

Saint Sabina Catholic Church

700 Trevis Ave. Belton, MO • www.stsabina-parish.org •
www.facebook.com/stsabina-parish • 816-331-4713

Office Hours: The parish office is currently open by appointment only.
Horarios de la Oficina: En este momento la oficina parroquial está abierta solo con cita previa.



Pictured is our RCIA group in Spanish preparing to be initiated into the faith this coming Easter Season.

En esta foto aparece nuestro grupo de RICA preparándose para ser iniciados en la fe en la próxima temporada de Pascua.

Mass Times

In Person (We request that you RSVP so that we have a list of attendees):

Saturdays at 4pm (English)
Sundays at 8am and 10:30am (English)
Sundays at 12:30pm (Spanish)

Online (via Facebook and parish website):

Saturdays at 6pm (English)
Sundays at 10:30am (English)
Sundays at 3pm (Spanish)

Horarios de Misa

En persona (Le pedimos que confirme su asistencia para que tengamos una lista de asistentes):

Sábados a las 4pm (inglés)
Domingos a las 8am y 10:30am (inglés)
Domingos a las 12:30pm (español)

En línea (a través de Facebook y el sitio web de la parroquia):

Sábados a las 6pm (inglés)
Domingos a las 10:30am (inglés)
Domingos a las 3pm (español)

Second Sunday of Advent—Segundo Domingo de Adviento

December 6, 2020

Parish Staff/Info—Personal de la Parroquia/Información

Fr. Jeff Stephan , Pastor	816-979-3157 X57	frjeff@stsabinaparish.org
Deacon Mike Gates		mikeg@stsabinaparish.org
Bridget Hernandez , Communications/Comunicaciones	816-979-3159 X59	bridget@stsabinaparish.org
Kris Larkey , Business Manager/Gerente de Operaciones	816-979-3151 X51	kris@stsabinaparish.org
Biagio Mazza , Pastoral Associate/Asociado Pastoral	816-979-3153 X53	biagio@stsabinaparish.org
Susan Ratigan , Liturgist/Liturgista	816-979-3158 X58	susan@stsabinaparish.org
Kirstie Roberts , Dir. of Religious Ed. & Youth Ministry/Dir. de Educación Religiosa y Ministro de Jóvenes	816-979-3155 X55	kirstie@stsabinaparish.org
Marta Roper , Pastoral Care Coordinator/Coordinadora Pastoral	816-979-3154 X54	marta@stsabinaparish.org
Jeff Shields , Finance Coordinator/Coordinador de Finanzas	816-979-3152 X52	jeffshields@stsabinaparish.org
Tracy Wheeler , Maintenance/Mantenimiento		tracy@stsabinaparish.org
Berenice Zayas , Family Life & Hispanic Ministry/Vida de la Familia Parroquial y Ministerio Hispano	816-979-3150 X50	berenice@stsabinaparish.org

Kathleen Chastain , Diocesan Victim Advocate	816-392-0011	chastain@diocesekcsj.org
Joe Crayon , Diocesan Ombudsman	816-812-2500	crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org

Wellness Center/Centro de Bienestar
Wendy Mora Cedillo 816-979-3090
Jeannine Midgett 816-979-3093



Mass Intentions for the Week Peticiones de la Semana

Intentions for December 8—11, 2020

Mon.	6pm	Open
Tues.	11am	Open
Wed.	8am	Open
Thur.	8am	Open
Fri.	8am	Open

Saturday, December 12, 2020

4:00pm †Pablo José Zayas

Sunday, December 13, 2020

8:00am	Open
10:30am	Open
12:30pm Spanish	†Genoveva Garcia
	Intentions of Cristian Guadalupe Nolasco
	†Alifonza Hernandez

We also remember the special intentions requested in our virtual prayer book on Facebook and our family and friends on the sick list.

Recordamos tambien, las intenciones especiales en nuestro libro virtual de peticiones por Facebook, y nuestros amigos y familiares de nuestra lista de enfermos.

