



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4300 King Springs Road SE, Smyrna, GA 30082-4214

stthomasga@stthomastheapostle.org

<http://www.stthomastheapostle.org>

December 18, 2011

Parish Office
770 - 432-8579
Fax. 770 - 432-8570

Office Hours
Monday—Friday
9:00AM—5:00PM
Closed Wednesday 1PM-3PM

Religious Ed. Office
770 - 432-5296

Office Hours
Monday—Thursday
10:00AM - 8:00PM

Preschool Office
770 - 432-8579 Ext. 125

Office Hours
Tuesday—Thursday
10:00AM - 1:00PM

English Mass Schedule

Monday: 12 Noon
Tuesday: 12 Noon
Wednesday: 6:30 AM &
7:00 PM
Thursday: 7:00 PM
Friday: 12 Noon
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30 AM,
9:30 AM
11:30 AM &
5:00 PM

Confession:

Saturdays: 3:30 PM

Horario de Misas en Español

Lunes: 7:30 PM
Jueves: 8:00 PM
Sábado: 7:30 PM
Domingo: 6:00 AM,
2:00 PM &
7:30 PM

Confesión:

Sábados: 6:30 PM
Domingos: 1:00 & 6:30 PM



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today's Advent Reflection (Reflexión de Hoy)
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Christmas Mass Schedule
(Horario de Misas de Navidad)
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New Year's Eve Gala
(Baile de Gala de Año Nuevo)
Page 5



www.facebook.com/stthomastheapostlechurch

Pastor: Rev. James H. Kuczynski, M.S. (x108)

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Pedro Chingandu, M.S. (x106) • Rev. Andrews Kollanoor, M.S. (x128) • Rev. Jaime Molina J., M.N.M. (x121)

• Rev. Paul Rainville, M.S. (in residence x.193) **Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Michael Garrett • Rev. Mr. Earl Jackson

Parish Administrator: Mr. Gus Scannapieco (x109)



FY 2012 Offertory Projection vs. Actual to Date
Ofertorio: Proyección vs. Real

To Date Budget / *Proyección* \$784,615.00
To Date Actual / *Real* \$662,642.00
To Date Shortfall / *Pérdida*..... \$121,974.00

Thanks for your generosity!
¡Gracias por su generosidad!

Offertory/Ofertorio December 11-12, 2011
Budgeted (*Presupuesto*)..... \$32,692.00
Offertory (*Ofrenda*)..... \$26,844.00
Shortfall (*Pérdida*)..... \$8,848.00

Update on our Capital Campaign
Moving Forward In Hope
Campaña Caminando en Esperanza

Goal (*Meta*)..... \$5,000,000.00
Pledged (*Compromisos*) \$3,115,804.00
Paid to date (*Pagos*) \$703,910.00

Archbishop Annual Appeal
Llamado Anual del Arzobispo

Goal (*Meta*)..... \$124,025.00
Pledged (*Compromisos*) \$165,649.00
Paid to date (*Pagos*) \$92,809.00
If all monies are paid by 12/31/11,
The excess will be refunded to St. Thomas
to offset the deficiency in our offertory to date.

What our children at St. Thomas gave to God...
El regalo de nuestros niños a Dios...
♥ December 3-4, 2011 ♥
♥ **Treasure (Tesoro):** \$303.29♥

Time & Talent (Tiempo & Talento): ♥ Cleaned my sister's room (*limpié el cuarto de mi hermana*) ♥ I let my sisters play my PSP (*Dejé que mis hermanas jugaran con mi juego de video*) ♥ Sharing my toys with my brother (*Compartí juguetes con mi hermano*) ♥ Helped my teacher (*Ayudé a mi maestra*) ♥ Giving toys to other kids (*dando regalos a otros niños*) ♥ Going to church with my friend (*fui a la iglesia con mi amigo*) ♥ Shared love (*compartí amor*) ♥ I cleaned up my toys (*limpié mis juguetes*) ♥ Where does God live? (*¿Dónde vive Dios?*) ♥ I spend time with my family (*Paso tiempo con mi familia*) ♥ I didn't cry on my first day of school (*No lloré en mi primer día de clases*) ♥ I love you God! (*¡Te amo Dios!*) ♥ I was good (*Fui bueno*) ♥ Did my homework (*Hice mi tarea*) ♥ I have been good in the house (*He sido bueno en casa*) ♥

Children's donation envelopes are available in the Commons Area. Encourage your child to share his/her good deeds with us.

