

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

September 29 – October 5

Thursday: Confessions-6:00pm

Mass-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

September 28 – October 4

Sunday, September 28 – 12:00 Mass- †Antonino
Martinez

Thursday, October 2 - For Our Parishioners, Special
Intention

Friday, October 3 – For Our Students in Religious
Education Classes

**“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**



Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time— Reflection

Today's readings remind us that we must continually be open to God's love and persevere in the love we owe God.

Both the rich and the poor are called to render to God the service due to God. We see in today's Gospel that Lazarus, though suffering, perseveres in loving God faithfully and dies happily. But the rich man clung so strongly to his wealth that he made it his god.

Like the rich man, we can become obsessed with our possessions. As a result, we pray that *God will do our will*, instead of praying that *we do God's will*. That is, we try to use God as a means to our own ends, which is an illusion. God alone is our true end.

Avarice is not the only disordered inclination. There are others such as selfishness, anger, pride or envy. Yet, if we are open to God's love, neither our temperament nor our inclinations can hinder us from persevering in a holy way of life. However, abundant as a water source may be, the water enters a garden in full flow only according to the size of the channel that brings the water into the garden. The Holy Spirit is like a fountain of living water that flows into our hearts so as to spread its grace therein, if we give our consent. It is not grace that fails us, but rather it is we who fail grace. God's enlivening love is never wanting to us if we are willing to receive it.

After his conversion, St. Paul, who was naturally sharp, rude and harsh, became fully open to God's grace. Taking hold of Paul's

natural harshness, God's love made him so much more resolute in the good he undertook, and invincible in all kinds of pains and labors. Is not God's love higher than nature? Persevere, and with God's help, you will arrange all your natural inclinations according to reason. Then you will become attentive to the love you owe God, and all your works will produce fruit that proceed from God's Spirit, the wellspring of our spirit.

Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

FROM HIS HOLINESS, POPE LEO XIV

"Dear brothers and sisters, For God, no place is too far away, no heart is too closed, no tomb too tightly sealed for his love. This consoles us, this sustains us. And if at times we seem to have hit rock bottom, let us remember: that is the place from which God is able to begin a new creation. A creation made of people lifted up, hearts forgiven, tears dried, a silent embrace with which Christ presents all creation to the Father to restore it to his plan of salvation."

--General Audience, St. Peter's Square,



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The first day of Religious Education has begun; class time is 10:30-11:45. Parents still have a limited time to register students.

DONATIONS TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE

The Ladies Auxiliary will be sponsoring donations through November for the Potter's House in Alma for abused women, who often leave home with nothing. Donations of gently used clothing, toiletries, socks, etc. can be placed in a designated container in the narthex.



Vigésimo sexto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario—Reflexión

Las lecturas de hoy nos recuerdan que debemos estar continuamente abiertos al amor de Dios y perseverar en el amor que le debemos.

Tanto los ricos como los pobres están llamados a rendir a Dios el servicio que le es debido. Vemos en el Evangelio de hoy que Lázaro, aunque sufría, perseveró en amar a Dios fielmente y murió feliz. Pero el rico se aferró tanto a sus riquezas que las convirtió en su dios.

Al igual que el rico, podemos obsesionarnos con nuestras posesiones. Como resultado, oramos para que Dios haga nuestra voluntad, en lugar de orar para que hagamos la suya. Es decir, intentamos usar a Dios como un medio para nuestros propios fines, lo cual es una ilusión. Solo Dios es nuestro verdadero fin.

La avaricia no es la única inclinación desordenada. Hay otras como el egoísmo, la ira, el orgullo o la envidia. Sin embargo, si estamos abiertos al amor de Dios, ni nuestro temperamento ni nuestras inclinaciones pueden impedirnos perseverar en una vida santa. Sin embargo, por abundante que sea una fuente de agua, esta entra en un jardín con su caudal solo según el tamaño del canal que la lleva. El Espíritu Santo es como una fuente de agua viva que fluye en nuestros corazones para derramar su gracia en ellos, si damos nuestro consentimiento. No es la gracia la que nos falla, sino que somos nosotros quienes la fallamos. El amor vivificante de Dios nunca nos falta si estamos dispuestos a recibirlo.

