



# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 25, 2016

### Parish Office

**Main Phone: 770 - 432-8579**

Fax. 770 - 432-8570

### Regular Office Hours

**Monday—Friday**

9:00 AM—8:00 PM

Closed Wednesday 1 PM-3 PM

### Religious Ed. Office

770 - 432-5296

### Regular Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

10:00 AM—8:00 PM

Tuesday 10:00 AM—5:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM—1:00 PM

### Preschool Office

770-293-1267

### Regular Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

678-626-3939 (English Hotline)

678-626-3949 (Línea en español)

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**SOLAMENTE CON CITA**

### 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: 4:30 PM  
Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM  
11:30 AM & 5:00 PM

### Confession:

Saturdays: 3:00 PM

### Adoration

Wednesdays: 7:30 AM-6:45 PM

### Horario de

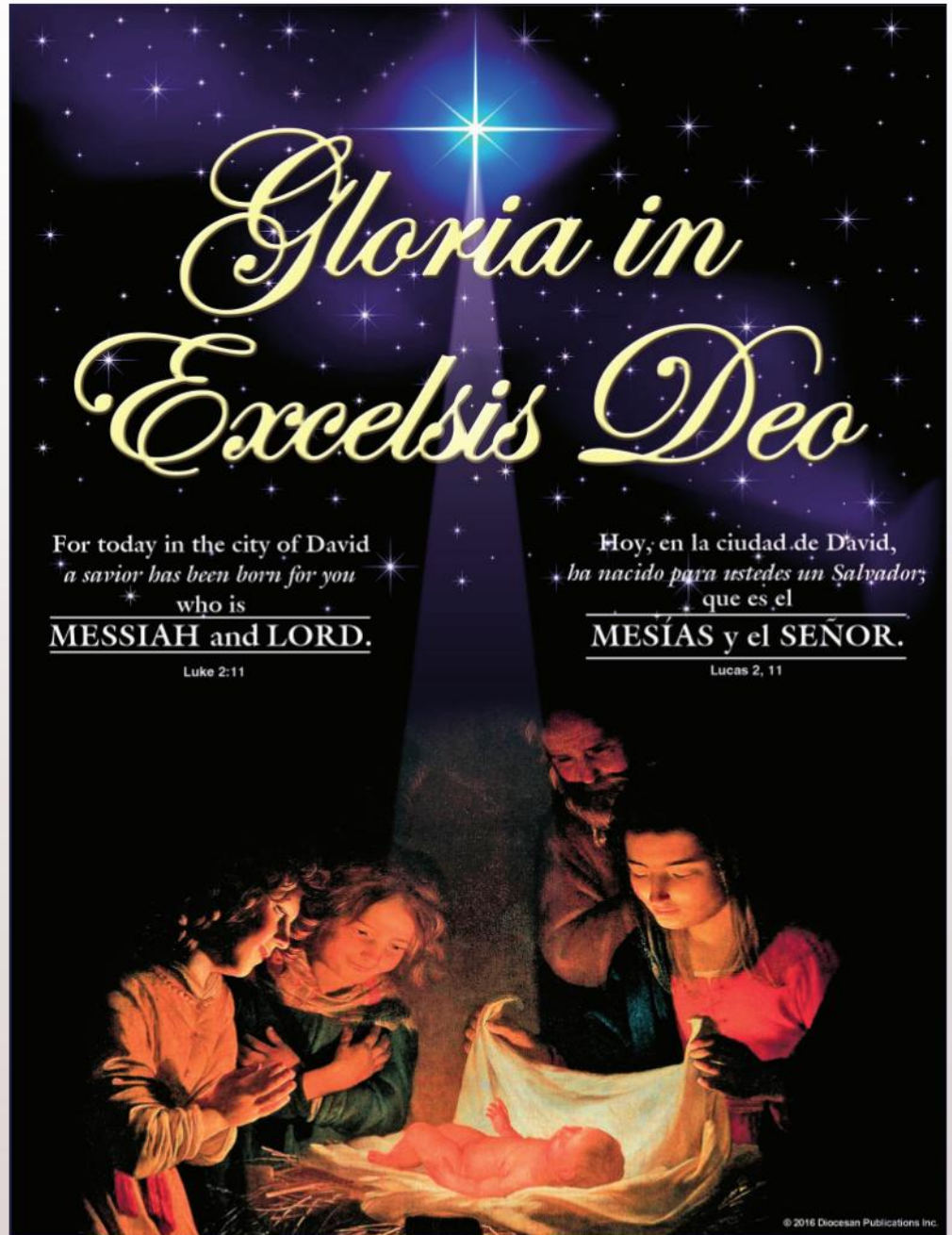
#### Misas en Español

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

### Confesión:

Sábados: 5:30 PM

Domingos: 1:00 & 6:30 PM



For today in the city of David  
*a savior has been born for you*  
who is

**MESSIAH and LORD.**

Luke 2:11

Hoy, en la ciudad de David,  
*ha nacido para ustedes un Salvador,*  
que es el

**MESÍAS y el SEÑOR.**

Lucas 2, 11



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

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

**Parochial Vicars:** Rev. Jojohn Chettiyakunnel, 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 ▪ Deacons Office (x106)

## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Your Pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

On behalf of Saint Thomas the Apostle parish, I HOPE and PRAY that your observances of the Feast of Christmas be a source of much JOY in knowing and believing in Emmanuel, God-With-Us, named Jesus by Saint Joseph. He came to this world giving testimony to the value of humility and poverty so that we can be saved from Sin and so that we can become more attached to the Kingdom of Heaven where we can live with Jesus Christ forever and ever, Amen.

