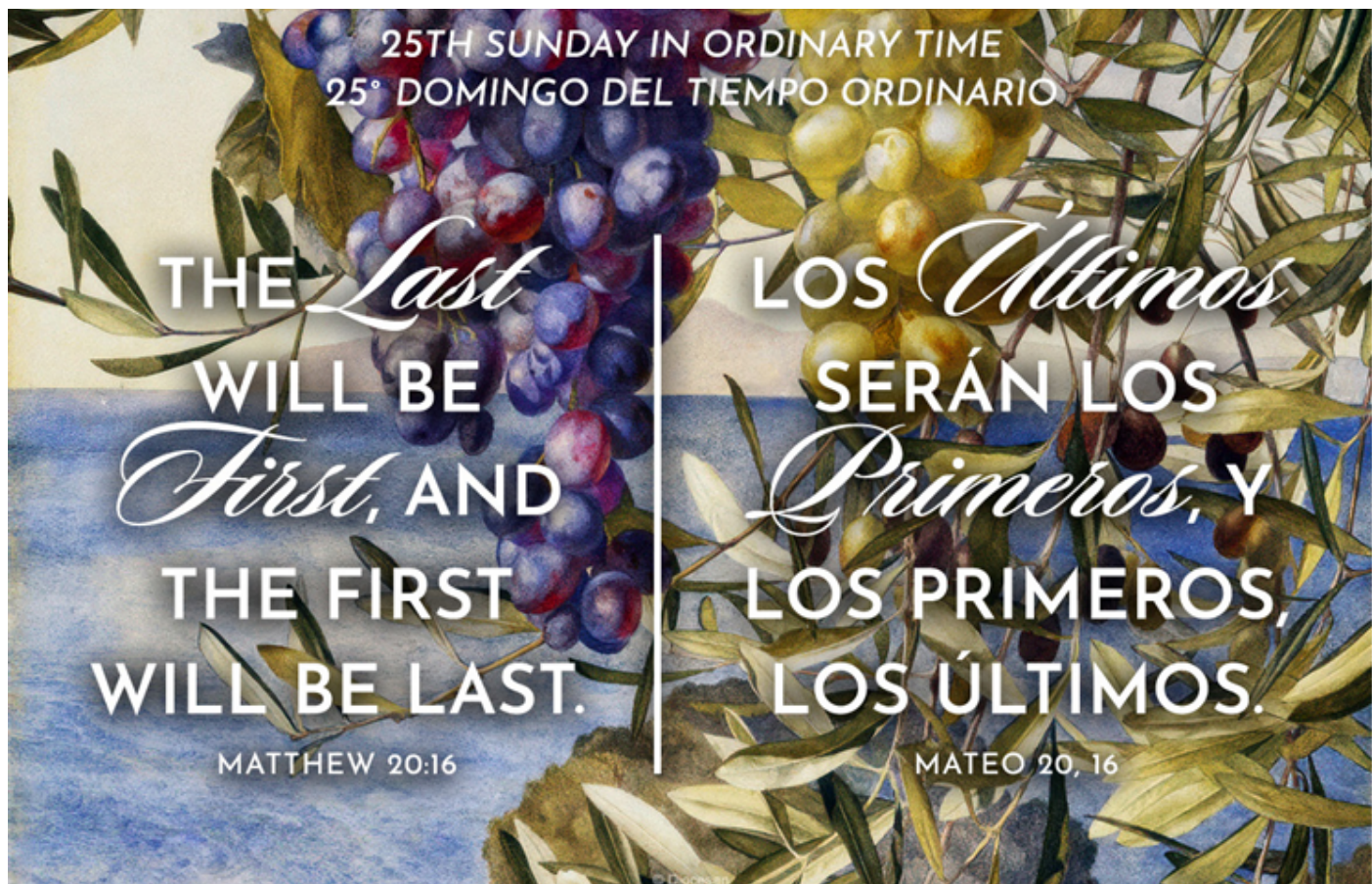




MASS TIMES / HORARIO DE MISA

Saturday: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m.

(Español) 11:30 a.m.

Daily Mass Schedules - look inside for times.

