

Weekend of December 22, 2024

Dear People of God,

This 4th Sunday of Advent we get to explore Mary's visit to Elizabeth. The details of this story are unique to St. Luke and not found in the other Gospel narratives... This encounter between Mary and Elizabeth is situated between the two annunciation accounts (to Zechariah – John the Baptist's father - and to Mary) and brings together four individuals: two expectant mothers and two infants in the womb.

Both Elizabeth and her unborn child assume prophetic roles, as his leaping in the womb identifies John as a prophet. Sensing this leaping, Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and acknowledges the blessing that Mary has already received.

Elizabeth's final words emphasize, yet again, Mary's blessedness, for she is the one "who believed." Hopefully, the readings this week will remind us all that the fulfillment of God's promises is near. We can all now look eagerly with hope to Christmas.

Prayer: Mother Mary, pray for me that I may have the faith you lived. When questions arise in my heart, help me to respond generously to God as you did. May I trust in all that God has spoken in imitation of you. Jesus, I trust in You. Many thanks to:

- MMWG for their wonderful Christmas Party for the Salesians at St. Philip Res.
- Rel. Ed. For Children's Christmas Pageant at Mass last week.
- MMWG for the annual Collaboratory Prep Christmas Party this past Thursday.
- Outreach: to Busch Blvd. Regulars, Chelsea St., Casa Verde Mobile Home Park yesterday the 21st.
- Choir: Christmas Caroling on Chelsea Street on the 21st.
- Our Church cleanup crew! (Great Job, by all - last Saturday Morning)
- One and all: Wrapping gifts, decorating the church, generous response for food bag, gift card, toy drive.
- Knights of Columbus: Don Bosco Festival leadership and organization is kingship over us.

Remember to search our free web page, www.mhctampa.org, to find the latest developments in our parish. Don't forget to listen to Wednesday Words from the Pastor on our website each week!

Please take note of upcoming parish events listed elsewhere in this weekly bulletin. Do your best to participate and support them in any way you can.

As usual please remember to pray for all the Salesians in our presence here at MHC . . . especially those at St. Philip Residence. Be assured we will be doing the same for you.

Blessed, Joyful, Graced Christmas to One and All!

Fr. Steve Dumais, SDB

Pastor

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers:

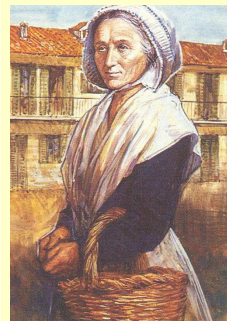
Pete & Mary Gallar, Janice Murphy, Vivian Diaz, Joe Brocato, Tom Costa, David & Rosie Gratz, Lisa Franz, Patti Capitano, Fran Johns, Betsie Welch, Laura Munoz, Bobby Ryder, David Netel, Larry Walsh, Fernando Romero, Akers family, Jay Samman, Rose Gabriel, Francis Briones, Julia Kelly, Barbara Dahl, Martha Catul, Elaine Jones, Barbara Robles. Ruth Maund, Patricia Hauser, Beverly Fernandez, Bob & Marge Fallon, Rene Zarte, Joe Branson, Kathy Cortez, Jean Nichols, George Hernandez, Victor Pichardo, David Schwaller, MaKayla Jennings, Esther Savio, Lucy Clemons, Lauren Lynch, Clarissa Roberson, Katherine Conrad, Rosa E. Alvarez, Valerie Sieger, Georgene & Dennis Bender, Rae Godbout, Penny Love, Paytin Hampton, Daniel Wiles.

2024 Mass Intentions:

Dec. 21, 2024 to Dec.29, 2024

- Sat, December 21 2024, 5:00pm:** +Mariano & Maria Pereira's req. Maria Diaz and family
- Sun, December 22, 2024, 8:00am :** +Luella Rockway req. by Ann & Sean Rockway
- Sun, December 22, 2024, 11:00am:** +Patricia Wilson & +Daniel Brown req. by Maggie Brown
- Mon, December 23, 2024, 6:45am :** Special intention for all priests req. by Chet Shinko
- Mon, December 23, 2024, 7:00pm:** Fr. Lee req. by Julianna Kim
- Tues, December 24, 2024. 6:45am:** For the sick of the Parish Req. by Parish
- Tues, December 24, 2024, 5:00pm:** Intentions of the Mary Help of Christians Parishioners, req. by Parish
- Wed, December 25, 2024, 12:00am:** Intentions of the Mary Help of Christians Parishioners, req. by Parish
- Wed, December 25, 2024, 11:00am:** Intentions of the Mary Help of Christians Parishioners, req. by Parish
- Thurs. December 26, 2024, 6:45am** Deceased Deacons & Spouses req. by Deacon Ed & Lorraine
- Fri, December 27 2024, 6:45am** +Donna Harker req. by Chet Shinko
- Sat, December 28, 2024, 5:00pm :** + Tony Glassman req. by Sean & Ann Rockway
- Sun, December 29, 2024, 8:00am :** +Della Sarsfield req. by Janice Murphy
- Sun, December 29, 2024, 11:00am:** +Della Sarsfield req. by Gail Hagenback, Gayanna & Family