IN OUR PRAYERS - EN NUESTRAS ORACIONES

To Request Prayers From St. Thomas the Apostle **Prayer Chain** contact Valerie Panditaratne at 770-438-9078 or email: vpandit@emory.edu

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Egdar Alvarado | Justin Patrick Gooden | Leona Morales |
| Brandi Dabney | Sandy Haynes | Frank Perez |
| Gil Campos | Linda Hudson | Kathy O'Hara-Rosa |
| Ricky Carreño | Cordelia Kelly | Rodolfo Proaño |
| Bonnie Caruso | Gloria Kincer | Emmanuel Poblete D. |
| Bob Contino | Alan Knieter | Diane Ray |
| Michael Chastain | Linda Laurens | Mary Ellen Rizzuto |
| Doris Cushing | Shirley Loggins | Steve Scheneman |
| Ed Fitzgerald | Frank Madden | John Schroeder |
| Ashley Guadalupe Frausto | Dorothy Madison | Lenna Spencer |
| Andrea Galvan | Ian Martin | Bess Sprinkle |
| Paula García Patiño | Carol J. Mohring | Chuck Sykes |
| Lauren Garger | Franz Mohring | |

We ask the friends and families of those for whom we are praying on this bulletin sick list to please take a moment to call the Parish Office and tell us how they are doing. They are always in our prayers.

Pray For Our Troops

We remember in our prayers all of those who are serving in the military, especially:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| CPT Donald Carducci, USA | CPT Bobby Hall, USA | 2LT Kyle Perneli, USA |
| Sgt. Christopher Conkel, USMC | Sgt. William Scott Haney, ARNG | Specialist Robert H. Roberts, USA |
| SFC Steve Creason, GaARNG | E3 Spencer Hanemann, USN | Major Robert A. Robinson, II USA |
| SFC Arcelio R. Davis, Jr. USA | PFC Brian Harris, USA | Pvt. Jeffrey Sanborn, USA |
| ET3 Carolyn Deacon, USN | Maj. Marise James, USAF | Specialist Brian Saunder, USA |
| Sgt. Sonjanique Ferrell, USA | HMC Damian J. Lovello | CPT Anna Smith, ARNG |
| Sgt. Mark Gallant, USA | LT CDR Dominic R. Lovello | MSG Donald Smith, USA |
| LCpl. Quinn Gordon, USMC | CW3 Peter Paul Leone, USA | S.Sgt. Michael Throne, USA |
| SFC Charles Granke, USA | CPT Michael McDonald, USMC | CW4 Anthony Veney, USA |
| PFC Ronald Griffin, Jr., USA | HM3 Kenneth McIntosh, II, USN | Sgt. Richard Whelan, USMC |

Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to add a family member who is serving in the military.

Parish Magazine: New Project!

Do you enjoy writing? Have you developed certain skills in communications due to your work or profession? We need you to volunteer to help us explore, design and produce the first edition of our Parish Magazine, a project proposed by the Pastoral Council to help keep us aware and informed on a regular basis. For more information or to volunteer please contact our Pastor, Fr Jim, at frjim@stthomastheapostle.org or phone at 770-432-8579 Ext. 108.

Revista Parroquial: Nuevo proyecto

¿Te gusta escribir artículos o quizás tienes experiencia en diseño gráfico? Te invitamos a participar en el lanzamiento de nuestra primera Revista Parroquial, un proyecto impulsado por el Consejo Pastoral con la idea de mantener a nuestra comunidad informada de forma regular.