RECONCILIATION/RECONCILIACIÓN

Saturday: 4 - 4:45 p.m.

By appointment also / Con cita previa
también Contact the office 512-446-2049

First Friday Mass: 12:15 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration 1-7p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-10 p.m.

Adoración Eucarística

martes y jueves de 7-10 p.m.

The Rosary is prayed 30 minutes prior
to all weekend Masses.

El Rosario se reza 30 minutos antes de
todas las misas de fin de semana.

St. Joseph
CATHOLIC CHURCH
ROCKDALE, TEXAS



September 20, 2026

234 San Gabriel St.

P.O. Box 548

Rockdale, TX 76567

Phone: 512-446-2049

FAX: 512-446-0411

www.stjosephrockdale.org

Office Hours /
Horas de Oficina

Tues. - Thurs.
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

PARISH STAFF / EQUIPO PASTORAL

Rev. John Boiko, Pastor
fatherjohn@stjosephrockdale.org
512-401-8547

Gus Coelho, Deacon- Retired
Kristina Snow, Director of Religious Ed.
dre@stjosephrockdale.org

Maria Santellano,
Parish Business Administrator
parishadmin@stjosephrockdale.org

Maria Santellano, EIM Coordinator
eim@stjosephrockdale.org

Eugene Holub, Music Director /
Webmaster
music@stjosephrockdale.org

Julia Cardona, Youth Minister
youthminister@stjosephrockdale.org

Mass Intentions

Monday, Sept 21

No Mass

Tuesday, Sept 22 6 p.m.

†Bardomiano Banda

Wednesday, Sept 23 8:00 a.m.

†Dora DeLeon

Thursday, Sept 24 8:00 a.m. 6 p.m.

Harley Sulak

†Rosalio Castillo

Friday, Sept 25 12:15 p.m.

†Erlinda Pedroza

Saturday, Sept 26 5:00 p.m.

†Lupe Orozco

†Encarnacion Banda

Sunday, Sept 27 9 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

For the People

†Manuel Escobar

†Alejandro Perez

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sept St. Matthew

Eph 4:1-7,11-13/ Mt 9:9-13

Tuesday: Sept 22

Prv 21:1-6,10-13/ Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Sept 23 St. Pius

Prv 30:5-9/ Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Sept 24

Eccl 1:2-11/ Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Sept 25

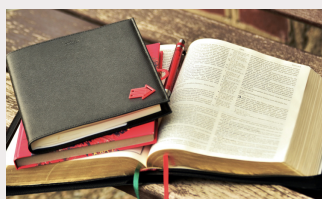
Eccl 3:1-11/ Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Sept 26

Eccl 11:9--12:8/ Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday: Sept 27 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28/ Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32



MARIAN CENACLE

Come pray the Rosary with friends on **THURSDAY MORNINGS**. Experience the power of the Rosary. Following next we pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy for our personal intentions. We begin in the Chapel at 9am. Come experience the joy and power of group prayer.

We'll be waiting for you every Thursday at 9am.

Peace be with you!

Daily Mass/ Adoration is held in the Holy Family Chapel.

Misa de Dia / Adoracion diaria se lleva a cabo en la Capilla de la Sagrada Familia.

September 2026

Monthly need: \$ 21,122.00

To Date: September \$ 6,197.20

Profit/ Loss: \$ -14,924.80

Last Sunday Collection:

Sunday Collection: 9/12-9/13 \$ 2,719.00

Online Giving: 9/7-9/11 \$ 428.35

Total: \$ 3,147.35

"All must give as they are able, according to the blessings given to them by the Lord your God."
- Deuteronomy 16:17

Giving is easy and secure...

