



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

stthomasga@stthomastheapostle.org

http://www.stthomastheapostle.org

December 23, 2012

**Parish Office**  
**770 - 432-8579**  
Fax. 770 - 432-8570

**Office Hours**  
Monday—Friday  
9:00AM—5:00PM  
Closed Wednesday 1PM-3PM

**Religious Ed. Office**  
770 - 432-5296

**Office Hours**  
Monday—Thursday  
10:00AM—6:00PM

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

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday—Thursday  
10:00AM - 1:00PM

**English Mass  
Schedule**

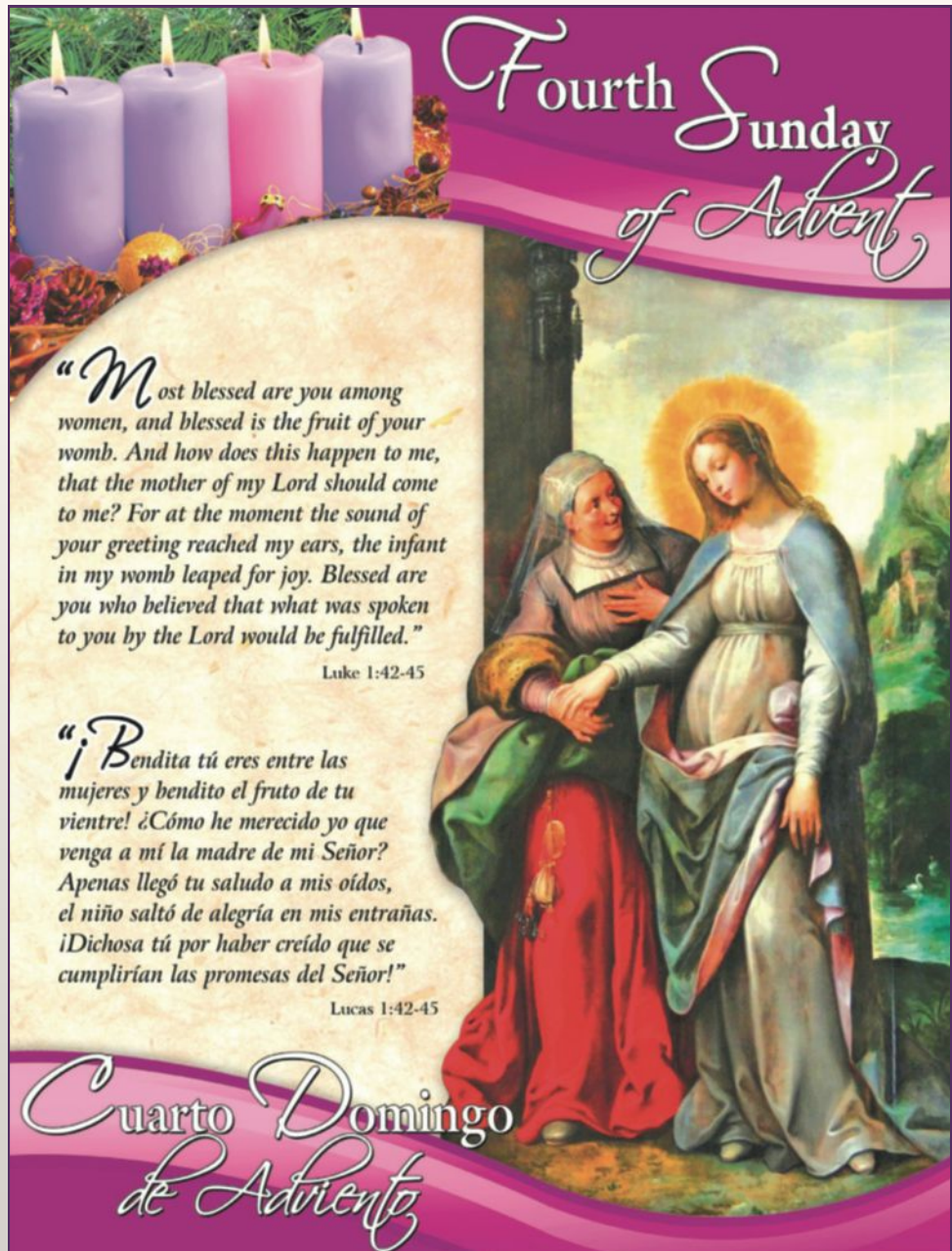
Monday: 12 Noon  
Tuesday: 12 Noon  
Wednesday: 6:30 AM &  
7:00 PM  
Thursday: 7:00 PM  
Friday: 12 Noon  
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 7:30 AM,  
9:30 AM  
11:30 AM &  
5:00 PM

