





## SAINT MARY MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1143 WEST MACCLENNY AVE, MACCLENNY, FL 32063 ☎(904)643-1623

STMARYCHURCHMACCLENNY@GMAIL.COM ✉ STMARYMACCLENNY.ORG



**LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI, LEX VIVENDI (THE LAW OF PRAYER, THE LAW OF BELIEF, THE LAW OF LIVING)**

*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

MAR. 01 ✓ SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ✓ GEN. 12:1—4a ✓ PS. 33:4—5, 18—19, 20, 22 ✓ 2 TIM. 1:8b—10 ✓ MT. 17:1—9

**THE CHURCH DEDICATES THE MONTH OF MARCH TO ST. JOSEPH, THE PATRON SAINT OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH**

**THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT: PLEASE COME TO PRAY THE HOLY MASS AT 5:30 PM**

**ON ALL FRIDAYS DURING LENT AND THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 6 PM**

**LENTEN PENANCE AND CONFESSION: MONDAY, MARCH 23 AT 6 PM**

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS' LENTEN FISH FRY: FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026**

**LENT SEASON SOUP & SESSIONS: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, FOLLOWING OUR 5:30 PM HOLY MASS**

**TOPIC: THE ANCIENT CHRISTIAN AUTHORS KNOWN AS 'THE FATHERS OF THE CHURCH'**

**ON SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026,**

**WE ARE HONORED TO HOST BISHOP ERIK THOMAS POHLMEIER!**

**THE BISHOP WILL JOIN US TO PRAY AND OFFER THE HOLY MASS, AND TO ADMINISTER**

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION TO**

**AIDEN BRADY, TORIN BRADY, BIANCA GILSON, JONATHAN HIGGINBOTHAM, AND DYLAN NGUYEN!**

**LET US PRAY FOR OUR CANDIDATES AND CELEBRATE THEIR CONFIRMATION!**

**THE HOLY MASS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A LUNCHEON RECEPTION IN THE PARISH HALL.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND CELEBRATE!**

**WE ARE IMMENSELY GRATEFUL TO OUR DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (DRE)**

**AND TO ALL OUR CCD TEACHERS FOR THEIR DEDICATION IN PREPARING THESE CANDIDATES!**

*"True repentance is to cease from sin!" - Saint Ambrose of Milan*

**THE POPE'S MARCH PRAYER INTENTION: FOR DISARMAMENT, PARTICULARLY NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, AND PEACE**



Donations for flowers are greatly appreciated! Kindly sign up for any available weekend you want in the note book in the hallway, and give \$70-75 (CASH), in the envelope provided, to Linda Voeltz shortly before your designated dates. Thank you!!

**BASIC MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00** ↓

**LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

IN CHURCH \$ 2,459 & ONLINE \$ 505

**TOTAL \$ 2,964.00**



**HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000.00**

**RAISED SO FAR \$ 686,487.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 380.00 & ONLINE \$ 330.00

FROM BINGO \$ 13,513.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 799,290.00**

**BINGO: 6PM ☞ IN THE PARISH HALL ☞ FRIDAYS! WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP RUN IT. KINDLY HELP**

☞ **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY:** Contact: Trudy Hudson (904) 614-5125 trudyhudson7@gmail.com or Michelle White (904) 504-0459 mlwhite722@gmail.com ✓. <https://www.respectlife.org/prayer-guides>

☞ **HAVE YOU A PRAYER REQUEST?** Contact Ms. Susie Taylor, 9049454327. Your request will be added to the prayer-request-text-line, and our prayer team will pray for your requests!

☞ **PRAY FOR:** Beth Spreitzer, Trish Thorpe, Asia Paige, Abby Keller, Angelo Tauro, Mary Roberts, Rose Johnson, John Payne, Monte Willey, Julie, Jim & Bonnie Palleschi, Mary Baeb, Theresa Taylor, Kathy Johnson, Joan Fiore, Joanie McCarthy, Stacie Adams, Karen & Richard Dolan, Daniel Harrigan, Allan Lahoski, Ann Smith, Bob Rozumek, Christy Long, Cindy Schillig, Dawn Phillips, Diana Rumpt, Sarah Zarrella, Edward Robinson, Gladys Page, Janis Price, Jeannie Hendrix, Joanne Hodges, John Singleton, Judy Gentile, M. Akridge, Marge Keller, Marianne Glass, Mary Ford, Mary Knoche, Mifuk Huh, Pat Doyle, Paul Boehnke, Sandra Schwarz, Xavier Smith, Schaidy Parme, Diane Arwine, James Nelson, Sal Carrasquillo, Mary Pregler, John Norton, Alex Robinson.

☞ **JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM:** CONTACT MS. KAREN DOUGHERTY AT K.DOUGHERTY200@COMCAST.NET

✓ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meet on the first Sunday of the month. We encourage all men of the parish to attend. For more information, please contact Mr. Steve Hudson.

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**ADORATION ★ CHAPLET ★ ROSARY**

4:30 PM SATURDAY & 9:30 AM SUNDAY

4:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

5:00 PM SATURDAY & 10 AM SUNDAY

5:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



**FRIDAYS: ADORATION 9 AM TO 5:25 PM ☞ HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST 5:30 PM**

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION ☞ ADORATION 5:00 TO 5.45 PM & HOLY MASS 6 PM

ANONING OF THE SICK & HOLY COMMUNION: ANYTIME UPON REQUEST

CONFESSION ☞ 45 MINUTES BEFORE HOLY MASS & BY APPOINTMENT

\*

**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

**FEB. 28** *Vigil* **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

✠. MICHAEL JOHNSON

✠. KEN & ERIN GIDDENS ✠. GEORGE MARTIN

**MAR.01** **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

✠. CHRISTINA & PETER (INTENTIONS)

**MAR.02** MON. OF THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

✠. JEFFERY JAMES

**MAR.03** TUE. **ST KATHERINE DREXEL, MEMORIA**

✠. JULIA & JOEL (INTENTIONS)

**MAR.04** WED. OF THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

✠. GEORGE R. JAMES

**MAR.05** THU. OF THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

✠. JOSEPHINE & FRANCIS (INTENSIONS)

**MAR.06** FRI. OF THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

✠. BERNADETTE (INTENTIONS) ✠. CIARA NICOLE

**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

B. LANCHO, C. CRAWFORD & M. STECK

SAT. FEB. 28

H. WILLIAMS

P. DECURTINS, S. HUDSON & T. HUDSON

SUN. MAR. 01

M. CHICK & J. SMITH

K. & M. DOUGHERTY & B. PALLESCHI

SAT. MAR. 07

B. LANCHO

J. CHICK SR., C. CHICK & J. MACKAY

SUN. MAR. 08

A. MCKENDREE, D. CHICK, & M. MCKENDREE

✓. **CCD: SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS 8:45-9:45 AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELLE WHITE ☞ MLWHITE722@GMAIL.COM**

☞ ① **9045040459**

✓. **OCIA & OCIC: WEEKLY CLASSES ARE HELD ON SUNDAYS AFTER HOLY MASS FROM 11:30 AM TO 12:30 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER. CONTACT: PEG DECURTINS AT PEGDECURTINS@NEFCOM.NET**

