



God is With Us

EMMANUEL

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH HOME

15700 S. MILITARY TRAIL, DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484

P:561.496.2480

F:561.496.5755

I MUST BE IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE.

LUKE 2:49

THE HOLY FAMILY

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER WINNERS!

- **Kindergarten:** Kyla Pero
- **1st & 2nd Grade:** Bella Ruci
- **3rd & 4th Grade:** Landen Dsouza
- **5th & 6th Grade:** Isabelle Smith
- **7th & 8th Grade:** Sebastian Decoline

Congratulations to all of our winners in the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest! We want to acknowledge the hard work and creativity of all the participants—everyone did an outstanding job, making it a tough decision for the Knights of Columbus.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2024

Confessions

Thursday, December 19 & Friday, December 20
9:00-9:30AM, 5:30P--6:00P

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

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

religiouseducation@emmanuelcatholic.church

Sandra Gallegos 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

Secretary

Stella Sadolfo Ext. 1007 secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church

Property Manager

Edward Shannon Ext. 1006 maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church

Receptionist

Rose Marie Baldonado Ext. 1000 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

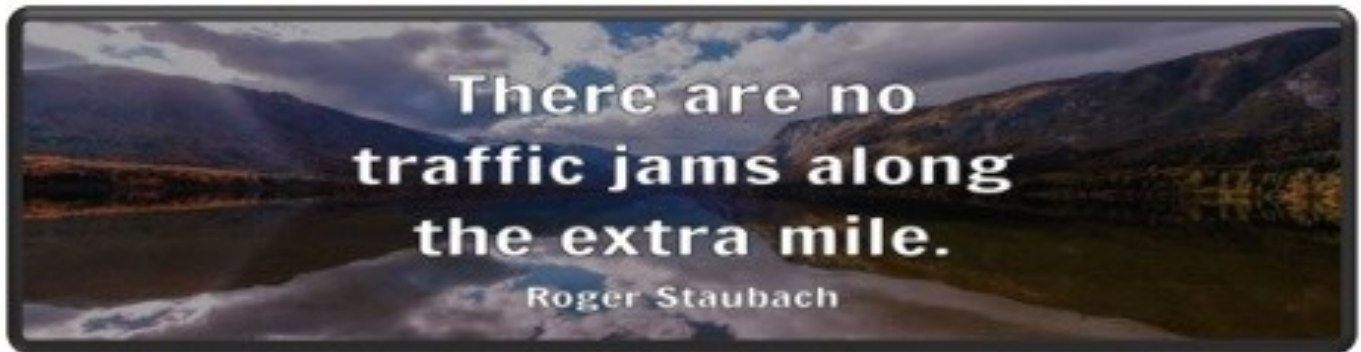
Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight Bob Budd

Legion of Mary

President Maude Cassagnol





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 Benches 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

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

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

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

Monday, Dec. 30 (Office closed)

6:30A..... Adoration

Tuesday, Dec. 31 (Office Closed)

06:30A.....Adoration

Wednesday, Jan. 01 (Office Closed) New Year's Day

6:30A.....Adoration

Thursday, Jan. 02

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

Friday, Jan. 03

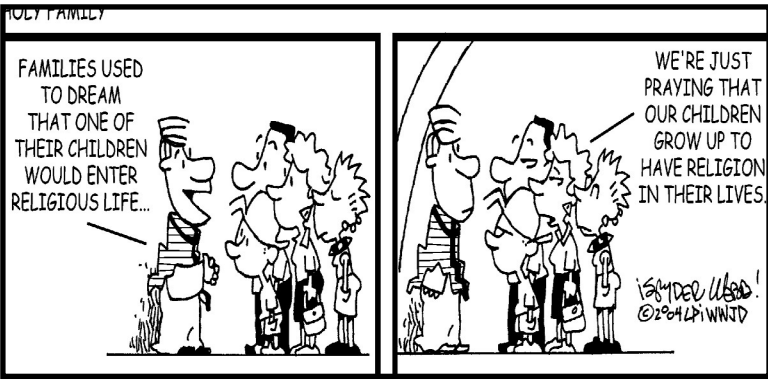
6:30A..... Adoration
9:00A..... First Friday Adoration
6:00P..... First Friday Mass

Saturday, Jan. 04

9:00A..... Confession

Sunday, Jan. 05 Epiphany

9:00A..... KoC Mass
1:00P..... OCIA Class



GOD'S WILL TAKES PRECEDENCE

I always feel a great admiration for the people who receive the sacrament of matrimony and the reason is obvious: it is never easy to raise a family nowadays. More than ever, married life and family life have many difficult challenges: handling the relationships of husband and wife, parents and children and the emotional and financial aspects of having a household.

