



**St. Monica  
Catholic Church  
(Est. 1858)**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 24, 2017**



***Christmas Blessings!***



Our Fourth Sunday of Advent is a blur into Christmas Eve! How blessed we are to live where we live and how we live.

If you are visiting St. Monica's or St. John's for Christmas, we hope that you feel welcome home. Know that you are loved.

Christmas comes from two words: *Christ & Mass.*

Father Pablo and I wish you a most wonderful and blessed Christmas with your families and friends. Thank you for your wonderful stewardship of the many gifts from God that you share with our communities and with the poor. I see that you make room for Jesus, Mary and Joseph with great love.

*“For the Lord delights in you  
and makes your land his spouse.  
As a young man marries a virgin,  
your Builder shall marry you;  
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride  
so shall your God rejoice in you.”*  
(Isaiah 62:1-5)

Open the wonderful gifts that God has anointed you with.

*“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is the Christ.”*

Let us take time in prayer to be “present” to the gift of Jesus.

Love, joy, peace,  
Father Ron +



**GOD'S PROMISE**

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a “house,” that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**Administrator**

**Fr. Ronald Camarda, LMHC**  
**Fatherronstmonica@gmail.com**

**Parochial Vicar**

**Fr. Pablo Fuentes**  
**frpfuentes@yahoo.com**  
114 South 4th Street  
Palatka, Florida 32177  
E-Mail: **stmonicacatholic@bellsouth.net**  
Website: **stmonicacatholicchurch.com**  
Facebook: **St. Monica Church, Palatka**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil                    4:30 p.m.  
Sunday                                9:00 a.m.

**Weekday Masses - 8:30 a.m.**  
**First Friday Adoration/Sacred Heart Devotion**  
**and Other Fridays Holy Hour - 9:00 a.m.**  
**First Saturday Mass with the Anointing of the Sick 10:00 a.m.**  
**Holy Day Masses**  
8 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**Confessions - Saturday: 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 - Or by Appointment**

**Those needing "Anointing of the Sick" or in need of a Priest, please call these telephone numbers only:**

**During Business Hours: Parish Office - 325-9777  
After Business Hours : 904-994-6803**

**Please call the Parish Office to let us know if a parishioner is hospitalized, seriously ill or homebound so that a Priest can visit and anoint them.**

### Baptism Reminder!

Individuals or families must be registered Parishioners and attending Mass for six months before requesting the Baptism of a baby.

#### Next Week's Mass Intentions

Sat.	12/23	4:30 p.m.	+ Mike Harris
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>12/24</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>12/24</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Children's Christmas Program</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>12/24</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Family Mass</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>12/24</b>	<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Choir Program</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>12/24</b>	<b>9:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>12/25</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Merry Christmas</b>
Tue.	12/26	8:30 a.m.	Living members of Barady & Clementine Family
Wed.	12/27	8:30 a.m.	+ Miguel Dejuk Yunis
Thur.	12/28	8:30 a.m.	+ Deceased members of the Brady & Clementine Family
Fri.	12/29	8:30 a.m.	+ Mons Santiago Guanlao
Sat.	12/30	4:30 p.m.	+ Father Joseph Finley

#### Office Hours PARISH OFFICE

**Phone: 386-325-9777 • Fax: 386-329-1960**

Mon., Wed., Thur., and Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
114 South 4th Street  
Palatka, Florida 32177

Nancy Tatum, Pastoral Administrator  
Cheryl Carr, Receptionist  
Diane Mutchie, Stewardship Pastoral Associate  
Lorenzo Delacruz, Church Sexton

**Attention**—The Diocese of Saint Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call: Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator 904-262-3200, ext. 129, or the Department of Children and Families at 1-800-96-Abuse (800-962-2873).



The angels announced the birth of Jesus the Messiah, the promised one of Israel. "To you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, who is Christ Jesus." (LK 2:11) His works and words identify him as the Holy One of God.

CCC 437-438

*The Parish Staff wishes you all a Merry Christmas! You have blessed our lives, and hearts with much love & happiness. Thank you for everything you are and everything you do! Wishing you all God's love and his wonderful peace.*



#### St. Johns the Evangelist Interlachen All are Welcome

##### Mass Schedule

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.  
Friday 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 11:30 a.m.

##### Social after Sunday Mass

##### Confessions

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

##### Bible Study

Wednesday 4:30 p.m.

# Here's What's Happening!

**December 25th - 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass**

**December 26th - Parish office is closed**

**January 1, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. Solemnity of Mary**

**January 1, 2018 - Parish office closed**

**January 4, 2018 - Mobile Food Pantry**

**January 5, 2018 - St. Monica Fish Dinner**

**January 9, 2018 - Into the Deep,  
Bible Study  
with Father Ron, 6:00 p.m.**

**January 13, 2018 - Day of Reflection, more  
information to follow**



“This Christmas, let us ask **Mary**, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, to help us see in our neighbor the face of **Jesus**, God made man.”

POPE FRANCIS



*Solemnity*  
OF  
**MARY**  
MOTHER OF GOD

Mass 9:00 a.m.

