

# St. Jerome Catholic Church

*As parishioners of St. Jerome and as Catholic disciples of Jesus Christ, we respond to our Lord's invitation to walk with Him in the Sacraments and prayer, to deepen our faith through lifelong formation, to serve those in need, and to invite others to the fullness of the Catholic faith through His Holy Word and the teaching of His Church.*

## PASTORAL TEAM

**Rev. Tom Morgan**  
Pastor

**Rev. Robert Cadrecha**  
Parochial Vicar

**Deacon Fred Kunder**  
Permanent Deacon

**Sr. Lucia Brady, OSC**  
Pastoral Care / Outreach  
Life Long Formation

## RETIRED

**Msgr. Brendan Muldoon**  
Pastor Emeritus

**Rev. Gregory Reisert, OFM Cap.**  
Assisting Priest

**Msgr. Dacian Dee**  
Assisting Priest

## FORMATION TEAM

**Lisa Brett-Reeves**  
Coordinator of Catechesis  
of the Good Shepherd

**Tina Bowen**  
Youth and Family Coordinator

## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

**Cindi Munroe**  
**Karen Kurt**

## MUSIC TEAM

**Tom Kurt**, Music Director  
**Erica DiCeglie**, Asst. Music Director

## BETHLEHEM CENTRE

**Joanne Biamonte**, Coordinator  
727-596-9394

## EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

**Denise Roach**, Administrator  
727-596-9491

## FACILITIES

**Chris Grevenites**, Manager  
facilities@stjeromeonline.org

## Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday,  
9:30 am-4:30 pm

## Address:

10895 Hamlin Blvd,  
Largo, FL 33774  
Tel: (727) 595-4610  
Web: [www.stjeromeonline.org](http://www.stjeromeonline.org)  
receptionist@stjeromeonline.org

**Saturday Vigil Mass: 4pm & 5:30pm**  
**Sunday Mass: 7:30am, 9am, 10:45am, 12:30pm & 5pm**  
**Daily Mass, Monday - Saturday: 7am & 9am in the Holy Family Chapel**

**Holy Family Chapel** open 24 hours every day;  
**Confessions**, Saturday: 3pm - 3:45pm; **Anointing of the Sick**, last weekend of the month Saturday 9:30am & Sunday 1:30pm;  
**Holy Hour and Benediction**, 1st & 3rd Friday 9:30am - 10:30am



## December 23, 2018

# LOVE

*...blessed is the fruit of your womb.*

Lk 1:42

## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Christmas Eve

- 4pm Church Mass with Nativity
- 4pm Parish Center Mass ONLY
- 6pm Mass
- 11pm Concert
- 12am Midnight Mass

### Christmas Day

- 7:30am Mass
- 9am Mass
- 10:45am Mass
- 12:30pm Mass

\*There will be NO 5pm  
Mass on Christmas Day.

## Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation

December 31, 2018 - 4pm Vigil Mass

January 1, 2019 - Holy Day Masses at 7:30am, 9am, 10:45am, 12:30pm

\*There will be NO 5pm Mass on New Year's Day.





# OH COME, OH COME Emmanuel

Dear Friends:

Advent brings us to Bethlehem this week as we journey with Joseph and Mary. We anticipate our Christmas Mass celebration this week. The schedule for Christmas is:



### Christmas Eve – Monday December 24:

4pm Mass and Children’s Nativity Pageant (in the church) and 4pm Mass (in the parish center), 6pm Mass, 11pm Choir Concert, and 12am Midnight Mass.

### Christmas Day – Tuesday December 25:

7:30am, 9am, 10:45am, and 12:30pm.  
(There will be no 5pm Mass on Christmas).

If you will be traveling and away for our parish, please know that the priests will be remembering you and all of our parishioners in our Christmas Masses. May the Holy Family keep you safe as you travel.

We have included in this week’s bulletin prayers for the home for the blessing of a: Christmas tree, Manger scene, and an expectant mother. Please see page 4.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Fr. Tom Morgan



### Question & Mission of the Week:

#### Question:

What is your attitude toward adolescents, the elderly, the unborn, the poor? What does it mean that salvation came to the world first through them?

#### Mission:

Respect littleness. Make this a season to honor children, the elderly, the poor. Make a commitment to the life of the womb. Represent the powerless in the places where you wield power. Experience the joy of Christmas!