**A JESUM PER MARIAM TO JESUS THROUGH MARY**

**ORATORY: CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

**ON WEDNESDAYS 5:15 PM-8 PM**

**HOLY MASS 5.30 PM; CONSCIENCE-CHARACTER 6.15 PM;**

**FUN ACTIVITY 6.45-7:30 PM; DINNER/REFRESHMENTS 7:35 PM**

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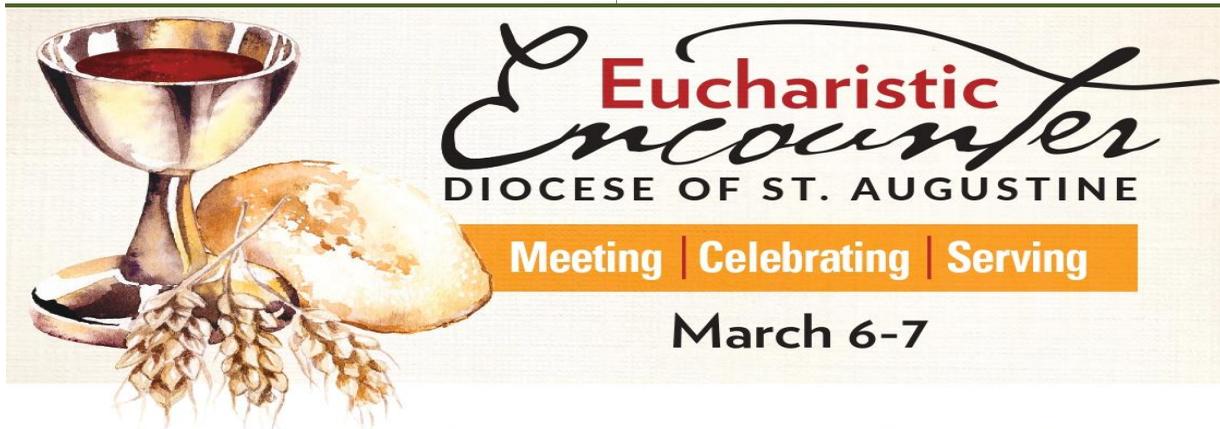
**A STUDY OF SACRED SCRIPTURE ROOTED IN CATHOLIC TRADITION**

**FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND RECENTLY GRADUATED STUDENTS**

**SUNDAYS AT 6 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**MR. MIKE MCKENDREE (904) 400-9250**



*Mark your calendars for the Diocese of St. Augustine's 2026 Eucharistic Encounter, formerly known as the Eucharistic Congress, taking place during Lent on March 6-7.*

## **FRIDAY, MARCH 6**

**Queen of Peace Catholic Church**  
10900 SW 24th Ave., Gainesville

**4 p.m.**

**Doors Open | Sacrament of Reconciliation available**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Mass with Bishop Erik Pohlmeier as the principal celebrant | Adoration after Mass**

**6:45 p.m.**

**Keynote presentation with Julianne Stanz in the church**

**8:30 p.m.**

**Spanish Track with Dr. Gerardo Salazar in the parish hall, English Track with Father Stephen Gadberry in the church**

**9:15 p.m.**

**Eucharistic Exposition & Closing Benediction in the Church**

Centered on evangelization and how the Eucharist draws us closer to Christ, the St. Joseph Catholic Church Encounter will feature keynote speaker Julianne Stanz, USCCB consultant, and Director of Evangelization and Formation for Loyola Press.



Dr. Gerardo Salazar, former director of Evangelization and Catechesis with Hispanics for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and now National Bilingual Consultant for Sadlier Religion, will lead the Spanish tracks at both locations.



Father Stephen Gadberry, known for his dynamic preaching and joyful spirit, a priest of the Diocese of Little Rock and Fellow of the Word on Fire Institute, will present in both English and Spanish.



## **SATURDAY, MARCH 7**

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
11757 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville

**7:15 a.m.**

**Doors open | Sacrament of Reconciliation available**

**8:30 a.m.**

**Mass with Bishop Erik Pohlmeier as the principal celebrant | Adoration after Mass**

**10 a.m.**

**Eucharistic Procession with parishes, ministries & lay apostolates carrying banners**

**11 a.m.**

**Keynote presentation with Julianne Stanz**

**Noon | Lunch break**

**1-3 p.m.**

**English Track with Father Stephen Gadberry & Dr. Gerardo Salazar in the church | Spanish Track with Dr. Gerardo Salazar & Father Stephen Gadberry in the Cody Center**

**3:15-3:45 p.m.**

**Eucharistic Exposition & Closing Benediction in the church**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**FOR MORE DETAILS:** eMcGeever@dosaf1.com  
(904) 262-0661



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FEB. 22 ✓ FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ✓ GEN. 2:7-9; 3:1-7 ✓ PS. 51:3-6, 12-13, 17 ✓ ROM. 5:12-19 ✓ MT. 4:1-11

**THE CHURCH DEDICATES THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY TO THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH!**

**BISHOP'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL (2026):** Last week, we had the opportunity to view a video message from Bishop Pohlmeier! This weekend is Follow-Up Weekend, offering the chance for anyone who may not have been with us last week to participate in the 2026 Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal. We invite you to prayerfully consider making a gift to the appeal, which supports essential ministries and outreach efforts throughout our diocese. If you have not yet committed, you may respond by mail using the reply card sent to your home or by giving online at [www.dosafl.com/bishopsappeal](http://www.dosafl.com/bishopsappeal). Your participation, at any amount, makes a meaningful difference across our diocese, especially in times when care, compassion, and hope are needed most.



**THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT:** PLEASE COME TO PRAY THE HOLY MASS AT 5:30 PM ON ALL FRIDAYS DURING LENT AND **THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 6 PM.**

**LENT SEASON SOUP AND SESSIONS:** FEBRUARY 25 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING OUR 5:30 PM HOLY MASS. THIS WEEK'S SPEAKER WILL BE DR. DAVID SUTTON, AN ENDOCRINOLOGIST, WHOSE PASSION OUTSIDE OF HIS WORK IS HIS STUDY OF *THE SHROUD OF TURIN*.

**OUR LENTEN PENANCE AND CONFESSION: MONDAY, MARCH 23 AT 6 PM**

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS' LENTEN FISH FRY WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026**

**THE POPE'S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION: FOR CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM INCURABLE DISEASES, AND THEIR FAMILIES**



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**BASIC MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00** ↓

**LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

IN CHURCH \$ 2,606 & ONLINE \$ 905

**TOTAL \$ 3,511.00**



**HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000.00**

**RAISED SO FAR \$ 685,847.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 585.00 & ONLINE \$ 55.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 813,513.00**

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CONFESSION ☞ 45 MINUTES BEFORE HOLY MASS & BY APPOINTMENT

\*

**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

**FEB. 21** *Vigil* **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

✠. PETER (SR.), HELENE & PAUL MACKEY

**FEB. 22** **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

✠. DARCI ADAMS

**FEB. 23** MON. OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

✠. JAMES, CLARINE & SYDNEY TIMMONS

**FEB. 24** TUE. OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

✠. BISHOP FELIPE ESTEVEZ

**FEB. 25** WED. OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

✠. BILLY & BETTY GRIMES

**FEB. 26** THU. OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

✠. DAMON FERNANDEZ ✠. JOHN KAMINSKI

**FEB. 27** FRI. OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

✠. DON STEINER

**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

K. & M. DOUGHERTY & J. MACKEY

SAT. FEB. 21

B. LANCHO

J. CHICK JR., M. MCKENDREE & M. WILLEY

SUN. FEB. 22

J. CHICK & L. CHICK

B. LANCHO, C. CRAWFORD & M. STECK

SAT. FEB. 28

H. WILLIAMS

P. DECURTINS, S. HUDSON & T. HUDSON

SUN. MAR. 01

M. CHICK & J. SMITH

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☞ 9045040459

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**A SPECIAL MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE**

A great big **THANK YOU** from Trudy Hudson, our Parish's *Respect Life Coordinator*, to the parish! She was able to raise last \$465 for First Coast Women's Services. These funds will be used to buy diapers and new-born onesies to place in their Boutique which helps mothers in need. Thank you very much!! And Trudy, thank you very much for being our *Respect Life Coordinator*!!

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**BISHOP POHLMEIER'S LETTER TO THE FAITHFUL**

On Ash Wednesday, Bishop Erik Pohlmeier wrote a letter for the faithful of the diocese. You have it shared with you along with today's bulletin. In his message, he reflects the long-range diocesan priorities. The letter is meant to help us understand where we are as a diocese, where we are going and why it matters for the life of our local Church.

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**THE PURPOSE AND PRACTICE OF LENT**

- ✠. ST. AUGUSTINE: "Do you wish your prayer to fly toward God? Make for it two wings: fasting and almsgiving."
- ✠. ST. THOMAS AQUINAS: "Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one's flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble...."
- ✠. ST. LEO THE GREAT: "The right practice of abstinence is needful not only to the mortification of the flesh but also to the purification of the mind."
- ✠. ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM: "Let us fast from passions as we fast from foods, taking pleasure in the good works of the Spirit."
- ✠. ST. ANTHONY THE HERMIT: "Whoever hammers a lump of iron, first decides what he is going to make of it... Even so we ought to make up our minds what kind of virtue we want to forge."