From Death to New Life De la Muerte a la Nueva Vida

†**Cory Smith**, son of Betty Berkley, dear friend of Gina Buice and the Katzer Family

†**Carmen Esperanza Martinez**, madre de Adriana Miramontes

†**Fran Rosenhan**, Carnegie Village

†**Rodney Meyer**, father of Beverly Renfro

†**Margarito Nepomuceno Moran**, padre de Amalia Rosas

†**Tomas Rocha Velazquez**, padre de Faustino y Gerardo Rocha

†**Audelia Borrego Castro**, madre de Gerardo Gutierrez

†**Donnie Winter**, cousin of Dick Danjou

†**Andrew Erpelding**, grandson of Jerry and Marie Wilburn

†**Virginia Pierce**, aunt of Nancy Meiron



Parish Information—Información Parroquial

Sunday, December 6 - Domingo, 6 de Diciembre

9:00am	PSR
10:30am	RICA
11:00am	Ensayo del Coro Hispano
1:00pm	Girl Scouts
7:00pm	Novena a Nuestra Señora

Monday, December 7 - Lunes, 7 de Diciembre

6:00pm	Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass
7:00pm	Cub Scouts
7:00pm	Boy Scouts
7:00pm	Novena a Nuestra Señora

Tuesday, December 8 - Martes, 8 de Diciembre

11:00am	Immaculate Conception Holy Day Mass
7:00pm	Green Team Meeting (Zoom)
7:00pm	Novena a Nuestra Señora
7:00pm	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting

Wednesday, December 9 - Miércoles, 9 de Diciembre

7:00pm	Novena a Nuestra Señora
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Thursday, December 10 - Jueves, 10 de Diciembre

7:00pm	Novena a Nuestra Señora
7:00pm	RCIA (Zoom)
7:00pm	Cantor Rehearsal

Friday, December 11 - Viernes, 11 de Diciembre

9:00am	Altar Society Church Cleaning
7:00pm	Novena a Nuestra Señora

Saturday, December 12 - Sábado, 12 de Diciembre

No Scheduled Events

Sunday, December 13 - Domingo, 13 de Diciembre

9:00am	PSR
10:30am	RICA
11:00am	Ensayo del Coro Hispano

happy birthday

Anna Anderson	Sarah Hagemann	Kathy Muder
Brenda Arenivas	Lucia Harlan	Valeria Negrete
Luisa Arreola	Jessica Hernandez	Isham Nelson
Mark Barrera	Ron Hoffman	Cristian Nolasco
Fatima Bretado - Picasso	Fred Honigman	Ailyn Palomares
Apolinar Canchola	Steve Imming	Brittany Parker
Damarius Caratachea Zaragoza	Sam Incorvia	Gabriel Pinon
Anthony Carlock	Carlos Jaimes Chavez	Kimberly Pointer
Martha Carter	Anika Karlsson	Lois Pusateri
Alejandro Castañeda	Whitney Kirchhoff	Sergio Ramos
Paul Castonguay	Bob Kottenbrock	Alexa Robledo
Miranda Como	Nate Lamley	Joanna Rodelo
Leslye Coronado	Diane Lang	Claudia Rodriguez
Holly Dechant	Emmie Lenz	Sue Scaccia
Jose Escalante	Alexandra Limon	Cleo Srader
Oscar Escamilla	Leocadio Lopez	Brenda Stoddard
Daniela Escamilla	Carter Mackay	Rodney Stoverink
Javy Fiallos	Maria Madrid	Jackson Tobias
Alex Flores	Esmeralda Madrid	Sergio Valenzuela
Deborah Freisthler	Kevin Madrid	Jenessys Vargas
Christopher Gnad	Carolyn Madrid	Timothy White
Emily Goffoy	Ana Mata Franco	Kian Wilkes
Missy Goffoy	Nicholas McGurn	Victoria Yonker
Jessica Gonzalez	Leonard Meiron	Mariana Zavala
Angel Gracida	Andy Melendez	
Edgar Guzman	Christine Morris	

Happy Anniversary

Sherman and Leona Ragsdale	57 Years!	12/7/1963
Bill and Sheila Birkner	43 Years!	12/10/1977
Bob and Mary Piepho	39 Years!	12/10/1981
Mark and Melissa Adams	18 Years!	12/9/2002
Jeremy and Katy Whitney	4 Years!	12/9/2016
Garrett and Jimi Huntsman	2 Years!	12/10/2018

Save Our Seminarians Virtual Event

The annual Save Our Seminarians fundraiser will be held on January 29, 2021. It will be an entirely virtual event featuring online giving, exciting raffle items, video expressions of thanks, and live-stream announcements of raffle winners, as well as the final fundraising tally. For more information, please visit their website: supportourseminarians.com.

Green Team Tip of the Week

Biodiversity restoration is also crucially important in the context of unprecedented loss of species and degradation of ecosystems. We need to support the U.N. call to safeguard 30% of the earth as protected habitats by 2030 in order to stem the alarming rate of biodiversity loss. Pope Francis September 1, 2020 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.