### Christmas Novena: Prayed through December 24

Hail, and blessed be the hour and moment at which the Son of God was born of a most pure Virgin at a stable at midnight in Bethlehem in the piercing cold. At that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, to hear my prayers and grant my desires. (Mention your intentions here) Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

FORMED.ORG St. Jerome Parish Access Code: **DVD3DQ**

### FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

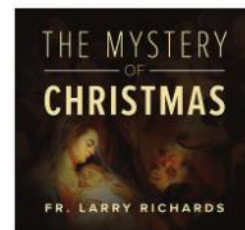
## The Mystery of Christmas

By Fr. Larry Richards

Unwrap the Greatest Gift Ever Given with Fr. Larry Richards

With humor, compassion, and clarity, Fr. Larry illuminates the true joy of Christmas and inspires us to better recognize, receive and respond to God’s immense love for us.

Listen on [formed.org](http://formed.org)



“Fr. Richards challenged me to enter into the Christmas story with my eyes opened ... not just by celebrating Jesus’ birth, but by participating in his life!”

—Maureen, Spencer, NY



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 22

#### Vigil for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 pm † Paula Weber - Birthday Remembrance Fr. Cadrecha  
5:30 pm † Charles Nagy Fr. Tom

### Sunday, December 23

#### The Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 am **All the People of the Parish** Fr. Tom  
9:00 am † Joyce Drennan Fr. Cadrecha  
10:45 am † Joao, Arminda, Isabel Martins - 4th Anniversary Fr. Waters  
12:30 pm † Mario Santangelo Fr. Tom  
5:00 pm † Kapusta Family Fr. Cadrecha

### Monday, December 24

7:00 am † Sue Leary Fr. Cadrecha  
9:00 am † Carol Sweetland Fr. Tom

#### Christmas Eve

4:00 pm † Lois Marie & Garrett McKernan Fr. Tom / **CHURCH & Nativity**  
4:00 pm † Deceased Benefactors Msgr. Muldoon / **PARISH CENTER & No Nativity**  
6:00 pm † Sr. Helen Conway, OSC - 10th Anniversary Fr. Cadrecha  
11:00 pm Choir Concert **CHURCH**  
12:00 am **All the People of the Parish** Fr. Tom & All Priests

### Tuesday, December 25

#### The Nativity of the Lord

7:30 am † Theresa Kelly Msgr. Muldoon  
9:00 am † Jimmy White Fr. Waters  
10:45 am † Margaret Harneit - 26th Anniversary Fr. Tom  
12:30 pm † Carolyn Russo & Gregory John Fr. Cadrecha

### Wednesday, December 26

7:00 am **For the Intentions of Edward Wysocki** Msgr. Muldoon  
9:00 am † Delbert Fischer Fr. Malloy

### Thursday, December 27

7:00 am † Jean Louis Beaulieu Fr. Reisert  
9:00 am † Anne Flanagan Msgr. Muldoon

### Friday, December 28

7:00 am † Christine Huffine Msgr. Muldoon  
9:00 am † Gregorio Mallare - 7th Anniversary Fr. Reisert

### Saturday, December 29

7:00 am † Lucien Beaulieu - 2nd Anniversary Fr. Cadrecha  
8:45 am Novena Fr. Tom  
9:00 am † Dorothy & Tony Mazzone Fr. Tom

### Saturday, December 29

#### Vigil for the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

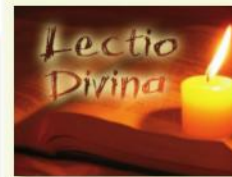
4:00 pm † Charles & Wilhelmina Farley Msgr. Muldoon  
5:30 pm † Vicky Darnell Fr. Waters

### Sunday, December 30

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

7:30 am † Wilk Family Fr. Waters  
9:00 am **All the People of the Parish** Fr. Tom  
10:45 am † Dale Schallert Fr. Tom  
12:30 pm † Maria Kapusta Fr. Cadrecha  
5:00 pm † George "Chipper" Burgess Fr. Cadrecha

\*Priest Schedule subject to change. \*\*If there is a Mass intention error, please contact Pat Cummings in the Parish Office.