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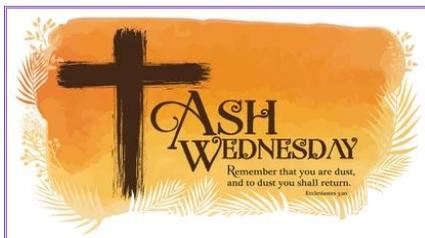
*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

FEB. 15 ✓ 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✓ SIR. 15:15-20 ✓ PS. 119: 1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 ✓ 1 COR. 2:6-10 ✓ MT. 5:17-37

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**THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL ✨ COMMITMENT WEEKEND, FEB. 14-15, 2026**

This week, we are invited by our Bishop to prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2026 Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal. Bishop Pohlmeier requests each of us to join together as a faith community in support of the mission of our local Church and the strengthening of our communities throughout the Diocese of Saint Augustine. Our giving to his appeal is an expression of gratitude for the blessings God has entrusted to us. Through giving and sharing of ourselves, we respond in faith, recognizing that all we are and all we have come from God. As we reflect on this invitation, let us seek to generously support the work of the Church and help bring the love of Christ to others.



**THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 18 WITH ASH WEDNESDAY.** Ash Wednesday & Good Friday are

obligatory days of fasting & abstinence. Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is

permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. Abstinence from meat is binding upon all members of the Church from age 14 onwards.

**WE WILL PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS 5 PM ON ASH WEDNESDAY**

**AND OFFER THE HOLY MASS AT 6 PM**

**WE WILL OFFER THE HOLY MASS ON ALL FRIDAYS DURING LENT AT 5:30 PM AS USUAL**

**AND PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6 PM**

**THE POPE'S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION: FOR CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM INCURABLE DISEASES, AND THEIR FAMILIES**



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**TOTAL \$ 3,048.00**



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**RAISED SO FAR \$ 685,482.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 335.00 & ONLINE \$ 30.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 814,153.00**

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**ADORATION ★ CHAPLET ★ ROSARY**

4:30 PM SATURDAY & 9:30 AM SUNDAY

4:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

5:00 PM SATURDAY & 10 AM SUNDAY

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**FRIDAYS: ADORATION 9 AM TO 5:25 PM ☞ HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST 5:30 PM**

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ANONING OF THE SICK & HOLY COMMUNION: ANYTIME UPON REQUEST

CONFESSION ☞ 45 MINUTES BEFORE HOLY MASS & BY APPOINTMENT

\*

**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

FEB. 14	<i>Vigil</i> <b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. HELENE, PETER (SR) & PAUL MACKEY ✠. NATE
FEB. 15	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. HELENE, PETER (SR) & PAUL MACKEY
FEB. 16	MON. OF THE SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. CHURCH IN THE U.S.A
FEB. 17	TUE. OF THE SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. JONATHAN ROJAS & LUIS GABRIEL
FEB. 18	WED. <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i>	✠. MAGGIE SANDERS
FEB. 19	THU. AFTER <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i>	✠. FOR ALL OUR OCIA AND OCIC CANDIDATES
FEB. 20	FRI. SAINTS FRANCISCO & JACINTA MARTO	✠. LEONARDO SR. ✠. JULIAMARY LEE

**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

B.LANCHO, M. STECK & B. PALLESCHI	SAT. FEB. 14	B.LANCHO
K. WHITE, J. JOHNSON & R. NICKLES	SUN. FEB. 15	M. CHICK & J. SMITH
J. & C. CHICK & J. MACKEY	WED. FEB. 18	D. CHICK & A. MCKENDREE & M. MCKENDREE
K. & M. DOUGHERTY & J. MACKEY	SAT. FEB. 21	B. LANCHO
J. CHICK JR., M. MCKENDREE & M. WILLEY	SUN. FEB. 22	J. CHICK & L. CHICK

✓. **CCD: SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS 8:45-9:45 AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELLE WHITE ☞ MLWHITE722@GMAIL.COM**  
☞ ① **9045040459**

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**A JESUM PER MARIAM TO JESUS THROUGH MARY**

**ORATORY: CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

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**FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND RECENTLY GRADUATED STUDENTS**

**SUNDAYS AT 6 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**MR. MIKE MCKENDREE (904) 400-9250**

**SOUP AND SESSIONS**

Beginning Wednesday, February 25, and for most Wednesdays during Lent we will be doing *Soup and Sessions* immediately after our 5:30 PM Holy Mass. We will serve a light supper of soup which will be followed by a guest speaker on faith topics! Groups and ministries and individuals are humbly requested to make and serve soup for the sessions. Thank you very much!!!

**THE RITE OF ENTRANCE**

Let us welcome and pray for David Bailey, Major Boyer, Brynne Canaday, Joshua Carter, Liam and Lucas Gilson, Kieran Horkan, Elenore and Olivia White, and Hayden Williams as we celebrate their *Rite of Entrance into the Catechumenate and the Welcoming of Candidates* this Sunday.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO OUR DEAR OCIA AND OCIC TEACHERS FOR YOUR SELFLESS SERVICE!!!**

**MARIAN DAY OF REFLECTION**



**MARCH 21, 2026  
HIGH SPRINGS**

SANTA FE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LA LECHE  
9AM - 1PM

For young men age 16+ who are considering priesthood - A day of reflection with Fr. Eric Stelzer and Fr. Clay Ludwig on the Shrine grounds, Holy Hour, and Mass.

Lunch will be provided



Scan the QR Code to Register or email [vocations@dosaff.com](mailto:vocations@dosaff.com)



DIocese of St Augustine

“LET US  
OFFER OURSELVES  
WHOLLY TO GOD,  
AND BEAR ABOUT  
IN OUR BODY  
THE MARKS OF  
JESUS”

**ST. GREGORY OF NAZIANZUS**

Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary



This retreat, led by our Sisters, is for young women between the ages of 16 and 35 who are interested in learning more about Religious Life in our Institute.



*Upcoming Retreats*

March 13-15 Miami, FL	May 15-17 Jacksonville, FL	Nov 20-22 Kansas City, KS Phoenix, AZ Austin, TX
March 20-22 Rapid City, SD	October 9-11 Birmingham, AL	

*Register*



for more information:  
[tralexia@piercedhearts.org](mailto:tralexia@piercedhearts.org)



Come experience the unique gift of our Marian Charism and our 4th Vow of Total Marian Identification and Availability through a retreat lived from the 4 pillars of our Spirituality: Eucharistic, Marian, Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit and in the Heart of the Church!



## SAINT MARY MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1143 WEST MACCLENNY AVE, MACCLENNY, FL 32063 ☎(904)643-1623

STMARYCHURCHMACCLENNY@GMAIL.COM ✨ STMARYMACCLENNY.ORG



**LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI, LEX VIVENDI (THE LAW OF PRAYER, THE LAW OF BELIEF, THE LAW OF LIVING)**

*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

**FEB. 08 ✓ 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✓ IS. 58:7–10 ✓ PS. 112:4–9 ✓ 1 COR. 2:1–5 ✓ MT. 5:13–16**

**THE CHURCH DEDICATES THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY TO THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH!**

**THE BISHOP'S 2026 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL IS NOW UNDERWAY.** Parishioners throughout our diocese will receive a mailing from Bishop Pohlmeier inviting their prayerful participation in this year's appeal, which supports essential ministries serving our parishes, families, and those in need. This year's theme, "Grateful to God; Generous to Others," reminds us that God is the source of all good and that everything we have is a gift. Generosity becomes a way of allowing God's blessings to flow through us to meet the needs of others. Through BASA, we join together as good stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to us, and our generosity toward others becomes a visible expression of our faith. We ask that you commit this invitation to prayer and, if your circumstances allow, come prepared to respond next weekend by completing a commitment envelope at Mass or using the giving options provided on the reply card mailed to your home. Gifts to the appeal are made in addition to regular parish support, and every gift, no matter the amount, plays an important role as the Church continues to serve in times of great need.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE DIOCESE OF ST. AUGUSTINE'S 2026 EUCHARISTIC ENCOUNTER,** formerly known as the Eucharistic Congress, taking place during Lent on March 6-7. Queen of Peace Parish will host the Friday evening events, and St. Joseph Parish will host Saturday's sessions.



