

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Jerome's Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd, Largo, FL Council 17249



*The Divine Mercy of Jesus*

December 2019  
Volume 1 Issue 9

## CARDINAL DOLAN EXPRESSES VIEWS ON DENYING COMMUNION TO PARISHIONERS

Cardinal Timothy Dolan of the Archdiocese of New York has responded to questions about the denial of Holy Communion to former Vice President Joe Biden.

In an interview with Fox News, Dolan said that he thought the incident was a good teaching moment about the Eucharist and the seriousness of denying Church teaching, but that he would not himself deny anyone reception of the Eucharist.

"Whether that judgment was wise, I don't want to judge him," Dolan said of Fr. Robert Morey, who denied Holy Communion to Biden. "I wouldn't do it."

Receiving the Eucharist "...implies that you're in union with all the Church believes and stands for. If you know you're not, well, integrity would say, 'uh oh, I better not approach Holy Communion.' That's always preferable than to make a split-second decision and denying somebody," Dolan added.

Morey stated, "Holy Communion signifies we are one with God, each other and the Church. Our actions should reflect that. Any public figure who advocates for abortion places himself or herself outside of Church teaching."

In denying Biden communion, Morey was following a diocesan policy set forth in a 2004 decree signed jointly by the bishops of Atlanta, Charleston, and Charlotte. The decree states that supporting pro-abortion legislation is "gravely sinful" and that public figures who do so must be denied communion until they repent.

"I think what he said was very to the point, I thought that was a good teaching moment," Dolan said.

The cardinal said the issue has never come up for him personally. He has never seen a public figure in his Communion line who he knew was publicly advocating for policies that violate Church teaching. "I've never had what you might call the opportunity, or I've never said 'Uh oh, should I give him or her Holy Communion', it's never come up. Sure could," Dolan said.

Dolan said that he frequently sees public figures at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, and that he "admires" them when they do not approach the Eucharist out of their own awareness of their sin and separation from the Church.

"They seem to know - 'I shouldn't do that. That could be hypocritical at this moment,'" Dolan said.

"I personally can never judge the state of a person's soul. It's difficult, that's what I'm saying. I'm not up there as a tribunal, as a judge, distributing Holy Communion, I'm there as a pastor, as a doctor of souls," Dolan said.



Cardinal Timothy Dolan



FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
OF INTEREST TO CATHOLICS

Congress must end grisly treatment of aborted babies' remains, US bishops say

Georgia bill would make 'transgender treatment' for minors a felony

The hallowed tradition of cemetery Masses

Will Colorado tax sacramental wine? A legislative committee is studying the idea

Australia proposes face-recognition program to fight underage porn access

Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim leaders sign declaration against euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide

Pickpocketing on the rise in Lourdes, authorities caution pilgrims

Relics of Canadian saints stolen from Quebec City's Cathedral

## FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Pete Grasso

Brothers:  
We're coming to the end of the calendar year. Our Knights of Columbus council has enjoyed an incredible year to date. I enjoyed a fantastic meeting with our DD George Mercardo. We have been trying to get together for several months, but life keeps getting in the way. DD George is a super nice guy that loves God, his family, and the Knights. George has a great deal of experience with the Knights and our district and was very happy with our progress. We will work

on getting our reports to him to keep ourselves posed to obtain several state awards.  
Our membership continues to grow as the interest of our church family continues to appreciate our involvement with the church. Please check the calendar and look for some activities which you have an interest in. Our "Blue Wave" continues to appear at more and more events, and it is up to each and every one to step up and help our council to assist the church. In addition to working an event, it is a great way to get to know one another.  
Once again, I thank each and every one of you for giving me the opportunity to share our time together in Christ. To your family from mine, I wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.  
Vivat Jesus, Pete

## WORDS OF WISDOM

Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs .

A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.

Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAPLAIN



Fr. Tom Morgan

Dear Brother Knights:  
We will begin our Advent pilgrimage with the Holy Family which will take us to Bethlehem once again. I have included below all the special events that will be taking place

during the month of December. I pray that Jesus will find room in our hearts as once again we prepare a place for Him.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Fr. Tom Morgan

### December 2019 Events

**First Sunday of Advent:** November 30 and December 1. Bring your Family Advent Wreaths to be blessed at all Masses.

**Christmas Tree Lighting:** December 4, 7 p.m. in the Gathering Space. This event will include the lighting of the parish Christmas tree, Christmas carols, refreshments, a visit from Santa and an outside Christmas movie.

**Healing Mass:** December 6, 7 p.m. Come for a time of reflection and heal-

ing during this busy Advent season.

**Erica DiCeglie Christmas Concert:** December 7, 7:30 p.m. Gear up for the Christmas season with our Associate Music Director and friends!

**Second Sunday of Advent** December 7 and 8; Blessing of Hay at all Masses

**Our Lady of Guadalupe:** December 8, 4 p.m. Rosary Procession; 5 p.m. Mass and 6 p.m. reception in the Parish Center

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:** December 9 (NOT Holy Day of Obligation): 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. Mass in the Holy Family Chapel

**Advent Penance Services:** December 9, 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the church with individual confessions

**ECC Breakfast with Santa:** December 14 at 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. in the Parish Center

**Third Sunday of Advent:** December 14 and 15; Bambinelli Sunday – bring your home nativity baby Jesus to be blessed at all Masses

**Suncoast Symphony Orchestra Concert:** December 15, 2:30 p.m.

Christmas religious and pop favorites. Get in the Christmas spirit!

**St. Jerome Christmas Concert:** December 20, 7:30 p.m. Join all of our choirs and musicians for a special night, our annual Christmas tradition!

**Fourth Sunday of Advent:** December 21 and 22. See the bulletin for various Domestic Church/Home Devotions

**Oplatek Service:** December 22, 1:45 p.m. in the Chapel. Receive your blessed Christmas wafer.

**Christmas Mass Schedule:** Tuesday, December 24, 4 p.m. in the Church with the Nativity and creche and a visit by Santa; also at 4 p.m. Mass in the Parish Center; Mass in the Church at 6 p.m. Then, Christmas Eve Concert at 11 p.m., followed by Midnight Mass. On December 25 Masses will be at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the Church

**Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)** Tuesday, December 31, 4 p.m. Vigil Mass. Wednesday, January 1, Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



**KNIGHTS  
OF  
COLOMBUS**

## Christmas Party

*Saturday, December 14, 2019*


New Haven Hall 1400 New Haven Dr. Largo  
Limited Space



**\$30**  
per person  
029

DINNER AT 6 P.M.  
Marinated Sliced Pork Tenderloin or  
Marinated Grilled Chicken

LIVE MUSIC 7 P.M. - 10 P.M.  
*Open Bar*



**Christmas Tree  
LIGHTING & CELEBRATION**

**Wednesday, December 4, 7 p.m.**

**OUR  
LADY  
OF  
GUADALUPE**

Dec. 8

Check bulletin  
for  
various  
events  
and times.



**MIDNIGHT MASS**



**#Joy  
to the  
World**

**Wednesday, December 25, 12 a.m. - 1 a.m.**



# SPOTLIGHT on Manny Barros

I was born in Havana, Cuba. My father came to the US first and after a short time in Miami, he moved to NYC seeking work. My mom, sister, and I came to the US shortly after (I was 3 years old). We lived in NYC until my first professional job (post college), when I moved to central Virginia.



Manny Barros

I was born into the Catholic faith. I went to Catholic elementary, a Catholic (Jesuit) High School (Xavier HS NYC), and a private Catholic college (Manhattan College, Riverdale, NY). In HS I loved math. I wanted at one point to be a math teacher, but when I found out how much they earned, I decided it wasn't for me (no offense to anyone). I also was interested in architecture but ultimately settled on studying electrical engineering. After completing college, I had opportunities to work in NYC but had grown tired of the city and took a job at GE in a (then) small town: Lynchburg, Virginia. After some time at GE, I became an engineer at a telecommunications equipment manufacturer in Char-

lottesville, then moved to Florida and joined E-Systems which ultimately was purchased by Raytheon (a defense contractor). As my career progressed through various engineering roles, I ultimately moved into program/project management. I have worked at Raytheon (Largo, FL) for over 31 years. I never had the opportunity to serve in the military, but my son served in the USAF for 4+ years.

