loving care of his parents. The Holy Family is the model of every family: a child needs to be guided by his parents, to be talked to about God and to grow in their relationship with him. In his encyclical *Lumen fidei*, n. 53 Pope Francis says: "It is important that parents cultivate common practices of faith in the family, that accompany the growth in the faith of the children. Above all young people, who are going through such a complex, rich and important age for their faith, should feel the closeness and attention of the family and the ecclesial community in their journey of growth in the faith."

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the Christkind in Austria and Belgium, El Niño Jesús in Columbia, and Le Petit Jesus in France, where he shares his duties with Père Noël. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but Ješek, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

### TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

De las muchas tradiciones latinoamericanas para celebrar el Adviento y la Navidad, las Posadas parecen ser lo mejor conocido en EE. UU. Tienen su origen en la última mitad del siglo XVIII cuando las estrepitosas Misas de Aguinaldo dejaron de ser celebradas en México. Para remplazar la festividad de esas Misas, los laicos decidieron celebrar en sus casas tomando lo que habían visto dramatizado en los templos, esto es, el recorrido de José y María mientras buscaban posada en Belén. Como las "Antífonas de la O" de la liturgia oficial cristiana, estas Posadas llegaron a ser celebradas nueve noches consecutivas.

200 años después, muchos latinos continúan celebrando las Posadas en EE. UU. Recuerdo como de niño cantábamos "En el nombre del cielo" recorriendo las calles del barrio hasta llegar a la casa donde nos abrirían con cantos, tamales, galletitas y chocolate. Ese recorrido de José y María lamentablemente sigue todos los días en los pasos temerosos y cansados de tantos inmigrantes en este país. Como la Sagrada Familia, otras familias latinoamericanas continúan buscando hospedaje con la esperanza de dar a luz una nueva vida para sus hijos e hijas.

--Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

### INDISCUTIBLEMENTE NO HAY NAVIDAD SIN JESÚS

Así de sencillo. Porque la misma palabra Navidad —Navidad— quiere decir nacimiento.

- Quienes no celebran que Jesús nació, ya no dicen "Feliz Navidad", prefieren hablar de "Felices fiestas".
- Lo importante de la Navidad no son la cena, los adornos, los regalos, la pachanga, los cohetes ni los cuetes. Tan es así, que podríamos prescindir de todo eso.
- Lo verdaderamente importante es el cumpleaños de Jesús.

El Papa Francisco dijo

**"Hoy ha nacido el Hijo de Dios: todo cambia. El Salvador del mundo viene a compartir nuestra naturaleza humana, no estamos ya solos ni abandonados...."**

**Este es el motive del gozo y la alegría: este Niño 'ha nacido para nosotros', 'se nos ha dado', como anuncia Isaías".**

### THERE IS NO CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JESUS

Pope Francis said :

"Today the Son of God is born: everything changes. The Savior of the world comes to share our human nature, we are not alone or abandoned ...."

**This is the cause or our joy: this Child 'has been born to us', 'a son is given us', as Isaiah announces "**

Happy Anniversary

Feliz Aniversario

Mark and Lisa Hatley, Arnold and Pam Stork, Eduwiges and Marie Hermosillo, Francisco and Maria Rivera, Amy and Anthony Garica, Eduwiges and Moncerrat Marquez.



**Faith Formation course on "Prayer"** for all catechists and assistants as well as any one else who would like to attend will be:

February 3rd, from 9:30 AM-12:30 PM in our parish hall

Saturday, May 5th:

**First Communion**

10:00 AM & 12:00 PM

Both Masses will be in English

(Please get this on your calendar now)



**Attention all adults who somehow missed out on the sacrament of**

**Confirmation:** Adult Confirmation will be April 7th, 10:00 AM at St.

Mary's Cathedral. There are four classes to be offered here at our parish that candidates must attend (dates to be announced soon) as well as a mandatory retreat at St. Mary's Cathedral on March 24th.

Registration begins at 9:15 AM. You must have the form completed by the catechist and signed by Father as well as a copy of your baptismal certificate to attend the retreat. Please stop by the office and sign up so that we can determine how many from our parish will be going. Remember that if married, you must be married in the church and in a state of grace to receive the sacrament

# Merry Christmas!!!

# What's Happening???

## Christmas Schedule

**Saturday, December 23rd:** 5:00 PM Mass (English)  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Domingo 24 de diciembre:** 11:00 AM Misa (español)  
Cuarto Domingo de Adviento

**Sunday, December 24th:** 6:00 PM Mass (English)  
Vigil Mass for Christmas

**Domingo 24 de diciembre:** 8:00 PM (español)  
Vigilia de Navidad

**Monday, December 25th:** 11:00 AM Mass/Misa (Bilingual)  
Christmas Day Mass/Misa de Navidad

## New Year Schedule

**Saturday, December 30th:** Mass 5:00 PM (English)  
*Feast of the Holy Family*

**Domingo, 31 de diciembre:** 11:00 AM Misa (español)  
Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia

**Sunday, December 31st:** Mass 6:00 PM  
Solemnity of the Blessed Mother

**Domingo, 31 de diciembre:** 8:00 PM Misa (español)  
Solemnidad de Santa María, Madre de Dios

**Monday January 1st:** 11:00 AM Mass/Misa (Bilingual)  
Solemnity of the Blessed Mother

Faith Formation resumes:

**January 7th** for our Sunday classes.

**January 8th** for the Monday classes.

**January 10th** for the Wednesday students.

Parents: At 7:45 AM on Wednesdays at both the intermediate school and the junior high school there will be a gathering of students to pray a short prayer for their own well being and that of our community. Please encourage your child to attend. It is a short prayer and will be led by the students themselves. All students are welcome to come and pray at the flag pole.

Due to the fact that our phone lines are so poor in the parish office we have bypassed some of them and went to cordless phones. It is great because you can hear us now and we can hear you. However by doing this, we are no longer able to answer "line 2". If you should happen to call when we are already on the phone, even if we hang up in time we still cannot answer you. Please know that if we have not answered after 5 or 6 rings, it will be necessary for you to hang up and call a few minutes later. When we get in the new building we should not have any issues, we appreciate your patience.



## 4th Sunday of Advent

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.

Derrama, Señor, tu gracia sobre nosotros, que hemos conocido por el anuncio del ángel la encarnación de tu Hijo, para que lleguemos, por su pasión y su cruz, a la Gloria de la resurrección.



## Feast of the Holy Family

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.

Señor y Dios nuestro, tú que nos has dado en la Sagrada Familia de tu Hijo, el modelo perfecto para nuestras familias, concédenos practicar sus virtudes domésticas y estar unidos por los lazos de tu amor, para que podamos ir a gozar con ella eternamente de la alegría de tu casa.

Christmas Flower Donations:

Francisco and Graviela Grimaldo, Eunice and Zamora Hernandez, Robert and Grace Reznik, Willie and Mildred Wieck, Curtis and Dorothy Schwertner, Kevin and Ann Easterling, Joe and Penny Beauchamp, and Mark and Lisa Hatley

## Pope Francis' prayer intentions for JANUARY

Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.