**[HTTPS://DOSAF.L.COM/EVENT/EUCHARISTIC-ENCOUNTER-F-K-A-EUCHARISTIC-CONGRESS/](https://dosaf.l.com/event/eucharistic-encounter-f-k-a-eucharistic-congress/)**

**THE POPE'S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION: FOR CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM INCURABLE DISEASES, AND THEIR FAMILIES**



The flowers this weekend are donated by Peg DeCurtins. Donations for flowers are greatly appreciated! Kindly sign up for any available weekend you want in the notebook in the hallway, and give \$70-75 (CASH), in the envelope provided, to Linda Voeltz shortly before your designated dates. Thank you very much!

**BASIC MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00** ↓

**LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

IN CHURCH \$ 2,860 & ONLINE \$ 1,075

**TOTAL \$ 3,935.00**



**HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000.00**

**RAISED SO FAR \$ 685,037.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 215.00 & ONLINE \$ 230.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 814,518.00**

**BINGO: 6PM ☞ IN THE PARISH HALL ☞ FRIDAYS! WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP RUN IT. KINDLY HELP**

☞ **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY:** Contact: Trudy Hudson (904) 614-5125 trudyhudson7@gmail.com or Michelle White (904) 504-0459 mlwhite722@gmail.com ✓. <https://www.respectlife.org/prayer-guides>

☞ **HAVE YOU A PRAYER REQUEST?** Contact Ms. Susie Taylor, 9049454327. Your request will be added to the prayer-request-text-line, and our prayer team will pray for your requests!

☞ **PRAY FOR:** Beth Spreitzer, Trish Thorpe, Asia Paige, Abby Keller, Angelo Tauro, Mary Roberts, Rose Johnson, John Payne, Monte Willey, Julie, Jim & Bonnie Palleschi, Mary Baeb, Theresa Taylor, Kathy Johnson, Joan Fiore, Joanie McCarthy, Stacie Adams, Karen & Richard Dolan, Daniel Harrigan, Allan Lahoski, Ann Smith, Bob Rozumek, Christy Long, Cindy Schillig, Dawn Phillips, Diana Rumpt, Sarah Zarrella, Edward Robinson, Gladys Page, Janis Price, Jeannie Hendrix, Joanne Hodges, John Singleton, Judy Gentile, M. Akridge, Marge Keller, Marianne Glass, Mary Ford, Mary Knoche, Mifuk Huh, Pat Doyle, Paul Boehnke, Sandra Schwarz, Xavier Smith, Schaidy Parme, Diane Arwine, James Nelson, Sal Carrasquillo, Mary Pregler, John Norton, Alex Robinson.

☞ **JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM:** CONTACT MS. KAREN DOUGHERTY AT K.DOUGHERTY200@COMCAST.NET

✓ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meet on the first Sunday of the month. We encourage all men of the parish to attend. For more information, please contact Mr. Steve Hudson.

✓ **INTERESTED IN PRISON MINISTRY?** Please contact John Chick at jchick@dosaf.com

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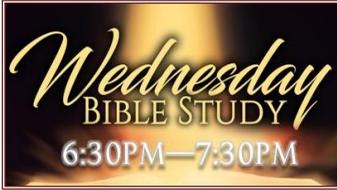


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**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

FEB. 07	<i>Vigil</i> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. S. EDWARD, L. NICHOLAS & FOR ALL CHILDREN
FEB. 08	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. SYDNEY, CLARINE & JAMES TIMMONS
FEB. 09	MON. OF THE FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. JONATHAN ROJAS & LUIS GABRIEL
FEB. 10	TUE. <b>ST. SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN, MEMORIAL</b>	✠. JOSEPHINE KAWING ✠. CIARA NICOLE
FEB. 11	WED. <b>FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES</b>	✠. VICTOR CRAWFORD ✠. FATHER CONRAD
FEB. 12	THU. OF THE FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. BISHOP FELIPE DE JESÚS ESTÉVEZ
FEB. 13	FRI. OF THE FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. TONY & DONNA DECURTINS

\*

**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

P. DECURTINS, B. PALLESCHI & C. CRAWFORD	SAT. FEB. 07	B. LANCHO
C. CHICK, J. CHICK & M. MCKENDREE	SUN. FEB. 08	D. CHICK & M. MCKENDREE
B. LANCHO, M. STECK & B. PALLESCHI	SAT. FEB. 14	B. LANCHO
K. WHITE, J. JOHSON & R. NICKLES	SUN. FEB. 15	M. CHICK & J. SMITH

\*

✓. **CCD: SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS 8:45-9:45 AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELLE WHITE ☞ MLWHITE722@GMAIL.COM ☞ 9045040459**

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## **SAINT AMBROSE OF MILAN**

“No one heals himself by wounding another.”



“Death was not part of nature; it became part of nature. God did not decree death from the beginning; he prescribed it as a remedy. Human life was condemned because of sin to unremitting labor and unbearable sorrow and so began to experience the burden of wretchedness. There had to be a limit to its evils; death had to restore what life had forfeited. Without the assistance of grace, immortality is more of a burden than a blessing.”



“The devil tempts that he may ruin; God tests that he may crown.”

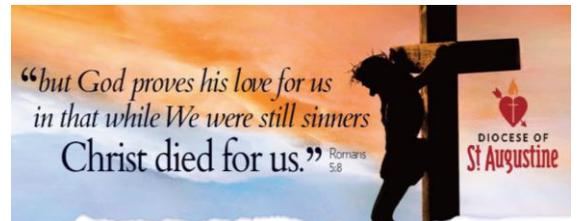


“Let your door stand open to receive Him, unlock your soul to Him, offer Him a welcome in your mind, and then you will see the riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace, the joy of grace. Throw wide the gate of your heart, stand before the sun of the everlasting light...”



“It is easier to look wise than to talk wisely.”

**FLORIDA CATHOLIC BISHOPS** are urging Gov. Ron DeSantis to stay the Feb. 10, execution of Ronald Heath and commute his sentence to life without parole, citing the Church’s teaching on the dignity of every human life. As we seek to keep the plight of the victims of the crimes of Ronald Heath, let us also not refrain from praying for the conversion of the souls of those in prisons and are facing death penalty. Let us offer up prayers for the governor as he considers the request of the Florida bishops.





## SAINT MARY MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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STMARYCHURCHMACCLENNY@GMAIL.COM ✨ STMARYMACCLENNY.ORG



**LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI, LEX VIVENDI (THE LAW OF PRAYER, THE LAW OF BELIEF, THE LAW OF LIVING)**

*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

**FEB. 01 ✓ 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✓ ZEP. 2:3; 3:12–13 ✓ PS. 146:6–10 ✓ 1 COR. 1:26–31,17 ✓ MT. 5:1–12**

**THE CHURCH DEDICATES THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY TO THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH!**

The Bishop's 2026 Annual Stewardship Appeal is now underway. In the coming weeks, you will receive a letter from Bishop Pohlmeier inviting your prayerful participation in this year's appeal, which supports essential ministries serving our parishes, families, and those in need throughout the diocese. This year's theme, "*Grateful to God; Generous to Others*", reminds us that our faith community is part of a wider diocesan family, united in mission and service. Through the Bishop's Annual Stewardship Appeal, we come together as stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to us, ensuring that the Church's work of evangelization, charity and formation continues to flourish. Therefore, please prayerfully consider a gift of any amount. You may respond using the reply card mailed to your home or by completing a commitment envelope at Mass on the weekend of February 14-15. Every gift is meaningful and helps strengthen the mission of our Church.



## **SAINT MARY MOTHER OF MERCY'S INTERNATIONAL DINNER**

Please join us for a relaxing evening of delicious ethnic food, followed by music and dancing on February 7, 2026 after Saturday Mass (about 6:00 PM) in the Learning Center. Free babysitting will be provided in the Hall. Just bring a dish or dessert (of your ethnic heritage if desired) and any beverage of your choice. Children and teens may share in the food but, after dinner is served, the party in the Learning Center will be for adults only.

