

Welcome to our parish community!

OUR PASTORAL TEAM

- ✧ Fr. Steve Rosera, Pastor;
- ✧ Fr. Robert Bustamante, Parochial Vicar;
- ✧ Fr. Stephen Gaertner, O.Praem., Parochial Vicar;
- ✧ Deacon Don Roseborough, Emeritus;
- ✧ Deacon George Sandoval, Ph.D., Emeritus;
- ✧ Mrs. Rebecca Maestas-Sanchez, Principal of St. Mary's School;
- ✧ Sr. Teresa Aparicio, O.L.V.M., and Debbie Garcia, Co-Coordinator of Faith Formation; and
- ✧ Ms. Michelle Rusk, Social Media Director.

THE PARISH OFFICE is open:

Monday—Friday: 9am to 4pm.

619 Copper Street NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Parish Office: (505) 247-4271 ~ Website: ICCABQ.org

Morning Receptionist: Ken Cantwell

Afternoon Receptionist: Karime Ramirez

MASS SCHEDULE:

- ✧ Monday, Wednesday, & Friday—12:10pm
- ✧ Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday —7am
- ✧ First Friday of each month—7am and 12:10pm
- ✧ SUNDAY LITURGIES:
 - ❖ Saturday—4pm;
 - ❖ Sunday—8am, 10am, and 12:30pm (SPANISH).

CONFESSIONS:

- ❖ Fridays and Saturdays from 11am to 12noon; and
- ❖ By appointment. Call (505) 247-4271 to make an appointment.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

- ✧ December 2 & 3: St. Mary's School;
- ✧ December 9 & 10: Retired Religious;
- ✧ December 16 & 17: St. Vincent de Paul Society,

Online Giving
is available at
ICCABQ.org

Now Discern This: Here's the thing:
Jesus is coming anew at Christmas. We know this.
But Christ is also already here in our midst.



Catholic Charities Giving Tree. Please consider taking an ornament or two from the Giving Tree in the back of the church for Catholic Charity's Annual Giving Tree drive. Each ornament has information regarding a gift needed for a less fortunate member of the Albuquerque community. Gifts need to be returned to the parish UNWRAPPED by Sunday, December 10 or Monday December 11.



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, Patroness of the United States, and our parish feast day is celebrated on Friday, December 8. It is a holy day of obligation in the United States.

Mass will be celebrated at 7am, 8:30am (St. Mary's School Mass), 12:10pm, and 5:30pm.

Our Parish Mission begins with the 5:30pm

**Our Advent
Mission is
Coming Up!
With
Fr. Marcus
Fryer, SJ**



**See the
ADVENT
MISSION
Flyer
on Page 8
of this
bulletin!**



If you are planning to celebrate the sacrament of Penance before Christmas, we will have a parish-wide Penance Service on Saturday, December 9, starting at 11am. Multiple priests will be available at that service to assist with hearing confessions. Outside of this special Penance Service, confessions will be heard on Fridays and Saturdays from 11am to 12noon.

Other *nearby* locations for Advent confessions are:

- ✧ Monday, December 4, 5:30pm at Holy Rosary (5415 Fortuna Road NW); and
- ✧ Tuesday, December 5, 7pm at St. Joseph on the Rio Grande (5901 St. Joseph's Drive NW).
- ✧ Wednesday, December 13, 6pm at San Felipe de Neri Church, Old Town.

Other locations will be announced once we have that information.

Find Our Holiday Mass Schedules on page 3.

Next Sunday's Readings from **LOYOLAPRESS**.



The Second Sunday of Advent,
Cycle B
Sunday, December 3, 2023

Today's Readings

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11*

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 85: 9-14*

The Lord's salvation is near.

SECOND READING: *2 Peter 3: 8-14*

Peter teaches that we must always be holy because the return of the Lord cannot be predicted.

GOSPEL READING: *Mark 1: 1-8*; John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING: Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us.

Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. Mark's description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for

another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

Mass Intentions	
Saturday, December 2, Saturday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time	
4pm	+ John Gallegos + Sofia Baca
Sunday, December 3, First Sunday of Advent	
8am	+ Marie S. & Louis G. Romero
10am	For the People of Our Parish
12:30pm Spanish	Por las Almas de los Sacerdotes en Purgatorio
Monday, Dec. 4, Monday of the First Week of Advent	
12:10pm	+ Nicole & Ruben Salazar & Benjamin Garcia + Manuel Herrera ~ Repose of his Soul + Henry Armijo
Tuesday, Dec. 5, Tuesday of the First Week of Advent	
7am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed., Dec. 6, Wednesday of the First Week of Advent	
12:10pm	For the Intention of Edward Baca and the Help for his Needs + Robert & Naomi Santiago + Ralph Baca ~ Repose of his Soul
Thursday, December 7, Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	
7am	+ Josie Vallejos
Friday, December 8, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
7am	<i>For the People of Our Parish</i>
12:10pm	
5:30pm	
Saturday, Dec. 9, Saturday of the First Week of Advent	
7am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, Dec. 9, Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent	
4pm	+ John Gallegos
Sunday, December 10, Second Sunday of Advent	
8am	+ Marie S. & Louis G. Romero
10am	For the Intention of Mona & Martin Martinez
12:30pm Spanish	Por la Gente de Nuestra Parroquia

Upcoming Events

Fr. Stephen Gaertner, O. Praem., offers a monthly series at ICC, Theology on Film. The next Theology on Film will be Thursday, December 14, with the film: Edward Scissorhands (1990) Meet & Greet at 6:30pm ~ pizza and beverages will be provided. Movie at 7pm. This series is for young adults and up. Join us in ICC's Basement Parish Hall, 619 Copper Avenue NW.



FAMILIES IN ACTION



For the month of December, we will not have our potluck on the first Sunday of the month. We will meet on December 17 to celebrate with a posada. Join us at our posada!

DECEMBER 24, FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, AND DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY, SCHEDULE

This year, Christmas falls on a Monday. For this reason, we will have the following schedule:

- ❖ On Saturday, December 23: the regular 4pm Mass;
- ❖ On Sunday, December 24: the regular Sunday schedule with Masses at 8am, 10am, and 12:30pm (Spanish);
- ❖ On Sunday, December 24, an 8pm Christmas Eve Mass.
- ❖ On Monday, December 25, we will have a regular Sunday schedule again with Masses at 8am, 10am and 12:30pm (Spanish).

Invariably people want to know if attending Mass on Christmas Eve satisfies the Christmas Day Mass obligation, or if attending Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day satisfies the Sunday Mass obligation. The answer to both of these questions is NO, and the reason for this is because the focus or the theme of the Masses, as well as all of the prayers and readings are very different.

For DECEMBER 31, THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY, the regular Saturday Evening/Sunday Schedule applies.

For JANUARY 1, THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, there will be only one Mass, at 12:10pm. January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation in the United States unless it falls on a Monday. This is so that attention is not taken away from the Sunday Mass, which is always the primary Mass of the week.

Resources

If you are or know of any person living within our parish boundaries who needs rent or utility assistance, please have them contact our parish Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 505-346-1500.



St. Vincent de Paul
ASSISTANCE • SHELTER • HOPE

SSVDP assistance is available to everyone in need. They do not need to be registered parishioners or Catholic to qualify.



Join us on
[myParish app](#).

WATCH MASS ON FACEBOOK

To follow us on Facebook, find us at <https://www.facebook.com/iccabq/>



WE STREAM MASS ON YOUTUBE.

Find us at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpsBXhOrta8CPn_hjXEwcw



On Instagram, find us at <https://www.instagram.com/immaculateconceptionabq/>



GET HELP IN VIOLENT SITUATIONS

The ALBUQUERQUE FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER provides victims of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and their families with a safe setting to assist in addressing and overcoming the trauma of their experience and break the cycle of violence that destroys families. The Center is open 8am to 5pm weekdays. Staff can be reached 24 hours a day at 505-243-3333. The website is www.cabq.gov/albuquerque-family-advocacy-center. It lists many more resources.



Dial 988:
Help & Hope in New Mexico,
The 24/7 Lifeline
for Emotional, Mental,
or Substance Misuse
Support

BE THE ONE TO HELP SAVE A LIFE.

We all can take action to prevent suicide.

