



15700 S. MILITARY TRAIL, DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484

P:561.496.2480

F:561.496.5755

**MARY**  
TRAVELED TO THE  
HILL COUNTRY  
IN HASTE.

— LUKE 1:39 —

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2024

### Confessions

**Thursday, December 19 & Friday, December 20**

9:00-9:30AM, 5:30P--:00P

### Christmas Vigil Masses

Tuesday, December 24 4:00PM, 5:30P, 10:00PM

### Christmas Day Masses

**Wednesday, December 25**

7:30A, 9:00A, 10:30A, 12:00PM

(overflow mass under pavilion, if needed)

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**Saturday, December 28**

Vigil Masses 4:00P, 5:30P

**Sunday December 29**

7:30A, 9:00A, 10:30A, 12:00P, 6:00P

**New Year Day Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Tuesday December 31**

5:00P Vigil Mass

**Wednesday January 1, 2025**

7:30A, 9:00A, 10:30A, 12:00P

**Vigil Masses for Feast of the Epiphany**

**Saturday, January 4, 2025**

4:00P, 5:30P

**Day Masses for Feast of the Epiphany**

Sunday January 5, 2025

7:30A, 9:00A, 10:30A, 12:00P, 6:00P

# PARISH INFORMATION

02 | PARISH FAMILY | GOD IS WITH US



## OUR MISSION

**Emmanuel Catholic Church which means, God is with us,** is a faithful community of believers dedicated to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by the Roman Catholic Church through word, sacrament, and service. As a parish family of God, we live by faith, truth, and love as we value the sanctity of life in all its stages and make the Holy Eucharist the center of our lives. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the consultation with our parish ministries, we desire to be witnesses of God's presence as we share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure with God's Family.

## CLERGY

### Pastor

Rev. Fr. Gaudioso Zamora

### Parish Vicar

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ihedoro

### In Residence

Rev. Fr. Joseph Papes

### Weekday/Weekend Associates

Rev. Fr. Timothy Canaan

Rev. Fr. David Carr

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

## PARISH MINISTRIES

### OCIA & Sacramental Preparation

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

### Religious Education

Jean Krokus | Ext. 1005

religioueducation@emmanuelcatholic.church

Sandra Gallegos [Sgallegos@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:Sgallegos@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

### Lectors

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

### Hospitality / Ushers

Bob Bonney & Chuck Dolce

### Music

Linda Coz, Ree Joy Baldonado, Clanaven Baldonado & Men's Choir

### Altar Flowers

Bella Simbajon & Filipino Community

### Altar & Clergy Vestments

Maryann DiBiase, Carol Chapman, Nancy McDonald,

### Homebound / Hospital Ministry

## PARISH STAFF

### Director of Finance

Tanya Kuppamala Ext. 1001 [tkuppamala@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:tkuppamala@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Secretary

Stella Sadolfo Ext. 1007 [secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Property Manager

Edward Shannon Ext. 1006 [maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church)

### Receptionist

Rose Marie Baldonado Ext. 1000 [receptionist@emmanuelcatholic.church](mailto:receptionist@emmanuelcatholic.church)

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

### Gift Shop

Josephine Joan | Ext. 1009

### Blood Drive

Patti Gomez | 561-293-9761

## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

### Ladies Guild

President Nancy McDonald

### Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight Bob Budd

### Legion of Mary

President Maude Cassagnol

### DSA UPDATE – Dec 5, 2024

Goal Amount ..... \$ 169,000.00

Current Don Total...\$ 133,706.98

Balance Rem..... \$ 35,293.02

### CHURCH OFFERINGS

December 8, 2024

First Collection \$ 13,268.00

Second Collection \$ 1,523.00

Subtotal..... \$ 14,791.00

Children's Mass.....\$ 385.00

Online (12/06..... \$ 2,700.03

Immac. Concept \$ 4,358.00 ..



PARISH REGULAR SCHEDULE

TAIZÉ PRAYER

Every Friday at 6:30pm–7:30pm (after 6:00pm Mass) except for First Fridays.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Every Thursday after the 8:30am mass or call the parish office

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 1:00pm. Schedule one month in advance. Contact Parish Office.