I was married in 1986, and after a couple of years in Charlottesville, we decided it was time to begin a family and move from apartment life to owning a home. We liked Florida, and moved here in June 1988. We have raised two grown children (Jessica - 30, Michael - 28). We have lived in two homes over the years, both in Seminole.

I became interested in the Knights through a combination of factors. I have participated in volunteer (community) activities mostly through work on Special Olympics and Homeless Veterans events through the Veterans Administration for years. I wanted additional ways to help and give back more frequently. My work travel has slowed and provided me with the belief that I can participate actively in such an organization. Over the past year, my wife and I have also re-engaged more actively in the church (i.e., through her rock ministry), and learning more about the faith. As an example of this renewal, I have joined my wife in completing the adult confirmation process and was

confirmed Saturday, Nov. 16 at St. Jerome (evidently, I was never confirmed). The Knights seemed to be a great fit to tie all these aspects together.

## Proverbs 19:17

If you help the poor, you are lending to the LORD--and he will repay you!

2017 was a record-setting year for the Knights of Columbus charitable work with an unprecedented \$185.6 million in donations and 75.6 million hours of service provided worldwide. K of C donated \$1.62 billion to charitable causes over the past decade (as of December 2017).



Give thanks. Give life.



Recently my wife and I ate at Mike's Pizza with a couple of friends. The meal

was delicious all the way around. When the check arrived, I glanced at it as I normally do while Marcie scrutinized hers and Tom's. She noted that Tom's Diet Coke was not on the bill and called it to the waitress's attention. Alyssa quickly took the bill back and corrected it.

Running through my mind was that perhaps I, too, had noticed something odd on our bill, but I shrugged the notion off, thinking that even if there was a mistake, it didn't amount to more than \$3.00. Qué sera, sera.

Later in the day my conscience began bothering me, so I got the receipt

out of the waste basket to take another look. Sure enough, I had been charged \$5.00 for my Cuban sandwich instead of what the menu said: \$7.99. My conscience kicked into overtime.

I had an obligation the next day in the vicinity of Mike's, so I stopped in with the receipt to rectify things. I showed the cashier the receipt and she said,

"No, Alyssa didn't make a mistake. On Thursdays we put that sandwich on sale at \$5.00. I hope you will be rewarded for your honesty." I felt vindicated and thanked God for a conscience.

One of my favorite aphorisms is "Character is what you have when no one is looking." I need to remember that more often.

## Prayer Corner



### Prayer after Mass *Anima Christi*

Soul of Christ, make me holy. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, fill me with love. Water from Christ's side, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. Good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds, hide me. Never let me be parted from you. From the evil enemy, protect me. At the hour of my death, call me, and tell me to come to you that with your saints I may praise you through all eternity. Amen.





## Why We Celebrate Christmas December 25

On December 25th, nine in 10 Americans will celebrate Christmas, but few understand why. Everyone knows the trappings associated with the holiday—Christmas trees, red and green ornaments, presents, etc.—but its origins are less familiar.

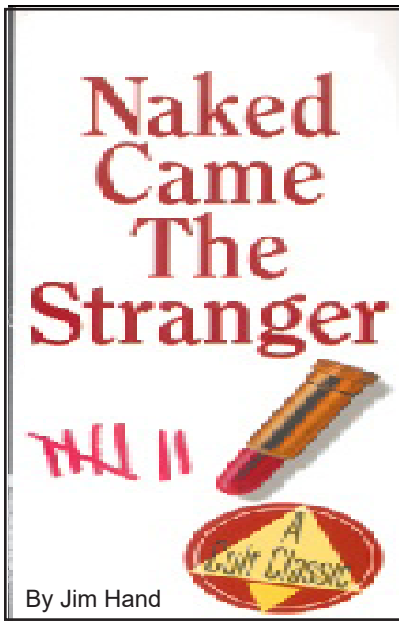
Although Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus on December 25th, his exact birthdate is unknown. In the first 300 or so years of Christianity, the celebration of the leader's birth was usu-