**Confession:**  
Saturdays: 3:30 PM

**Horario de  
Misas en Español**

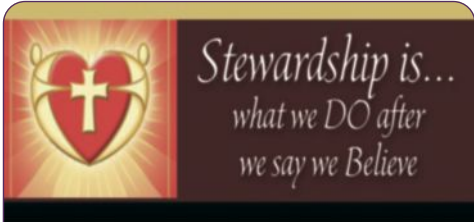
Lunes: 7:30 PM  
Jueves: 8:00 PM  
Sábado: 7:30 PM  
Domingo: 6:00 AM  
2:00 PM &  
7:30 PM

**Confesión:**  
Sábados: 6:30 PM  
Domingos: 1:00 & 6:30 PM



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

**Pastor:** Rev. James H. Kuczynski, M.S. (x108)  
**Parochial Vicars:** Rev. Pedro Chingandu, M.S. (x106) • Rev. Andrews Kollannoor, M.S. (x128) • Rev. Jaime Molina J., M.N.M. (x121)  
• Rev. Paul Rainville, M.S. (in residence x.193) • **Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Michael Garrett • Rev. Mr. Earl Jackson • Rev. Mr. Mark Mitchell  
**Parish Administrator:** Mr. Gus Scannapieco (x109)



**Offertory/Ofertorio December 15-16, 2012**

Budgeted ( <i>Presupuesto</i> ) .....	\$38,000.00
Actual ( <i>Actual</i> ) .....	\$24,690.00
Shortfall ( <i>Pérdida</i> ) .....	\$13,310.00

**FY 2012 Offertory Projection vs. Actual to Date**  
**Ofertorio: Proyección vs. Real**

To Date Budget ( <i>Proyección</i> ) .....	\$950,000.00
To Date Actual ( <i>Real</i> ) .....	\$616,308.00
To Date Shortfall ( <i>Pérdida</i> ) .....	\$333,692.00



**Operating Financial Statement (4 months)**  
**Costos de Operación (4 meses)**

Revenue ( <i>Ingresos</i> ) .....	\$827,072.00
Expenses ( <i>Gastos</i> ) .....	\$736,731.00
Assessment Owed to Archdiocese .....	\$149,096.00
<i>(Deuda con la Arquidiócesis)</i>	
Loss from Operations .....	\$58,755.00
<i>(Pérdida por Operaciones)</i>	
Additional Assessments .....	\$975,501.00
still owed to Archdiocese from 2010/2011	
<i>(Deudas Adicionales del 2010/2011)</i>	

**Update on our Capital Campaign**  
**Moving Forward In Hope**  
**Campaña Caminando en Esperanza**

Goal ( <i>Meta</i> ) .....	\$5,000,000.00
Pledged to Date .....	\$3,045,339.00
<i>Compromisos hasta la fecha</i>	
Past Due 12 Payments .....	(\$581,000.00)
<i>12 Pagos atrasados</i>	
Pledges Net of Past Due .....	\$2,464,339.00
<i>Compromisos netos</i>	
Collected to Date .....	\$1,638,187.00
<i>Recolectado hasta la fecha</i>	
Campaign Expenses .....	(\$245,840.00)
<i>Gastos de Campaña</i>	
Net Funds to Date .....	\$1,392,347.00
<i>Pagos netos hasta la fecha</i>	
Number of Donors ( <i>No. de Donantes</i> ) .....	1,306

