



ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

We Are Ambassadors for Christ



December 22, 2024

4th Sunday of Advent

PASTOR

Fr. Alfonso Cely
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ASSOCIATE

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DEACONS

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Deacon Frank Morano
Deacon Steven Ramos
Deacon Jairo Rosario

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Ed Phillipp

Master of Ceremonies
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Thank you for joining us today!
¡Gracias por acompañarnos!

*“As is written of me in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will, O God.”*

(Heb 10:7)



*“Aquí estoy, Dios mío;
vengo para hacer tu voluntad”.*

(Heb 10, 7)

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
1311 Robinson Drive • Haines City, FL 33844

Phone: (863) 422-4370 • Fax: (863) 421-2522 • www.stannhc.com

MASS SCHEDULE



Parishioners are invited to come celebrate with us the real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.



Monday-Friday 9:00 AM - Eng.

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday 4:00 PM - Eng.

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday 6:00 PM - Sp.

Sunday 8:00 AM - Eng. 10:00 AM - Eng.
12:00 PM - Sp. 6:00 PM - Sp.

Confessions:

Saturdays 2:00-3:30 PM, English & Spanish, or by appointment.

Call the Parish Office at (863) 422-4370. Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 21, 2024

4:00 PM † Bob Visnius

6:00 PM Anniversary of Julieta & Camilo Daza

Sunday, December 22, 2024

8:00 AM † Maresela Rodriguez

10:00 AM † Pasquale Piteo

12:00 PM (Sp.) † Rosa Maria Calderon

6:00 PM (Sp.) † Bertha Manyari de Mercado

Monday, December 23, 2024

9:00 AM † Lia Erin Schmidt

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

9:00 AM Birthday of Stephen Curcio

4:00 PM † Paul & Carolyn Katich

6:00 PM (Sp.) † Isaura Salazar

10:00 PM † Leodan Hernandez

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

8:00 AM † Memorial Mass Association

10:00 AM † Luis Regus

12:00 PM (Sp.) † Alberta Hunt

Thursday, December 26, 2024

8:00 AM † America Mosquera

Friday, December 27, 2024

9:00 AM † Carmen Callari

Saturday, December 28, 2024

4:00 PM † Maryrose Armato

6:00 PM **Nicolas & Consuelo Sandoval**

Sunday, December 29, 2024

8:00 AM † Luis Regus

10:00 AM † Lourdes Manaois

12:00 PM (Sp.) † Hector Jimenez

6:00 PM (Sp.) † Juan Garcia Pantoja

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PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING

December 14 & 15, 2024

Regular Offertory: \$17,873

Buildings & Grounds Collection: \$4,188.50

50/50: Winner has been notified - \$188

Faith Direct November 15-30: \$5,219.34

Miscellaneous: \$5,645



OCA 2024 Update:

Please consider supporting Our Catholic Appeal.

Goal: \$193,346.72

Pledged to Date: \$184,131.61

Cash received to Date: \$170,434.09

Still needed in Pledges: \$8,898.52

While we have made a lot of progress in pledges, there is an amount in pledges that needs to be covered.

Thank you for helping to spread the good news of salvation!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

will take place all day on **Fridays** in the church from 9:30 AM-6:30 PM.

*Every first Friday of the month, the reposicion will be at 5:30 PM, followed by Mass in Spanish.

FAITH DIRECT

If you haven't already, please consider enrolling. You may visit faith.direct/FL1031 or through our website www.stannhc.com to enroll for regular Offertory and our Buildings & Grounds fund securely on-line. Also, "text to give" is available at (863) 400-1077. You can text to enroll and text any dollar amount.



We pray for your continued good health and safety in this time of change, and always know you are in our prayers. God Bless You!

NOVENA TO THE DIVINE CHILD JESUS

The last day of the Novena dedicated to the Divine Child Jesus is December 23 at the 9:00 AM Mass.

This Novena to "el Niño Jesus" (the Child Jesus) is an old Colombian tradition dating from the 1700's. It is known as the "Novena de Aguinaldos." The Novena is more than a simple prayer; it is a family affair. What a wonderful way to get together with family and friends and enjoy the true meaning of "La Navidad!"



"Divine Child Jesus, we believe in You; We adore You, and we love You; have mercy on us, sinners."

