

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.



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)

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 22—25, 2020

Tues.	11am	Open
Wed.	8am	Open
Thur.	2:30pm	Intentions of Jerry & Joan Nowak
	4:30pm	†Marv Henrich
Fri.	10am	Open
	12:30pm	†Natividad Meza
		†Otilio Benitez Jaimes

Saturday, December 26, 2020

4:00pm	†José Sanjuan Ramirez
	Intentions of Our Parish Family
	†Jean Rehm/Coomer

Sunday, December 27, 2020

8:00am	†Marv Henrich
10:30am	Open
12:30pm Spanish	†Alejandro Chavez
	†Marco Antonio Huerta

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

†**Jesus Carrasco**, uncle of Monica Lopez, Edgar and Ivan Keesoon



Parish Information—Información Parroquial

Sunday, December 20 - Domingo, 20 de Diciembre

9:00am	PSR
10:30am	RICA
11:00am	Ensayo del Coro Hispano
1:00pm	Girl Scouts
7:00pm	Confirmation and High School Youth

Monday, December 21 - Lunes, 21 de Diciembre

7:00pm	Cub Scouts
7:00pm	Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 22 - Martes, 22 de Diciembre

No Scheduled Events

Wednesday, December 23 - Miércoles, 23 de Diciembre

7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
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Thursday, December 24 - Jueves, 24 de Diciembre

Christmas Eve—Parish Office Closed/Oficina Cerrada

2:30pm	Christmas Eve Mass
4:30pm	Christmas Eve Mass

Friday, December 25 - Viernes, 25 de Diciembre

Christmas Day—Parish Office Closed/Oficina Cerrada

10:00am	Christmas Mass
12:30pm	Misa Navideña

Saturday, December 26 - Sábado, 26 de Diciembre

No Scheduled Events

Sunday, December 27 - Domingo, 27 de Diciembre

11:00am	Ensayo del Coro Hispano
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happy birthday

Azucena Abonza	Diane Hirt	Edil Ramos
Emma Beaver	Angel Jaimes	Josephine Rangel
Blake Biondo	Vanessa Jaimes	Barb Rewald
Daniel Cartagena	Greg Karr	Marcela Rivera
Dani Castillo	Alana Lamley	Benito Rodriguez
Juan Castillo	Jesus Landa	Efren Rodriguez
Yahir Chavez	Bridget Lowther	Sarah Sargent
Danny Chevalier	Joshua Mackall	George Scott
Aaron Coronado	Rachel Martinez	Shelby Shatford
Cassandra Daldrup	Iveth Martinez	Lois Simpson
Salvador Duarte Perez	Alexander Mata Santillanes	Maria Solares
Dylan Eppert	Juan Medina	Laura Solomon
James Evans	Eric Mendoza	Mark Storm
Jose Flores	Raymond Miederhoff	Fernando Suarez
Javier Franco	Tom Moran	Francisco Torres
Robert Garcia	Marcos Navarrete	Cooper Tracy
Leslie Garcia	LuAnn Nelson	Marie Van Brunt
Kelsie Giacone	Mark Nichols	Margaret Vargo
Jesus Gonzalez	Edgar Nunez	Maribel Villa
Isabelle Haberstroh	Olga Olvera	Jordy Villa
Molly Hafkesbring	Clifford Parsley	Amanda Votava
Dewayne Hammack	Belinda Peters	Judith Wantz
Lucia Hernandez Beltran	Charles Pfeffer	Javier Zavala
Mannie Herrera	Dianne Porter	

Happy Anniversary

Richard and Doris Deschenes	68 Years!	12/27/1952
Dale and Julia Davis	55 Years!	12/24/1965
Terry and Mary Eppert	52 Years!	12/21/1968
Mike and Kris Larkey	33 Years!	12/27/1987
Edward and Gwen McGuire	31 Years!	12/22/1989
Alfredo and Elvia Torres	30 Years!	12/23/1990
Andres and Maria Orozco	29 Years!	12/27/1991
Luis Hinojos and Maria Varela	24 Years!	12/21/1996
Jason and Stephanie Jones	24 Years!	12/21/1996
Angel and Maria Rocha	23 Years!	12/26/1997
Jose Castillo and Reina Razo	21 Years!	12/23/1999
Aaron and Karla Coronado	17 Years!	12/27/2003
Tom and Susan Rolli	15 Years!	12/26/2005
José Hernandez and Julia Barrera	8 Years!	12/26/2012

Green Team Tip of the Week

Ripple Glass does not require you to rinse your glass. All other recyclables should be clean.

