

St. Francis of Assisi *Catholic Church*

LET THE PEACE OF
CHRIST
CONTROL YOUR HEARTS

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

QUE LA PAZ DE
CRISTO
DOMINE VUESTROS CORAZONES

FIESTA DE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA



© Diocesan

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH—DECEMBER 28, 2025

OUR MISSION

Unified in one Body and Spirit, the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic community aspires to reflect the Light of Christ by cultivating *Faith*, *Serving* others, and *Loving* all of God's creation.

NUESTRA MISIÓN

Unida en un solo Cuerpo y Espíritu, la comunidad católica de San Francisco de Asís aspira a reflejar la Luz de Cristo mediante el cultivo de la *Fe*, *Servicio* a los demás, y el *Amor* a toda la creación de Dios.

**WELCOME!**

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:
Monday—Friday: 8:00am

WEEKEND

ENGLISH MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 7:30am and 11:00am

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 3:45pm - 4:45pm
or by appointment

**¡BIENVENIDOS!**

MISA ENTRE SEMANA:
Miércoles—12:15pm

**HORARIO DE MISAS EN ESPAÑOL
DEL FIN DE SEMANA :**

Sábado: 7:00pm
Domingo: 9:00am,
1:00pm, 6:00pm

CONFESIONES:

Sábados 6:00pm - 6:45pm
o por cita previa

Served by Vocationist Fathers • Society of Divine Vocations

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS • BENDICIONES FINANCIERAS

We would like to thank you and remind you just how much your support means to the life and vitality of our vibrant parish. Without your time, talent, and treasure, our church would not be the strong community of faith that so many of us have relied on.

Please help us keep momentum going by supporting our parish through recurring donations to our online giving platform, WeShare. This is an easy way to support St. Francis of Assisi.

1. Visit stfrancisapopka.org and click Donate.
2. Select the collection of your choice.
3. Set up your donation amount, payment type, and frequency.

Thank you for your generosity!

Nos gustaría darles las gracias y recordarles lo mucho que su apoyo significa para la vida y vitalidad de nuestra vibrante parroquia. Sin su tiempo, talento y aporte, nuestra iglesia no tendría la fuerte comunidad de fe en la que tantos de nosotros dependemos.

Por favor, ayúdenos a mantener el impulso apoyando a nuestra parroquia a través de donaciones recurrentes a nuestra plataforma de donaciones en línea, WeShare. Esta es una manera fácil de apoyar a San Francisco de Asís.

1. Visite stfrancisapopka.org y haga clic en Donar.
2. Seleccione la colecta de su elección.
3. Establezca la cantidad de su donación, el tipo de pago y frecuencia.

¡Gracias por su generosidad!

Thank you for sharing your *TIME*, *TALENT* and *TREASURE* throughout the year to the ministry of St. Francis of Assisi.

Gracias por compartir su *TIEMPO*, *TALENTO* y *TESORO* durante todo el año a el ministerio de San Francisco de Asís.

OUT OF EGYPT I CALLED MY SON



The Gospel for today skips ahead a bit to tell what happens *after* next Sunday's Gospel. Next Sunday, on Epiphany, we hear the magi inadvertently tip off Herod to the birth of the king of the Jews. Today, we hear the angel of the Lord warn Joseph that because of Herod's murderous plans, the Holy Family must flee to Egypt. Keep in mind that they are already away from home, having left Galilee for the census. Now they face a perilous journey to a foreign country where they don't know anyone, don't know the language, have no place to stay, hardly any possessions, and no idea how long they will need to stay there. But, then as now, parents will sacrifice just about anything for their children. So in the dark of night, Mary and Joseph flee their homeland with their newborn child. They may have no money or possessions, but they have the virtues Paul calls upon the Colossians to exercise: patience, humility, gentleness, kindness, compassion, forgiveness, thankfulness, and love. Unlike material goods, these increase as they are used. May the Holy Family strengthen these virtues in us, helping us to see families who struggle today as holy families as well.

Of the virtues Saint Paul lists, which one do you find it most difficult to exercise? Why? How can this improve?