✓ stjosephrockdale.org
✓ Text saintjoseph to 73256

Parish Monthly Assessment \$7,105.00

(Catholic Spirit, Cathedraticum, Priest Pension & Health Insurance, Property Insurance, Ministry Platform, Workmen's Compensation)

September's Special Collections

Sept 19-20

Black Bag

Bulletin and Pulpit Announcement

All submissions for bulletin and pulpit announcement should be in electronic format and emailed to:

parishadmin@stjosephrockdale.org

Todos los envios para boletines y anuncios desde el pulpito deben realizarse en formato electronico y enviarse por correo electronico a:
parishadmin@stjosephrockdale.org

DEADLINE for Sept 26/27 bulletin and pulpit announcements is Sept 22

FECHA LIMITE para el boletin y anuncios del pulpito 27 de septiembre es el 22 de septiembre



Let Us Pray / Oremos

Deacon Gus & Norma Coelho
 Nick Guzman
 Tom Hormuth
 Robert & Susie Urban
 Charlie & Pat Watson
 Amalia Hernandez
 Mark Alvarez
 Virginia Hernandez
 Rachel Darby
 Donna Kerlin
 David Boudreaux
 Leslie Joyce Garcia
 Jennifer Tilkens
 Valentina Rodarte
 Francisca Longoria
 Frank Modaffari

Karen Eckert
 Cruz Martinez
 James Gorney
 Manuel Garcia
 Teresa Key
 Leo Dubey
 Mary Zapata
 Wendy Fournet
 Vernon Crowder
 Dolores Turner
 Larry Kerlin
 Georgie Kerlin
 Sofia Sanchez
 Barb Gosner
 Janie Zapata

PLEASE Call the office @ 512-446-2049 if you, or
 someone you know, needs to be remembered on the
 prayer list.

Let Us Pray for Military Personnel / Oremos por el Ejercito Militar



Victoria Alvarado-Phillips
 Manuel Zapata Thompson
 Lt. Tyler Goeppinger- Air Force
 Ben Blanco- Navy
 Cristo Hernandez- Military
 CSM Frank Konarik-Army (NG)

*Let us know if you want to add any loved ones
 serving in the military. / Avisanos si quieres anadir
 a algun ser querido que sirva en el ejercito militar.*



The Sanctuary Light in the church is burning in Honor of

Marisa Santellano



The Sanctuary Light in the church is burning in Honor of

Matilde & Juan Carlos Vergara

Sanctuary Candle Intentions



2026 Sanctuary Candle Intentions
 available at the chapel or at the church.
 If you would like to schedule an
 intention for a deceased loved one,
 someone's birthday or anniversary, etc.
 we do have dates available for
 scheduling.

Please come by the parish office if you
 would like to schedule sanctuary candle
 intentions.

Baptism Class

**Next Baptism Class will be held on
 Saturday, October 10, 2026 at 10 a.m. at
 the RE Building.**

**Must be pre-registered to attend. Please
 contact the parish office to register.**

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION



You are invited on
Friday, October 2, 2026

FIRST FRIDAY of the Month:

Mass at 12:15 pm in English followed by

Eucharistic Adoration
 from 1 pm. -6 p.m.

Holy Hour
 6-7pm followed by the Mass at 7 p.m. Spanish

DATE	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	USHERS
Sat. Sept 19- 5 pm	Margaret Coker	Omar Chavez Elizabeth Longoria Joseph Ray Craig Snow	Carlos Garza, Margaret Coker, Jasmin Nieto	Jason Ehler Kenney Svrcek
Sun., Sept 20- 9 am	Nancy Zenner	Marcos Santellano Mario Santellano Luke Olivares Mateo Olivares Craig Snow	Pete & Nancy Zenner, Craig Snow	David Ehler Chad Ehler
11:30 am	Benito Costilla	Camila Cardona Craig Snow	Erika Rivera, Alejandra Rivera, Julia Cardona	Beto Cardona Jose Tristan
Sat. Sept 26- 5 pm	Omar Chavez	Joseph Ray Craig Snow	Nancy Phillips, Maria Dubey, Wesley Janak	Carlos Garza Wesley Janak
Sun. Sept 27- 9 am	Nancy Zenner	Marcos Santellano Mario Santellano Elizabeth Longoria	Felicia Alexander, Craig Snow, Faustino Gonzalez	Jeff & Kelley Zapata
11:30 am	Noemi Yanez	Camila Cardona Craig Snow	Maria Velazquez, Lupe Tristan, Sylvia Ramos	Juan Gonzalez Jesus Castillo



Prayer for Spiritual Conversion and Renewal:

"St. Matthew, through God's mercy you transformed from sinner to saint. Soften my stubborn heart, remove my resistance to divine grace, and help me embrace complete surrender to Christ's transforming love."