This Week's Do You

Know Video:

The early Christians typically chose to baptize Roman pagan festivals and turn them into Christian



celebrations. Christmas is believed to be the result of baptizing the weeklong Roman Festival of Saturnalia, dedicated to Saturn, the Roman god of agriculture, usually celebrated around Dec 17-23. Dec 25 became the day for celebrating the birth of Jesus, God with us, sometime around the years 325-350 AD, with Dec 24 named as the vigil of Christmas. The week before, namely Dec 17-23 was used as a week of immediate preparation of the community as it joyfully anticipated the celebration of Christ's birth. A prayer custom was developed during this week that was incorporated into the liturgy of the hours as well as the eucharistic liturgy, that is still known today as the "O Antiphons." These were brief prayers that made use of the messianic titles for Jesus that were found in the Old Testament. Each title was preceded by the word "Come" as the community called upon God to come and dwell among us. Seven titles from the Old Testament are used, all found today in the seven verses of the Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Make time to view this week's DYK video as you learn and pray these seven brief prayers inviting God to be intimately present with us.

Is St. Sabina on Your Christmas Gift List?

We are officially in the Christmas shopping season. Please remember our parish as you prepare your Christmas gifts and finish your giving for the end of the year. Your gifts to our parish help pay the utilities to keep it running, provide necessary supplies for our programs and ministries, allow us to create fellowship opportunities for our parish family, pay our staff who keep things running smoothly, and cover unexpected repair and maintenance expenses. The livelihood of our parish depends on the gifts of all members of our parish family. Please prayerfully consider making a special Christmas and year end gift in addition to your regular tithing. Remember that in order to get a tax deduction for your 2020 gifts, they must be delivered or post-marked by December 31, 2020!



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

Los primeros cristianos típicamente optaron por bautizar las fiestas paganas de los romanos y convertirlas en celebraciones cristianas. Se cree que la Navidad es el resultado de bautizar el Festival Romano de Saturnalia, de una semana de duración, dedicado a Saturno, el dios romano de la agricultura, que generalmente se celebra entre el 17 y el 23 de diciembre. El 25 de diciembre se convirtió en el día para celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús, Dios con nosotros, en algún momento alrededor de los años 325-350 d.C., con el 24 de diciembre nombrado como la vigilia de Navidad. La semana anterior, es decir, del 17 al 23 de diciembre, se usó como una semana de preparación inmediata de la comunidad, ya que anticipaba con alegría la celebración del nacimiento de Cristo. Se desarrolló una costumbre de oración durante esta semana que se incorporó tanto a la liturgia de las horas como a la liturgia eucarística, que aún hoy se conoce como las "Antífonas O". Estas fueron breves oraciones que hicieron uso de los títulos mesiánicos de Jesús que se encuentran en el Antiguo Testamento. Cada título fue precedido por la palabra "Ven" cuando la comunidad pidió a Dios que viniera y habitara entre nosotros. Se utilizan siete títulos del Antiguo Testamento, todos encontrados hoy en los siete versículos del himno de Adviento, "Oh, ven, oh, ven, Emmanuel". Tómese un momento para ver el video ¿Sabes? de esta semana mientras aprende y ora estas siete breves oraciones invitando a Dios a estar íntimamente presente con nosotros.

Felicidades Por Su Bautismo

Wilson Fernando Gutiérrez Guzmán, Jennifer Jasmin Gutiérrez Meléndez, y Dora Esmeralda Gutiérrez Meléndez, los hijos de Luis Arnoldo Gutiérrez Gómez y Teodora Meléndez Guzmán
David Alexander Gutiérrez Rodríguez y Erik Estiven Gutiérrez Rodríguez, los hijos de Maynor Ovidio Gutiérrez Arias y Yessica Elizabeth Rodríguez Guzmán
Axel Soriano, el hijo de Ruperto Soriano y Jissel Arely Reyes

Platicas Pre-Bautismales - 9 de Enero

Normalmente cada segundo Sábado del mes de las 10 am a las 11am. (Sólo para niños de 0-6 años.) Salón Parroquial. Para niños mayores de 7 años requerirán una formación especial. **No se ofrece cuidado de niños.**

PRÓXIMOS BAUTISMOS: llamar a Kris al 816-979-3151. Favor de llenar su aplicación para asistir a las platicas con anterioridad.