## Scripture Readings

*Prepare & Pray the Word of God*



Today's Readings: **December 23, 2018**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80; He 10:5-10;**  
**Lk 1:39-45**

**Monday, December 17**

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89; Lk 1:67-79

**Tuesday, December 18**

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]. Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14. Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20. Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

**Wednesday, December 19**

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31; Mt 10:17-22

**Thursday, December 20**

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Friday, December 21**

1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124; Mt 2:13-18

**Saturday, December 22**

1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96; Lk 2:22-35

**Next Sunday's Readings:**

**December 30, 2018 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128 or Ps 84; Col 3:12-21 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52**

**First Reading** — Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14.

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) or Psalm 128.

**Second Reading** — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2, 21-24) or Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17].

**Gospel** — The boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They found him in the temple, in the midst of the teachers (Luke 2:41-52).

**PRAY: FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY**

**For our Sick, especially ...**

**Matthew Johnson, Antoinette Brenner, Karelene Tellone, Brian Johns & Angele Bennett**

**... May they again experience health of mind and body.**

The Christmas Flower list of donors and memorial/honored names will be printed in the bulletin on January 13th, the Baptism of the Lord, the last Sunday of the Christmas season. Watch for that special bulletin and thanks to all our generous donors.



### Prayer for Expectant Mothers During the Christmas Season

+ Sign of the Cross

**P**ayer: *Lord God, Creator of the human race, your Son, through the working of the Holy Spirit, was born of a woman, so that He might pay the age-old debt of sin and save us by His redemption. Receive with kindness the prayer of your servant as she asks for the birth of a healthy child. Grant that she may safely deliverer a son or daughter to serve you in all things, and to gain eternal life. We ask this through Christ the Lord. All: Amen.*

+ Sign of the Cross



### Prayers for the Home: Christmas Tree

When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung. The leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply "Amen." The leader may greet those present in the following words:

*Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and forever. R/. Amen.*

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:

*My brothers and sisters, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea: his birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light.*

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Titus 3:4 (lines 4-7) or Ezekiel 17:22 (lines 22-24 4; I will plant a tender shoot on the mountain heights of Israel.)

Reader: *The Word of the Lord. R/. Thanks be to God.*

The intercessions are then said. The leader says:

*Let us ask God to send his blessing upon us and upon this sign of our faith in the Lord.*

**R/. Lord, give light to our hearts.**

That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on which Christ accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

That the joy of Christmas may always be in our homes, let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

That the peace of Christ may dwell in our hearts and in the world, let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer. The leader says the prayer with hands joined:

*Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: He is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love.*

*Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. R/. Amen.*

The lights of the tree are then illuminated. The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying: *May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now and forever. R/. Amen.*

The blessing concludes with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

— From "Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers"



### Prayers for the Home: Manger

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

*Our help is in the name of the Lord. R/. Who made heaven and earth.*

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: *The Gospel of the Lord. R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

The leader prays with hands joined:

*God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.*

*Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. R/. Amen.*

—From "Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers"





If you would like to explore the possibility of becoming Catholic or if you are Catholic and want to better understand your faith, we invite you to join us on a journey of discovery. We journey together and that is exactly what the RCIA is all about, journeying together toward a deeper relationship with Christ and a deeper understanding of our Catholic Faith.

For more information contact:  
Deacon Fred Kunder at the office 727-595-4610 or visit our website at: <http://www.stjeromeonline.org/rcia.html>

We meet in the RCIA room  
in Education Building at 7:00 pm.

### RESPIRE CARE MINISTRY

Interested in giving caregivers a couple of hours to socialize with friends and accomplish important errands while you sit with their loved ones?

To volunteer, please contact Ellen Crabtree, 727-595-4610.



The object of the Legion of Mary is the Glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active cooperation in Mary's and the Church's work. The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of each individual. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, both in their homes and in hospitals, nursing facilities, ALFs, and through collaboration in apostolate and missionary works sponsored by the parish. Every Legionary is required to carry out a weekly apostolic work in the spirit of faith and in union with Mary. We meet weekly in the Ed Kilroy Center on Thursday at 10am. For more info call Rhea Gasway 727-815-6400 or Elrita Basak 727-421-7894.



Want to get involved in a ministry at St. Jerome, but don't know where to start?

Please contact Ellen Crabtree, our volunteer coordinator, at 727-595-4610, for more details or to sign up for any of our St. Jerome ministries. We especially invite all our winter visitors to get involved. We want your friendly faces and suggestions!

