



COLORS, CULTURE AND COMMUNION

The Annual Hispanic Mass is an annual event that invites all to experience the celebration of the Eucharist while honoring the diverse Hispanic cultures present within our diocese. The 2024 Mass celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle in St. Petersburg on December 7th drew over 500 attendees from the five counties of our diocese. Nearly 24 countries were represented, gathering as one community to celebrate Mass and worship in their common faith.

“My favorite part about the Hispanic Mass is the encountering—encountering people before, during, and after the Mass. Christ is the reason for the encounter,” said Alfredo Columbie Martinez, Associate Director of Pastoral Juvenil Hispánica.

The event consists of not only the celebration of the Eucharist, but also praying of a communal rosary and procession of flags from all represented countries.

“I had the opportunity to carry the flag of my country, and I couldn’t contain my excitement,” said César Gonzalez, parishioner of Our Lady Queen of Peace in New Port Richey. “Tears came to my eyes. As I processed, I felt a sense of pride and joy that could hardly be contained in my chest.”

As part of our diocesan Intercultural Ministries, the Hispanic Mass is one of many ways that the Hispanic Catholics in our area can participate in and experience spiritual and cultural nourishment and are encouraged to participate fully in the life of the Church.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HISPANIC CATHOLIC MINISTRY IN OUR DIOCESE, PLEASE VISIT WWW.DOSP.ORG/INTERCULTURAL.