Merry Christmas! May the Blessed Mother, Mary most Holy, guide you in your reception of the New Born King. May the New Year of 2017 be filled with blessings of love, peace, good health and strength to fulfill the ministry we are called to... It's been a great 2016 for the Golden Anniversary of the Parish. Now it's time to forge ahead by bringing love, faith, and hope to all in the time to come.

Happy and Blessed New Year! Thank you for being in our parish Community. Thanks to all who give of God's time, talents and treasures to build up the Body of Christ here among us. God bless our families, friends and enemies with love and peace.

Your Pastor, Father Brian R. Sheridan, M.S.



## Feliz Navidad y un Feliz Año Nuevo de su Párroco

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

En nombre de la parroquia de Santo Tomás Apóstol, ESPERO y RUEGO que el cumplimiento de la Fiesta de Navidad sea una fuente de mucha ALEGRÍA al conocer y creer en Emmanuel, Dios-Con-Nosotros, llamado Jesús por San José. Él vino a este mundo dando testimonio del valor de la humildad y la pobreza para que podamos ser salvos del Pecado, y para que podamos llegar a estar más unidos al Reino de los Cielos donde podemos vivir con Jesucristo por los siglos de los siglos.

¡Feliz Navidad! ¡Qué la Santísima Madre, María, les guíe para recibir al Rey Recién Nacido. ¡Qué el Año Nuevo 2017 esté lleno de bendiciones de amor, paz, buena salud y fuerza para cumplir el ministerio al que estamos llamados! ... Ha sido un gran 2016 con el 50 Aniversario de nuestra Parroquia. Ahora es el momento de seguir adelante, trayendo amor, fe y esperanza a todos en el futuro.

¡Feliz y bendito año nuevo! Gracias por estar en nuestra comunidad parroquial. Gracias a todos los que comparten el tiempo, talento y tesoro de Dios para edificar el Cuerpo de Cristo aquí entre nosotros. Dios bendiga a nuestras familias, amigos y enemigos con amor y paz.

Su Párroco, el Padre Brian R. Sheridan, M.S.

## In Our Prayers / En Nuestra Oraciones

### Bulletin Sick List

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.