Christmas Mass Schedule

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:

2:30 PM Thursday, December 24

4:30 PM Thursday, December 24

10:00 AM Friday, December 25

12:30 PM Friday, December 25

(Spanish language)

Horario de 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:

2:30 PM jueves 24 de diciembre

4:30 PM Jueves 24 de diciembre

10:00 AM viernes 25 de diciembre

12:30 PM viernes 25 de diciembre (español)



Youth News

Ministerio Juvenil

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




**And
Suddenly
there was
with the Angel
a multitude of
the heavenly host
praising God and saying
Glory to God
In the highest, and on earth
Peace, goodwill towards men**

**Luke 2:13
Wishing You Joy and Peace,
St. Sabina Wellness Center Team**

Pastoral Care

SELF-CARE: Take Care of Your Mental Health during COVID 19

- ⇒ Look for opportunities to **Laugh**.
- ⇒ Get enough **Sleep**.
- ⇒ **Exercise** as appropriate.
- ⇒ Set healthy **Boundaries**.
- ⇒ Be **Kind** to yourself.
- ⇒ Stay **Connected** to loved ones.

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.

Cuidado Pastoral

CUIDADO PERSONAL: Cuide Su Salud Mental Durante COVID 19

- ⇒ Busque oportunidades para **reír**.
- ⇒ **Duerma** lo suficiente.
- ⇒ **Haga ejercicio** según corresponda.
- ⇒ Establezca **límites** saludables.
- ⇒ Sea **amable** con usted mismo.
- ⇒ Manténgase **conectado** con sus seres queridos.

Estando de Luto Durante los Festivales

- 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.

Prayer Requests/Peticiones de Oración

Christina Alvarez
Chris Armstrong
Joy Banks
Zachary Baylor
Dennis Berg
John Bidondo
Mary Pat Biondo
Betty Breckenkamp
Maxine Bremer
Ruth Brown
Veronica Burks
Joyce Callahan
Patty Carr
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
Lili Flores

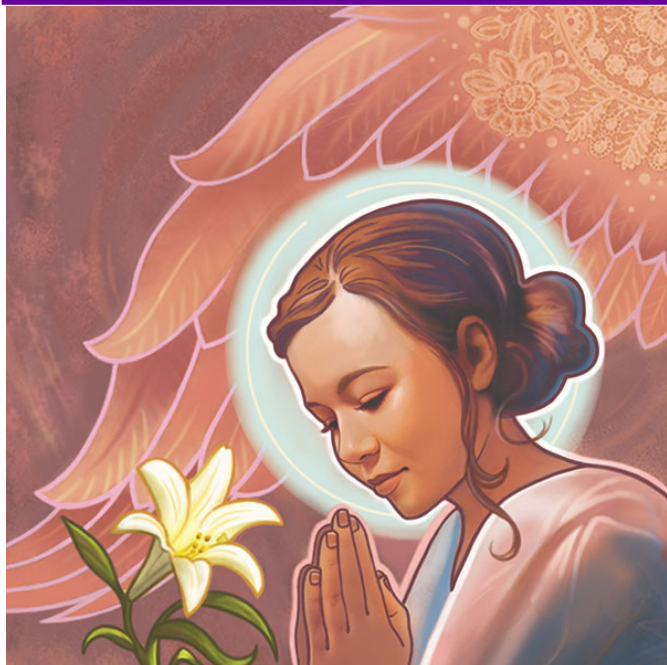
Maria Luisa Flores
Larry Foster
Jean Frank
Jim Frezza
Gary Gallup
Miguel Angel Salinas Gonzalez
Karen Grantham
Ginny Hainey
Jackie Hamilton
Rita Ann Hand
Judy Hansel
Bob Harman
Karen Harman
Jeanette Hart
Bonnie Haskins
Cherie Hatfield
Martha Healy
Ted Henry
Rhonda Henke
Bob Henningsen
Marilyn Henningsen
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
Leonard Meiron
Manuel Miramontes Gonzalez
Wendy Mora Cedillo
Karen Muelbach
Joan Muench
Joan Nowak
Jerry Nowak
Laura Oresteen
Zenaida Ortiz
Rita Pruitt
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
Donnie Vonderhow
Debbie Wagner
Denise Vargo Wallace
Bob Watts
Donna West
Ron West
Mary Westfall
Sarah Wheeler
Mary Wickstrum
Veryl Dean Wickstrum
Marie Wilburn
Carmelia Yust