### GET READY FOR FR. CADRECHA'S 12 WEEK COURSE IN CHRISTIAN PRAYER!!!!

Fr. Cadrecha will present an Ignatian 12 Week Course in Prayer every Tuesday beginning January 15<sup>th</sup> in the Education Building TV Lounge. Join him and your fellow parishioners as you grow deeper in your prayer life. Every week will have a different theme which is based on Scripture tradition.

Two sessions will be offered: 10am and 7pm.  
Watch the bulletin for more details!



### Alcoholics Anonymous

AA meets weekly on Monday, Tuesday and Friday at 8pm in the Ed Kilroy Outreach Building. All Meetings are Open.

**Al-Anon** meets every Monday at 1pm in the Ed Kilroy Outreach Building.





### St. Jerome Early Childhood Center

Denise Roach, ECC Administrator  
preschool@stjeromeecc.org

Tel: 727-596-9491  
stjeromeearlychildhoodcenter.org



St. Jerome Early Childhood Center: School is back in session! Space available in our three class this school year! St. Jerome ECC offers a faith-filled, developmentally appropriate, and nurturing Catholic environment for children ages two, three, and four. Our VPK classes are free to all eligible four year olds. Full and half day options are available.

St. Jerome ECC is the only nationally accredited (NAEYC) Catholic preschool in Pinellas County and was voted Best Preschool by TBN. All are welcome! For additional information and forms, please call the ECC office at 727-596-9491, email at [preschool@stjeromeecc.org](mailto:preschool@stjeromeecc.org) or visit our website at [stjeromeearlychildhoodcenter.org](http://stjeromeearlychildhoodcenter.org).



MOPS.ORG

better moms, better world

**We are moms, and we believe that better moms make a better world.**

MOPs stands for Mothers Of Preschoolers, but we love ALL moms – no matter your child’s age. A MOPs group is an open, accepting place for all mothers to experience authentic community, personal growth, practical help and spiritual hope. What Happens: Share life with other moms, hear relevant speakers, group discussion & great food. Free childcare provided.

**When:** Monday, January 7th, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

**Where:** St. Jerome Catholic Church, Education Building

**How:** Contact Tina Bowen 727-595-3100 ext. 302 or [youthandfamily@stjeromeonline.org](mailto:youthandfamily@stjeromeonline.org)

**FIND YOUR FIRE**

**JOIN US ... AND FIND YOUR TRIBE!**

**The celebration begins!  
Merry Christmas!**

**We wish each of you  
and your families  
a time filled with  
joy and celebration!  
Christmas blessing to all!**



**Please remember  
CGS will not  
take place  
in the atria  
(Mass is class)  
on the  
following dates:  
Dec. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31  
and Jan. 1, 13, 14, 15.**



**CHILDREN'S  
LITURGY OF THE  
WORD MINISTRY!**

Children's Liturgy of the Word is available for all children who have not yet received their First Communion the 9am Mass. It will be held the first and last Sunday of every month now through May.



There will be no Middle School or High School Faith Formation classes 12/23 or 12/30 due to Christmas Break. **We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas!** Classes resume January 6th.

Please plan to join us for our next **Fun Friday** event on January 4th from 6-8pm. Bundle up for a NEW YEAR Bonfire Party with music, s'mores and games! Bring your friends!

## SHARE: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SACRIFICE!

### Offertory Collection - December 9, 2018

Offertory Envelopes .....	\$	9,631.00
Loose Cash .....	\$	2,769.00
Loose Checks .....	\$	2,172.00
e-giving.....	\$	1,575.00
<b>Total Offertory .....</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>16,147.00</b>



*Thank you for your faithful stewardship to our parish!*

### Annual Pastoral Appeal Update as of December 11, 2018

2018 Goal .....	\$292,644.00
Paid .....	\$129,317.00
Remaining balance:	\$163,327
# Participating Families:...	366



**We appreciate all who made pledges to the 2018 Annual Pastoral Appeal. Thank you!**

**Tax Free Charitable Distribution from your IRA Account at age 70 ½!** Congress has permanently enacted qualified charitable distributions from your traditional IRA accounts. These distributions can be used to satisfy all or a portion of your Required Minimum Distribution. These distributions are free of federal and state income tax. Additionally, these gifts help you avoid the Medicare high income surcharge and can help to reduce taxes on your social security benefits. Distributions must be made directly from your IRA account to St. Jerome.