Agnes Costa	Sionnie Gernaat	Charlie Andrews
Greg Dupree	Jim Goblisch	Diane Brothers
Nina Gildberg	Antonio González	Nathaniel Butler
Kimberly Kwurue	Reynaldo Johnson	Rita Lovelace
Sandra Lillig	Patty Smith	Bemia Rivera
Guadalupe Miranda	Susan Walsh	Baby Sofia Stoller
Charlene Nandez		

### Prayer Line / Cadena de Oración

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

### Praying for our Troops / Orando por Nuestras Tropas

We also 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 currently serving in the military:

PVT Derek Collins, USA - Ensign Tanner Collins, USN - ET2 Carolyn Deacon, USN - Capt. Chisom Ezeoke, USAF - LCPL Manuel Kendrick, USMC - FC2 Spencer Hanemann, USN - Sgt. Brian Jaynes, USA - CDR Dominic R. Lovello, USN - HM2 Kenneth McIntosh, USN - SrA Earl Zachary Shelton, USAF

## Mass Schedule changes on Wednesdays!

Beginning on January 4, 2017, there will be a permanent change in the English Mass Schedule: There will no longer be a 6:30 a.m. Mass on Wednesdays. The new time will be 8:15 a.m. followed by Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament.

## Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesdays,  
9:00 a.m.—6:45 p.m.  
Main Sanctuary**

Come and spend some special time in the presence of God. Adoration begins at 9:00 a.m. and closes with Benediction (a short prayer service) at 6:45 p.m. Come take advantage of this opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord!

## Welcome Newcomers!

**Welcome!** We are glad you are here!

We encourage you to explore the offerings of our parish. We think you will find many opportunities to encourage your engagement in our common spiritual journey.

### Register as a Parishioner:

If you regularly worship at Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, we ask that you please register with us. You may complete the registration form available on the Welcome Desk of our Commons Area, at the Front Office, or online at: [stthomastheapostle.org/portfolio/registration/](http://stthomastheapostle.org/portfolio/registration/)

## Information for Families with young children:

### Nursery available:

Our parish offers nursery care during the 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. English Masses, as well as the 2:00 p.m. Spanish mass on Sundays, for children from walking age through 4 years old.

Space is limited. To reserve a spot for your child and receive more information, please contact Maria Smith at 404-579-4150. We look forward to meeting your children! [stthomastheapostle.org/ministries/nursery](http://stthomastheapostle.org/ministries/nursery)

## Children Welcome!

**Parish School of Religion (PSR)** offers formation for children and youth in need of sacraments.

For more information, please call 770-432-5296.

**Saint Thomas the Apostle Preschool** offers classes from 2 year old to Pre-K 4. Registration for new families for the 2017-2018 year will take place in February. Please call 770-293-1267.

**Story Time** meets weekly, on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. (Classroom #2) during the school year. Children ages 1-5 listen to a story, make a craft based on the book we read, and enjoy a snack.

New faces are always welcome! A parent or guardian must be present.

### Children Stewardship:

Offering envelopes are available in the Commons Area. Ask your child to write his/her good deed of the week and encourage him/her to deposit the envelope in the special basket near the altar, during the offertory. Some of the messages are published in our weekly bulletin, as part of our Stewardship of Treasure information. Plant the seeds of a generous heart!

### Father/Daughter Dance 2017:

Saturday, February 11 at 7:30 p.m. (Social Hall)

Tickets go on sale on the last 2 weekends of January. More details in the upcoming weeks.

### Coming up in 2017:

Breakout Liturgy of the Word for children during the 9:30 a.m. Mass

## Stay Connected

### Keep us updated

Have you moved? Married? Changed your e-mail address? Help us keep our database up-to-date by sending us such changes via email to: [jcasey@stthomastheapostle.org](mailto:jcasey@stthomastheapostle.org)

### Masses On-Demand and live broadcast

The live broadcast of the Mass helps build a sense of community and involvement for many who are homebound and/or unable to attend. For more information, please visit our website at: [stthomastheapostle.org/media](http://stthomastheapostle.org/media)

### Ministry for the Sick and Homebound:

Please inform us about parishioners who are hospitalized, homebound, or in a nursing home, by calling the Parish Office at: 770-432-8579 Ext. 0

### TheCatholicCast.com

Three joyful, energetic Catholics (parishioners at Saint Thomas the Apostle) take to the airwaves and share experiences of how God has worked in their lives; and how we, as God's children, can live out the Gospel every day. New podcasts each Sunday!



Follow us on Facebook:

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

### Online Giving:

Manage your Online Giving any time of the day! Saint Thomas the Apostle utilizes Online Giving, a convenient, simple, secure portal to manage credit card, debit and authorized bank transactions that benefit our parish. You can manage your donation amount, the frequency of your gifts, give a one-time donation, and many other features, all online.