Reflection on the Readings



This last Sunday of Advent introduces Mary and Joseph as key players in God's plan for becoming one of us. From the beginning, God created and still creates out of love. By its very nature, love ultimately seeks oneness with the one loved. God's plan all along was to be intimate with all of us. **God did not become human because of our sinfulness. Rather God chose from the very beginning to become more intimate with all of creation by choosing to become fully human.**

God could have chosen other ways to become more intimate with us. Instead, God chooses to become human and dwell among us by requesting our openness and cooperation in the plan. **It is this human openness, cooperation and response to God that we celebrate today in the readings, along with God's gracious gift of intimacy with us in the person of Jesus.** Responsorial Psalm 89 captures this celebratory theme when it invites us to sing, "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord."

The first reading from 2 Samuel recounts David's desire to build a house or temple for God. God responds through Nathan the prophet that God does not need a house to dwell

in because God has been present with the people in the tent that moved with them wherever they went. **There seems to be an underlying rejection of a permanent dwelling for God, lest the people forget that God is in their midst wherever they are.**

If God resides in a sacred space, then when we are no longer in that sacred space, does that mean that God is no longer with us? That is the question that this reading seems to address. **God's response is that we should not house God in one place, but rather it is God who builds residences for us in which God chooses to reside. In other words, God chooses where and with whom God will reside and not humanity.** It is God's choice to reside with all people that moves us to sing our psalm response "Forever, I will sing the goodness of the Lord."

The convoluted single sentence reading from Paul's letter to the Romans calls us to affirm the reality that it is God who strengthens us. **For Paul, God, in and through Jesus, has become intimate with us, has strengthened us, and has been made known and proclaimed "to all nations."** Paul asserts that **all this is God's doing.** Our response to "the only wise God" is to offer praise and glory to God forever for the gracious gift of Jesus, the foundation stone to the house that God has built for all people.

Luke's gospel account focuses on the angel's annunciation to Mary of God's desire to build a dwelling place with all humanity in and through her. **While confused and questioning what all this ultimately means, Mary expresses openness, trust and a complete desire to cooperate with God.** Mary thus becomes the ultimate model for anyone who seeks to do God's will. **A deep relationship with God leads to trust in God, to openness and cooperation with God's plan no matter how confused or troubled we might be.**

As we draw closer to celebrating Christmas this coming week, take Mary as your model. Ask God for the grace to attune yourself to what God desires of you along with the strength and courage to be open, to trust deeply, and to cooperate. **Allow God to lead you, even in darkness, and like Mary you too will discover the intimacy of God with us in the person of Jesus, God-become-human.** May God dwell intimately with you this Christmas and always.

Biagio Mazza
Pastoral Associate

Readings



Sunday, December 20

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Psalm: Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)

2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, December 27

1st Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Psalm: Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

2nd Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Reflexión Sobre las Lecturas



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Este último domingo de Adviento presenta a María y José como roles claves en el plan de Dios para convertirse en uno de nosotros. Desde el principio, Dios creó y aún crea por amor. Por su propia naturaleza, el amor en última instancia busca la unidad con el amado. El plan de Dios siempre fue tener intimidad con todos nosotros. **Dios no se hizo humano debido a nuestra pecaminosidad. Más bien, Dios eligió desde el principio para hacerse más íntimo con toda la creación al elegir convertirse completamente en humano.**

Dios pudo haber elegido otras formas de intimidad con nosotros. En cambio, Dios elige hacerse humano y habitar entre nosotros solicitando nuestra apertura y cooperación en el plan. **Es esta apertura humana, cooperación y respuesta a Dios lo que celebramos hoy en las lecturas, junto con el regalo de Dios de la intimidad con nosotros en la persona de Jesús.** El Salmo responsorial 88 capta este tema de celebración cuando nos invita a cantar: "Cantaré eternamente las misericordias del Señor".

La primera lectura de 2 Samuel relata el deseo de David de construir una casa o templo para Dios. Dios responde a través del profeta Natán que Dios no necesita una casa para habitar porque Dios ha estado presente con las personas en la tienda

de campaña que se mudaba con ellos a donde quiera que fueran. **Parece haber un rechazo subyacente de una vivienda permanente para Dios, no sea que la gente olvide que Dios está en medio de ellos donde sea que estén.**

Si Dios reside en un espacio sagrado, entonces cuando ya no estemos en ese espacio sagrado, ¿significa eso que Dios ya no está con nosotros? Esa es la pregunta que esta lectura parece abordar. **La respuesta de Dios es que no debemos albergar a Dios en un lugar, sino que es Dios quien construye las residencias para nosotros en las que Dios elige residir. En otras palabras, Dios elige dónde y con quién residirá y no la humanidad.** Es la elección de Dios residir con todas las personas y eso nos mueve a cantar nuestra respuesta al salmo "Cantaré eternamente las misericordias del Señor".

