



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4300 King Springs Road SE, Smyrna, GA 30082-4214  
stthomasga@stthomastheapostle.org  
www.stthomastheapostle.org

December 29 2013

### Parish Office

**770 - 432-8579**

Fax. 770 - 432-8570

### Regular Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday—Friday

9:00AM—7:00PM

Tuesday: 9:00AM—5:00PM

Closed Wednesday 1PM-3PM

### Religious Ed. Office

**770 - 432-5296**

### Regular Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

10:00AM—8:30PM

Tuesday 10AM—5PM

### Preschool Office

**770 - 432-8579 Ext. 125**

### Regular 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

*Feast of the  
Holy Family*



**Father,  
help us to live as the holy family,  
united in respect and love.  
Bring us to the joy and peace of  
your eternal home.**

-Sacramentary

**Town Hall  
Meeting**  
Monday, January 6th  
7:00 p.m. Social Hall  
See Page 2



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

**Pastor:** Rev. Brian R. Sheridan, M.S. (x108)  
**Parochial Vicars:** Rev. Andrews Kollanoor, 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)

## TOWN HALL MEETING FOR THE NEW YEAR 2014: “Pastor’s State of the Parish Address”

Hello Sisters and Brothers of St. Thomas the Apostle,

I invite you, my brothers and sisters of our parish, to attend another Town Hall Meeting to provide a forum in which I will be able to have more than a few moments to let you know what’s been happening since our last Town Hall Meeting (Spring 2013) when I listened to the concerns that were voiced. The Pastoral Council Members, the Members of the Building Committee, and the Members of the Finance Committee have been working with me, our Parish Administrator, Gus Scannapieco, and our Parish Staff to address what appeared to be three major concerns among the many.

As I have shared at the Masses, I heard the concerns about **the condition of our Sanctuary**. The need for refreshment, cleaning, and upgrading the atmosphere is being worked on... we have ideas to present that would welcome your feedback.

The second major item that I heard a lot about is **the need for more space to worship, meet, and learn about our faith**... I am proposing a multi-purpose facility. We have been working with the Archdiocese. We have ideas about it. Again, I would like you to hear about them and provide feedback.

Finally, I heard interest and concern about **the spiritual growth of our members** that resulted in our return to more emphasis on who we are as Stewards of God’s Time, Talents, and Treasure. Hence, we revived the Ministry Fair and offered an activity in the pews to think and pray about how each of us is called to tithe from the treasure that God gives us.

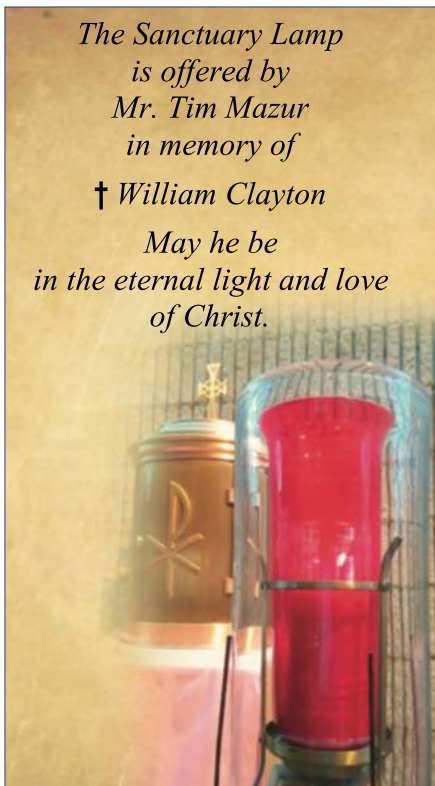
I will complete a year of service here at STA this January as Pastor. I would like you to give me some time to share about this year.

Fr. Brian—Pastor

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Monday, January 6th, 2014  
beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending around 8:30 p.m. in the Social Hall**

Your attendance will be most appreciated. May we have a Blessed New Year!

*The Sanctuary Lamp  
is offered by  
Mr. Tim Mazur  
in memory of  
† William Clayton  
May he be  
in the eternal light and love  
of Christ.*



### In Our Prayers

We ask you to take a moment 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.