WEDDINGS

Contact Deacon Tony at least 6 months in advance

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

5:00pm Vigil Mass 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

GIFT SHOP

Monday & Wednesday 8am-1:00pm

Tuesday Closed

Thursday & Friday 8am-1pm

Saturday Closed

4th Sunday of the Month 10:00AM- 1:30PM

NOTE: Gift shop will be closed when the parish office is closed

ROSARY GROUP

Monday–Friday after the 7:30am Daily Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after the 8:30am Mass

SCHEDULE CHANGES?

Do you want to make sure there have been no sudden time changes to any event or activity you want to join this week? Call the parish office during business hours.

561.496.2480



PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Dec. 23

6:30A..... Adoration
1:00P.....Movie Mondays
6:00P..... Legion of Mary Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 24(Christmas Eve)

06:30P.....Adoration

Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day)

6:30A..... Adoration

Thursday, Dec. 26

6:30A..... Adoration
9:00A..... Anointing of the Sick
3:00P..... Holy Hour
6:30P.....AA Meeting

Friday, Dec. 27

6:30A.....Adoration
6:30P..... Taize

Saturday, Dec. 28

9:00A..... Confession

Sunday, Dec. 29 (Feast of The Holy Family)

1:00P.....OCIA Class
1:00P.....5th Sunday Rosary

Emmanuel Ladies Guild held its annual Christmas Flea Market and Bake Sale. These are some of the hard working elves that helped to make it a successful event!!



## AN ASSENT OF BEING AND LIFE

What is a mother?

The late Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty described her as "the most important person on earth. She cannot claim the honor of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not. She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral— a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body."

This is the reason why mothers have a very glorious dignity because Jesus, the redeemer, had deemed it worthy to be born, formed and loved by a mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. All mothers are special before God.

In the Old Testament, it was the woman named Eve who became the mother of death. In the New Testament, it was the woman named Mary who became

the mother of life, for in her womb she conceived Jesus, the Savior of mankind. Elizabeth profoundly declared to Mary: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Elizabeth knew too well that life is sacred because it is a gift from God.

Christmas means the gift of the child. Mary accepted that gift in her heart and womb. She became a mother and a disciple. It freely enabled her to trust and obey the Lord.

In a world filled with fear and doubt, let the child Jesus really become God's presence in us. It is in this way that we can better appreciate ourselves and others as persons worth loving and caring for.

—Fr. Zamora

## Saint of the Week - Saint Stephen (d. c. 36)

"As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Greek-speaking Christians complained against the Hebrew-speaking Christians, saying that their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, 'It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit..." (Acts 6:1-5).

Acts of the Apostles says that Stephen was a man filled with grace and power, who worked great wonders among the people. Certain Jews, members of the Synagogue of Roman Freedmen, debated with Stephen, but proved no match for the wisdom and spirit with which he spoke. They persuaded others to make the charge of blasphemy against him. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

In his speech, Stephen recalled God's guidance through Israel's history, as well as Israel's idolatry and disobedience. He then claimed that his persecutors were showing this same spirit. "...you always oppose the holy Spirit; you are just like your ancestors" (Acts 7:51b).

Stephen's speech brought anger from the crowd. "But he, filled with the holy Spirit, looked up intently to heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and he said, 'Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' ...They threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. ...As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ...'Lord, do not hold this sin against them'" (Acts 7:55-56, 58a, 59, 60b).

**Reflection.** Stephen died as Jesus did: falsely accused, brought to unjust condemnation because he spoke the truth fearlessly. He died with his eyes trustfully fixed on God, and with a prayer of forgiveness on his lips. A "happy" death is one that finds us in the same spirit, whether our dying is as quiet as Joseph's or as violent as Stephen's: dying with courage, total trust and forgiving love.

