

**St. Paul Catholic  
Church and Mission**

**Iglesia Católica San  
Pablo y Mision**

4178 Highway 441 South, Douglas, Georgia 31535

Parish Office Phone: 912-384-3560

Church email: saintpaul@windstream.net

Parish Website: www.stpaulmissions.org

Confessions: Thursday from 6:00-7:00pm,

Saturday 5:00-6:00 at St. Paul, or by appointment

**Holy Family Catholic Church**

126 Holy Family Rd., Willacoochee

**Administration □ Administración**

**Parochial Administrator:**

**Rev. Saimel Perdomo**

**Deacon Ron Milkas**

**Church Secretary: Janet Benton**

**August 18 – August 24**

**Tuesday:** Misa-7:00pm (Spanish)

**Wednesday:** Communion Service-12:00 noon (English) (Fr. Perdomo is at deanery meeting), Bible Study-6:00pm

**Thursday:** Misa-7:00pm (Spanish)

**Friday:** Mass-12:00 noon (English)

**Saturday:**

5:00pm – Confessions

6:00pm – Vigil Mass (English)

**Sunday:**

**8:00am** – Mass, Holy Family (English)

**9:30am** – Mass, St. Paul (English)

**12:00pm** – Mass, St. Paul (Spanish)

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**INTENCIONES DE MISA**

**August 17 – August 23**

**Sunday, August 17** –12:00 Mass-†Jovenal Garcia

**Saturday, August 23** – †Dr. Randy Benner

**Next weekend is Pledge Weekend for**

**Harvest of Hope.**

**“All of us, in union with Christ, form one body, and as part of it, we belong to each other.” Rom 12:5**

Our Mission  
Statement  
Declaración  
de Misión

**“Nosotros, siendo muchos, formamos un solo cuerpo en Cristo, y en ese cuerpo cada uno esta al servicio de los demás.” Rm 12.5**



### **Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection**

Today's readings remind us of some of the trials we must endure to be sharers in the Lord's Kingdom. Our faith in the truth of God's word will give us victory over our enemies:

All human good arises from persevering in the truth, rather than abandoning it. Our entire good consists in accepting the truth of God's word, and persevering in it. We may have to suffer to be sharers in the Lord's Kingdom. Yet, when we are armed with the shield of truth and of faith, we will courageously overcome our enemies because our strength is in God and not ourselves.

Fear is the first enemy that comes to us who are resolved to serve God. We think that holiness demands too much of us and we say, "O God, what perfection is needed to live a holy life! It is too high for me. I cannot attain it. I shall never be able to do it." Let us not entertain the vain hope of wishing to be saints in three months! Think of how fainthearted Peter was at the Crucifixion. Let us keep clearly in mind that everyone is tempted.

Let us fear neither the temptation nor the tempter. They will have no power whatsoever over us, if we make use of the shield of faith and the armor of truth. It is our faith in the truth of God's word that causes us to succeed in our firm and steadfast resolution to serve God as generously and as perfectly as possible in this life.

Do not fear that you are unable to accomplish what God has called you to do. You are armed with God's truth. God's Word will strengthen you to persevere and to do what is required for

your greater welfare and happiness, providing you walk simply in faithful observance. How happy you are who are armed with the truth of God, for it will be your shield against the arrows of your enemies and will make you victorious!

*Oblates of St. Francis de Sales*



**Registration for  
Religious Education at Holy Family will  
be August 24. Classes begin September 7.**



### **REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

St. Paul's Religious Education Registration will be July through August. Mrs. Maria Gomez will be assisting with registration in the narthex before and between the two Sunday Masses. The cost is \$50 for one child and \$100 for two or more children in the family.

Registration, and making a payment, can also be done on our St. Paul Church website.

The first day of Religious Education will be September 7; no registration on that day.

### **Bible Study Class**

Fr. Perdomo is teaching a Bible Study Class on Wednesdays at 6:00pm in the Social Hall. Even if you did not attend earlier classes please join us for this opportunity to examine and reflect upon Holy Scripture with an excellent teacher.



## **Vigésimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario** **Reflexión**

Las lecturas de hoy nos recuerdan algunas de las pruebas que debemos superar para ser partícipes del Reino del Señor. Nuestra fe en la verdad de la palabra de Dios nos dará la victoria sobre nuestros enemigos:

Todo bien humano surge de perseverar en la verdad, en lugar de abandonarla. Todo nuestro bien consiste en aceptar la verdad de la palabra de Dios y perseverar en ella. Puede que tengamos que sufrir para ser partícipes del Reino del Señor. Sin embargo, cuando nos armamos con el escudo de la verdad y la fe, venceremos con valentía a nuestros enemigos porque nuestra fuerza está en Dios y no en nosotros mismos.