**Archbishop Annual Appeal 2012**  
**Llamado Anual del Arzobispo 2012**

Goal ( <i>Meta</i> ) .....	\$131,883.00
Pledged ( <i>Compromisos</i> ) .....	\$180,034.00
Paid to date ( <i>Pagos</i> ) .....	\$119,851.00
Number of Donors ( <i>No. de Donantes</i> ) .....	926

**In Our Prayers / En Nuestras Oraciones**

Please pray for the people who are listed on this Bulletin Sick List. Call the Parish Office to place a name on the list. Then we ask that you contact us one time per month and tell us how they are doing. They are always in our prayers.

Crista Acosta	Paula de Jesus	Alan Knieter	Mary Ellen Rizzuto
Samuel Bright	Richard Gaeta, Sr.	Linda Laurens	Steve Scheneman
Brandi Dabney	Paula Garcia Patiño	Shirley Loggins	Lenna Spencer
Becky Dillon	Lauren Garger	Dorothy Madson	Margaret Spencer
Chris Campbell	Sandy Haynes	Elio Mastrocola	Dani Sullivan
Tara Cantrell	Denisse Hernandez	Leona Morales	MaryAnne Sutter
Ricky Carreño	Danielle Jinks	Nakia Natali	David Troughton, Sr.
Bob Contino	Cordelia Kelly	Rodolfo Proaño	Kimberly Urióstegui
Doris Cushing	Gloria Kincer	Arellys Ramirez	

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**

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:

Sgt. John R Beuth ANG	SFC Charles Granke, USA	HM3 Kenneth McIntosh, II, USN
Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Bright, USA	PFC Ronald Griffin, Jr., USA	2LT Kyle Perneli, USA
Sgt. Manuel Chico, USA	Sgt. William Scott Haney, ARNG	PFC Ernest Dean Rivera, USMC
Sgt. Christopher Conkel, USMC	E3 Spencer Hanemann, USN	Specialist Robert H. Roberts, USA
SFC Steve Creason, GaARNG	PFC Brian Harris, USA	Major Robert A. Robinson, II USA
SFC Arcelio R. Davis, Jr. USA	Maj. Marise James, USAF	Pvt. Jeffrey Sanborn, USA
ET3 Carolyn Deacon, USN	LT CDR Dominic R. Lovello	CPT Anna Smith, ARNG
Sgt. Mark Gallant, USA	CW3 Peter Paul Leone, USA	S.Sgt. Michael Throne, USA
LCpl. Quinn Gordon, USMC	LCpl. Gerardo Morales, Jr. USMC	CW4 Anthony Veney, USA

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

**Next Sunday's Readings / lecturas para el próximo domingo**  
December 30, 2012—Fourth Sunday of Advent



First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21  
Gospel: Luke 1:41-52

For complete list of weekly readings please visit: [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings)

**Children's Offering / Ofrenda de los Niños** December 8-9, 2012



**Children's Envelopes available in the Commons Area.**

Treasure (Tesoro): \$418.26  
Time & Talent (Tiempo y Talento):  
I kept my room closet clean (*Mantuve mi closet limpio*) ♥  
Reading a book (*Leí un libro*) ♥ Helping my parents (*Ayudando a mis padres*) ♥ I helped Bridget (*Ayudé a Bridget*) ♥ RecClean my room (*Limpié mi cuarto*) ♥ Helped my Mom (*Ayudé a Mamá*) ♥  
My good deed is to be good (*Mi Buena obra es ser bueno*) ♥  
Listening (*Presté atención*) ♥ I helped a friend when his pencil box fell (*Ayudé a un amigo cuando su caja de lápices se cayó*) ♥  
Do my homework (*Hice mi tarea*) ♥ I worked hard (*Trabajé duro*) ♥ Getting ready (*Alistándome*) ♥

## Fr. Jim's Farewell Events

### Despedida del Padre Jim

Please join us during the weekend of January 12th and 13th to say "THANKS" to Fr. Jim.