Apostolic Role and Gospel Authorship

Matthew is traditionally recognized as the author of the first Synoptic Gospel, the Gospel According to Matthew, written in Aramaic or Hebrew around 41–50 AD. His Gospel emphasizes Jesus as the Messiah and the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies, including teachings such as the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, and the Lord's Prayer. As an apostle, he witnessed Jesus' ministry firsthand and later preached the Gospel in regions such as Ethiopia, Persia, and possibly Parthia.

Life and Calling

St. Matthew, also known as Levi, was likely born in Galilee as the son of Alphaeus. He worked as a tax collector in Capernaum, a profession widely despised for its association with Roman oppression and corruption. According to the Gospels, Jesus called him directly, saying, "Follow me," and Matthew immediately left his work to become a disciple of Christ (Matthew 9:9; Mark 2:14) This radical transformation from a public sinner to a devoted follower exemplifies the power of divine grace.



God's Mercy Is Stronger Than Our Misery

All grace flows from mercy, and the last hour abounds with mercy for us. Let no one doubt concerning the goodness of God; even if a person's sins were as dark as night, God's mercy is stronger than our misery. One thing alone is necessary: that the sinner set ajar the door of his heart, be it ever so little, to let in a ray of God's merciful grace, and then God will do the rest. But poor is the soul who has shut the door on God's mercy, even at the last hour. It was just such souls who plunged Jesus into deadly sorrow in the Garden of Olives; indeed, it was from His Most Merciful Heart that divine mercy flowed out.

(Diary, 1507)

Dearest St. Joseph,
at the word of an angel,
you lovingly took Mary into your
home.

As God's humble servant, you
guided the Holy Family on the
road to Bethlehem, welcomed
Jesus as your own son in the
shelter of a manger, and fled far
from your homeland for the
safety of both Mother and
Child.

We praise God that as their
faithful protector,
you never hesitated to sacrifice
for those entrusted to you.
May your example inspire us
also to welcome, cherish, and
safeguard God's most precious
gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit
ourselves to the service and
defense of human life especially
where it is vulnerable or
threatened.

Obtain for us the grace
to do the will of God in all things.
Amen.



The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer and action to stop the spread of abortion pills.

The initiative will take place August 18 through October 31, which includes the month-long commemoration of Respect Life Month observed each October by the Catholic Church in the United States.

"Every abortion involves the death of a child and harm to the mother," said Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, president of the USCCB, and Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities. "Now with easier access to abortion pills, the abortion rate is tragically climbing, along with increased health risks." invoking the intercession of St. Joseph, Defender of Life, we are encouraged to share information about the dangers of abortion pills.

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

Sept. 19-20 – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospel this Sunday seems to contradict everything Catholic teaching offers about just wages and fairness. However, the point of the Gospel is not just wages, it is God's generosity toward all of us, even those of us who get serious about accepting the invitation to "working in the vineyard" later in our lives. God's generosity is an inspiration for us to practice both justice and charity. Justice means that we give to every person what is due to them as a child of God. Charity goes beyond justice by loving others and giving beyond what justice requires because of that love. We are loved so much and therefore should love greatly in turn. Who needs love this week from me?

Sept. 19-20 -- 25to. Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

El Evangelio de este domingo parece contradecir todo lo que la enseñanza Católica ofrece sobre salarios justos y equidad. De cualquier modo, el punto del Evangelio no es sólo los salarios, es la generosidad de Dios hacia nosotros, incluso hacia aquellos de nosotros que aceptamos la invitación de "trabajar en el viñedo" tarde en nuestras vidas. La generosidad de Dios es una inspiración para nosotros para practicar ambas, la justicia y la caridad. La justicia significa que demos a cada persona lo que les corresponde como hijos de Dios. La caridad va más allá de la justicia al amar a los otros y dar más allá de lo que la justicia demanda por amor. Somos muy amados y por lo tanto debemos amar mucho en reciprocidad ¿Quién necesita amor de mi esta semana?