For more information go to <https://bethe1to.com/>

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WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22—NOVEMBER 28, 2023:

INCOME INCLUDING ONLINE GIVING

PARISH SUPPORT

Non-Designated Donations

Weekly Collection \$ 9,894.00

Office, Candles, All Saints, Thanksgiving 3,296.00

Religious Education 00.00

Non-Designated Subtotal \$ 13,190.00

DESIGNATED DONATIONS

Francis House 2,020.00

Bread & Blessings 63.00

St. Vincent de Paul 185.00

All Souls, Missions, ACA, CCHD, flowers 333.00

Rejuvenation Fund 1,335.00

St. Mary's School 430.00

Designated Subtotal 4,366.00

TOTAL INCOME \$ 17,556.00

EXPENSES

Liturgy and Worship \$ 00.00

Religious Education 00.00

Ministries 2,830.35

School Support/Subsidies 00.00

Clergy Administration 297.95

Utilities 00.00

Parish Administration 634.00

Building and Land Operations 363.59

Designated Donations 4,366.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 8,491.89

contributions made for a specific purpose – for example, a donation to Immaculate Conception Parish for St. Mary's School cannot be used for anything but the school, and a donation to the parish for Francis House can only be used for Francis House. Only non-designated donations can be used for any purpose (electricity, water, trash pickup, salaries, food, ... etc.). In addition to writing a check or using cash to contribute to Immaculate Conception Church's ministries, you can go to the parish website: www.iccabq.org and click on the Online Giving button. There you can contribute to the Weekly Collection, Renovation Fund, and St. Mary's School categories as well as such ministries as Bread & Blessings, Francis House, St. Vincent de Paul, Casa de las Comunidades, Annual Catholic Appeal and others. Check out **the Online Giving** opportunities!

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:

Saint Mary's Catholic School, a dual language community, embraces the Gospel message by enriching the world through Catholic teachings, academic excellence, Christian leadership and service.



FREEDOM ISN'T FREE ~ St. Mary's School recently invited Veterans and active members of our US Armed forces to celebrate Mass with us. It was followed by a reception. It is *always* a good time to thank these men and women for the sacrifices they made for our freedoms. We don't do that enough. One Veteran's comment said it all, "I have never been thanked so much in my life as I was today." While, it was good that St. Mary's School could bring him that message of thanksgiving it was also sad that this was the first time he felt that way. The moral of the story is: Go and thank a Veteran.

~by Carol Johansen, Teacher & Parishioner

ART FAIR ~ next Sunday, December 10, after the morning Masses there will be an Art Fair in the school gymnasium. It is a wonderful opportunity to do your Christmas shopping and support local artists.

Office DEPOT contributes 5% of your purchase to a local school of your choice whenever you shop with them. St. Mary's School ID with Office Depot is 70068725.

Ongoing Activities



Weekend conversation starter --

NAMETAGS. Look for the nametag tables as you enter the church for your weekend Mass. As a way of inviting a conversation with a stranger, put your first name on a nametag.

If you are interested in knowing more about Sunday's TED Talk, which follows the 10am Mass, text Pat O'Meara at 505.944.5169.

FAMILY CATECHESIS MEETING DATES:

- ✧ *Sundays, December 03 and 10.*
- ✧ *Sunday, Dec. 17: Christmas Celebration.*
- ✧ *Sundays, Dec. 24 and 31 ~ no classes.*



For more information call Debbie Garcia at 505.385.8303 or Sr. Teresa at 505.249.2781.



Our RCIA group (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) meets every Monday from 6 - 7:30pm in the Basement Parish Hall.

For more information, call Coordinator Lisa Trujillo at 505-977-1697.

AT HOME WITH THE WORD ~ BIBLE STUDY

Our weekly bible study group, in which we discuss the upcoming Sunday Readings, meets every Wednesday from 2:30 to 3:30pm in the Rectory.

You are welcome to join us at any time.

We are using LTP's *At Home with the Word*, 2023.

Copies of the book are available in the Parish Office for \$15 each.

The **BOOK READING GROUP** meets Wednesdays, 6 to 7pm. Our next meeting is on December 6, where we will begin to discuss Peter Slade, et al., eds., **PEOPLE GET READY: Twelve Jesus-Haunted Misfits, Malcontents, and Dreamers in Pursuit of Justice**. The book (or Kindle version) is available from Amazon for \$6.00.

Lectors meet quarterly. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, January 6, 2024, at 11am in the church.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS meet quarterly; next on Saturday, March 2, at 11am in the church. You are invited to attend if you are a current Eucharistic Minister or would like to be part of this essential ministry. For more information, call the Parish Office.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST



The Knights of Columbus are having a **Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest**. Parents can pick up Entry Forms and poster paper at the back of Church beginning this weekend.

This contest is for kids, ages 5 to 14. Prizes will be given in three age groups: 5-7, 8-10, and 11-14.

By engaging the talents of our youth, we hope they will more deeply understand the true meaning of Christmas, and that their artwork will bring others to remember Christ in Christmas.