This Week's Do You Know Video:

The Matachines Dancers in our parish community prepare each year to honor and celebrate, through music and dance, the feast



of Our Lady of Guadalupe every December 12. The dance has its origin in Mexican and South American indigenous culture, where music and dance was a common way to honor and worship the various gods. With the coming of the Spanish conquerors, the native people were evangelized and thus became acquainted with Jesus and his mother, Mary. Mary appeared to Juan Diego, a Mexican peasant, in native dress and spoke in their native tongue telling them of God's love and care for them, despite Spanish oppression. To honor Mary, Jesus' mother, music and dance was used and is still used to this day. Our parish is blessed to have the Matachines Dancers who help us honor Mary every year not only with their words but with their bodies as well. Any community member is welcomed to be part of the dancers. The group participation enhances community connection with our diverse culture, helps build faith and helps all grow in honor of Mary and Jesus. Due to the pandemic, we will not have our Guadalupe Celebration, but look forward to it next year. Make time to view this week's DYK video and learn more about the history of the matachines dancers, especially as expressed here in the community of St. Sabina.

Holy Day Mass Times

We will celebrate a vigil Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, December 7 at 6pm. We will celebrate a Holy Day Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, December 8 at 11am.

Plan Ahead for Christmas Masses



This year, everyone wanting to attend Christmas Masses must call ahead and register for seats. We will be making seating charts to allow for the best use of available pews. We will not be able to seat walk-ins. Please plan ahead and call the office now to reserve your seats for Christmas Masses. You will not need to arrive early, as seating is reserved. Please plan to arrive no more than 20 minutes before Mass starts. Thank you for your understanding.

Christmas Mass times this year are:

2:00 PM Thursday, December 24

4:00 PM Thursday, December 24

10:00 AM Friday, December 25

12:30 PM Friday, December 25 (Spanish language)

En Nuestro Video ¿Sabes...? de Esta Semana:

Los Matachines de nuestra comunidad parroquial se preparan cada año para honrar y celebrar, a través de la música y la danza, la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe cada 12 de diciembre. La danza tiene su origen en la cultura indígena mexicana y sudamericana, donde la música y la danza eran un forma común de honrar y adorar a los diversos dioses. Con la llegada de los conquistadores españoles, los nativos fueron evangelizados y así conocieron a Jesús y su madre, María. María se apareció a Juan Diego, un campesino mexicano, vestido con vestimentas nativas y les habló en su lengua nativa y les habló del amor y el cuidado de Dios por ellos, a pesar de la opresión española. Para honrar a María, la madre de Jesús, se utilizó música y danza y todavía se utiliza hasta el día de hoy. Nuestra parroquia tiene la bendición de tener los Matachines que nos ayudan a honrar a María todos los años, no solo con sus palabras sino también con sus cuerpos. Cualquier miembro de la comunidad es bienvenido a formar parte de los bailarines. La participación del grupo mejora la conexión de la comunidad con nuestra cultura diversa, ayuda a construir la fe y ayuda a todos a crecer en honor a María y Jesús. Debido a la pandemia, no tendremos nuestra celebración de Guadalupe, pero esperamos con ansias el próximo año. Tómese un momento para ver el video ¿Sabes? de esta semana y aprender más sobre la historia de los matachines, especialmente como se expresa aquí en la comunidad de Sta. Sabina.

Horario de Misas del Día de Precepto

Celebraremos una Misa de vigilia por la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción el lunes 7 de diciembre a las 6pm. Celebraremos una Misa del Día de Precepto por la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción el martes 8 de diciembre a las 11 am.

Planifique con Anticipación para las Misas Navideñas

Este año, todos los que quieran asistir a las Misas de Navidad deben llamar con anticipación y registrarse para los asientos. Asignaremos asientos para permitir el mejor uso de los bancos disponibles. No podremos sentar personas sin registro previo. Planifique con anticipación y llame a la oficina ahora para reservar sus asientos para las misas de Navidad. No necesitará llegar temprano, ya que los asientos están reservados. Planee llegar no más de 20 minutos antes de que comience la misa. Gracias por su comprensión.

Las horas de la Misa de Navidad de este año son:

2:00 PM jueves 24 de diciembre

4:00 PM Jueves 24 de diciembre

10:00 AM viernes 25 de diciembre

12:30 PM viernes 25 de diciembre (español)

Novena a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Del 03 al 11 de Diciembre, 2020

Jueves, 3 de dic. a las 6pm

Viernes, 4 de dic. a las 8pm

Sábado, 5 de dic.-Viernes, 11 de dic. a las 7pm



*Dígnate sólo mirarme, y ya con esto
alentaré mis esperanzas*

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena

All are welcome to join us in prayer for a Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe the nine days leading up to the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 3-11. Thursday, December 3, we will pray at 6pm, Friday, December 4 at 8pm, and Saturday, December 5—Friday, December 11 at 7pm.