Después de su conversión, San Pablo, quien era por naturaleza agudo, rudo y severo, se abrió plenamente a la gracia de Dios. Al apoderarse de la dureza natural de Pablo, el amor de Dios

lo hizo mucho más resuelto en el bien que emprendía, e invencible en todo tipo de dolores y trabajos. ¿No es el amor de Dios superior a la naturaleza? Persevera, y con la ayuda de Dios, ordenarás todas tus inclinaciones naturales según la razón. Entonces estaréis atentos al amor que debéis a Dios, y todas vuestras obras producirán fruto que procede del Espíritu de Dios, fuente de nuestro espíritu.

Oblatos de San Francisco de Sales



EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

El primer día de Educación Religiosa comenzó el domingo pasado, de 10:30 a 11:45. Los padres aún tienen tiempo limitado para inscribir a sus hijos.

DE SU SANTIDAD, EL PAPA LEÓN XIV

“Queridos hermanos y hermanas, para Dios, ningún lugar está demasiado lejos, ningún corazón está demasiado cerrado, ninguna tumba está demasiado sellada para su amor. Esto nos consuela, esto nos sostiene. Y si a veces parece que hemos tocado fondo, recordemos: ese es el lugar desde el cual Dios puede comenzar una nueva creación. Una creación hecha de personas elevadas, corazones perdonados, lágrimas enjugadas, un abrazo silencioso con el que Cristo presenta toda la creación al Padre para restaurarla a su plan de salvación.”

--Audencia General. Plaza de San Pedro.

DONACIONES A LA CASA DEL ALFARERO

La Asociación de Damas patrocinará donaciones hasta noviembre para la Casa del Alfarero en Alma, dirigida a mujeres maltratadas que a menudo se marchan de casa sin nada. Las donaciones de ropa usada en buen estado, artículos de aseo, calcetines, etc., pueden depositarse en un contenedor designado en el nártex.

FYI
~FOR YOUR INFORMATION~

**ST. PAUL'S 9:30 MASS USHERS
FOR OCTOBER**

Anthony Sicari, Jeremy King,
Nestor Galvez, Andrew Smith

NEXT BAPTISM CLASS

The next baptism class is Wednesday, October 15 at 6:00pm in the social hall for parents & godparents who want to baptize their child.

LA PRÓXIMA CLASE DE BAUTISMO

La próxima clase de bautismo será miércoles 15 de octubre a las 6:00pm en el salón social para padres y padrinos. Esto es necesario antes de que los padres puedan comunicarse con la oficina para seleccionar una fecha.



AN ACCOUNT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP

St. Paul

FY Offertory Budget	\$305,000.00
Received to date	88,605.00
Received 9-21-25	6,507.00
FY Bldg Fund Budget	144,000.00
Received to date	7,353.00
Received 9-21-25	35.00

Offertory: Holy Family
Sun. (9-21-25): \$442.00

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, Maria Gomez, Gilbert Hernandez, Larry Hinson, Pong Holton, Tina Hoover, Sandye Jarrard, Sr. Sharon McLaughlin, Roxanne Maini, Kayla Marlow, Margaret Milkas, Don Nolan, Malou Navarro, Ian Nugent, **David Perry**, Lou Pierce, David Powell, Tony Sicari, 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/childyouthprotection o 888-357-5330.

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

Visit website: www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection
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 All masses are archieved on our website for viewing anytime.