ally lumped in with Epiphany (January 6), if it was even observed at all. According to Christianity Today, it was around the year 273 that the church considered commandeering the exist-

ing pagan festival of winter solstice as fitting time to honor the son of God. It helped that December 25th already hosted two debaucherous holidays: natalis solis invicti (the Roman "birth of the unconquered sun"), and the birthday of Mithras, the Iranian "Sun of Righteousness." It was considered a way to teach the masses a lesson or two about sin and redemption.

Christmas wasn't widely observed until after Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity and declared it the Roman empire's favored religion. Western Christians officially began celebrating December 25 as the birth of Jesus in 336 AD.



In 1969 a book by the name of *Naked Came the Stranger* was published. Its editor was a man by the name of Mike McGrady who talked a group of 19 men and 5 women, journalistic friends of his, to take part in ridiculing the novels of the day, because in his opinion, they were nothing but trash. Two popular authors then were Harold Robbins and Jacqueline Susann who were noted for their sexually-motivated plots. Although I have read nothing from either author, I have a feeling that compared to *Fifty-Shades of Grey* (which I have not read),

published a few years ago, *Naked Came the Stranger* would seem tame.

Each of the book's chapters was written by a separate author who knew only enough of what preceded him or her in order to be able to write something more than a mishmash novel. They succeeded. Its author was a fictitious Penelope Ashe.

In only a few months, the book had sold more than 20,000 copies, far more than McGrady expected. Elated, he decided to let the world in on the joke. Rather than feeling duped, the public continued buying the book. As an English teacher at the time, I bought one myself after I learned it was a joke and still have it. It's been over 40 years since I read it and I have no recollection of whether I was shocked or not. Probably not, since I knew it was a spoof.

Where am I going with this article? Read on.

The bible was written by approximately 40 writers. I say approximately because it's difficult to determine who wrote a few of the books. Scholars have concluded that the 66 books were written over a period of roughly 1,500 years. Catholic scholars feel that there are 7 more books that should be and are included in the Catholic Bible: Tobit, Judith, I Maccabees, II Maccabees, Solomon, Sirach, and Baruch.

Scholars feel that the first book of the New Testament, Matthew, was written about 400 years after the last book of the Old Testament, Malachi.

I think it's appropriate to now ask these questions: Why would these men conspire to fool their readers when they didn't know each other and most of them didn't even live during the same time frame? How foolish would they be to waste their time writing something they couldn't be sure would be read or preserved? How could they possibly profit by being a part of a stunt? The answer, of course, is that they knew what they were doing. The bible even helps us deal with that problem: Timothy 3:16-17 *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

Here is a quote from Bible.org.

The bible is one complete book consisting of Old and New Testaments. In other words, there is direct continuity of Divine revelation and authority running right through all books of the bible. No one part contradicts another part, and if one part were to be missing there would be an obvious gap in the whole book. There is not the slightest hint in the bible that the earlier revelations were to be contradicted or cancelled by the New Testament. Serious study makes it clear that the later parts of the bible are not contradictory but complementary. They are given as a further development of the earlier revelation in order to give a wider understanding of an important subject. For instance, when a child commences school, he learns the basic use of the alphabet and numerals. For the rest of his school life he learns additional facts about the use of letters and numbers until he is acquainted with extensive literature and able to handle advanced mathematics. The things he learns later do not ever contradict his beginning lessons; they simply add to his original inadequate understanding. This was the method chosen by an all-wise God in revealing Himself to mankind.

Now note the theme of the following quotations. Isaiah says, *The decree of our God is forever reliable.* Matthew says, *I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth pass away not the smallest letter or stroke of a letter will pass from the law until everything takes place.* Peter says, *But the word of the Lord endures forever.* These three verses plainly state that God's Word will never pass away. Note that one quotation is from an Old Testament prophet, one is from the teaching of Jesus Christ and one is from the teaching of the Apostle Peter. This shows that the bible is the record of a continuous, coherent, developing revelation which will never pass away.