This novena will be led in Spanish but you are welcome to pray along in your native language. Bring your rosary!

Quarantined from School?

If your child is quarantined from school, please contact Kirstie to be added to the Zoom email each week for PSR and youth meetings.



¿En cuarentena de la escuela?

Si su hijo está en cuarentena de la escuela, comuníquese con Kirstie para que lo agreguen al correo electrónico de zoom cada semana para reuniones de jóvenes y Escuela de Religión.



Child Safety

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

1. **Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738** (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. **Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and**
3. **After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.**

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

All volunteers with youth and children must attend one Protecting God's Children workshop, submit to a background check and sign the policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry, (EIM). More info at <https://kcsj catholic.org/the-office-of-child-and-youth-protection/>.



Wellness Center



Did You Know— Half of your happiness depends on conscious choices you make every day, choices that with time, become habits. Choose healthy habits!

Eat a healthy diet. Physically, and to some extent emotionally, you become what you eat. That makes your diet extremely important. Three aspects to pay attention to are what you eat, how much you eat and how you eat.

- **What you eat.** Eat a balanced diet. Choose whole grains, nuts, fish, vegetables, protein and fiber. Eat a variety of foods to get a broad range of nutrients. Eliminate trans fat.
- **How much you eat.** Stop eating when you feel just a little full.
- **How you eat.** Try what I like to call a "slow-small-savor" approach. Eat slowly, chewing your food well. Take small bites and savor each morsel.

Keep your body agile. Almost everything you want in life will be easier to achieve if you're more physically active. Each week, most healthy adults should get at least 150 minutes of moderate or 75 minutes of vigorous aerobic activity, in addition to muscle-strengthening exercises. Work toward getting enough physical activity with these ideas:

- **Find practical ways to fit in fitness.** Park your car farther away from the store, walk up the stairs, walk while talking on the phone.
- **Combine physical activity with joyful attention.** Taking a walk in nature is one way to do this. As you walk, look at the green grass, the blue sky, and the sizes and shapes of the clouds. Look at the plants and trees as selfless sages standing quietly, an emblem of peace, purifying the air, holding the soil together, and giving us lovely flowers and fruits while asking nothing in return.

Pastoral Care

Cuidado Pastoral

Grieving a Loss Through the Holidays

- Allow yourself to feel your emotions on that special day; don't feel that you need to just "get over it." You may want to write your feelings down.
- Take time with family and friends and share memories of your loved one that died.
- Light a candle in honor of your deceased loved one. Set a picture out and tell stories of his or her life.
- Don't avoid long-standing traditions. Children often find comfort in them. On the other hand, new traditions say you are still a family.
- Be open to good experiences that the holidays may bring.

5 Ways to Support a Loved One with ANXIETY or DEPRESSION

1. Treat the person with **Respect** and **Dignity**.
2. Offer consistent emotional **Support** and **Understanding**.
3. Provide practical **Help**.
4. Give the person **Hope** for **Recovery**.
5. Offer **Information**.

Mental Health Resource Numbers

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-TALK (8255) Available 24/7

ACI Mental Health Crisis Hotline

1-888-279-8188 Available 24/7, Multilingual

Estando de Luto Durante los Festivos

- Permítase sentir sus emociones en ese día especial; no sienta que necesita "superarlo". Quizás quiere escribir sus sentimientos.
- Tómese un tiempo con familiares y amigos y comparta los recuerdos de su ser querido que murió.
- Encienda una vela en honor a su ser querido fallecido. Ponga una foto de él y cuente historias de su vida.
- No evite las tradiciones antiguas. Los niños a menudo encuentran consuelo en ellos. Por otro lado, las nuevas tradiciones muestran que siguen siendo una familia.
- Esté abierto a las buenas experiencias que puedan traer los días festivos.

5 Formas de Apoyar a un Ser Querido con ANSIEDAD o DEPRESIÓN

1. Trate a la persona con **respeto** y **dignidad**.
2. Ofrezca **apoyo** emocional y **comprensión** consistentes.
3. Proporcione **ayuda** práctica.
4. Dele a la persona **esperanza** de **recuperación**.
5. Ofrezca **información**.