Ginny Galluzzo • Richard Gaeta • Kevin Aguilar • Madelyn Harris • Eileen Phagan • Diane Starkovich • John Argent • Marcelina Aviña • Héctor Martínez • María Sesmas



### Prayer Line

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

### Pray For Our Troops

We remember in our prayers all of those who are serving in the military. Please contact the Parish Office if you have a family member who is serving in the military.

PFP 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 • CPT Ana Maria Hartwig, USA • Maj. Marise James, USAF • LT CDR Dominic R. Lovello USN • 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 • Specialist Darleni Sandoval, USA • CPT Anna Smith, ARNG • S.Sgt. Michael Throne, USA

**Ministry Coordinators Meeting**

Meeting with the Members of the Pastoral Council of St. Thomas the Apostle on:  
**Monday, January 13th, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.**

As we experience the blessing of a New Year, Fr. Brian would like to ask all Ministry Coordinators to gather with our Pastoral Council Members for an important meeting:

1. To pray together for our Parish Community
2. To meet one another and come to know one another better
3. To establish liaisons for our ministries and their coordinators
4. To conclude with prayer invoking God's blessing upon our New Year

**New Year's Mass Schedule**

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

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

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

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

**Please note: English Regular Mass on Tuesday, December 31st, as well as Thursday, January 2nd will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.**

**Attention Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion:**

New Year's Sign Up Sheets for Masses are posted on the Common's Bulletin Board. Please review them, select your dates and times, then sign up for the Masses you wish to serve. Our goal is for each Mass to be completely covered for both species. Hopefully we will not repeat similar results experienced last year by a lack of Ministers to serve.

Please note: Wednesday, January 1, 2014, is the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation.

*Misa en español, el jueves 2 de enero, será cancelada.*

**Parish Life**

**Blood Drive:**

Sunday, January 5th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Classrooms #5 and #6. Call 1-800-448-3543 to schedule an appointment or go online to: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use Sponsor Code: **St. Thomas**

**Welcome Ministry**

Provide a personal welcome for new parishioners and help them to develop an active life of stewardship within our parish community. Contact Lauren Russell at 808-285-4124 if you are interested in serving.

**Pew Angels**

The Pew Angels Ministry is looking for more volunteers to help straighten up the pews before and after the weekend masses. Help is needed on Monday and/or Friday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Call the parish office if you are willing to help.

**Bereavement Ministry:**

10-week sessions begin on January 21st. For more information contact Deacon Mark Mitchell at 770-438-0539.

**Coming soon ...**

**January 5**  
 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Classrooms #5 and #6  
**Blood Drive**  
 Be a Hero! Save a Life!  
 Call 1-800-448-3543 to register.



**January 6**  
 7:00 p.m.  
 Social Hall  
**Town Hall Meeting**  
 Our pastor, Fr. Brian, will be addressing some important concerns on this meeting. See Page 2 for details.

**January 10**  
 7:15 p.m.  
 Social Hall  
**Holy Hollywood**  
 Featuring the film GREEN MILE with Tom Hanks. See Page 4 for additional information.

**January 14**  
 7:30 p.m.  
 Main Sanctuary  
**Ignite!**  
 A night of prayer, worship, music, and a faith story that will touch your heart! See Page 5 for details.

**We thought you should know:**

**Mass Intentions:**

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.

**Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament:**

Please note that there will be no adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament on New Years Day. But you can resolve to add a new resolution in 2014 to make Wednesdays a special time with the Lord! Adoration takes place every Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. until 6:45 p.m.

**Pray the Rosary with us!**

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary, resuming on January 2nd.

**Parish Office Closed  
December 31st-January 1st**

Regular office hours on Monday, December 30th, and January 2nd-3rd. Please call 770-432-8579 Ext. 0 if you have any questions.

**LifeTeen & EDGE**

Life Nights are held on Sundays after the LifeTeen Mass (5:00 p.m.) Contact Ian Griffis, Youth Minister, to learn about the activities that our parish offers to Middle School and High School students! 770-432-8579, Ext. 116.