## CLERGY & MASS SCHEDULE

### Saturday, Dec. 21

8:30A Fr. Zamora  
4:00P Fr. Papes 5:30P Fr. Theo

### Sunday, Dec. 22

7:30A Fr. Carr 9:00A Fr. Leone  
10:00A N/A 10:30A Fr. Zamora  
12:00P Fr. Timothy 6:00P Fr. Zamora

### Monday, Dec. 23

7:30A Fr. Zamora 8:30A Fr. Carr

### Tuesday, Dec. 24

7:30A Fr. Theo 8:30A Fr. Carr  
4:00P Fr. Zamora 5:30P Fr. Theo  
10:00P Fr. Timothy

### Wednesday, Dec. 25

7:30A Fr. Theo 9:00A Fr. Leone  
10:30A Fr. Carr 12:00P Fr. John Horn

### Thursday, Dec. 26

7:30A Fr. Carr 8:30A Fr Papes

### Friday, Dec. 27

7:30A Fr. Theo 8:30A Fr. Theo  
6:00P Fr. Zamora

### Saturday, Dec. 28

8:30A Fr. Theo  
4:00P Fr. Zamora 5:30P Fr. Zamora

### Sunday, Dec. 29

7:30A Fr. Theo 9:00A Fr. Carr  
10:00A N/A 10:30A Fr. Carr  
12:00P Fr. Leone 6:00P Fr. Theo



| STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES 2023-2024 |                     |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                   | 2023-2024           | 2022-2023           |
| <b>INCOME</b>                     |                     |                     |
| OFFERTORY                         | \$ 812,913.09       | \$ 742,748.87       |
| PARISH DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT        | 124,394.00          | 126,646.55          |
| DIocese COLLECTIONS               | 32,563.00           | 30,842.00           |
| LITURGY                           | 21,302.00           | 23,693.00           |
| DONATIONS                         | 366,754.10          | 182,408.98          |
| FESTIVALS                         | 64,336.38           | 61,604.16           |
| OUTREACH                          | 30,088.10           | 27,004.98           |
| RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH       | 1,560.00            | 2,083.00            |
| RENT                              | 7,225.00            | 6,895.00            |
| INTEREST INCOME                   | 9,458.78            | 28,800.18           |
| STOLE FEES                        | 10,000.00           | 9,705.00            |
| OTHER INCOME                      | 3,827.35            | 3,665.90            |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>               | <b>1,484,421.80</b> | <b>1,246,097.62</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                   |                     |                     |
| SALARIES & BENEFITS               | 730,436.95          | 697,165.66          |
| RECTORY EXPENSES                  | 58,408.86           | 57,097.31           |
| LITURGICAL EXPENSES               | 22,454.89           | 26,628.32           |
| OPERATIONAL EXPENSES              | 278,298.88          | 227,926.61          |
| OFFICE EXPENSES                   | 45,704.43           | 46,315.60           |
| FESTIVAL EXPENSES                 | 29,684.77           | 29,202.20           |
| DIocese COLLECTIONS               | 31,281.49           | 37,852.10           |
| OUTREACH                          | 40,525.88           | 34,557.44           |
| RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH       | 20,174.73           | 14,541.94           |
| SCHOOL SUBSIDY                    | 5,490.00            | 25,910.00           |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>             | <b>1,262,460.88</b> | <b>1,197,197.18</b> |
| <b>NET INCOME</b>                 | <b>221,960.92</b>   | <b>48,900.44</b>    |

| STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 2023-2024 |                        |                        |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| ASSETS                                    | YEAR END 6/30/2024     | YEAR END 6/30/2023     |
| CASH-SFT                                  | \$ 400,931.12          | \$ 372,542.69          |
| CASH-OPERATING                            | \$ 236,661.14          | \$ 379,488.83          |
| CASH-MASS                                 | \$ 10,716.00           | \$ 40,455.32           |
| CASH-LADIES GUILD                         | \$ 1,401.79            | \$ 1,583.76            |
| PRIOPERTY & EQUIPMENT                     | \$ 6,746,019.50        | \$ 6,498,680.14        |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                       | <b>\$ 7,395,729.55</b> | <b>\$ 7,292,750.74</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                        |                        |                        |
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE                          |                        | \$ 34.00               |
| OTHER NOTES PAYABLE                       |                        | \$ 88,118.79           |
| MASS INTENSION LIABILITY                  | \$ 9,940.00            | \$ 54,340.54           |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                  | <b>\$ 9,940.00</b>     | <b>\$ 142,493.33</b>   |
| <b>CAPITAL</b>                            |                        |                        |
| SURPLUS - NET WORTH                       | \$ 7,150,257.41        | \$ 7,101,356.97        |
| NET INCOME                                | \$ 221,960.92          | \$ 48,900.44           |
| PRIOR PERIOD                              | \$ 13,571.22           |                        |
| <b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>                      | <b>\$ 7,385,789.55</b> | <b>\$ 7,150,257.41</b> |
| <b>Total Liabilities &amp; Capital</b>    | <b>\$ 7,395,729.55</b> | <b>\$ 7,292,750.74</b> |