**THERE IS NO CHARGE; WE JUST WANT EVERYONE TO SHARE A NICE EVENING OUT!**

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IN CHURCH \$ 2,712 & ONLINE \$ 555.00

\$ 3,267.00 & FOR RESPECT LIFE \$ 70.00



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**RAISED SO FAR \$ 684,792.00**

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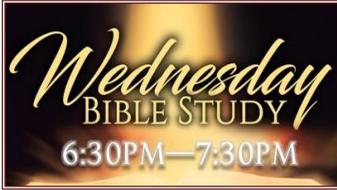


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**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

JAN. 31	<i>Vigil</i> <b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. IZNAGA FAMILY ✠. VICTOR CRAWFORD
FEB. 01	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. JAMES, REGINA & DEELA (LIVING)
FEB. 02	MON. <b>FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</b>	✠. DAMON FERNANDEZ
FEB. 03	TUE. <b>ST. BLAISE, BISHOP AND MARTYR, MEMORIAL</b>	✠. JULIA & JOEL INTENTIONS
FEB. 04	WED. <b>OF THE FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. LUIS GABRIEL GUEMBES
FEB. 05	THU. <b>ST. AGATHA, VIRGIN AND MARTYR, MEMORIAL</b>	✠. BISHOP FELIPE DE JESÚS ESTÉVEZ
FEB. 06	FRI. <b>ST. PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS, MEMORIAL</b>	✠. JULIA & JOEL INTENTIONS

\*

**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

M. STECK, P. DECURTINS & C. CRAWFORD	SAT. JAN. 31	B. LANCHO
K. WHITE, J. JOHNSON & M. WILLEY	SUN. FEB. 01	A. MCKENDREE & C. HUDSON
P. DECURTIN, C. CRAWFORD & B. PALLESCHI	SAT. FEB. 07	B. LANCHO
C. CHICK, J. CHICK & M. MCKENDREE	SUN. FEB. 08	D. CHICK & M. MCKENDREE

\*

✓. **CCD: SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS 8:45-9:45 AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELLE WHITE ☞ MLWHITE722@GMAIL.COM ☞ 9045040459**

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## **CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE**

This Tuesday, February 3rd, is the Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr. We will offer during the Daily Mass the traditional blessing of the throats using the Crossed Candles of St. Blaise.

*“Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”*

## **SAINT AMBROSE OF MILAN**

“Father, if possible, take away this cup from me.” Many cling to this text in order to use the sadness of the Savior as proof that he had weakness from the beginning rather than taking it on for a time. In this way they distort the natural meaning of the sentence. I, however, consider it not only as something that does not need to be excused, but nowhere else do I admire more his tender love and majesty. He would have given me less, had he not taken on my emotions. Thus he suffered affliction for me, he who did not have to suffer anything for himself. Setting aside the enjoyment of his divinity, he is afflicted with the annoyance of my weakness. He took on my sadness so that he might bestow on me his joy. He descended into the anguish of death by following in our footsteps so that he might call us back to life by following in his footsteps. I do not hesitate to speak of sadness since I am preaching the cross; he took on not the appearance but the reality of the Incarnation. Thus, instead of avoiding it, he had to take on the pain in order to overcome sadness.”

*Commentary of Saint Ambrose on the Gospel according to Saint Luke*



# SAINT MARY MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1143 WEST MACCLENNY AVE, MACCLENNY, FL 32063 ☎(904)643-1623

STMARYCHURCHMACCLENNY@GMAIL.COM ✨ STMARYMACCLENNY.ORG



**LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI, LEX VIVENDI (THE LAW OF PRAYER, THE LAW OF BELIEF, THE LAW OF LIVING)**

*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

**JAN. 25 ✓ THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✓ IS. 8:23–9:3 ✓ PS. 27:1,4,13-14 ✓ 1 COR. 1:10-13,17 ✓ MT. 4:12-23**

**THE MONTH OF JANUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS!!!**



## Eucharistic Encounter

DIOCESE OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Meeting | Celebrating | Serving

March 6-7

*Mark your calendars for the Diocese of St. Augustine's 2026 Eucharistic Encounter, formerly known as the Eucharistic Congress, taking place during Lent on March 6-7.*

### FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Queen of Peace Catholic Church  
10900 SW 24th Ave., Gainesville

**4 p.m.**

Doors Open | Sacrament of Reconciliation available

**5:30 p.m.**

Mass with Bishop Erik Pohlmeier as the principal celebrant | Adoration after Mass

**6:45 p.m.**

Keynote presentation with Julianne Stanz in the church

**8:30 p.m.**

Spanish Track with Dr. Gerardo Salazar in the parish hall, English Track with Father Stephen Gadberry in the church

**9:15 p.m.**

Eucharistic Exposition & Closing Benediction in the Church

Centered on evangelization and how the Eucharist draws us closer to Christ, the St. Joseph Catholic Church Encounter will feature keynote speaker Julianne Stanz, USCCB consultant, and Director of Evangelization and Formation for Loyola Press.



Dr. Gerardo Salazar, former director of Evangelization and Catechesis with Hispanics for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and now National Bilingual Consultant for Sadlier Religion, will lead the Spanish tracks at both locations.



Father Stephen Gadberry, known for his dynamic preaching and joyful spirit, a priest of the Diocese of Little Rock and Fellow of the Word on Fire Institute, will present in both English and Spanish.



### SATURDAY, MARCH 7

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
11757 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville

**7:15 a.m.**

Doors open | Sacrament of Reconciliation available

**8:30 a.m.**

Mass with Bishop Erik Pohlmeier as the principal celebrant | Adoration after Mass

**10 a.m.**

Eucharistic Procession with parishes, ministries & lay apostolates carrying banners

**11 a.m.**

Keynote presentation with Julianne Stanz

**Noon | Lunch break**

**1-3 p.m.**

English Track with Father Stephen Gadberry & Dr. Gerardo Salazar in the church | Spanish Track with Dr. Gerardo Salazar & Father Stephen Gadberry in the Cody Center

**3:15-3:45 p.m.**

Eucharistic Exposition & Closing Benediction in the church

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**FOR MORE DETAILS:** eMcGeever@dosafl.com  
(904) 262-0661

## THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: FOR THE GRACE TO BUILD A MORE FRATERNAL AND MISSIONARY CHURCH



The flowers this weekend are donated by Linda McLelland. Donations for flowers are greatly appreciated! Kindly sign up for any available weekend you want in the note book in the hallway, and give \$70-75 (CASH), in the envelope provided, to Linda Voeltz shortly before your designated dates. Thank you very much!

**BASIC MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00** ↓

**LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

IN CHURCH \$ 2,165 & ONLINE \$ 815.00

\$ 2,980.00 & FOR RESPECT LIFE \$ 491.00



**HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000.00**

**RAISED SO FAR \$ 684,232.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 505.00 & ONLINE \$ 55.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 815,208.00**

**BINGO: 6PM ☞ IN THE PARISH HALL ☞ FRIDAYS! WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP RUN IT. KINDLY HELP**

☞ **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY:** Contact: Trudy Hudson (904) 614-5125 trudyhudson7@gmail.com or Michelle White (904) 504-0459 mlwhite722@gmail.com ✓. <https://www.respectlife.org/prayer-guides>

☞ **HAVE YOU A PRAYER REQUEST?** Contact Ms. Susie Taylor, 9049454327. Your request will be added to the prayer-request-text-line, and our prayer team will pray for your requests!

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☞ **JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM:** CONTACT MS. KAREN DOUGHERTY AT K.DOUGHERTY200@COMCAST.NET

✓ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meet on the first Sunday of the month. We encourage all men of the parish to attend. For more information, please contact Mr. Steve Hudson.