**Appreciation Dinner**  
**Saturday, January 12, 2013—6:00 p.m.**  
Social Hall

Limited seating due to capacity and fire code regulations.



## Open House

**Sunday, January 13, 2013**  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Social Hall



Join us to thank Fr. Jim for his years of service to St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Parish wide event. ALL are welcome!

**Cena de Agradecimiento**  
**Sábado, 12 de enero, 2013—6:00 p.m.**  
**Salón Social**

*Espacio limitado debido al código de incendios.*



## Convivio General de Despedida

**Domingo, 13 de enero, 2013**  
10:00 a.m. a 3:00 p.m.  
**Salón Social**



*Abierto a TODA la parroquia.  
¡TODOS son bienvenidos!*

Our new pastor, Fr. Brian Sheridan, M.S.  
Nuestro nuevo párroco, Padre Brian Sheridan, M.S.



As it was announced last weekend, the Provincial Superior of the Missionaries of La Salette has named Fr. Brian R. Sheridan, M.S. as **Pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle, in Smyrna, effective January 3, 2013.**

Fr. Brian was born in East Hartford, CT in 1954. He professed First Vows as a La Salette Missionary on September 19, 1981, at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Hartford, CT. He was ordained a Priest by Most Rev. Alfred Hughes on May 28, 1983, in Ipswich, MA.

He has served in a number of parishes, including St. Ann in Marietta, GA. Following the call to serve the foreign missions he was sent to Argentina where he served in Clodomira, Santiago del Estero. He returned to the U.S. in 1992 to become Director of the La Salette Mission Office in Hartford, CT. He served as Shrine Director in Altamont, N.Y. before becoming Pastor of Good Shepherd Parish in Orlando, FL. His most recent assignment was as Pastor at Our Lady of Sorrows, Hartford, CT.

**Let's give Fr. Brian a warm welcome!**

*Tal como se anunció el fin de semana pasado, el Superior Provincial de los Misioneros de La Salette ha nombrado al Padre Brian R. Sheridan, M.S. como el Nuevo párroco de Santo Tomás el Apóstol, a partir del 3 de enero del 2013.*

*El Padre Brian nació en 1954 y fue ordenado el 28 de mayo de 1983 y ha servido en diversas parroquias de los Estados Unidos y misiones extranjeras, incluyendo Clodomira, en Santiago del Estero (Argentina).*

**¡Ofrezcamos una cordial bienvenida al Padre Brian!**

## Coming soon ...

December 24  
4:00 p.m.  
Main Sanctuary  
**Children's Christmas Mass**  
All children are invited to dress in a simple costume related to the story of the Nativity. More details on page 5.

December 25  
9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.  
Main Sanctuary  
**English Christmas Masses**  
Let's celebrate the birth of Jesus in our hearts. Spanish Christmas Masses also available at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

January 8  
7:30 p.m.  
Main Sanctuary  
**Ignite!**  
Join us for an exceptional evening of worship, prayer, music, scriptures and faith stories. Light dinner is served at 6:15 p.m. in the Social Hall.

January 13, 2013  
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
Social Hall  
**Fr. Jim's Farewell**  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS **OPEN HOUSE!** See more details on this page.

# Christ is your gift at Christmas. What would you give back to Him? *Cristo es tu regalo en Navidad. ¿Cómo puedes responder a Cristo?*

The **Pew Angels Ministry** is looking for more volunteers to help straighten up the pews before and after the weekend masses.

**Pew Angels are 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.

**Angelitos de las Bancas**  
*Necesitamos voluntarios los lunes y/o viernes de 10:00 a.m. a 11:30 a.m. para ordenar los materiales de las bancas en la iglesia. Si deseas ayudar, por favor llama a la oficina parroquial.*

**St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP):** Serve the poor and underprivileged in our community through our St. Vincent de Paul Society. Opportunities are numerous with a variety of time commitments. Leave a message at SVdP Hotline at 770-432-8579 Ext 300.

