



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4300 King Springs Road SE, Smyrna, GA 30082-4214

stthomasga@stthomastheapostle.org

www.stthomastheapostle.org

December 8, 2013

### Parish Office

770 - 432-8579

Fax. 770 - 432-8570

### Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday—Friday

9:00AM—7:00PM

Tuesday: 9:00AM—5:00PM

Closed Wednesday 1PM-3PM

### Religious Ed. Office

770 - 432-5296

### Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

10:00AM—8:30PM

Tuesday 10AM—5PM

### Preschool Office

770 - 432-8579 Ext. 125

### Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

10:00AM - 1:00PM

### English Mass Schedule

Monday:	12 Noon
Tuesday:	12 Noon
Wednesday:	6:30 AM & 7:00 PM
Thursday:	7:00 PM
Friday:	12 Noon
Saturday Vigil:	5:00 PM
Sunday:	7:30 AM, 9:30 AM 11:30 AM & 5:00 PM

### Confession:

Saturdays: 3:30 PM

### Adoration

Wednesdays: 7:30 AM-6:45 PM

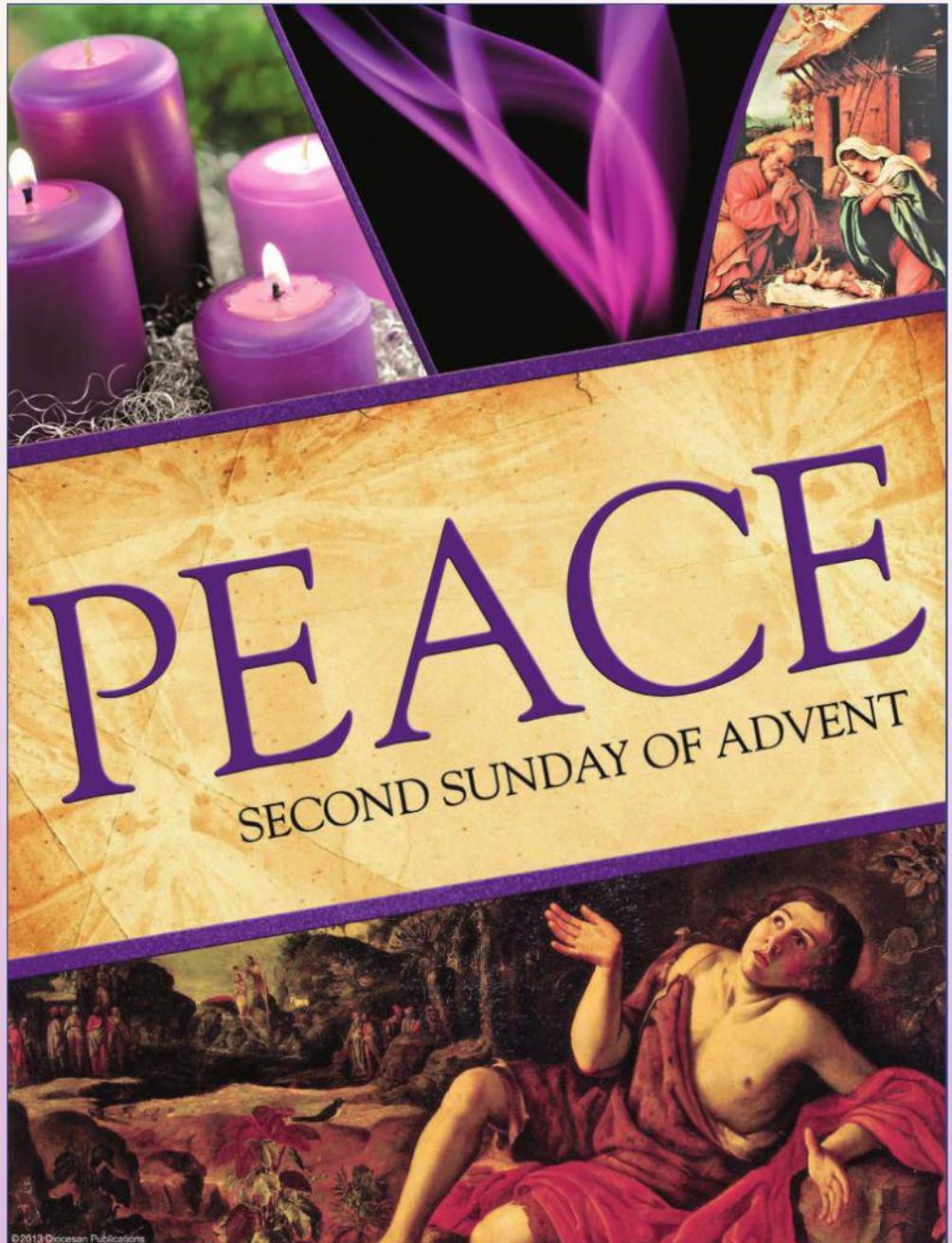
### Horario de Misas en Español

Lunes:	7:30 PM
Jueves:	8:00 PM
Sábado:	7:30 PM
Domingo:	6:00 AM 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

### Confesión:

Sábados: 6:30 PM

Domingos: 1:00 & 6:30 PM



[www.facebook.com/stthomastheapostlechurch](http://www.facebook.com/stthomastheapostlechurch)

**Pastor:** Rev. Brian R. Sheridan, M.S. (x108)

**Parochial Vicars:** Rev. Andrews Kollannoor, M.S. (x128) • Rev. Jaime Molina J., M.N.M. • Rev. Paul Rainville, M.S. (in residence x.193)

• **Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Michael Garrett • Rev. Mr. Earl Jackson • Rev. Mr. Mark Mitchell • Deacons Office (x106)

**Parish Administrator:** Mr. Gus Scannapieco (x109)



*This Christmas we invite you to share the gift of God's love by remembering your loved ones in our Spiritual Bouquet Mass Enrollment. Please return envelopes to the Parish Office by Friday, December 20th.*



*Also available in the Commons Area:  
Offering Envelopes to support our Christmas Flowers Fund!*