St Paul Catholic Church and Missions

4178 US HWY 441 S
Douglas, GA 31535



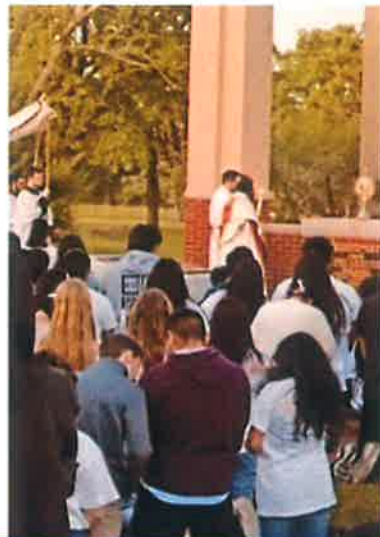
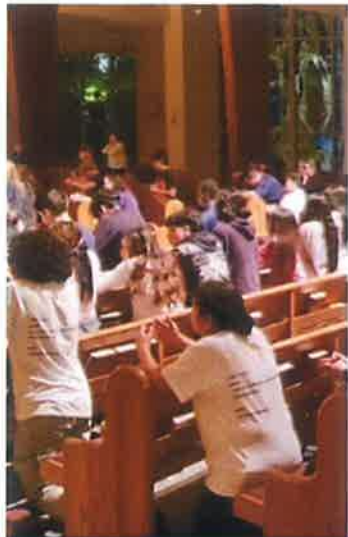
OCTOBER

Month of the Holy Rosary

Month of the Holy Rosary

Devotion of the Month

The Catholic Church designates October as the Month of the Holy Rosary. During this month the faithful venerate the Blessed Virgin Mary especially under her title of Our Lady of the Rosary, and make special effort to honor the Holy Rosary with group recitations and rosary processions. St. Dominic de Guzman, the founder of the Order of Preachers, is the saint to whom Our Lady famously appeared and gave the prayers of the Holy Rosary to assist him as a spiritual weapon in combating heresy and leading souls back to the one, true Catholic faith.



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!

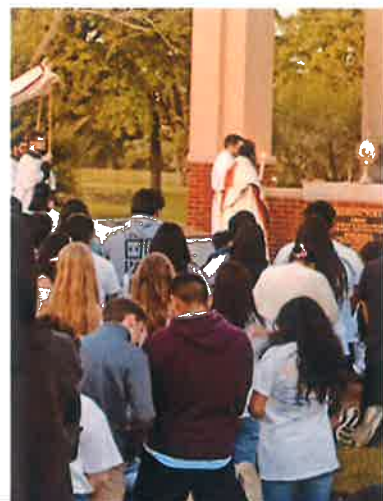
To view the schedule, register to attend, set up
an exhibit table, or carry a procession banner,
scan the QR code or visit **diosav.org/10-11**