Margherita Occhiena was born on 1 April 1788 in [Capriglio](#) in [Asti](#), the sixth of ten children. At the age of 24 she married 27 year old Francesco Bosco, a family friend and widower whose wife and infant daughter had died shortly after childbirth, leaving him with a three-year-old son, Anthony. The family settled in Becchi, a hamlet of [Castelnuovo d'Asti](#) (today Castelnuovo Don Bosco). Francesco died of pneumonia in May 1817, leaving the 29-year-old Margherita a single mother with three sons: Antonio, Giuseppe and Giovanni (John).^[1] A strong woman with clear ideas, Occhiena raised her sons with a regimen of sober living, strict but reasonable. The boys were quite different in temperament. Still, Occhiena made sure she presented them with the beginnings of a Christian education. She gave them the example of faith, wisdom, and courage in facing the difficulties of life.^[1]



December 2024

- 12/24** Christmas Vigil 5pm / Christmas Caroling 11:30pm
Midnight Mass / Office closed
 - 12/25** Christmas Day Mass 11am / Office closed
 - 12/25** No Adoration
 - 12/29** No Faith Formation
 - 12/31** Mary, Holy Mother of God Mass 5pm
- January 2025**
- 01/01** Mary, Holy Mother of Mass 7PM
No Adoration
 - 01/05** Faith Formation 9:15am / Adult 9:30am
 - 01/08** Adoration 4-7 silent/ Mass 7pm / Praise & Worship 8-9pm/ Youth Ministry 7pm

The Marriage Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving will take place at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle on **Sunday, February 9 th at 3:00pm**. This event honors couples throughout the diocese who will celebrate their **25th or 50th anniversary** as well as those celebrating **51 or more years of marriage** during the 2025 calendar year. Please **RSVP by calling our parish office by Wed. Jan. 15, 2025**

PART TIME COOK NEEDED AT ST PHILIPS

St Philips is in need of a part time cook you can contact

Mary Sverko @ 813-297-4872 for

Christmas Masses

- Dec. 24th @ 5PM** Christmas Vigil
- Dec. 25th @ 12AM** Midnight Mass
- Dec. 25th @ 11AM** Christmas Mass



Mary, Holy Mother of God

- Dec. 31 - 5pm** Vigil Mass
- Jan.01, 2025 -7pm** Mass
- Holy Day of Obligation**



CHRISTMAS POISETTIA'S

The Christmas season is a special time of the year! Flowers around the altar of Mary Help of Christians can mark the anniversary of a birth, baptism, confirmation, marriage or death, or may be used as an expression of joy, thanksgiving, or gratitude. This year please consider donating \$10.00 per plant to our Christmas flower fund. Simply list the names of your loved ones you'd like remembered at all our Masses during the Christmas Season and return it in the collection plate or send it to Mary Help of Christians via email to

parish@mhctampa.org.

The Sheets are on the table in the back of church.

LAST DAY TO PROVIDE NAMES IS DEC. 23RD.



Don Bosco Festival—Feb. 2, 2025

We are in need of volunteers to help with the Festival.
2nd meeting on Jan. 14th @ 7pm in the conference rm.

**MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
PARISH OUTREACH**

- **Box of Pasta** -
- **Ramen Noodles**
- **Gift Card-\$10**
- **Diapers - Baby Wipes**
- **Chef Boyardee, Mac & Cheese**
- **Peanut Butter & Jelly - great need**
- **Travel shampoos /Razors /Shaving cream/Deodorant**
- **Canned tuna**

Our goal : To fill 50 blue bags with the listed items.
Next Outreach is 01/18/2025. Meet at Mary Help at 8am to load cars and trucks . All are welcome to join us, come and see.

GIVING THANKS

Each month, you as a parish fulfills the needs of the poor and needy through your generous giving to Outreach. It is amazing the number of items that we take out each month to these folks. We are small in number, but strong in deeds. We give thanks to all of you for your generous hearts.

