

December 14, 2025 † 3rd Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 13, 2025

8:00am Mass

Intention of: Manuel & Rosa Diniz †

Requested by: Maria Machado

5:30pm Mass

Intention: All Souls in Purgatory †

Requested by: Gorette Matos

Intention: David Melo "18th Heavenly Birthday" †

Requested by: Joe & Leonor Melo

Sunday, December 14, 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent

7:00am Mass

Intention: Jeanne Tristant †

Requested by: Manuel & Nancy DeSilva

8:30am Portuguese Mass

Intention: Dionisio Espinola †

Requested by: Dennis Espinola

Intention: Antonio Galante †

Requested by: Family

10:00am Mass

Intention: Virginio & Maria Pacheco †

Requested by: Virgil & Carmina Pacheco

5:00pm Mass at St. Mary's Church

Intention of: Those Inscribed in the *St. Mary's Memorial Book*

6:30pm Spanish Mass at St. Mary's Church

Intention of: People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

8:00am Mass

Intention: Antonio Tomás Sousa †

Requested by: Maria Sousa

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

8:00am Mass

Intention: Joe & George Silva †

Requested by: Michael & Filomena Heilman

Thursday, December 18, 2025

8:00am Mass

Intention: Maria José Feliciano †

Requested by: Ana Cabral Family

† 10:00am

**Funeral Mass for
Susan Santos**

Friday, December 19, 2025

8:00am Mass

Intention: José & Clara Homen and Antonio & Emily Silveira †

Requested by: Manuel & Maria Silveira

8:30am to 4:45pm Adoration in the Mission Church

5:00pm Confessions in the New Church

Saturday, December 20, 2025

8:00am Mass

Intention: Liberal Azevedo †

Requested by: Paul & Kathleen Xavier

Intention: Armelino Silveira †

Requested by: Danny & Shawna Silveira

5:30pm Mass

Intention: Antonio Galante †

Requested by: Mary Oliveira

Sunday, December 21, 2025

4th Sunday of Advent

7:00am Mass

Intention: Manuel & Rosa Diniz †

Requested by: Ana Galhano

8:30am Portuguese Mass

Intention: Frank & Mary Rodrigues †

Requested by: Tony Rodrigues

Intention: João DaRocha Martins †

Requested by: Caetano Family

10:00am Mass

Intention: Cathy Araiza †

Requested by: Manuel Reis

Intention: Larry D Soares †

Requested by: Parish Community

5:00pm Mass at St. Mary's Church

Intention: José Couto †

Requested by: Tony Couto

Intention: Matthew Freitas †

Requested by: Parents

6:30pm Spanish Mass at St. Mary's Church

Intention of: People of the Parish

This Week's Parish Schedule

December 14, 2025 – CPIDES Christmas Party

December 15, 2025 – PFSA Meeting in the Parish Hall at 6:30pm

December 16, 2025 – YLI Meeting in the Parish Hall at 6:30pm

December 18, 2025 – CPIDES Meeting in the Parish Hall at 5:30pm

December 18, 2025 – Children's Christmas Vigil Mass Rehearsal in New Church at 6:30pm

Upcoming Parish Events & Activities

December 24 & 25, 2025 – Parish Office **CLOSED**

Reflect today on these questions within the context of your own life. When you pray, do you primarily ask for favors, blessings, or miracles? Or do you primarily pray for the Cross? Do you see greater value in having God remove some suffering from your life or in transforming your suffering by the power of His Cross? Ask for the grace to die with our Lord, to become a living sacrifice of love, and to have the strength to lay down your life for others. By choosing that which has eternal value, you choose the better part and will rejoice in that better part forever.

(Visit www.catholic-daily-reflections.com for more!)

Pope's December Prayer Intention: For Christians in Areas of Conflict

God of peace, who through the blood of Your Son has reconciled the world to Yourself, today we pray for Christians living amidst wars and violence. Even surrounded by pain, may they never cease to feel the gentle kindness of Your presence and the prayers of their brothers and sisters in faith. For through You, and strengthened by fraternal bonds, can they become the seeds of reconciliation, builders of hope in ways both small and great, capable of forgiving and moving forward, of bridging divides, and of seeking justice with mercy.

Lord Jesus, who called blessed those who work for peace, make us Your instruments of peace even where harmony seems impossible. Holy Spirit, source of hope in the darkest times, sustain the faith of those who suffer and strengthen their hope. Do not let us fall into indifference, and make us builders of unity, like Jesus. Amen.