What a blessing it is to be able to have faith in the bible. In so many respects it has to be the word of God. The mindset with the authors of *Naked Came the Stranger* is completely foreign to God's. Why would God deceive us when He determined to let His son die on a cross for us?

Any more questions?

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE, IN SERVICE TO ALL

## FIRST-SUNDAY-OF-THE-MONTH BREAKFAST BIG HIT



L-R: Bill Bannon, Pete Grassp. and Joe Moore get an early start on preparing for the 1st KofC breakfast.

7:30 Mass parishioners are the first to sample the food. All of the Masses were well represented.

As a way to raise money to purchase an ultrasound machine to help detect early pregnancies, our council has begun serving a free breakfast the first

Sunday of the month. Of course donations will be accepted, and we hope that over time we will be able to buy such a machine to promote a prolife

conscience among both men and women. The breakfast was a great success. In fact, a few runs to Publix were made to increase our supply of food.

## THANKSGIVING MEAL SERVES FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP





## “The Age of Miracles Has Not Passed”

### The Remarkable Story of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini’s Cure of Fr. Peter Smith.

On March 14, 1921, Peter Smith was born in a newly built annex to Columbus Hospital on 34th Street in Manhattan. The hospital was a charity institution originally founded by Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini in 1892 to render free service to the poor immigrant population of New York. When little Peter was born, it was still staffed by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who were established by Mother Cabrini back in Italy in 1880. The newborn was handed to his delighted mother Margaret, who commented on how beautiful her son’s blue eyes were. She reluctantly relinquished hold of her little bundle of joy to one of the lay-nurses so he could be cleaned. It was a common method at that time to put a one percent solution of silver nitrate into a newborn’s eyes to protect them from any bacterial infections that could have occurred during birth. But the nurse was in a hurry and made a terrible mistake; she realized, to her dismay, that instead of the one percent of silver nitrate, she used a 50 percent solution. She ran down the hall, child in her arms, screaming: “Sister! Sister! Come and do something. I’ve done a dreadful thing. Get a doctor!”

Peter was evaluated by two doctors and an eye specialist. The specialist said flatly: “The corneas are gone. Nobody can do anything.” The Superior of the hospital disagreed. She certainly knew of someone who could do something. She touched a relic of Mother Cabrini, who had only died less than four years prior—on December 22, 1917—to little Peter’s eyes. She then pinned the relic to his nightgown and with her sisters spent the entire night praying in the hospital’s chapel. When they arrived to begin their prayers, they found the despondent nurse already in the chapel, kneeling



St. Frances Cabrini  
Cabrini, won’t you work a miracle?!”  
After the nurse and sisters spent all

ing before the Blessed Sacrament. She was pleading aloud: “Please Lord, please Lord! Don’t let that baby get blind! Mother



Peter’s brother, Monsignor John Smith, after offering Mass at the Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini in New York City. The major relic of Mother Cabrini can be seen interred in the altar.

night in the chapel, their prayers were answered with the requested miracle. When the doctors came to inspect the eyes of the baby again, they could not believe what they found: the corneas were intact and the eyes were perfectly normal. Peter’s eyesight had been restored!

The joy of the moment was short-lived, however, when that same day little Peter got double pneumonia. His mother Margaret was exhausted from the emotional stresses. Taking her son into her arms, she looked into his miraculously cured eyes, but then felt a feverish heat on emanating from the sick baby. Peter’s temperature reached 108 degrees. It was one thing to fear that he would be blind throughout his entire life, yet now his poor mother feared he wouldn’t live to see another day. One of the the doctors told the sisters that they had more praying to do. The Superior replied: “Doctor, Mother Cabrini has not cured his eyes just to let him die of pneumonia.” The sisters prayed yet again for a miracle and by the next morning another one came. Through the intercession of Mother Cabrini, all traces of the pneumonia in the boy had disappeared.

