



As we begin the second week of Advent, let us recall our motto for this season: we are climbing God's holy mountain. Our readings inspire us and help us focus for this journey toward holiness.

Our first reading from the prophet Isaiah continues the theme of a journey towards the holy mountain, the Kingdom of God. The prophet gives us a beautiful glimpse of this mountain, where Christ will reign forever. It will be a place of peace, justice, and harmony among all God's creatures. "There shall be no harm or ruin in all my holy mountain... [This] dwelling shall be glorious."

Our second reading, from St. Paul's letter to the Romans, encourages us to focus our preparation in this way: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God."

How has Christ welcomed us? By becoming one of us through His incarnation, one with us through the Eucharist, and freeing us from our sins through His death and resurrection so that we can finally live with him for all eternity in Heaven.

The idea of welcoming others as Christ welcomes us is the essence of Christian hospitality. This kind of hospitality involves seeing people as God sees them and being ready to invite others into our lives whenever and however God asks; it is an attitude we take with us wherever we go, whether at home, at the parish, or out and about at work, school, or in the community.

This kind of hospitality is a vital aspect of stewardship living. Fully embraced, it has the power to transform our lives and the lives of those who experience it through us.

The practice of Christian hospitality is also a way for us stewards to answer the call of John the Baptist in our Gospel passage from Matthew. John has the honor of preparing the people for the arrival of the Savior and the coming of the Kingdom of God. His words apply just as much to us in our own Advent preparations today. John says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" And he recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

Though it may not seem obvious at first, there is a definite connection between repentance and effective hospitality. By recognizing and repenting of our sins, we become aware of our need for a Savior and his great mercy towards us. With this awareness and the gratitude to God that comes with it, we are freed to see the good in others and welcome them into our lives just as Christ has welcomed us.

How can we put all of this into action? How can we make repentance a regular part of our everyday lives? We can make an "examination of conscience" a daily part of our prayers, thanking God for the times we said "yes" to Him, and asking forgiveness for the times we chose our own will. We can (and should!) go to Confession this Advent and then make it a regular part of our "Ordinary Time" too. We can reach out to a family member or friend where there is distance or discord and make peace.

As we "straighten the paths" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, and far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. We climb farther up God's holy mountain and attract others to join us on the path toward holiness. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

November 27, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,000.65
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 143.75
Helping Hands.....	\$ 252.00
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 100.00
Bulletin Adds.....	\$ 640.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 80.00
Campaign for Human Development..	\$ 412.52
Christmas Offering.....	\$ 60.00
Christmas Poinsettias.....	\$ 40.00

***Second Collection - December 11:
Retired Men & Women Religious***



MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

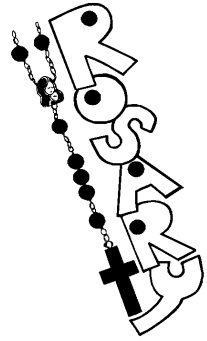
May God comfort the family and friends of
Ralph Garcia and Gregg Tatum

who died this past week.

Our sincere sympathy and assurances of prayers are extended to:

Elda, David, Eddie and the Garcia Family;
Gregg Jr, Nicole and the Tatum Family,

May they Rest in Peace



A SPECIAL INVITATION

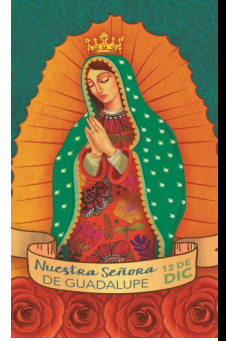
You are welcome to join the Guadalupanos in praying the Novena to **Our Lady of Guadalupe.**

The Novena will be prayed through Sunday, December 11.

We will meet / pray in the church each day at 6:15 pm.

(exceptions: *Thursday, December 8 @ 5:30 pm... and Sunday, December 11 @ 4 pm*)

Hope to see you there!



Christmas is just around the corner.

- We are preparing to decorate the altar with Christmas Poinsettias.

If you would like to help defray the costs of this Christian tradition, please pick up a Poinsettia Envelope from the table at the back of the church.