Números de Recursos de Salud Mental

Línea de Vida Nacional para la Prevención del Suicidio

1-800-273-TALK (8255) Disponible 24/7

Línea de Crisis de Salud Mental de ACI

1-888-279-8188 Disponible 24/7, multilingüe

Prayer Requests/Peticiones de Oración

Christina Alvarez
Dennis Berg
John Bidondo
Mary Pat Biondo
Betty Bremenkamp
Maxine Bremer
Ruth Brown
Veronica Burks
Joyce Callahan
Angel Cedillo
Javier Cedillo
John Cikan
Steve Circo
Harrison Cummings
Mark DeLuca
Mark Deterding
Marcia DiGeorge
Lois Dull
Paula Dull
Denise English
Terry Eppert
Rosa Escobedo
Joe Evans
Maria Luisa Flores
Larry Foster

Jean Frank
Jim Frezza
Gary Gallup
Karen Grantham
Miquel Angel Salinas Gonzalez
Ginny Hainey
Jackie Hamilton
Rita Ann Hand
Judy Hansel
Bob Harman
Karen Harman
Jeanette Hart
Bonnie Haskins
Cherie Hatfield
Martha Healy
Ted Henry
Rhonda Henke
Bob Henningsen
Marilyn Henningsen
Ann Heinzler
Jeff Hemmen
Jennifer Huffman
Richard Huffman
Rick Johnson
John Jongenelen

Michael Kempster
John Key
Jack King
Todd Kudron
Don Kueck
Susan Lager
Dale Lammer
Ellen Lilek
Emmy Long
Alyson Lopez
John Mackey
Bienvenido Martinez
Leonard Meiron
Manuel Miramontes Gonzalez
Karen Muelbach
Joan Nowak
Jerry Nowak
Laura Oresteen
Zenaida Ortiz
Diane Quinn
Larry Rhodes
Alfonso Rivera
Agustin Rivera
Michelle Rose
Anna Ryan

Ron Schock
Mary Schwartz
Peter Shea
Jaxton Shipley
Shellie Smoot
Rachael Smith
Lois Stogsdill
Rita Stout
Jessica Svoda
Jean Tate
Joel Taylor
Priscilla Tristani
Debbie Wagner
Denise Vargo Wallace
Bob Watts
Donna West
Ron West
Mary Westfall
Sarah Wheeler
Mary Wickstrum
Veryl Dean Wickstrum
Marie Wilburn
Carmitia Yust



Reflection on the Readings

The first two Sundays of Advent continue the focus on the end times that was stressed during the last few Sundays of the past liturgical year. This second Sunday emphasizes the need to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord. All the readings highlight the need to prepare by turning to the Lord in repentance and conversion of heart.

Responsorial Psalm 85 petitions the Lord with the refrain "Lord let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation." Those who wait on the Lord call upon the Lord for help in time of distress, mindful of God's covenant love and promises. But the psalmist is very aware of our covenant need to repent, trust the Lord, and turn our minds and hearts to God. The second reading from the second letter of Peter affirms that "conducting yourself in holiness and devotion" will hasten "the coming of the day of God." "Since you await these things," we are encouraged to "be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace." We need to discipline our lives consistently in preparation for the Lord's coming in our midst. Such discipline is an essential component in making God's presence among us real and tangible.

The first reading from Isaiah consoles those in exile that God has listened to their call for help and is ready to bring about new and even greater things than before. In the midst of all the coronavirus struggles and challenges, Isaiah reminds us that God is always ready to respond to our needs and concerns. This does not mean that life will be less burdensome. It does mean that no matter what happens, God will be with us, supporting, guiding and sustaining us. We are challenged to cultivate trust and abiding confidence in the Lord. In such fashion we cultivate the necessary preparation for the coming of the Lord.



At the beginning of Mark's gospel, John the Baptist identifies himself as the one sent to prepare the way for the Lord. John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins as the best way to prepare for "one mightier than I" who "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Mark applies to John the quote from Isaiah about the need to prepare for the Lord by filling in every valley and making low every mountain and hill. In order to make a straight way in the desert and wasteland for our God, a lot of work has to be done beforehand.

While these Sundays have an endtime focus to them, we also know that the Lord has already come among us in the person of Jesus, and continues to be fully with us in our daily encounters and our sacramental celebrations. At Christmas we celebrate once again Jesus, God-with-us, and at the same time we wait in joyful hope and expectation for his final return. But how do we prepare for the daily comings of God in our lives here and now?

What valleys in our lives need to be filled in so that God can enter our daily encounters without stumbling over our personal and communal potholes? What mountains and hills in our lives need to be leveled so that God can be made manifest without being blocked or overshadowed by our personal and communal obstacles? All this can block God's entryway into our lives. How do we go about making God's entryway into our daily lives one that is smooth and straight?

This Advent season, take John the Baptist as a model and consistently work on preparing the way for the Lord by making straight and smooth the path for God entryway into your life.

