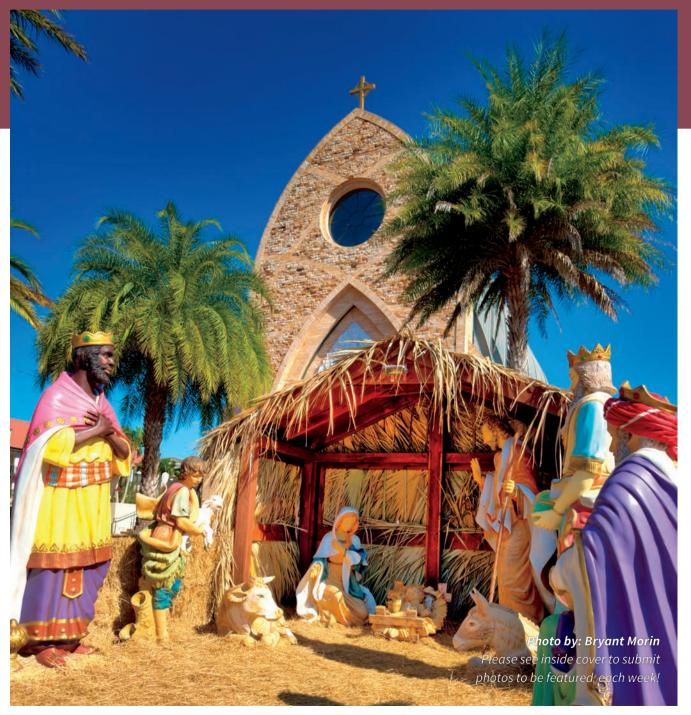
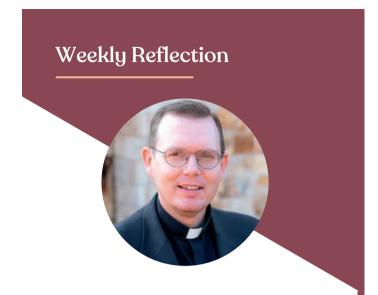
December 24-25, 2022 | The Nativity of the Lord

# AVE MARIA CATHOLIC CHURCH





The angels sang: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests," (Lk 2: 14). Then, at Mass, we recite this beautiful hymn.

Through the Eucharistic Sacrifice, the human conception and birth of the divine Prince of Peace are not annually but also perpetually present in the life of the Church and her sons.

Through the Christ-Mass mystery, the Christmas mystery is ever in our midst. There are both material continuity and formal resemblance between what took place once and for all in Nazareth and Bethlehem and what is daily repeated at Catholic altars.

Christ's self-offering on the Cross consummated all the previous acts of Jesus, the Eucharistic reenactment of the Passion gives the members of the Mystical Body a certain contact with all the mysteries of their Head, including the mystery of His temporal birth.

St Bernard teaches: "Just as He is daily immolated in a certain manner when 'we show forth His death,' so He seems to be newly born when in faith we represent His Nativity."

We cannot live without the Mass. We cannot live without the overwhelming sweetness and taste of the Eucharist, *God with us.* As we gratefully receive the Eucharistic Christ into our souls, let us celebrate the birth and life of our Lord in us.

#### Our Priests

Pastor

Fr. David M Vidal, Ph.D. Fr.David@avemariaparish.org

Parochial Vicar

Fr. John Andem, S.Th.D. John.A@avemariaparish.org

#### Our Deacons

Deacon

**Jeffrey Ball** 

Jeffrey.B@avemariaparish.org

Deacon

**Gary Ingold** 

Gary.I@avemariaparish.org

Deacon

**John Jarvis** 

John.J@avemariaparish.org

Deacon

**Tom Kinnick** 

Thomas.K@avemariaparish.org

#### Our Parish Staff

Office Asst.

Elda Arellano

Elda.A@avemariaparish.org

Office Asst.

**Maribet Byrne** 

Maribet.B@avemariaparish.org

Dir. of Religious Ed

**Becky Hampton** 

Becky.H@avemariaparish.org

**Business Manager** 

**Craig Kadlec** 

Craig.K@avemariaparish.org

Dir. of Youth Ministry

Dcn. Tom Kinnick

Thomas.K@avemariaparish.org

Dir. of Music

**Marian Mandy** 

Marian.M@avemariaparish.org

Administrative Asst.

