



Church of the LITTLE FLOWER



BULLETIN/BOLETIN

DECEMBER 15TH
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

15 DE DICIEMBRE
TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO



PASTOR

REV. MANUEL F. ALVAREZ

PAROCHIAL VICAR

REV. LUIS A. FLORES

PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE PERMANENT DEACONS

REV. JUAN ESCAMEZ
REV. STEPHEN SAAWUAN
REV. FIDELIS UKO

DEACON JORGE ALVAREZ
DEACON ROBERTO FLEITAS
DEACON MIGUEL PARLADE

Together, Worshipping the Lord, Forming Disciples, Serving in the Name of Jesus
Juntos, Adorando al Señor, Formando Discípulos, Sirviendo en Nombre de Jesús

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday

Time	Language
6:15 am	English
8:00 am	English
5:30 pm	Español

Saturday, December 21st

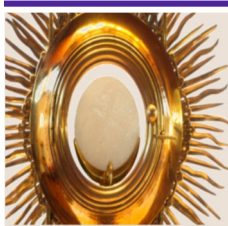
Time	Language	Presider
8:00 am	English	Fr. Angulo
5:00 pm	English	Fr. Stephen

Sunday, December 22nd

Time	Language	Presider
7:30 am	English	Fr. Uko
9:00 am	English	Fr. Flores
10:30 am	English	Fr. Manny
12:30 pm	Español	Fr. Manny
5:30 pm	English	Fr. Flores

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays, 8:30 am - 10:00 am in the Church
or by appointment at the Reilly Parish Center



The Blessed Sacrament
is exposed every
weekday morning from
9:00 am to 12 Noon
in the
Parish Office Chapel.



CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER - REILLY PARISH CENTER

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Address

2711 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Contact

(305) 446-9950
www.cotlf.org



OFFICE STAFF

Mrs. Irma Aguilar - Ext 314
Business Manager

Mrs. Maria Elena Chialastri - Ext 306
Administrative Assistant to the Pastor
Office Manager

Mr. Luis Cuza - Ext 308
Associate Director of Music
Parish Resource Officer

Mr. Juan del Sol - Ext 311
Weddings Coordinator

Dr. Dawn Fontana - Ext 305
Director of Liturgical Music

Mr. Jorge Perez - Ext 318
Director of Advancement & Stewardship

Ms. Jessica Rodriguez - Ext 300
Receptionist
COTLF Charities Coordinator

Mr. Jorge Santibáñez - Ext 307
Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry
Parish Ministries Coordinator
Bulletin Editor

Mrs. Annette Perez - Ext 302
Curator of Records
Virtus Training Coordinator

Maintenance/Custodial - Ext 309
Mr. Rene Denis
Mrs. Nubia Vivas
Mr. Jose Zuniga



SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Address

2701 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Contact

(305) 446-1738
www.stscg.org

Administered by the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of LA - Sr. Rosalie, Principal

SACRED STEPS | SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS AT COTLF



Welcome to the Catholic Church!
Congratulations to our Newly
Baptized:

- ♦ Lily Marie Mesa
- ♦ Steven Michael Pita, Jr.
- ♦ Lucas Andres Richardson
- ♦ Luna Bella Rodriguez



Congratulations and God's
Blessings to those Joined in
Holy Matrimony:

- ♦ Alexander Mora & Vanessa Paz



Rest in Peace. We Pray for those
who have Entered Eternity:

- ♦ Isabel Riley Ramirez
- ♦ Rosa Casuso Martinez
- ♦ Arturo Alvarez

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

- Private on Saturdays or Group on Sundays at 2:00pm. Arrangements must be made with the Parish Office at least two (2) months in advance.
- Privados los sábados o en grupo los domingos a las 2:00 pm. Arreglos se deben hacer en la oficina por lo menos con dos (2) meses de anticipación.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY

- Arrangements must be made with the Parish Office at least six (6) months in advance.
- Arreglos de bodas se deben hacer en la oficina por lo menos con seis (6) meses de anticipación.

SIGNS OF OUR STEWARDSHIP

DECEMBER 8, 2019



Attendance 2,100

In-Church Adult Collection.....	\$6,342
Loose Collection	\$3,047
Late, Drop-off, Mail-in	\$2,771
Children's Collection	\$455
Online Giving	\$7,515
Devotional Lights	\$1,350
Poor Box/Charities	\$135

Thank you for your generosity!
¡Gracias por su generosidad!