THE HOLY ENCOUNTER



It is ninety miles from Nazareth in Galilee, where Mary lived, to Ain Karem, where Elizabeth lived. Walking fast and with a good rhythm would be more than a challenging four-day journey on foot. The roads were not well determined or designed like today, and paths were full of landslides, rocks, cloudbursts, brooks without bridges, holes, snakes, scorpions, and robbers—of course, there were no hotels. Mary showed her unselfishness by quickly facing that trip with eagerness to help. She was also willing to stay in the background, loyal to God's wishes, and obediently accepting all the uncertainties without asking why.

When these two mothers met, two worlds also met. Elizabeth, advanced in years, symbolizing the approaching end of the Age of the Law and Prophets. Her son, John the Baptist, would herald the new age of salvation that Israel had long awaited and which Mary now represented. In the Visitation, Promise greeted Fulfilment, and both Mary and Elizabeth responded to the Holy Spirit.

However, Elizabeth's husband Zechariah's house was where they met, and Mary's dignity was more remarkable. When Mary greeted Elizabeth, her greetings contained all the warmth of a relative's affection and deference to the aged that is so becoming for a young woman. When the angel Gabriel came from God to Zechariah with the news of Elizabeth's impending pregnancy, Zechariah doubted, giving reasons why it would all be impossible, and did not believe the angel. As a result, the angel gave Zechariah a sign that he would be mute until all the events had occurred. In contrast, at the time of the angel's announcement to Mary that she was to become the mother of Jesus, Mary also questioned "how" the birth of her child would take place. At the time, she was not married. But the "divine moment" happened at the instant when Mary believed and proclaimed, "I am the maidservant of the Lord."

Mary had uttered her consent and arrived to visit the aged Elizabeth a picture of radiant joy. Under the extraordinary inspiration of God, the Holy Spirit spoke through Elizabeth, and she gave high praise to Mary.

Fr. Alfonso Cely
Pastor

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS RECESS, THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES BEGINNING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024. CLASSES WILL RESUME AS SHOWN BELOW:

1. CORRECTION FROM A PREVIOUS BULLETIN UPDATE:

THE ONCE-A-MONTH FAITH FORMATION CLASSES WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025, AND NOT SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025.



Thursday classes will resume on Thursday, January 9, 2025.
Saturday classes will resume on Saturday, January 11, 2025.
Tuesday classes will resume on Tuesday, January 14, 2025.

2. IMPORTANT NOTICE - CALENDAR CHANGES:

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, IS NOW A DAY OF CLASSES!
THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 25.**

3. REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FAITH FORMATION ACADEMIC YEAR:

WILL BECOME AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH BULLETIN STARTING WITH THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 29 & 30, 2025.

OUR LEGACY CONTINUES

We want to remind all those who wish to participate in the remodeling of the Fr. Anderson Building with the "Make Our Legacy New" campaign of the following important instructions:

1. If you received a pledge envelope, it is important to remember that the immediate objective is to collect personal information such as: Name, Address, and Phone Number.
2. With this information given, you will be counted as one of the donors the campaign requires for the next three years. It is vitally important that this information is on the envelope.
3. It is also important to remember that while pledge payment collection will begin on January 1, 2025, we need the envelope with your information as soon as possible.
4. We have learned that many people wish to make a single payment for the total three-year commitment of \$3,120. This option reduces handling and paperwork costs.
5. A website has been set up for those who want to pledge electronically: www.cfofc.org/stannlegacy
6. We have designated two acrylic boxes to insert the pledge envelopes in the Narthex. The photos of Fr. Alfonso and Fr. Jose Luis can identify the boxes.
7. We invite you to continue being generous when putting money in the box containing the model, designed for those who cannot commit to a three-year commitment. Can you identify the figures of the Deacons and Priests?



YOU ARE INVITED!



**HELP DECORATE THE
CHURCH TO MAKE IT
BEAUTIFUL FOR
CHRISTMAS!**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 23
TIME: 9:30 AM**

Come and bring your friends to help us prepare the church for the arrival of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. All decorations are provided. Just bring your energy and Christmas (Holy) Spirit.

BLESSING OF THE MANGER

*God of every nation and people,
from the very beginning of
creation, you have made manifest
your love: when our need for a
Savior was great, you sent your
Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.
To our lives, he brings joy and
peace, justice, mercy, and love.*



Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

The Fr. Philip De'Carrier
Columbiettes Council 10484 is thrilled to announce that **Kenia Ayala** is the lucky winner of the Our Lady of Guadalupe tapestry raffle.