Biagio Mazza
Pastoral Associate

Readings



Sunday, December 6

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Psalm: Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Sunday, December 13

1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
Psalm: Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Reflexión Sobre las Lecturas

Los primeros dos domingos de Adviento continúan enfocándose en los tiempos del fin que se destacaron durante los últimos domingos del año litúrgico pasado. Este segundo domingo enfatiza la necesidad de preparar el camino para la venida del Señor. **Todas las lecturas resaltan la necesidad de prepararse acudiendo al Señor en arrepentimiento y conversión de corazón.**

El Salmo responsorial 84 hace una petición al Señor con el estribillo "Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia y danos tu salvación". **Los que esperan el Señor, apelan al Señor por ayuda en tiempos de angustia, conscientes del amor de pacto y las promesas de Dios.** Pero el salmista está muy consciente de nuestra necesidad de pacto de arrepentirnos, confiar en el Señor y acudir nuestras mentes y corazones a Dios. La segunda lectura de la segunda carta de Pedro afirma que viviendo santidad y entrega, apresurará "el advenimiento del día del Señor". "Apoyados en esta esperanza", se nos alienta a que "pongan todo su empeño en que el Señor los halle en paz con él, sin mancha ni reproche". **Necesitamos disciplinar nuestras vidas consistentemente en preparación para la venida del Señor entre nosotros. Tal disciplina es un componente esencial para hacer que la presencia de Dios entre nosotros sea real y tangible.**

La primera lectura de Isaías consuela a aquellos en el exilio que Dios ha escuchado su llamado de ayuda y está listo para producir cosas nuevas y aún mejores que las anteriores. **En medio de todas las luchas y desafíos del coronavirus, Isaías nos recuerda que Dios siempre está listo para responder a nuestras necesidades y preocupaciones.** Esto no significa que la vida será menos pesada. **Lo que sí significa es que pase lo que pase, Dios estará con nosotros, apoyándonos, guiándonos y manteniéndonos.** Se nos desafía a cultivar la confianza permanente en el Señor. De esa manera cultivamos la preparación necesaria para la venida del Señor.



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Al comienzo del evangelio de Marcos, Juan el Bautista se identifica como el que prepara el camino para el Señor. **Juan proclama un bautismo de arrepentimiento para el perdón de los pecados como la mejor manera de prepararse para "uno que es más poderoso que yo" quien "los bautizará con el Espíritu Santo".** Marcos aplica a Juan la cita de Isaías sobre la necesidad de prepararse para el Señor al llenar cada valle y aplanar cada montaña y colina. **Para hacer un camino recto en el desierto y en el páramo para nuestro Dios, se debe hacer mucho trabajo de antemano.**

Si bien estos domingos tienen un enfoque del tiempo final, también sabemos que el Señor ya ha venido entre nosotros en la persona de Jesús, y continúa estando plenamente con nosotros en nuestros encuentros diarios y en nuestras celebraciones sacramentales. En Navidad celebramos una vez más a Jesús, Dios-con-nosotros, y al mismo tiempo esperamos con gozosa esperanza para su regreso final. **Pero, ¿cómo nos preparamos para las venidas diarias de Dios en nuestras vidas aquí y ahora?**

¿Cuáles valles en nuestras vidas necesitan ser rellenados para que Dios pueda entrar en nuestros encuentros diarios sin tropezar con nuestros baches personales y comunitarios? ¿Cuáles montañas y colinas en nuestras vidas necesitan nivelarse para que Dios pueda manifestarse sin ser bloqueado o ensombrecido por nuestros obstáculos personales y comunitarios? **Todo esto bloquea la entrada de Dios en nuestras vidas. ¿Cómo hacemos la entrada de Dios en nuestras vidas diarias una que sea tranquila y recta?**

En esta temporada de Adviento, tome a Juan el Bautista como modelo y trabaje consistentemente en preparar el camino para el Señor, al allanar el camino para la entrada de Dios en su vida.

Biagio Mazza
Asociado Pastoral

Lecturas



Lecturas del Domingo, 6 de Diciembre

Primera Lectura: Isaías 40:1-5, 9-11
Salmo: Salmo 84:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14
Segunda Lectura: 2 Pedro 3:8-14
Evangelio: Marcos 1:1-8

Lecturas del Domingo, 13 de Diciembre

Primera Lectura: Isaías 61:1-2, 10-11
Salmo: Lucas 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
Segunda Lectura: 1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24
Evangelio: Juan 1:6-8, 19-28



Stewardship

"As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: 'Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins."

Mark 1:2-4

How are we to assimilate these two truths — the merciful love of God and the responsibility that comes with the privilege of living as His disciple? St. Peter tells us we should conduct ourselves "in holiness and devotion." Indeed, this is the goal of our Advent "reset" — to return to living lives focused on Christ, in gratitude for all He has done for us. In our Gospel passage from Mark, John the Baptist instructs us to "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." We must make good use of the gift of time we have been given this Advent season. Let's be sure to prioritize a daily reading the of Scriptures, and reach out to someone in need with a word of comfort or an act of service. In this way, we will honor both the mercy and justice of our God, and we will be prepared to celebrate the birth of Christ and give account for all His gifts to us. — See more at www.catholicsteward.com/blog/.