El miedo es el primer enemigo que se nos presenta a quienes estamos decididos a servir a Dios. Pensamos que la santidad nos exige demasiado y decimos: «¡Oh Dios, cuánta perfección se necesita para vivir una vida santa! Es demasiado alta para mí. No puedo alcanzarla. Nunca podré lograrla». ¡No albergemos la vana esperanza de desear ser santos en tres meses! Pensemos en la pusilanimidad de Pedro en la Crucifixión. Tengamos presente que todos somos tentados.

No temamos ni a la tentación ni al tentador. No tendrán ningún poder sobre nosotros si usamos el escudo de la fe y la armadura de la verdad. Es nuestra fe en la verdad de la palabra de Dios la que nos impulsa a cumplir nuestra firme y firme resolución de servir a Dios con la mayor generosidad y perfección posibles en esta vida.

No temas ser incapaz de lograr lo que Dios te ha llamado a hacer. Estás armado con la verdad de Dios. La Palabra de Dios te fortalecerá para

perseverar y hacer lo necesario para tu mayor bienestar y felicidad, siempre que vivas con sencillez y fiel observancia. ¡Qué feliz eres tú, armado con la verdad de Dios, porque será tu escudo contra las flechas de tus enemigos y te hará victorioso!

*Oblatos de San Francisco de Sales*



**La inscripción para Educación Religiosa en Holy Family será el 24 de agosto. Las clases comienzan el 7 de septiembre.**



## **EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA**

Las inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa de San Pablo serán del 13 de julio a agosto. La Sra. María Gómez asistirá con las inscripciones en el nártex antes y entre las dos misas dominicales. El costo es de \$50 por un niño y \$100 por dos o más niños en la familia.

La inscripción y el pago también pueden realizarse en el sitio web de la Iglesia de San Pablo.

El primer día de Educación Religiosa será el 7 de septiembre; no se aceptan inscripciones ese día.

## **LAS CLASES DE BIBLIA**

El P. Perdomo impartirá una clase de estudio bíblico martes a las 7:30pm en el Salón Social. Les invitamos a que aprovechen esta oportunidad para examinar y reflexionar sobre las Sagradas Escrituras con un excelente maestro.



**FYI**  
~FOR YOUR INFORMATION~

**NEXT BAPTISM CLASS--TODAY**

The next baptism class is **Sunday, September 14 after the 9:30 Mass (10:30-10:45)** in the social hall for parents & godparents who want to baptize their child.

**LA PRÓXIMA CLASE DE BAUTISMO**

La próxima clase de bautismo será el **domingo 14 de septiembre, después de la misa de las 9:30 (10:30-10:45)** para padres y padrinos. Esto es necesario antes de que los padres puedan comunicarse con

**Catechists' Meeting, Aug. 24**

St. Paul's catechists will meet Sunday, August 24 after the 9:30 Mass (approx. 10:30) in the Social Hall. Fr. Perdomo will speak and all catechists should attend.

**Reunión de Catequistas, 24 de agosto**

Los catequistas de San Pablo se reunirán el domingo 24 de agosto después de la misa de las 9:30 (aprox. 10:30) en el Salón Social. El Padre Perdomo dará una charla y todos los catequistas deben asistir.



**AN ACCOUNT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP**

**St. Paul**

<b>FY Offertory Budget</b>	<b>\$305,000.00</b>
Received to date	46,905.00
Received 8-10-25	8,397.00
<b>FY Bldg FundBudget</b>	<b>144,000.00</b>
Received to date	4,899.00
Received 8-10-25	660.00

**Offertory: Holy Family**

Sun. (8-10-25): \$847.00

**OUR WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR  
OUR ARMED FORCES**

Jose Bardomiano, Brenda Contreras, Sgt. Blake Downs (N. Carolina), MSgt. Emmanuel Gamboa (New Mexico), Kristopher Lentz (Fort Campbell, Kentucky), April M. Martin (Japan), Michael Martinez, CW3 Jeb S. McKinnon (USA), Martin Rios, Candise R. Rolerson (Wichita Falls, TX), Juan Vargas, Erick Vilches, Octavio Rodriguez, Rolando Chavez

**Pray for us that we  
may be healed.**

Mary Bodnar, James Bookhardt, Benny Carino, Toby Cash, Kristin Perry Crosby, Maria Gomez, Gilbert Hernandez, Larry Hinson, Pong Holton, Tina Hoover, Sr. Sharon McLaughlin, Roxanne Maini, Kayla Marlow, Margaret Milkas, Don Nolan, Malou Navarro, Rachelle Navarro, Ian Nugent, Lou Pierce, David Powell, Tony Sicari, Dr. Concordio Ursal, Gene Waldron, Ramona Witthoft, A.D. Young, Mary Young

**PLEASE REMEMBER:**

**No Food** to be eaten in classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, Day Chapel or Main Church—food may only be eaten in the Social Hall.