**Our parish will be updating all parishioner records in January 2019.** The weekend of January 12th and 13th we will have cards in the pews for you to complete with your current email addresses and phone numbers. You can complete the cards and drop them into the offertory baskets during Masses that weekend and the next. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep updated so we can keep YOU updated on all parish activities.

### St. Jerome Healthy Ministry

For more information on the St. Jerome Health Ministry and its programs, please call or email Dr. Shyler Neveux D.O.M., Chairman at 727-386-9877 or [stjeromehealthministry@gmail.com](mailto:stjeromehealthministry@gmail.com).

For the parishioners of St. Jerome our Faith Community Nurses are providing **Blood Pressure Readings** Sundays, 8:30am - 11am in the Parish Center. Volunteer Nurses wanted! Call or email Beth or Pat at 727-386-9783 or [stjeromenurses@gmail.com](mailto:stjeromenurses@gmail.com).

*"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." Jn 10:10*

**Handwashing:** Handwashing is something that we all can do better. Touching of the mucus membranes of the eyes, nose or mouth is how infectious disease enters the body. Avoid spreading respiratory germs follow the 4 Principles of Hand Awareness:

- Wash your hands when they are dirty and before eating.**
- DO NOT cough into your hands**
- DO NOT sneeze into your hands**
- DO NOT put your fingers into your nose, eyes or mouth**



Reference: <https://www.henrythehand.com/news-events/national-handwashing-awareness-week/>

### Influenza Vaccination Prevention

The best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated every year. In addition to preventing flu and flu associated hospitalizations, the flu vaccine can reduce cardiac events in people with heart disease, reduce hospitalizations for people with diabetes and chronic lung disease, prevent childhood deaths associated with the flu, reduce the risk of respiratory infection for pregnant women, reduce the severity of respiratory associated illness, and protect people around you from getting the flu.



Reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaccine-benefits.htm>



**Daily Rosary**

The Holy Rosary is prayed Monday through Saturday at 7:30am in the Holy Family Chapel. Every Wednesday after the Rosary join us for the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Every Friday after the Rosary we will have the Stations of the Cross.

**Weekly Rosary**

The Holy Rosary is prayed every Wednesday at 7pm in the Holy Family Chapel for Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life.

**Morning Prayer**

You are welcome to join us for Morning Prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours Monday through Friday at 8:40am.

**Mother of Perpetual Help Novena**

The Mother of Perpetual Help Novena is held every Saturday at 8:45 am.



Grief Support  
loving support for those who are hurting

**GRIEF SHARE**

Grief Share is a grief recovery support group where you can find help and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one. Our sessions are Thursdays and are held in the Education Building TV Lounge from 10am – 11:30am every Thursday. We look forward to you joining our group and feeling the support and compassion we experience in our meetings. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Selak 727-415-8742.

**Lifeline**

is continually in need of the following non-perishable food items which can be left in the LIFELINE bins in the church:



- boxed macaroni and cheese
- pasta/spaghetti
- boxed mashed potatoes
- beef stew
- hearty canned soups
- canned pork and beans
- peanut butter and grape jelly
- canned vegetables (corn, beans, carrots)
- pasta sauce
- canned fruit
- canned tuna
- rice (2 lb. bag)
- cereal

**Thank you for your generosity!**

Lifeline is open on Wednesday mornings and the last Saturday morning of each month.

This month Lifeline is open Saturday, December 29th.

Please call 727-351-4756 to request assistance.

**The Homeless Ministry ...**

Thanks to the generosity of St. Jerome parishioners. The Homeless Ministry is pleased to be able to feed approximately 200 dinners to residents at Pinellas Hope. Each dinner includes a healthy variety of main courses, such as beef stew or chicken cacciatore. In addition, vegetables, stuffing, deviled eggs, bread and pastries are provided. PB & J sandwiches and fruit are also distributed for a future need. Volunteers prepare at the Parish Center during the day each Monday and serve at Pinellas Hope for 7pm dinner. We do not cook or serve the last Monday of each month.



Please contact Pat or Rich Jennings 727-289-7550 for more information. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated!