**Parish School of Religion (PSR)**

**Just A Reminder: There will be no PSR on:**

- Sunday, January 5th (Primary & FIRES Sunday classes)
- Monday, January 6th, Wednesday, January 1st, Thursday, January 2nd, (Elementary & Middle School)



**CLASSES WILL RESUME on**

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

Story Time resumes on Thursday, January 19th at 10:00 a.m. Contact the department of Religious Education if you have any questions: 770-432-5296.

**Holy Hollywood presents: The Green Mile**

**Friday, January 10, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall**



Please join us for the presentation of the movie: The Green Mile. The 1999 film is based on the novel by Stephen King and stars Tom Hanks and the late Michael Clark Duncan. The story is told in a flashback format and it takes place during the Great Depression in the U.S.. The setting is a Southern prison and is the story of a prison guard Paul Edgecomb (Hanks) who develops a relationship with an inmate named John Coffey (Duncan) who possesses a magical and mysterious gift. Coffey is not the typical inmate accused of murder and he has a profound impact on Edgecomb and the other guards. The themes of resilience, repentance, justice and injustice, and faith are throughout the movie.

- Length 189 minutes
- Rating R due to violence, adult language, and some sexual references
- Questionable for children
- Recommended for teens 16 and older

Due to the length of the movie doors will open at 5:45 pm and the movie will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. A group facilitated discussion will be conducted immediately at the end of the movie. Soft drinks and snacks will be available however feel free to bring something to eat and/or drink before or during the movie. Contact: Linda Veit at 770-432-, Ext. 131.

**PARISH AGENDA—December 30, 2013-January5, 2014**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 30  
NO PSR**

12:00 PM MASS  
7:30 PM MISA  
† Ma. Del Carmen Valencia  
8:00 PM EVANGELIZATION CHOIR

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31  
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED  
NEW YEAR'S EVE**

9:00 AM MASS  
6:30 PM ENGLISH MASS  
8:30 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL  
† Sabas & Ma. Del Carmen Huertas

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1  
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
NO ADORATION  
NO PSR**  
8:00 AM ENGLISH MASS  
† Donna Grandstaff  
10:00 AM ENGLISH MASS  
† Nemeccia & Jose Miranda  
2:00 PM MISA  
† Gerardo Valdés  
† Gerardo Valdé (hijo)  
† Luisa Fernanda Valdés  
7:00 PM MISA

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 2  
NO PSR**

9:00 AM MASS  
† Samuel Rojas  
7:00 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL  
7:00 PM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
7:00 PM LEGACY COLLEGE MINISTRY

Adult Faith Formation

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 on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary. You may also join us for dinner beforehand beginning at 6:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. Please bring a dessert to share, and also bring a friend!

Retreat at Ignatius House

January 17th-20th, 2014

Topic: "On Earth as it is Heaven"

Directed by Fr. Todd Kenny, S.J.

This retreat provides an opportunity to prayerfully reflect on how God's Kingdom might be better realized here on earth and in our own lives. The prayer material are drawn from both biblical and contemporary prophetic voices. The retreat consists of brief points for prayer, Ignatian contemplation, liturgy as well as an opportunity for focused spiritual conversation. **The retreat will end on MLK day with a Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, S.L.D. Metropolitan Archbishop of Atlanta.** Ignatius House Jesuit Retreat Center is located at 6700 Riverside Dr. Atlanta.

Other opportunities for Spiritual Growth:

**Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament:** Wednesdays (7:00 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.)

See Page 4 for more details.

**New Evangelization Series:** 6-week program beginning on January 22nd.

Contact: Linda Veit at 770-432-8579 Ext. 131.

**Bible Study:** Thursday morning (10:00 a.m.) or Thursday evening (7:00 p.m.)

Contact: Linda Veit at 770-432-8579 Ext. 131.

**Evangelization Retreat:** April 21st-27th. Contact John Casey at 770-432-8579 Ext. 130.

**Charismatic Prayer Group:** Fridays at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Faith Formation building.

Contact Carolus Korie at 770-944-9150.