Peter left the hospital ten days later with the the traces of the miracle upon his face in the form of two scars from where the silver nitrate ran down from his eyes. These scars would eventually dissipate as he grew older. Fourteen years later the Smith family had another boy. They named him John Frances Xavier Smith after Mother Cabrini, in thanksgiving for the

two miracles she worked for his older brother.

He remembers being three years old and crying with disappointment when he was told by his mother he was not old enough to endure the long journey to Rome by boat. Margaret and her 17-year-old son Peter would be leaving the family on a trip to Mother Cabrini’s beatification, which took place on November 13, 1938. The miracle of Peter’s restored sight was accepted by the Vatican as corroborative of Mother’s sanctity, which brought about her being raised to the rank of Blessed. On the same boat Peter and his mother took to Rome was the nurse who accidentally put the 50% solution of silver nitrate into little Peter’s eyes.

When Mother Cabrini was canonized on July 7, 1946, by Pope Pius XII, Peter was unable to attend any festivities celebrating the moment. He was still finishing up his military service after nobly serving our country in the fierce fighting that took place on the island of Okinawa in the Pacific theater of World War II. His younger brother was eleven at the time, and he and their mother attended a Mass celebrating the event in the chapel of Mother Cabrini High School in upper Manhattan, where the saint was then interred. Mother and son would come to the shrine regularly on Sunday afternoons to pray together. Each time they arrived the sisters would treat them as honored guests. Both boys grew up to become priests. Fr. Peter generously answered the call to serve the Diocese of Corpus

(Concluded on page 8)

**Saint Frances Cabrini  
(continued from page 6)**

Christi in Texas, which was in great need of priests. He was ordained at Mother's Shrine in New York in 1951, and served the parishes of his diocese until his death in 2002. Monsignor F.X.

was ordained in St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1961 and served the parishes of his family's home Archdiocese of New York. At the age of 84 he is still active in offering Sunday Mass at two different parishes.

~~by Father Seán Connolly, a priest of the Archdiocese of New York.



Exodus 90 is a challenging 90-day period of prayer and asceticism, supported by a fraternity of 5-7 like-minded men. Exodus fraternities are spiritually directed by a priest whenever possible.

The 90-day benchmark is not an arbitrary number; it is essential for freedom. That's the period it takes to re-learn the joy and satisfaction of self-mastery and freedom.

**Prayer**

During Exodus 90, you slowly read through the book of Exodus and commit to 20-60 minutes of silent prayer each day.

You take on the story of the Israelites and are guided by daily meditations that open up the Sacred Scriptures in new and enlightening ways. But this isn't just a bible study, Exodus 90 is much more.

**Brotherhood**

Exodus 90 is not a self-help program. You'll invite 5-7 men to journey with you, and where possible, your priest will serve as your spiritual director. These meetings are an opportunity for men to give a self-report for accountability, to receive encouragement from the brotherhood, and wisdom from the spiritual director.

There's no better way to re-awaken your diocese, parish, or men's group in these dark times that call for prayer, penance, and renewed trust.

- cold showers
- no alcohol
- no desserts & sweets
- no eating between meals
- no soda or sweetened drinks
- no television or movies or televised sports (without permission from the fraternity)
- only listen to music that lifts the soul to God
- only use computer for work, school, essential tasks
- only use mobile device for essential communications (delete unnecessary apps)
- regular and intense daily exercise
- no major material purchases (without permission from the fraternity)
- at least seven hours of sleep each night

**ARE YOU READY FOR MORE?**

The road is long and hard. But without freedom, we cannot love as we've been called by Jesus Christ to do. Get started today.

<https://ucatholic.com/exodus90>



Once again the Knights of Columbus will provide a free breakfast after the first three Sunday Masses in December. The meal will consist of eggs, bacon and sausage, biscuits and gravy, and condiments. The November breakfast was well received. In fact, they ran out of food and had to make emergency runs to Publix for more. Join us and see why. Donations will be accepted.







# Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist

*"When you call Me, when you go to pray to Me, I will listen to you. When you look for Me, you will find Me. Yes, when you seek Me with all your heart...."*

*Jeremiah 29: 12-13*

**Please join in the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist  
in The Holy Family Chapel at St. Jerome Church  
10895 Hamlin Boulevard, Largo, Florida**



**Tuesday, December 10, 2019. Mass at 9 a.m., followed by the Rosary at 10 a.m., then Solemn Exposition with Benediction at 5:30 p.m.**



**Wednesday, December 11, 2019. Mass at 9 a.m., followed by the Rosary at 10 a.m., then Solemn Exposition with Benediction at 5:30 p.m.**



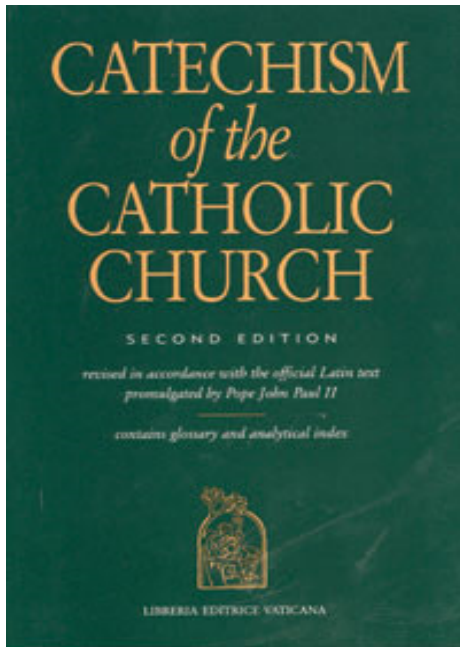
**Thursday, December 12, 2019. Mass at 9 a.m., followed by the Rosary at 10 a.m., then Solemn Exposition with Benediction at 5:30 p.m.**

**Questions? Call St. Jerome at 727-595-4610**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Celtic Christmas Concert Ticket Sales Table 7:30am - 6:00pm</p>	<p>2 Toy Drive 9:30am - 12:30pm in the Outreach Center</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Lighting of the Christmas tree 7 p.m. Officers' meeting at 6:30 p.m. and Holy Hour at 7 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Exposition 9:30am - 10:30am in the chapel</p>	<p>7 Erica DiCeglie Christmas Concert 7:30pm - 9:00pm in the church</p>
<p>8 Our Lady of Guadalupe See bulletin for events and times.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Regular monthly council meeting 7 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Christmas Party at New Haven clubhouse Food at 6 p.m. Music and Dancing at 7 p.m. Open bar</p>
<p>15 Suncoast Symphony Orchestra Concert 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 4th Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Choir Concert 11:00 pm - 12:00 am</p>	<p>25  Midnight Mass 12 a.m. - 1 a.m.</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 New Year Vigil 4 p.m.- 5 p.m.</p>				

# December





## What Does the Catechism Say about the Word *Amen*?

1061 The Creed, like the last book of the Bible, ends with the Hebrew word *amen*. This word frequently concludes prayers in the New Testament. The Church likewise ends her prayers with “Amen.”

1062 In Hebrew, *amen* comes from the same root as the word “believe.” This root expresses solidity, trustworthiness, faithfulness. And so we can understand why “Amen” may express both God’s faithfulness towards us and our trust in him. 1063 In the book of the prophet Isaiah, we find the expression “God of truth” (literally “God of the Amen”), that is, the God who is faithful to his promises: “He who blesses himself in the land shall bless himself by the God of truth [*amen*].” Our Lord often used the word “Amen,” sometimes repeated, to emphasize the trustworthiness of his teaching, his authority founded on God’s truth.

1064 Thus the Creed’s final “Amen” repeats and confirms its first words: “I believe.” To believe is to say “Amen” to God’s words, promises and commandments; to entrust oneself completely to him who is the “Amen” of infinite love and perfect faithfulness. The Christian’s everyday life will then be the “Amen” to the “I believe” of our baptismal profession of faith.

1065 Jesus Christ himself is the “Amen.” He is the definitive “Amen” of the Father’s love for us. He takes up and completes our “Amen” to the Father: “For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why we utter the Amen through him, to the glory of God”.