Read the entry form. Entries need to be turned in by Sunday, December 17, either to the Parish Office or with an usher who will give them to one of the Knights after Mass. If you have questions, call the KofC Grand Knight Bill Ewert at 505-264-9813.



Immaculate Conception's Council 15788 invites you to join the Knights. The Knights are looking for men to help our parish out today. Membership is free online through December 31. Go to KofCorg/joinus, enter Council 15788 when you fill out the information.

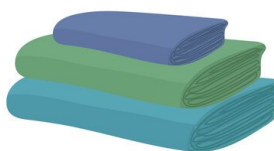
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CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS'

WINTER BLANKET DRIVE



The Catholic Daughters are collecting new and slightly used (freshly laundered) blankets to be distributed to the unhoused members of our community. This collection will occur every weekend until Sunday, December 10.



Bins are available in the front lobby of the church.

Our Parish Mission Statement:

United by the love of Christ,
Immaculate Conception Parish Community,
a Jesuit-founded parish rooted in Ignatian Spirituality,
commits itself to:
live the Gospel values;
celebrate the liturgy with joy;
welcome without prejudice;
seek God in everyone;
serve our community
with special care for the poor and marginalized;
and be a place of prayer and spiritual strength
for everyone.

Volunteer Opportunities



ESL TUTOR NEEDED FOR IMMIGRANT WOMEN.



Casa de las Comunidades needs a flexible volunteer who can help improve the language skills of women who have crying English language abilities. The work will help them to find work and fit more securely in the community. Volunteers must be available 2 hours a week, but can be set to accommodate your schedule. Please contact Juliete C'DeBaca (505) 610-5153 or email us at comunidadescwh@gmail.com for more information.



St. Benedict Joseph Labre Ministry serves the homeless and others in need with care packages that you can hand out from your vehicle when you encounter a person asking for money. We ask your help to:

- ✧ Provide supplies for the care packages;
- ✧ Make the care packages;
- ✧ Take the care packages with you at the

end of your Sunday mass so you may hand them out.

Commonly needed items are: protein bars, granola, breakfast bars, snack bags of nuts, water cartons (for environmental purposes), toothpaste, toothbrushes, personal cleansing cloths, woman's personal hygiene products, Chap Stick, socks, hand lotion, anything that can be placed in a 1-gallon zip lock bag, so long as it is not bulky; and 1-gallon zip lock bags.

For information, call Phyllis Ortiz at 505-231-5902.

SUPPORTING OUR UNHOUSED PARISHIONERS.....

Immaculate Conception Parish has multiple ministries that support the homeless or unhoused members of our downtown community. In addition to Bread & Blessing, and *St. Benedict Labre Ministries*, we also have an active *St. Vincent de Paul* group, and the Parish Office staff daily feeds a number of unhoused individuals.

Lately, there appears to be a growing number of people panhandling (coming up to you in the parking lot or to your car asking you for money). While it might seem a charitable thing to do, it can also be a way of enabling inappropriate behavior, and for those who use the money they collect for alcohol or others drugs is actually contributing to their ill health.

The best thing to do is to let the person know that you cannot give them money. On Sundays, please just direct them to the Basement Parish Hall where they can receive a satisfying lunch at no charge. Other days of the week, please direct them to the Parish Office.

ALTAR SERVERS: If you are in the 4th grade or older and have made your First Holy Communion and you would like to be an altar server, then **WE NEED YOU!**

We especially need altar servers at the Saturday 4pm Mass and the Sunday 8am Mass.

Contact Fr. Steve through the Parish Office or at srosera@iccabq.org. Thank you.



GIFT BEARERS are needed for weekend Masses to carry the bread and wine to the Presider during the Preparation of the Gifts. Gift Bearers can be couples, families, or individuals. Talk to an usher before Mass to see if you are needed. If you have questions, contact Erne Woodley at 505-340-5292.

Our Communion to the Homebound

Ministry: If you take communion to those who cannot join us at Mass, take your pyx to the Sacristy before Mass. The Presider will fill it after Communion and then invite you to the foot of the altar and, with a blessing, return it to you. You should have a burse in which to carry your pyx. Then return to your seat for the Final Blessing. When you take communion, take a bulletin so that they can follow what we are doing as a parish.



Our *Bread & Blessing* ministry is preparing to enter its fifteenth year of feeding the homeless and hungry.

