

JOY

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit




Annunciation
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Mission
Annunciation hearts are burning
to know, love and serve God
by loving and serving others.

December 17, 2023 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Phone: 407-869-9472 Fax: 407-869-4661
1020 Montgomery Rd, Alt. Springs, FL 32714

info@annunciationorlando.org
www.annunciationorlando.org

Mass Intentions for this Weekend

SAT, Dec 16	(Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13)
8:00am	Olga Vucemilovic†
5:00pm	Special Intention
SUN, Dec 17	(Third Sunday of Advent)
8:00am	Jack Gelinast†
10:00am	People of Our Parish
	Maria Marcellan†
12:00pm	Catherine Sikorski†
5:30pm	Esteban and Tilla Medina†

Mass Intentions for the coming Week

MON, Dec 18	(Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25)
7:00 am	Sienna Grace Beauchesne†
12:15pm	Peter Zalewski†
TUE, Dec 19	(Jgs 13:2-7/24-25a/Lk 1:5-25)
7:00am	Angeles Montemayor†
12:15pm	Ken Burke†
7:00pm	Pedro Fajardo Sr.†
WED, Dec 20	(Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38)
7:00am	Brigadier General Terry Tyler†
12:15pm	John and Dorothy Cannistraci†
THU, Dec 21	(Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45)
7:00am	Special Intention
12:15pm	Ken Burke†
FRI, Dec 22	(1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56)
7:00am	Paula Ann Dorsch†
12:15pm	Mervin Hall†
SAT, Dec 23	(Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66)
8:00am	Suellen Donaghy†
5:00pm	Deceased members of the Roy/Neblock/ Manning families†
SUN, Dec 24	(Fourth Sunday of Advent)
8:00am	Al and Phil Piche†
10:00am	People of the Parish
4:00pm	Dustin Garber†
4:00pm	Amelia Feinberg†
6:00pm	Deceased members of our Parish†
7:00pm	Alan Lee Wnuk†
9:00pm	Gary Burkey†
12:00am	Joseph Cascio†
12:00am	Pete Halpern†

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

(2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38)

Recently Deceased

- †Christine Ritz
- †James Campbell
- †Terrie Dupuis



Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December For persons with disabilities.
We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5pm -

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 12pm, 5:30pm

Please note: We have moved our ASL interpreters for our deaf community back to the 5:30pm Mass

Daily Masses

Monday - Friday: 7am & 12:15pm / Saturday: 8am

Tuesday: Spanish Mass at 7pm.

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday through Friday from 8am (after the 7am Mass) until 7pm in the Chapel of the Angels.

Adoration will close for the 12:15pm Mass.

Sign up to be a weekly Adorer on our website.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

See page 4 for all of the opportunities for Confession during Advent.

Baptisms - Welcome!

- Aiden Phillip Dockery
- Alexander Phillip Dockery
- Grace Ann Moffett
- Mikael Scott Alvarez-Shirley

Praying for deceased priests in the Diocese of Orlando for December

- December 2, 2015 - Msgr. Vidal Arborleda
- December 4, 2008- Rev. Stephen Phillips
- December 4, 1996- Rev. Con Shine
- December 13, 1971- Msgr. William Mullally
- December 21, 1997- Rev. William O'Farrell
- December 22, 1981- Rev. Vincent Smith
- December 22, 2010- Rev. Gerry Granahan

Christmas and New Years Schedule

- **Saturday, December 23** – The 5pm * Mass will be for the 4th Sunday of Advent
- **Sunday, December 24** – The 8am and 10am Masses will be for the 4th Sunday of Advent.
- **Sunday, December 24** – Christmas Eve: Masses at 4pm, 6pm (Spanish), 7pm*, 9pm & midnight.
- **Monday, December 25** – Christmas: Masses at 10am and 12noon.



- **Saturday, December 30** – Holy Family Vigil Mass – 5pm
 - **Sunday, December 31** – Feast of the Holy Family: 8am, 10am and 12noon Mass
 - **Sunday, December 31** – Mary the Mother of God Vigil – 5:30pm*
- Eucharistic Adoration in the Church – 7pm to Midnight**
- **Monday, January 1** – Mary the Mother of God: 10am and 12noon Mass (no 7am Mass, no Adoration)

*ASL Interpreted for our deaf community.

Parish Office and Bookstore Schedule

The Parish office and Bookstore will be closed on December 24th and will re-open on January 2nd

Offertory and Online Giving

Thank you for continuing to support our Parish Community! The participation through our Online Giving program has been vital and we are very grateful. If you wish to contribute online, please visit www.annunciationorlando.org/online-giving.