**No hay Comida** Para comer en las aulas, los pasillos, los baños, la capilla diurna y la iglesia principal--solo en salón social.

**CAPÍTULO PARA LA PROTECCIÓN DE NIÑOS**

Visite la página Web de la diócesis para leer el código: [www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection](http://www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection) o 888-357-5330.

**CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN**

Visit website: [www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection](http://www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection)  
Or call 888-357-5330 to report knowledge of abuse.

*Live streaming every weekend*



Please join us for live streaming of all weekend masses and ones of special occasions. Live streaming can watched on FaceBook (St Paul Catholic Church) page and our website page, [stpaulmissions.org](http://stpaulmissions.org) All masses are archieved on our website for viewing anytime.



*St Paul Catholic Church and Missions*

4178 US HWY 441 S  
Douglas, GA 31535

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## AUGUST

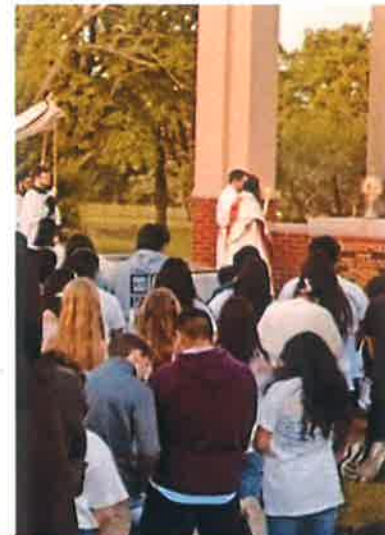
### Month of the Immaculate Heart

## Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

### Devotion of the Month

The Church dedicates the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It is a dogma of the Catholic faith that Mary is the Immaculate Conception; that is, in preparation for the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity in her womb, she was conceived without the corruption of sin through the foreseen and infinite merits of her Son, Jesus Christ. Over the centuries, as saints and theologians reflected on how Mary pondered and treasured the sacred events from the life of Christ in her holy heart, as attested in Scripture, her pure heart was recognized as something to be imitated. Devotion to Our Lady's purity of heart began to flower—so much so that in the 17th century, St. John Eudes promoted it alongside the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion rose to a new level after the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, when Mary revealed an image of her Immaculate Heart to Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco.





# *DIOCESAN JUBILEE GATHERING*

**OCTOBER 11, 2025 | SACRED HEART, WARNER ROBINS**

Adoration • Talks • Live Music • Activities  
Exhibit Tables • Fellowship • Relics  
Mass with Bishop Parkes

*Fun for the whole family – activities for all ages!*

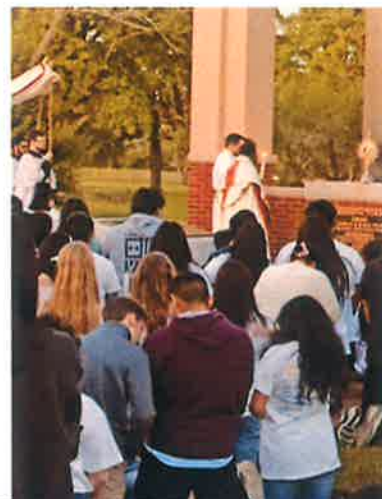
To view the schedule, register to attend, set up  
an exhibit table, or carry a procession banner,  
scan the QR code or visit **diosav.org/10-11**



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH  
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

**FREE – REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
*Includes Lunch*





# CELEBRACIÓN JUBILAR DIOCESANA

11 DE OCTUBRE DEL 2025 | SACRED HEART, WARNER ROBINS

**GRATIS – DEBE REGISTRARSE**

*Almuerzo Incluido*

Adoración • Pláticas • Música en Vivo •  
Actividades • Mesas de Exhibición • Convivencia •  
Reliquias • Misa con el Obispo Parkes

*¡Diversión para toda la familia – actividades para todas las edades!*

**Maestros de Ceremonia:** Padre Kevin  
O'Keefe y Padre John Johnson

**Predicadores:** Padre Brian O'Shaughnessy  
y Madre Adela Galindo, SCTJM

**Mesas de Exhibición:** Aplica para tener una mesa: ¡para parroquias, ministerios, grupos, negocios de artículos religiosos, tiendas religiosas, y más!