✓ **INTERESTED IN PRISON MINISTRY?** Please contact John Chick at jchick@dosafll.com

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**ADORATION ★ CHAPLET ★ ROSARY**

4:30 PM SATURDAY & 9:30 AM SUNDAY

4:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

5:00 PM SATURDAY & 10 AM SUNDAY

5:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



**FRIDAYS: ADORATION 9 AM TO 5:25 PM ☞ HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST 5:30 PM**

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION ☞ ADORATION 5:00 TO 5.45 PM & HOLY MASS 6 PM

ANONING OF THE SICK & HOLY COMMUNION: ANYTIME UPON REQUEST

CONFESSION ☞ 45 MINUTES BEFORE HOLY MASS & BY APPOINTMENT

\*

**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

JAN. 24 *Vigil* **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

✠. JAMES & REGINA DELA (THANKSGIVING)

JAN. 25 **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

✠. PAT & JOANNE SICILIA (THANKSGIVING)

JAN. 26 MON. **ST. TIMOTHY ✠. ST. TITUS MEMORIAL**

✠. JULIA & JOEL (THANKSGIVING)

JAN. 27 TUE. OF THE THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

✠. VINCENT MCCARTHY ✠. JOANIE MCCARTHY

JAN. 28 WED. **ST. THOMAS AQUINAS MEMORIAL**

✠. KATHY WEEDON ✠. GERRY WEEDON

JAN. 29 THU. OF THE THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

✠. KING & VI THOELKE

JAN. 30 FRI. OF THE THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

✠. JANE, DANIEL & MAKENZIE HONEA

\*

**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

M. STECK & M. & K. DOUGHERTY

SAT. JAN. 24

B. LANCHO

M. MCKENDREE, K WHITE & J JOHNSON

SUN. JAN. 25

J. SMITH, D. CHICK & M. MCKENDREE

M. STECK, P. DECURTINS & C. CRAWFORD

SAT. JAN. 31

B. LANCHO

K. WHITE, HUDSON & S. HUDSON

SUN. FEB. 01

A. MCKENDREE & C. HUDSON

\*

✓. **CCD: SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS 8:45-9:45 AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELLE WHITE ☞ MLWHITE722@GMAIL.COM**

☞ ① 9045040459

✓. **OCIA & OCIC: WEEKLY CLASSES ARE HELD ON SUNDAYS AFTER HOLY MASS FROM 11:30 AM TO 12:30 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER. CONTACT: PEG DECURTINS AT PEGDECURTINS@NEFCOM.NET**

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**ORATORY: CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

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**HOLY MASS 5:30 PM; CONSCIENCE-CHARACTER 6:15 PM;**

**FUN ACTIVITY 6:45-7:30 PM; DINNER/REFRESHMENTS 7:35 PM**

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**SUNDAYS AT 6 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**MR. MIKE MCKENDREE (904) 400-9250**

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT ✠ COME AND BE RESTORED!**

Healing the Pain of Abortion Rachel's Vineyard English and Spanish retreats are a beautiful opportunity for any man or woman who is struggling with the emotional and spiritual pain of an abortion or traumatic pregnancy loss in their life. Come and receive peace, forgiveness of self and others and the compassion of God.

These retreats are private, strictly confidential and for people of all faiths.

Our next retreat will be February 20 - 22, 2026.

For more information call 904-2213232 or email [rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com).

All calls and inquiries are very confidential.

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**EVAGRIUS PONTICUS (C. 345-399)**

**ON PASSIONS AND LIFE**

A wandering mind is strengthened by reading, and prayer. Passion is dampened down by hunger and work and solitude.

Cut the desire for many things out of your heart and so prevent your mind being dispersed and your stillness lost.

If you endure something painful out of love for wisdom, you will find the fruit of this during prayer.

A monk is a man who considers himself one with all men because he seems constantly to see himself in every man.

If you wish to be free from discontent, strive to please God.

A proud soul is a den of robbers; it cannot bear the voice of knowledge.

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**KNOCK ON THE DOOR OF SCRIPTURE WITH THE HANDS OF THE VIRTUES**



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*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

**JAN. 18 ✓ SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✓ IS. 49:3,5-6 ✓ PS. 40:2,4,7-8,8-9,10 ✓ 1 COR. 1:1-3 ✓ JN. 1:29-34**

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**THE MONTH OF JANUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS!!!**

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**FROM *THE INSTITUTES OF JOHN CASSIAN***

***ON THE SIN OF ANGER, AND HOW MANY EVILS THIS PASSION PRODUCES***

The deadly poison of anger has to be utterly rooted out from the inmost comers of our soul. For as long as this remains in our hearts, and blinds with its hurtful darkness the eye of the soul, we can neither acquire right judgment and discretion, nor gain the insight which springs from an honest gaze, or ripeness of counsel, nor can we be partakers of life, or retentive of righteousness, or even have the capacity for spiritual and true light: *“for,”* says one, *“my eye is disturbed by reason of anger”*. Nor can we become partakers of wisdom, even though we are considered wise by universal consent, for *“anger rests in the bosom of fools.”* Nor can we even attain immortal life, although we are accounted prudent in the opinion of everybody, for *“anger destroys even the prudent.”* Nor shall we be able with clear judgment of heart to secure the controlling power of righteousness, even though we are reckoned perfect and holy in the estimation of all men, for *“the wrath of man works not the righteousness of God”* (James 1:20). Nor can we by any possibility acquire that esteem and honor which is so frequently seen even in worldlings, even though we are thought noble and honorable through the privileges of birth, because *“an angry man is dishonored.”* Nor again can we secure any ripeness of counsel, even though we appear to be weighty, and endowed with the utmost knowledge; because *“an angry man acts without counsel.”* Nor can we be free from dangerous disturbances, nor be without sin, even though no sort of disturbances be brought upon us by others; because a *“passionate man engenders quarrels, but an angry man digs up sins.”* (CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

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**BASIC MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00** ↓

**LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

IN CHURCH \$ 1,464.00 & ONLINE \$ 365.00

**\$ 1,829.00**



**HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000**

**RAISED SO FAR \$ 683,582.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 620.00 & ONLINE \$ 30.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 815,768.00**

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8:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY

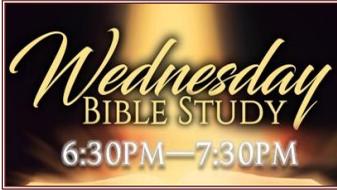


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5:00 PM SATURDAY & 10 AM SUNDAY

5:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



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ANONING OF THE SICK & HOLY COMMUNION: ANYTIME UPON REQUEST

CONFESSION ☞ 45 MINUTES BEFORE HOLY MASS & BY APPOINTMENT

\*

**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

JAN. 17 <i>Vigil</i> <b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. SYDNEY, JAMES & CLARINE TIMMONS ✠. JONATHAN ROJAS
JAN. 18 <b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	✠. JONATHAN ROJAS ✠. FIRST COAST WOMEN'S SERVICE
JAN. 19 MON. OF THE SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. ✠. FOR SOULS THAT HAVE NO ONE TO PRAY
JAN. 20 TUE. OF THE SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. ✠. FOR SOULS THAT HAVE NO ONE TO PRAY
JAN. 21 WED. <b>ST. AGNES ✠. ST. SEBASTIAN, MEMORIAL</b>	✠. ✠. FOR SOULS THAT HAVE NO ONE TO PRAY
JAN. 22 THU. <b>DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PREBORN CHILDREN</b>	✠. SYDNEY, JAMES & CLARINE TIMMONS
JAN. 23 FRI. <b>ST. MARIANNE COPE, MEMORIAL</b>	✠. NENA RAILEY

\*

**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

B. LANCHO, B. PALLESCHI & J. MACKEY	SAT. JAN. 17	B. LANCHO
J. CHICK SR., C. CHICK & J. MACKEY	SUN. JAN. 18	M. CHICK, A. MCKENDREE & M. MCKENDREE
M. STECK, P. DECURTINS & C. CRAWFORD	SAT. JAN. 24	B. LANCHO
M. MCKENDREE, T. HUDSON & S. HUDSON	SUN. JAN. 25	J. SMITH, D. CHICK & M. MCKENDREE

\*

✓. **CCD: SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS 8:45-9:45 AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELLE WHITE ☞ MLWHITE722@GMAIL.COM ☞ 9045040459**

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**FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND RECENTLY GRADUATED STUDENTS**

**SUNDAYS AT 6 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**MR. MIKE MCKENDREE (904) 400-9250**

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**RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY:** TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION is for Respect Life ministry to support pregnancy resource centers, college outreach, parish-based respect life activities, and advocacy initiatives to promote the dignity of all life from conception to natural death. Let us continue to serve the community in this way by giving generously to this collection.

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**U.S. CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS:** You are invited to take part in 9 Days for Life, an annual Respect Life novena beginning Friday, Jan. 16. A novena is nine consecutive days of prayer offered in penance and preparation for the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children on Jan. 22. ✎. Participants may access the novena or sign up to receive daily prayers by email or text in English at [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com) or in Spanish at [respectlife.org/9-dias-por-la-vida](http://respectlife.org/9-dias-por-la-vida). Sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Pro-Life Activities, the novena began in 2013 and now reaches hundreds of thousands of people worldwide. ✎. Each day includes a prayer intention, reflection and suggested action focused on protecting life and supporting mothers and children. For updates, follow @USCCB on social media.