## Gospel Reflection

**Today's Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12**

### Reflection for Families

We Christians come in daily contact with other people whether at work, in our neighborhoods, or school. We have opportunities throughout the day to witness to our faith by our actions and words, but what greater audience do we have than our own children? They watch us and listen to us. They imitate our every action and mimic our expressions. It is important that we witness our faith to all we meet, but no audience is more important than our families. Sometimes we need to take some quiet "desert time" like we find in today's Gospel in order to focus our lives more intentionally on what is truly important.

### Bringing the Gospel into Your Family:

Continue using the Advent wreath as a tool for prayer. Light the second candle today and offer one suggestion of something you will do this week to take some quiet, reflective time. Think of at least one way you (individually or as a family) will create peace for yourself or someone near you.

### Discussion Starters

- It's hard for me to slow down, but I know I need to when ...
- One way others (especially my family members) see the Kingdom of God in my actions is when ...
- In order to prepare the heart of our family for Christmas we need to ...

*Reflection courtesy of: RCL Benziger*

## In Our Prayers / En Nuestras Oraciones

We ask you to pray for the people who are listed on this Bulletin Sick List. Please call the Parish Office to place a name on the list below. The names will be kept in our bulletin for three consecutive weeks.

Josefina Alvarez  
Kimberly Marshal  
Rachel Prezou  
Mary Schuster  
Colin Stanton

Marcelina Aviña  
Lorena Estrada  
John & Leah DeLaigle  
Jesús Durán  
Marjoire Kimmeeek  
Sr. Helen Mick  
Stephen Moore  
María Sesmas  
Fr. Richard Wise

Gabriela Espinoza  
Esteban Hernández  
Amy Humbue  
Roger LaVigne  
Deacon Luis Londono  
Deacon Al McHugh  
Michael Stanton

Here at St. Thomas the Apostle we have a **Prayer Line Ministry**.  
The members of this ministry are dedicated prayer warriors.