**Pancartas para la Procesión:** Parroquias, ministerios, y entidades católicas pueden registrarse para participar con su pancarta en la procesión de apertura que dará inicio con la Adoración



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of SAVANNAH  
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

Para ver la agenda, registrarse para asistir, tener una mesa de exhibición, o tener una pancarta para la procesión, escanee el código QR o visite **diosav.org/10-11**







# CCD ADMISSIONS

## Period 2025 - 2026

Register in person every Sunday in July and August from 10:30 - 12 noon in the lobby.

### Info:

- No registrations on the first day of CCD.
- If space available you may register after the first day of CCD.
- First day of CCD is Sept. 7

### Registration:

- \$50 per child or \$100 per family
- Kindergarten-Adult.
- We also offer classes for children who have taken the sacraments.

Join St Paul CCD!



[www.stpaulmissions.org](http://www.stpaulmissions.org)



912-384-3560



4178 US Hwy 441 S



**INSCRIBETE  
HOY**

Fecha de limite antes  
del 24 de agosto

## admisiones para catequesis para 2025-2026

Regístrate personalmente todos los domingos  
de julio y agosto de 10:30 a 12 medio día en  
el lobby.

### Information:

- No hay inscripciones el primer día de catequesis..
- Si hay espacio disponible, puede registrarse después del primer día de catequesis.
- Primer Dia de clases es el 7 de septiembre

### Registracion:

- \$50 por niño o \$100 por familia
- Kinder a Adultos.
- También ofrecemos clases para niños que han hecho los sacramentos

Unete a la catequesis de San Pablo!



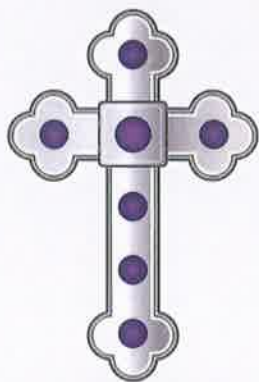
[www.stpaulmissions.org](http://www.stpaulmissions.org)



912-384-3560



4178 US Hwy 441 S



**HARVEST  
of HOPE**

**COSECHA de ESPERANZA**

### WE PRAY TOGETHER

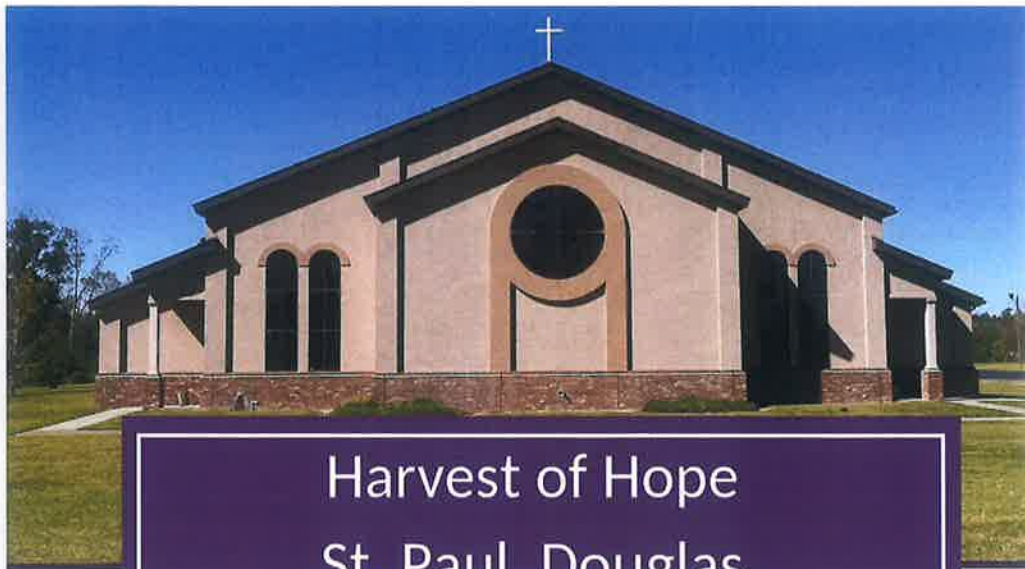
Heavenly Father, who in Your providence have brought us together at this time and in this place, we ask You to guide, inspire, and bless our Diocese of Savannah and the Harvest of Hope campaign.

Provide us, Your children, with the rich soil of faith, hope, and love, that the seeds we are planting now will bear abundant fruit for generations.