Contacta a nuestro párroco, el Padre Jim, para obtener una cita en inglés y explorar este nuevo proyecto parroquial.
frjim@stthomastheapostle.org o por teléfono al 770-432-8579 Ext. 108.

**From the
Office of Religious Education
770-432-5296**

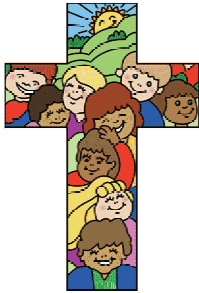
NO PSR during the Christmas break:

For Primary & Fires (Sunday classes)
on Dec. 25, Jan. 1, 8, 15

For Elementary & Middle School Classes
on Monday, Dec. 26, Jan 2, 9, 16
on Wednesday, Dec. 21, 28, Jan. 4
on Thursday, Dec. 22, 29, Jan. 5

CLASSES RESUME
on Wednesday, January 11
on Thursday, January 12
on Sunday, January 22
on Monday, January 23

We wish all our students a safe and happy
holiday season!



**Oficina de Doctrina
770-432-5296**

**No habrá clases de catecismo
durante las fiestas navideñas:**

Para estudiantes de Primaria y FIRES
(domingos) Dic. 25, Enero 1º, 8, 15

Para estudiantes de los
Lunes, Diciembre 26, Enero 2, 9, 16
Miércoles, Diciembre 21, 28, Enero 4
Jueves, Diciembre 22, 29, Enero 5

Las clases reanudarán
Miércoles, 11 de enero
Jueves, 12 de enero
Domingo, 22 de enero
Lunes, 23 de enero

¡Deseamos a todos nuestros estudiantes
una fiestas navideñas seguras y felices!

**CATHOLICISM: STUDY PROGRAM
STARTING THIS FEBRUARY 2012!**

*Do not miss this spectacular program
which has got every Catholic in the
world over talking!*

*Fr. Robert Barron created the
groundbreaking STUDY PROGRAM as
a thematic presentation of what
Catholics believe and why,
so all can come to a deeper
understanding of the Catholic Faith.
This engaging and interesting
formational program uses the art,
architecture, literature, music
and all the treasures of the Catholic
tradition to illuminate the timeless
teachings of the Church.*

*Find more information in our website:
www.stthomastheapostle.org/catholicism*

Confirmation Classes

The Adult Faith Formation Office will
start offering Confirmation Only classes
starting May 6th until June 24th.

Classes will be held on Sundays, from
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 Noon in English and
from 12:30 p.m. -2:00 p.m. in Spanish.

There will be exception of some
Mondays when the classes will be
offered at 7:00 p.m. for both languages.
To register you have to:

- Be of the age 18
- Be Baptized in the Catholic Church
- Have Received your first Holy Communion

For any further questions please
contact Michael Okuto or Andrew
McGovern in the Adult Faith Formation
office. 770-432-8579 Ext 122 or 131.

Clases de Confirmación

Iniciando en mayo 2012.

*Las clases se ofrecen para personas
mayores de 18 años, bautizados en la
Iglesia Católica y que ya hayan recibido
Primera Comunión.*

*Contacta a Miguel Mendoza al
404-543-9166 para más información.*

Preschool Registration

St. Thomas the Apostle Preschool offers
classes from 2 year old to Pre-K 4.

Our hours of operation are from 9:00
a.m. to 1:00 p. Your child's placement is
determined by their age as of
September 1st, 2012.

**Registration for new families for the
2012-2013 school year will take place
starting February 6th, 2012.**

Tours will be given on Wednesday,
January 11th and January 18th.
Please meet in room # 3 at 10:00 a.m.
to attend. Informational brochures are
available in the Commons Area.
Registration forms for the 2012-2013
school year will be available after
January 10th.

