

Dear People of God

The season of Advent is a time of joyful expectation. The Lord is coming! Wake up! Get ready! We probably cannot hope to be as excited as this little boy, but the church puts us in touch with the eagerness of the early Christians at Rome.

The Romans who first read Paul’s letter were only a few years removed from Jesus’ ascension and were expecting him to return in glory any day. “ . . . For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.” The church had to deal with some extremes. Why work if the end is near? With the passage of years, the church realized that it might be a long time before Jesus came a second time. That brought other problems. The delay could make us forget or become complacent about his coming.

That is where we are today. The First Sunday of Advent comes as a surprise in the humdrum of our daily lives. We are running around as usual, from one task to the next, one busy day to the next, when suddenly here it is again. What? Is it that time of the year again?

The Church encourages us to slow down, to refocus, to wait for the coming of the Lord in quiet hope. The idea of the Lord’s coming has expanded since the time of the Romans. We still look forward to his coming in glory at the end of time, but we concentrate more now on preparing ourselves for his present coming in grace and we look back to his first coming, the incarnation, to understand what it means for us.

- November 29<sup>th</sup>: Novena to the Immaculate Conception Begins. – Copies found at back of the Church.
- December 6th: Parish Advent Retreat Day (9:30am-2:30pm)
- Angel Giving Tree!!! **Unwrapped Gifts only!**
- Food Bags for Christmas! Gift cards!!

Remember to search our web page, [www.mhcptampa.org](http://www.mhcptampa.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!

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.

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.

Peace Always!



Fr. Steve Dumais, SDB  
Pastor

**PRAYER LIST**

**Please keep the following in your prayers:**

Pete & Mary Gallar, Janice Murphy, Tom Costa, David & Rosie Gratz, Lisa Franz, Patti Capitano, Betsie Welch, Laura Munoz, Bob- by Ryder, David Netel, Larry Walsh, Fernando Romero, Jay Sam- man, Rose Gabriel, Elaine & Alan Jones, Barbara Robles, Ruth Maund, Beverly Fernandez, Bob & Marge Fallon, George Hernan- dez, Victor Pichardo, David Schwaller, MaKayla Jennings, Lauren Lynch, Clarissa Roberson, Katherine Conrad, Rosa E. Alvarez, Va- lerie Sieger, Georgene & Dennis Bender, Paytin Hampton, Daniel Wiles, Roseanne Ferrante Waters, David Russell, Maria De Guz- man, Addy, Eduardo Sanchez , Mike Kelly

**2025 Mass Intentions:**

**November 29, 2025 - December 7, 2025**

**Sat, November 29, 2025, 5:00pm:** +Walter Shinko req. by Chet Shinko

**Sun, November 30, 2025, 8:00am :** +Shelby Elizabeth Coogle req. by Harold & Betsie Welch

**Sun, November 30, 2025, 11:00am:** +Joseph Azavedo req. by Armstrong & Zeenat Monteiro

**Mon, December 01, 2025, 6:45am:** For the souls of our Ancestors req. by Susanna George

**Mon, December 01 2025, 7:00pm:** +Thomas Zeman req. by Ed & Donna O’Mara

**Tues, December 02, 2025. 6:45am:** +Mate Cosic & Family req. by Sanja Cosic

**Wed, December 03, 2025, 6:45am:** Francis & Living and deceased member of the Bratayenone Family req. by Sonja Cosic

**Wed. December 03, 2025, 7:00pm** +Polly Say req. by Maggie Brown

**Thurs, December 04, 2025, 6:45am :** +Marty Strauss req. by Beth Strauss

**Fri. December 05, 2025, 6:45am :** Living & deceased members of the Shinko Family & Friends req. by Chet Shinko

**Sat, December 06, 2025, 5:00pm :** +Earle & Agnes Christ req. by Jody Keleske

**Sun, December 07, 2025, 8:00am :** +John Thomas Shinko req. by Chet Shinko

**Sun, December 07, 2025, 11:00am:** +Phil Gamgort req. by Maggie Brown

**Margherita Occhiena** was born on April 1, 1788 at Capriglio, in the province of Asti, sixth of ten children. She was baptized on the same day in the parish church. Her parents were peasant farmers full of good Christian attitudes and practices. From when she was just a child Margaret was a great worker. She had no opportunity for schooling because of the times she lived in and the tasks she had to do, but her love for prayer gave her a wisdom which could not be gained from books. in 1812, she married Francis Bosco. Francis was 27 years of age, a widower, with a three year old child, Anthony, and a sick mother to look after. Joseph was born the fol- lowing year and in 1815, John (the future Don Bosco). They moved to the Becchi, a hamlet of Castelnuevo d’Asti. In 1817 Francis died of pneu- monia. Twenty-nine year old Margaret found her- self running the family alone at a time of famine, looking after Francis’ mother, Anthony, and young Joseph and John. Margaret was a woman of great faith. God was foremost in her thoughts and al- ways on her lips.