As we work together for the full coming of Your kingdom, O Lord, may we find a new way of belonging to You and to one another, rejoicing always in Your generosity.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Planting seeds for the future of  
the Diocese of Savannah*



**Harvest of Hope  
St. Paul, Douglas**

### Benefits of Harvest of Hope

Once the Annual Catholic Appeal of 2025 is met, every dollar will be split in half. 50% of the funds will stay at St. Paul so we can address our air conditioning, make improvements to our church, and reducing the parish debt. The other 50% will give us a \$30,000 endowment so we can grow in the future, a grant we can apply for to further evangelize our community, supporting our seminarians, and finally, obtaining a plot of land centrally located in Georgia where we can gather as Catholics.

### HOW TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN!

In order to achieve our goal, we will need the support of all families. We are asking each family to please make a 3 year pledge to the Harvest of Hope campaign. Any amount will help.

#### If you plan on giving with cash or check:

- The most important part is writing down your address on the pledge card. You will be getting envelopes sent to your address based on the frequency you choose: Monthly, Quarterly or Annually
- All checks are payable to Harvest of Hope

#### If you plan on giving through your debit or credit card:

- You must visit [diosav.org/hope](https://diosav.org/hope) or scan the QR code
- There is more privacy when a donor goes directly online



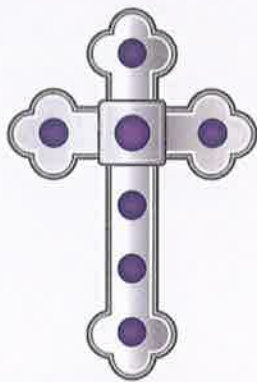
For those who would like to give in an unconventional type of manner like IRA, Stock, or Gifts of Property, please grab one of the Big Packets or email Susan Beke at [sbeke@diosav.org](mailto:sbeke@diosav.org).

**Our Commitment Weekend is August 23-24, bring your pledges that day!**

For more information, please contact our campaign director Bryan Bedoya at

556.200.4676 or [bryan@diosav.org](mailto:bryan@diosav.org)





**HARVEST  
of HOPE**

**COSECHA de ESPERANZA**

### ORAMOS JUNTOS

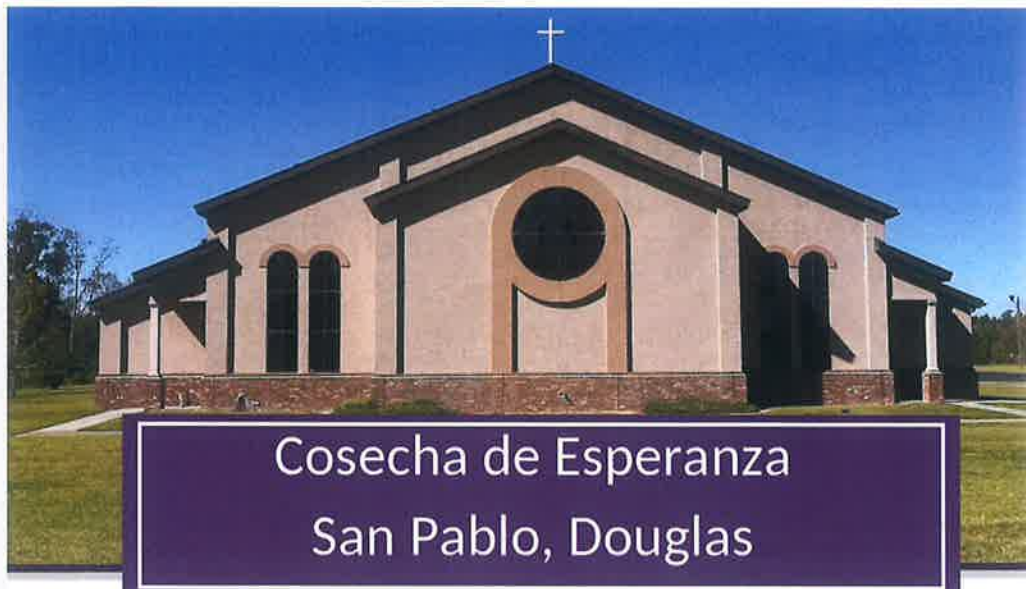
Padre Celestial, que nos has reunido hoy y aquí en Tu providencia, te pedimos guíes, inspires y bendigas nuestra Diócesis de Savannah y la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza.

Otorga Señor a Tus hijos, el terreno rico de la fe, esperanza y el amor, para que las semillas que sembramos hoy den frutos abundantes para las generaciones venideras.