How fortunate is the person who is successful in his/her profession or business; but nothing compares to the blessedness of a person who succeeds in his/her marriage and family.

As we celebrate today the feast of the Holy Family, we are reminded that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, entered into a human family and thus, sanctifying family life. It was God who divinely instituted the human family, and made it to be sacred and permanent; it is the original cell of society. The Christian family is called upon to be a community of faith, hope and love that reflects the Trinitarian mystery. For this reason, "it can and should be called a domestic church" (Pope John Paul II, *Familiaris Consortio*. No. 210).

The family truly blessed is not the one that does not encounter difficulties and tensions, but one that searches the will of God and obeys it. We experience this even in our family trials and struggles. There are times that conflicts within the family involve such matters as finances, respect, unfaithfulness and quarrels among the members.

For Christ, there is a higher responsibility other than just settling those problems. In every man and woman as in every family, to do God's will is a priority that takes precedence over everything. This is why Christ came home with his parents and became obedient to them, for they gradually understood that the business of the Father is the most important one for Jesus. Mary and Joseph did the same with their lives following Jesus, the Son of God. We become part of God's family if in our human family we can uphold the dignity to which our family is called: to be faithful to God's will like the Holy Family of Nazareth. This is the very foundation that can really hold our family together

—Fr. Zamora

Saint of the Week St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the

United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint."

Reflection

Elizabeth Ann Seton had no extraordinary gifts. She was not a mystic or stigmatic. She did not prophesy or speak in tongues. She had two great devotions: abandonment to the will of God and an ardent love for the Blessed Sacrament. She wrote to a friend, Julia Scott, that she would prefer to exchange the world for a "cave or a desert." "But God has given me a great deal to do, and I have always and hope always to prefer his will to every wish of my own." Her brand of sanctity is open to everyone if we love God and do his will.