**Stephanie Pointz** 

Stephanie.P@avemariaparish.org

**James Stephens** 

**Facilities Manager** 

James.S@avemariaparish.org

Dir. of IT

**Carlos Villegas** 

Carlos.V@avemariaparish.org

## Request for Photos

Do you enjoy taking photos of our beautiful Church? Please share them with us! Send your photos to Media@AveMariaParish.org and be featured on the cover of the bulletin. We will of course offer recognition for your beautiful work!

# MASS & CONFESSION TIMES



#### Sat. December 24

9:00am + Deacon Larry Casey

• • 9:30am Confessions

5:00pm Respect Life Novena12:00am Deacon John Jarvis

#### Sun. December 25

10:00am The Parish Community12:30pm (EF) Bishop Frank Dewane

5:00pm (SP)
The Parish Community

#### Mon. December 26

7:30am + Helen Sarkis
 12:00pm + Karen Apang
 2:45-3:45pm Confessions

**■ 5:00pm** + Dick Weber

#### Tues. December 27

7:30 am (EF) +Victor Svigel
 12:00pm +Elizabeth Glenn
 5:00pm Marian Mandy

#### Wed. December 28

7:30am + Ofelia Jaramillo
 12:00pm + Anne M. Kronyak

2:45-3:45pm Confessions5:00pm + Lisa Becan

#### Thur. December 29

**● 7:30 am (EF)** + Daniel Bonham

12:00 pm +Cat Forszt
 5:00pm +Francis Quinn

#### Fri. December 30

7:30am + Angelo Carlo Monticelli

12:00pm Ken Evans & Family

**2:45-3:45pm** *Confessions* 

5:00pm + Juan Rodriguez

**6:30pm-7:30pm** Holy Hour & Confessions

#### Sat. December 31

9:00am + Dr. Bob Devetski

9:30am Confessions

• 5:00pm + Daryl Jenoreas

#### Sun. January 1

**10:00am** Rick Evans

**12:30pm (EF)** + Rafael Pagan

**5:00pm** (SP) +Jonathan & Paula

Gomez

#### Color Key for Priests

Fr. David Vidal Fr. Romanus Cessario Fr. Joseph Lugalambi SSSP

Fr. John Andem Fr. Rick Martignetti Fr. Anbu Fr. Bob Garrity

Fr. Richard Bondi Fr. Guy Mansini

## PARISH SACRAMENTAL LIFE



#### Baptism

- December 17, 2022Rita Marina Alanna Uribe
- December 18, 2022
  - Emma Sophia Cubillan
- December 20, 2022
  - Lillian Rose Solorzano

#### Holy Matrimony

- December 17, 2022
  - Justin Smith and Margarita Altomare

\*Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior. Must be registered parishioner & been attending Mass for 3 months.

#### Anointing of the Sick

The primary effect of this Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick receive peace and courage to deal with the difficulties of illnesses or frailty.

\*Contact the parish office for scheduling a visit to the sick. For an emergency, call 239.261.5555 and follow the instructions.



#### Prayer of the Week:

MAY THE BIRTH OF JESUS STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH

God, our Father,
since through the human birth of your only Son you
began in us the work of redemption,
keep us firm in faith,
and with Christ as the Shepherd of our souls
bring us the glory you have promised.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### Oración de la Semana:

QUE EL NACIMIENTO DE CRISTO FORTALEZCA NUESTRA FE

Dios, nuestro Padre,

ya que por el nacimiento humano de tu único Hijo iniciaste en nosotros la obra de la redención, mantennos firmes en la fe,

y con Cristo como Pastor de nuestras almas tráenos la gloria que has prometido.

Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo,

que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, Dios, por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

## PARISH LIFE



**January 1** Mary Mother of God MASSES

**Sat Dec 31:** 5 PM (Eve Mass) **Sun Jan 1:** 10 AM, 12:30 PM (EF) 5 PM (Spanish)



January 14

Parish Men's Retreat SAVE THE DATE

7:30 AM - 2:30 PM Church & AMU Ballroom



January 21

Ave Maria Pro-Life March

Evening Event Ave Maria Church & AMU



#### February 25

Youth Choral Festival & Mass

> 4:00 - 6:00 PM Ave Maria Church



AVE MARIA PARISH MEN'S RETREAT

# MY HEART IS READY,

O GOD, MY HEART IS READY

Psalm 57:8

Directed by: Fr. David Vidal

Understanding our hearts and their education is fundamental for our good and communicating goodness to others. As the Venerable Fulton Sheen teaches: "Nothing ever happens in the world that does not happen first inside human hearts."

Mass and Confessions will be offered.