St. Joseph's Organizations / Contacts Meeting Dates / Times

Sociedad Guadalupana

Sylvia Ramos, President 512-269-9463

Meets the 1st Saturday of the month with Rosary and Mass at **9 a.m.** followed by Meeting the RE Building. New members are always welcome.

Knights of Columbus

Kenny Svrcek, Grand Knight 512-921-2184

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. @the K of C Hall. New members are always welcome.

St. Joseph's Ladies Society

Maria Santellano, President 254-760-0568

Meets the 1st Monday of the Month in the RE Building with Rosary at 5 p.m. followed by Meeting. New members are always welcome.

The Marian Cenacle (Prayer Group)

Contact the Parish Office @ 512-446-2049

Meets each Thursday, beginning with the Cenacle (prayer) 11 a.m.- noon, @ the RE Building, followed by the Angelus, 12:15 Mass in the chapel. Bi-weekly meeting is from 10- 11 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Open to all men and women of the parish.

Daughters of Mary/ Hijas de Maria

Contact the Parish Office @ 512-446-2049

Meets the 1st Saturday of each month (Sept.- May) @ RE Building from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Open to girls who have made their First Communion and older, and their parents.

Altar Servers

Craig Snow 512-426-2300 / Faustino Gonzalez 512-760-0640

Needed for Masses on an ongoing basis. Will train while serving. Open to anyone that has made their First Communion.

Music/ Choir Ministry

Eugene Holub at music@stjosephrockdale.org

L.I.F.T. Youth Group

Julia Cardona, Youth Minister 254-627-9162

Meets usually on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 2 p.m. in the RE Building. All high school students in grades 9th -12th are welcome.

Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy

Debby Currey 512-775-0977

Various groups meet weekly to study the Divine Mercy, St. Faustina's Diary, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and to pray.

Eucharistic Ministers

Kelley Zapata- Contact the Parish Office @512-446-2049

Must have received Confirmation to serve in this ministry.

Lectors

Pat Barcak - Contact the Parish Office @512-446-2049

Must have received Confirmation to serve in this ministry.

Religious Education- Catechists/Aides/ Subs

Kristina Snow, Director of RE 512-446-2049

Our program is always needing substitute catechists. We may also need mid-year assistance. We welcome not only adults, but teens to serve as additional aides.

Viri Christi (Men's Group)

Carlos Garza 512-760-0273

Men's group focusing on prayer, education, and spirituality. Meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the RE Building.

Pastoral Council Chairman

Felipe Pacheco 512-269-2502

Finance Council Chairperson

Margaret Coker 512-970-8177

FAITH FORMATION / FORMACIÓN EN LA FE

ADULTS/ ADULTOS



Adult Formation: Lifetime of Learning Sessions 2026-2027

Join us this season for a **BIBLE STUDY** through Ascension Press.... **GENESIS: CREATION TO COVENANT.** There are 8 sessions on the dates below, all from 5:00-6:30 pm in the RE Building. While it is best to attend all of the sessions, if you miss one, that does NOT prevent you from participation. \$0 Cost. Just bring your Bible.



Prep reading for each date listed below:

THIS Sun., Sept. 20

Sun., Oct. 4 (Ch. 1-2)

Sun., Oct. 18 (Ch. 3-5)

Sun., Nov. 8 (Ch. 6-11)

Sun., Jan. 17 (Ch. 12-23)

Sun., Jan. 31 (Ch. 24-31)

Sun., April 4 (Ch. 32-41)

Sun., April 18 (Ch. 42-50)

We will also have a different Lenten Series which will meet on 2/7, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, and 3/21.