We provide sack lunches and bottled water to 100-150 guests every Sunday.

The generosity and support of several parishes who have partnered with us have been instrumental in meeting the needs of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

When possible, this ministry also provides:

- ✧ seasonal women's and men's clothing including jeans, T-shirts, socks, comfortable walking shoes,
- ✧ hygiene products (not containing alcohol), and
- ✧ back packs.
- ✧ Dog food is also available.

Distribution is on Sunday from 8:30am to 12:30pm in the Parish Basement Hall.

If you are interested in donating or volunteering, or have any questions please contact Coordinator Roberta Montoya at robertacmontoya@gmail.com or call the Parish Office.



La Comunidad de Trabajadores Católicos de Casa de las Comunidades celebró

25 años de servicio con las Familias Inmigrantes y los vecinos que viven entre nosotros. El 18 de noviembre tuvo lugar una hermosa celebración. Además de una película de 50 minutos sobre la vida de Dorothy Day, quien junto con Peter Marine fundó el Movimiento de Trabajadores Católicos en la ciudad de Nueva York en 1922, también tuvieron una exhibición fotográfica de todas las actividades realizadas en Casa de las Comunidades a lo largo de los años.



Recursos

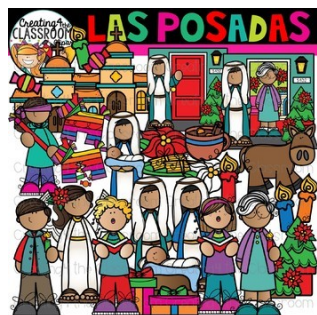
Si usted es o sabe de alguna persona que vive dentro de los límites de nuestra parroquia que necesita asistencia con el alquiler o los servicios públicos, pídale que se comunique con nuestra Sociedad parroquial de San Vicente de Paúl al 505-346-1500. La asistencia del SSVDP está disponible para todos los que la necesiten. No necesitan ser feligreses registrados o católicos para calificar.



AYUDA DISPONIBLE, hable con alguien hoy.
No está solo.

CADENA NACIONAL DE PREVENCIÓN DEL SUICIDIO
Abierta por 24 horas al día en español e inglés.
APRENDA MÁS ~ 988

A partir del 16 de julio, los estadounidenses podrán llamar o enviar mensajes de texto a un nuevo número de teléfono, 988, si sienten que están experimentando una crisis de salud mental y/o corren el riesgo de suicidarse.



Por el mes de Diciembre no tendremos nuestro convivio el primer Domingo del mes. Nos reuniremos el 17 de Diciembre para celebrar con una posada. ¡Acompáñenos a nuestra posada!



Comuníquese con la Oficina Parroquial, 505-247-4271, y pregunte por el padre Steve, para hacer planes para una boda, bautizo o funeral si el servicio es en inglés, si quiere sus servicios en español por favor

comuníquese con la Hermana Teresa (505) 249-2781



El padre Steve invita adolescentes y jóvenes a participar activamente en las misas del domingo... como servidores del altar/monaguillos. Se requiere que hayan hecho su primera comunión.



Líneas de Crisis en Nuevo México
1-855-NMCRISIS (1-855-662-7474) nmcrisisline.com

Nuestra Misión Parroquial

*Unidos por el amor de Cristo,
Comunidad Parroquial de la Inmaculada Concepción,
una parroquia fundada por los Jesuitas y enraizada
en la Espiritualidad Ignaciana,
se compromete a:
vivir los valores del Evangelio;
celebrar la liturgia con alegría;
acoger sin prejuicios;
buscar a Dios en todos;
servir a nuestra comunidad
con especial atención a los pobres y marginados;
y ser un lugar de oración y fortaleza espiritual
para todos.*

Join us Dec. 8 and 9

Finding Your Place in the Advent Story

*Advent Mission
with
Fr. Marcus Fryer SJ*



FR. MARC'S FIRST
ASSIGNMENT
AFTER BEING
ORDAINED WAS
AS ASSISTANT
PASTOR AT ICC IN
2017-18

FRIDAY, DEC. 8

5:30 MASS

6:30 MISSION

ADVENT ACTIVITY FOR
CHILDREN GRADES 1-6

SATURDAY, DEC. 9

**11:00 PENANCE SERVICE WITH
INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION**

4:00 MASS

5:00 MISSION

DINNER WILL FOLLOW MISSION AT 6:30

Fr. Marc will preach at the 8, 10, & 12:30 Sunday Masses