**Holy Hollywood:** Friday, January 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall (Please notice change on start time.) See Page 4 for additional details.

Vida Parroquial

Asamblea General con el Padre Brian

Viernes, 3 de enero, a las 7:30 p.m. en la iglesia. Nuestro párroco quiere compartir con ustedes noticias importantes con respecto a la renovación de la iglesia, la construcción de un nuevo edificio para reuniones y nuestra participación en la ofrenda de tesoro. No falten!

Horario de Misas de Año Nuevo

Disponible en la Página 3. Por favor noten que la Oficina Parroquial estará cerrada el 31 de diciembre y el 1º de enero. Horario regular el lunes 30 de diciembre, y el 2-3 de enero.

Intenciones de Misa

Queremos invitarles a ofrecer intenciones de Misa por sus seres queridos. Se sugiere una ofrenda de \$15 por Misa. Por favor llamar a la Oficina Parroquial al 770-432-8579, Ext. 0 para hacer su reservación.

Reunión de Coordinadores de Ministerios

Lunes, 13 de enero a las 7:00 p.m. en el Salón Social. Ver página 3 para más detalles.

Adoración al Santísimo

Sábado, 4 de enero, iniciando a las 9:00 p.m.

Mass intentions updated as of December 18, 2013

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

12:00 PM MASS  
6:30 PM ESTUDIANTINA CHOIR  
7:00 PM CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP  
7:30 PM ASAMBLEA CON EL PÁRROCO  
VER ESTA PÁGINA  
9:00 PM EMA CHOIR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

10:00 AM RECOVERY INT.  
1:00 PM GIRL SCOUTS  
3:30 PM CONFESSIONS  
4:00 PM ESTUDIANTINA CHOIR  
5:00 PM CATEQUESIS DE ADULTOS  
5:00 PM MASS  
7:30 PM MISA  
Familia Suárez  
9:00 PM ADORACIÓN AL SANTÍSIMO

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD  
NO PSR  
6:00 AM MISA  
† Refugio Herrera  
† Daniel Valle  
7:30 AM MASS  
9:30 AM MASS  
NURSERY AVAILABLE  
† Olga Kowal  
9:30 AM RCIA  
11:00 AM LEGION OF MARY  
11:00 AM AFRICAN CHOIR  
11:00 AM BLOOD DRIVE  
SEE PAGE 3

11:30 AM MASS  
NURSERY AVAILABLE  
Patrick Anunkem  
12:30 PM SP RCIA  
2:00 PM MISA  
GUARDERÍA DISPONIBLE  
Brandon Angel Roman  
4:00 PM DIVINA VOLUNTAD  
5:00 PM MASS  
PEOPLE OF ST. THOMAS  
7:30 PM MISA  
† Beatriz Vázquez

## Christmas Flowers

Thank you to everyone who used the Christmas Flower envelopes this month. Your gift helped us to purchase the beautiful poinsettias for our altar during this Christmas season!