If you have any questions please call:
Monica Signoret - Preschool Director at
770-432-8579 ext. 125
or contact her via e-mail at:
msignoret@stthomastheapostle.org

El programa de Preescolar de la
Iglesia Santo Tomás ofrece clases
para niños de 2 a Pre-K.
Las horas de clases son de 9:00 a.m. a
1:00 p.m. El nivel de ubicación de sus
niños dependerá de la edad que hayan
cumplido para el 1º de septiembre, 2012.

La matrícula para el periodo 2012-2013
de Preescolar será el
6 de febrero del 2012.

Hojas de matrícula disponibles a partir
del 10 de enero.
Se ofrecerán tours el 11 y 18 de febrero
a las 10:00 a.m. en el aula #3.

Para más información ver panfletos
disponibles en el Área Común
o bien, contacte a:
Mónica Signoret - Directora de
Preescolar al 70-432-8579 ext. 125
o vía correo electrónico:
msignoret@stthomastheapostle.org

Christmas

Mass Schedule

Horario de Misas Navideñas

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24, 2011

Misas de Nochebuena

Sábado, 24 de diciembre del 2011

- 4:00 PM Children's Christmas Liturgy
- 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass
- 8:00 PM Misa de Nochebuena
- 11:30 PM Christmas Hymns & Carols

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25, 2011

Misas de Navidad

Domingo, 25 de diciembre del 2011

- 12:00 AM Midnight Mass
- 9:30 AM Mass
- 11:30 AM Mass
- 2:00 PM Misa
- 7:30 PM Misa



Christmas Flower and Christmas Offering Envelopes

are available in the Commons Area.

If you would like to contribute to the Poinsettia Fund for the Christmas season, please use the envelope provided and deposit it in the collection basket (or bring it in person to the Parish office) by December 22nd.



Sobres de Ofrenda Floral e Intención de Navidad disponibles en el Área Común

Por favor dejar tus donaciones en la canasta de la colecta o entregar tu sobre en la oficina parroquial antes del 22 de diciembre. Tu ofrenda floral se usará para comprar las flores para decorar la iglesia en Navidad.

Thanks for your donations to the Christmas Giving Tree

The Giving Tree Ministry would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all the parishioners who participated in this year's Advent gift collection. Your generosity and thoughtfulness will be greatly appreciated this Christmas by the elderly, infirmed, homeless, and economically disadvantaged people in our community. Thanks for sharing God's love with our neighbors!

Gracias por sus donaciones al Árbol de Regalos

La generosidad de los miembros de Santo Tomás ayudó a llevar alegría y esperanza a los enfermos, ancianos, indigentes, y personas de escasos recursos en nuestra comunidad.

O Come All Ye Faithful

All children of St. Thomas the Apostle parish family are invited to come and participate in our

Christmas Liturgy

especially celebrated for children on **Saturday, December 24th, at 4:00 p.m.**

All children are invited to come in a simple costume, dressed as one of the people or animals in the manger. Become part of this celebration by being angels, stars, shepherds, sheep, wise men, lambs, or innkeepers.

Mary and Joseph will be waiting. Come help Fr. Jim, in the telling of this wonderful story on this special, sacred night of the Nativity!



¡Venid y Adoremos!

Todos los niños de la comunidad parroquial Santo Tomás el Apóstol están invitados a participar en la

Misa de Navidad para niños

(Misa en inglés) el día

Sábado, 24 de diciembre, a las 4:00 p.m.

Invitamos a los niños a formar parte de la celebración vistiéndose como personas o animales en el pesebre: ángeles, estrellas, pastores, ovejas, reyes magos, corderos, dueños de posada.

María y José les estarán esperando en el altar mientras el Padre Jim (nuestro párroco) narra la historia de esta noche tan especial, la noche de la Natividad.



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

MOVING FORWARD
— IN HOPE —



TO BUILD
a NEW
CHURCH

We are making some good progress...

Since September, when the Capital Campaign committee re-introduced the second phase of our targeted goal of reaching \$5,000,000, we are now at \$3,091,109 pledges (up about \$300,000 in less than 3 months.) As of last week, more than 1,300 parishioners/families have made their pledges. We are grateful and appreciative of their commitment to help us reach our goal. If you have not made your pledge yet, please consider participating over the next 3 years to help your parish build a new church.