FYE 2024 budget is available to view in the office upon request



## SCHEDULED INTENTIONS

### Monday, Dec. 23

7:30am †Arthur, Concetta & Alfred Caraccia by Ted & Fran Souza †John & Anna Vartanian by Ted & Fran Souza  
 8:30am †Wally Warmbold by Ellen †Mark Vlasek by Soeka Hernandez & Family

### Tuesday, Dec. 24

4:00pm †Pacienza, Rosato, & Wilkens Family by Children †Anthony De Francesco by DeFrancesco Family  
 5:30pm †Karen Yozallinas by Family †Helen Nebrotski by Family  
 10:00pm †Walter Dajczak by Jennifer \*Baldonado Family/Thanksgiving

### Wednesday, Dec. 25

7:30am †Carmella Battilana by Cookie Anastasi \*Sara Rose L. Santiesteban/Birthday by Evelyn Santiesteban  
 9:00am †Peter Silvestri by Nancy Silvestri †Pappalardo & Manuele Families by Rose  
 10:30am †John, Angela, Walter Dajczak by Jennifer \*Caraballo & Raygada Families by Caraballo Family  
 12:00pm †Rose Buerkert by Carol †Thomas Granahan by Cecelia Granahan

### Thursday, Dec. 26

7:30am \*Grace Menzel by Martina DeBoise \*Roman-Colon Family by Martina DeBoise  
 8:30am †Rudy & Frances Biola by Angela & Mark †John Vincent Verderame by Mom & Dad

### Friday, Dec. 27

7:30am †Dorothy Barbaccia by Linda Carney †Mary Shaw by Linda Appel  
 8:30am †Genaro Chaves Sr. by Marjo †Andre & Julienne Joseph by Lucie Despeignes  
 6:00pm **FOR PRIESTS** **FOR PRIESTS**

### Saturday, Dec. 28

8:30am †Chuck Fiore by Corinne DeBono †John & Mary Mottola by Ted & Fran Souza  
 4:00pm **BOOK OF THE DEAD** **BOOK OF THE DEAD**  
 5:30pm †Connie Raupach by Lori Davanzo \*Amirah Leonidas/Thanksgiving by Murielle Berlus

### Sunday, Dec. 29

7:30am †Kathleen Lewis by Barbara Moran †Mark Vlasek by Soeka Hernandez & Family  
 9:00am †Aniano Malubay Jr. by Marilyn Penserga †Erik Albertson by Mr. & Mrs. Sylvestre  
 10:30am **PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS** **PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS**  
 12:00pm †Joseph Ceresky by Mary Ceresky †John Peter Gidseg by Didi Gidseg  
 6:00pm †John Dinoto by KoC Council 13338 \*Celia Blum-Guerra by Pam Lee

## UNSCHEDULED

†Priests & Nuns by Picinich Family †Priests & Nuns by Picinich Family †All Souls in Purgatory by Picinich Family  
 †All Souls in Purgatory by Picinich Family †All Souls in Purgatory by Picinich Family †All Souls in Purgatory by Picinich Family  
 †All Souls in Purgatory by Picinich Family †All Souls in Purgatory by McCormick Family

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Tony Donnino  
 by Family

### VIGIL LIGHTS

Tony Donnino  
 by Family

### SHRINE FLOWERS

Tony Donnino  
 by Family

**Please take some time this week to remember the following in your prayers: For all in our parish family who are suffering serious or terminal illness:**