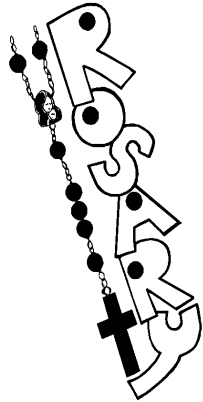
Navidad está a la vuelta de la esquina.

Nos estamos preparando para adornar el altar con flores de pascua de Navidad.

Si usted desea ayudar a sufragar los costos de esta tradición cristiana, por favor recoja un sobre de Poinsettia de la mesa en la parte posterior de la iglesia

Thank you.

Gracias.



**PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE
AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA**

Join us on Saturday, December 10th @ Noon as we pray to Keep Christ in Christmas and much, much more!

We will meet at the grotto outside the rectory...
Everyone is invited to participate!

For More Information contact:
David Barrera @ (210) 793-0794

Please join us...



**The Sacrament of Reconciliation
A Sacrament of Healing!**

Over time, many Catholics have lost sight of an important blessing of Confession... **HEALING!!**

A true gift from the Holy Spirit... when you feel separated from God and it feels as if the weight of the world is on your shoulders!

Confession brings you heart-to-heart with the Lord and His infinite mercy.

Come back to confession and find Peace!

**El sacramento de la Reconciliación
¡Un sacramento de sanación!**

Con el tiempo, muchos católicos han perdido de vista una importante bendición de la Confesión. ¡¡SANACIÓN!!

Un verdadero don del Espíritu Santo... cuando te sientes separado de Dios y sientes como si el peso del mundo estuviera sobre tus hombros!

La confesión te lleva de corazón a corazón con el Señor y Su infinita misericordia.

¡Vuelve a la confesión y encuentra la Paz!

SERVICIO DE PENITENCIA BILINGÜE

Habrà un Servicio de Penitencia Comunal el Martes, 13 de diciembre.

Serà precedido por un Examen de Conciencia.

Varios sacerdotes estaràn disponibles para escuchar confesiones individuales.

Aprovecha esta oportunidad para prepararte para la Navidad. Trae a la familia... Dile a un amigo...

¡Mantengamos ocupados a nuestros sacerdotes!

6:30 pm - Preparación con Examen de Conciencia

7:00 pm - Confesiones



BI-LINGUAL PENANCE SERVICE

There will be a Communal Penance Service Tuesday, December 13th.

It will be preceded by an Examination of Conscience.

Several priests will be available to hear Individual Confessions.

Take advantage of this opportunity to prepare for Christmas. Bring the family... tell a friend...

Let's keep our priests busy!!

6:30 pm - Preparation w/Examination of Conscience

7:00 pm - Confessions



We have a problem in our church... Not just here at STM, but the Church in general. The problem is that there are too many of our children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews who do not know their faith! Do not attend Mass or Religious-Ed classes... Who may not, have not been Baptized... or, if they were baptized... may, or may not, have made their First Holy Communion, or been Confirmed! This is sad.

Our primary job as spouses, parents, grandparents, god-parents, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, etc... is to get our loved ones to heaven! Granted, everyone ultimately 'speaks for themselves' but it is up to us to get them started down the right path until such time as they are able to take the *baton of faith* and continue the race on their own merit. If we fail in this, we're falling down on the job!

I can't think of anything that would be worse than being in heaven (*forever the optimist*), looking for a loved one, and finding they 'didn't make it...' and then realizing there was something I could have said or done to get them there... and didn't!!
Think about that for a minute!

Prayer / faith / religion etc. seems to have become "woman's work"... look around. Most of the people at Mass *are women...* most at Adoration / Holy Hour *are women...* most participating in our Rosary and Prayer groups *are women...* most involved with the Divine Mercy devotion *are women...* See a pattern? Where were the men? Ladies... get your husband, your children, family and friends involved... who can turn down a request from mom or grandma? Even Jesus couldn't!

Men... it's time to stand up... lead your family in matters of faith! It's what we promised to do as the head of our household! It's what we promised at our (*and our children's*) Baptism! If you feel it's too late... you haven't been the best of examples... your kids are older or grown... it's not! It's never too late! Now is the perfect time to start...