**November**  
**11/30 No Faith Formation / Commemoration of Don Bosco**  
**December**  
**12/02 Don Bosco Festival meeting 7pm**  
**12/03 Adoration 4-7pm silent/Mass 7pm/Praise & Worship 8-9pm Youth Ministry 7pm**  
**12/04 Parish Staff meeting 6:15pm / Parish Council 7pm**  
**12/06 1st Sat. Marian Devotions / Advent retreat 9:30—2:30pm**  
**12/07 Faith Formation & OCIA 9:15am / Adult 9:30am**  
**12/08 Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses-6:45am, 12:10pm, 7pm**  
**12/09 Outreach team meeting 7pm in conference rm.**  
**12/10 Adoration 4-7pm silent/Mass 7pm/Penance Service**  
**12/11 Mama Margaret Christmas Party for St Philips 5:30pm**  
**12/14 OCIA 9:15am / Faith Formation Christmas party 9:15am Adult Formation 9:30am / Faith Formation Christmas Skit 11am Mass**  
**12/15 Staff Christmas Luncheon 12pm**

**Advent retreat December 6th @ 9:30—2:30pm**

9:30am: Rosary

10:00am: Mass

10:40am: Break

11:15am: Conference

12:15pm: Lunch

1:30pm: Adoration & Confessions

2:30: Benediction & Goodnight

Please RSVP by 12/02 so that we know how much food to provide to parish@mhctampa.org or call 813-626-7588 or sign up on the clip board.

**Angel Tree ornaments**

Please consider taking an ornament or two from the Angel Tree for our annual toy collection distributed to those in need. This year we are also continuing to request Fast Food gift cards. These will be distribut- ed to our teen-age youth as gifts. Donated toys need to be UNWRAPPED and placed under the tree. Donated gift cards need to be deposited in the GIFT CARD BOX, located at the back of the church. Please, NO clothing and NO toy guns or weapons. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

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 do- nating \$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 col- lection plate or send it to Mary Help of Christians via email to parish@mhctampa.org.

Please turn in by 12/19/2025



**MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS  
PARISH OUTREACH**

- Cereal / Granola Bars
- Ramen Noodles / Soup
- **Gift Card-\$10 - Great need !!!!!!!!!**
- Diapers - Sizes 5&6 - Baby Wipes
- Chef Boyardee, Mac & Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly needed
- Shaving cream
- Canned tuna / Chicken
- Fruit Cups

Our goal : To fill 60 blue bags with the listed items.

Next Outreach is 12/20/25 Meet at Mary Help at 8am to load cars and trucks . All are welcome to join us.

In Thanksgiving

What a blessing that we have had this past month. You, our parish family, came through like you always do to assist our brothers and sisters in need. Everyone who entered our office and asked for food and assistance in utilities was helped thanks to your generosity. Thirty-five members of our parish family journeyed to our monthly outreach at 22nd St and Busch Blvd giving away every- thing that we had brought and afterwards some members assisted Fr Steve in distributing Thanksgiving bags to our neighbors on Chelsea St. Thank you for sharing your blessings with others..

**Weekly Gift Giving**

**Weekend of Nov. 22, 2025 to Nov. 23, 2025**  
**Attendance 158 Envelopes 29**

Mass Offertory	\$	2,251.00
Loose checks	\$	80.00
Online Giving	\$	1,770.00
Candles	\$	68.00
Flowers	\$	220.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,389.00</b>

**Christmas Wrapping is starting Dec. 1st –Hours below**

Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri. 9am-3pm

Mon, Wed. 6pm-8pm - see office to have the room unlocked.

**Save the date - Upcoming events for the holidays**

Christmas Gifts wrapping begins Dec.1st

Advent retreat Dec. 6th 9:30-2:30pm

Penance Service Dec. 10 7:30-9pm

Food bags and gifts for Christmas due back Dec. 14th

Christmas Poinsettia’s offering & names due by Dec. 19th

Outreach and Trailer Park Dec. 20th 8am

Cleaning Church & Decorate Dec. 22nd 9am-12pm

Christmas Masses - Dec. 24th Vigil 5pm

Christmas Caroling Dec. 24th 11:30pm / Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Mass Dec. 25th 11:00 am

**Please check the bulletin for further information**

**BROCATO'S**  
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**SALESIAN Cooperators**

For information on how to become a  
cooperator, please contact Chris Yarnold  
at: [yarnolde7@gmail.com](mailto:yarnolde7@gmail.com) or call the  
center: 813-626-6191

**MAMA MARGARET WOMENS GUILD**  
Contact Julie Fameree at  
[juliefam@aol.com](mailto:juliefam@aol.com)  
For information on joining the  
Mama Margaret Women's Guild.

**Harold B. Welch D.M.D.**  
807 W. Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Seffner, FL 33584  
Phone: (813)684-2279  
[www.drharoldwelch.com](http://www.drharoldwelch.com)  
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**Knights of Columbus**  
**ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL 12746**  
Now is the time to join. Ask any  
brother for application infor-  
mation or email:  
[cassidy9031@gmail.com](mailto:cassidy9031@gmail.com)

**Realtor HomeXpress**  
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Parishioner

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**MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**6400 E. Chelsea Street, Tampa, FL 33610**  
**813 626 7588**  
Email: [Parish@mhctampa.org](mailto:Parish@mhctampa.org)  
Website: [www.mhcptampa.org](http://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. John Jaejun Chong, S.D.B. Korean Ministry

Fr. Bill Keane, S.D.B. Assisting Priest

Deacon Edmond Anctil

First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 2025



### Staff Directory and Ministry

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

### 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.

### 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 on Annulments, Baptisms,  
Weddings, Home Visits, Hospital  
Visits. Sacrament of the Sick or  
Reconciliation. We are available Mon  
thru Friday, from 9am to 3pm. 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