Is Christmas Pagan? What Catholics Believe About Christmas

Dr. Michael Barber answers some of the Internet's most asked questions about Christmas. Is Christmas a pagan holiday? Why is Christmas celebrated on December 25? What happened at the "first Christmas"? Find out the answers to these and more!

Renew yourself Spiritually and log onto purchased by the parish free to you, simple to use a lot of content. See it on the computer, smart tv or app on phones.

Step 1 • Go to formed.org

Step 2 • Click "Formed for Parishes"

Step 3 • Click "Find parish subscription" and enter Hilmar zip code **95324**. Holy Rosary will appear.

Step 4 • Enter first and last name & your email.
That's it, enjoy!



Holy Rosary † St. Mary's Altar Society

will have Poinsettias available if anyone would like to donate towards one in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend. These plants will be used to decorate our 3 churches. Minimum donation is \$15 as we will be purchasing larger plants this year. Please call Anna at the Parish office to reserve yours.

Still Need THAT special Christmas gift?



Do your parents or other loved ones have material items galore?

Is someone on your shopping list difficult to buy for?

Please remember Holy Rosary † St. Mary's Legacy of Faith can make your Christmas shopping meaningful and *so easy*. Gifts of any amount *can be made in honor of a loved one*. With a Legacy of Faith gift, your friends or loved ones will become beloved friends of our parish for years to come. Making a Legacy of Faith gift is as easy as making a phone call. For gifts that exceed \$50.00, Honorees will be inscribed in the Legacy of Faith Book. A Mass is offered once a month for all those inscribed in this special book. For more information contact the parish office at 667-8961
Thank you for your consideration!

A Great Way to GIVE!



Want to give to our Religious Education Program, but don't know how or what? Check out our **AMAZON Wish List!** It is an easy way to code to take you directly there!

Christmas Memorial Gifts...

We are now accepting donations for those gifts in memory of loved ones. The gifts will be labeled accordingly. These gifts will be given to every child in attendance during the Christmas weekend Masses.



Christmas • New Year's Break

We will be on break December 22nd through January 5th.

We wish ALL our CCD families a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!!



EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

will be held Sunday, January 4, 2026, beginning with the 11:30am Portuguese Mass where children are asked to bring a gift to offer to Baby Jesus. These items will later be auctioned at the Storage Building during an afternoon of fellowship and entertainment and delicious food. Please join us in this special celebration!



2026 Mass Intentions Request forms are available!

We will try to accommodate as many requests as per availability. **PLEASE TAKE ONLY ONE FORM**, as all forms are accounted for. Intentions are limited to a maximum of 4 per household. Please note dates requested on the form are **NOT GUARANTEED** and will be accommodated **IF POSSIBLE**. The requested donation remains the same at \$10 per Mass. Please check the bulletin weekly for Mass intentions.

Bulletin Notices

Requests must be received 10 days **PRIOR** to the weekend the announcement is to be published. Email your request to:
BulletinHolyRosary@gmail.com

Please Keep In Your Prayers...

Maura Almada, Addy Alvarez, Linda Andrade, Maria Olivia Avila, Sally Baggett, Maria L. Bettencourt, Laucia Bogacki, Brityn Butrick, Luciano Cabral, Arthur Carmo, Adolfo Cisneros, Shirley Coelho, Marren de Orta Cordeiro, Chasity Cox, Kelly Cox, Nisa Cox, Sarah Cox, Jennifer DeCoteau, Vinci Deleberto, Ann DePalma, David Estrada, Bailey Fernandes, Gary Fernandes, Porter Fernandes, MaryJo Fontes, Jared Germann, Tobias Govea, Finley Huff, Richard Huntley, Austin Jones, Tiesha Kelley, Debbie Kidder, Steven LaMarre, Brian Lawrence, Nancy Lawrence, Philbert Lawrence, Henry Locke, Linda & Jimmy Lopes, Mike Lopes, José Lourenco, Jerry Lourenco, Maria Lourenco, Serra Lourenco, JoAnn Lundell, Joe Machado, Josephina Martins, William Matheron, Brenda Mays, Mark Medeiros, Antonio Mendes, Edward Mendes, Kendra Mendes, Nico Morasci, Maverik Nash, Beatriz Nunes, Alan Oliveira, Anthony Parreira, Jane Bigelow Poindexter, Lidia Rocha, Stephanie Rockwell, Manuel Silveira, John Toste, Zeb Parreira, Samantha Roberts, Tony Rodrigues, Nathan Segura, Manuel A. Sequeira, Lucy Silveira, Amaro Souza, Zelma Souza, Susie Totten, Rose Tristao, José Vieira, Mary José Vieira, Shirley Vierra, Sally Ann Thomas and Lesley Zorra

If you would like someone who is currently ill, or someone who will be having surgery, to be added to our bulletin prayer list, please contact the parish office at (209)667-8961 or email bulletinholysary@gmail.com. Kindly advise us of any changes that need to be made to this list. Thank you!