Visit our parish website and click on the Online Giving Logo on the home page and schedule your donation. Or access the secure portal directly at:



Online Giving

[osvonlinegiving.com/534](http://osvonlinegiving.com/534)

If you'd like assistance in setting up your account and/or processing your donation through Online Giving, contact Raina Savary at [rsavary@stthomastheapostle.org](mailto:rsavary@stthomastheapostle.org) or call 678-626-3942.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish!



**Parish Information:**

Please contact the Parish Office at 770-432-8579 Ext. 0 for more information on any of the following items:

**Sacraments:**

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Confessional Room, next to the Chapel of Our Lady of Guadalupe (back of the Commons Area)

**Baptism for children:**

The baptismal preparation class for parents is offered throughout the year. Baptism for infants (0-7 years old) may be celebrated upon completion of all requirements. Please contact the Parish Office for additional information for children older than 7.

**Marriage:**

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding date you desire, and before making any other wedding plans.

**Other sacraments:**

Please contact the Parish Office.

**Mass Intentions:**

Weekday and weekend Masses may be offered for those who have died or are ill.

It is also customary to offer Masses in thanksgiving, or on the occasion of birthdays and special celebrations.

The suggested offering is \$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.

**Other opportunities for Spiritual Growth:****Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament:**

Wednesdays  
9:00 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. (Main Sanctuary)

**Ignite!:**

Tuesday, January 17 at 7:30 p.m.  
(Main Sanctuary)  
An exceptional evening of worship, prayer and faith stories.  
Dinner is served at 6:15 p.m. in the Social Hall.  
The program begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary.

**Holy Hollywood:**

Friday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m.  
(Social Hall)  
Contact: Linda Veit at 678-626-3961.

**FIDELES Prayer Group:**

Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m.  
(Main Sanctuary)  
Rosary with Adoration  
Contact: Clarence Burkholder at 770-432-5020.

**Bible Study:**

Thursday mornings at 10:00, or every other Thursday evening at 7:00.  
(Adult Faith Formation Building)  
Contact: Linda Veit at 678-626-3961.

**Evangelization Retreat:**

March 27-April 2. (Main Sanctuary)  
Contact: John Casey at 678-626-3950.

**Charismatic Prayer Group:**

Fridays at 7:00 p.m.  
(Adult Faith Formation building)  
Contact: Carolus Korie at 770-944-9150.

**Service Opportunities:**

**Volunteer for our Saint Vincent de Paul Society** and reach out to families in need. Volunteers needed for food pantry, hotline, and other capacities. Training provided. Please leave a message at the SVdP Hotline: 678-626-3939.

**Stephen Series**

Our parish has recently enrolled in the Stephen Series. Those training for Stephen Ministry will learn skills and develop their talents for bringing Christ's healing love to people who are grieving, hurting, or experiencing other stresses in life.

A Leader's Training Course is coming in February, 2017, for all of those who would like to serve in this new ministry. Please contact Don Sabaresse at: dsabm@yahoo.com or call 770-435-3024.

**Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick** is in need of more ministers. If you are a current Eucharistic minister, and interested in a special ministry of bringing the Body of Christ to our homebound and hospitalized parishioners, please contact Don Sabaresse at: dsabm@yahoo.com or call 770-435-3024.

If you're interested, but currently not a trained Eucharistic Minister, you can attend the periodic training class for Eucharistic Ministers. Next training: March 11, 2017.

**This Week in our Parish****MONDAY, DECEMBER 26**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED  
NO PRESCHOOL  
NO PSR

12:00 PM MASS

† MERCEDES MCKINNEY

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED  
NO PRESCHOOL  
NO PSR  
NO RCIA

12:00 PM MASS

† ELLEN MARIE ARKWARD

7:00 PM CHRISTMAS SING ALONG

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28**

NO PRESCHOOL  
NO PSR

6:30 PM MASS

MARY MENDY & FAMILY

7:00 PM MASS

† DANIEL HAWES

8:00 PM ROSARY FOR LIFE

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29**

NO PRESCHOOL  
NO PSR

1:00 PM PANDITARATNE BAPTISM

7:00 PM MASS

† FRANK NEWTON, JR.