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

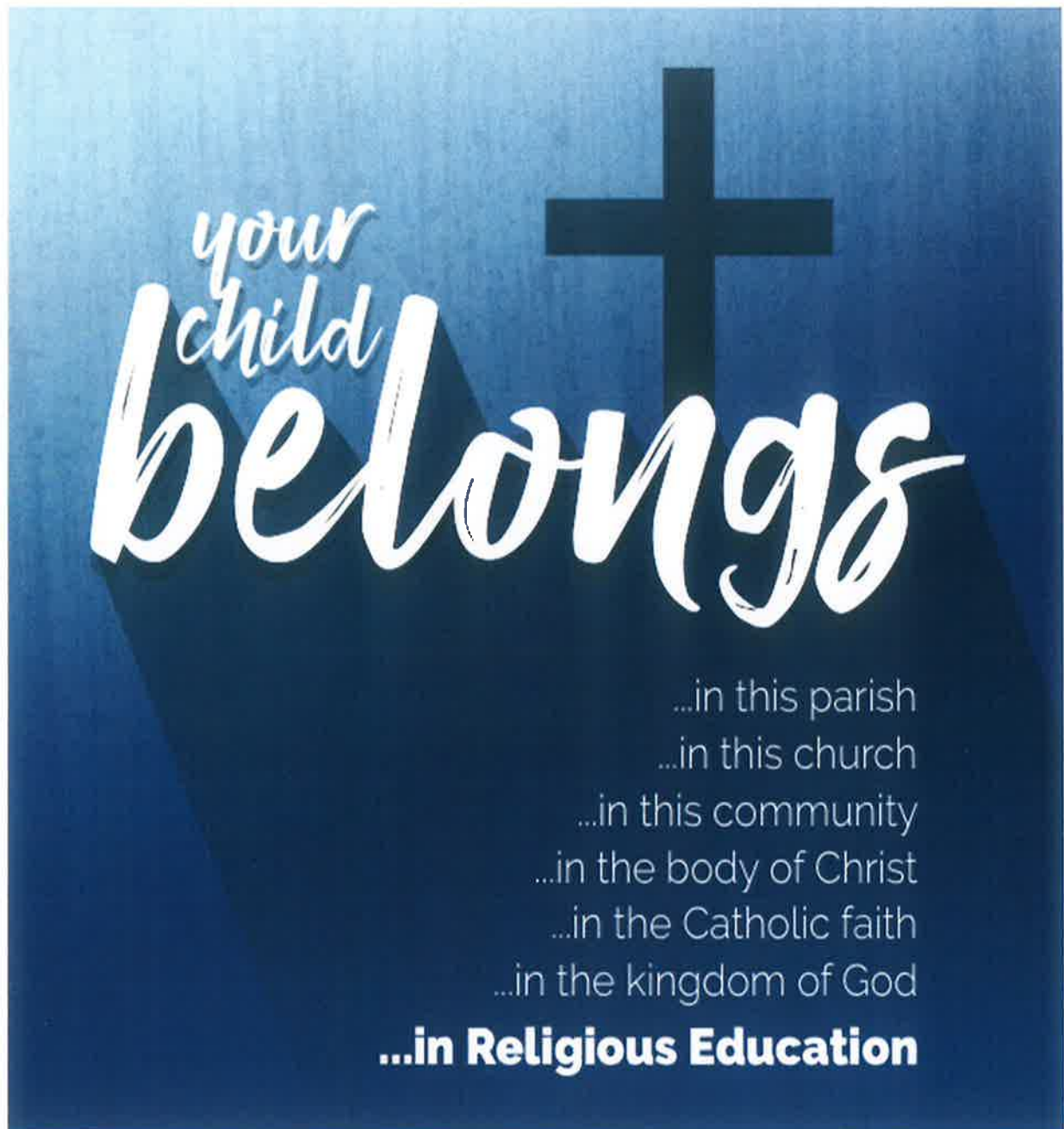
Mesas de Exhibición: Aplica para tener una mesa: ¡para parroquias, ministerios, grupos, negocios de artículos religiosos, tiendas religiosas, y más!

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



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**

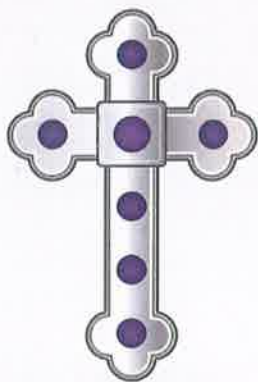




Religious Education classes begin at 10:45

DRE Maria Gomez

CAMPAIGN UPDATE



**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*



CAMPAIGN UPDATE

CAMPAIGN NUMBERS

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge or a donation to the Harvest of Hope campaign!

ST. PAUL, DOUGLAS

- We currently have 145 pledges and donations
- For a total of \$345,704 (The goal is \$275,695)
- This is 125% of our total goal!