**For men and women in the Armed Forces, and their families: AND FOR ALL LISTED BELOW**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| David & John<br>Helen Cruz<br>Lenore Curatolo<br>Marilyn Boyle<br>Andrea Anastasi<br>Shelly Fiorini<br>Ed Bush<br>Bob Oberholzer<br>John Wilkens<br>Scott Ellison<br><i>Evangeline Ezeilo</i><br>Michael Gehres<br>Karen Sullivan<br>Sean Zahul<br>Darren Guzman<br>Mary Lou<br><i>Connie Panepinto</i><br>Amalia Mazzolin<br>Leon Martin<br>Joe Delagami<br><i>Rose Marie Regner</i><br>Michael Manuele<br>Carla Ruiz<br>Benjamin Robelo<br>Karen McCarty<br>T.J. Genzale<br>Dave Ruiz<br>Victoria Robelo<br>Ms. S.<br>Rose Borsella<br>Lexie Helgerson<br>David Smeraldo<br>Janette Cole<br><i>Steven Martin Sikes</i><br>Gianna Pagan<br>Suzanne Puleo<br><i>Sr. Frances Vass OSC</i><br>Mary Loveland<br>Sam Falcone<br>Patricia Golstein<br>Taylor Dosh<br>Marilyn Martino<br>Gulshan Modena<br>Maggie Dolan<br><i>Amelita Coz-Zarraga</i><br>Heather Martin<br>Tailor McGee<br>Ronald Griffiths<br>Margie Giaquinto<br>Maria Fernandez<br>Raphael Roman<br>James Ezeilo | Brenda Ezeilo<br>Cynthia Martin<br>Francis Martin<br>Hermoine D'Cruz<br>Brigitte Knops<br>Toni Kreamer<br>Gerry Gerhard<br>Euclides Cerutti<br>Grace Cassagnol<br>Samuel Gonzales<br>Victorio<br>Ray Wolff<br><i>Patricia Tripi Giraldo</i><br>Ida Giannettina<br>Tom Hickey<br>Josette Weber<br>Vincent Rizzo<br>Louis Perticone<br>Ann Cavaseno<br>Charles C. Tufano<br>Angela Discepola<br>Anna Halford<br>Sal Yanello<br>Victor Rivera<br>William Lindner<br>Lisa Della<br>Femina<br><i>Maria E. Quiñones-Mercado</i><br>Diane Daniels<br>Carmen Jones<br>Bill Hamilton<br>Ralph Senese<br>Ramona<br>Ash Gaballah<br>Karen Ramey<br>Tom Tripi<br>Mary Ann<br>Lisa Payne<br>Marilyn Green<br><i>Joseph Salamone</i><br>Slayder<br>Salamone<br>Phyllis Lomitola<br>Maria Amaro<br>Aniela Ignaczak<br>Lillian Campayno<br>Terry Schwinge<br>Tom D'Amico<br>Gabriel Zamora<br>Vincent Blum<br>Ricardo Blum<br><i>Gina Marie B. Cohen</i><br>David Strompf | Sal Hanono<br>Chris Angotti<br>Heather Smith<br>Jason Smith<br>Ronald Merhige<br>Roshan<br>Karen Jensen<br>Cynthia Martin<br>Garry Solomon<br>Ilda Sosa Botero<br>Carlos Tobon<br>Jill Forshey<br>Gerry Santilli<br>Gail Hill<br>Chrissie Budrick<br>Frank Dazzo<br>Dina Quelch<br>Stewart Librizzi<br>Thomas Land<br>Dorinda Johansson<br>Agatha Saccio<br>Robert Albertson<br>Rafael Botero<br>Albert Fernandes<br>Doreen Romano<br>Britney Closson<br>Jeanette Gallegos<br>Adriana Elejalde<br><i>Oswaldo Cesar Monasterio</i><br>Michael Cecere<br>Jahaziel Roldan<br>Abigail Chin-Lenn<br><i>Gertrudis Rivera Martinez</i><br>Merrill Tucker<br>Debra Tucker<br>Maggie Dazzo<br>Nicholas Cerino<br>Daisey Gutzman<br>Noah Altherios<br>Debra Serritella<br>Harvey Shackman<br>Joseph Reategui<br>Anthony Spirito<br>Rhea<br>Raecher<br>Doug Rodgers<br>Doris Vourinen<br>Sister Veronique<br>DCSO<br>Noah Lauria<br>Nicholas Cerino<br>Danny Berciles |
|---|---|--|

**PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION .** Lord, I believe and profess that You are truly Christ, Son of the Living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. Accept me this day as I partake of your mystical supper, O Son of God. May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord be not for judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of body and soul. I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious Body and Blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and life everlasting. Amen.