**FEEDING THE HOMELESS**



**Blessing Bags for the Homeless:**

The weekend of January 6th and January 13th we will be in the Gathering Space collecting items to put together "Blessing Bags" for the homeless. We would gladly take food items for lunch sacks (such as cereal bars, PB crackers, beef sticks, dried fruit), rain ponchos, socks, hand cleaner, hats, scarves and gloves, toiletries. A group of our parishioners have the bags in their cars, and as they see someone needy on the street, they hand out a bag with these items, information about long term food and shelter options, a day bus pass, etc. Please be generous and stop by the table. We are grateful for all donations!

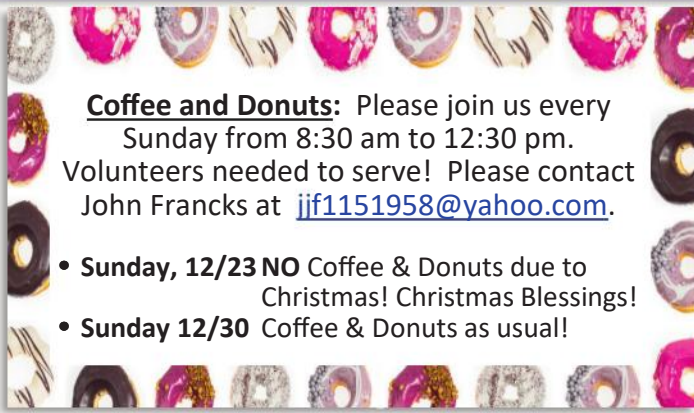


**Gift Shop:**

Don't forget to pick up your Little Blue Book for Advent in the Gift Shop or gathering space.  
**Pray Advent in 6 minutes a day !!!**

The gift shop has Advent wreaths and candles, Bambinellis and *Illuminatio* sets, as well as many gifts to make your Christmas season more meaningful. We now also carry a line of Pets 4 Christ merchandise. Come on over and give us a try! Come check out our religious articles and books **every Sunday from 8:30am – 12:30pm.**

This Sunday is the last Sunday to get your Christmas gifts from the gift shop! Come on over! Gift shop will be closed Sunday, Dec 23. Merry Christmas to all from Carol & Carol!



**Coffee and Donuts:** Please join us every Sunday from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Volunteers needed to serve! Please contact John Francks at [jif1151958@yahoo.com](mailto:jif1151958@yahoo.com).

- Sunday, 12/23 NO Coffee & Donuts due to Christmas! Christmas Blessings!
- Sunday 12/30 Coffee & Donuts as usual!

**50+ Singles**

There will be no December meeting due to Christmas. Come and join us for fun, fellowship and refreshments in the New Year on Tuesday, January 22nd at 6:30pm in the Parish Center! For more information, contact Barbara Austin coordinator at 727-459-7664.



The Bethlehem Centre invites all of our senior parishioners and friends to join in the activities listed below in the Education Building. For info on classes or to register, contact Joanne Biamonte at 727-596-9394.

**Bethlehem Centre**

Art (Acrylic)	Fr	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Rm 5/6
Art (Watercolor)	Tu	10am – 2pm	Rm 5/6
Bridge	Tu, Fr	11:45 am - 3:00 pm	Hall
Exercise	Tu, Fr	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Hall
Pinocle	Tu, Fr	12:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Lounge
Spanish	Tu	10:00 am - 11:00 am	Rm 8
Tai Chi	Tu & Fr	10:30 am - 11:30 am	Hall
Yoga	We/Fr	10:30 am - 11:30 am	Lounge
Zumba	We	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Hall

\*Bethlehem Center will be closed 12/20/18 to 1/1/19. See you again for classes on 1/2/19!

**Bethlehem Centre Senior Lunch Program**

Please join us in the Parish Center on Tuesdays from 11:30am – 12pm (salad and beverage are available at 11:15am) Come early to meet old friends and make new ones. Donation \$6.00

Lunches Resume on 1/8/2019



**Bingo** is a fun, social and good time every Thursday in the Parish Center. Doors open at 10am.

Early bird begins at 12pm followed by the regular games, ending around 3pm.

In keeping with the generosity of our church, if you bring in a can or a box of food for the poor, we will give you a free bingo card for a special game. One card per can every week!

12/27 NO BINGO - See you in the New Year!  
 1/3/19 BINGO as usual!