Mientras trabajamos juntos por la venida plena de Tu reino, Señor, que encontremos una nueva forma de ser para Ti y para los demás, regocijándonos siempre en Tu generosidad.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo Nuestro Señor. Amén.

*Sembrando semillas para el futuro de  
la Diócesis de Savannah.*



### Beneficios de Cosecha de Esperanza

Una vez que se alcance el objetivo de la Campaña Católica Anual de 2025, cada dólar se dividirá por la mitad. El 50 % de los fondos se quedará en San Pablo para el aire acondicionado, mejoramiento de nuestra iglesia y pagar la deuda de la parroquia. El otro 50 % nos proporcionará un fondo patrimonial de \$30,000 dólares para que podamos crecer en el futuro; una beca que podremos solicitar para seguir evangelizando a nuestra comunidad, apoyar a nuestros seminaristas y, obtener un terreno céntrico en Georgia donde podamos reunirnos como católicos.

### ¡CÓMO APOYAR LA CAMPAÑA!

Para alcanzar nuestra meta, necesitaremos el apoyo de todas las familias. Pedimos a cada familia que se comprometa a colaborar durante tres años con la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza. Cualquier cantidad será de gran ayuda.

#### Si quieres hacer un compromiso con efectivo o cheque:

- Lo más importante es anotar su dirección en la tarjeta de compromiso. Recibirás sobres de pagos a su dirección.
- Todos los cheques son pagales a la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza.

#### Si quieres hacer un compromiso con su tarjeta de débito o crédito:

- Hay que visitar [diosav.org/hope](https://diosav.org/hope) o escanear el código QR
- Hay más privacidad cuando un donante va directamente en línea



Para aquellos que deseen realizar donaciones de forma menos convencional, como cuentas IRA, acciones o donaciones de propiedades, por favor, recojan uno de los paquetes grandes o envíen un correo electrónico a Susan Beke a [sbeke@diosav.org](mailto:sbeke@diosav.org).

¡Nuestro fin de semana de compromiso es el 23-24 de agosto, comprométase!



# Jubilee 2025

## **We Are Pilgrims of Hope**

On May 9, 2024 Pope Francis solemnly announced that the Church's Jubilee year 2025 "will be a Holy Year marked by a lively experience of grace and an opportunity to be renewed in the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation. May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth, where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises."

"Hope is the virtue that gives inward direction and purpose to the life of believers so that we may bear credible and attractive witness to the faith and love that dwell in our hearts; that our faith may be joyful and our charity enthusiastic; and that each of us may be able to offer a smile, a small gesture of friendship, a kind look, a ready ear, a good deed, in the knowledge that, in the Spirit of Jesus, these can become, for those who receive them, rich seeds of hope."

## **Our Pilgrimage Journey to and with Jesus**

A pilgrimage is both an outer journey to a sacred place, and an inner journey to meet Christ and deepen our relationship with him. Thus Pope Francis desires that this Jubilee Year be a time "to encourage and sustain the hope that guides our steps towards the goal of a genuine, personal encounter with the risen Lord Jesus, who is not only the destination of our earthly pilgrimage but also a constant presence in our lives. I invite everyone to place their trust in the Lord who not only guides us, but is God-with-us, who loves us and walks with us in every circumstance of life. He shows us the path of love, lifts us up when we fall and supports us in our labors, opens our eyes to see our wretchedness and that of the world, but at the same time fills us with hope."



## THE MEANING OF THE JUBILEE LOGO: PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The official logo of the 2025 Jubilee Year shows four colorful pilgrims, who symbolize all of humanity coming from all directions on their common journey to Christ. As they embrace each other in unity, the figure in front grasps the cross, which is the sign of our hope that united with Jesus we will also move through our death to new life. The elongated cross also changes at its base into an anchor, which was an ancient sign of hope because sailors used the anchor to stabilize ships during storms. So during the challenges of our daily lives and the events of the wider world symbolized by the rough waves beneath the pilgrims, hope keeps us focused on the goal of our pilgrimage to draw ever closer to encounter the Risen Christ.



### WHAT IS A JUBILEE YEAR?

The jubilee year (from the Hebrew word *yobel*, meaning horn, which was blown to proclaim the year's beginning) is an ancient Jewish tradition (see Leviticus 25:8-17, 29-31) of pardon and reconciliation celebrated every 50 years (after a "sabbath of sabbaths," 7 x 7 years) when the community imitated God's mercy and forgiveness by forgiving debts and by each family returning to its own land and not cultivating it that year.