If you have a prayer request that you would like to place in the care of the Prayer Line, contact Valerie Panditaratne at [vpandit@emory.edu](mailto:vpandit@emory.edu)

## Pray For Our Troops / Oremos por nuestros soldados

We remember in our prayers all of those who are serving in the military, especially: /  
Recordamos en nuestras oraciones a todos aquellos que se encuentran sirviendo en el ejército, especialmente:

PFPA Andrew Ashibuogwu, USA  
PVT Michael Ashibuogwu, USA  
Sgt. John R Beuth ANG  
Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Bright, USA  
Sgt. Manuel Chico, USA  
Sgt. Christopher Conkel, USMC  
SFC Steve Creason, GaARNG  
SFC Arcelio R. Davis, Jr. USA  
ET3 Carolyn Deacon, USN  
LT Rogelio Espinosa, USN

Sgt. Sonjanique Ferrel, USA  
2LT Adam Fisk, USA  
Sgt. Mark Gallant, USA  
LCpl. Quinn Gordon, USMC  
SFC Charles Granke, USA  
PFC Ronald Griffin, Jr., USA  
Sgt. William Scott Haney, ARNG  
E3 Spencer Hanemann, USN  
PFC Brian Harris, USA  
CPT Ana Maria Hartwig, USA

Maj. Marise James, USAF  
LT CDR Dominic R. Lovello  
CW3 Peter Paul Leone, USA  
LCpl. Gerardo Morales, Jr. USMC  
HM2 Kenneth McIntosh, II, USN  
PFC Ernest Dean Rivera, USMC  
Specialist Robert H. Roberts, USA  
Major Robert A. Robinson, II USA  
Pvt. Jeffrey Sanborn, USA  
CPT Anna Smith, ARNG  
S.Sgt. Michael Throne, USA

Please contact the Parish Office if you have a family member who is serving in the military.

## Praying Pacem in Terris

But what emerges first and foremost from the progress of scientific knowledge and the inventions of technology is the infinite greatness of God Himself, who created both man and the universe. Yes; out of nothing He made all things, and filled them with the fullness of His own wisdom and goodness. Hence, these are the words the holy psalmist used in praise of God: "O Lord, our Lord: how admirable is thy name in the whole earth!" And elsewhere he says: "How great are thy works, O Lord! Thou hast made all things in wisdom."

Moreover, God created man "in His own image and likeness," endowed him with intelligence and freedom, and made him lord of creation. All this the psalmist proclaims when he says: "Thou hast made him a little less than the angels: thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, and hast set him over the works of thy hands. Thou hast subjected all things under his feet."

*Excerpt of Pope John XXIII's Pacem in Terris  
Provided by Justice & Peace Ministries, Archdiocese of Atlanta*





## Parish School of Religion (PSR) - Escuela de Catecismo

Our Parish School of Religion (PSR) follows the Cobb County School calendar. If Cobb schools are closed because of a holiday, the PSR classes closest to that holiday will be canceled. Please keep the PSR calendar handy for quick reference!

Nuestra Escuela de Catecismo sigue el Calendario Escolar del Condado de Cobb. Si las escuelas del condado de Cobb están cerradas debido a días feriados, las clases de Catecismo más cercanas a esa fecha son canceladas. ¡Por favor mantengan el calendario de Catecismo a la mano!

**Just A Reminder: There will be no PSR on:**  
 Wednesday, December 11th for Middle School  
 Thursday, December 12th for Elementary

We hope this time off will enable our families to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe together. Last class before Christmas is on Thursday, December 19th.

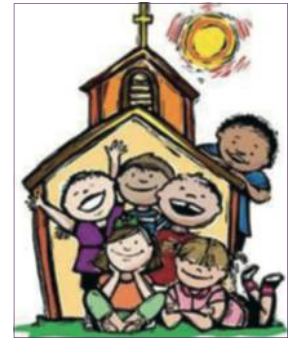
**Also, please note that there will be no PSR on:**

Sunday, December 22nd, 29th, January 5th  
 (Primary & FIRES Sunday classes)

Monday, December 23rd, 30th, January 6th  
 Wednesday, December 25th, January 1st  
 Thursday, December 26th, January 2nd  
 (Elementary & Middle School)

CLASSES WILL RESUME on

- Wednesday, January 8th ▪ Thursday, January 9th ▪
- Sunday, January 12th ▪ Monday, January 13th ▪



Proclaim it!  
 Celebrate it!  
 Live it!  
 Transmit it!  
**BE A CATECHIST!**

*Our Parish School of Religion (PSR) is still in need of a few good people:*

***We have a need for substitute catechists (teachers) on Monday at 7:00 p.m. and on Thursday at 7:00 p.m.***

***We also are in need of catechists (teachers) on Thursday night, especially in grade 1 and grade 3.***

*If you are interested in becoming a part of the important ministry please call the PSR office at 770-432-5296.*



For those little friends who enjoy Story Time each Thursday at 10:00 a.m. we would like to remind you that we won't meet on December 26th and January 2nd. There will be Story Time on December 12th, and 19th. Regular schedule resumes on January 9th.