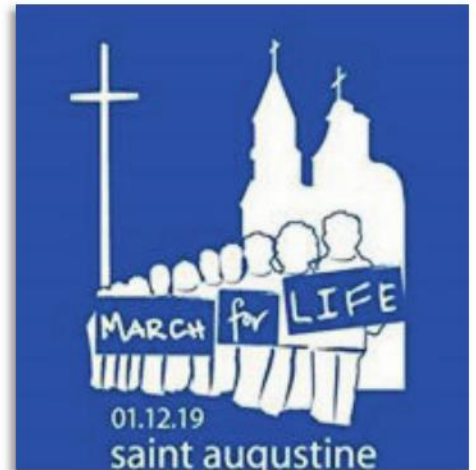
The Martha and Mary Guild cordially invites all women of the Parish to attend a complimentary lunch in the Parish Center on Wednesday, January 2nd at 11:00am. Lynn Kimsel will speak about the Humane Society of Pinellas in Clearwater.

You are also welcome to join us at the 10:45am Mass on Sunday, January 6th, which we attend as a group.

The Martha and Mary Guild is a Social Ministry which donates money to St. Jerome through our fundraisers.

The Martha and Mary Guild is holding a Bake Sale on Sunday, January 20th in the Gathering Space after the 9am and 10:45am Masses only. Get your delicious desserts and support the church at the same time!

**Diocese of St. Petersburg  
March for Life  
St. Augustine Bus Trip  
Saturday, January 12, 2019**



March for Life St. Augustine is for anyone of any faith who believes in the sanctity of human life. The 2018 March drew nearly 3,000 people, not just from northeast Florida, but as far as Palm Beach, Miami, and St. Petersburg. Not to mention Savannah, Georgia! If you would like to take a stand for life in the nation's oldest city, we encourage you to make the pilgrimage - March for Life St. Augustine is well worth the trip!

Cost: \$40.00/adults and \$20.00/ages 13 and younger- Includes turkey sandwich boxed lunch. Vegetarian alternative if requested in advance.

\*Important: Please arrive at the Parish 20 MINUTES PRIOR to departure time!

- 5:40 AM Depart from **St. Catherine of Siena Parish**, 1955 South Belcher Road, Clearwater, FL 33764
- 6:30 AM Depart from **St. Francis of Assisi Parish**, 4450 CR 579, Seffner, FL 33584 for Mission Nombre de Dios
- 9:45 am Live music and info booths at Mission Nombre de Dios
- 10:30 am Peaceful procession begins with speakers and will finish with the keynote speaker in the Plaza

**Featured Speaker: RYAN BOMBERGER**

Ryan Bomberger is an Emmy® Award-winning creative professional, international public speaker, citizen journalist, factivist, and author of the book, *Not Equal: Civil Rights Gone Wrong*. He is also the co-founder of [RadianceFoundation.org](http://RadianceFoundation.org), a life-affirming organization based on the belief that every human life has purpose.

\* After the March, participants are welcome to walk around Old St. Augustine or enjoy the Spaghetti dinner (\$10 donation) at the Cathedral. Meal is free for those age 9 and under.

- 3:30 PM: All buses will board at Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine.

**Give a gift this Christmas that keeps on giving: the Bloom Who You Are Retreat!**

The "Bloom Who You Are: Lights Shining in the Darkness" will be held **January 19-20** in Tampa/Oldsmar, FL. Speakers include: Fr. Richard McAlear, OMI, Johnnette Benkovic Williams, Judy Landrieu Klein, Carol Marquardt, Susan Potvin and Denise Dolff. Enjoy a time of healing, inspiration and encouragement with other women as you grow deeper in the awareness and understanding of your natural and supernatural gifts. Optional tracks include the SMILE Leadership Retreat, **January 18** with Denise Dolff and the Young Women of Grace Retreat, January 19th with the Young Women of Grace Leadership Team and other guest speakers. Register at [events.womenofgrace.com](http://events.womenofgrace.com) or call 1-800-558-5452. Space is limited. **Deadline is Friday, January 14th.**

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ecumenical Prayer Service**

St. Jerome will be participating in the upcoming Ecumenical Prayer Service with many of our neighboring Christian churches. All are invited to join us on **Thursday, January 24th at 7pm** at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church located at 455 Missouri Avenue North, Largo. In these times where many feel our nation is divided, we come together for prayer, song and scripture to serve as encouragement and a reminder of God who holds us and keeps us all.



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