La enigmática oración simple que se lee de la carta de Pablo a los Romanos nos llama a afirmar la realidad de que es Dios quien nos fortalece. **Para Pablo, Dios, en y por medio de Jesús, se ha hecho íntimo con nosotros, nos ha fortalecido y ha sido conocido y proclamado "a todas las naciones". Pablo afirma que todo esto es obra de Dios.** Nuestra respuesta al "Dios único, infinitamente sabio" es ofrecer alabanza y gloria a Dios para siempre por el regalo de Jesús, la piedra angular de la casa que Dios ha edificado para todos.

El relato del Evangelio de Lucas se centra en la anunciación del ángel a María del deseo de Dios de construir una morada con toda la humanidad en ella y por medio de ella. **Mientras ella estaba confundida sobre todo lo que esto significa en última instancia, María expresa apertura, confianza y un deseo total de cooperar con Dios.** María se convierte así en el modelo definitivo para cualquiera que busque hacer la voluntad de Dios. **Una relación profunda con Dios conduce a la confianza en Dios, a la apertura y la cooperación con el plan de Dios sin importar cuán confusos o problemáticos estemos.**

Ya que nos acercamos a celebrar la Navidad esta semana que viene, tome a María como su modelo. Pídale a Dios la gracia de adaptarse a lo que Dios desea de usted junto con la fuerza y el valor para ser abierto, confiar profundamente y cooperar. **Permita que Dios lo guíe, incluso en la oscuridad, y como María, usted también descubrirá la intimidad de Dios con nosotros en la persona de Jesús, Dios convertido en humano.** Que Dios more íntimamente consigo esta Navidad y siempre.

Biagio Mazza
Asociado Pastoral

Lecturas



Lecturas del Domingo, 20 de Diciembre

Primera Lectura: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 16
Salmo: Salmo 88:2-3, 4-5, 27 y 29
Segunda Lectura: Romanos 16:25-27
Evangelio: Lucas 1:26-38

Lecturas del Domingo, 27 de Diciembre

Primera Lectura: Génesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3
Salmo: Salmo 104:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Segunda Lectura: Hebreos 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
Evangelio: Lucas 2:22-40



Stewardship

"And the angel said to her in reply, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.' Mary said, 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her."

Luke 1:35-38

We read in today's Gospel passage from Luke the wonderful words of the Blessed Mother's "fiat," her "yes" to God's plan. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." These are among the most beloved words in the Gospel. But the next sentence is also important for the Christian steward. After Mary's fiat, we read, "Then the angel departed from her." Our Blessed Mother was left with a lot of unexplained details about God's plan for her! Yet, she followed God's will perfectly. She gave herself and her life fully to God as a gift. She was the first disciple. We are called to follow her example today. This Christmas let us resolve to make our whole life a gift to the One Who has given us everything. He will give us all the help and strength we need. — See more at 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.stsabinaparish.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 29

Envelopes/Sobres:	\$10,396.00
Plate/Canasta:	\$ 345.00
Maintenance-Upkeep:	\$ 623.50

Corresponsabilidad

"El ángel le contestó: 'El Espíritu Santo descenderá sobre ti y el poder del Altísimo te cubrirá con su sombra. Por eso, el Santo, que va a nacer de ti, será llamado Hijo de Dios. Ahí tienes a tu parienta Isabel, que a pesar de su vejez, ha concebido un hijo y ya va en el sexto mes la que llamaban estéril, porque no hay nada imposible para Dios'. María contestó: 'Yo soy la esclava del Señor; cúmplase en mí lo que me has dicho'. Y el ángel se retiró de su presencia."