*Necesitamos tu ayuda para construir una nueva iglesia, para tener más aulas y más espacio en la iglesia, y así servir mejor a nuestra comunidad parroquial.
¡Necesitamos tu ayuda!*

CAMINANDO
— EN ESPERANZA —

Para Construir Una
NUEVA Iglesia

**Save your plastic grocery bags
for our annual
Lenten Food Drive next year!**

Did you know that discarded plastic bags can be re-used by the Missionaries of the Poor in Kingston, Jamaica, to distribute food at their shelters?

We are looking for plastic bags in good condition (please recycle otherwise) Bring bags to the collection boxes that will be available in the Commons Area in February 2012.



**Guarda tus bolsas plásticas
para nuestra
Campaña Anual de alimentos,
en febrero 2012**

¿Sabías que las bolsas plásticas pueden ser usadas por los Misioneros de los Pobres en Kingston, Jamaica, para repartir alimentos en sus albergues? Estaremos recolectando bolsas plásticas en buenas condiciones (recicla las bolsas que no se puedan usar).

Deposita tus bolsas vacías en las canastas que estarán disponibles en el área Común en febrero 2012.

Join us on
Tuesday, January 17th at 7:30 p.m.
for an exceptional evening of worship,
prayer, music, scriptures
and faith stories at IGNITE!
Dinner is served at 6:15 p.m.
in the Social Hall.

Make Ignite your New Year
resolution! Come share in the spirit
of the New Born Christ.

2012
New Year's Knight

The Knights of Columbus are bringing back the New Year's celebration with "2012 New Year's Knight!"

**This will be a formal event on
December 31
9:00 p.m.—12:30 a.m.**

Join us for:

- Formal night
- Heavy hors d'oeuvres
- Dancing
- Photographer (with a FREE 8"x10" print)
- Door Prizes
- And much more!

**Tickets on sale after Masses.
ONLY \$35 per couple and
\$20 for a single person!!!!
Get your tickets fast because
there is limited space!**

For more information,
contact Jason Croshaw at
jcroshaw12386@gmail.com

**¡Recibe con nosotros
el Año Nuevo!**

*Los Caballeros de Colón te invitan a
La Noche de Año Nuevo 2012*

**Diciembre 31, 2011
9:00 p.m.—12:30 a.m.
Salón Social**

Se ofrecerá

- Una noche de gala
- Botanas y bocadillos
- Baile
- Fotógrafo (retrato 8"x10" GRATIS)
- Premios
- ¡Y Mucho Más!

**Compra tus boletos a la salida de Misa.
\$20 por persona o
\$35 por pareja**

¡Espacio limitado!

Today's Gospel Reflection

Gospel Summary (Luke 1:26-38)

Jesus' birth is foretold in this gospel where Gabriel comes to Mary and announces that within her she has the king that Israel has long awaited. To have found favor with God surprises Mary, a woman with none of the qualities valued in her society. She was female, young, poor, and didn't even have a husband or child to give her existence credibility. Not only did this puzzle her, but she knew she was a virgin and carrying a child didn't logically fit. Her puzzlement gave Gabriel the opportunity to explain that the baby she carried was conceived through the Holy Spirit. Mary accepted what was told to her, and remained open to God's will. At the same time, she learned that her cousin, Elizabeth, was also pregnant. This pregnancy was miraculous as well, since Elizabeth had been thought to be barren and was now an old woman.

Reflection for Families

Mary accepted the gift of Jesus with a willing and thankful heart. She is a good model for us as we approach this busy and hectic time of year. Rather than be so concerned about all the preparations for the holiday, at least for a few minutes today, take time to thank God for the gift of Jesus and the promise he brings to each of us. Along with Mary, we might be thankful for the gift of our own children and focus today on what is really valuable about these gifts.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

As you gather for a meal or prayer today, share with one another a difficult task you have that lies ahead for you. As you share your concerns, suggest ways that your trust in God might help you meet the obstacle. Allow each family member to offer ways of helping one another with these tasks, and for sure, take the time to pray together for guidance and courage.