This jubilee tradition was first adapted for Catholics in 1300 by Pope Boniface VIII as a universal "year of forgiveness of all sins." Since that time the "ordinary" jubilee years have usually been at 50 or now 25 year intervals (the last was in 2000), with other "extraordinary" jubilee years declared for special reasons like that of Mercy in 2015. Jubilee years are characterized especially by prayer, good works, pilgrimages to sacred sites (especially Rome), cultural events and special indulgences for those who participate.

### THE HOLY DOOR OF ST. PETER'S

Since the 1500's, the ceremonial opening at St. Peter's Basilica of the usually locked massive bronze Holy Door (also called the "Door of the Great Pardon" since its 16 panels portray various biblical scenes of sin and redemption) begins each Jubilee Year. After reciting specific prayers and invoking the Holy Spirit, the Pope pushes open the door and enters the Church, inviting pilgrims likewise to renew their spiritual journey and cross the threshold.



The opening of the Holy Door invites the faithful to embark on a journey of even deeper faith. Crossing the threshold of the door is a powerful act, inspired by Jesus' words in John 10:9, "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture." This passage highlights the transformative experience of entering through the Holy Door, symbolizing the decision to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The door serves as a physical and spiritual gateway, leading pilgrims into the sacred space of the church and inviting them to renew their commitment to their faith.

## 2025 JUBILEE PRAYER PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators  
of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within  
both humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation of a  
new heaven and a new earth, when,  
with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever. *Amen.*



For more information on the 2025  
Jubilee Year of Hope and how you may  
participate more fully see the Vatican's  
official website at  
[www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html](http://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html)



# ST PAUL'S COLUMBARIUM

*St Paul now offers a  
serene and sacred place  
for deceased loved ones.*



**“LET US GO TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD”**

P.S. 122



## Where I Stand

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**O**ne day, as I was walking in a local nature preserve, I came across what someone had written in the sand: "It's time to take a stand."

Though the person never suggested what we should take a stand on, all of us take stands in life. In many ways, those stands define our lives: Republican or Democrat, pro-life or pro-choice, NRA and guns, save the whales, vax or anti-vax, ecology. As we all know so well, where we stand on any given issue can become divisive among friends and even family.

The Scriptures this weekend tell of the prophet Jeremiah, who took a stand of faith against the king who trusted in military arms rather than in God. The Letter to

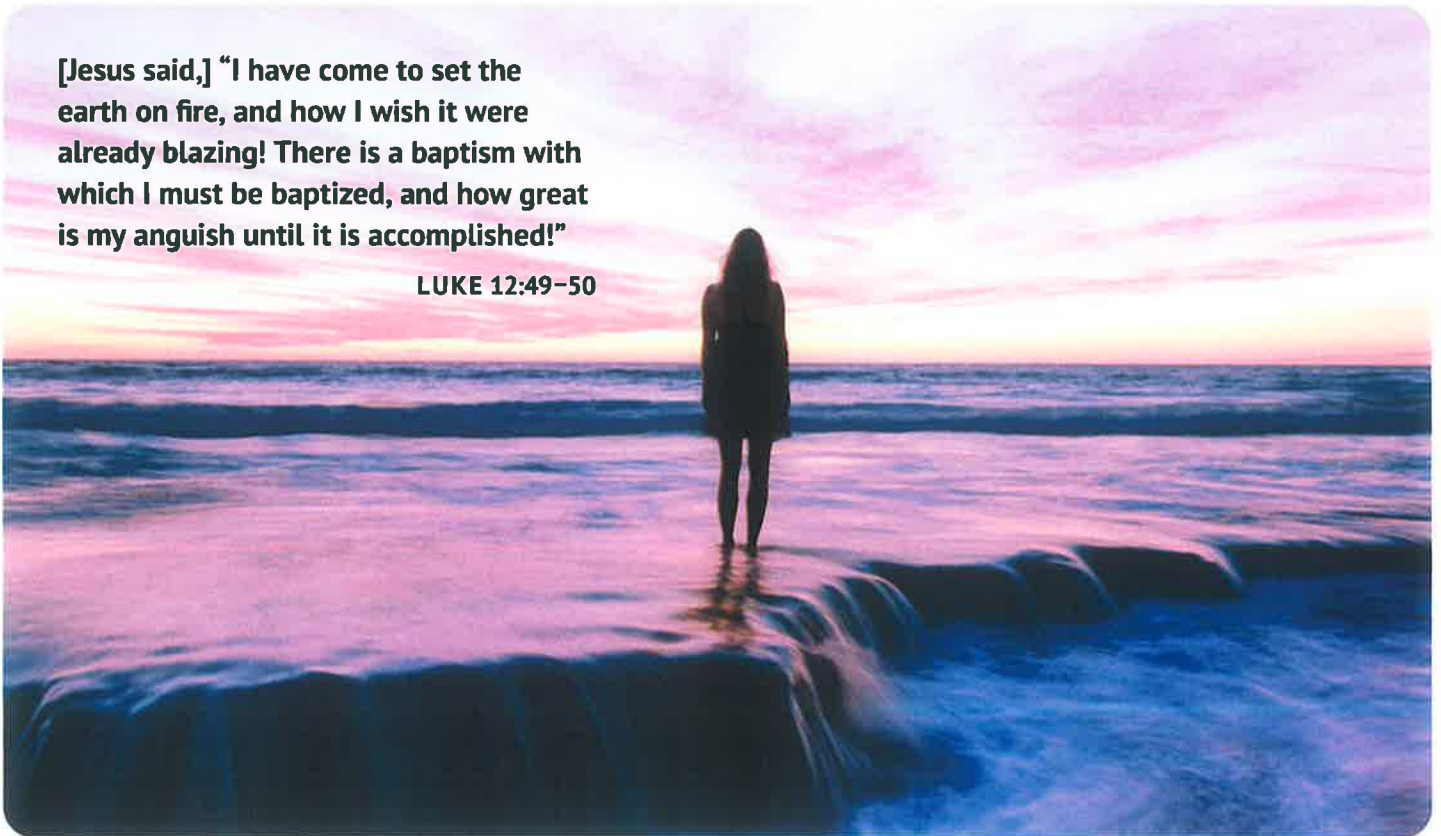
the Hebrews mentions an Old Testament "cloud of witnesses" who placed faith in God without knowing where that would take them. And, Jesus himself recognizes that those who place their faith in him and the vision of life he proclaimed would find themselves in conflict with others. For every person who professes faith in Jesus Christ, the question becomes how this faith affects all the other stands we take. To "keep our eyes fixed on Jesus" influences the lifestyle we choose, how we spend our time and our money, who our friends are, and even who we vote for. At some point, faith insists we take a stand. ●