For more information and registrations, contact Deacon Jeff Ball Jeffrey.B@AveMariaParish.org or Knight of Columbus' Grand Knight, John Lanham john432apf@gmail.com

JAN, 14

TIME

7:30a-2:30p

Ave Maria Church & AMU Ballroom

# PARISH STEWARDSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

### **COLLECTION SUMMARY**

12/10 & 12/11 Total \$34,185

**Donations to CFA 2022** \$60,735

Pledges Collected to Date \$2,213,824

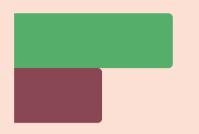
**Total Campaign Pledges** \$2,851,904

Weekly Budget\* \$18,943

**CFA Goal** \$210,000

Campaign Victory Goal \$3,000,000

\*Does not include the maintenance of the parish debt

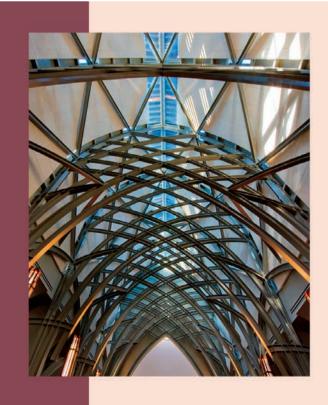




# Parish Capital Campaign

The *Our House, His Home, Our Children's Future* is underway and your gift is vital for our success. Thanks to the generosity of 231 donors, \$1,393,093 was raised, during our renewed efforts, bringing the total of pledges to \$2,851,904. However, we need your help to reach our **goal of \$3,000,000** to help reduce our debt and fund necessary improvements.

Please, join us in supporting *Our House, His Home, Our Children's Future* to secure the financial future of our growing parish community.



# Tax Smart Giving

#### **IRA - REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION**

This is the time of year that many of us are receiving the Notice of Required Minimum Distribution from our IRA Administrators. Did you know that you can direct your Required Minimum Distribution to Ave Maria Catholic Church and avoid increasing your taxable income by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution?

You can request your IRA Administrator to send a check payable to Ave Maria Catholic Church or any other qualified charity to satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution. Donations made to reduce debt help the Parish by decreasing the interest payments due on the debt, thereby freeing up Parish funds for ministry. Please check with your professional advisors for more information on this beneficial giving option.

For more information, contact Beatrice Sanford at (239) 867-4900 or email at giftplanning@avemariaparish.org

## MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

From A to Z, Ways to Grow and Serve

# Religious Education CHRISTMAS RECESS

Faith Formation Holiday Class Schedule: We want to wish all the Ave Maria families a blessed and holy holiday season. Thank you for your continued support and prayers into the New Year.

The Faith Formation Holiday Class schedule:

- Sunday Faith Formation Classes: No classes on December 25th and January 1st. Classes resume on January 8th.
- Youth Ministry "DTS": No sessions on December 25th and January 1st. Sessions resume on January 8th.
- Children's Eucharistic Adoration: No session on December 26th. Adoration resumes on January 2nd.
- 2nd Year Confirmation Preparation (Wednesday Classes): No classes on December 21st and December 28th. Classes resume on January 4th.
- RCIA: No sessions on December 21st and December 28th. Sessions resume on January 4th.
- Adult Formation: No classes on December 23rd and December 30th. Classes resume on January 6th.
- St. Margaret Castello Sacramental
   Development: No classes December 16th,
   23rd, or 30th. Classes resume on January
   6th.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful." -Colossians 3:15





#### Legion of Mary (Spanish)

Wednesday, December 28 5:30 - 6:30 PM | Parish Conf. Room Marvin Gaitan marvingaitan73@gmail.com



#### Divine Will Prayer Cenacle

Wednesday, December 28 7:00 - 8:30 PM | Parish Conf. Room Felipe Gomez/Karen Kabiling Info@AveMariaDivineWill.com



#### Women's Reparation Hour

Thursday, December 29 10:30 - 11:30 AM | Church Sandy Dinan sjndinan@gmail.com



#### Holy Hour and Confessions

Friday, December 30 6:30 - 7:30 PM | Church

#### Feed Ave Maria Program

AVE MARIA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Feed Ave Maria program is sponsored and administered by the Ave Maria Knights of Columbus Council 14697 in conjunction with the Guadalupe Social Services of Catholic Charities, Immokalee, FL. Program volunteers will include members of the Ave Maria Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes. The purpose of this program is to provide Ave Maria residents in need of grocery assistance with non-perishable groceries once a month.

Please complete the Assistance Request online form if you are interested in requesting grocery assistance.