8:00 PM MISA

† JOSE REFUGIO MANDUJANO

## New Year's Mass Schedule

**Saturday, December 31, 2016**  
**(New Year's Eve)**

- 4:30 p.m. English Vigil Mass
- 6:30 p.m. Misa en español
- 8:00 p.m. Misa en español

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**  
**(Solemnity of Mary,  
Holy Mother of God)**

- 7:30 a.m. English Mass
- 9:30 a.m. English Mass
- 11:30 a.m. English Mass
- 2:00 p.m. Misa en español
- 5:00 p.m. English Life Teen Mass
- 6:30 p.m. Misa en español



Please notice the extraordinary schedule of office hours during the holidays:

We will offer regular office hours from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on December 28-29 only.

The Parish Office will be closed on: **December 26, 27, 30 and January 2,** and will reopen on **January 3.**

**December 2016**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



**January 2017**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

## Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2016 It's not too late!

*A huge THANK YOU to those who have faithfully paid their pledges to this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal!*  
*As of now, payments received exceed by \$15,755 our parish's \$157,700 goal, meaning that all of the \$15,755 will be refunded to our parish for our own operating needs.*

*Equally exciting is the fact that every additional dollar paid toward fulfilling this year's pledges will also be returned to our parish —and there are still over \$100,000 of pledges outstanding.*  
*If you haven't yet fulfilled your 2016 pledge, and can pay all or some part of it before year-end, you can help your parish in a big way by doing so before December 31.*

*Time is running out, so please act now.  
May God bless you for your generosity!*

## Llamado Anual del Arzobispado 2016 ¡No es demasiado tarde!

*¡Primero, queremos extender nuestro AGRADECIMIENTO a aquellos que han pagado fielmente sus promesas a la Campaña Anual del Arzobispo de este año!*  
*Hemos sobrepasado la meta de \$157,700 de nuestra parroquia, esto significa que los \$15,755 extra que hemos recolectado hasta la fecha serán devueltos a nuestra parroquia para nuestras propias necesidades operativas. Igualmente emocionante es el hecho de que cada dólar adicional pagado para cumplir con las promesas de este año, también será devuelto a nuestra parroquia —y aún hay más de \$100,000 de promesas pendientes.*

*Si aún no han cumplido su compromiso del 2016, y pueden pagar todo o parte de este compromiso antes de fin de año, podrán beneficiar a la parroquia si hacen llegar sus donaciones antes del 31 de diciembre.*

*¡El tiempo se agota, así que actúen ahora!  
¡Qué Dios los bendiga por su generosidad!*

## This Week in our Parish

Updated on December 19, 2016

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30**  
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

NO PRESCHOOL

12:00 PM MASS  
ANDREA O'CONNOR

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31**

- 8:00 AM SUNDAY AM CHOIR
- 3:00 PM CONFESSION
- 4:30 PM MASS  
PEOPLE OF STA  
MELISSA MANDUJANO
- 6:30 PM MISA  
MELISSA MANDUJANO
- 8:00 PM MISA  
† IGNACIO MÉNDEZ  
† MA DE LOS ANGELES VEGA  
† JOSÉ MÉNDEZ

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 1**

- SOLEMNITY OF MARY,  
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
- NO PSR
- NO RCIA
- 7:30 AM MASS  
† DONNA GRANDSTAFF
- 9:30 AM MASS (MS)  
WINIFRED UGOKWE  
50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
- 11:30 AM MASS (MS)  
IN THANKSGIVING FOR FAMILY  
OF IMMACULATE OKERE
- 2:00 PM MISA  
† IVAN ADAIR LAGUNA
- 5:00 PM MASS
- 6:30 PM MISA



## Christmas Carol Sing Along!

**Tuesday, December 27**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**(Main Sanctuary)**

It will be all music, friendship, smiles and laughs.  
Bring friends and family, and SING, SING, SING!