**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL** St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS.** Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come follow Me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to your voice. Support our bishops, priests and consecrated people in their apostolic labor. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send your workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel. Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.

**SATURDAY  
11 JANUARY  
8 AM - 1:30 PM**

**REGISTRATION OPEN  
MEN'S  
RALLY**

**TICKETS  
\$50**

**FR. MICHAEL  
SCHMITZ**

**NATHAN  
CRANKFIELD**

**BISHOP  
GERALD  
BARBARITO**

**Register  
Now!**

**CATHOLICMENFORJESUSFLORIDA.COM**

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah  
too small to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Mi 5:1)

### Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)

### Second Reading:

"Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,  
behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" (Heb 10:7)

### Gospel:

"And how does this happen to me,  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:43)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,  
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Blessed are you who believed," Elizabeth tells Mary. Do we believe? When we hear the voice of God whispering in our heart, do we listen — or do we ignore, out of fear and uncertainty? This last week of Advent, follow Mary's example, and believe.

## Observances for the week of December 22, 2024

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** St. John of Kanty, Priest
- Tuesday:** Christmas Eve
- Wednesday:** The Nativity of the Lord
- Thursday:** St. Stephen, First Martyr
- Friday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- Saturday:** The Holy Innocents, martyrs
- Next Sunday:** The Holy Family; New Year's Eve

## REGISTER FOR THE EMMANUEL

# OCIA PROGRAM

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a year-long process of prayer, learning, and reflection designed for those seeking to become Catholic, those seeking the sacrament of Confirmation, and for those simply exploring the Catholic faith. It is open to all adults ages 18+.

Classes are held on Sunday  
afternoons and starts at 1:00  
PM

Registration information will  
be provided through the parish  
office: P561.496.2480

Answers to specific questions will be given  
once we have your contact info.

Deacon Anthony Cuseo is the OCIA Program  
Director - P561.496.2480.

Emmanuel Catholic Church  
15700 S. Military Trail, Delray Beach, FL 33484  
P561.496.2480 F561.496.5755

## Prayer for Advent Joy

Dear Jesus,

The news of your coming was met with boundless joy — fill us anew with the wonder of your presence. You are Emmanuel, God with us.

Amen.



# Liturgical Life

## ( PRACTICING ) CATHOLIC

### The Hidden Truth

If you have ever been visibly pregnant, chances are that someone, somewhere, whom you do *not* know, has reached out to touch your stomach.

I've had this happen to me, and sure, it's a little strange. Generally, I prefer people to ask before they touch me. But it's also very sweet, this great mystical excitement inspired by a pregnant belly. We know that belly is special. We know enclosed within it is hope and potential — the very future of our world. Hidden, but real. How can we help but venerate it?

It's why the pregnant Madonna is my favorite devotional image. I even prefer it over the depictions of the Madonna and Child because I find in the sight of Mary's swollen belly more to meditate upon than I find in the unveiled face of the Christ Child. Salvation and redemption, enclosed in flesh, moving, and growing and breathing, but I cannot see it. It's real and it's true and it's *there*.

And it is hidden.

There is much about God that we know with certainty. But there is so much that remains beyond our sight, beyond our comprehension. Questions of evil and sorrow. Pain and tragedy. Life and death. Why don't we have all the answers? We grow very impatient about this. We're like teenagers who want to be trusted with all the family secrets. We hate feeling left out of the loop.

But truth, like life, does not come to us showing its face. Perhaps this is because we could not bear its terrible beauty. Perhaps it's because we would not recognize it if it was laid bare for us to see.

But it's there, right in front of us. We can reach out and touch it. We may not see it. We may not understand it. But we can know it.

— *Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman*

### Why do we do that?

#### Catholic Life Explained

##### Question:

Why do we give gifts at Christmas?

##### Answer:

Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind, nothing that someone could come across and know that something significant occurred. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plaques, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of his Son. No wonder we often say that the best gifts are those that come from the heart. Given in love, these presents are wrapped in the best covering of all.