Once you complete the form, you will be contacted by a Brother Knight to let you know your level of assistance and when you can expect to receive your first delivery. Grocery bags will be delivered to your home and left without contact. You will be notified electronically of the delivery. We want you to know that confidentiality is always observed.

The plan is to provide each recipient's family with one to two bags of non-perishable groceries per month. Each bag is expected to feed a family of four for a week.



# Merry Christmas from the Columbiettes!

The Ave Maria Columbiettes would like to thank the Ave Maria community for their generous support of their Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas Giving Tree drives.

A total of 57 thanksgiving bags and gift cards were distributed to Ave Maria families. A total of \$1,150 was collected for Thanksgiving. A total of \$8,075.00 in gift cards was collected as part of the Christmas Giving Tree drive.

These gift cards were distributed to families in Ave Maria. Thank you so much to all those who have contributed to these two initiatives.

The Ave Maria Columbiettes would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year.



# IGLESIA CATÓLICA DE AVE MARÍA

Información para nuestra comunidad hispana

#### Reflexión Semanal



Los ángeles cantaron: "Gloria a Dios en el cielo y en la tierra paz a los hombres que aman el Señor," (Lc 2:14). Y entonces, en la Misa, nosotros repetimos este hermoso himno.

Por medio del Santo Sacrificio Eucarístico, la concepción y el nacimiento humano del divino Príncipe de la Paz no sólo se celebran de modo anual sino que también se perpetúan en la vida de la Iglesia y de sus hijos.

A través del misterio de Cristo y la Misa, el misterio de la Navidad está siempre presente entre nosotros. Existe una continuidad material y una semejanza formal entre lo que sucedió una vez y para siempre en Nazaret y Belén y lo que se repite diariamente en los altares católicos.

EL propio ofrecimiento de Cristo en la cruz consumó todos los actos previos de Jesús. La renovación Eucarística de la pasión da a los miembros del cuerpo místico un cierto contacto con todos los misterioso de su Cabeza, incluyendo el misterio de su nacimiento temporal.

San Bernardo enseña: "Así como El es inmolado en cierto modo cuando 'proclamamos su muerte' así también El parece nacer nuevamente cuando en la fe conmemoramos su nacimiento."

No podemos vivir sin la Misa. No podemos vivir sin la superabundante dulzura y sabor de la Eucaristía, Dios con nosotros. Cuando recibimos agradecidos al Jesús Eucarístico en nuestras almas, celebremos el nacimiento y la vida de Jesús en nuestras vidas.

# Domingos a las 5:00PM AVE MARIA CHURCH - MISA EN ESPAÑOL

Quisiéramos hacerles conocer los números finales de nuestra encuenta por el cambio de día y horario de la Misa en español en nuestra parroquia.

- 141 personas manifestaron que preferían la Misa los domingos a las 5:00 PM (73.8%).
- 50 personas dijeron que preferían el sábado a las 7:00 PM (26.2%).

Luego de escuchar esta consulta y evaluar las conveniencias del cambio, la Misa en español comenzará a ser celebrada en nuestra parroquia los domingos a las 5:00 PM a partir del domingo 25 de diciembre.

Agradecemos a todos los que han participado en la encuesta.

Starting on Sunday, December 25th, the Mass in Spanish will be celebrated on Sundays at 5:00 PM. Thank you for your participation in the parish survey.

# Spanish Mass Schedule Preferences (Final Numbers)

50%

25%

Sunday 5 PM

Saturday 7 PM

# **Ave Maria University Events**

December 24



Reflection from

## **Dr. Mark Miravalle**

The ineffable joy and grace of Christmas is made possible by the love of a Creator and the "yes" of a woman.

The more we prepare the mangers of our hearts for the munificent graces of the Incarnate God, the more of His infinite love we receive. Nothing cleanses our interior stables more than the sacramental graces of Confession in preparation for this Holy Night.

May each of us, through our Immaculate Mother's intercession, receive, with hearts fully open, the inestimable graces of the Baby Jesus born to each one us this Christmas, and thus radiate His light, His truth, and His peace, to those around us, like never before.

Merry Christmas!

Museum Hours

## Mother Teresa Museum

Thomas and Selby Prince Building
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Monday - Saturday
Hours are subject to change.
James.Stella@avemaria.edu or 239-304-7954







# DONAHUE ACADEMY

Ave Maria Parish's PK-12 Catholic, Classical School

# A Blessed Christmastide FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOL

We would like to wish our parish family a joyous Christmas Day and a blessed beginning of the Christmas season from all of the students, faculty, and staff members here at Donahue Academy.