—We Celebrate Worship Resource, Vol. 51, No. 1

DE EGYPTO LLAMÉ A MI HIJO

El Evangelio de hoy se adelanta un poco para narrar lo que sucede después del próximo domingo. El próximo domingo, en la Epifanía, cuando los Reyes Magos, sin querer, revelan a Herodes el nacimiento del rey de los judíos. Hoy, escuchamos al ángel del

Señor advertir a José que, debido a los planes asesinos de Herodes, la Sagrada Familia debe huir a Egipto. Recordemos que ya se encontraban lejos de casa, habiendo partido de Galilea para el censo. Ahora se enfrentan a un viaje peligroso a un país extranjero donde no conocen a nadie, no hablan el idioma, no tienen dónde alojarse, apenas poseen pertenencias y desconocen cuánto tiempo deberán permanecer allí. Pero, entonces como ahora, los padres están dispuestos a sacrificarlo casi todo por sus hijos. Así, en la oscuridad de la noche, María y José huyen de su tierra natal con su hijo recién nacido. Quizás no tengan dinero ni posesiones, pero poseen las virtudes que Pablo exhorta a los colosenses a practicar: paciencia, humildad, mansedumbre, bondad, compasión, perdón, gratitud y amor. A diferencia de los bienes materiales, estas virtudes crecen con el uso. Que la Sagrada Familia fortalezca estas virtudes en nosotros, ayudándonos a ver también a las familias que hoy luchan como sagradas familias.

De las virtudes que enumera San Pablo, ¿cuál te resulta más difícil practicar? ¿Por qué? ¿Cómo se puede mejorar en este aspecto?

—We Celebrate Worship Resource, Vol. 51, No. 1

QUESTION OF THE WEEK • PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

RESPECT FOR ELDERS

Reading I Duties Toward Parents •
Sirach 3:3-7, 14-17a
Reading II The Practice Of Virtues •
Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel The Finding In The Temple •
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Key Passage: Jesus went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. (Luke 2:51a)

Adult: What does your family do to honor and respect its older members?

Kids: Why did Joseph leave Israel? How can he be an example for you?

RESPECTO A LOS MAYORES

Lectura I Deberes hacia los padres •
Eclesiástico 3:3-7, 14-17a
Lectura II La práctica de las virtudes •
Colosenses 3:12-21
Evangelio El hallazgo en el templo •
Mateo 2:13-15, 19-23

Pasaje clave: Entonces Jesús volvió con sus padres a Nazaret, y los obedecía en todo. (Lucas 2:51a)

Adultos: ¿Qué hace tu familia para honrar y respetar a sus miembros mayores?

Niños: ¿Por qué José dejó Israel? ¿Cómo puede ser un ejemplo para ti?

**BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD AND WALK IN HIS WAYS.
¡DICHOSO EL QUE TEME AL SEÑOR, Y SIGUE SUS CAMINOS!**



HAPPY FELIZ
New Year Año Nuevo

May this New Year bring you closer to your dreams and fill your life with love, laughter, and endless joy.

Que este Año Nuevo te acerque a tus sueños y llene tu vida de amor, risas y alegría infinita.

24-HOUR ADORATION & EXPOSITION

Friday, January 2nd
From 8:00am through
Saturday, January 3rd
at 8:00am

Viernes, 2 de enero
de 8:00am hasta el
Sábado, 3 de enero
a las 8:00am

24-HORAS DE ADORACION & EXPOSICION




Holy Land Gifts Regalos de Tierra Santa

The Christian community in Gaza and the Holy Land continues to face severe hardships. Bethlehem is now surrounded by checkpoints and barriers that restrict daily life, and the war in Gaza has brought tourism to a halt, forcing souvenir shops and hotels to close. As a result, unemployment among local carvers has reached 70%. Catholics in the Holy Land are seeking support through prayers and the purchase of their handcrafted religious artworks, which provide essential income for about 600 Catholic families. Payments can be made by card, cash, or Apple Pay, and buyers are encouraged to consider these items as meaningful gifts. ***Holy Land gifts will be available for purchase after all Masses the weekend of January 10–11.***

La comunidad cristiana en Gaza y en Tierra Santa continúa enfrentando grandes dificultades. Belén está rodeada de controles, puertas y barreras que restringen la vida diaria, y la guerra en Gaza ha detenido el turismo, lo que ha obligado a cerrar las tiendas de recuerdos y los hoteles. Como resultado, el desempleo entre los talladores ha alcanzado el 70%. Los católicos de Tierra Santa piden apoyo a través de sus oraciones y la compra de estas obras artesanales religiosas, que brindan ingresos esenciales a unas 600 familias católicas en Belén. Se aceptarán pagos con tarjeta, efectivo y Apple Pay, y se anima a los compradores a considerar estos artículos como regalos significativos.