If you are visiting and would like to contribute please use the blue and white envelopes or click on the QR code to donate online. Thank you!



Reflections from the Heart by Fr. Ivan

“In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.” Not obtaining spiritual guidance or direction, or receiving spiritual counsel, is like a person going on a journey to a familiar place or an individual traveling to a remote place for the first time without planning the course or seeking the best



route to travel feeling no need for assistance or guidance along the way. At times, we travel life busy and hurried. We move from one place to another or from one conversation to another, never stopping to look around, to notice where we are, where we came from or where we are heading. We travel without really knowing where we are going or where life is taking us. Where are you heading, moving so quickly, so fast, so hurried? Do you know? Stopping and asking the Lord for spiritual direction is like a person who realizes they are lost or moving so quickly and anxiously not going anywhere. We move but fail to reach our true destination, which is divine intimacy and right relation with God. Rather than stopping and asking the Lord for direction, we tend to move through life hurried and fast paced without seeking input from the Lord or discerning with him where he wills to take us. Without God's assistance or without God's presence, we travel life all by ourselves, all alone, self-directed with no real end or purpose in mind. We live life in the fast lane rather than slow it down, stopping to look around, listening for God's voice guiding us this way or that way. We avoid asking for direction. We avoid prayerful contemplation and taking the beautiful peaceful, scenic route. We avoid contemplating with the Lord his guidance and direction as he directs us on our faith journey. As he guides us along the everlasting way. This is the will of God the Father, for you his child in Christ Jesus his Son. This is the cause of our joy and the reason for our gratitude and thankfulness. God knows where he desires you to be, walks with you, carries you and brings you safely into his arms and heart, into his life and love, into his eternal presence and your heavenly home. Christ is the way and destination the Father has chosen for you, the Holy Spirit your spiritual guide and director, the Word of God and Blessed Eucharist your sustenance, Mary and Joseph your beacon and light. What is missing is gratitude. To say thank you.

Blessings as we continue our Advent Journey! Our ADVENT CALENDAR (below) includes Mission Mondays, Liturgies and many opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

An Invitation to Prayer We invite you to join us in prayer each day as we prepare our hearts during this Advent Season. The booklet, *Waiting in Hope*, was sent out to all registered parish families.



THIRD WEEK	December 17 3rd Sunday of Advent	Monday December 18	Tuesday December 19	Wednesday December 20	Thursday December 21	Friday December 22	Saturday December 23
			Confessions 10:30 to 11:30am (RSVP required) Spanish Mass at 7pm	Confessions 6:30 to 7:30pm			Confessions 3:30 to 4:30pm 5pm Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent

FOURTH WEEK	Sunday December 24	Sunday December 24 Christmas Eve	Monday December 25 Christmas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday, Dec. 30 - Holy Family Vigil Mass - 5pm Sunday, Dec. 31 - Feast of the Holy Family 8am, 10am and 12noon Mass Sunday, Dec. 31 - Mary the Mother of God Vigil - 5:30pm Eucharistic Adoration in the Church - 7pm to Midnight Monday, January 1 - Mary the Mother of God 10am and 12noon Mass (no 7am Mass, no Adoration)
	 No 12pm or 5:30pm Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent	 Masses at 4pm, 6pm (Spanish), 7pm, 9pm and 12midnight	 Masses at 10am and 12noon	



Join us for Mission Monday - December 18th at 7pm Fr. Angel Garcia from Holy Cross Catholic Church in Orlando will lead us in our Reflection. Join us as the Liturgy of the Hours are prayed and sung.

Together in these three Mission Mondays in Advent we continue to become *a people of great prayer.*



ADVENT OUTREACH

Bishop Giovanni and Fr. David O'Connor from the Diocese of Huancane Peru returned to Annunciation for our Advent Outreach. Bishop Giovanni spoke about the current needs in their Diocese. Visit our website to listen to a replay of his homily and short video about how your previous donations have made an impact in their Diocese in Peru. Please prayerfully consider making a donation during this season of Advent. Visit www.annunciationorlando.org/peru or use the blue special collection envelopes (please write *Peru* on the envelope.) Thank you!

Annunciation Young Adult Ministry



Join us for our next gathering. For more information contact Maggie at mmunyon@annunciationorlando.org or visit ANNUNCIATIONORLANDO.FLOCKNOTE.COM/YAM



407-774-2801

www.annunciationacademy.org

Photos from our school-wide Advent Retreat. Our students spent the day preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus by reflecting on the gift of the Eucharist and how they can share their own gifts with others.