Corresponsabilidad

"En el libro del profeta Isaías está escrito: 'He aquí que yo envío a mi mensajero delante de ti, a preparar tu camino. Voz del que clama en el desierto:

"Preparen el camino del Señor, enderecen sus senderos". En cumplimiento de esto, apareció en el desierto Juan el Bautista predicando un bautismo de arrepentimiento, para el perdón de los pecados."

Marcos 1:2-4

¿Cómo asimilar estas dos verdades: el amor misericordioso de Dios y la responsabilidad que conlleva el privilegio de vivir como discípulo suyo? San Pedro nos dice que debemos comportarnos "en santidad y entrega". De hecho, este es el objetivo de nuestro "reinicio" de Adviento: volver a vivir vidas centradas en Cristo, en agradecimiento por todo lo que ha hecho por nosotros. En nuestro pasaje del Evangelio de Marcos, Juan el Bautista nos instruye a "Preparar el camino del Señor, enderecer sus senderos". Debemos hacer un buen uso del don del tiempo que se nos ha dado en esta temporada de Adviento. Asegurémonos de priorizar la lectura diaria de las Escrituras y acercarnos a alguien que lo necesite con una palabra de consuelo o un acto de servicio. De esta manera, honraremos tanto la misericordia como la justicia de nuestro Dios, y estaremos preparados para celebrar el nacimiento de Cristo y dar cuenta de todos sus dones para nosotros. —Vea mas en www.catholicsteward.com/blog/.

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Did you know that your Amazon purchases are likely eligible to provide a donation to our parish? Last quarter, we received donations based off of **over \$15,200** of your purchases and over \$48,600 of your purchases, cumulatively! Please remember this while doing your Christmas shopping on Amazon! To support us in this way, be sure to do your Amazon shopping through smile.amazon.com and select "St. Sabina Catholic Church, Belton" as your charity of choice. Thank you to the 81 shoppers that have chosen us as their charity!

Online Giving

St. Sabina offers an online giving option for parishioners and visitors. This is an easy, safe and secure way to make contributions online. To set up a one-time or recurring contribution: go to our parish website at www.stsabina.org, click the "Online Giving" button in the top right section. This will open a new window through our secure third party website.

Contributions for the Week of November 22

Due to early bulletin deadlines, the contributions for the week of November 22 will be listed in the December 13 bulletin.

¿Hará sus Compras Navideñas por Internet? ¡Apóyenos al Comprar por AmazonSmile!

¿Sabía que es probable que sus compras en Amazon sean elegibles para proveer una donación para nuestra parroquia? El último trimestre, recibimos donaciones basadas en **más de \$15,200** de sus compras y más de \$48,600 de sus compras, ¡acumulativamente! ¡Recuerda esto mientras hace sus compras navideñas en Amazon! Para apoyarnos de esta manera, asegúrese de hacer sus compras en Amazon a través de smile.amazon.com y seleccione "St. Sabina Catholic Church, Belton" como su organización benéfica preferida. ¡Gracias a los 81 compradores que nos han elegido como organización benéfica!

Donaciones por Internet

Sta. Sabina ofrece una opción de donar en línea para los feligreses y visitantes. Esta es una manera fácil, y segura de contribuir por internet. Para establecer una contribución única ó recurrente: visite nuestro sitio web de la parroquia en www.stsabina.org, haga clic en el botón "Online Giving" en la parte superior derecha. Se abrirá una ventana nueva que lo llevará a otro sitio seguro.



Wednesday Night Rosary Suspended

Our Wednesday night rosaries have been suspended due to the high number of COVID-19 cases in the area.

Appreciated Stock

A good steward uses his or her assets in a way that does the most good. Gifts of securities can help you avoid Capital Gains Tax! If you own appreciated stock, you may wish to consider giving the stock to the parish rather than cash. Depending on your tax situation, you may be able to deduct the full fair market value of the stock, avoid the capital gains tax and make a substantial gift to the parish. Contact Kris at kris@stsabinaparish.org with questions.