CLERGY & MASS SCHEDULE

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

Monday, Dec. 30

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

Tuesday, Dec. 31

7:30A Fr. Theo 8:30A Fr. Papes
5:00P Fr. Zamora

Wednesday, Jan. 01

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

Thursday, Jan. 02

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

Friday, Jan. 03

7:30A Fr. Theo 8:30A Fr. Timothy

6:00P Fr. Zamora

Saturday, Jan. 04

8:30A Fr. Carr
4:00P Fr. Timothy 5:30P Fr. Timothy

Sunday, Jan. 05

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

DSA UPDATE - Dec 5, 2024

Goal Amount \$ 169,000.00

Current Don Total...\$ 133,706.98

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

CHURCH OFFERINGS

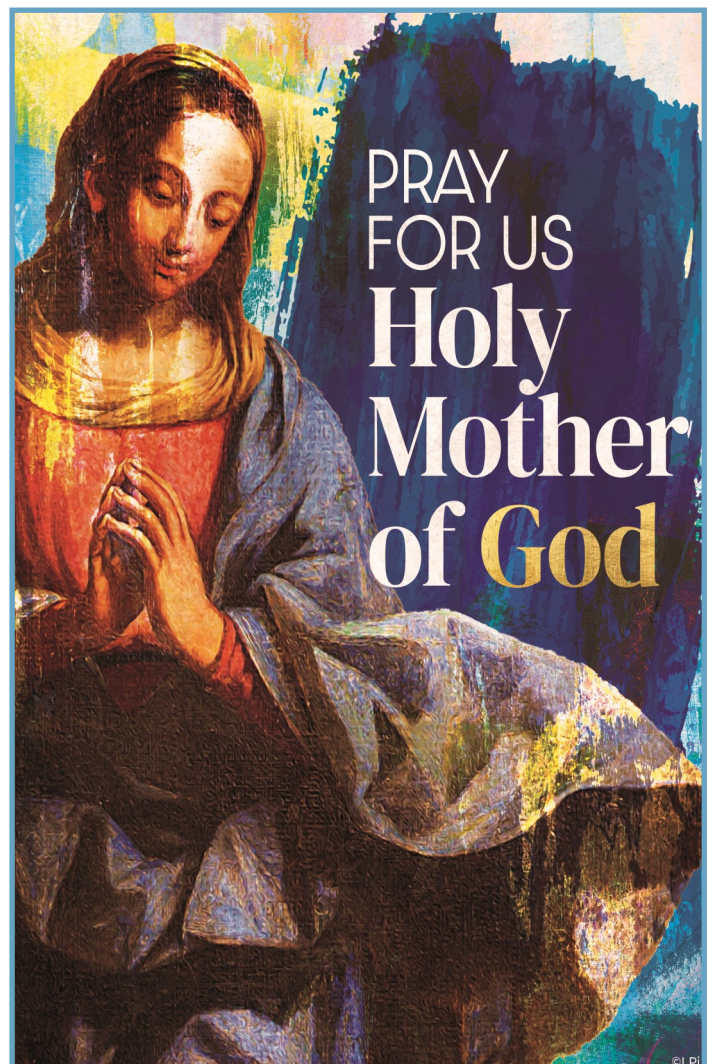
December 15, 2024

First Collection \$ 12,687.00

Second Collection \$ 2,504.00

Subtotal..... \$ 15,191.00

Children's Mass.....\$ 352.00



SCHEDULED INTENTIONS

Monday, Dec. 30

7:30am †Franco Terranova by Ramon Palmero
 8:30am †Cathy Langone by Audrey & Albert Krapf
 †Phyllis Lomitola by Ann Keenan

*Mary Ann Romano by Didi Gidseg
 *David Robinson by Soledad Robinson

Tuesday, Dec. 31

7:30am *Baldonado Family/Thanksgiving
 8:30am †Pacienza, Rosato & Wilkens Families by Children
 †Mark Vlasek by John & Christine Wilkens
 5:00pm †All Souls in Purgatory by Sara Soler

†Kathleen Lewis by Robert Walters
 *Sikora Family/Thanksgiving by Jennifer
 †Rose Muffucci by Carol Chapman

Wednesday, Jan. 01

7:30am †All Souls in Purgatory by Sara Soler
 9:00am †Joseph Bilotta by Nancy Bilotta
 10:30am †Anacoreta Baldonado by Cassagnol Family
 12:00pm †Frank DeBono by Corinne DeBono

†Angelo Rubano by Joan Gentile
 †Evelyn Carducci Capalbi by Son
 †Bobby Collazo by Tom, Monica & Evan Land
 *John Imbres/Birthday by Celia Blum-Guerra

Thursday, Jan. 02

7:30am †All Souls in Purgatory by Sara Soler
 8:30am †Evelyn Carducci Capalbi by Son

†Katherine Ann Sansone by Guy Sansone
 †Mark Vlasek by Dorothy Deedy

Friday, Jan. 03

7:30am †Edith Severy by Martha Rodriguez
 8:30am †Weber Lapomarede by Children
 †Mackie Pensergera by Wife Marilyn

†David Waldman by Rose Ryerson
 †Evelyn Carducci Capalbi by Son

6:00pm **FOR PRIESTS**

FOR PRIESTS

Saturday, Jan. 04

8:30am †Suzanne Impagliazzo by Husband Paul
 4:00pm **BOOK OF THE DEAD**
 5:30pm †Mary Menequale by Robert Menequale
 †Bukowski-Urbanowicz Families by Family

†Evelyn Carducci Capalbi by Son
BOOK OF THE DEAD
 †Eric Soroe by Family

Sunday, Jan. 05

7:30am †Evelyn Carducci Capalbi by Son
 9:00am *KoC by Blessed Mother Council 1333A

*Gina Rama/Birthday by Didi Gidseg & Family
 †Arthur Messenger by Leslie Sanmiguel

10:30am **PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS**
 12:00pm †Donna Petricone by Husband
 6:00pm *Didi Gidseg & Family by Didi Gidseg

PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS
 †Mark Vlasek by Linda & Ed DiMarco
 †Benedicto Longalong by Linda & Julius Coz

UNSCHEDULED MASS

*Virginia White by Maureen Villanti *Walter Casselberry by Maureen Villanti *Bedner Family by Maureen Villanti
 *Kathy Fink by Maureen Villanti *Anthony Villanti & Family by Maureen Villanti *Richie Villanti & Family by Maureen Villanti
 *Jason Villanti & Family by Maureen Villanti *Dominic Villanti by Maureen Villanti

ALTAR FLOWERS

VIGIL LIGHTS

SHRINE FLOWERS

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

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:

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD." (1 Sm 1:27-28)

Psalm:

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. (Ps 84)

Second Reading:

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. (1 Jn 3:2)

Gospel:

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers. (Lk 2:46)

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

For three days, Mary and Joseph search and worry before finding Jesus in the temple. "Didn't you know where I was?" he says to them, in so many words. We, too, look for Jesus. We, too, know where to find him. Let us never forget and never despair.

Observances for the week of December 29, 2024

- Sunday:** The Holy Family
Tuesday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
Wednesday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
Thursday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Friday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Saturday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

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 Family

Dear God,

Help my family to be holy, too!

Amen.



Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Where is Jesus?

Every mother who has ever lost sight of her child in a crowd, even for a few seconds, knows the panic.