Los regalos de Tierra Santa estarán disponibles para su compra después de todas las Misas el fin de semana del 10 y 11 de enero.



Are you in the process of writing your will?
Prayerfully consider including St. Francis of Assisi
Catholic Church in your Will.

¿Está en proceso de redactar su testamento?
Considere en oración el incluir a la Iglesia Católica
San Francisco de Asís en su testamento.

CLOSED
CERRADO

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be CLOSED from : Monday, December 29th, through Thursday, January 1st, 2026

OFICINA PARROQUIAL CERRADA

La Oficina Parroquial estará CERRADA: del lunes 29 de diciembre al jueves 1 de enero de 2026

NEW YEAR'S EVE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST VIGIL
6:30PM – ENGLISH

NEW YEAR'S DAY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST
10:00AM – BILINGUAL



*Mary, Mother of God
Maria, Madre de Dios*

VISPERA DE AÑO NUEVO
MIÉRCOLES, 31 DE DICIEMBRE VIGILIA
8:00PM – ESPAÑOL

AÑO NUEVO
JUEVES, 1 DE ENERO
10:00AM – BILINGUAL



Nuestra Señora de *Guadalupe*

En honor y celebración de la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, el viernes 12 de diciembre, nuestra comunidad se reunió en procesión y en el rezo del Santo Rosario, culminando con la Santa Misa. Un agradecimiento especial a todos los que participaron, asistieron y ofrecieron su tiempo y talentos para hacer posible esta hermosa celebración.

In honor and celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Friday, December 12th, our community came together in procession and in prayer of the Holy Rosary, culminating in the Holy Mass. A special thank you to all who participated, attended, and generously shared their time and talents to make this beautiful celebration possible.

PARISH EVENTS • EVENTOS PARROQUIALES

[Facebook.com/StFrancisApopka](https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisApopka)

Monday, December 29
OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, December 30
OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, December 31 (NEW YEAR'S EVE)
OFFICE CLOSED

6:30 pm Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass (CHU)
8:00 pm Misa de Vigilia Maria, Madre de Dios (CHU)

Thursday, January 1 (MARY, MOTHER OF GOD)
OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 am Bilingual Mass (CHU)

Friday, January 2

8:00 am Open Food Pantry
6:30 pm Haitian Prayer Group (SC02)
7:00 pm Grupo de Oración (CHP)
7:00 pm Emmaus Prep para Retiro Damas (FF04)
8:00 pm Ensayo Musica Jovenes Adultos (FF03)

Saturday, January 3

8:00 pm Emmaus (PC)

Sunday, January 4

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal (CHP)
2:00 pm Emmaus Reunion de Caballeros (PC)
2:00 pm Emmaus Clases de Biblia (FF05)
2:30 pm Youth Bible Study (FF03)

(CHU) = Church (CHP) = Chapel (NUR) = Nursery
(STG) = Stations Garden (PC) = Parish Center (FF) = Faith Formation
(CR) = Choir Room (CHUPL) = Church Pkng. Lot
(CHUF) = Church Front (SC) = St. Clare Hall
(SCFR) = St. Clare Fellowship Room (OF) = Office

PARISH INFORMATION • INFORMACIÓN DE LA PARROQUIA

READINGS AND MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 29

1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

8:00am ☩ Mary & Jerry Fern

Tuesday, December 30

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a; 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

8:00am ☩ Carol Nordengren

Wednesday, December 31

1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

8:00am ☩ Patrick Decker

6:30pm ☩ Renato Parungao

8:00pm ☩ Manuel Pazmino

Thursday, January 1

Num 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

10:00am Blessings over the Snyder Family

Friday, January 2

1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

8:00am For the Health of Jerry Miceli

Saturday, January 3

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

5:00pm In Thanksgiving

7:00pm Almas del Purgatorio

Sunday, January 4

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 2:1-12

7:30am Souls in Purgatory 9:00am

☩ Jeronimo Rodriguez Sanchez

11:00am Blessings for the McCauley Family

1:00pm ☩ Manuel Pazmino

6:00pm ☩ Ready Pacia,

☩ Adela Romero,

☩ Victorino Ponce

GIFT STORE

The St. Francis Gift Store is open before and after all weekend Masses. For more information, contact Ana by TEXT at 407-970-0746.

