

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## DECEMBER 17, 2017

### TODAY (Sunday):

- ❖ Novena y Posadas, 600 p.m.

### MONDAY:

- ❖ Our Lady's Prayer Group following the 9:00 a.m. Mass.
- ❖ RECONCILIATION SERVICE at St. Rose of Lima, Ephrata, 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ **NOVENA, MISA Y POSADAS**, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ NO HABRÁ CATECISMO, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Grupo de Evangelización San Pio X, 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY:

- ❖ **LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY** following the 9:00 a.m. Mass (Conference Room), and 7:00 p.m. (Rm #1)
- ❖ **CHOIR PRACTICE**, 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room
- ❖ **NOVENA, MISA Y POSADAS**, 6:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY:

- ❖ **NOVENA, MISA Y POSADAS**, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES.

### THURSDAY:

- ❖ **NOVENA, MISA Y POSADAS**, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Hora Santo, 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ RCIA/RICA 6:00 p.m.

### FRIDAY:

- ❖ NO HABRÁ CLASE DE CONFIRMACIÓN
- ❖ No habrá la clase de Bautismo hasta el 5 de enero.
- ❖ **NOVENA, MISA Y POSADAS**, 6:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY:

- ❖ **CHURCH DECORATING, 10:00 a.m.** Please help out.
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation, 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.
- ❖ Vigil masses at 5:00 p.m. (en español) and 7:00 p.m. (English)



**COFFEE HOUR** after the 9:00 a.m. Mass today. Thanks to the Garces family for providing the goodies. Stop in and enjoy the fellowship.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** Envelopes are in the narthex for those who wish to donate poinsettias in memory of loved ones.



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE GIVING TREE.**  
 The community counted on our support, and once again, we did not let them down.

**LA PRÓXIMA CLASE DE BAUTISMO será el 5 de enero a las 7:30 p.m. Los bautismos serán los días 6 y 7 de enero.**

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES:** Your generosity to the Christmas collection helps Catholic Charities reach out in your name. Catholic Charities serves people in need in your community – expectant mothers, families with young children, teenagers, and the elderly and handicapped. Please give in the spirit of the season on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. For more information about the Catholic Charities network of services, visit [www.catholiccharitiescw.org](http://www.catholiccharitiescw.org).



**CARIDADES CATÓLICAS:** Su generosidad a la colecta de Navidad ayuda a que Caridades Católicas ayude a los necesitados en su nombre. Caridades Católicas sirve a los necesitados en su comunidad – mujeres embarazadas, familias con niños pequeños, adolescentes, ancianos y discapacitados. Por favor dé con el espíritu de la temporada en la Víspera de Navidad y el Día de Navidad. Para más información sobre los servicios de la cadena de Caridades Católicas, visite [www.catholiccharitiescw.org](http://www.catholiccharitiescw.org).



**Rachel's Vineyard:** If God is calling you to hope and healing OR to minister to those in need of hope and healing here in our local community, please contact Lisa Petersen (509-421-7847 or [lispetersen65@gmail.com](mailto:lispetersen65@gmail.com)) for more information. Your call will be kept completely confidential.

**Viñedo de Raquel:** Si Dios le está llamando a usted a esperanza y sanación o a ministrar a aquéllos que tienen necesidad de esperanza y sanación aquí en su comunidad local, por favor contacte a Lisa Petersen (509-421- 7847 o al correo electrónico [lispetersen65@gmail.com](mailto:lispetersen65@gmail.com) ) para más información. Su llamada será estrictamente confidencial.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE - HORARIO DE LAS MISAS DE NAVIDAD:**

Christmas Eve (Sunday): 5:30 p.m. in English, and 10:00 p.m. in Spanish  
 Christmas Day: 9:00 a.m. in English, and 11:00 a.m. in Spanish

**NEW YEAR'S (MARY, MOTHER OF GOD – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION):**

New Year's Eve (Sunday) at 5:30 p.m. in English, and 10:00 p.m. in Spanish; New Year's day, 9:00 a.m. (English) and 11:00 a.m. (Spanish)