Let us remember and pray
for our beloved departed & especially for

Susan Santos

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls, and the souls of all the
faithful departed, rest in peace."*

This Week's Featured Advertiser



DANIEL MACIEL
REALTOR® / BROKER / OWNER
209.678.3159
DANIEL@MACIELPROPERTIES.COM
WWW.DANIELMACIEL.COM
DRE 01323683 | 01834856



*"God never gives someone a gift they
are not capable of receiving."*
- Pope Francis

Parish Offering & 2nd Collection



Simply visit our website: www.hilmarholysary.org
Click on the OSV online giving logo. Open an account.
Choose: one time, weekly or monthly.
It's that easy!!

OUR OFFERING COLLECTION FOR.....

December 6 & 7 \$4,837
2nd Collection is for the BUILDING FUND \$1,737
Anniversary Mass \$1,518
This weekend's 2nd Collection is for the RETIRED RELIGIOUS

Many thanks to those who support our parish!
PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE YOUR ENVELOPE #



CELEBRATING THIS WEEK....

Happy Birthday to...

Preston Costa • Delilah Davalos • Carlos DeLaTorre
Fatima Rocha • Landyn Segura • Nathan Segura
Cooper Soares • Fatima Sousa •

***Want your birthday/anniversary mentioned in the bulletin?
Call the parish office to be added to our list!***

This weekend's St. Mary's 5:00pm Mass is dedicated to
those honored and memorialized through our

St. Mary's Memorial Book

The following individuals are being inscribed this month:

† Jeff Souza

We thank all those who have supported the
St. Mary's Memorial Book by their contributions to this
lasting gift made in honor or in remembrance.



Parish Christmas Letters

Parish Christmas Letters were mailed out this week. If
your family did not receive one, it is because you may not
be a registered parishioner OR we do not have an
updated address for you.
Please call the parish office if you would like to register.
There are no obligations, only benefits!
Additional Christmas letters may be found at the main
church entrance.

10TH ANNIVERSARY

New Church Celebration



This Week's Featured Feast Days



St. Stephen

Feast Day: **December 26**

Saint Stephen, honored as the first Christian martyr, holds a special place in the early Church's history. Chosen as one of the first seven deacons, he was entrusted with serving the poor and assisting the Apostles in their ministry. Stephen was known for his profound wisdom, deep faith, and powerful preaching, which stirred both admiration and controversy. His defense of the Gospel before the Sanhedrin revealed his intimate understanding of salvation history and his unwavering love for Christ. Ultimately, Stephen's martyrdom—stoned to death as he proclaimed his vision of Jesus at the right hand of the Father—became a model of Christian courage.

In his final moments, Stephen imitated Christ in a remarkable way. He prayed for his persecutors, asking God not to hold their actions against them. This act of mercy reveals his profound holiness and the transformative power of God's grace. His death also intersected with the story of St. Paul, who witnessed the stoning; tradition holds that Stephen's prayer helped sow the seeds of Paul's later conversion. Stephen's witness reminds Catholics that the path of discipleship often involves sacrifice, forgiveness, and steadfast faith.

The Feast of Saint Stephen is celebrated on December 26 in the Roman Catholic Church, inviting the faithful to reflect on the cost of discipleship even as the joy of Christmas continues. Celebrating Stephen's feast day during the Octave of Christmas highlights the close connection between Christ's birth and the call to follow Him with integrity and courage. It also draws attention to the early Church's commitment to justice and charity, virtues Stephen embodied as a deacon.

Catholics can celebrate this feast day by engaging in acts of charity, following Stephen's example of caring for the marginalized. Donating to a food pantry, supporting local shelters, or offering help to someone in need honors his ministry of service. Families may also choose to prepare a simple meal and share it with a neighbor or someone who might be lonely during the holidays. These gestures reflect Stephen's heart for the poor and the vulnerable.

Prayer is another meaningful way to honor Saint Stephen. Attending daily Mass on December 26, praying the Liturgy of the Hours, or offering a rosary for those suffering persecution deepens one's connection to Stephen's spirit of faithfulness. Reading the account of his martyrdom in Acts 6–7 can also inspire personal reflection on the courage required to live the Gospel. Asking Stephen's intercession for the grace to forgive others—even in difficult circumstances—makes this feast spiritually fruitful.