### Reflect

*How does my faith affect all my other beliefs and practices?*

**[Jesus said,] "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!"**

**LUKE 12:49-50**





# Dear Padre,

## Is “co-redemptrix” a title for the Blessed Virgin Mary?

The Church does not officially regard Mary as a co-redemptrix with Christ. Her “unique holiness...‘from the first instant of her conception’ comes wholly from Christ: she is ‘redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son’” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 492).

According to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the title “co-redemptrix” would “obscure” the origin that “everything comes through Christ,” as written in Ephesians and Colossians. “Mary, too, is everything she is through Him,” stated the future Pope Benedict XVI, adding that “co-redemptrix” is a departure “from the language of Scripture and of the Fathers, and therefore gives rise to misunderstandings.”

Likewise, in 2019, Pope Francis quoted St. Bernard, who said that no praise is sufficient to talk about Mary, but, ultimately, her title as a humble “disciple” best represents Mary’s faithfulness to “her Son, the only Redeemer.” “She never wanted for herself something that was of her Son,” explained the pontiff. “She never introduced herself as co-redemptrix. No. Disciple.”

Pope Francis reiterated the Church’s position on this matter in 2021, saying that Jesus entrusted the universal Church and all the faithful to Mary, “Not as a goddess. Not as a co-redemptrix. As a mother.” Incidentally, “Mother of God” (Greek: *Theotokos*, “God-bearer”) is Mary’s oldest title, established in 431 by the Council of Ephesus. ●

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org**



## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://dearpadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23	August 24
Weekday	Weekday	St. Bernard,	St. Pius X, Pope	The Queenship	Weekday	Twenty-first
Jgs 2:11–19	Jgs 6:11–24a	Abbot and	Jgs 11:29–39a	of the Blessed	Ru 2:1–3, 8–11;	Sunday in
Mt 19:16–22	Mt 19:23–30	Doctor of the	Mt 22:1–14	Virgin Mary	4:13–17	Ordinary Time
		Church		Ru 1:1, 3–6,	Mt 23:1–12	Is 66:18–21
		Jgs 9:6–15		14b–16, 22		Heb 12:5–7,
		Mt 20:1–16		Mt 22:34–40		11–13
						Lk 13:22–30



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***The Gospel does not leave things as they are; when the Gospel... is listened to and received, things do not stay as they are. The Gospel provokes change and invites to conversion. It does not dispense a false intimist peace, but sparks a restlessness that sets us in motion and drives us to open ourselves up to God and to our brothers and sisters.***

**ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 14, 2022**