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High School Life Night!

What is Your Catholic Legacy? To leave a legacy is to reveal our hearts, for our legacy is a final testament of who we are, what we value, and whom we love. Regardless of your age, circumstances, or economic status, we encourage you to begin thinking about the legacy you are creating with your life, your aspirations for what you wish to leave behind and the message you hope to share with your loved ones, your community, and your Church. Once you have provided for your family, we hope you will remember the many needs of your parish and our larger diocesan family, including our seminarians, retired priests and Catholic school students. Learn more: www.cfof.org/leavealegacy



Contact Raphael Fernandez at 407-869-9472,
Email: rfernandez@annunciationorlando.org

Dec 16/17	Cantor	Group
5:00pm	Caroline Del Rey	Soloist
8:00am	Jami Bartschi	Soloist
10:00am	Geofferey Fella	Chamber Choir
12:00pm	Amy Culhane	Mixed Ensemble
5:30pm	Natalie Morgan	Contemp. Praise
Dec 23/24	Cantor	Group
5:00pm	Elaine Ashley	Chamber Choir
8:00am	Raphael Fernandez	Soloist
10:00pm	Rebecca Pagan	Mixed Ensemble
Dec 24	Cantor	Group
4:00pm	Caroline Del Rey	Children’s Choir
4:00pm	Jami & Mark Bartschi	St. Gabriel Life Center Mass
7:00pm	Various	Youth Choir
9:00pm	Various	Mixed Ensemble
Midnight	Caroline Del Rey	Chamber Choir
Dec 25	Cantor	Group
10:00am	Geoffrey Fella	Chamber Choir
12:00pm	Caroline Del Rey	Soloist

GRIEF RECOVERY WORKSHOP SERIES
Wednesday, January 10 - February 7, 2024
St. Gabriel Life Center 6:00-7:30 pm



- January 10 - Fr. Ivan Olmo “Grief and Spirituality”.
- January 17 and January 24 - Herb Knoll, a well known author and speaker. “A Journey of Hope, Healing and Inspiration for Widows and Widowers”
- January 31 - Julie Burkey - Grief Empowerment Coach. “Untangling Life after Loss.” How to balance grief and to navigate the stress of loss
- February 7 - Julie Burkey - Julie helps you get into action so you can start to recreate your life after loss.
- Fr. Ivan Olmo - “Going forward” - How can Annunciation be of help to you?

Please RSVP - Ann Stanko 407-497-1618 call or text

Please Note: The St. Vincent DePaul truck is canceled for December 21st, but we will be back on January 18th, 2024.

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Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



Catechism Corner



WHAT IS “THE DOMESTIC CHURCH”?

THE CHRISTIAN HOME IS THE PLACE WHERE CHILDREN RECIEVE THE FIRST PROCLAMATION OF THE FAITH. FOR THIS REASON, THE FAMILY HOME IS RIGHTLY CALLED “THE DOMESTIC CHURCH” - A COMMUNITY OF GRACE AND PRAYER.

READ MORE AT

WWW.ANNUNCIATIONORLANDO.ORG/CATECHISM



Do you have questions about the Catholic Faith? Have you been away from the Church... or do you just want to learn more about your faith?

If you were raised in another faith or if you do not have a faith background but you feel called to something deeper please contact Deacon Pete at 407-869-9472 or ppronko@annunciationorlando.org



Pray with us for an increase in Vocations. Host our Vocation Blessing Cup in your home! The commitment is for one week - to bring the cup to your home and pray each day for more vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Please sign up at:

www.annunciationorlando.org/vocation-cup

Eucharistic Adoration.

Is the Lord calling you to a closer relationship with Him? Please consider signing up to pray with Him for one hour each week. Sign-up at www.annunciationorlando.org/adoration Questions? Please contact Scott Stafstrom at ssstafstrom@annunciationorlando.org or 407-869-9472

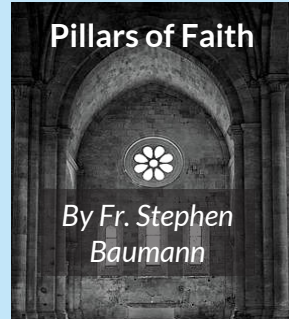
St Joseph Men's Group



Spend Fridays in Advent at Mass! Join us every Friday morning for Mass at 7am in the Church, followed by great coffee in the St. Gabriel Life Center with a reflection on the readings and prayer. We finish by 8am. All men of the parish are welcome. If you have any questions, please

contact Scott Stafstrom at 407-869-9472 ssstafstrom@annunciationorlando.org

St. Nicholas, Bishop – December 6



Honored in both the Eastern and Western Churches, we know only that St. Nicholas was Bishop of Myra in Lycia (now part of Turkey). In the East he is called the Wonderworker, and legends abound. Two beautiful prayers in the

Byzantine Liturgy (Mass) for this commemoration express an appreciation of this saint. I quote them, a Troparion and a Kontakion:

"Oh Father and Pontiff Nicholas, the holiness of your life was set before your flock as a rule of faith, an example of meekness and a teaching of temperance; wherefore you acquired greatness through humility and spiritual wealth through poverty. Pray to Christ that he may save our souls."