HOLY FAMILY, WILLACOOCHEE

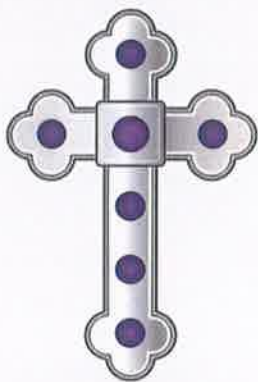
- We currently have 8 pledges and donations
- For a total of \$17,880 (The goal is \$21,496)
- This is 83% of our total goal!

If you have not pledged, join us in order to make this campaign a great success!

As a reminder, the Harvest of Hope campaign is over a 3 year period. If you pledged, you will be having payment envelopes sent to your address. You will be receiving these envelopes at the end of September. We will also have payment envelopes for the campaign here at our church. Don't forget your payments!

Thank you to our office staff who have done such a wonderful job throughout the campaign. A special thank you to Fr. Saimel Perdomo, Janet Benton, Gary Holland, and Nancy Jacobs!

For more information, please contact our campaign director Bryan Bedoya at 512-608-1360 or bbedoya@guidanceingiving.com



**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.



**ACTUALIZACIÓN DE
LA CAMPAÑA**

NÚMEROS DE LA CAMPAÑA

¡Gracias a todos los que se han comprometido o han hecho un donativo a la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza!

SAN PABLO, DOUGLAS

- Tenemos 145 compromisos y donaciones
- Para un total de \$345,704 (La meta es \$275,695)
- ¡Esto es 125% de nuestra meta total!

SAGRADA FAMILIA, WILLACOOCHIEE

- Tenemos 8 compromisos y donaciones
- Para un total de \$17,880 (La meta es \$21,496)
- ¡Esto es 83% de nuestra meta total!

Si aún no te has comprometido con nosotros, ¡únete a la causa para que esta campaña sea un gran éxito!

Como recordatorio, la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza tiene una duración de 3 años. Si se comprometió, se le enviarán sobres de pago a su dirección. Los sobres le llegarán al final de septiembre. También tendremos sobres de pago para la campaña aquí en nuestra iglesia. ¡No olvide hacer sus pagos!

Gracias al personal de nuestra oficina, que han hecho un trabajo maravilloso durante toda la campaña. ¡Un agradecimiento especial para el Padre Saimel Perdomo, Janet Benton, Gary Holland y Nancy Jacobs!