May your holiday be joyous and fruit-filled! Please note that our parish school is closed through January 3rd as we all take time to celebrate the Birth of the Christchild and welcome in a new calendar year!





# Reenrollment and Application Season ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S SEAT IN THEIR GRADE!

Reenrollment for all currently attending students at our parish school opened up on December 15th. The reenrollment process takes approximately five minutes of your time and should be done promptly to ensure that all those enrolled students at Donahue Academy are enrolled in the next grade level.

Applications are being accepted for the 2023-2024 Academic Year. Please be advised that we have exceptionally high application numbers and that seats are limited. Grade level assessments and upper school interviews will begin in January and will conclude at the end of March.

If you are in need of assistance for reenrollment or are considering applying to Donahue Academy, please contact the Admissions Coordinator, Veronica Lendman, at (239) 842-3235 or at *admissions@donahueacademy.org* 

#### **News / Events**



Second Semester Starts School Resumes January 3rd



Reenrollment
December 15 through March 15



New Applicant Assessments & Interviews

January 15 through March 15

# THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

"Let the children come to me, do not hinder them," (Mk 10:14)

#### A Visit With Jesus

From the writings of Sister Mary Aurelia, OSF:

"...I have told you that Jesus appeared upon this earth on Christmas Day. I know that many of you are asking, 'Why did Jesus come into this world when He had such a beauful home in Heaven?' In Heaven the Angels served Jesus and adored Him and showed Him every honor. On earth He was treated very cruelly and at last was nailed to a Cross on which He died. What was it then that made Jesus come down from Heaven to Earth? He wanted us with Him in Heaven to enjoy the wonderful sight of God and the Angels and to live with Him forever!

Do you remember the story of Adam and Eve? On account of the sin they committed, Heaven was closed and no one could enter it. When our first parents were driven out of Paradise, God promised that He would send a Redeemer Who would save mankind. (Jesus is the promised fulfilled!) Jesus, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, became a little Child and was born on the first Christmas night. In this way He became a man, that is, He began to live just as other people live. He came to this world a poor, helpless baby...now you know that it must have been very hard for Jesus to be so small, so poor, so cold and so helpless. But Jesus did all this out of love for us. He did it because He loved you so much. Jesus gave up everything for love of us..."

One of the best ways we can show Jesus we love Him is to come to Church often and make our visits with Him. On Monday nights from 6:30-7:30pm we have our guided Children's Holy Hour with Mrs. Hampton and myself, including Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament with our pastor, Fr. Vidal, and Ave's finest altar servers. Our next guided Children's Holy Hour will be January 2, 2023. See you then!

Mrs. Prather CatholicKids101.com "We are kids telling kids about Jesus!"



#### The Garden of My Heart

The flowers I will make in "the garden of my heart" for Jesus this week are Christmas **POINSETTIAS.** 

I will make them by looking for ways to show my brothers and sisters that I love them!

"Dear Jesus, when You were a child like me, You were always thoughtful and kind to all the people in Your life. You loved everyone! I will look for ways to show my brothers and sisters that I love them, especially during this Octave of Christmas. Each time I share a new game or toy, help them with chores or give them a word of encouragement, I will be making a Christmas POINSETTIA in the 'garden of my heart.'

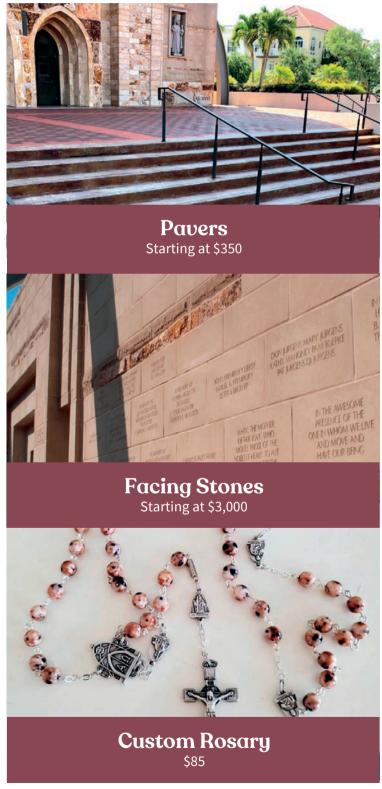
I hope You like my poinsettia flowers, Jesus! They can sometimes be kind of hard to make.

"Conduct yourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience. Accept each other with love, and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties you together."

Ephesians 4:2-3

# SOME UNIQUE TREASURES

from Ave Maria Catholic Church & Resources



\$85
Email memorials@avemariaparish.org
for more info!