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*(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)*

***OF THOSE WHO SAY THAT ANGER IS NOT INJURIOUS, IF WE ARE ANGRY WITH THOSE WHO DO WRONG,  
SINCE GOD HIMSELF IS SAID TO BE ANGRY***

We have heard some people trying to excuse this most pernicious disease of the soul, in such a way as to endeavor to extenuate it by a rather shocking way of interpreting Scripture: as they say that it is not injurious if we are angry with the brethren who do wrong, since, say they, God Himself is said to rage and to be angry with those who either will not know Him, or, knowing Him, spurn Him, as here: *“And the anger of the Lord was kindled against His people;”* or where the prophet prays and says, *“O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, neither chasten me in your displeasure;”* not understanding that, while they want to open to men an excuse for a most pestilent sin, they are ascribing to the Divine Infinity and Fountain of all purity a taint of human passion.



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*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

**JANUARY 11 ✓ THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD ✓ IS. 42:1-4, 6-7 ✓ PS. 29:1-4, 9-10 ✓ ACTS 10:34-38 ✓ MT. 3:13-17**

**THE MONTH OF JANUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS!!!**



✦. **SAINT ROSE OF LIMA:** Rose of Lima, the first canonized saint of the New World, was born to parents of Spanish descent in Lima, Peru, at a time when South America was in its first century of evangelization. She seems to have taken Catherine of Siena as a model, in spite of the objections and ridicule of parents and friends. ✦. The saints have so great a love of God that what seems bizarre to us, and is indeed sometimes imprudent, is simply a logical carrying out of a conviction that anything that might endanger a loving relationship with God must be rooted out. So, because her beauty was so often admired, Rose used to rub her face with pepper to produce disfiguring blotches. Later, she wore a thick circlet of silver on her head, studded on the inside, like a crown of thorns. ✦. When Rose of Lima's parents fell into financial trouble, she worked in the garden all day and sewed at night. Ten years of struggle against her parents began when they tried to make Rose marry. They refused to let her enter a convent, and out of obedience she continued her life of penance and solitude at home as a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic. So deep was her desire to live the life of Christ that she spent most of her time at home in solitude. ✦. During the last few years of her life, Rose of Lima set up a room in the house where she cared for homeless children, the elderly, and the sick. This was a beginning of social services in Peru. Though secluded in life and activity, she was brought to the attention of Inquisition interrogators, who could only say that she was influenced by grace. ✦. What might have been a merely eccentric life was transfigured from the inside. The greatest thing about Rose of Lima: a love of God so ardent that it withstood ridicule from without, violent temptation, and lengthy periods of sickness. When she died at 31, the city turned out for her funeral. Prominent men took turns carrying her coffin.

## THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: FOR THE GRACE TO BUILD A MORE FRATERNAL AND MISSIONARY CHURCH



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**MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00** ↓

**LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

IN CHURCH \$ 2,916.00 & ONLINE \$ 1,395.00

**\$ 4,311.00**



**HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000**

**RAISED SO FAR \$ 681,907.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 1,245.00 & ONLINE \$ 430.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 816,418.00**

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☞ **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY:** Contact: Trudy Hudson (904) 614-5125 trudyhudson7@gmail.com or Michelle White (904) 504-0459 mlwhite722@gmail.com ✓. <https://www.respectlife.org/prayer-guides>

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☞ **PRAY FOR:** Beth Spreitzer, Trish Thorpe, Asia Paige, Abby Keller, Angelo Tauro, Mary Roberts, Rose Johnson, John Payne, Monte Willey, Julie, Jim & Bonnie Palleschi, Mary Baeb, Theresa Taylor, Kathy Johnson, Joan Fiore, Joanie McCarthy, Victor Crawford, Stacie Adams, Karen & Richard Dolan, Daniel Harrigan, Allan Lahoski, Ann Smith, Bob Rozumek, Christy Long, Cindy Schillig, Dawn Phillips, Diana Rumpt, Sarah Zarrella, Edward Robinson, Gladys Page, Janis Price, Jeannie Hendrix, Joanne Hodges, John Singleton, Judy Gentile, M. Akridge, Marge Keller, Marianne Glass, Mary Ford, Mary Knoche, Mifuk Huh, Pat Doyle, Paul Boehnke, Sandra Schwarz, Xavier Smith, Schaidy Parme, Diane Arwine, James Nelson, Sal Carrasquillo, Mary Pregler, John Norton, Alex Robinson.

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4:30 PM SATURDAY & 9:30 AM SUNDAY

4:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY

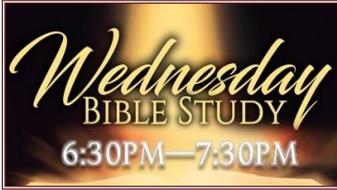


**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

5:00 PM SATURDAY & 10 AM SUNDAY

5:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



**FRIDAYS: ADORATION 9 AM TO 5:25 PM ☞ HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST 5:30 PM**

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION ☞ ADORATION 5:00 TO 5.45 PM & HOLY MASS 6 PM

ANONING OF THE SICK & HOLY COMMUNION: ANYTIME UPON REQUEST

CONFESSION ☞ 45 MINUTES BEFORE HOLY MASS & BY APPOINTMENT



**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

JAN. 10	<i>Vigil</i> OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	✠. PETER MACKEY JR ( <i>BIRTHDAY</i> ) ✠. JOSEPHINE KAWING
JAN. 11	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	✠. JONATHAN ROJAS
JAN. 12	MON. OF THE FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. JIM PALLESCHI ( <i>SURGERY</i> )
JAN. 13	TUE. OF THE FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. MICHELLE CARMONA ✠. MAGGIE SANDERS
JAN. 14	WED. OF THE FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. JIM PALLESCHI ✠. FIRST COAST WOMEN'S SERVICE
JAN. 15	THU. OF THE FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. BERNADETTE AND MONICA
JAN. 16	FRI. OF THE FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. BETH SPREITZER ( <i>HEALING</i> )



**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

J. MACKEY, M. STECK & C. CRAWFORD	SAT. JAN. 10	B.LANCHO
J. JOHNSON, J. CHICK SR & K. WHITE	SUN. JAN. 11	L. CHICK, J. SMITH & C. HUDSON
B. LANCHO, B. PALLESCHI & K. DOUGHERTY	SAT. JAN. 17	B. LANCHO
J. CHICK JR., C. CHICK & J. MACKEY	SUN. JAN. 18	M. CHICK & A. MCKENDREE



✓. **CCD: SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS 8:45-9:45 AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELLE WHITE ☞ MLWHITE722@GMAIL.COM**

☞ ① 9045040459

✓. **OCIA & OCIC: WEEKLY CLASSES ARE HELD ON SUNDAYS AFTER HOLY MASS FROM 11:30 AM TO 12:30 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER. CONTACT: PEG DECURTINS AT PEGDECURTINS@NEFCOM.NET**

**A JESUM PER MARIAM TO JESUS THROUGH MARY**

**ORATORY: CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY  
ON WEDNESDAYS 5:15 PM-8 PM**

**HOLY MASS 5.30 PM; CONSCIENCE-CHARACTER 6.15 PM;**

**FUN ACTIVITY 6.45-7:30 PM; DINNER/REFRESHMENTS 7:35 PM**

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**A STUDY OF SACRED SCRIPTURE ROOTED IN CATHOLIC TRADITION**

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**SUNDAYS AT 6 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**MR. MIKE MCKENDREE (904) 400-9250**

**JOB OPENING AT EPIPHANY CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** Epiphany Catholic School, part time school van driver (11 passengers), Monday - Friday during the school year for the Macclenny route. Interested individuals should contact us at (386)752-2320. NO CDL required. Background Clearance required. Please refer to <https://info.flclearinghouse.com/> for the Background Screening Clearinghouse Education and Awareness website.” Fr. Bob the pastor is amenable to possibly leaving the van in Macclenny during the week, if the driver is from Macclenny.

**RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY:** Next weekend *SECOND COLLECTION* is for Respect Life ministry to support pregnancy resource centers, college outreach, parish-based respect life activities, and advocacy initiatives to promote the dignity of all life from conception to natural death. Let us continue to serve the community in this way by giving generously next weekend to this collection.