FAITH FORMATION / FORMACIÓN EN LA FE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR YOUTH / EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA PARA JÓVENES

SEPTEMBER 2026 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

SUN., SEPT. 20- **PRE-CONFIRMATION (9TH)**
PARENT MEETING (1-2PM)
L.I.F.T YOUTH GROUP AFTERNOON
TRIP TO SCHOENSTATT IN AUSTIN

WED., SEPT. 23- OPENING MASS FOR ALL
RE STUDENTS AT 6:30 PM- **NEW**
DATE

SUN., SEPT. 27- FOR SACRAMENTAL PREP,
RITE OF ENROLLMENT AT
THE MASS ONE NORMALLY
ATTENDS

SUN., OCT. 4- YOUTH MASS AT 9AM- 9TH/ PRE-
CONFIRMATION LEADING
1:30 PM- PET BLESSING ----->

SUN., 9/20-

1:00 PM- 9TH/ PRE-
CONFIRMATION PARENT
MEETING IN CHURCH

9TH/ REUNIÓN DE PADRES
DE PRE-CONFIRMACIÓN EN
LA IGLESIA

SUNDAY, OCT. 4- FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI/
FIESTA DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASÍS

JOIN US AT 1:30 PM WITH YOUR PET IN THE YARD
BETWEEN THE COOKE HOUSE AND RE BUILDING
FOR A **PET BLESSING!** /
¡ÚNETE A NOSOTROS A LA 1:30 PM CON TU
MASCOTA EN EL PATIO ENTRE LA CASA COOKE
Y EL EDIFICIO RE PARA UNA BENDICIÓN DE
MASCOTAS!

Theme This Year:

SERVE

When Jesus calls on us to serve, He did not put an age on that direction. This year we will be working towards increasing our SERVICE to our own church community. Classes will compete for rewards depending on their service rates. Going to Mass counts as serving our Faith Community!

Cuando Jesús nos llama a servir, no establece un límite de edad para ello. Este año trabajaremos para aumentar nuestro SERVICIO a nuestra propia comunidad eclesial. Las clases competirán por premios según su nivel de servicio. ¡Asistir a Misa cuenta como servir a nuestra comunidad de fe!

Attendance at RE Class Matters!

Class Attendance Rates for Week 1 (9/9 and 9/13):

1st-	83%	7th graders get a prize
2nd-	85%	
3rd-	70%	
4th-	66%	
5th-	78%	
6th-	70%	
7th-	100% (CONGRATULATIONS, 7th!)	
8th-	85%	
9 th / Pre-Confirmation-	68%	
FC-I-	82%	
FC-II-	66%	
Sacramental Prep-	50%	
Confirmation (once per month)-	87%	

*Kids need to be in class to be learning
and growing closer to God. We miss their
presence. Help us to raise these rates!*

YOUTH MINISTRY / MINISTERIO JUVENIL

The L.I.F.T. trip to Austin to the Marian Shrine of our Lady of Schoenstatt is **THIS SUNDAY, SEPT. 20 at 1pm (after the Spanish Mass)**. Students must have turned in their permission forms by Wed., Sept. 16.



<https://schoenstatt-austin.us/>



**Calling all St. Joseph
high school students
grades 9-12!**

**Come join our all new
Youth Group called**

L.I.F.T.

(Living in Faith Together).

We will usually meet on two Sundays per month at 2:00 pm. Our next three gatherings are as follows:

Sun., Sept. 20 (see information about trip for details)

Sun., Oct. 4 at 2pm

Sun., Oct. 18 at 2pm

Come and bring a friend!!!

We will have lots of fun, explore how we live our faith every day, discuss hot topics that effect our lives, and grow closer to God in the process.

Questions?

Reach out to Julia Cardona via text at 254-627-9162.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that participation in L.I.F.T. Youth Group activities can count as **SERVICE POINTS** for your Religious Education Class and even towards **Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation Service Project Hours**? Did you know we will sign off on school service requirements as well if you participate in L.I.F.T.? Why not come and have fun and take care of Service Hours at the same time?

¿LO SABÍAS?

¿Sabías que participar en las actividades del Grupo Juvenil L.I.F.T. puede contar como **PUNTOS DE SERVICIO** para tu Clase de Educación Religiosa e incluso para las Horas del Proyecto de Servicio de Pre-Confirmación y Confirmación? ¿Sabías que también firmaremos los requisitos de servicio escolar si participas en L.I.F.T.? ¿Por qué no vienes, te diviertes y completas tus Horas de Servicio al mismo tiempo?