Jubilee 2025

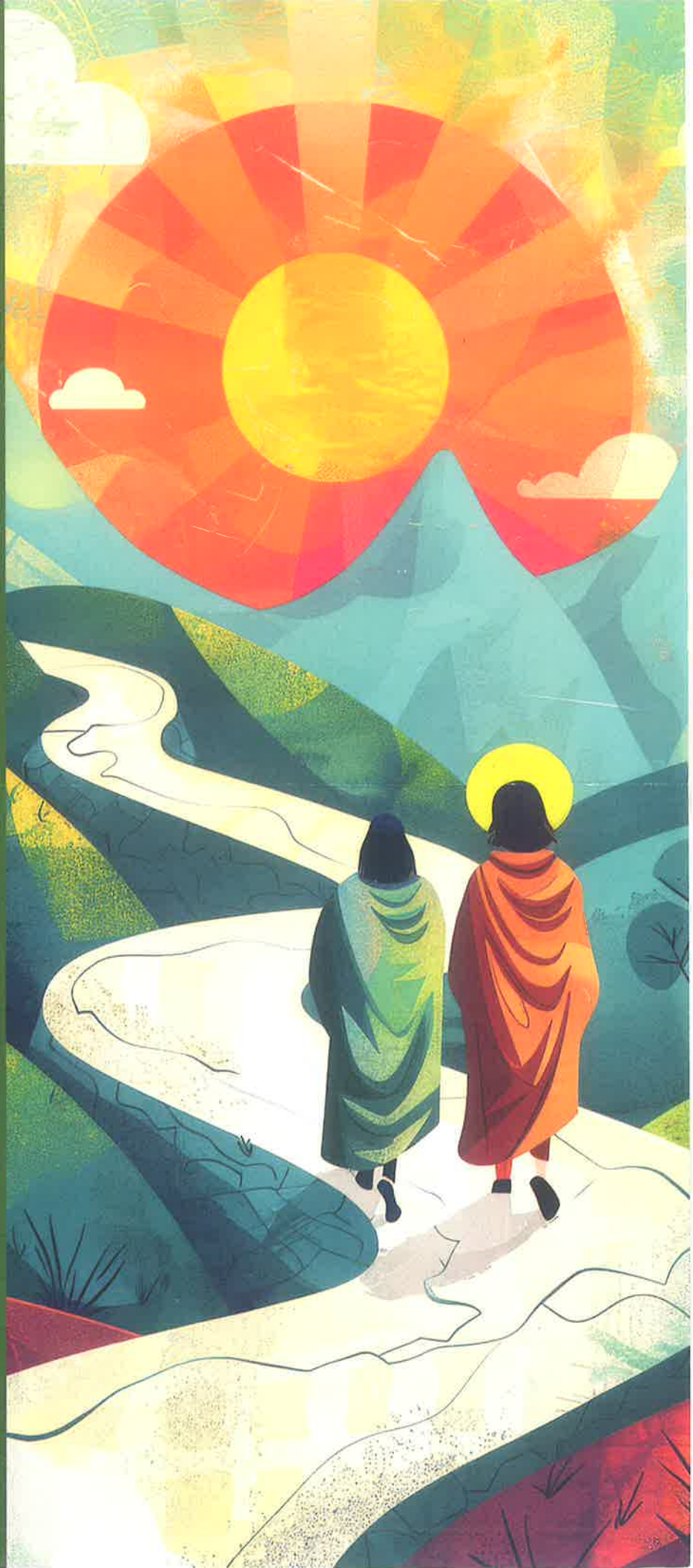
We Are Pilgrims of Hope

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

ST. PAUL'S



RAFFLE CONTEST



SUPPORTING BUILDING FUND

NOVEMBER 8, 2025

1ST PLACE - \$500 GIFT CARD
2ND PLACE - \$300 GIFT CARD
3RD PLACE - \$100 GIFT CARD

DONATION:
\$2 EACH
3 FOR \$5

ST PAUL'S COLUMBARIUM



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

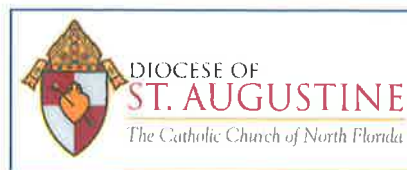
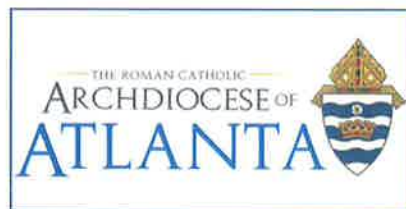


“LET US GO TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD”

P.S. 122

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

- Meet with the Priest is who is to perform the ceremony
- Bring Baptism and Confirmation certificates
- Must complete a pre-Cana (marriage) class either through the Diocese of Savannah, Arch-Diocese of Atlanta or the Diocese of St Augustine.
- Complete all necessary forms
- At least one of the witnesses **must be** Catholic.





Woe to those who
are complacent....
[T]hey shall be
the first to go
into exile.

AMOS 6:1, 7



Adrift

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge found himself confronted by the person he had become: someone forced to accept the reality painted by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. Scrooge hadn't realized how he had slowly drifted into becoming an uncaring and greedy person, unable to show compassion because he never really saw someone else's pain. The story of Ebenezer Scrooge is the story of the rich man in this Sunday's gospel who was unmoved by poor Lazarus, sitting at the gate of the rich man's sumptuous life. They are both stories of human beings drifting into emptiness.