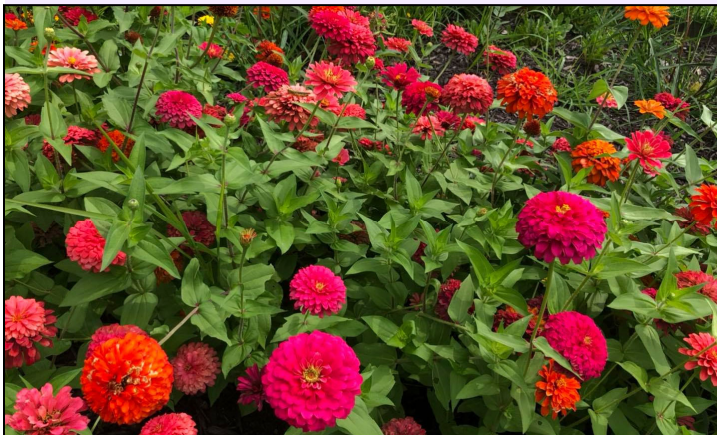
Jesse Tree Collection Alternatives

Out of precaution and due to COVID, we will not be accepting Jesse Tree donations in the church this year. You can still help local families have a great Christmas by donating directly to the following organizations:

- TOYS can be donated directly to Heart-n-Hand Ministries via the collection bin inside the thrift store located at 305 N Scott Ave, Belton, or through the contactless drive-thru donation drop off event on December 12, 10am-2pm, at 200 B Street, Belton.
- Gift cards for Walmart or Target can be placed in the collection basket or mailed to the parish office, to be used to purchase HATS, GLOVES, SOCKS, ETC. for Uplift.
- Non perishable food items can be donated directly to Heart-n-Hand Ministries in Belton, the community pantry box in the Vox Dei parking lot (Belton) or West Central Community Action Agency in Raymore.

Flower Bed Thanks

Thanks to the following volunteers who worked in the church flower gardens this year: Bob Morris, Terry and Gary Krueger, Tammy Barnes, Donna Sullivan, Gary Manning, Jean Hanover, Barb Clary, Diane Kueck and Louise McNelly. Due to the pandemic, it was truly a challenging year to work in the gardens but the flowers were beautiful and many compliments were received. Hope to see everyone again next spring.



Rosarios de los Miércoles Suspendidos

Nuestros rosarios de los miércoles por la noche han sido suspendidos debido a la gran cantidad de casos de COVID-19 en el área.

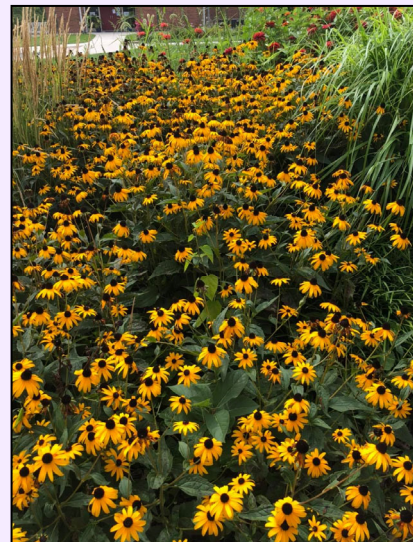
Árbol de Jesé—Alternativas

Por precaución y debido a COVID, no aceptaremos donaciones del Árbol de Jesé en la iglesia este año. Aún puede ayudar a las familias locales a tener una mejor Navidad, donando directamente a las siguientes organizaciones:

- Los JUGUETES se pueden donar directamente a Heart-n-Hand Ministries a través del contenedor de recolección dentro de la tienda de segunda mano ubicada en 305 N Scott Ave, Belton, o, a través del evento de entrega de donaciones sin contacto el 12 de diciembre, de 10am a 2pm, en 200 B Street, Belton.
- Las tarjetas de regalo para Walmart o Target pueden colocarse en la canasta de la colecta o enviarse por correo a la oficina parroquial, para ser utilizadas para comprar GORROS, GUANTES, ETC. para Uplift.
- Los alimentos no perecederos se pueden donar directamente a Heart-n-Hand Ministries en Belton, la despensa comunitaria en el estacionamiento de Vox Dei (Belton) o West Central Community Action Agency en Raymore.

Gracias a Nuestros Jardineros

Gracias a los siguientes voluntarios que trabajaron en los jardines de flores de la iglesia este año: Bob Morris, Terry y Gary Krueger, Tammy Barnes, Donna Sullivan, Gary Manning, Jean Hanover, Barb Clary, Diane Kueck y Louise McNelly. Debido a la pandemia, fue un año verdaderamente desafiante trabajar en los jardines, pero las flores eran hermosas y se recibieron muchos cumplidos. Esperamos volver a verlos a todos la próxima primavera.



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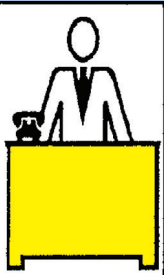
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