## Coming soon ...

**December 11**  
 6:00 p.m.  
 Jim R. Miller Park  
**Our Lady of Guadalupe Vigil**  
 Bilingual Novena on Friday, December 6th.  
 See full schedule of events on Page 6.

**December 17**  
 7:00 p.m.  
 Main Sanctuary  
**Penance Service**  
 Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. See more details on Page 4.

**December 20**  
 7:00 p.m.  
 Parking Lot  
**Posadas (Live Nativity)**  
 Read more about this special event on Page 5.



**December 24**  
 4:00 p.m.  
 Main Sanctuary  
**Children's Christmas Mass**  
 All children are welcome to wear a simple costume, dressed as one of the people or animals in the story of the Nativity. See Page 5 for details.



**A Thank You note  
From the family of Bob Burke**

*The Burke Family would like to send their love and a Big Thank you for all the sweet cards, emails and kind words about our Dad Bob Burke. The food was wonderful after the Funeral Mass. We really appreciate it. What an Angel he was. We hope to walk in his shoes. We are still accepting donations in Dads honor to "Just Faith" care of Bob Burke to Feed the Homeless. God Bless!*

**Penance Service**

**December 17th at 7:00 p.m.**

Let us renew and recommit ourselves as disciples of Jesus through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Parish Office Closed**

**December 24th-27th**

**December 31st-January 1st**

Regular office hours on Monday, December 23rd and Monday, December 30th. Please call 770-432-8579 Ext. 0 if you have any questions.

**We thought you should know**

The suggested offering for Mass Intentions is now \$15. If you would like to place an intention to honor a loved one, please contact the Parish Office at 770-432-8579, Ext. 0.

**Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule**

**Tuesday, December 24th, 2013 (Christmas Eve)**

- 4:00 p.m. .... Children's Liturgy (English Mass)
- 6:00 p.m. .... Christmas Eve English Mass
- 8:00 p.m. .... Misa de Nochebuena en español

**Wednesday, December 25th, 2013 (Christmas Day)**

- 12:00 a.m. .... Christmas Midnight English Mass
- 9:30 a.m. .... Christmas English Mass
- 11:30 a.m. .... Christmas English Mass
- 2:00 p.m. .... Misa de Navidad en español
- 7:30 p.m. .... Misa de Navidad en español

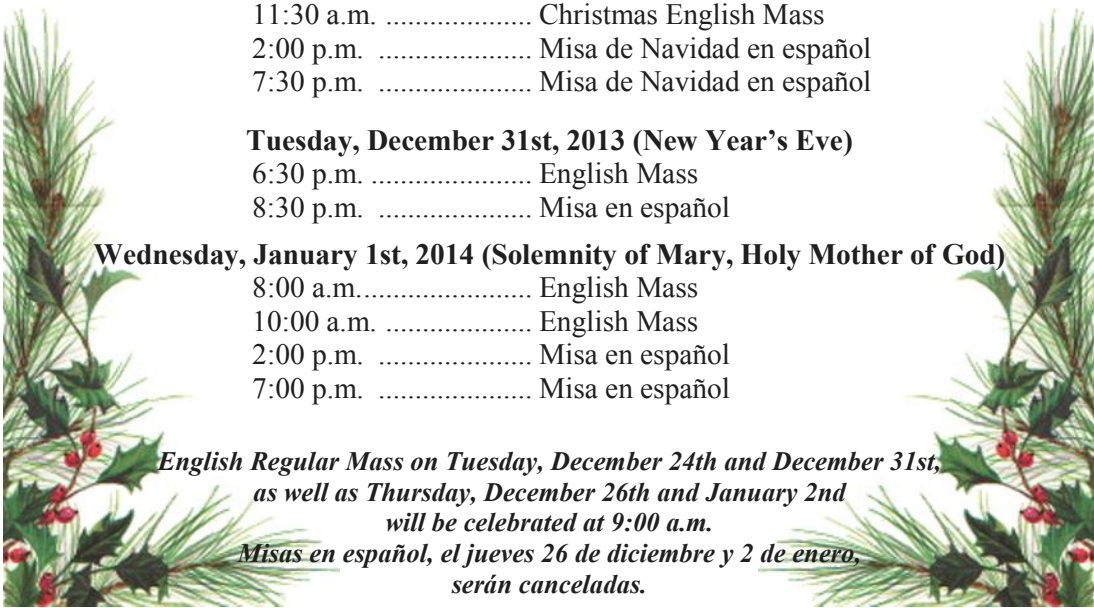
**Tuesday, December 31st, 2013 (New Year's Eve)**