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Office is **OPEN**

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am to 4:00pm

and Friday, 8:30am to 3:30pm

Closed daily for lunch between 12pm—1pm

ESTAMOS AQUÍ PARA SERVIRLES

La Oficina Parroquial de San Francisco de Asís está **ABIERTA**

Lunes a jueves de 8:30am a 4:00pm

y los viernes de 8:30am a 3:30pm

Cerramos diariamente para el almuerzo de 12pm—1pm

CHAPEL HOURS

Daily Mass is celebrated in the CHAPEL from 8:00am to 8:30am.

The chapel is open Monday—Thursday from

8:30am to 4:00pm, Friday until 3:00pm for private prayer.

The church is closed during the week.

HORARIO DE LA CAPILLA

Misa en Español los miércoles a las 12:15pm en la CAPILLA

La capilla está abierta de lunes a jueves de

8:30am a 4:00pm y los viernes hasta las 3:00pm para

oración privada.

La iglesia esta cerrada durante toda la semana.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays from 3:45pm to 4:45pm in English, in the church

CONFESIONES

Sábados de 6:00pm a 6:45pm en español, en la iglesia

ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CHAIN

To add a name or intention to the Prayer Chain, call

Kathy Leigh at 407-536-0117 or by email at crabbekay1@gmail.com.

CADENA DE ORACIÓN

Para agregar un nombre o intención a la Cadena de Oración, envíela por correo electrónico a crabbekay1@gmail.com.

PRAYER SHAWLS

To pick up a shawl for yourself or a person in need, please call or text Sandy Bove at 407-463-9437.

MANTO DE ORACIÓN

Para recoger un manto para usted o para una persona que lo necesite, llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Sandy Bove al 407-463-9437.

DESPENSA DE ALIMENTOS

La Despensa de Alimentos de San Francisco está abierta a todos los feligreses y sus familias. Para más información comuníquese a la Oficina Parroquial.

FOOD PANTRY

The St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry is open on the FIRST and THIRD Friday of each month from 9am to 12pm. All parishioners and their families are welcome.

For more information contact 407-505-8507.

CONTACT

834 S.O.B.T., Apopka, FL 32703

Ph: 407-886-4602

www.stfrancisapopka.org

facebook.com/StFrancisApopka

Parochial Administrator

Fr. Mathew Vettath Joseph, S.D.V.

fr.mathew@stfrancisapopka.org

Ext. 306

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Ferdinandus Sadiman, S.D.V.

fr.ferdinandus@stfrancisapopka.org

Ext. 307

Deacons

Dcn. Ruthven Jackie

Dcn. Greg Kandra

Dcn. George Torres

Administrative Assistant

Caroline McCauley

cmccauley@stfrancisapopka.org

Ext. 301

Business Manager

Antonio Barros

adminoffice@stfrancisapopka.org

Ext. 303

Director of Faith Formation

Mercedes Henry

Ext. 308

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Please call the office

Director of Music

Julie Campese

Maintenance

Carmen Arzola

Gerardo Briones



2026 MARCH for LIFE

TAMPA, FLORIDA

Saturday, January 17, 2026
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
to Perry Harvey Sr. Park
9am-1pm



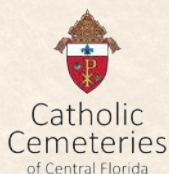
Join the march, beginning at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. We will celebrate the sanctity of life through prayer, music, and inspiring speeches aimed at raising awareness, inspiring others, and advocating for life in our community.

SCAN TO RSVP

QUEEN OF ANGELS CATHOLIC CEMETERY



1901 Queen of Angels Drive
Winter Park, FL 32792
407-848-4057



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Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will

For further information,
please call the parish office.



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Contact Ana at 407-970-0746

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