Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

January 1, 2017

Church Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
(727) 726-8477
Fax (727) 799-2062

School Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
(727) 812-4650
Fax: (727) 812-4658

Religious Education Office Hours
Monday -Tuesday 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday - Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
(727) 812-4656
Fax: (727) 812-4658
Parish Information

Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist—Masses
Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. (includes Anointing of the Sick),
Saturday Vigils: 4 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Sunday: 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m.–Family Mass, 10:15 a.m.,
12:00 p.m. & 5 p.m.–Life Teen/Young Adult

Sacrament of Reconciliation
9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.—Saturday
Communal Celebrations during Advent and Lent.
(Special Schedule During Holidays)

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
Every Saturday morning during the 8:30 a.m. Mass,
2nd Thursday at 11:00 a.m. during our Sick & Homebound
Mass, or you may ask the priest after any Mass, or call the
office for an appointment.

Baptisms
Please contact the church office at least 6 weeks in advance.

Weddings
Please contact the church office at least 6 months in advance.

Devotions
First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament —
8:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m. with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Marian Prayers: In honor of
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal —
Mondays after the 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Masses

Rosaries
8:00 a.m. Monday–Saturday, 10:15 a.m. Thursday,
6:30 p.m. following the Thursday Evening Mass.

Parish Staff

Church Office (727) 726-8477
Clergy and Consecrated Religious
Pastor - Reverend Father Len Piotrowski
Parochial Vicars - Reverend Father Frank Lubowa
Reverend Father Brad Reed
Administrative Services - Deacon Vincent P Alterio
Pastoral Ministries - Deacon John Alvarez
Assisting - Deacon Dominic P Friscia
Deacon Steven Girardi
Deacon Greg Nash
Funeral Liaison - Sister Paulamarie Lacy, SND
Bereavement—Sister Donna Daniels, SND
Espiritu Santo Catholic School (727) 812-4650
Principal - Margaret A Penn
Clearwater Central Catholic High School (727) 531-1449
Principal - James W. Deputy (Parish Supported High School)

Pastoral Staff Office (727) 726-8477
Bulletin Editor - Jean Hart
Website - Sonia Romero
Facility & Grounds - Mike Cortese
Liturgy & Music - Jeff FitzCharles
Office Manager - Millie Cantone
Pastoral Care/Faith Formation - Deacon John Alvarez
Sick & Homebound Visitation - Deacon Dom Friscia
RCIA - Deacon Steven Girardi
Stewardship & Family Life Ministries - Tim Bergevin
Youth Ministry (727) 726-3622
Youth Minister Amy Persaud
Religious Education (727) 812-4656
Director of Religious Education Ellen Jones
RE Administrative Assistant Pat Roane

Our Mission and Our Vision

Mission Statement - Who We Are
The welcoming community of Espiritu Santo, inspired by the Holy Spirit, is committed to encountering Christ by
spreading the joy of the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments, serving with compassion, and embracing all on our
journey of faith together.

Vision Statement - Who We Strive To Be
Espiritu Santo Catholic Church and School is a warm and welcoming Eucharist centered parish community reaching
out to all people in their treasured diversity. We support and encourage all people, especially our youth, to grow
and participate more fully in their journey of faith. We actively engage in parish and community ministries that
transform our words of faith into works of compassion, mercy and a commitment to social justice in the one global
family. We envision a stronger commitment to better understand, appreciate and celebrate the joy of the gospel,
the grace of the sacraments and the transformative power of prayer and God’s infinite love.

www.espiritusanto.cc

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com
We are a Sacramental People

Baptism:
- Parents of infants and children six years of age and younger – contact the church office preferably six weeks in advance at baptism@espiritusanto.cc
- Children seven years and older, teens & adults contact: Deacon Steven Girardi for more information at deaconsteven@espiritusanto.cc

First Holy Communion & Confirmation:
- School aged, contact Ellen Jones, Ellen@espiritusanto.cc
- Older teens and adults, contact Deacon Steven Girardi, deaconsteven@espiritusanto.cc

Marriage:
- Contact Tim Bergevin at least six months in advance at Tim@espiritusanto.cc

Holy Orders:
- Contact Father Carl Melchior (727) 345-3452; or email svocation@dosp.org

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 2
8:30 a.m. Margaret Gibson †
No 12:15 or 6:30 p.m. Mass – Parish office is closed.