Discussion Starter

- If I had been Mary and Gabriel came to tell me the things he told Mary, I would have...
- God calls me in the same way Mary was called. Specifically, God calls me to... and I respond by...
- Like Gabriel told Mary, I know nothing is impossible with God because...

This week in our parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9:00 AM | PRESCHOOL |
| 12:00 PM | MASS † Jim McCabe |
| 4:30 PM | PSR |
| 5:45 PM | CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR |
| 7:00 PM | PSR |
| 7:30 PM | MISA Luis & Daría Ocaña |
| 7:30 PM | POSADAS |

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9:00 AM | PRESCHOOL |
| 11:00 AM | PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY |
| 12:00 PM | MASS † George Patrick Garger |
| 5:30 PM | INEA |
| 6:30 PM | CENTERING PRAYER GROUP CUB SCOUTS POSADAS LECTORES |
| 7:00 PM | APOSTLES CLASS CHILDREN'S CHOIR |

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

| | |
|---------|---|
| 6:30 AM | Mass for Peace Jesús Angel |
| 7:00 AM | ADORATION |
| 9:00 AM | PRESCHOOL |
| 9:30 AM | JUSTFAITH |
| 6:00 PM | POSADAS |
| 6:45 PM | BENEDICTION |
| 7:00 PM | MASS † Pio Fernandes |
| 7:00 PM | CRACK IT OPEN |
| 7:30 PM | LIFETEEN BAND |

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| NO RCIA NO PSR | |
| 12:00 AM | MIDNIGHT MASS † Chris Harding |
| 9:30 AM | MASS Christopher Ugokwe NURSERY AVAILABLE |
| 11:30 AM | MASS In Thanksgiving to the Infant Jesus NURSERY AVAILABLE |
| 2:00 PM | MISA People of St. Thomas and Immigration Reform |
| 7:30 PM | MISA |

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

| | |
|---------|-------------|
| 9:00 AM | PRESCHOOL |
| 6:30 PM | ROSARY |
| 7:00 PM | MASS |
| 8:00 PM | Misa |

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

| | |
|----------|---|
| 12:00 PM | MASS † Bill & Kay Cronin |
| 6:00 PM | POSADAS |
| 7:00 PM | CHILDREN'S CHOIR INSTRUMENTAL |

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

| | |
|---------------|---|
| CHRISTMAS EVE | |
| 11:00 AM | CHILDREN'S CHOIR |
| 12:00 PM | CHILDREN'S GUITAR CLASSES |
| 3:30 PM | Confessions |
| 4:00 PM | Children's Christmas Mass † JoAnn Yorio |
| 6:00 PM | CHRISTMAS EVE MASS People of St. Thomas and Immigration Reform |
| 8:00 PM | MISA DE NOCHEBUENA Familia Bedolla |
| 11:30 PM | Christmas Carols & Hymns |



FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:1-6 (THE LIGHT SHONE)
SECOND READING: TITUS 2:11-14 (HE GAVE HIMSELF)
GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-14 (THE SAVIOR IS BORN)



Dates and times as of 12-12-11

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in memory
of me.

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Los Bravos

Mexican Restaurant
4480 S. Cobb Dr.
678-556-1934

Lunch \$3⁰⁰ OFF with purchase of 2 meals
Dinner \$5⁰⁰ OFF with purchase of 2 meals

We encourage parishioners to patronize this business as they offer discounts for our church events.

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Heart Screenings at WellStar
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Call 770-956-STAR to schedule your appointment.
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Cardiac Network
wellstar.org/heart

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SHARE THE AMORE
PURCHASE \$100 IN GIFT CARDS AND ENJOY A \$20 AMORE BONUS CARD JUST FOR YOU

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MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30060
E-mail: marsha@marshalake.com
www.marshalake.com

Se habla español

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