



**CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF RICHMOND**
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Linda Adamos
FSA, St. Peter the Apostle Cemetery, OCFs

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Mass Intention



Our Parishioners

Póngase en contacto con Elizabeth para programar una misa o si tiene alguna pregunta. Por favor, den intenciones de misa al Padre.

Contact Elizabeth to schedule a Mass or if you have any questions. Please

Praying With Next Week's Readings

Reading I:

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Responsorial Psalm:

84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

Reading II:

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

December Birthdays

- 5 **Juana Leiva**
- 6 **Lucas Torres**
- 8 **Concepcion Silverio**
- 11 **Fitzgerald Marcelin**
- 14 **Maribel Garcia**
- 21 **Cindy Vallejo**
Emily Plascencia
- 25 **Cynthia Baux**
Vanessa Carillo
- 29 **Magdalena Alston**
- 31 **Eli Henry Smith**

Happy Anniversary

Julia & Fred Maldonado
Dec. 10, 1972



Please use this list to pray for those who are in need. May we all lift one another up in prayer.

Steven Goellner; Mary Frances Kramer, Nina Gendron & family, Esther Zepeta

Please contact the office with updates.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 23-Jan. 3-Office is closed

Dec. 24-Christmas Mass at 4 pm

Jan. 1-Solemnity of Mary, holy day of obligation-Mass at 5:30pm

Our Lady of the Lake



Council 9309

Officers for 2024-2025

Chaplain: Fr. Jong R. Bayta

Grand Knight: Mark Fracassa

Deputy Grand Knight: John Husson

Chancellor: Dave Thomas

Recorder: Bobby Berndt, PGK*

Treasurer: Jay Warfel, PGK*

Financial Secretary:

Tom O'Neill, PGK*

Advocate: Bob Oravits

Warden: Paul Kurilla

Guards:

Inside: Kip Boisot, PGK*

Outside: Richard Rumprik

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Trustee One Year:

Chuck Youse

Trustee Two Years:

Bobby Berndt, PGK*

Trustee Three Years:

Wilson Youngblood, PGK*

*PGK-Past Grand Knight

Catholic men 18 years or older are eligible to join the Knights of Columbus. Please contact Mark Fracassa (804) 305-6175 or Tom O'Neill (252)519-3050.

St. Richard Catholic Church

office@strichardscatholicchurch.org

www.strichardscatholicchurch.org

117 Laurel Street, Emporia, VA 23847



We welcome all visitors and guests to our parish family and wish you safe travels and a happy visit to Emporia.

Mission Statement:

We, the Church of Saint Richard, have been anointed by Jesus Christ to continue His Mission. For us to participate in the mission of Jesus, we are challenged by the Gospel to a daily conversion to God, leading to spiritual growth and holiness. We invite others to join us at the Eucharistic table. Mindful of our neighbors, we will work to bring about a just and peaceful society. At every opportunity, we will work with other faith communities to further God's Kingdom.

Pastor: Fr. Jong R. Bayta

jbayta@richmonddiocese.org

Rectory: 434-636-7782

Business Manager:

Elizabeth Martin

434-636-6277

Liturgical Schedule

Weekday Mass:

Wednesday: 12:00 pm at SVMC

Weekend Masses:

Saturday—1:00 pm (Spanish)

Sunday—10:30 am

Rosary:

Wednesday—11:45 am at SVMC

Sunday—10:00 am

Reconciliation:

Sunday—10:00 am

Pastoral Council—Anayeli Verduzco-Rios: 434-368-8141

Finance Council—Janet McKenzie: 614-579-8185

Religious Formation—Anayeli Verduzco-Rios: 434-368-8141

Music Coordinator— Rocky Rodriguez; **Assistants**—Ramis Celedonia; Jeromil Enoc

Altar Ministry—Stevie Thomas: 434-634-6713

Family Service Advisor—Linda Adamos: 434-774-9376

The Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 22, 2024

Study of the Readings

Background on the Gospel

Reading Luke 1:39-45

On the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah. The Gospel recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel.

Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel. In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary.

Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy. It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

El Cuarto Domingo de Adviento

Estudio de las lecturas

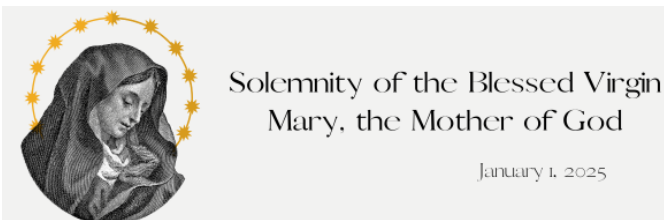
Antecedentes de la lectura del Evangelio Lucas 1:39-45

El último domingo antes de Navidad, nuestra lectura del Evangelio nos prepara para presenciar el nacimiento de Cristo mostrándonos cómo Jesús fue reconocido como el Mesías tan esperado de Israel incluso antes de su nacimiento. El Evangelio desvía nuestra atención del ministerio de Juan el Bautista a los acontecimientos que precedieron al nacimiento de Juan el Bautista. La historia de Juan el Bautista y sus padres, Isabel y Zacarías, solo se menciona en el Evangelio de Lucas. Lucas une el nacimiento de Juan el Bautista y Jesús, estableciendo la conexión temprana de Juan con el Mesías. El Evangelio recuerda las acciones de María después del anuncio

del nacimiento de Jesús por el ángel Gabriel. María va a visitar a Isabel, su prima, que también está encinta. Isabel saluda a María con pleno reconocimiento del papel que ellos y sus hijos no nacidos desempeñarán en el plan de Dios para la salvación. Si continuáramos leyendo los versículos que siguen en el Evangelio de Lucas, escucharíamos a María responder al saludo de Isabel con su canto de alabanza, el Magnificat. Ambas mujeres recuerdan y se hacen eco de la historia de Dios de mostrar favor sobre el pueblo de Israel. En el Evangelio de Lucas, el Espíritu Santo ayuda a revelar la identidad de Jesús como Dios a los que creen. Isabel está llena del Espíritu Santo y canta las alabanzas de María porque lleva al Señor. Cantamos estas

palabras de alabanza a María en el Ave María. Se dice que incluso Juan el Bautista, el niño no nacido en el vientre de Isabel, reconoce la presencia del Señor y salta de alegría. Es apropiado que en este tiempo de Adviento consideremos el papel de María en el plan de salvación de Dios. Elizabeth describe a María como la primera discípula, como la que creyó que la palabra de Dios para ella se cumpliría. La fe de María le permitió reconocer la obra de Dios en la historia de su pueblo y en su propia vida. Su apertura a Dios permitió que Dios obrara a través de ella para que la salvación pudiera llegar a todos. Por eso, María es modelo y símbolo de la Iglesia. Que seamos como María, abiertos y cooperativos en el plan de Dios para la salvación.

PARISH NEWS



The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, is a Holy Day of Obligation on January 1, 2025. Mass times are 5:30 pm at St. Richard 9:00 am at St. Peter.

NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES



La solemnidad de la Santísima Virgen María, la Madre de Dios, es un día santo de precepto el 1 de enero de 2025. El horario de la misa es a las 5:30 pm en St. Richard y a las 9:00 am en St. Peter.

Last Week's Offertory

Needed	Actual	Actual
Offertory: \$817.31	\$848.68	\$31.37
Spanish Mass 12/14:	\$94.00	
Immaculate Conception:	\$119.00	
Our Lady of	\$293.00	
Votive Stand:	\$515.00	

MASS ATTENDANCE:

December 15th
134

Next Week's Ministry Schedule

READERS	E. MINISTER	USHERS	SERVERS
Fred Maldonado	Stevie Thomas	Elizer Carillo	Jesus Ramirez
Elsie Moleno	Dave Thomas	Dave Thomas	Vanessa Ramirez
			Allison Castro

Next Week's Cleaning Group

Christine Smith	Vanessa Carillo
Stevie Thomas	Mary Ann Newsome
Lois Gownley	Dolly Alston