The monies raised will be donated to local Polk County organizations.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported this initiative, especially our parish. With your efforts, we can assist the people of God.

30 HOURS OF ADORATION

30 HOURS OF ADORATION

**Starting December 30
at 9:30 AM
Ending December 31
at 4:30 PM**



Welcome the
new year
adoring the
Lord!



SPECIAL INVITATION



Invitation

Mary and Joseph of Nazareth invite you and your family to a birthday party for their SON, **JESUS**.

St. Ann Catholic Church

Date: December 24 & 25

**Place: Grandma's house
(St. Ann Parish)**

Do not miss it!

We appreciate all the effort you will make for the spiritual preparation of the party in honor of our **BELOVED SON**.

CHRISTMAS IN BETHLEHEM

In 2021, we as a parish collected \$3,600, which was sent to Bethlehem to purchase presents for 220 children there who would otherwise not receive any gifts for Christmas.

Due to the difficulties in the Middle East, including war and social difficulties, there is no tourism and, therefore, no way for people to sustain their daily needs. Tourism is their main source of income in the land where Jesus was born. That means this year, children in Bethlehem will have no presents.

Since we already have multiple commitments this holiday season, we have thought of helping Bethlehem during this economic crisis in which they found themselves living by sending funds that we, as a parish, can collect.

During the Aguinaldo Masses (5:00 AM) and Novena Masses (9:00 AM), we will be holding a special collection. All the money collected will be sent to ensure these unfortunate children have a Merry Christmas.



SPECIAL THANKS!



We would like to thank Group John XXIII, Fr. Jose Luis, for their dedication to the mangers inside and outside, and their team of volunteers in charge of the Arts & Environment of the church.

We also thank Jesus Trejo and Angel Ruiz for installing all the external lighting on our campus.

Thanks to your commitment and dedication, we have enjoyed and been uplifted by the beautiful Christmas spirit in our Parish. Your efforts have truly made a difference!

May God bless the fruits of your labors and your families, and may you continue to inspire us with your selfless service!



EL SANTO ENCUENTRO



Son noventa millas desde Nazaret de Galilea, donde vivía María, hasta Ain Karem, donde vivía Isabel. Caminar rápido y con buen ritmo sería más que un desafiante viaje de cuatro días a pie. Los caminos no estaban bien marcados ni diseñados como hoy, y los senderos estaban llenos de desprendimientos, rocas, aguaceros, arroyos sin puentes, agujeros, serpientes, escorpiones y ladrones; y, por supuesto, no había hoteles. María demostró su altruismo al afrontar rápidamente ese viaje con ganas de ayudar. También estuvo dispuesta a quedarse en un segundo plano, fiel a los deseos de Dios, y a aceptar obedientemente todas las incertidumbres sin preguntar por qué.

Cuando estas dos madres se encontraron, también se encontraron dos mundos. Isabel, avanzada en años, simbolizaba el fin cercano de la Era de la Ley y los Profetas. Su hijo, Juan el Bautista, anunciaría la nueva era de salvación que Israel había esperado durante mucho tiempo y que ahora María representaba. En la Visitación, la Promesa saludó al Cumplimiento, y tanto María como Isabel respondieron al Espíritu Santo.

Sin embargo, el lugar de encuentro fue en la casa de Zacarías el esposo de Isabel, y la dignidad de María fue más notable. Cuando María saludó a Isabel, su saludo contenían todo el calor, el afecto y la deferencia de un pariente hacia los ancianos, tan propio de una mujer joven. Cuando el ángel Gabriel vino de parte de Dios a Zacarías con la noticia del inminente embarazo de Isabel, Zacarías dudó, dando razones por las cuales todo sería imposible, y no creyó al ángel. Como resultado, el ángel le dio a Zacarías una señal de que permanecería mudo hasta que todos los eventos hubieran sucedido. En contraste, en el momento del anuncio del ángel a María de que ella se convertiría en la madre de Jesús, María también cuestionó “cómo” se llevaría a cabo el nacimiento de su hijo. En ese momento, ella no estaba casada. Pero el “momento divino” sucedió en el instante en que María creyó y proclamó: “Yo soy la esclava del Señor”.

María había dado su consentimiento y llegó a visitar a la anciana Isabel, imagen de radiante alegría. Bajo la extraordinaria inspiración de Dios, el Espíritu Santo habló a través de Isabel, y ella elogió a María en alto grado.