**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.

**Knights of Columbus:** A fraternal service organization of Catholic men built on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism whose purpose is to support the church, community, family and youth. Open to all practicing Catholic male members of St. Thomas the Apostle, age 18 and older. Contact Membership Director Joe Yorio at 678-237-3469 to learn more about the Knights.

For more volunteer opportunities please visit:  
[www.stthomastheapostle.org/ministries](http://www.stthomastheapostle.org/ministries)

## St. Vincent de Paul Society Pantry

Just imagine a family seated around a table on Christmas day with bowed heads. They are giving thanks to God for the kindness of people like you who gave so generously to our Giving Tree and to our St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank making their Christmas day a time of joy.

Keep in mind, though that when the festivities of Christmas have past, the needs in our community to share with our brothers and sisters continues. **Staples can be left in the food bins in Commons or you can contribute monetarily through the 2nd collection for the weekend masses of January 5th and 6th.**

The Parish Office will be closed during Christmas Week and will re-open on January 2nd.

La Oficina Parroquial estará cerrada durante la semana de Navidad y abrirá nuevamente hasta el 2 de enero.

## PARISH AGENDA—December 24—30, 2012

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

NO PSR

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

12:00 PM **Mass**  
4:00 PM CHRISTMAS  
CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
† **JoAnn Yorio**  
6:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS  
† **Marija Varvir Sabic**  
8:00 PM MISA DE NOCHEBUENA  
11:30 PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

12:00 AM CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS  
† **Chris Harding**  
9:30 AM CHRISTMAS MASS  
**Christopher Ugokwe**  
11:30 AM CHRISTMAS MASS

2:00 PM MISA DE NAVIDAD

7:30 PM MISA DE NAVIDAD

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

NO PSR

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

7:00 PM **MASS**  
**In Thanksgiving**  
**Sacred Heart of Jesus &**  
**Immaculate Heart of Mary**

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

NO PSR

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

7:00 PM **MASS**  
8:30 PM **MISA**  
**Joaquín Zendejas Ayala**  
**Francisco Cantú Higuera**

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

12:00 PM **Mass**  
† **Cecile & Jean Yves**  
**Acouba**

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

2:00 PM **QUINCEAÑERA**  
3:30 PM CONFESSIONS  
5:00 PM **MASS**  
† **Joe Maknauskas**  
7:00 PM **POSADAS (SMYRNA)**  
7:30 PM **Misa**  
† **Agripino Ortega**  
† **Leonor Cruz**

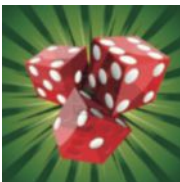
### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

NO PSR

6:00 AM **MISA**  
**Familia González**  
7:30 AM **MASS**  
9:30 AM **MASS**  
*NURSERY AVAILABLE*  
11:00 PM **LEGION OF MARY**  
11:30 AM **MASS**  
**People of St. Thomas**  
*NURSERY AVAILABLE*  
2:00 PM **Misa**  
† **Avelino Hernández**  
† **Wenceslada Pacheco**  
5:00 PM **MASS**  
**Holy Family**  
5:00 PM **EVANGELIZATION CHOIR**  
7:30 PM **Misa**  
**Evelia & Julio Iriguyen**

**Prize Donations Wanted!**

The Women's Auxiliary will again be hosting a Casino Night on Saturday, February 2, 2013.



**We are looking for items or services that can be used either as an auction item or a raffle item.** Do you know someone who might have

an item or service that they would be willing to donate for this purpose? Or perhaps you work for a company that makes donations. Remember that all the monies we raise go to St. Thomas the Apostle church in some way. If you know of someone that might be able to help or need more information please contact Ann Corrigan at 404-932-5004 or amc014@att.net by January 7th. All items or services will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

**50/50 Raffle Coming Soon!**

Our Knights of Columbus Council is pleased to announce the return of the parish raffle 50/50, starting in January 2013. Tickets will be sold monthly at \$10 each with an end of month drawing. The winner will receive 50% of the ticket sales, the balance being shared between the Council and the Parish Building Fund. Please watch for our coming Bulletin insert.

**Ultreya Meeting**

Saturday, January 12th at 8:00 a.m. in Classroom #2.