"In Myra, you proved yourself to be a priest, a servant of divine things, O Saint, for you fulfilled the Gospel of Christ, O Holy One: you gave up your life for your people and saved the innocent from death. You have been sanctified, for you were a great guide towards the things of God." (Byzantine Daily Worship).

St. Nicholas was such a model bishop, and now a saint. Over the centuries, the admiration of many Christians for Nicholas has been expressed in the colorful stories that have been told and retold about him.

Perhaps the best-known story about Nicholas concerns his charity toward a poor father who was unable to provide dowries for his three marriageable daughters. Rather than see them forced into prostitution, Nicholas secretly tossed a bag of gold through the poor man's window on three separate occasions, thus enabling the three daughters to be married.

Over the centuries, this particular legend evolved into the custom of gift-giving on the saint's feast day. In the English-speaking countries, St. Nicholas became, by a twist of the tongue, "Santa Claus," further expanding the example of generosity portrayed by this holy bishop.

Book and Gift Store Hours - Mon-Fri: 10:30am - 5pm, Sat: 4:30-5pm; 6-6:30pm, Sun: 9:00am-1:30pm



The Breaking of the Oplatek !

In many Polish homes throughout the world, a beloved family tradition is the breaking of the oplatek on Christmas Eve. Oplatek is a thin wafer made from flour and water

similar in taste and consistency to the hosts that are used for communion during Mass. Oplatki are often stamped with an elaborate Christmas scene.

Historically, these would be distributed by the church to parishioners' homes during the Advent season. The Christmas wafer is shared before Wigilia, the Christmas Eve supper. Wigilia comes from the Latin word "vigilare" which means to wait.

The oplatek is meant to remind families of the Eucharistic bread at Mass and makes a further connection between Christmas and the gift of the Eucharist, the presence of God among us.

Please mark your calendar! Coming Saturday, January 13th... The Annunciation Council of Catholic Women invite you and your family to:
A TASTE OF ANNUNCIATION



Featuring international cuisine from various regions including desserts. Come and experience a taste of foods from 5 regions and be in community with others. When: January 13 @ 6 pm in the St. Gabriel Life Center. Prices are \$15.00 for adults and children over 12; \$10.00 for children 6 - 12 and free for children under 6. We look forward to feasting with you! Reservation encouraged. Contact Mary Matheus mmatheus0523@gmail.com or 407-701-4712



Knights of Columbus

We are Catholic men building a bridge back to faith. There is much work to be done in this world. Good work. Necessary work. And that's what the Knights do. Every day. Assisting the sick and disabled.

Protecting those who can't protect themselves. Whether they are next door or halfway around the world. This is the journey we are on. Our path. We do it to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and Catholics. We invest our time, our effort, and our resources into our values: Charity. Unity. Fraternity. Patriotism. We come from many places. And backgrounds. And stages in our lives. But we are all of one faith. A fraternity of men striving to better ourselves and our world. It's one thing to say who you are. It's another to live it. To put your values into action. That's what we do at the Knights of Columbus. That's who we are. Grand Knight Phil Henderson Sr. Contact Chancellor Russell Dunn at 407-869-4775.

How can we pray for you? Everyday life can be challenging and we want to pray for your intentions. Our Priests will be praying for each specific intention that you submit. Submit your intentions at:

www.annunciationorlando.org/prayer-intentions



St. Joan of Arc Circle presents our 1st Annual Christmas Ornament.

We are grateful for the wonderful response and have ordered additional ornaments for delivery before Christmas.

They can be purchased for \$20 (cash or check made payable to Annunciation Catholic Church.)

Contact us at sjacircle3@gmail.com to place your order. *Proceeds benefit local charities supported by St. Joan of Arc Circle.*

FLORIDIANS SHOULD DECLINE TO SIGN PETITION FOR DANGEROUS PRO-ABORTION AMENDMENT

An extremely grave initiative is underway in Florida that seeks to erase pro-life protections by inserting language into the Florida Constitution banning regulation of abortion. Abortion activists are working to gather petition signatures to place a pro-abortion constitutional amendment, titled *Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion*, on the November 2024 ballot. This amendment would allow abortion up until birth, including when the baby is capable of feeling pain, and would eliminate laws requiring parental consent and safety protocols for women.