Weekly Gift Giving

Weekend of December 14, 2024 to December 15, 2024

Attendance 172 Envelopes 22

Mass Offertory	\$	2,295.00
Loose Checks	\$	717.00
Online Giving	\$	2,096.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	130.00
Candles	\$	51.00
Special Collections	\$	60.00

TOTAL \$ 5,349.00

**2025 DB Yard Sale
Now Accepting
Donations for Our
Annual Flea
Market/ Yard Sale**

We are accepting clothes, shoes, books, household items, furniture, home decor, games, toys, etc. We are NOT accepting electronics.
Items dropped off before January 3rd and or during the week in January. please visit the Parish office.

Items brought in on or after Friday, January 3rd will be stored in the BLUE ROOM.
****Preferable drop off : The trailer wagon located outside the Church every Sunday in January.**

**6400 East Chelsea Street
Tampa, FL 33610
(813) 626-7588
parish@mhctampa.org**

Please contact Pam or Anne Marie for more information.

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NOTARY PUBLIC

Mary Help of Christians Foundation, INC.
Helping the needy is our goal!

Bill Palmisano, Executive Director
Office 813-620-1225
Cell 813-294-2894
Email bpalmisano@mhcfoundation.net

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Kathy Celeiro

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Phone: (813)684-2279
www.drharoldwelch.com

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Knights of Columbus
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MAMA MARGARET WOMEN'S GUILD

Contact Julie Fameree at Juliefam@aol.com

For information on joining the Mama Margaret Women's Guild.



Brandon 134-A
BODY SHOP
(813) 685-1612

Robert Schoppman, www.brandonbodyshop.com
Parishioner, Alumnus



MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CATHOLIC CHURCH
6400 E. Chelsea Street, Tampa, FL 33610
813 626 7588
Email: Parish@mhctampa.org
Website: www.mhcptampa.org



Administered by the Salesians of St. John Bosco

Fr. Steve Dumais, S.D.B. Pastor
Fr. John Serio, S.D.B. MHC Center Director
Fr. Francis De Sales La, S.D.B. Korean Ministry
Deacon Edmond Anctil

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024



Staff Directory and Ministry

Office: Pam Brewer: parish@mhctampa.org
Altar Servers/Readers: Deacon Ed: eantil@mhctampa.org
Knights of Columbus: Cassidy Simpson: cassidy9031@gmail.com
Korean Catholic Mission: Michelle Anderson : hyonsuk67@yahoo.com
Livestream/Website: parish@mhctampa.org
Mama Margaret Guild: Julie Fameree: juliefam@aol.com
Music: Susanne Hathaway: susanne.cellist@gmail.com
Outreach: Deacon Ed, eantil@mhctampa.org-Marge and Bob Fallon
Phone Ministry: JoAnne Johnson Parish@mhctampa.org
RCIA: Tony Marincovich: MarincovichTony@gmail.com
RCIA: Mary and Peter Gallar PGallar@tampabay.rr.com
Religious Education: Ann Marie Brummett : CRE@mhctampa.org
Young Adult: Choima Okoye, Cokoye@mchctampa.org
Youth Ministry: Steve Jarosz: sjarosz@mhctampa.org
Christmas Committee: Maggie Brown; Parish@mhctampa.org

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday-Friday
6:45am(Chapel)
12:10 (Chapel)
Monday & Wednesday
7pm (Church)
Saturday Vigil
5pm-(Church)
Sunday
8am (Church)
11am (Church) *livestreamed*

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Wednesday
◇ 4:00pm-6:45pm Silent Adoration
◇ 8-9pm Praise/Worship Adoration

Sacrament of Reconciliation

30 minutes prior to Weekend Masses

Korean Ministry
Sun 9:20am Mass

Contact the parish office 813 626 7588 for information Annulments, Baptisms, Weddings, Home Visits, Hospital Visits. Sacrament of the Sick or Reconciliation. We are available Mon thru Friday, from 9am to 4pm. Call for appointments.

For information on the various venues, use of the Church and any areas of our property available contact Mary Sverko at 813 297-4872

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Parish here in Tampa, FL, is a Catholic Church dedicated to the Mother of God under her title as Help of Christians, is a place of joy, worship, welcome, evangelization and reconciliation. As a Salesian Parish in the Diocese of St. Petersburg we commit ourselves to having a deep-seated preference for working with the young especially those who are poor, while striving to minister to the corporal and spiritual needs of all our members and visitors as well. We pray and work for peace, love, truth, and social justice through active stewardship and service notably with the assistance of our advocate Mary Help of Christians, and her great devotee St. John Bosco. We hope to provide an opportunity for everyone who worships with us to be transformed into people courageously living the Gospel.