Grand Total

\$21,615

READINGS OF THE WEEK LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Sunday/Domingo:	Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11
Monday/Lunes:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday/Martes:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday/Miercoles:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Thursday/Jueves:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Friday/Viernes:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday/Sabado:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Sunday/Domingo:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 15th

Third Sunday of Advent - "Gaudete Sunday"

7:30 am	Elizabeth Diskin
9:00 am †	Arnold V Nuñez & Elsa Nuñez
10:30 am	Missa Pro Populo <i>For All Members of the Parish Family</i>
12:30 pm †	Virgilio Diaz
5:30 pm †	Living & Deceased Members of the Centurion-Lopez & Oña-Perkins Families

Monday, December 16th

Monday of Week III of Advent

6:15 am	Wynne Connell
8:00 am †	Juan Menendez
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Tuesday, December 17th

Tuesday of Week III of Advent

6:15 am	Wynne Connell
8:00 am	Birthday of Ann Taylor Booher
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Wednesday, December 18th

Wednesday of Week III of Advent

6:15 am	Wynne Connell
8:00 am †	Omaida Cruz
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Thursday, December 19th

Thursday of Week III of Advent

6:15 am	Gilberto Villasmil
8:00 am	In Thanksgiving: Alberto Paz & Family
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Friday, December 20th

Friday of Week III of Advent

6:15 am	Gilberto Villasmil
8:00 am	Santibáñez Family Intentions
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Saturday, December 21st

Memorial of St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:00 am †	Humberto J. Lopez & Maria Antonia Clark Lopez
5:00 pm †	Julian Morales

Sunday, December 22nd

Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 am	Christopher Guerrero
9:00 am	Perlita Dominguez
10:30 am	Missa Pro Populo <i>For All Members of the Parish Family</i>
12:30 pm †	Lillian E. Cabrera
5:30 pm †	Perfecto R. Arango

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, December 15th

9:00 am	Scouts Mass - C
2:00 pm	Baptisms - C

Monday, December 16th

7:00 pm	Bible Study - RPC
7:00 pm	Cristo en Cuba - CH
7:30 pm	Emaus de Hombres - RPC

Tuesday, December 17th

9:15 am	ESL Classes - RPC
7:00 pm	RCIA - RPC
7:00 pm	Legion of Mary - LH
8:00 pm	Charismatic Prayer Group - RPC

Wednesday, December 18th

7:00 pm	Advent Confessions - C
7:00 pm	Talleres de Oración y Vida - RPC
7:30 pm	Women's Emmaus - RPC
7:30 pm	Grupo de Oración Carismático - RPC
7:30 pm	Legion de Maria (Español) - LH

Thursday, December 19th

7:00 pm	Cursillos - RPC
7:00 pm	Cub Scouts - CAF
7:30 pm	Men's Emmaus - RPC
7:30 pm	Boy Scouts - SCT

Friday, December 20th

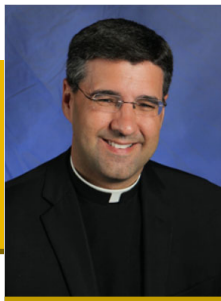
7:30 pm	Grupo de Oración Carismático - RPC
---------	------------------------------------

Saturday, December 21st

8:30 am	Confessions - C
10:30 am	Baptisms - C
3:00 pm	Wedding: Jesus A. Briceno & Faviola M. Angulo
6:45 pm	Wedding: Jorge Peñalver-Lopez & Marie Joelle Pitteloud

Sunday, December 22nd

2:00 pm	Baptisms - C
---------	--------------



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My dear friends,

This past Tuesday we started building the Nativity scene that is placed under our Blessed Mother in our church. I always chuckle when I overhear a child point out that Baby Jesus is missing. Parents, and sometimes the priest, have to explain to them that we are waiting until Christmas when Jesus is born to put the figure of the Christ Child in the manger. Obviously they get confused when they go outside and see Jesus in our life sized Nativity, but inside the church and in most of our homes we wait for Christmas to place Jesus in the manger. That's how it was in my house growing up. Some children agree while some don't buy it because they see a Nativity scene that is incomplete and missing the very reason why it is called a Nativity scene: there's a newborn child that is supposed to be the center of attention. The missing Jesus in the manger is a wonderful lesson and image to prepare us during this Advent season. Since this is a penitential season, we have to realize that Jesus is missing in so many aspects of our lives when he should be the center of our life and, well, our everything.