Floridians should not sign the petition.

Please spread the word to your spheres of influence and continue to pray for the protection of the unborn.



FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
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For more information please call our Parish Office at 407-869-9472 or email info@annunciationorlando.org

Clergy

Very Rev. Ivan Olmo, V.F.....*Pastor*
 Rev. Mark Librizzi *Parochial Vicar*
 Rev. Lawrence Mulinda *Parochial Vicar*
 Rev. Stephen Baumann *Retired*
 Rev. Augustine Clark..... *Retired*
 Rev. William Gohring *Retired*
 Deacon Joe Gassman.....*Permanent Deacon*
 Deacon Pete Pronko*Permanent Deacon*

Administration/Finance/Facilities

Mark Comia..... *Operations & Finance*
 Greg Dessert.....*Facilities Director*
 Nanci O'Reilly*Office Manager*
 Sarah Dessert*Records & Data*
 Allison Khan *Office Assistant*
 Patti Murphy..... *Administration*
 Scott Stafstrom *Communications*
 Mathew Novaes..... *Maintenance*
 Jack Harrison..... *Security*
 Terri Becher *Book Store: 407-215-7666*

Annunciation Catholic Academy.....407-774-2801

Patricia Kahle *Principal*

Annunciation Catholic Pre-School.....407-869-9404

Nazly Cabral *Director*

Evangelization & Faith Formation

Deacon Pete Pronko *Evangelization & Family Catechesis*
 Vicki Ridgeway.....*Elementary / 1st Eucharist*
 Lynn Fisk..... *Sunday School*
 Michele Bugallo *Faith Formation Assistant*
 Maggie Munyon.....*Youth Ministry*
 Jody North..... *Baptism, Marriage Preparation/ Annulment Advocate*

Liturgy and Worship

Mary Ann Fox *Director of Liturgy*
 Raphael Fernandez *Director of Music*
 Joan Braun.....*Music & Liturgy Assistant*

Parish Office Hours

Mondays - Fridays from 9am to 5pm.

Sundays from 9am to 12noon

Book & Gift Store hours:

Mon. to Fri.: 10:30am – 5pm

Sat.: 4:30-5pm; 6-6:30pm, Sun.: 9am-1:30pm.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We look forward to welcoming your child into our family at Annunciation Catholic Church!

For information regarding the Sacrament of Baptism for Children, please contact the Parish Office at 407-869-9472.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Experience the joy of forgiveness...

If it has been a while since you have been to Confession, do not be afraid! The Priest will guide you through this Sacrament of healing. Visit www.annunciationorlando.org/reconciliation.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit...

For information regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation for youth, please contact our Faith Formation for Children and Youth at 407-869-9472.

If you are an adult in need of the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact our Adult Faith Formation Office at 407-869-9472.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

...and the two shall become as one. Mark 10:8

For information regarding the Sacrament of Marriage, please contact the Parish Office at 407-869-9472 at least six months prior to your anticipated wedding date.

VOCATIONS

...I have called you by name. Isaiah 43:1

Do you feel called to Priesthood or Religious Life? We look forward to speaking with you. Please contact our Clergy at 407-869-9472.

HOSPITAL VISITATION ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Are you or a loved one in need of healing?

If you or someone in your family is in need of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Parish Office at 407-869-9472. In case of emergency or if you or a family member are in the hospital, please contact the Parish Office to receive a pastoral visit.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Now may be the time... and this may be the place!

For more information on the journey of Christian Initiation, please contact Deacon Pete Pronko at 407-869-9472.

ANNULMENTS

Questions about divorce and re-Marriage?

For information regarding Annulments, please contact Jody North at 407-215-7639.

Bulletin Information

Please call Scott Stafstrom at 407-869-9472 or email: [sstafstrom@annunciationorlando.org](mailto:ssstafstrom@annunciationorlando.org). Bulletin advertising, please call Diocesan Publications at 800-292-9111.



In need of assistance?

Please contact our Society of St. Vincent dePaul at 407-215-7669 or by email: svdp@annunciationorlando.org

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Dr. Mary Isaacs Dr. Katie Miller

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Dr. Phan earned the prestigious Mastership Award from The Academy of General Dentistry (MAGD), placing him among the 2% of general dentists throughout the United States and Canada that hold this title.

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