Finally, families and individuals can make Saint Stephen's Day a time to cultivate a spirit of peace and reconciliation. Writing a note of forgiveness, making amends with someone, or offering prayers for those who have caused hurt can be powerful ways to live out Stephen's final act of mercy. In this way, the feast becomes not only a remembrance of a great saint but also an opportunity for spiritual renewal.



CONFESSIONS

Friday, December 19th

9:00am to 10:00am & 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Monday, December 22nd

9:00am to 10:00am & 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Tuesday, December 23rd

9:00am to 10:00am & 5:00pm to 7:00pm

CHRISTMAS LITURGY

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24th

3:30pm • Mass St. Mary's • Stevinson

5:00pm • Children's Vigil Mass

12:00am • Midnight Bi-Lingual Mass

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25th

8:30am • Portuguese Mass

10:00am • English Mass

11:30am • St. Mary's Spanish Mass

2026 New Year's Masses

Thursday, January 1, 2026

10:00am • English Mass

11:30am • Portuguese Mass

Week 3 – Gaudete Sunday

*Light the first and second purple candles, and the pink candle.

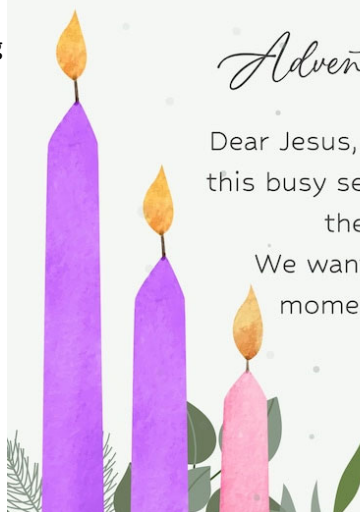
Scripture Reflection

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them." Luke 2:20

Advent Wreath Prayer

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas.

Amen



FINANCE COUNCIL

The Finance Council meets every two months and oversees the finances of the parish.

Current Members:

Pat Bivens
Wesley Caetano
Anthony Ortiz
Natalie Pires
Tima Seward
Shirley Vierra

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Pastoral Council meets monthly to discuss the needs of the parish. Our Council members are the eyes and ears of our parish. Please feel free to give them your input to be shared at the monthly meetings. This meeting is open to everyone.

Current Members:

Christopher Freeberg
Annie Leandro
Kevin Lindo
Taylor Nylund
Lindsey Oliveira
Betty Jean Rocha
Carlos Rocha
Jorge Vieira
Paulo & Madalena Vitorino

Need to get in touch with one of our contacts?
Call the parish office at (209) 667-8961

CONTACTS

Altar Servers • Veber Caetano

Altar Society • Carmel Caetano & Ines Vieira

Baptism Preparation

Christopher & Monica Lopes – English Classes
Roberto & Grettel Morera – Spanish Classes

Children's Liturgy • Annie Leandro

Cleaning Teams • Carmel Caetano

Eucharistic Ministers • Veber Caetano

Finance Council • Tima Seward

Lectors • Laurette Locke

Marriage Preparation • Armelim & Odelta Cardoso

OCIA (*Order of Christian Initiation for Adults*) • Christopher Freeberg

Our Lady of the Rosary Festa • Paulo & Madalena Vitorino

Pastoral Council • Fr. Isaque Meneses

Portuguese Prayer Group • Iria Martins

Raising Future Saints • Anjelica Locke

Religious Education • 209-632-7163

Annie Leandro • HolyRosaryStMarysCCD@gmail.com

Nicole Cozzitorto • HolyRosaryChurchConfirmation@gmail.com

Right to Life • Melissa Wood

Safe Environment Training • Annie Leandro

Teams of Our Lady • Frank & Annie Leandro

Young Ladies' Institute • Pam Real

Young Men's Institute • Duarte Monteiro

WELCOME TO HOLY ROSARY † ST. MARY'S FAITH COMMUNITY

We welcome all visitors. Thank you for joining us in the Celebration of the Eucharist.

We hope you will find ways to participate in and support our parish life and mission by sharing your time, talent and treasure.

If you have been attending services but are not registered or if you just moved into the area, we invite you to join us as a member of our parish family, using the registration form below or stopping by the Parish Office. Your registration makes it possible for us to communicate with you and to plan and provide for your needs more effectively. Registration is required for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Marriage and enrollment in our religious education programs.

Register, Participate, and Share your Gifts and Talents!

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please circle all that apply: (1) New Parishioner (2) Update Information (3) Moving, please remove from directory