

ASCENSION

A Newsletter from the Church of the Ascension



Pray for us *Ruega por nosotros*

Por los enfermos y los que están sufriendo de nuestra comunidad.

For the sick and suffering in our community: **Jan Dalsky, Lois Johnson, John Cavanaugh.**

Por nuestros amados difuntos, que descansen en los amorosos brazos de Jesús.

For our beloved dead, may they rest in the loving arms of Jesus: **Benjamin Sinnett, Brian Cain, Melina Garcia.**

Baptism preparation for children and youth ages 7 -17

Baptism preparation for older children and youth will be starting on Saturday, Jan. 20. The sessions are for parents, their child/ren and godparents every two weeks: Jan. 20; Feb. 3 & 17; March 2 & 16. Baptisms will be at the Easter vigil on Saturday, March 30.

Please call Anne for more information or to register: 612-424-6211

¿Necesita bautizar su hijo/a de 7 a 12 años?

Preparación de BAUTISMO para niños y jóvenes de 7-17 años comenzará el sáb, 20 de enero. Clases serán los sábados, 20 de enero, 3 y 17 de feb, 2 y 16 de marzo de 10 a 11:30 a.m. para los niños, sus padres y padrinos.

Llame a o hable con Anita para registrarse: 612-424-6211.



It's not too late to make a Christmas flower offering

A gift to help beautify the church is a wonderful way to remember loved ones who have died. Envelopes are available in church, or you can scan the code at left to make a gift online. Thank you!

Ofrenda floral de Navidad

Un regalo para ayudar a embellecer la iglesia es una manera maravillosa de recordar a los seres queridos que han fallecido. Los sobres están disponibles en la iglesia, o puede escanear el código a la izquierda para hacer un regalo en línea. Muchas gracias.



Why does Mary have so many feast days and names?

Christians first began celebrating feast days in honor of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in the fifth century. That celebration (originally called the Feast of the Dormition and now known by Roman Catholics as the Solemnity of the Assumption) was celebrated on August 15. Very soon, however, other special days dedicated to Mary began to appear in Jerusalem, Rome, and other major cities of the Christian world. These days of feasting became important parts of the life of the community. But, more importantly, each of these unique celebrations became an opportunity to focus on a different facet of the Christian faith, as believers focused their attention on specific events or mysteries of the lives of Mary and her Son.

Over the centuries, some of these celebrations became universal (such as the Assumption on August 15, the Immaculate Conception on December 8, and the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on January 1). Other celebrations were more closely tied to certain religious orders (such as the Carmelites celebration of "Our Lady of Mount Carmel" on July 16 or the Servite Friars feast of the "Seven Sorrows of Mary," which is now celebrated as the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15).

In more recent times, Marian apparitions (like Guadalupe, Lourdes, and Fatima) have inspired special liturgical celebrations. Pope Francis has added two new celebrations of Mary to the Church's calendar: The Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church (on the Monday after Pentecost) and the Commemoration of Our Lady of Loreto (on December 10). The various titles of Mary (like those we find in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary) help us to reflect on different aspects of Mary's faith and the ways that the Holy Spirit is at work in her and through her, especially as the Mother of Jesus.

In the end, whatever the event or mystery being celebrated in a particular liturgy or the title of Mary being used, we are invited to always see Mary in connection with the saving work of her Son. She is, of course, a patroness and protector for every Christian, but she is also a model of discipleship and contemplation. ©LPI



Monday, Jan. 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Bilingual Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31.

El lunes 1 de enero es la Solemnidad de María, la Santa Madre de Dios. La misa bilingüe se celebrará a las 17 horas del domingo 31 de diciembre.

Sewing Group resumes in January

Our Sewing Group meets from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the lower level of the Club Building. Upcoming dates are **Jan. 6 and 20, and Feb. 3 and 17.** All materials are provided.



Fechas del Grupo de Costura Bilingüe

El Grupo de Costura se reúne de 9 a 11.30 horas en la planta baja del edificio del Club. Las próximas fechas son el **6 y 20 de enero, 3 y 17 de febrero.** El grupo es gratuito y se proporcionan todos los materiales.

Parish office will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

La oficina parroquial estará cerrada el lunes, 1 de enero.

Newly Married Retreat

**Saturday, Feb. 3, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Good Shepherd, Golden Valley**

All couples married 0 to 7 years are invited to join the Newly Married Retreat with Dr. Edward Sri. Dr. Sri will give two talks, one on "Marriage: The Good, The Messy, and The Beautiful" and the other on "Theology of the Body and Marriage."

Cost is \$50/couple and includes a light breakfast, catered lunch and workbook.

There will be five breakout sessions:

- Infertility & Miscarriage
- Becoming a Saint in the Monotony of Life
- Sexual Intimacy
- Step Up Dads
- Identify the Threat: Naming and Resolving Tension in Relationships

Go to archspm.org/nmr to register.