- 6:30 p.m. .... English Mass
- 8:30 p.m. .... Misa en español

**Wednesday, January 1st, 2014 (Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God)**

- 8:00 a.m. .... English Mass
- 10:00 a.m. .... English Mass
- 2:00 p.m. .... Misa en español
- 7:00 p.m. .... Misa en español

*English Regular Mass on Tuesday, December 24th and December 31st, as well as Thursday, December 26th and January 2nd will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. Misas en español, el jueves 26 de diciembre y 2 de enero, serán canceladas.*



**Ignite!**

**Tuesday, January 14th at 7:30 p.m.**

Ignite! is an evening where parishioners gather together to encounter the Living Jesus in music, prayer, scripture and in the testimony of a fellow pilgrim in the journey. When we gather together and reflect on people whose hearts are on fire with God, we too feel that our own hearts are not far from being alive with God's profound love! We are inspired, enriched and transformed. We grow more passionate about our faith.

Make Ignite! Part of your spiritual journey and join us this Tuesday, January 14th at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary. You may also join us for dinner beforehand at 6:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. Please bring a dessert to share, and also bring a friend!

**Around the Archdiocese**

**Advent Day of Reflection at Ignatius House**

Wednesday, December 11th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 6700 Riverside Dr. NW Atlanta, GA The day will include periods of quiet for prayer & reflection and conclude with liturgy. A light breakfast and lunch are included. Suggested donation \$35.00 Call to register 404-255-0503 or visit: [www.ignatiushouse.org](http://www.ignatiushouse.org)

**Healing & Hope Retreat with Immaculee**

February 7 – 8, 2014 at All Saints Catholic Church in Dunwoody, GA *Immaculee Ilibagiza*, miraculous survivor of the Rwandan genocide and New York Times best-selling author of "Left to Tell," is regarded today as one of world's leading speakers on peace, faith, hope and forgiveness. She will be hosting a retreat and sharing her inspiring message in February. Cost is \$57. Sign up is limited. For more information go to [www.immaculee.com](http://www.immaculee.com). If you have any questions, you may email Greg Amaya at [jgamaya@bellsouth.net](mailto:jgamaya@bellsouth.net)



**Christmas Children's Liturgy**  
**Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m.**

O Come All Ye Faithful  
 ALL CHILDREN of the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Family are invited to come and participate in a Christmas Liturgy especially celebrated for children on Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m.

All children are invited to come in a simple costume, dressed as one of the people or animals in the Nativity Story. Become part of this celebration by being angels, stars, shepherds, wise men, lambs or innkeepers.

Mary and Joseph will be waiting. Come help in the telling of this wonderful story on this special, sacred night!



**Misa Navideña para Niños**  
**Martes, 24 de diciembre a las 4:00 p.m.**

Invitamos a todos los niños de la parroquia Santo Tomás el Apóstol a participar en la Misa en inglés para niños, el martes, 24 de diciembre a las 4:00 p.m.

Los niños pueden disfrazarse de ángeles, estrellas, pastores, ovejas, reyes magos o cualquiera de las personas o animales relacionadas con la historia de la Natividad.

María y José estarán esperándolos en la iglesia. ¡Ven y ayuda a contar la historia de esta noche sagrada y especial!

**Vida Parroquial**

**Fiesta Guadalupana**

Novena: 2-10 de diciembre  
 Misa en el Parque: 11 de dic.  
 Misas en la iglesia: 12 de dic.  
 Ver horario en la Página 6.