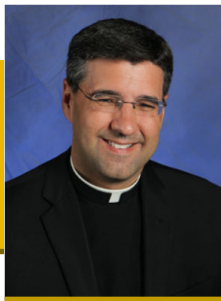
Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday or the Sunday of Joy as we rejoice because we are drawing closer to Christmas. As a priest, I am saddened when I see so many who live joyless lives because they are missing Jesus in their lives. They think they're happy when they fill the holes in the hearts with the things of this world, but they're just fooling themselves because without Jesus Christ there isn't true and authentic joy in our life. Every Advent, one of my brother priests that I used to serve with uses a beautiful prayer and meditation to light the Advent candles as Mass begins. This Sunday's meditation goes to the heart of the necessity of joy in our lives and it reads as follows: "Today we light the candle of joy. This should be the one [that reminds us that] joy is all around us—in the children, the lights, the music, the gathering together. But how often do we let our preparations—or our memories—push joy to the side? Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within

us, but joy is also a choice, an attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So today we open ourselves to joy trusting that God has already planted it in us. All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share."

Of course God has given us cause for joy. That's what we are preparing for this Advent because Christ is the cause of our joy! If joy is missing in your life, it's probably because Jesus is missing in your life as well just like he is missing from our Advent Nativity scene inside our church. We gaze upon the manger and realize that we need this Child in our lives. We need the joy the Newborn Christ gives. So many walk through life like zombies in the darkness with no joy, no soul, all dead inside because sin has consumed them. This is when we must recognize that this Child, small as he is, is far more powerful than any sin or any darkness that may be consuming us. Just as a newborn child brings joy to any family, this Newborn Christ Child is the cause of our joy as a Church because he comes to bring light to the darkness and break the chains of sin once and for all. We must be open to this joy. As the meditation says, joy is like a muscle that must be exercised, and no matter what personal hardships we may be going through we must choose to be joyful because our Lord is more powerful than any problem we may have, and his mercy is greater than any sin we may have committed. Sin gets in the way of true joy. We are blessed that this Wednesday night at 7pm, we will have our Advent Penitential Service with Individual Confessions. A clean, pure and joyful soul is the greatest gift we can receive during this season. We must be a joyful people who walk with Christ wherever we go. If he is missing from any aspect of our life, we still have 9 shopping days left to search for that missing Jesus who longs to reign in our hearts.

God bless you all,

Fr. Manny



DEL ESCRITORIO DE NUESTRO PARROCO

Mis Queridos Amigos,

El martes pasado comenzamos a construir el nacimiento que se coloca debajo de nuestra Santísima Madre en nuestra iglesia. Siempre me río cuando escucho a un niño señalar que falta el Niño Jesús. Los padres, y algunas veces el sacerdote, tienen que explicarles que estamos esperando hasta la Navidad cuando Jesús nazca para poner la figura del Niño Jesús en el pesebre. Obviamente se confunden cuando salen y ven a Jesús en nuestra Natividad de tamaño natural, pero dentro de la iglesia y en la mayoría de nuestros hogares esperamos la Navidad para colocar a Jesús en el pesebre. Así fue en mi casa mientras crecía. Algunos niños están de acuerdo, mientras que otros no lo creen porque ven una escena de la Natividad que está incompleta y pierden la razón misma por la cual se llama una escena de la Natividad: hay un niño recién nacido que se supone que es el centro de atención. El Jesús que falta en el pesebre es una lección e imagen maravillosa para prepararnos durante esta temporada de Adviento. Como esta es una temporada penitencial, tenemos que darnos cuenta de que Jesús falta en muchos aspectos de nuestras vidas cuando debería ser el centro de nuestra vida y, bueno, nuestro todo.

Hoy celebramos el domingo de Gaudete o el domingo de alegría cuando nos regocijamos porque nos estamos acercando a la Navidad. Como sacerdote, me entristece ver a tantos que viven sin alegría porque extrañan a Jesús en sus vidas. Piensan que son felices cuando llenan los huecos en los corazones con las cosas de este mundo, pero se están engañando a sí mismos porque sin Jesucristo no hay gozo verdadero ni auténtico en nuestra vida. Cada Adviento, uno de mis hermanos sacerdotes con el que solía servir usa una oración y meditación hermosa para encender las velas de Adviento cuando comienza la Misa. La meditación de este domingo llega al corazón sobre la necesidad de alegría en nuestras vidas y dice lo siguiente: "Hoy encendemos la vela de la alegría. Esta debería ser la que [nos recuerda que] la alegría nos rodea: en los niños, las luces, la música, las reuniones. Pero, ¿con qué frecuencia dejamos que nuestros preparativos, o nuestros recuerdos, empujen la alegría a un lado? La alegría es como un manantial subterráneo que brota dentro de nosotros, pero la alegría también es una elección, una actitud.

