

December 16, 2018 - Third (Gaudete) Sunday of Advent

From the Pastor

Advent: Its History, Part 3

The custom of fasting fell into disuse by the 14th century, such that Pope Urban V in an effort to prevent the total decay of the Advent penance, insisted only that the clerics of his court should keep abstinence during Advent. St. Charles Borromeo (died 1584) tried to bring his people back to the spirit of the ancient practice. Pope Benedict XIV (died 1758), when archbishop of Bologna, also tried to rekindle the fervor for this ancient practice in the minds and hearts of his flock. He tried to remove the erroneous idea, which was prevalent in his day, that the practice of fasting during Advent was strictly for religious. He tried to show them that the laws and practices of the universal Church called for all to prepare for the great feast of the birth of Jesus.

In the Greek Church, the fast of Advent remained in force and is still practiced today, though it is not as strict as the fast of Lent. It begins after the Feast of St. Philip on November 14th in their calendar and has only seven days of strict fast. Meat, butter, milk and eggs cannot be consumed during the fast, but fish, oil and wine are permissible except on the strict fast days. (Fish, oil and wine are not allowed during Lent.)

In looking at the History of Advent, we can see that there never was any great unity in the practices in the Church, even concerning the fast. In some places it was reduced to a simple abstinence while other places kept the full fast. Some places the abstinence was only for the clergy and, in others, it was a fast and abstinence for all. Though the character of the Advent fasting has changed throughout the centuries, and is now quite relaxed in the West, the character of the liturgy has not changed. And so, it is in zealously following the liturgy of this beautiful season that the faithful will prepare themselves for Christmas according to the ancient customs that inspired the liturgical tradition.

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.

Adult Lecture Series, every third Sunday following Vespers. Open to all; no prerequisites.

Altar Server Practice, second Saturday of every month immediately following the 7:30 a.m. Mass. On other Saturdays in the month, there is voluntary practice after the 7:30 a.m. Mass for those who want additional training. Open to all boys who have received First Communion.

Altar Guild, second Saturday of the month after the 7:30 a.m. Mass, in the small meeting room.

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

Little Flowers Girls Club, 2nd Saturday of month, in the large room, 9 –10:30 a.m. Open to girls, ages 5 and up.

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 is on Christmas break until January 8th. During the break, Tuesday Mass will be at 6:30 a.m.

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

Youth Group, second Sunday of the month after the 10 a.m. Mass, in the large meeting room.

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!

Music teacher position open. Tower of David Study Group (TOD) is looking for a music teacher Tuesdays, from 9 a.m. until 12 noon. We would like the students to learn Gregorian Chant. Please see Fr. Van Vliet or Jennifer McDonald if you are interested.

TODAY:

- ~ Please consider donating to the Christmas flower fund. The box is on the hall table. Thank you!
- ~ 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, 7-8:30 p.m., Troops of St. George meet.

Fri., Dec. 21, 7-9 p.m., Men's Recollection with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, confession and discussion. Open to all men.

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Liturgical Calendar & Mass Intentions

December 16 – 22, 2018

Sun., 12/16, Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m., Maria Chuc Thi Do †

10:00 a.m., Pro Populo

5:30 p.m., Maria Chuc Thi Do †

Mon., 12/17, Greater Feria of Advent

6:30 a.m., Maria Chuc Thi Do †

* 8:00 a.m., Private intention

Tues., 12/18, Greater Feria of Advent

* 6:30 a.m., Private intention

* 8:00 a.m., Cancelled

7:00 p.m., Maria Chuc Thi Do †

Wed., 12/19, Ember Wednesday of Advent

6:30 a.m., Maria Chuc Thi Do †

* 8:00 a.m., Private intention

Thurs., 12/20, Greater Feria of Advent

* 6:30 a.m., Private intention

7:00 p.m., Maria Chuc Thi Do †

Fri., 12/21, St. Thomas the Apostle

6:30 a.m., Agnes S. Johnson

Sat., 12/22, Ember Saturday of Advent

* 6:30 a.m., Private intention

7:30 a.m., Maria Chuc Thi Do †

* *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