Tuesday, January 3
8:30 a.m. James Robert Flament †
12:15 p.m. Charlene Lisa Chung †
6:30 p.m. Violet Martin †

Wednesday, January 4
8:30 a.m. Rosemary McCook †
No 12:15 p.m. Mass
6:30 p.m. Anthony Borrelli & Mary Lou Beaulieu †

Thursday, January 5
8:30 a.m. Jane Ogawa †
12:15 p.m. Margaret Cutillo †
6:30 p.m. Edward Caire †

Friday, January 6
8:30 a.m. Mrs. Ethel Karwacki †
12:15 p.m. Edward Liston †
6:30 p.m. Karem Fernandez INT

Saturday, January 7
8:30 a.m. Bernie Flood †

Vigil Masses
4:00 p.m. James J. Galvin †
6:00 p.m. Grant Galvin †

Sunday, January 8
7:00 a.m. Jane Zehnder †
8:30 a.m. For the People INT
10:15 a.m. Edgar Rhoades †
12:00 p.m. Domenica Fragiacomo †
5:00 p.m. Edward Fava †

Sanctuary Candle For this Week
In Memory of: Charlene Lisa Chung
From: Helen Chung

Bread & Wine For this Week
In Memory of: Charlene Lisa Chung
From: Helen Chung

Prayer List
Please pray for those who are suffering from illness in our parish. Prayer list names remain on the prayer list for eight weeks, a call is needed to renew.

Patricia Arias
Regina Belmont
Donald Bishop
Marie Bishop
Jean Cadman
Tu Chung
Chuck Coggin
Jeanne Debeche
Tony Degenaro
Paul Drolet
Joni Giardion-Lopez
Charles Hamlet
Rose Marie Harvey
Lina Hernandez
Anne Hode
Debra Hopke
Tim Keyes
Rose Marie Kirkpatrick

Thomas Kosta
Gloria Krzaczkowski
Gaby Mackenzie
Valerie Murray
Dyanne Musmacker
Maureen O’Brien
Don Pawloski
Gulilermina Rivera
Adeline Ross
Edward Sabourin
Jim Schneider
Fr. Paul Sciarrotta
Lynn Tarrence
Bob Tompas
Mafalda Wintheiser

Sanctuary Candle For this Week
In Memory of: Charlene Lisa Chung
From: Helen Chung
Bishop Gregory L. Parkes Installation Mass

Bishop Gregory L. Parkes will be installed as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of St. Petersburg at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 4, 2017, at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle. The Installation Mass is not open to the public and attendance is by invitation only due to limited seating.

Watch the live video stream of the Installation Mass on the diocesan website. The Mass will also be broadcast live on diocesan radio station WBVM Spirit FM 90.5 (listen online at http://www.myspiritfm.com/).

Vespers (an evening prayer service) will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at St. Timothy Parish in Lutz. Tickets are not required for the Vespers Service – all are invited to attend.

FAQ about the Installation Mass (summary of the Mass and glossary of terms) http://dosp.org/blog/faq-about-the-installation-mass/

Reflection

Reflections on the Scriptures by Jack Conroy, Ph. D - Epiphany

I. Isaiah 60:1-6 Epiphany means "Making Manifest."

Reflection: The Prophet here addresses those who returned from the Exile in Babylon; he sees the resurgence of the Kingdom under God. Notice how often the "Glory" of God is mentioned. To an ancient Hebrew, the "Glory of God" was almost something tangible, almost separable from God Himself. (cf: Exodus 33:22, Ezekiel 3:23, 9:3,10:4). It was a visible manifestation of the Presence of God. The Prophet sees this manifestation in the restored Jerusalem, which will draw everyone in the world to it. At this season, we see the Glory of God, His manifest Presence, in the person of Jesus Christ. And Matthew alludes to this reading when he describes the Magi as bringing gifts of gold and incense.

II. Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 How God reveals Himself

Reflection: This short section of the letter emphasizes the direct character of the source of St. Paul's gospel; the content of this gospel was that the addressees, Gentiles in what is now southwestern Turkey, was that they were not "foreigners, aliens" but that they were part of the People of God and part of His household. It is precisely this openness through Jesus Christ that was unknown in prior days, but is now known through the apostles and the new "prophets" of the church. Remember, the ancient Prophets were God-filled persons who proclaimed the way of the Lord. To what extent are we, ordinary human beings, called to be "prophets" ourselves? The essence of a “prophet” is vastly more the expression of Witness to the Word than foretelling the future. In this sense, our Baptism confers upon us the specific office of “prophets.”