Lucas 1:35-38

Leemos en el pasaje del Evangelio de hoy según San Lucas, las maravillosas palabras del "fiat" de la Santísima Madre, su "sí" al plan de Dios. "Yo soy la esclava del Señor; cúmplase en mí lo que me has dicho". Estas se encuentran entre las palabras más amadas del Evangelio. Pero la siguiente oración también es importante para el cristiano corresponsable. Después del fiat de María, leemos: "Y el ángel se retiró de su presencia". ¡Nuestra Santísima Madre se quedó con muchos detalles inexplicables sobre el plan de Dios para ella! Sin embargo, siguió la voluntad de Dios a la perfección. Ella se entregó a sí misma y su vida plenamente a Dios como un regalo. Ella fue la primera discípula. Estamos llamados a seguir su ejemplo hoy. En esta Navidad, resolvamos hacer de toda nuestra vida un regalo a Aquel que nos lo ha dado todo. Él nos dará toda la ayuda y la fuerza que necesitamos. —Vea mas en www.catholicsteward.com/blog/.

¿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.stsabinaparish.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.

Be A Steward of your Taxes

THE STANDARD DEDUCTION THRESHOLD is \$12,400 for an individual, \$24,800 for a couple in 2020. To exceed the threshold:

- **Bundle charitable gifts** you would normally make over several years.
- Create a **donor advised fund** with a large charitable contribution.

THE LIMITATION ON DEDUCTIONS FOR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS IS 60% of adjusted gross income. If you can afford to forego the income, help grow your parish!

Give assets without increasing your taxable income

- **IRA DISTRIBUTIONS:** A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) given directly from your IRA to the parish is valuable even if you no longer itemize deductions. QCDs up to \$100,000 may be excluded from taxable income. You must be at least 70 1/2 and have a regular (not Roth) IRA. If you are taking your Required Minimum Distribution (age 72 beginning in 2020), the QCD can satisfy the distribution requirement.
- **GIFTS OF GRAIN OR LIVESTOCK:** If you farm on a cash basis, you can provide significant support for the Church by donating your grain or livestock. The gift is excluded from income. Production costs are eligible for deduction, if your tax situation allows.

Give appreciated assets to reduce capital gains and increase deductions

- **SECURITIES:** An outright gift of appreciated securities will not incur federal capital gains, plus the fair market value is eligible for deduction. The securities must have been owned for more than a year and appreciated in value.
- **REAL ESTATE OR PAID UP LIFE INSURANCE:** A gift that can be sold might allow you to make a larger gift than you expected.

Give appreciated assets and receive income

- **CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES OR CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS:** If funded with appreciated assets there is no up-front capital gains tax for you, but it is eligible for a charitable deduction and pays income for your lifetime. The remainder becomes a legacy gift for your parish.

Please consult with your own attorney and other professional advisors regarding your personal tax and financial situation.

Consider a Legacy Gift

Intentional stewardship includes end of life planning. Using a will and other end of life documents we seek to lessen our burden on others. If we are fortunate we can even help the next generation. Consider including St. Sabina with a legacy gift in your will. You may designate any amount or percentage of your estate, or even a specific asset. Consult an attorney or contact the parish office for additional information.

DACA Reinstated

DACA, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, has been reinstated. Here is what you need to know:

- A judge in New York has ordered the government to return DACA to its original Form. The order instructs the government to revert the DACA program back to its original form before the September 5, 2017 rescission memo.
- If you never had DACA and are eligible, you can apply for the first time.
- Advance Parole is back in its original form.
- DACA renewals for those who have DACA or have ever had DACA remain open
- The judge's order is immediate. Consult a lawyer or trusted legal representative so you can make the choice to apply for DACA for the first time or Advance Parole.

For more information, please contact El Centro at 913-677-0100 and ask for a Community Organizer.

Se Reinstaló la DACA

DACA, Acción Diferida para los Llegados en la Infancia, ha sido restablecida. Esta es lo que necesita saber:

- Un juez de Nueva York ordenó al gobierno que devuelva la DACA a su forma original. La orden instruye al gobierno a revertir el programa DACA a su forma original antes del memorando de rescisión del 5 de septiembre de 2017.
- Si nunca tuvo DACA y es elegible, puede solicitarlo por primera vez.
- Venía de reingreso, o Advance Parole, ha vuelto a su forma original.
- Las renovaciones de DACA para aquellos que tienen DACA o alguna vez han tenido DACA permanecen abiertas
- La orden del juez es inmediata. Consulte a un abogado o representante legal de confianza para que pueda tomar la decisión de solicitar DACA por primera vez o Advance Parole.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con El Centro al 913-677-0100 y solicite un organizador comunitario.



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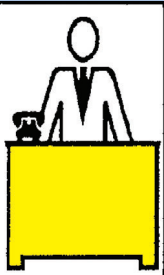
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