I think of Mary living with that level of anxiety for three straight days. I doubt she slept, but I'm sure Joseph forced her to lie down at night, imploring her to think of her health, to rest while he kept on searching the streets of Jerusalem. I imagine her lying there, eyes open and staring at the ceiling. Mary, full of grace. Mary, spotless of sin. Weeping in the dark, whispering, "Where is he?"

It's an experience that we all have at one point or another. Running through the world, desperate and confused, just trying to find God and failing so miserably that we wonder if He's purposefully eluding us.

If Mary couldn't even find Him, do we stand a chance?

Why didn't Mary think to look in the temple? She had wisdom beyond anyone else who ever lived, at least when it came to Jesus. But I think God purposefully dropped a veil over her reasoning for these three days, so that He could show us it's okay to lose our way.

He isn't eluding us. In fact, He's trying to make it easy. He's staying put, in one place, the very place we should know to look. But the streets of our life are so crowded and loud, so full of distraction.

The Christmas season is about God revealing to us who and what and where He is. He has told us. The question is, have we listened?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

July 26 is the feast of Joachim and Anna. Who are they and what do we know about them?

Answer:

Joachim and Anna are the parents of Mary, the mother of Jesus, yet there is absolutely no biblical reference to them whatsoever. So where do we get their names, and what is their story?

Their names are found in an apocryphal (hidden) gospel known as "The Infancy Gospel of James." Apocryphal, or hidden gospels, consist of accounts of Jesus' life that were ultimately not accepted as inspired works, and thus were not included in the Bible. However, they sometimes captured the Christian imagination, spilling into the devotional dimension of the community.

James' infancy gospel begins with the parents of Mary and their desire for a child. In their prayer and petitions to God, they are heard and given the blessings of a child, whom they named Mary. While we have no idea who Mary's parents really were, the fact that we celebrate the feast of Joachim and Anna indicates that the bond of family love is important in the Christian life.

Long before Grandparents' Day was established, the church had a feast that honored the presumed grandparents of Jesus. While their names are part of non-inspired apocryphal legends, the fact of the Savior's human ancestry is not. Christ, the incarnate Word, dwelt among us in the flesh in a human family. In honoring the grandparents of Jesus we really proclaim our faith in the Incarnation — God becoming human!

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of December 29, 2024

Sunday:

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

Monday:

1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/
Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday:

1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday:

Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5, 6, 8 (2a)/
Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday:

1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Jn 1:19-28

Friday:

1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/
Jn 1:29-34

Saturday:

1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see
11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



Gospel Meditation

Seek a deeper understanding of Scripture

As a first-time pastor in a parish, I received a phone call one afternoon from a young married couple, “Father, our 2-year-old son drowned in our pool this morning. We are at the hospital. Please help us.” I sped over. The little boy was gone, his body cold, slightly blue, laid out on a bed. His parents were distraught and in shock. For the next few years, I walked with the couple along their difficult and painful road. They openly shared with me how they were often tempted to blame and accuse each other for the loss. And yet, by God’s grace, their love for each grew stronger and deeper as the years went by.

The Holy Family was not without its pain and loss, either. Luke tells us, after losing their twelve-year-old son, Joseph and Mary “after three days found him in the temple area, sitting among the teachers...” (Luke 2:46). We don’t know specifically what those three days were like for them except for what Mary says: **“Your father and I have been looking for you anxiously.”** The three days of his absence foreshadow his death and burial. His finding in the temple is a kind of resurrection for his family. They had to learn, again and again, that their family was becoming a place where death and resurrection was not only accepted but welcomed and celebrated. But surely they deeply felt the dangerous agony of their loss — just like every couple who has lost a child.

What losses in your experience of family still cause you anxiety? In what ways has God’s presence seemingly vanished in your family? Will you keep searching for Jesus? Remember, he will rise and be found. Your family may be suffering, but when he is found, it will be stronger than ever before.

— Father John Muir

PRACTICING CHRISTIAN

FIND GOD IN ORDINARY MOMENTS

ALL IN THE FAMILY

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating – who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful – perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

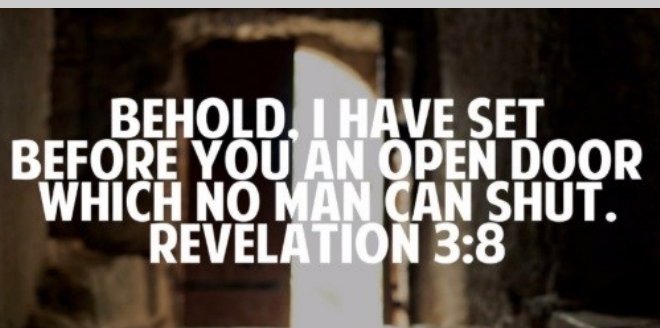
The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



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

NEW YEAR



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.



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

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