## Weekly Donations Report

Reporte de Donaciones Semanales

### Offertory Actual /Ofertorio Actual December 17-18, 2016 vs. 2015

	FY 2017	FY 2016
Budgeted .....	\$36,750	\$35,769
Weekly Actual .....	\$35,186	\$42,015
Surplus/(Shortfall).....	(\$1,564)	\$6,246

### FY2017 Offertory Projected vs Actual to Date And Last year Comparison

Budgeted .....	\$918,750	\$894,225
Actual .....	\$920,909	\$893,270
Surplus/(Shortfall).....	\$2,159	(\$955)

### Operating Financial Statement For the 4 months ending 10/31/2016

Operating Revenue.....	\$1,097,110
Operating Expenses .....	(\$978,379)
Operating Revenue over Expense .....	\$118,731

Total Assessments .....\$1,017,760  
still owed to Archdiocese as of 10/31/16

### Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2016 (Week 48) Llamado Anual del Arzobispo 2016 (Semana 48)

Goal (Meta).....	\$157,700
Total Pledged (Compromisos totales) .....	\$306,429
Paid to date (Pagos recibidos).....	\$173,455
Surplus/(Shortfall) to Goal .....	\$15,755
Percent Paid to Goal (Porcentaje pagado) .....	110%
Number of Donors (No. de Donantes).....	1,316

### Children's Offertory Ofertorio de los Niños December 10-11, 2016

Total .....\$732.07

♥ I didn't lie (No mentí) ♥ I hugged my Mommy (Abracé a mi Mami) ♥ I made my bed and cleaned my room (Tendí mi cama y limpié mi cuarto) ♥ I took out the trash (Saqué la basura) ♥ I behaved (Me porté bien) ♥ I pick up the toys (Recogí mis juguetes) ♥ I bought a gift for a person in need (Compré un regalo para los necesitados) ♥ I played with my sister (Jugué con mi hermana) ♥ I prayed the Rosary with my Mom and my sister (Recé el Rosario con mi mamá y mi hermana) ♥ I played with my dog (Jugué con mi perrito) ♥ I did not play with my videogames (No jugué videos) ♥ I went to confession (Me confesé) ♥

Offering envelopes are available in the Commons Area.

Ask your child to write his/her good deed of the week and encourage him/her to deposit the envelope in the special basket near the altar, during the offertory.

Plant the seeds of a generous heart!

## Mark the dates for these winter events in our parish:

Altar Servers Bowling .....	January 8
Lunch Break Gathering .....	Wednesday, January 11
Ignite! .....	Tuesday, January 17
Fellowship Sunday:.....	Sunday, January 22
Father Daughter:.....	Saturday, February 11
Ash Wednesday:.....	Wednesday, March 1

## Altar Servers Appreciation Bowling Outing

Sunday, January 8 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Brunswick Austell Bowling Lanes on Austell Road



Hosted by the Knights of Columbus.  
Free bowling and snacks for all Altar Servers.  
If parents or other family members want to bowl, they'll need to pay regular lane fees.

## Pro-Life events in January 2017

### Georgia March for Life (Marcha por la Vida)

January 23 at 11:00 a.m.

Liberty Plaza (Atlanta, GA)

COME MARCH WITH US AS WE SUPPORT LIFE!

The Georgia Right to Life organization will hold the annual "Georgia March for Life" at Liberty Plaza, across from the Georgia State Capitol in Atlanta.

Join our Respect Life Ministry and the Knights of Columbus Council, and march with us in support of the Sanctity of Life from conception until natural death.

For more information, visit: [facebook.com/GeorgiaMarchForLife](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaMarchForLife)

### Mass for the Unborn and Stand for Life 2017

January 23 at 10:00 a.m.

#### Christ the King

On the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision to legalize abortion. Mass begins at 10:00 a.m. and the Stand for Life begins at 11:30 a.m. A light reception will be at the Cathedral's Kenny Hall from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### 9 Days for Life Novena

January 16-24

This year, January 23 marks the U.S. Bishops' Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.

Please visit the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops website to sign up for the 9 Days for Life novena beginning in mid-January:

[uscbb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/2016-9-days-for-life-novena.cfm](http://uscbb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/2016-9-days-for-life-novena.cfm)



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Richard Struempf  
 Parishioner


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 770-457-0099

**MARIETTA**  
 371 Pat Mell Rd.  
 770-803-0303

**SANDY SPRINGS**  
 5841 Roswell Rd.  
 404-844-4445

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