**U.S. CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS:** You are invited to take part in 9 Days for Life, an annual Respect Life novena beginning Friday, Jan. 16. A novena is nine consecutive days of prayer offered in penance and preparation for the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children on Jan. 22. ✠. Participants may access the novena or sign up to receive daily prayers by email or text in English at [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com) or in Spanish at [respectlife.org/9-dias-por-la-vida](http://respectlife.org/9-dias-por-la-vida). Sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Pro-Life Activities, the novena began in 2013 and now reaches hundreds of thousands of people worldwide. ✠. Each day includes a prayer intention, reflection and suggested action focused on protecting life and supporting mothers and children. For updates, follow @USCCB on social media.

*Grades 1-5*  
**GIRLS RETREAT**  
WITH THE SERVANT SISTERS OF THE HOME OF THE MOTHER

*Saturday*  
**JAN 17**  
10:00AM-3:00PM

**ASSUMPTION  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
DROP-OFF AT KOHLS HALL

 **Register here**

**BRING A PACKED LUNCH + WATER BOTTLE  
\$2. AND COME IN PLAY CLOTHES.**

6TH-8TH GRADERS COME TO 8AM KICK-OFF MASS AT ASSUMPTION AND THEN HELP  
PREP FOR THE RETREAT. GIRLS IN 1ST-5TH GRADE NEED TO COME AT 10AM!

QUESTIONS? | CONTACT THE SERVANT SISTERS | [HMRETREAT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HMRETREAT@GMAIL.COM) | 398-6355



## SAINT MARY MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1143 WEST MACCLENNY AVE, MACCLENNY, FL 32063 ☎(904)643-1623

STMARYCHURCHMACCLENNY@GMAIL.COM ✨ STMARYMACCLENNY.ORG



**LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI, LEX VIVENDI (THE LAW OF PRAYER, THE LAW OF BELIEF, THE LAW OF LIVING)**

*OUR PRAYER LIFE SHAPES OUR BELIEFS, AND THESE BELIEFS SHAPED BY PRAYER INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE*

**JANUARY 4 ✓ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ✓ IS. 60:1-6 ✓ PS. 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 ✓ EP. 3:2-3A, 5-6 ✓ MT. 2:1-12**

### **THE MONTH OF JANUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS!!!**

Everything about our divine Lord is holy, including His Holy Name. It was the Archangel Gabriel who first spoke the name of Jesus to His mother, “Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus” (Luke 1:31). The Archangel was only a messenger, so the name of Jesus was given to Him by the Father in Heaven.

Saint Peter was one of the first Apostles to speak with authority in the Holy Name of Jesus when he healed a crippled man saying, “I have neither silver nor gold, but what I do have I give you: in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean, rise and walk” (Acts 3:6).

Saint Paul exalted the holy name of Jesus when he said, “...at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:9-10). Saint Paul preached with power in the name of Jesus so often that even some itinerant Jewish exorcists tried to imitate him by commanding demons, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches” (Acts 19:13).

Throughout the history of the Church, Jesus’ name has been invoked as an instrument of personal faith in the Son of God, especially to command demons or simply to pray to Jesus in a repetitive and personal way. The liturgical Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus has been celebrated by the Church for many centuries, especially within various religious orders.

In the fifteenth century, Saint Bernardine of Siena, a Franciscan friar, went on a preaching mission promoting devotion to the Most Holy Name. He encouraged people to revere Jesus’ name by placing the first three Greek letters of His name on their doors: IHS. Today, this Greek monogram of Jesus’ name is commonly seen in churches on tabernacles, altars, and in stained glass windows.

*(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)*

## THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: FOR THE GRACE TO BUILD A MORE FRATERNAL AND MISSIONARY CHURCH



The flowers this weekend is donated by Tony and Sandra Esterling. Donations for flowers are greatly appreciated! Kindly sign up for any available weekend you want in the note book in the hallway, and give \$70-75 (CASH), in the envelope provided, to Linda Voeltz shortly before your designated dates. Thank you very much!

**MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00** ↓

**LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

IN CHURCH \$ 1,801.00 & ONLINE \$ 1,135.00

**\$ 2,936.00**

✦ CHRISTMAS \$ 3,097.00

**HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000**

**RAISED SO FAR \$ 656,877.00**

IN CHURCH \$ 00.00 & ONLINE \$ 30.00

FROM BINGO 25,000.00

**BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 818,093.00**



**BINGO: 6PM ☞ IN THE PARISH HALL ☞ FRIDAYS! WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP RUN IT. KINDLY HELP**

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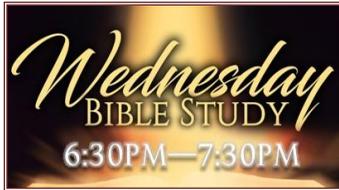


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**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST**

JAN. 03 *Vigil* OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

✠ . MARY PREGLER (HEALING)

JAN. 04 **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

✠ . SOLON MCLAUGHLIN (HEALING)

JAN. 05 MON. ST. JOHN NEUMANN, *MEMORIAL*

✠. JOHN ✠. SOPHIE KAMINSKI

JAN. 06 TUE. AFTER EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

✠ . BROTHER JOHN (HEALING)

JAN. 07 WED. AFTER EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

✠ . THERESA ATHAR AND MARIA (THANKSGIVING)

JAN. 08 THU. AFTER EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

✠ . JOSEPHINE , FRANCIS AND BENEDICT

JAN. 09 FRI. AFTER EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

✠ . THERESE ✠ . NICHOLAS



**LECTORS**

**MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

K. & M. DOUGHERTY & C. CRAWFORD

SAT. JAN. 03

B.LANCHO

C. HODGES & B. PALLESCHI & C. CHICK

SUN. JAN. 04

J. CHICK, D. CHICK & M. MCKENDREE

J. MACKEY, M. STECK & P. DECURTINS

SAT. JAN. 10

B. LANCHO

J. JOHNSON, J. CHICK SR & K. WHITE

SUN. JAN. 11

L. CHICK, J. SMITH & C. HUDSON



**A JESUM PER MARIAM TO JESUS THROUGH MARY**

**ORATORY: CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

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✓. **CCD:** Sundays before Holy Mass 8:45-9:45 am. For more information contact: Michelle White ✉ mlwhite722@gmail.com ☎ 9045040459

✓. **OCIA & OCIC:** Weekly classes are held on Sundays after Holy Mass from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm in the Learning Center. Contact: Peg DeCurtins at pegdecurtins@nefcom.net

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

In the sixteenth century, Saint Ignatius of Loyola had such a strong devotion to the Most Holy Name of Jesus that he adopted it as his seal as general of his newly founded order of the Jesuits; that monogram remains the Jesuits' official seal today.

There is great power in the spoken name of Jesus. Repeating His name prayerfully or speaking it aloud brings Him close and gives you strength, provided you recite His name in faith. The name of Jesus casts out fear, arouses trust, and unites your heart to His. Sadly, the Most Holy Name of Jesus is so holy that the evil one often tempts people to invoke it as a curse when angry, without even considering what they are doing.

As we celebrate this holy memorial today, ponder the prayer below that is attributed to Saint Bernardine of Siena, the Franciscan who spoke so fervently of Jesus' name. Also, take time to close your eyes and prayerfully repeat His name over and over. As you go about your day, anytime you feel anxious or fearful, speak the name of Jesus. Know and believe that the divine name of our Lord brings Him close to you and bestows His grace in abundance.

*The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM)* states, "A bow signifies reverence and honor shown to the persons themselves or to the signs that represent them," and therefore we bow to the altar, to reverence Jesus' act of sacrifice. A lesser-known, yet beautiful practice is the bowing of one's head "when the three Divine Persons are named together and at the names of Jesus, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of the saint in whose honor Mass is being celebrated" (GIRM, 275).

It was Pope Gregory X who, with St. Paul's words to the Philippians in mind and recognizing the practical difficulty of genuflecting at the name of Jesus, introduced the practice of bowing one's head at the name of Jesus "in token that interiorly he bends the knee of his heart."

Bowing our head at the name of Jesus, especially during the Mass, is a great way to reverence the name of Jesus.

**O NAME OF JESUS, YOU ARE THE GLORY OF ALL THE SAINTS FOR ETERNITY. AMEN**