III. Matthew 2:1-12 Gentile, Pagan Kings Recognized His Kingship

Reflection: This is one of the most popular parts of the Nativity narratives, the visit to the Christ Child of the Magi, or Wise Men from the East. Most importantly, we understand that they were Gentiles (prefiguring the mostly Gentile church) and that they recognized, in accordance with ancient traditions, that when great men were born, signs appeared in the heavens, like a new star. This story is not one for scientific evaluation, because it is not written to teach astrophysics. But it is written so that we might understand the message the Evangelist had to express: that the most powerful personages of the Ancient World acknowledged the value of the infant; that King Herod, representing the hostile powers of greed, lust for power and bloodthirstiness, was threatened by this infant child. Herod stands for elements in our world that touch us daily. Often, we don't even realize that when we are manipulative of other persons, when we put economics in front of care with our children, when we injure another’s good name with gossip, we are followers of Herod, and would subvert the Good News brought by the Child. This reading is not about "History," it is about symbols that are as valid today as then.
Prayer of Gratitude for our Volunteers:

We thank each of our wonderful volunteers who assisted us during the Christmas season with decorating and ministering at extra Masses: Decorators, Hospitality (especially those who volunteered to serve who are not regularly in the ministry), Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, Lectors, Music Ministers, Sacristans, small and large Linens Committee, everyone...their presence and generous service made all the difference in the depth and joy of our celebrations. We were surrounded by the beauty their ministries created. Blessings to each of you and your families now and in the year ahead! A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all who donated to our Christmas Flower Fund. Because of your generosity we were able to create beautiful decorations for all of our venues for Christmas Eve Masses: The Main Church, Parish Center and Padua Hall.

Opening up the Catechism of the Catholic Church with Father Frank

Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the John Bosco Center

Next Class will be Jan. 10th

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Moody at bmoody11@tampabay.rr.com

Bereavement Care Ministry

Bereavement Groups Starting: Are you a widow or widower, who is grieving the loss of your spouse? Or a sibling grieving the loss of a brother or sister? Do you want to take a step toward healing and wholeness? Join other widows/widowers or siblings in taking a step to process grief and loss in a six-week program. A group for widows and widowers begins Thursday, January 5, 10:00 a.m. - noon in the Gathering Room. A group for siblings begins on Monday, January 23, 10:00 a.m. - noon in the Gathering Room. For more information, questions or to register, please call Sr. Donna Daniels at 727-212-5565.

The Octave Day of Christmas —Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

The blessing included in the First Reading from the Book of Numbers is one with which most of us are familiar. “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord let His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you…” In the Jewish culture this has been known for centuries as the Aaronic blessing as it was dictated by God Himself to Aaron. It is important to note that it begins with “The Lord bless you.”

All blessings come from God. One error we make is to conclude that blessings always mean happiness or security or prosperity. God knows what blessings we need, even if we do not. The key for us is to be grateful for whatever blessings we may have. That mind set is at the hub of stewardship — knowing all blessings come from the Lord, and our need to be appreciative of them.

To be “kept” by the Lord is to turn our lives over to Him, to know that He is with us and that He loves us, blesses us, and does indeed “keep” us ever in His care. The truth is that to be blessed by God is one of the greatest gifts we can receive. It is available to all of us without exception.

During this continued Christmas season, it is well to remember and repeat the classic statement by the character Tiny Tim in Charles Dickens’ immortal A Christmas Carol: “God bless us, every one,” for certainly He does.

Retrouvaille Weekend

Marriage Troubles? If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you have grown cold and distant; even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it, Retrouvaille can help, as it has helped tens of thousands of others.

Our next program begins February 10-12, 2017. For more information, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 813-906-7705. Not counseling or group therapy. All contacts and names held in strictest confidence.
University of Notre Dame

CHORALE
2017 Winter Tour Concert

Ancient & Traditional Christmas Music
Handel • Beethoven • Schubert • Mendelssohn

6:30 PM • Sunday, January 8, 2017
Espiritu Santo Catholic Church
2405 Philippe Parkway, Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Free and open to the public
Successful students start at Espiritu Santo Catholic School

OPEN HOUSE!
Sunday, January 29th | 9:30 am - Noon
RSVP by calling 727.812.4650 or register online at: www.ESCSchool.org/future-families

Academic Excellence for PK3 through 8th Grade
Safe, Secure Campus | Gifted Program for K-8 | Small Class Size Led by Experienced Faculty
Religion and Values Care to School Spirit | Service to Others Emphasized at All Grade Levels
Wide Variety of Extra-Curricular Activities | Indoor Gymnasium with Professional Performing Arts Stage
Dedicated Cafeteria Space with Hot Lunch Service | Both Free VPK and Wrap-Around VPK Extended Day (After Care) Program | Tuition Assistance Available

ESCSchool.org
Our High School Youth Group will meet in the John Bosco Center - Youth Lounge

Any High School Teen is welcome to join us Sunday Nights after the 5pm Life Teen Mass for faith, fellowship and fun!

**January: High School**

**Sunday, January 1st** - NO YOUTH GROUP

**Sunday, January 8th** - 6-8:00 p.m. “How it Starts” - New Year Life- Night

If anyone is interested in providing meals for the Life-Teen Youth Group for Sundays please contact Amy in the church office.