- *Alonso, Jose and Maria*
- *Alvarado, Adolfo and Maria Elena*
- *Amaya, Jose and Lorena*
- *Arias, Marcelo and Gloria*
- *Barco, Misael and Irma*
- *Boyso, Horacio and Susana*
- *Carreno, Ricardo and Luisa*
- *Chavez, Arturo and Patricia*
- *Contreras, Felix and Maria*
- *Cruz-DeDios, Gabino*
- *Diaz, Jose and Ventura*
- *Durham, Brian and Maureen*
- *Elie, Raquel*
- *Espinoza, Israel and Diana*
- *Esqueda, Luis and Fanny*
- *Flores, Domingo and Yolanda*
- *Fuentes, Juan Jose and Maria*
- *Garcia, Alfredo and Veronica*
- *Garcia, Francisco and Chela*
- *Garcia, Oscar and Manuela*
- *Gonzalez, Joaquin and Cristina*
- *Gonzalez, Leobardo and Margarita*
- *Grimaldo, Jose and Maria*
- *Gueta, Rafael and Mayra*
- *Hernandez, Sergio and Josefina*
- *Howard, Mary Kathryn*
- *Leiva, Pedro and Ana*
- *Lopez, Jaime*
- *Lopez, Jose and Margarita*
- *Martinez, Jr., Salvador and Modesta*
- *Medrano, Jose Luis and Lorena*
- *Melo, Monico and Sanjuana*
- *Mendez, Nelson and Delym*
- *Mendoza, Roberto and Estela*
- *Monteith, Larry and Phil*
- *Montoya, Reyes and Beatriz*
- *Nolasco, Raul and Luz*
- *Ortiz, Jose Mario and Maria Luisa*
- *Pecina, Alfredo and Martha*
- *Perez, Juan and Narcisca*
- *Perez, Margarito and Blanca*
- *Peterman, Robert and Pam*
- *Pineda, Octavio and Carmen*
- *Ramirez, Hector and Rocio*
- *Ramirez, Jose Luis and Norma*
- *Resendiz, Felipe and Avelina*
- *Rico, Jose and Maria*
- *Rivera, Leticia*
- *Rivera, Lucina*
- *Rojo, Eladio and Ana*
- *Romero, Fredick and Yadira*
- *Sanchez, Gonzalo and Silvia*
- *Silva, Jorge and Guadalupe*
- *Soriano, Abundio and Ignacia*
- *Soriano, Mauro and Minerva*
- *Tapia, Aidan and Maria*
- *Thompson, Bob and Sandy*
- *Torres, Hector and Rosa*
- *Trujillo, Macario and Maria*
- *Valenzuela, Rosa*

Updated December 13, 2013

## Gospel Reflection

**Today's Gospel:** Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23.

### Reflection for Families

We may not always be as successful as we would like, but as parents we try to create some stability for our children. It must have been hard for Mary and Joseph to bring their child into the world in such a hurried and rustic environment. Barely had the child been born and visited by the Magi, when the Holy Family made a late-night escape through unfamiliar territory to an even more unfamiliar land they would call home until Herod died. At the news of Herod's death, Joseph moved his young family back to Israel, but to a still different place from where he called home. The movement of our lives may not be as dramatic and life-threatening as that of the Holy Family, but it surely helps us to know that the presence of God is the one continuous thread that binds us together no matter where we are.

### Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Listen to the news or read the newspaper and share stories with your children about people who may not be able to stay safely in one place. Perhaps you know of an organization in your community that reaches out to families who lack stability. Or, perhaps there is a resettlement project in your area. Decide together how you might help these families. As a family, prepare food, provide supplies, or make prayer cards for them. Be sure to keep struggling families in the prayers of your family each day.

### Discussion Starters

- For a family, one of the hardest things about moving from place to place is . . .
- Our family is also a Holy Family because . . .
- If my family was threatened, I know God would . . .

*Reflection courtesy of: RCL Benziger*

## Around the Archdiocese

### CTK BELIEVES

Tuesday, January 14th at 7:30 p.m. - Cathedral of Christ the King in Atlanta, GA

A once-a-month speaker series ministry, promotes dialogue around integrating faith in the work life for both business men and business women. Next topic: "What did Jesus say about business that you may not BELIEVE ... and is simply REMARKABLE?" Featuring David Salyers, Vice President of Marketing for Chick-Fil-A. Register at [www.cathedralofchristtheking.org/BELIEVES](http://www.cathedralofchristtheking.org/BELIEVES) or contact Andrew Schoppe at [andrewschoppe@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewschoppe@yahoo.com)

### Retreat at Ignatius House

January 17th-20th - Ignatius House Jesuit retreat Center in Atlanta, GA

Topic: *On Earth as it is in Heaven*, presented by Fr. Todd Kenny, S.J.

Closing Mass with Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, S.L.D. on January 20th. See Page 5 for details.

### Annie Jr. - St. Joseph's Catholic School Drama Performance

Friday, January 24th or Saturday, January 25th at 7:00 p.m. in Marist Hall at St. Joseph Catholic School (Marietta, GA)

Advance tickets: \$5 or \$6 at the door. REMEMBER: tomorrow's only a day away so buy your tickets now so you don't miss Annie Jr.! For more information call 770-428-3328.

### 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)

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