You've heard the old saying that 'God works in mysterious ways...' Well, that's a fact! I challenge you... to get out there! With this New Year / Advent... Learn more about your faith... so you can pass it on to others. Until next time... God Bless- DT.

NURSING HOME VISITATION



Before COVID we had 2 '*Teams*' of ***Dedicated Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*** that would bring Our Lord in the Most Blessed Eucharist weekly (*usually on Saturday mornings*) to the residents of the Northeast and Heritage Rehab Centers (*on Corrine and Eisenhower Rd respectively*).

The Pandemic shut everything down and the '*Teams*' fell apart. The Nursing / Rehab Centers have reopened and the residents have been asking us to return.

If you would like to be on a '*Team*' to bring Our Lord to our brothers / sisters please let Deacon Tim - or - the Parish Office know.

Thank you in advance for your caring response...

God Bless-

VISITAS A HOGARES DE ANCIANOS

Antes de COVID teníamos 2 '*Equipos*' de ***Ministros Extraordinarios Dedicados de la Sagrada Comunión*** que traerían Nuestro Señor en la Santísima Eucaristía semanalmente (*generalmente los sábados por la mañana*) a los residentes del NorthEast y Heritage Centros de rehabilitación (*en Corrine y Eisenhower Rd respectivamente*).

La pandemia cerró todo y el los '*equipos*' se desmoronaron. Los Centros de Enfermería / Rehabilitación han reabierto y los residentes nos han estado pidiendo que regresemos.

Si desea estar en un '*Equipo*' para traer a Nuestro Señor a nuestros hermanos / hermanas por favor deje que el diácono Rolando - o - la Oficina Parroquial lo sabe.

Gracias de antemano por su respuesta cariñosa...

Dios los bendiga-

LAS POSADAS

The Coro Alegria will be having hosting a "Posada" on Sunday, December 18th beginning at 6 pm.

Everyone is invited to join us as we re-enact Mary and Joseph's search for lodging as they await the birth of the baby Jesus.



The procession will begin in the church parking lot and travel/walk to three homes in the area to ask for "shelter". It will end in Carolan Hall as the doors are opened and the pilgrims are welcomed in.

A light supper will be served and festivities

LAS MAÑANITAS

The Coro Alegria and the Grupo de Oracion will lead our parishioners in singing the "***Las Mañanitas***" to Our Lady of Guadalupe starting at 6am on Monday December 12th inside the Church.



Coffee and pan dulce will be served following the serenade to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This Week at Our Parish

Sunday, December 4, 2022
 11:00 am Assembly Mass - *Church*
 1:00 pm Parish Assembly - *Carolan Hall*
 6:15 pm Guadalupano Novena / 2 - *Church*

Monday, December 5, 2022
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*
 5:00 pm Cenaculo de la Divina Misericordia - *RMR*
 6:15 pm Guadalupano Novena / 3 - *Church*

Tuesday, December 6, 2022
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*
 5:30 pm Divine Mercy - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 6:15 pm Guadalupano Novena / 4 - *Church*
 6:30 pm Coro Alegria Choir Practice - *Rectory Mtg Room*
 7:00 pm Grupo Choir Practice - *Church*

Wednesday, December 7, 2022
 10:30 am English Group - Core Meeting - *RMR*
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*
 6:00 pm KC 3rd Degree Officers Mtg - *Carolan Hall*
 6:15 pm Guadalupano Novena / 5 - *Church*
 7:00 pm Guadalupano Choir Practice - *Church*

Thursday, December 8, 2022 - Immac Conception
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - **CANCELLED**
 5:30 pm Guadalupano Novena / 6 - *Church*
 7:00 pm RCIA - **CANCELLED**

Friday, December 9, 2022
 12:00 pm Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - *Church*
 7:00 pm la Hora Santa / Grupo de Oracion - *Church*
 6:15 pm Guadalupano Novena / 7 - *Church*

Saturday, December 10, 2022
 12:00 pm Rosary Crusade - *Grotto Outside Parish Office*
 4:00 pm Reconciliation - *Church*
 6:15 pm Guadalupano Novena / 8 - *Church*