**Servicio Penitencial**

Martes, 17 de diciembre, a las 7:00 p.m.

**Posadas**

Viernes, 20 de diciembre 7:00 p.m.  
 Estacionamiento de la iglesia

**Misa Navideña para Niños**

Martes, 24 de diciembre 4:00 p.m.  
 Misa en inglés. Los niños pueden venir disfrazados para ilustrar la historia de la Natividad. Ver más detalles en esta página.

**Horario de Misas de Navidad y Año Nuevo**

Disponible en la Página 4. Por favor noten que la Oficina Parroquial estará cerrada del 24 al 27 de diciembre, el 31 de diciembre y el 1º de enero. Horario regular los lunes, 23 y 30 de diciembre.

**Live Nativity: Las Posadas Journey**

**Friday, December 20th, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Church Parking Lot**



Please join us for a Multi-cultural outdoor procession, as we re-enact Mary and Joseph's cold and difficult journey to Bethlehem in search of shelter.

The outdoor procession at St. Thomas will include 3 designated stops at "inns", live animals, singing, praying and listening to the story of Las Posadas, concluding with a celebration of food, drinks and Christmas carols.

Anyone interested in helping, please contact the Religious Education Office at 770-432-5296.

**MASS INTENTIONS—December 9-15, 2013**

*Mass intentions updated as of December 2, 2013*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9**  
 FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (OBSERVANCE)  
 6:30 AM ENGLISH MASS  
 † Isabell Navarrete  
 12:00 PM ENGLISH MASS  
 † Nicholas Ardito  
 6:00 PM ENGLISH MASS  
 † Nicholas Ardito

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10**  
 12:00 PM ENGLISH MASS  
 † Rafael Galindo  
 8:30 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL  
 NOVENA GUADALUPANA

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11**  
 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASSES—SEE PAGE 6  
 6:30 AM ENGLISH MASS  
 7:00 PM ENGLISH MASS  
 † Nelson Villavicencio  
 10:30 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL EN  
 JIM R. MILLER PARK

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12**  
 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASSES—SEE PAGE 6  
 2:00 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL  
 Mujeres embarazadas y Niños  
 7:00 PM ENGLISH MASS  
 † Lucy Luzon  
 8:30 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL  
 Bendición de Herramientas

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13**  
 12:00 PM ENGLISH MASS  
 † George Patrick Garger  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**  
 5:00 PM VIGIL MASS  
 † Bob Burke  
 7:30 PM MISA  
 Familia González

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**  
 6:00 AM MISA EN ESPAÑOL  
 Izebela Estrada  
 7:30 AM English Mass  
 Poor Souls in Purgatory  
 9:30 AM English Mass  
 † Yarminda Mendy  
 11:30 AM English MASS  
 GOD'S PROTECTION & BLESSING  
 2:00 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL  
 † Serafín Pérez  
 5:00 PM English MASS  
 People of St. Thomas  
 7:30 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL  
 † Lázaro Pérez  
 † Dolores Guzmán





# Our Lady of Guadalupe

You are invited to celebrate the  
**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
**Celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**

**Wednesday, December 11th**  
**Miércoles, 11 de diciembre**

**Jim R. Miller Park**  
**2245 Callaway Road - Marietta, GA 30008**

6:00 p.m.	Traditional Dance Danza Matachines
8:00 p.m.	Enthronement of the Virgin Mary Entronización de la Virgen
9:00 p.m.	Life Scenes Rosary Rosario Viviente
10:30 p.m.	Bilingual Mass Misa bilingüe
12:00 a.m.	Serenade to Our Lady of Guadalupe Mañanitas a la Virgen

**Thursday, December 12th**  
**Jueves, 12 de diciembre**

All Masses at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. NO events at the park.  
*Todas las Misas en la iglesia Santo Tomás. NO habrá eventos en el parque.*

<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Spanish Mass (Misa en español)</b> <b>Blessing of Children and Pregnant Women</b> Bendición de Niños y Mujeres Embarazadas
<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Spanish Mass (Misa en español)</b> <b>Blessing of the Tools</b> Bendición de Herramientas

For more information please call the Parish Office.  
Para más informes llama a la Oficina Parroquial.



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