St. Thomas Aquinas suggested that our motivations in life can ultimately be reduced to eight different categories. If we're interested in understanding what sort of people we are becoming, we might ask

ourselves which of these questions best describes our motivation: Am I making my decisions and choices about life based on wealth? Or am I looking to be admired by others and be praised? Is it lasting glory that I seek? Or power so that I can be noted for "making a difference?" Is what I seek a life of ultimate pleasure and comfort? Is it health that I look for? Or perhaps something related to my inner life—some intangible good, like virtue or knowledge? Or is it to see God already in this life what I truly want? It is always a challenge to know our true selves because all too often we may be adrift, unaware of who we are becoming. ●

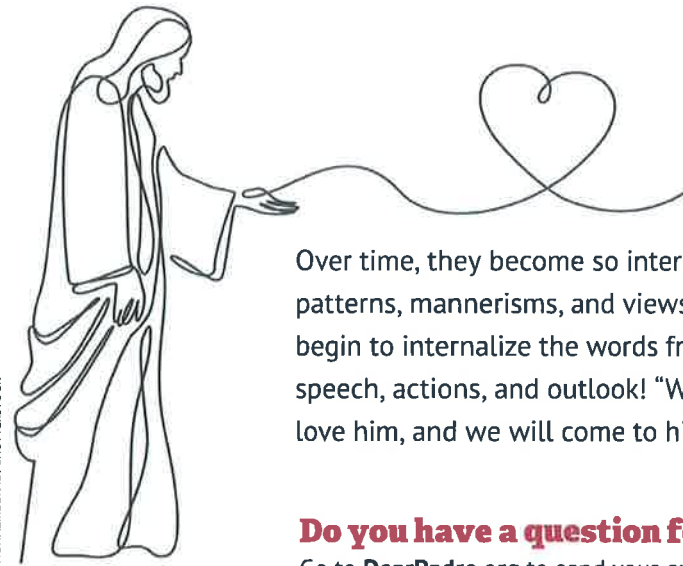
Reflect

Which of St. Thomas Aquinas' questions describes me and my choices?

Dear Padre,

Why does my parish priest preach about love practically every Sunday?

"Through the course of the liturgical year, the homily sets forth the mysteries of faith and the standards of the Christian life on the basis of the sacred text" (*Lectionary*, 24). A translation of the English word "love" appears in the Bible more than 500 times; by comparison, "sin" appears approximately 400 times. Thus, insofar as the homily "should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from sacred Scripture" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 65), God's word on "love" is far too prevalent to overlook.



VONAEUBUN2 / SHUTTERSTOCK

Pope Francis called God's word "a love letter, written to us by the One who knows us best." In the Bible, this God who desires to bestow his love on us (See 1 John 3:1), is essentially telling us, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." How we love God in return may be likened to two partners in a committed relationship.

Over time, they become so intertwined that they can even assume each other's speech patterns, mannerisms, and views. Likewise, for those who love God, over the years we can begin to internalize the words from God's "love letter" and reflect them in our Christian speech, actions, and outlook! "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him" (John 14:23). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



LEONARD ZHUKOVSKY / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

In our day, there is a widespread thirst for justice, a desire for authentic fatherhood and motherhood, a profound longing for spirituality, especially among young people and the marginalized, who do not always find effective means of making their needs known. There is a growing demand for the Church's social doctrine, to which we need to respond.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025

Monday

September 29
Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or
Rv 12:7-12ab
Jn 1:47-51

Tuesday

September 30
St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Zec 8:20-23
Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday

October 1
St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Neh 2:1-8
Lk 9:57-62

Thursday

October 2
The Holy Guardian Angels
Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12
Mt 18:1-5, 10

Friday

October 3
Weekday
Bar 1:15-22
Lk 10:13-16

Saturday

October 4
St. Francis of Assisi
Bar 4:5-12, 27-29
Lk 10:17-24

Sunday

October 5
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4
2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14
Lk 17:5-10