*(PLEASE NOTE... Both Christmas and New Year's Day are Holy Days of Obligations. Your attendance at the Sunday Mass does not fulfill this obligation.)*

*(POR FAVOR...tengan en cuenta que tanto la Navidad como el Año Nuevo son Días de Obligacion y la asistiendo a la misa del domingo 23 NO VALE PARA CUMPLIR CON ESTA OBLIGACION)*



**DONATIONS**  
-ACCEPTED-

**MORE WAYS TO GIVE THIS CHRISTMAS:** The Food Bank and Serve Quincy Valley rely on our help. Through our donations, they can offer help to those in need. Serve Quincy Valley is the local agency we often refer people to for assistance. They need our financial support in order to meet the needs in our community. Consider them this Christmas.

**Please help keep our church looking good by straightening up the pew before you leave. Thank you.**

**Por favor ayuden a que la iglesia se mire bien levantando los reclinatorios de las bancas antes de salir. Gracias.**

**C**URSO DE PREPARACION PARA EL MATRIMONIO, EL 23 DE FEBRERO Y EL 3 DE MARZO.  
SOLICITAR LAS INSCRIPCIONES AL P. MARIO O AL TELEFONO DE LA PARROQUIA (787-2622).

### MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

**Saturday** – Lectors: Chuck and Debbie Graaff; Eucharistic Ministers: Ann Wolfe and Bev McDonald

**Sunday** – Lectors: Peggy Gray and Theresa Flinn; Eucharistic Ministers: Nancy Tax, Sonia Padron, Rick Garces, Tina Gonzalez, Kathleen Horning.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION, December 10:** \$4447.00

Immaculate Conception: \$658.00

Our Lady of Guadalupe: \$1047.00



**A Reflection by Scott Hahn...** The mysterious figure of John the Baptist, introduced in last week's readings, comes into sharper focus today. Who he is, we see in today's Gospel, is best understood by who he isn't.

He is not Elijah returned from the heavens (see [2 Kings 2:11](#)), although like him he dresses in the prophet's attire (see [Mark 1:6](#); [2 Kings 1:8](#)) and preaches repentance and judgment (see [1 Kings 18:21](#); [2 Chronicles 21:12-15](#)). Not Elijah in the flesh, John is nonetheless sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to fulfill his mission (see [Luke 1:17](#); [Malachi 3:23-24](#)). Neither is John the prophet Moses foretold, although he is a kinsman and speaks God's word (see [Deuteronomy 18:15-19](#); [John 6:14](#)). Nor is John the Messiah, though he has been anointed by the Spirit since the womb (see [Luke 1:15, 44](#)).

John prepares the way for the Lord (see [Isaiah 40:3](#)). His baptism is symbolic, not sacramental. It is a sign given to stir our hearts to repentance.

John shows us the One upon whom the Spirit remains (see [John 1:32](#)), the One who fulfills the promise we hear in today's First Reading (see [Luke 4:16-21](#)). Jesus' bath of rebirth and the Spirit opens a fountain that purifies Israel and gives to all a new heart and a new Spirit (see [Zechariah 13:1-3](#); [Ezekiel 36:24-27](#); [Mark 1:8](#); [Titus 3:5](#)).

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John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the One who comes at Christmas. As we sing in today's Responsorial, the Mighty One has come to lift each of us up, to fill our hunger with bread from heaven (see [John 6:33, 49-51](#)).

And as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle, we should rejoice, give thanks, and pray without ceasing that God will make us perfectly holy in spirit, soul, and body—that we may be blameless when our Lord comes.

**CHURCH CLEANING...** Due to lack of people signing up for church cleaning, we have added the cleaning of the chapel and sacristy to the job description for our cleaners. However, there are still little things that we all should do help maintain the appearance of our church. For example, before you leave Mass, make sure books are in order and you didn't leave any garbage in the pew. The restrooms are cleaned twice a week, in the meantime, help keep them presentable. Parents of children should consider accompanying them to the restroom.

**To those who use the facilities during the week...** The whole facility is cleaned once a week (usually on Mondays), so if you use the building, please pick up after yourself, and leave it better than you found it. Check restrooms to see if they need to be restocked and pick up garbage.