JANUARY 1, 2017



**St. Monica Hospitality**  
**After Sunday Mass—Hot Breakfast \$4.00.**  
Cooked and Served by Knights of Columbus.  
Sponsored by **Beck Auto Group.**  
**Free Coffee and Donuts** (Donations Accepted)

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — I will fix a place for my people. I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

**Psalms** — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

**Second Reading** — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

**Gospel** — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]  
**During the Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
**Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

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

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the *Christkind* in Austria and Belgium, *El Niño Jesús* in Columbia, and *Le Petit Jesus* in France, where he shares his duties with *Père Noël*. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but *Ježíšek*, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**MASTERS FUNERAL HOMES**  
 CREMATORY AND PALATKA MEMORIAL GARDENS  
 Putnam County's Most Trusted Family  
 In Funeral Service **325-4564**

Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.  
 For further information, please call the Parish Office.



**REBECCA A FAUNCE, DMD**  
 Orthodontic for Children and Adults  
 2 Locations  
 201 Health Park Blvd., Ste. 216,  
 St. Augustine  
**904-829-8899**  
 1 Florida Park Drive S., Ste 201,  
 Palm Coast  
**386-446-9312**

**SENTRY** Termite & Pest Control  
 Licensed • Insured  
**CALL 684-BUGS (2847)**  
 \$20.00 OFF New Service For Parishioners, Family and Friends with Ad or Bulletin

**JOHNSON-OVERTURF FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY**  
 Since 1901  
 Trusted Friends In Time of Need  
 386-325-4521

**Promote Your Business 365 Days a Year With Custom Promotional Calendars!**

Makes a Great Gift For Clients  
 Call for brochure and pricing!  
**800.566.6170**  
 customercare@jspaluch.com

**First Coast Obstetrics & Gynecology**  
 Lucien-Max Tchuisse, M.D. FACOG  
 PARISHIONER, SACRED HEART  
 386-325-5699  
 6100 St. Johns Ave., Ste. 6, Palatka



From the WLP Vault comes the Bible Story of Christmas featuring 8 Classic Christmas Carols and a reading of the Gospel of Luke 2: 4-20 by Bing Crosby!  
 Also available on vinyl.  
**800-566-6150**  
 Photo Courtesy of Bing Crosby Enterprises

**Protecting Seniors Nationwide**

**Medical Alert System**  
 \$29.95/MO. billed quarterly  
 • One Free Month  
 • No Long-Term Contract  
 • Price Guarantee  
 • Easy Self Installation  
 Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

**Saint Margaret Sunday Missal**  
 An ideal companion for personal prayer.  
 In Stock & Ready to Order Today.  
 CALL OR ORDER ONLINE. \$39.95  
 800-566-6150 • www.wlpmusic.com

**If You Live Alone You Need LIFEWatch!**  
 24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!  
 ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as \$19.95 a month  
 ✓ Police  
 ✓ Fire  
 ✓ Friends/Family  
 FREE Shipping  
 FREE Activation  
 NO Long Term Contracts  
 CALL NOW! **800.809.3352** No Landline? No Problem!  
 \* Real Time GPS Tracking \* Fall Detection  
 "I have peace of mind... Mom remains independent."  
 MONITORED IN THE USA  
**LIFEWatchUSA**  
 PERSONAL CARE SERVICE SINCE 1982

**See Your Ad in COLOR**  
 Call J.S. Paluch Today!  
**1.800.432.3240**

**catholicmatch® Florida**  
 CatholicMatch.com/myFL

**Standing on the Rock CD** by James Wahl  
**FUN AND FAITH-FILLED MUSIC**  
 for little ones, with 10 songs based on Bible stories and the teachings of Jesus.  
 This is a new music collection for preschool children and those who are in early grade school.  
 \$17.00 + S&H  
**WLP WORLD LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS**  
 the music and liturgy division of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.  
 800-566-6150 • www.wlp.jspaluch.com/14028.htm

**FINDaPARISH.com**  
**The Most Complete Online National Directory of Catholic Parishes**  
**CHECK IT OUT TODAY!**

**Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.**  
 Support Your Church & Bulletin.  
 Free professional ad design & my help!  
 email: sales@jspaluch.com

**For Information ... Call 800.432.3240**

**Catholic Cruises and Tours**  
 Come Sail Away on a 7-night Catholic Exotic Cruise starting as low as \$1045 per couple  
 Brian or Sally, coordinators 860.399.1785  
**www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com**

Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers

**Thank YOU**  
 Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin.  
 I am patronizing your business because of it!

**Blessed Art Thou**  
 Mother, Lady, Mystic, Queen  
 Art by Brother Michael O'Neill McGrath, OSFS  
 Prayers by Father Richard N. Fragomeni  
 Hardcover book \$39.95

**800-566-6150**  
**World Library Publications**  
 the music and liturgy division of J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.  
 www.wlpmusic.com

**BANKS ACCOUNTING**  
 Tax Prep/Bookkeeping  
**519 Crill Avenue**  
**325-7523**

**ALBERTO G. DAVID, D.M.D.**  
 1971 Old Moultrie Rd.  
 St. Augustine  
 904-829-5111  
 Al & Chris David, Parishioners