For more information, please contact Don Sabaresse at: 770-435-3024.

**Over 50's Meeting**

Wednesday, January 2nd at 12:00 noon in the Social Hall. Please bring a dish to share. For more information please contact Michelle Barnes at 770-432-7836 or Debbie Morgan at: 770-428-0496.



**Bruce Goodwin and John Williams, from the Knights of Columbus, delivered gifts to the Open Door Community shelter in Atlanta, GA.**

Other organizations in our community that were touched by your generosity are: St. Vincent de Paul Society, House of Dreams, Cobb Christmas, Crossroads Soup Kitchen, Central Presbyterian Night Shelter and Open Door Shelter.

Thanks for supporting our Giving Tree 2012!



No Parish School of Religion (PSR) From December 23rd to January 8th due to Christmas Holidays. Classes will resume on January 8th.

No habrá Catecismo del 23 de diciembre al 3 de enero *debido a las fiestas navideñas. Las clases continuarán a partir del 8 de enero.*



Children's Christmas Mass on Dec. 24th  
Misa Navideña para Niños el 24 de diciembre

ALL CHILDREN of our parish family are invited to come and participate in our Christmas Liturgy especially celebrated for children on **Monday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m** 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!

*Todos los niños de la parroquia están invitados a la Misa en Inglés para Niños, el **lunes, 24 de diciembre a las 4:00 p.m.***

*Vengan vestidos de pastores, ovejas, estrellas, ángeles, o cualquier otra persona o animal relacionado con la historia de la Natividad. María y José les estarán esperando para rememorar esta noche sagrada.*



**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**Christmas Eve—Monday, December 24, 2012**

Children's Mass (English)	4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Mass (English)	6:00 p.m.
Christmas Carols & Hymns (English)	11:30 p.m.

**Christmas Day—Tuesday, December 25, 2012**

Midnight Mass (English)	12:00 a.m.
Christmas Mass (English)	9:30 a.m.
Christmas Mass (English)	11:30 a.m.

**Horario de Misas de Navidad y Año Nuevo  
Lunes, 24 de diciembre del 2012**

Misa de Nochebuena (Español)	8:00 a.m.
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**Martes, 25 de diciembre, 2012**

Misa de Navidad (Español)	2:00 p.m.
Misa de Navidad (Español)	7:30 p.m.



# Fourth Sunday of Advent

*“Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”*

Luke 1:42-45



*Heavenly Father,  
let my heart leap  
for joy  
as I rejoice  
in the events  
surrounding the  
Incarnation.*

*Protect me  
from losing a sense of  
perspective  
and being overwhelmed  
by the detail of  
preparations.*

*Lift my heart  
and mind up  
into the heavens  
so that  
I can know  
the joy and light  
of your salvation.  
Amen.*

## Today's Gospel:

Luke 1:39-44

### Reflection for Families

Mary models true discipleship for us. She doesn't understand some things, but accepts God's plan for her. In her selflessness, she went to visit her cousin.

Most of us have some questions we'd like to ask God—things we don't understand and wonder how God could allow them to happen. Mary helps us know that God's ways are not always our ways and that if we have faith, trust, and patience, we will see God's plan unfold for us and our families.

### Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Plan a family visit to a friend or relative who hasn't seen you in a while. Make it a cheerful visit by taking them a special treat or gift (it doesn't need to cost much money—just be significant to the person you visit).

When you visit, try to let the person tell you as much about his/her life as they can and not talk about your own circumstances unless the person you're visiting really presses you to do so. In other words, let the attention be on the person you visit.

### Discussion Starters

1. Just as the Spirit worked through Mary, I am open to the Spirit by ...
2. One of the most significant women in my life is ...
3. I remember a time when I had some really good news to share. The first person I went to (or called) was ...



O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,  
the Expected of the nations and their Savior.  
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

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Family Nurse Practitioner  
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Valid on Sunday only. Limit one offer per table, per visit.  
Dine-in only. Not valid with any other offer.  
Present the church bulletin to redeem offer.

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