Our Middle School Youth Group will meet in ESCS Padua Hall - School Gym

Any Middle School Teen is welcome to join us Tuesday nights at 6:15 p.m. (REL-ED) in Padua Hall for faith, fellowship and fun!

**January: Middle School**

**Tuesday, January 3rd** - NO YOUTH GROUP

**Tuesday, January 10th** - 6:15-7:30 p.m. “Epic Universe” 2017 Kick-Off

Check out our Online Calendar at: http://www.espiritusanto.cc/calendar/lifeteen-calendar.html

(*Dates and Times are subject to change)

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Happy New Year!

Christmas break will be from December 18 to Jan. 7. We pray that all our families had a Merry Christmas and looking forward to a Happy New Year! All classes will resume on Sunday, Jan. 8.

Confirmation

Confirmation students should be working on their service hours. Please check your inbox for service hour opportunities sent out through the RE office. Our next session will be on either Sunday, Jan. 8 at 1:00 p.m. or Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 6:00 p.m. in Padua Hall. The student and their sponsor are asked to attend. At this session your Confirmation name form and Letter to the Pastor are due.

First Reconciliation

Each family should be working on the Encounter with Christ Reconciliation book at home with their child. Forgiveness Day will be Saturday, January 21 from 9:00 a.m. – noon. We are looking for parent volunteers to help out that day. If you are available, let Ellen in the RE office know.

Monday 8th grade helps Pinellas Hope

The Monday 8th grade classes made sack lunches to take to Pinellas Hope. These sack lunches will go to help the people in Pinellas Hope have a nutritious lunch and the students to learn about giving their time and talent to those less fortunate than themselves
The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study is making a Pilgrimage of Faith and listening to God’s voice speaking to us as we study the Book of Exodus and journey with the Israelites under the leadership of Moses to the Promised Land. Our study resumes on Wednesday, January 4th with Chapter 15 as the Israelites journey into the wilderness. We are inviting all to prayerfully consider joining us each Wednesday morning in the DuBois Center at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Dunedin beginning at 9:30 a.m. with hospitality, starting the study at 9:45 a.m. and ending our lesson at 11:30 a.m. Our study is for both men and women and continues through April 5th. For more information you can contact Carol at 727-784-6147 or Mary at 727-791-3240 or visit our website at www.thecornerstonescripturestudy.org. Come join us to study, connect and be transformed.

Baptism Class
Saturday, January 7th in John Bosco Center 9:30 a.m.
Baptism is the first sacrament of the Catholic Church that your child will receive. Expectant parents or parents of infants and children six and under are invited to our next baptism orientation class.
To register or for additional information, please call 727-726-8477 ext. 324 or email the baptism ministry at baptism@espiritusanto.cc

Praying with the Scriptures
We meet on Friday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the gathering room to reflect and pray with the following Sunday Gospel. Lectio Divina has been used to pray and reflect since the early Church. It is a way to slow down and reflect on the message of the Gospel and how it applies to our daily lives. It is a recommended way to prepare for Sunday Mass. Our next meeting will be on Friday January 6. For information call Anna at 727-712-9090

Looking for a Giving Opportunity?
Charitable IRA Distributions
Individuals over age 70 1/2 can make annual tax free distributions in 2016 of up to $100,000 from their IRAs directly to a qualified charity. Individuals who are looking to make charitable contributions may prefer to use IRA money to make their contributions so that normally taxable distributions from their IRAs can be made tax-free and these distributions can count toward their IRA required minimum distribution for the year. If you are considering a year end charitable contribution, please contact Tim Bergevin, Director of Stewardship and Development at the Church Office, 727-726-8477 x326.

Women of Espiritu Santo
Wine Glass Paint Night with Friends
Please join us for an evening filled with friends, fun, wine, delicious appetizers and desserts.
“Uncork” your “inner-Michelangelo” as you follow along with the instructor. No art experience is needed. All wine glasses and painting supplies will be provided.
Saturday, January 14, 2017
7 – 9 p.m. Parish Center
$10 Donation
All proceeds support the Espiritu Santo Youth Ministry.
Please RSVP by Monday, January 9 to Katie Gonsch @ katiep5110@gmail.com (727) 415-4177 or purchase tickets after Mass the weekend of January 7/8.

Due to Holiday printing deadlines we will not be able to publish our Weekly Offertory Giving for the next few weeks.
Serving fellow Parishioners for Thirty Years

JOE WATSON REALTY

Office: (727) 726-4530
Cell: (727) 252-9762
Email: joewatson@msn.com

View Our Parish Supporters @ DiscoverMass.com