Como un músculo, necesita ser ejercitado. Así que hoy nos abrimos a la alegría confiando en que Dios ya la ha sembrado en nosotros. Todo lo que necesitamos hacer es cuidarla y ofrecerla para compartirla".

Por supuesto que Dios nos ha dado motivo de alegría. ¡Eso es lo que estamos preparando para este Adviento porque Cristo es la causa de nuestro gozo! Si falta alegría en su vida, probablemente se deba a que Jesús también falta en su vida al igual que él no está en nuestra escena de la Natividad de Adviento dentro de nuestra iglesia. Contemplamos el pesebre y nos damos cuenta de que necesitamos a este Niño en nuestras vidas. Necesitamos la alegría que da el Cristo recién nacido. Muchos caminan por la vida como zombis en la oscuridad sin alegría, sin alma, muertos por dentro porque el pecado los ha consumido. Aquí es cuando debemos reconocer que este Niño, pequeño como es, es mucho más poderoso que cualquier pecado o cualquier oscuridad que pueda estar consumiéndonos. Así como un niño recién nacido trae alegría a cualquier familia, este Niño Jesús recién nacido es la causa de nuestra alegría como Iglesia porque viene a traer luz a la oscuridad y romper las cadenas del pecado de una vez por todas. Debemos de estar abiertos a esta alegría. Como dice la meditación, la alegría es como un músculo que debe ejercerse, sin importar las dificultades personales que estemos atravesando, debemos elegir estar alegres porque nuestro Señor es más poderoso que cualquier problema que podamos tener, y su misericordia es mayor que cualquier pecado que hayamos cometido. El pecado se interpone en el camino de la alegría verdadera. Tenemos la bendición de que este miércoles por la noche a las 7pm, tendremos nuestro Servicio Penitencial de Adviento con Confesiones Individuales. Un alma limpia, pura y alegre es el mejor regalo que podemos recibir durante esta temporada. Debemos ser personas alegres que caminan con Cristo donde quiera que vayamos. Si él falta en algún aspecto de nuestra vida, todavía nos quedan 9 días de compras para buscar a ese Jesús desaparecido que anhela reinar en nuestros corazones.

Que Dios los bendiga a todos,

TOGETHER | JUNTOS

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINES OF FRANCE

Including visits to Lourdes, Lisieux, the Normandy Beaches, Mont St. Michel, Rouen & Paris

July 20 - 30, 2020 - Under the Spiritual Direction of Fr. Manny Alvarez.

This wonderful experience is selling fast!

An Information Meeting for all interested travelers will be held on Thursday, January 9th, 2020 at 6pm in Comber Hall. For more details, please contact Irma Aguilar at the Parish Office - (305) 446-9950, Ext 314.



HOLY LAND 2020 PILGRIMAGE UPDATES

The pre-departure meeting for the **January/February 2020** Holy Land Pilgrimage with Fr. Michael Davis will be held on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:30pm in Comber Hall. Get your itinerary schedules, airline tickets, name tags, insurance certificates, and Holy Land book.

Only a few seats remain for the **March 2020** Holy Land Pilgrimage with Father Flores. Contact Irma Aguilar at (305) 446-9950, Ext 314 for more information or to place a deposit and guarantee your spot!



COTLF PARISH PRAYER LIST

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| ♦ Luz Angela Gallo | ♦ Michele Luciano | ♦ Rene Monteagudo | ♦ Pat Ayala |
| ♦ Robert Sanchez | ♦ Dean Carr | ♦ Alex Lacca | ♦ Eddy Sanchez |
| ♦ Cristina Sierra | ♦ Ana Isabel Herrera | ♦ Gilda de Armas | ♦ Porfirio Ponce |
| ♦ Jennifer Yudice | ♦ Maria de Cardenas | ♦ Sean Stockhausen | ♦ Barbara Fernandez |
| ♦ Elisa and Enrique Massens | ♦ Juan Carbonell | ♦ Hugo Guilarte | ♦ Nicholas Cirillo |
| ♦ Ofelia Sotomayor | ♦ Manny Nuñez | ♦ Maria Guilarte | ♦ Jose "Ricky" Suarez |
| ♦ Gloria L.V. Keigans | ♦ Elena Garcia | ♦ Aristides Rivera | ♦ Riley Valentina |
| ♦ Crystal Martin | ♦ Bob Needham | ♦ Lee Ramirez | ♦ Jake Duque |
| ♦ Frances Shaheen | ♦ Augustus Riley | ♦ Lillian Maribona | ♦ Daniel Martin |
| | ♦ Yolanda Martos | ♦ Otto Crombet | |

Need to add a name to our parish prayer list? Please contact Jorge Santibáñez at the Parish Office.



