

St. Theresa Catholic Church

21371 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, Virginia 20147



December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

Masses for the Week

Mon, Dec 12	6:15— Souls in Purgatory+ 8:30— Elena Maria Luise+ 12:15— Susan Sullivan
Tues, Dec 13	6:15— Gabriel Miles 8:30— Henry & Maureen Jacob+
Wed, Dec 14	6:15— NETS 8:30— Brendan Baron 12:15— Joseph & Frances Pilaro+
Thurs, Dec 15	6:15— Rita Giunta+ 8:30— Patrick Rush
Fri, Dec 16	6:15— Mary Kathryn Hogan+ 8:30— Michael W. Bryant+
Sat, Dec 17	8:30— Olimpia Mascarina+ 5:30— Susanne King+
Sun, Dec 18	7:30— St. Theresa Parishioners 8:45— Loudoun Regional Office Food Pantry Volunteers 10:30— Deceased Members of the Fisher/Keane/Bianchet Families+ 12:30— Michael Genovese 5:00— Pina Pilaro+

Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday:	8:30am, 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	7:30, 8:45am & 10:30am 12:30 & 5:00pm
Weekdays:	6:15 and 8:30am, Monday through Friday 12:15pm, Mondays (except Federal Holidays) and Wednesdays
Holy Days:	As announced
Holy Hour:	Wednesdays, 7pm
Confessions:	Wednesdays, 9-9:30am Saturdays, 4:00-4:45 pm; during Holy Hour; and by appointment

Clergy

Reverend James C. Hudgins, Pastor
Reverend Paul Dudzinski, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Nicholas R. Barnes, Parochial Vicar
Reverend John F. O'Farrell, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Paul C. Konold
Deacon Anthony J. Renzette
Deacon Matthew K. Noah

Prayers For The Sick: Ellen Russow, Patricia Fuechslin, Pranee Heinjarean, Nellie Gonzalez, Bernadette Valdez, Emma Ciaravino, Keelan Griffen, Evan Sweeney, Helen Atallah, Nick Evers, Daniel Ramirez, Cynthia Ramirez, Haley Morris, Anabelle Huster, Russell Ramons, Martha Mason, John Forbes, Ruth Carradini, Mark Naftzger, Thomas Poerstel, Daniel John Begley, Scott Spitnale, Danny Schmude, Jess Williamson, Nancy Pochick, Matthew Albert Skubie, Barbara Orandello, Marcela Garcia, CJ Buechner, Nancy Pochick, Michael Robertson, Celeste Hall, Donna Caulfield, Ethan Falciani, Mary Ann Lyons.

Prayers For Our Military: Michael Cinnamon, Matthew Schierling, Eric Frames, Bill Freschi, Paul Schierling, Marshall Kellner, Colin Freyne, Eric Ciliberti, John Kesterson, Matthew Kesterson, Alexa Katharine Koenig, Mark Short, Jonathan Bayly, Russell Escalante, Eric Reilly, John Conrad, Fr. James Hinkle, Andrew Gillespie, Stephen Gilliland, David Seliquini, Joseph Auler, Adam Parkinson, Jake Shelton, Patrick G. Fitzgerald, Sean Spurr, Jack Hayes, David and Katherine Bergeron, Christopher Martin, Thomas Gleason, Tony Mattice, David Lakey, Jim Murray, Keith Bittle, Michael McCurdy.

Confession, Part II

In last week's bulletin column, I raised some of the most common questions about the Sacrament of Penance, commonly known as confession. This week, using the same simple "Q and A" format, let's answer a few more.

Q: How often should I go to confession?

A: The quick answer is, "about once per month," but it could be more often than that. Imagine a husband and wife who take a month-long trip together. They spend all day together, sharing every word and every experience. Wouldn't you expect they would need to say, "I'm sorry" to each other for a few things, when that month was over? Of course they would! And yet, people fail to understand that the relationship we have with God is infinitely closer than that example. The vast majority of practicing Catholics do not go to confession nearly as often as God wishes. The Church tells us that we should go at least once per year, as a bare minimum, and that if we are guilty of a mortal sin, we should go as soon as we are able. Going once per month is a good habit to get into.

Q: I'm not sure what to confess. Do I mention all my venial and mortal sins?

A: Be certain to mention mortal sins, but it's not necessary to list every venial sin. Sacramental confession is the ordinary way to receive God's forgiveness for mortal sin. Simply call the sin by its name, and mention how many times if you can remember. When confessing venial sins, focus on the ones you're struggling with most. It's impossible to list every venial sin anyway. Let God's grace in this Sacrament touch those parts of your soul that most need healing and renewal.

Q: Should I make notes before I go, or just walk in and say them from memory?

A: Lots of people bring a written list of sins to confession, but I do not think it's a good idea. When you tell your friend "I'm sorry," do you read your offenses from a list? You already know what you need to say, don't you? I recommend reading sins from a written list only if you think you will forget them. Otherwise, simply let your conscience remember. Conscience is the best memory of all.

Q: I struggle with the same sins over and over, and I'm embarrassed to admit that. Is that normal?

A: Yes! Please know that when we go to confession, we resolve not to commit the same sin again, but nothing is more common than the struggle to be faithful. There are three things needed to make a permanent change and leave sin behind: regular prayer, real effort on our part, and sacramental confession. We must persevere in all three of these areas to make a real change. As our Lord told us, "The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak" (Mt 26: 41). If it were easy, we would all be saints by now!

Q: Does confession have a time limit? When should I make an appointment with the priest instead of simply talking in confession?

A: There is not a time limit for confession, but a conscientious priest knows there is a line of people waiting outside. For this reason, we should simply mention our sins by name and receive absolution in confession, but we should not make it a time for counseling. Some conversations will arise naturally, but they will almost always be focused and brief. You should make an appointment to see the priest if you need to talk more.

If you have other confession questions, please tell me. I would be happy to answer them for you here. Until then, keep up your good Advent practices, and be sure to get to confession soon.

God bless you...and St. Theresa, pray for us!



Fr. Hudgins

Upcoming Early Bulletin Deadlines

Due to the upcoming Christmas and New Year's Holidays, here are the early bulletin deadlines:

December 25 bulletin deadline—due by **Monday, December 12** noon

January 1 bulletin deadline—due by **Monday, December 19** noon

St. Theresa Advent & Christmas Schedule

Immaculate Conception – December 8 - Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, Dec. 7 Vigil Mass: 7:30pm

Thursday, Dec. 8: 6:15, 8:30am & 12:15, 4:30 & 7:30pm

Additional Confession Times

Wednesdays 9am

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday Dec. 20-22: 7pm until the line runs out

Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 24: Vigil Mass: 4, 6, 8 & 10pm

(No Saturday 24th Confessions)

Sunday, Dec. 25: 8 & 10am & 12pm

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Saturday, Dec. 31 Vigil Mass: 5:30pm

Sunday, Jan. 1: 7:30, 8:45 & 10:30am, 12:30 & 5pm

Youth Education and News



ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com

December

Sunday, the 11th-Upper Room Squad, 6-7:45pm

Thursday, the 15th-Teen Led Bible Study – 8th-12th grade, 6-7pm

Saturday, the 17th-Rock Squad, the Middle School Youth Group, 3-4:45pm

Sunday, the 18th-Upper Room Squad, 6-7:45pm

Thursday, the 22nd-Teen Led Bible Study – 8th-12th grade, 6-7pm

Adult Volunteers Needed - We are looking for sincere, motivated, and willing adults who would like to help out with our Parish youth. All volunteers need to be compliant - having a background clearance check and having completed a mandatory Child Protection Course (Virtus). Contact Paul Dwyer, ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com.

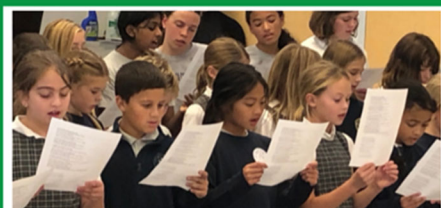


Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs. 9am-4pm; Fri. 9am-noon

Adults Plan Ahead to Volunteer

Want to volunteer at the many St. Theresa's children based programs/events? We encourage and welcome your involvement however it requires that all volunteers be compliant. For details contact Connie Gilligan, Parish Child Protection Coordinator, at connie@sainttheresaparish.com or call 703.729.3714.



The STCS Choir
enjoyed singing
for our parish
Young at Heart Club!

STCS registration for siblings of current students is now underway, and registration for NEW families for the 2023-24 school year opens on January 4. If you would like information on admissions for the 2023-24 school year, please visit our website, www.stsashburn.com (click 'Admissions'), or contact Admissions Director Denise Rotell, rotelld@stsashburn.com.



Saint Theresa Catholic School

STCS Parents, please read the **Thursday Thunder** email every week for important information and dates, including:

Monday, Dec. 12—

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, All-school Mass

Thursday, Dec. 15—

STCS Christmas Pageant

Friday, Dec. 16—

8th Grade Retreat

Wednesday, Dec. 21—

Early Dismissal for Christmas Break

Wednesday, Jan. 4—

Students Return

St. Theresa Catholic School's 2022 Thunder Appeal, "Our Mission Matters" is now underway – please consider a gift to our parish school!

STCS Thunder Appeal



Your support will impact our students every day by helping to upgrade building security, add outdoor learning spaces, expand faith formation opportunities, and help bridge the gap between our tuition revenue and the actual cost to educate each student. Donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting our website, www.stsashburn.com.

You may also mail a check to St. Theresa Catholic School ("Thunder Appeal" in the memo line). For more information,

please contact Regina Freschi, freschir@stsashburn.com or 703.729.3577. *We are grateful for your support!*

Calling all St. Theresa Catholic School Alumni & Alumni Families!

We would love to hear from you, and add you to our **Alumni & Friends Newsletter** email list. Please send your news and contact information to alumni@stsashburn.com.



First STCS graduating class, 1996



Shop for Christmas and Support STCS!

When you shop on Amazon, please use AmazonSmile – they'll give back a portion of your purchase to STCS. Go to www.AmazonSmile.com and choose "St Theresa Parish School" from the list of charities (NOTE: no period after 'St'). At Harris Teeter, link your VIC card to STCS with code #5887 at the customer service desk or online. *Thank you for your support!*

News from our Parish

Can you help with an end-of-year gift? St. Theresa Catholic School's 2022 Thunder Appeal, "Our Mission Matters" is now underway! Your support will impact our students every day by helping to upgrade building security, add outdoor learning spaces, expand faith formation opportunities, and help bridge the gap between our tuition revenue and the actual cost to educate each student. Donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting our web-



site, www.stsashburn.com. You may also mail a check to St. Theresa Catholic School ("Thunder Appeal" in the memo line). For more information, please contact Regina Freschi, freschir@stsashburn.com or 703.729.3577. *We are grateful for your support!*

Young at Heart Club Men and Women (55 and over)
December 14th Christmas Party. We meet in the Admin. Bldg across from the church after 12:15pm Mass. Club will provide a Free Lunch for paid

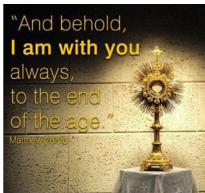
2022 members which will be 2 slices of pizza, tossed salad, wine, soda, eggnog, coffee, tea and water. For non-members the charge will be \$10. Each person please bring a small amount of Christmas cookies, cupcakes, brownies etc, to share on our dessert table. We will have a Christmas gift exchange, if you would like to participate, please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10. Must RSVP by **December 11th** by email to Grace Breighner, gracejb18@aol.com or call 703.729.7044. New people are ALWAYS welcome to join us!

Current Vacant Adoration Slots

Critical Need		
No Adorer Scheduled	Sunday	1:00am & 3:30am

Urgent Need		
No Adorer for First Half Hour	Sunday	1:30pm
	Monday	4:30am
	Friday	4:00am & 7:30am

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Second Adorer Needed	12:30am	12:00am	12:00am	12:00am	12:30am	12:30am	12:00am
One Adorer already for these time slots but need one more Adorer.	1:30am	1:00am	1:00am	1:00am	2:30am	1:30am	1:00am
	3:00am	3:00am	2:00am	2:00am	3:30am	2:30am	2:30am
	4:00am	4:00am	3:00am	3:00am	8:00am	3:30am	3:30am
	6:30am	11:30am	4:30am	4:00am	3:00pm	7:30am	4:30am
If you can sign up for one of these available slots, it would be greatly appreciated.	10:30am	12:30pm	8:30am	12:30pm	4:00pm	11:00am	10:00am
To sign up, go to:	12:30pm	9:30pm	9:30am	5:30pm	8:30pm	12:00pm	11:00am
http://sainttheresa.letusadore.com	2:00pm		11:00am	7:00pm	11:30pm	4:00pm	12:00pm
	5:00pm		1:00pm	8:00pm		5:30pm	1:00pm
	8:00pm		8:30pm	11:30pm		6:30pm	2:00pm
	11:00pm		10:30pm			10:00pm	3:00pm
						11:00pm	4:00pm
							5:00pm
							6:00pm
							7:00pm
							8:00pm
							9:00pm
							10:00pm
							11:30pm



Note: We have a very active group of adoration substitutes. The Adoration Schedule online system allows users to cancel commitments from time-to-time to allow for vacation, sickness or other possibilities that may prevent attendance. In those instances, substitute adorers will provide one-time coverage

Wanting to hear Fr. Hudgins' homilies?

You can find all of Fr. Hudgins homilies recorded on Fatherhudgins.com

Adult Education and Spiritual Enrichment

Women's Discipleship Group

Meets every Wednesday morning, 9:30-10:30am for Lectio Divina and 10:45-11:45am for spiritual book reading. Our focus is the Mass reading for the upcoming Sunday and a spiritual book selected by our spiritual director Deacon Matthew Noah. The

title of our next book is "A Biblical Walk Through The Mass" by Dr. Edward Sri.

Parish women of all ages are cordially invited. For more information contact Dawn Garabito, 862.812.0039 or dmarie213@aol.com

Interested in learning about the Legion of Mary?

Two Legion of Mary groups meet at different times. Check the website for information, or be our guest at any Legion meeting held on Wednesday, 7:15pm; or Saturday 9:15am.

News Around the Diocese

Days of Recollection for Discerners -- December 17 and 18

Could Christ be calling you to the priesthood or religious life? Take a step to find out and enjoy some quiet prayer time this Advent. Men's Day of Recollection is Saturday, December 17, with diocesan seminarians and priests; the Women's Day of Recollection is Sunday, December 18 with the Daughters of St. Paul. These events are for those 18-35 years old interested in deepening their prayer life and exploring their vocation. For more information and to register contact the Office of Vocations, 703.841.2514 or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. Deadline to register is Monday, Dec. 12.

Vocations—"I send my messenger ahead of you to prepare your way before you." Are you called to be sent by Jesus as a priest, deacon, sister or

brother? Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at 703.841.2514 or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." This Advent make the decision to grow in your marriage by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Feb 3-5, 2023 in Warrenton, VA and Mar 31-Apr 2, 2023 in Herndon, VA. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: RenewMarriage-VANorth.org or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vanorth.org or 703.646.1521.

Separated or Divorced?—St. John's Separated and Divorced Ministry invites all separated or divorced Catho-

lics to their meetings every third Thursday of the month, 7:30pm at St. John's in Leesburg. Email separated@stjohnleesburg.com for more information.

Do you love someone with a drug or alcohol problem?—The Nar-Anon is a worldwide fellowship for those affected by a friend's or family member's addiction. As a twelve-step program, we offer our help by sharing our experience, strength, and hope. Please join us for an evening of support and recovery; you're only a stranger until you walk through the door. For more information, contact Deacon Noah at dcnnoah@sainttheresaparish.com. Weekly meetings are held at: 2nd & 4th Mondays, 7-8pm @ Cascades Library; 1st, 3rd & 5th Mondays, 7-8pm via Zoom; Thursdays, 7-8pm @ Leesburg Presbyterian Church.



Knights of Columbus

New Members: Congratulations and a warm welcome to The following transferring members who joined our council in November. We look forward to their fraternity and involvement in our Council activities: Ryan Zimmerman, and Bill Himpler.

Sweats for Vets program 2022: Our annual Sweats for Vets program is here! Please consider purchasing and donating a set (or two, or more) of sweat suits that will benefit veterans at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Martinsville, West Virginia. Please deposit your donations in the marked collection boxes in the Narthex or Parish Office hallway. The sweats will also be on the "Light up Someone's Christmas" program this year as a donation item.

Monetary donations are also welcomed. These extra funds go toward helping Veterans participate in various beneficial programs such as horseback riding, a fishing day trip, taking in a local play, a bus ride to a unique historic location, or simply going apple picking. The Sweats for Vets program is a wonderful way to show our Veterans that people still care about them. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Joe Potak,

PGK (ajpotak@yahoo.com). Thanks for your support!

Food Drive: Last month the generous parishioners donated 4,992 pounds of food. For the calendar year the parishioners, volunteers, and youth group for donated, sorted, and delivered 52,959 pounds of food to the Catholic Charities Loudoun Food Pantry in Sterling. Your kindness and time make this program a successful one. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thanks for the support.

Are you a parishioner in need of a home repair? If you need help in completing a small home repair that you cannot complete yourself or that may cause you financial hardship, we are here to help! Projects can involve carpentry plumbing, electrical, painting, and/or the installation of a new appliance. Please submit your request on our website at: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/handy-man-services>.

Call for Handyman Crew Volunteers:

Are you available to volunteer as a handyman for those in need? The volunteers of the St. Louis Martin Council of the Knights of Columbus are available to complete small home repairs for the benefit of those in need

who are physically incapable of performing the work, or for whom the hiring of a professional is cost prohibitive. Typical projects include Plumbing, Electrical, Carpentry, and Painting. As a volunteer, you will have the opportunity to work alongside brother knights in support of a worthy cause. What do you get in return? A smile and a thank you from the people you helped. Learn more here: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/handy-man-services>.

Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP)

is a Knights of Columbus program to raise funds to support maternity and pregnancy centers in Loudoun County. Thank you to all who have donated. If you would like to donate, visit <https://tinyurl.com/knights4life>. See QR code below. Your donations will support pregnancy resource centers and in turn pregnant women and their pre-born babies. Thank you for all of the support you have shown to date!



Interested in learning more about the Knights of Columbus? See our most Frequently Asked Questions at <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/faqs>.

Parish Offices

Secretary: Christine Young, 703.729.2287
Secretary: Kelly Cosenke, 703.729.2287
Business Manager: Angelita Lupetaliaami, 703.729.2287
Facilities Coordinator: Tom Balint, 703.729.2287
Outreach Coordinator: Marianne Guidos, 703.729.2334
Website: www.sainttheresaparish.com
Email: office@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

Religious Education Offices

Director: Larry Bayne, 703.729.3714
Youth Activities: Paul Dwyer, 703.729.0426
Secretary: Connie Gilligan, 703.729.3714
Secretary: Myriam Perez, 703.729.3714
Email: reoffice@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

School Offices

Principal: Erin O'Malley, 703.729.3577
Assistant Principal: Danny Costa, 703.729.3577
Admin Asst: Lisa Ralston, 703.729.3577
Receptionist: Priscilla Keller, 703.729.3577
Website: www.stsashburn.com
Email: schooloffice@stsashburn.com
Fax: 703.729.8068

All offices located at 21370 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, VA

Sacraments

Sponsor Certificates

Please contact the Parish Office to obtain a sponsor certificate prior to a Baptism or Confirmation.

Baptisms

Parents desiring Baptism for their child must attend a class (preferably before the child's birth) held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in a Conference Room in the Administration Bldg. You may schedule your child for the Sacrament of Baptism (held all Sundays 1:30pm) by visiting the Parish website under Faith, Sacraments, Baptism. Date is confirmed once all paperwork is received in the office (at least 2 weeks prior to the date of desired Baptism.)

Matrimony

The priest must be contacted at least six (6) months prior to the wedding date.

Visit the Parish Website under Faith, Sacraments, Marriage and fill out the Marriage Preparation Questionnaire prior to contacting the Parish Office. A priest will contact you.

RCIA

Adults desiring instruction in the Catholic Faith should visit the website to register for RCIA classes.

Hospitalized/Homebound

Please contact the Parish Office to ask for Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick.



Learn more, visit
www.sainttheresaparish.com

Festival of Trees- Thank you! Many thanks to all who donated the beautiful trees, wreaths, baskets and nativity set. Special thanks to Mary & James Sinnott, Anh & Vernon Wong and the committee members for another very festive successful festival. Many thanks to the volunteers. Thank you to Wegmans and Waltonwood for their basket donations. Over \$21,000. was raised to help families in need through Divine Mercy Outreach. God bless you all!

Monetary Donations—Your donations make a difference in the lives of struggling families! There are struggling veterans, individuals and families due to domestic violence, disabilities, layoffs, medical issues and unforeseen circumstances that need help in moving forward. Donations accepted online, or by mail or drop off to the parish office. Please indicate DMO in the memo of the check or on the envelope. To donate online go to the parish website <http://www.sainttheresaparish.com> and click on "Donate" tab to make a monetary donation online! Thank you for helping us to bring Christ's love to

others by helping them in their time of need.

Furniture Ministry—accepting kitchen tables & chairs, small dressers and metal bed frames. Please contact our furniture coordinator, Una Giachinta at 571.217.7551 or furniture@sainttheresaparish.com if you want to help or if you have these items to donate.

The Feed the Hungry of Loudoun County works with the Salvation Army to help feed the hungry. Currently we distribute at two low income apartment complexes and a senior center. While the Salvation Army canteen is out every Saturday, St Theresa does the third Saturday of each month. Interested in help making sandwiches and buying fruit or water or anyone who would like to know more or would like be placed on our notification list, please contact Tim Bowen, tjbowl1@verizon.net or cell 703.244.4494. Thank you to all those who help us feed the hungry.

The Visitation Ministry—Are you HOMEBOUND? We have wonderful parishioners who would love to visit you or if you are not comfortable with a home visit at this time, they will call you! If you need help with an errand or would like someone to pray with you, let us know. If you are looking to

volunteer, please contact us as well. Claudia Lewis at 703.431.8670 or email her at clewis825@gmail.com

Bed Ministry—Volunteer for the Bed Ministry—volunteers with trucks or Large SUVs needed especially! It's rewarding to assist families in need. We need extra helpers to bring new beds and bedding from our storage to families moving out of the shelters and other families and children in need. Contact Bea Craig at 571.439.0364 or beds@sainttheresaparish.com

Friends in Need—Provides meals on a short-term basis for those families or individuals in the parish who are unable to cook for themselves due to arrival of a new baby, illness or a medical situation in the immediate family... Contact Emily Wilsey at emwilsey@aol.com or 703.585.5435 to volunteer to make meals or if you or a loved one need of help with meals

Looking for more ways help? Sign up to receive our Outreach email to get up to date information on needs and volunteer opportunities. If you sign up you will learn about what we do and how you can become more involved in touching the lives of families who are struggling. Contact Marianne Guidos 703.729.2334 or dmoutreach@sainttheresaparish.com.

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Courtney J. Ullrich
DMD

Valerie V. Woo
DMD



**Dr. Woo is a
Parishioner and STCS parent**

Dominion Law Group



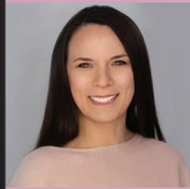
Jonathan Laramie
Attorney

Wills, Trusts, Probate

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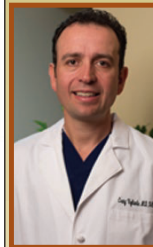
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