P. Alfonso Cely
Párroco

OFICINA DE EDUCACION RELIGIOSA

1. Debido al receso de Navidad, no habrá clases a partir del martes 24 de diciembre de 2024. Las clases se reanudarán como se muestra a continuación:

a. **CORRECCIÓN DE UNA ACTUALIZACIÓN DE BOLETÍN ANTERIOR:**

LAS CLASES DE FORMACIÓN EN LA FE QUE SE DAN UNA VEZ AL MES SE REANUDARÁN EL DOMINGO 12 DE ENERO DE 2025, Y NO EL DOMINGO 5 DE ENERO DE 2025.



b. Las clases de los jueves se reanudarán el jueves 9 de enero de 2025.

c. Las clases de los sábados se reanudarán el sábado 11 de enero de 2025.

d. Las clases de los martes se reanudarán el martes 14 de enero de 2025.

2. AVISO IMPORTANTE: CAMBIOS EN EL CALENDARIO:

¡EL SÁBADO 18 DE ENERO AHORA ES UN DÍA DE CLASES! NO HABRÁ CLASES EL SÁBADO 25 DE ENERO.

3. INFORMACIÓN DE INSCRIPCIÓN PARA EL AÑO ACADÉMICO DE FORMACIÓN EN LA FE 2025-2026:

ESTARÁ DISPONIBLE EN EL BOLETÍN PARROQUIAL A PARTIR DEL FIN DE SEMANA DEL 29/30 DE ENERO DE 2025.



30 HORAS DE ADORACIÓN

Comenzando
diciembre 30 a las 9:30 AM
Terminando diciembre 31
a las 4:30 PM

Recibamos
el nuevo año
adorando al
Señor



ORACIÓN TERCERA SEMANA DE ADVIENTO

Dios de todas las naciones y pueblos, desde el principio mismo de la creación, has manifestado tu amor: cuando nuestra necesidad de un Salvador era grande, enviaste a tu Hijo para que naciera de la Virgen María. Él trae a nuestras vidas alegría y paz, justicia, misericordia y amor.



Señor, bendice a todos los que miran este pesebre; que nos recuerde el humilde nacimiento de Jesús y eleve nuestro pensamiento hacia él, que es Dios-con-nosotros y Salvador de todos, y que vive y reina por los siglos de los siglos. Amén

NUESTRO LEGADO CONTINUA

Queremos recordar a todos aquellos que deseen participar en la remodelación del Edificio P. Anderson con la campaña "Hacer Nuevo Nuestro Legado" las siguientes instrucciones importantes:

1. Si recibió un sobre de compromiso, es importante recordar que el objetivo inmediato es recopilar información personal como: Nombre, dirección y número de teléfono.
2. Con esta información proporcionada, se le contará como uno de los donantes que la campaña requiere durante los próximos tres años. Es de vital importancia que esta información esté en el sobre.
3. También es importante recordar que, si bien el cobro del pago de la promesa comenzará el 1 de enero de 2025, necesitamos el sobre con su información lo antes posible.
4. Hemos aprendido que muchas personas desean hacer un solo pago por el compromiso total de tres años de \$3,120. Esta opción reduce los costes de manipulación y papeleo.
5. Se ha creado un sitio web para aquellos que quieran comprometerse electrónicamente: www.cfofc.org/stannlegacy
6. Hemos designado dos cajas acrílicas para insertar los sobres de compromiso en el Nártex. Las fotos del P. Alfonso y del P. José Luis permiten identificar las cajas.
7. Te invitamos a seguir siendo generoso a la hora de poner dinero en la caja que contiene el modelo, pensada para aquellos que no pueden comprometerse con un compromiso de tres años. ¿Puedes identificar las figuras de los diáconos y sacerdotes?



¡GRACIAS ESPECIALES!



Queremos agradecer al Grupo Juan XXIII, al P. José Luis, por su dedicación a los pesebres por dentro y por fuera, y su equipo de voluntarios a cargo de la Artes y Ambiente de la iglesia.

También agradecemos a Jesús Trejo y Ángel Ruiz por instalar toda la iluminación exterior de nuestro campus.

Gracias a su compromiso y dedicación, hemos disfrutado y nos hemos sentido animados por el hermoso espíritu navideño en nuestra parroquia. ¡Sus esfuerzos realmente han marcado la diferencia!

¡Que Dios bendiga los frutos de su trabajo y de sus familias, y que continúen inspirándonos con su servicio desinteresado!



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