Sunday, December 11, 2022
 8:30 am KC Breakfast - *Carolan Hall*
 11:00 am School Christmas Festival / Breakfast - *Carolan Hall*
 4:00 pm Guadalupano Novena / 9 - *Church*

Lecturas de la Semana del 5 - 11 Dec

Lunes: Is 35:1-10; Sal 85:10-14; Lc 5:17-26
Martes: Is 40:1-11; Sal 96:1-3,10-13; Mt 18:12-14
Miércoles: Is 40:25-31; Sal 103:1-4,8,10; Mt 11:28-30
Jueves: Gn 3:9-15,20; Sal 98:1-4; Ef 1:3-6,11-12;
 Lc 1:26-38
Viernes: Is 48:17-19; Sal 1:1-4,6; Mt 11:16-19
Sábado: Eclo 48:1-4,9-11; Sal 80:2,3,15-16,18-19;
 Mt 17:9,10-13
Domingo: Is 35:1-6,10; Sal 145:7-10; Sant 5:7-10;
 Mt 11:2-11

Readings for the week of Dec 5 - 11

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:10-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3,10-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4,8,10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Gn 3:9-15,20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6,11-12;
 Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4,6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4,9-11; Ps 80:2ac,3b,15-16,18-19;
 Mt 17:9-13
Sunday: Is 35:1-6a,10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10;
 Mt 11:2-11

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 3, 2022
 8:00 am †Sylvia Hernandez by Flor Mata
STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased

Sunday, December 4, 2022
 11:00 am †Felipe Salazar by Bill & Linda Volpenhein
 †Theresi Hoi by Kim Nguyen

Monday, December 5, 2022
 8:00 am †Kevin McCarthy by Family
 †Michael Boudreaux, Sr

Tuesday, December 6, 2022
 8:00 am †Al Weinheimer by Carolyn Weinheimer
Birthday - Michael Garber by Margie Murray

Wednesday, December 7, 2022
 8:00 am †Juan Suarez by Suarez Family
†All Souls by Kim Nguyen

Thursday, December 8, 2022 (Immaculate Conception)
 8:00 am †Vicente Khanh by Kim Nguyen
 12:00 pm †Christina C. Dominguez by Dominguez Family
 †Michael Boudreaux, Sr by Family
 6:30 pm †Yolanda Faz & †Ignacio Perez, Sr
 by Jesse Perez & Family
 †Maria Piedad Mendoza & All Souls in Purgatory
 By Rita Palominos

Friday, December 9, 2022
 8:00 am †Rosie Reyes & Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes
 †Tom Schleigh by Theresa Schleigh

Saturday, December 10, 2022
 8:00 am †Josheph Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen
 †Diana Sue Rangel Duncan by Delgado/Gonzalez Family
 5:00 pm †Misty Dawn & Roxanne Espinoza by Mom,Dad & Sister
 †Vicente Nghiep by Kim Nguyen

Sunday, December 11, 2022
 8:00 am †Juan Suarez by Suarez Family
STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased
 10:00 am †Juan Urbano by Teresa Clark
 †Medardo E Morales & Evangelina G Morales by Family
 12:00 pm †Theresa Hoi by Kim Nguyen
Thanksgiving by Kim Nguyen



Sanctuary Light Intention:

Mary Monteverdi

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, December 10, 2022
 5 pm Altar Servers - (None)
 Eucharistic Ministers - DC John, S.Chapa, M.Fisher, T.G.Garza
 Lector - R.Alvarado

Sunday, December 11, 2022
 8 am Altar Servers - (None)
 Eucharistic Ministers - T.S.Garza, B.McQueen, R.Saldiva, P.Klar
 Lector - P.Klar

10 am Altar Servers - (Volunteers)
 Eucharistic Ministers -Y.Aguilar, Sr.Eucharía, A.Fuentes, L.Gifford
 Lector - M.Briseno

12 pm Altar Servers - (Volunteers)
 Eucharistic Ministers - R.Gomez, I.Hernandez, L.Lopez, M.Pina
 Lector - R.Borrego / A.Chavez