WORSHIPPING THE LORD | ADORANDO AL SEÑOR

Parish Christmas Schedule 2019

Tuesday, December 24th

4:30pm - *Children's Program*

5:00pm - *English Family Mass*

7:00pm - *English Mass*

11:30pm - *Christmas Cantata*

12:00am - *Bilingual Midnight Mass*

Wednesday, December 25th

9:00am, 10:30am, and 5:30pm - *English*

12:30pm - *Spanish*



ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 18th

7:00pm - 9:00pm, *Church*

Saturday, December 21st

8:30am - 10:00am, *Church*

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Tuesday, December 31st

Vigil of Mary, Mother of God; New Year's Eve

5:30pm *Bilingual Mass*

Wednesday, January 1st

Mary, Mother of God; New Year's Day Masses

9:00am, 10:30am, 5:30pm

Misa, Dia de Maria, Madre de Dios; Año Nuevo

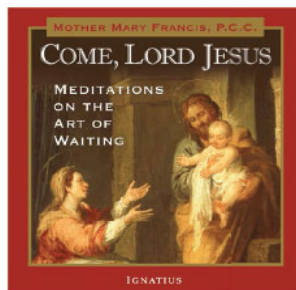
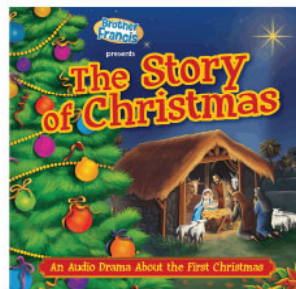
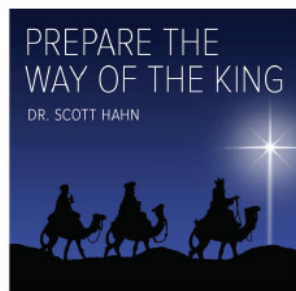
12:30pm

FORMED®



December 2019 Recommendations

ADVENT



Discover all the best Catholic content in one place. Entertaining movies, programs, talks, audio dramas, and ebooks - just a click away!

Sign up for free at formed.org/signup

THE COTLF GIVING TREE

Throughout this season of Advent, parishioners are invited to bring **new** and **wrapped** gifts to the COTLF Giving Tree, which is located in the vestibule/entrance of the Church, by the Ushers' closet. Please be sure to mark donated gifts with a tag identifying the appropriate age range of the recipient and whether the gift would be suitable for a boy or for a girl.

All donated gifts are collected by Sr. Eva and the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. Your generosity in support of those on the margins of our local community is greatly appreciated!



COTLF Charities

DO YOU KNOW WE HAVE A POOR BOX?

Though sometimes hard to find, our Poor Box is located in the vestibule/entrance of the church, inside the back wall, near the Saint Anthony statue.

100% of the gifts and donations placed in the Poor Box are utilized to assist the poor, the needy, and those in emergency circumstances of our parish and within our parish territory, through the good work of our "COTLF Charities" Ministry.

Thank you for considering providing a gift of support to assist the most vulnerable.



COMING SOON: ST. AUGUSTINE BUS TRIP

Join us on our next Parish Bus Pilgrimage to Historic St. Augustine on March 18th and 19th, 2020! Visit, tour and celebrate Mass at the Shrine of our Lady of the Leche/Mission Nombre de Dios, where the first Catholic Mass in what is known as North America was celebrated. Visit the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park, enjoy a delicious dinner at the world renowned Columbia Restaurant founded in 1905 and still run by the same Hernandez Family for the past 114 years, and close with a tour of and Mass at the Basilica of St. Augustine.

Trip pricing will include all meals, transportation, entrance fees, hotel and tips. Private room is \$340. Double occupancy is \$285 per person. To reserve a spot, a \$100 nonrefundable deposit is required. The balance will not be due until February 14, 2020.

Bulletin # 514210.121519
Church of the Little Flower
2711 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134
(305) 446-9950

Contact: Jorge Santibáñez
JSantibanez@cotlf.org
Ext 307

MS Publisher 365 Pro Plus
Adobe Acrobat 2017 Standard

MESSAGES: