A JOYFUL AND SOLEMN CELEBRATION: THE DEDICATION OF THE ALTAR AT SAN ISIDRO

With hearts filled with joy and gratitude, the San Isidro Catholic community gathered on Sunday, November 8, at 6:00 p.m. for the solemn Dedication of the Altar, celebrated by the Most Reverend Enrique Delgado, Auxiliary Bishop of Miami.

The celebration began on a joyful note as our parish choirs welcomed the procession of clergy with a jubilant song. Joining us for this special occasion were Deacon Beny Matos; Fr. Andre Felipe Laspriella, visiting priest; Fr. Pierre Lucien of St. Helen; Fr. Yamil Miranda and Fr. Warren Escalona of All Saints; Fr. Francisco Hernandez of St. Henry; Fr. Juan Alberto Aviles of St. Francis de Sales; Fr. Wilfredo Contreras, San Isidro, Raul Panellas, MC of the Archdiocese of Miami; and Bishop Enrique Delgado.

As the Liturgy of the Word unfolded, the joyful spirit of the assembly was enriched by Bishop Delgado's inspiring homily, particularly his reflection on the Parable of the Ten Virgins. He reminded us that the oil in the lamps represents our personal relationship with Christ. Just as the wise virgins could not share their oil with the foolish ones, our relationship with the Lord is something each of us must personally nurture. We must continually fill our hearts with Christ's love so that we may become a light to others and be ready to welcome Him whenever He comes.

Following the Liturgy of the Word, the Rite of Dedication of the Altar began with the beautifully sung Litany of the Saints. A particularly moving moment followed as Deacon Beny Matos presented the five sacred relics of St. Isidore, St. Maria de la Cabeza, St. Martin de Porres, St. Rose of Lima, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, which were placed within the altar.

Bishop Delgado then anointed the entire altar with Sacred Chrism, spreading the holy oil across its surface. The altar was subsequently incensed, and the altar linens and candles were placed, completing this beautiful and solemn rite. Each gesture expressed the sacred purpose of the altar as the place where the Eucharistic Sacrifice is celebrated and where God's people gather to encounter Christ.

The entire Mass and dedication ceremony were deeply beautiful and reverent, marking a significant milestone in the spiritual life of our parish.

At the conclusion of the celebration, Fr. Wilfredo Contreras expressed his heartfelt gratitude to everyone who made this special day possible: Bishop Delgado, the visiting clergy, the architects and builders, our parish ministries, those who carefully prepared the liturgy, and all the parishioners whose generosity, sacrifices, and love helped make this project a reality.

As we celebrate this new chapter in the life of San Isidro, may our newly dedicated altar always be the heart of our parish community—a place where heaven and earth meet, where Christ offers Himself to us in the Eucharist, and where we are strengthened to go forth and share His love with the world. May the Lord bless our parish and all who gather around this sacred altar for generations to come!



Most Reverend Enrique Delgado, Auxiliary Bishop of Miami



Raul Panellas, Master of Ceremonies / Maestro de Ceremonias



From left to right/ de izquierda a derecha: Fr. Andre Felipe Laspriella, visiting priest, Fr. Pierre Lucien, St. Helen, Fr. Yamil Miranda, All Saints, Fr. Francisco Hernandez, St. Henry, Fr. Warren Escalona, All Saints y Fr. Juan Alberto Aviles, St. Francis de Sales.



Fr. Wilfredo Contreras and the Bishop



Deacon Beny Matos