## Worship & Meditation

### Readings for the week of December 22, 2024

#### Sunday:

Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/  
Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

#### Monday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10  
and 14/Lk 1:57-66

#### Tuesday:

*Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/  
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

#### Wednesday:

*Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29  
(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or  
1:18-25 *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12,  
13 (Lk 2:11)/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/Heb 1:1-6/  
Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Jn 1:1-18  
or 1:1-5, 9-14

#### Thursday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6  
and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

#### Friday:

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12/  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

#### Saturday:

1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/  
Mt 2:13-18

#### Next Sunday:

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10  
(see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52



### Gospel Meditation

#### Seek a deeper understanding of Scripture

The Blessed Virgin teaches us the secret to being blessed, happy, and full of joy. When Elizabeth, her cousin, greets her, she calls Mary “blessed” for two reasons, her motherhood of Jesus, and Our Lady’s belief that **“there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord”** (Luke 1:45). Mary is “blessed” entirely because of her relationship to the Incarnation of God in Jesus, and for no other. This of course makes perfect sense, because as the Lord, as God-in-the-flesh, her son is the source of all blessedness, life, and joy. Mary is blessed because of her contact with Jesus, and by her faith in him.

So, it is with us, too. We become blessed by our “motherly” contact with Christ in our souls through baptism. He lives in us and grows to maturity within us. We bear him to the world. This requires unshakeable faith that his promises to us will be fulfilled, despite all the problems and difficulties that plague us. We become blessed, happy, and joyful in the measure that we are in contact with Jesus and trust in him.

Advent challenges: 1.) This week go to someone who has borne the love of Jesus to you and tell her or him how they have been a blessing to you. 2.) Name someone in your life now to whom God has sent you to bring Jesus’ presence. Pray: “Lord, thank you for the blessing of sending me to bring your presence to this person. Help me bear you faithfully to him/her.”

— Father John Muir





# PRACTICING CHRISTIAN

## FIND GOD IN ORDINARY MOMENTS

### BABY JESUS' WISH LIST

Odds are you've got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What's the gift Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

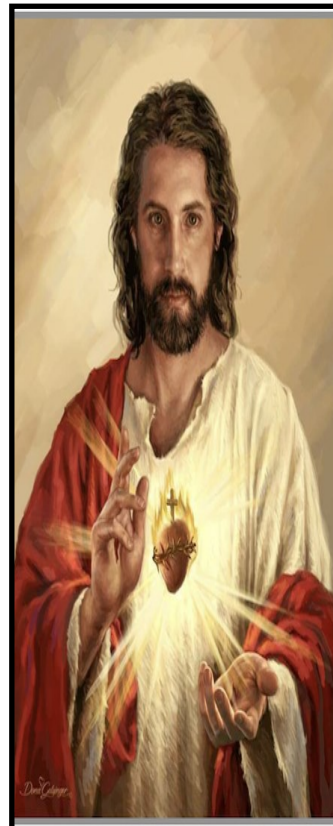
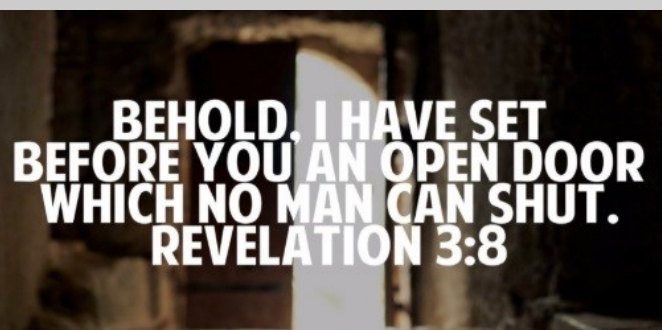
If you've ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read — a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There's a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it's a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it's a wish list that can really confuse you. What's God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He's customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It's God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. "Do this, but don't do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy."

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God's people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God's real wish list didn't really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It's far simpler, but luckily, it's something we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



Join Us for a  
Communion Breakfast...

Meditations on the  
Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Join us at the 8:30AM Mass followed by a breakfast of eggs, sausage, hash browns, assorted danish and more in Columbus Hall. Fr. Timothy Canaan will offer a meditation on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. There is no charge. Please sign up at the church office or the back of church. — All Are Welcome!

Sponsored by Emmanuel Church and  
The Knights of Columbus

### 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT





## KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST



We are so proud of all the talented artists in our CCD program who submitted posters for the Keep Christ in Christmas contest, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. May you always remember that Jesus is the reason for the season. We will announce the winners when we return to class after Christmas break on January 12th.





**ATTENTION FIRST COMMUNION STUDENTS!**  
GOOD SHEPARD MANDATORY RETREAT  
DATE CHANGED TO:  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH  
8:30 AM - 12 NOON



**Thank You to Our Generous Parishioners!**



We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who participated in this year's **Christmas Giving Tree** donations and to all the parishioners who generously donated **Gift Cards to our Youth Group**. Your kindness and support have brought hope, joy, and love to families, individuals, and our youth during this holiday season.

The kids were absolutely thrilled to win the gift cards, and your contributions made this a joyful and memorable experience for them. Because of you, we were able to make Christmas brighter for so many. Your selflessness truly embodies the spirit of Christmas and is a beautiful reminder of the loving and supportive community we share.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful and blessed holiday season!

**FAMILY SUNDAY JAN. 12TH**  
INCLUDING SOCCER & BASKETBALL CHALLENGE  
SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



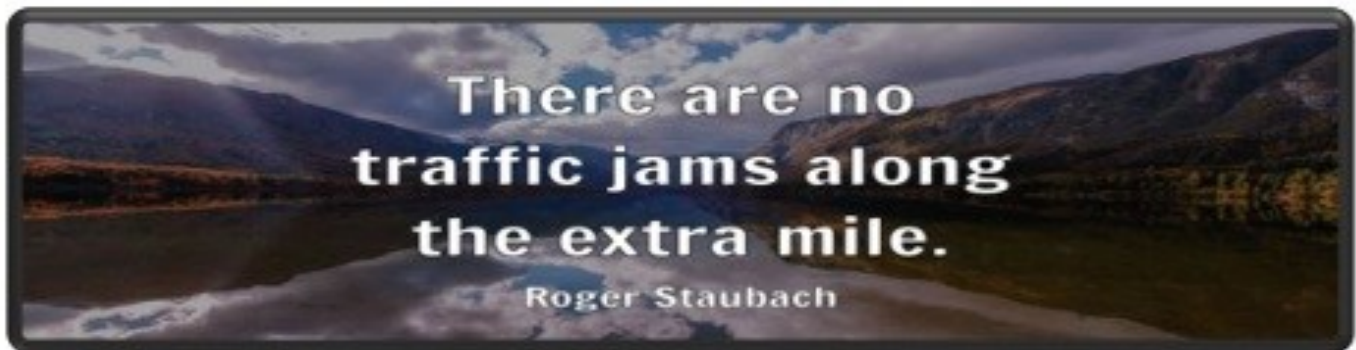
Inviting all families to save the date for our annual Holy Family celebration **January 12<sup>th</sup> 2025**.

The Knights of Columbus will host their annual Soccer and Basketball challenge. Registration forms to participate in the challenge can be obtained in the office. The family day festivities will begin after CCD Classes as follows: Grades K-5<sup>th</sup> grade challenge will begin at 11:30am. Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1:00-2:30pm



**Food and family games will be provided throughout the event in the pavilion.**





Our Rosary path is a great place for us to pray, and with the passing of time comes the need to Refresh or replace the elements that have become tired or end of life.

With your donations We are going to Refresh the fading images of the stations of cross with Brass images that will stand up to the brutal Florida sun

**Donation \$1,000.00 Per station**  
**(14 Available)**

**\*Includes a Leaf on our Tree**

Our existing Wooden Benchs have served us well , but are now so deteriorated they must be replaced.

We will be installing **6' Aluminium Benches**. Constructed entirely with lightweight, corrosion resistant aluminum materials and protected in a resilient powder-coating finish, these popular imported benches are long lasting and tough as nails

**Donation \$2,000.00 Per Bench**  
**(18 Available)**

**\*Includes a Leaf on our Tree**



Sometimes when things are falling apart, they may actually be falling into place.  
Stay positive.

**Get both the Bench & Station of the cross for a \$2,500.00 Donation.**  
Donations received before the new year will enable work to be complete for Lent 2025

Contact Jerome Plummer 561-247-5448 or email at [jp@bcs1.net](mailto:jp@bcs1.net)