

December 9, 2018 - Second Sunday of Advent

From the Pastor

Advent: Its History, Part 2

There are sermons dating back to the fifth century, which were exhortations in order to prepare the people for the feast of Christmas. We have two sermons of St. Maximus of Turin (died 467) and others by St. Cesarius of Arles. These sermons do not tell us the duration of Advent, nor what the exact nature of these practices of penance were, but they show us how ancient was the practice of distinguishing this time of preparation. Later in the 11th century, the sermons for Advent were more clearly distinguished from those of the rest year by the title given to them: "De Adventu Domini".

The oldest document mentioning the length and practices of Advent with any clearness is *The History of the Franks*, by St. Gregory of Tours (died 593). He said that St. Perpetuus (died around 480-494) called for a fast of three times a week, from the feast of St. Martin until Christmas. It is difficult to say whether a new practice was established at that time or whether an already existing law was enforced. Regardless, it was a time of penance, with an interval of 43 days (St. Martin's Feast on Nov. 11 through Christmas Eve), making Advent like a second Lent. The period was known as St. Martin's Lent or Fast and was even preceded with celebrations as was done before Lent (e.g., Fat Tuesday celebrations).

Slowly introduced, the practice eventually obtained the force of law, but was relaxed with time, so that the forty days became our present four weeks of Advent. The shortening of Advent started in France and spread to other countries. The first allusion to Advent being shortened is found in the ninth century, in a letter of Pope Nicholas I to the Bulgarians. There were some 11th and 12th century authors who speak of the 40 day fast before Christmas, but some of them may have kept up the ancient practice out of devotion (Traditional Carmelite Monasteries still keep up this period of fasting).

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP



Please consider making a special year-end donation to the Capital Campaign.

Please pick up your 2019 Boxed Set of Envelopes.

2019 FSSP Liturgical Calendars on Sale, \$13 each!

Announcements

Church hours for private prayers. The church is open for private prayer as noted below.

Fridays & Saturdays, 4-7 p.m. Sundays, Noon-5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays only, 6-8 p.m. Exposition & benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena, 6:40 p.m. every Wednesday.

Parish bookstore kiosk is open Sundays between the morning Masses unless noted otherwise below. It is located in the small hallway across from the water fountain.

PLEASE NOTE! Public and private Mass calendars are temporarily closed.

Low Gluten Hosts. If you require low gluten host, please see the instructions on the bulletin board.

Legion of Mary, 7 p.m. every Monday, in the large meeting room.

Men's Recollection, 7-9 p.m., every third Friday of the month. Open to all men.

Schola Practice, 5:30 p.m. Sundays in the small room. Open to all men interested in joining the schola.

Tower of David Study Group, every Tuesday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Troops of St. George, every other Tuesday of the month, 7-8:30 p.m. See schedule on bulletin board.

Christmas Flowers. Please consider offering a cash or check donation for flowers to adorn the altar and chapel during the Christmas season. Donation box is on the hall table. Checks are payable to Regina Caeli Parish. Please note "flower donation" on the memo line. Thank you for your gift!

TODAY:

~ Second collections: Retired Sisters.

~ Special tribute to Our Lady after the 10 a.m. Mass. CCD & Tower of David (TOD) children are asked to gather at the back of the chapel immediately after the blessing of the faithful, which precedes the Last Gospel. A cake reception follows Mass.

~ Little Flowers bake sale after the morning Masses.

~ Youth Group meets in large room following the reception.

Wed., Dec. 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe. Mass times: 6:30 a.m. (Low) and 7 p.m. (High with Rosary Procession). Visit of International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Please pick up flyer for itinerary.

Sat., Dec. 15:

~ Mass times: 6 a.m. Rorate (High) Mass and 7:30 a.m. Low Mass

~ 9 a.m., Beginners' Sewing Class in large room. Open to all girls and women. Sponsored by the Altar Guild.

~ Boys' altar server practice after the 7:30 a.m. Mass. Open to all boys who have received First Communion.

~ Altar Guild meets in pastor's office following the 7:30 a.m. Mass.

~ 9-10:30 a.m., Little Flowers meets in small room. Open to girls, ages 5 and up.

Sun., Dec. 16:

~ After the 10 a.m. Mass, Mexican reception in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

~ 7:30 p.m., Adult lecture series. Open to all; no prerequisites.

Tues., Dec. 18, Troops of St. George meet.

December 9, 2018 - Second Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

December 9 – 15, 2018

Sun., 12/9, Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m., Kathleen Froebel †

10:00 a.m., Pro Populo

5:30 p.m., Kathleen Froebel †

Mon., 12/10, Feria of Advent

6:30 a.m., Margarita Patricia Rodriguez-Paulet †

* 8:00 a.m., Private intention

Tues., 12/11, St. Damasus I

* 8:00 a.m., Private intention

7:00 p.m., Francis Truong †

Wed., 12/12, Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:30 a.m., Low Mass, Francis Truong †

* 8:00 a.m., Cancelled

7:00 p.m., High Mass, Private intention

Thurs., 12/13, St. Lucy

* 6:30 a.m., Private intention

7:00 p.m., Theresa Truong †

Fri., 12/14, Feria of Advent

6:30 a.m., Peter Tran †

Sat., 12/15, Mass of the Blessed Virgin in Advent

6:00 a.m., Rorate (High) Mass, Private intention

* 6:30 a.m., Cancelled

7:30 a.m., Joseph Hiep †

** Mass is subject to cancellation if a second priest is not available. Advance notice will be posted in the bulletin whenever possible.*

First Friday of each month, there is an additional public Mass at 7:00 p.m., followed by First Friday devotion.

First Saturday of each month, the 7:30 a.m. Mass includes First Saturday devotion.

Directory

Parish Office office@reginacaeliparish.org
Open: Mon. & Fri., 8:30-4 p.m.
Telephone: 832-328-0876
To confirm Mass requests or dates:
registrar@reginacaeliparish.org

Pastor Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP
pastor@reginacaeliparish.org

Parochial Vicar Rev. John Kodet, FSSP
frjkodet@reginacaeliparish.org

Website reginacaeliparish.org

Parish Organizations

Men's Schola

Contact: Kyle Lartigue
schola@reginacaeliparish.org

Altar Guild

Contact: Juana Maria Olvera
altarsoc@reginacaeliparish.org

Youth Group

Contact: Rev. John Kodet

Contacts for other groups

Please check the bulletin boards or go to the parish website and click on Groups/Ministries

Sacraments

Please check the parish website for more information.

Infant baptism—contact parish at least one month before due date.

Marriage—contact parish eight months before proposed date.

Introibit Rex Gloriam Capital Campaign

Minimum goal: \$2,500,000
Pledged & gifted to date
\$1,825,770

Regina Caeli Parish

The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston



Pastor: Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP
Parochial Vicar: Rev. John Kodet, FSSP

Address: 8121 Breen Dr., Houston, Texas 77064
Telephone: 832-328-0876
Website: reginacaeliparish.org
Email: office@reginacaeliparish.org

Mass Schedule

Sundays	7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (High), 5:30 p.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri.	6:30 a.m.
Tues., Thurs.	7:00 p.m.
Saturdays	7:30 a.m.
Confession	30 minutes before each Mass; ends 5 minutes before Mass starts
Vespers	6:45 p.m. Sundays