

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

## December 23, 2018

### PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear friends,

Now that the rush towards Christmas is almost over (though I will probably still be going to the mall on Christmas eve day!), and many of us are suffering from what I'd like to call Advent Exhaustion, we can hopefully move more into a mode of just being with our dear ones and enjoying their company, savoring wonderful meals with the drop of wine (or two), and a beautiful, heartwarming celebration of the Lord's birth and the reality of God embracing our humanity!! Advent Exhaustion gives way to Christmas love and joy.

It can be a beautiful grace-filled time when even the Scroogiest and Grinchiest hearts can be transformed with our cooperation! When Christmas is not just celebrated in our homes, but when it is kept in our hearts and lived out, amazing things can happen!!

And so, as we move into the celebration of Christmas this week, allow me to share these lines from a Christmas homily I found, which are well worth reflecting upon in these next days:

“The joy of Christmas is contagious—but not primarily because of our gifts of dolls and trucks, bikes and pretty dresses, sweaters and ties...The joy of Christmas is contagious because of the spirit behind the gifts. The glory of Christmas is that a gracious God became one of us to tell us that He loves us. And, in his or her Christmas giving, the genuine believer symbolizes his or her inner desire to spread this Good News.

Today we celebrate Incarnation! Today we rejoice! The eternal God comes into the flesh and blood of humanity. Christmas cards portray the little Babe, the Manger, the Magi, the shepherds. Little children learn that today is Jesus' birthday. But these pieces of the story only touch the edge of the mysterious event which brings us together. The Good News is that the God of Mercy has come into the history of humanity to bring us perfect peace. For the peace of mind and heart and soul that the world cannot give, follow Jesus. And when you follow Jesus, do not be surprised to see others following you. After all, the spirit of Christmas is contagious.”  
(*Sunday Sermons, The Millennium Edition*).

*On behalf of our entire parish staff, I want to wish all of you and your families a wonderful and holy celebration of Christmas this year. I will look forward to seeing all of you at Christmas Mass, along with those who perhaps only join us at Christmas and Easter. If you happen to encounter someone who you've never seen before, please reach out your hand and welcome them, wishing them a Merry Christmas. It helps our community to maintain its beautiful welcoming spirit.*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS! FELIZ NAVIDAD! BUON NATALE!**

### DAILY MASS READINGS

- Monday:** *The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)*  
Isaiah 62:1-5; Matthew 1:1-25
- Tuesday:** *The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*  
Isaiah 52:7-10; John 1:1-18
- Wednesday:** *Saint Stephen, The First Martyr (Feast)*  
Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10; 7:54-59;  
Matthew 10:17-22
- Thursday:** *Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist (Feast)*  
1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8
- Friday:** *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)*  
1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18
- Saturday:** *Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord*  
1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35
- Sunday:** *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*  
1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; Luke 2:41-52

### This Week's Program Schedule

#### Monday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

~Office Closed~

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	Rosary	Church
8:30AM	Bible Study	Lounge
5:00PM	Children's Mass	Church
	<u>No</u> Adoration/Reconciliation	
8:30PM	"Midnight" Mass	Church

#### Tuesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day

~Office Closed~

9:00AM	Mass	Church
11:15AM	Mass	Church

#### Wednesday, December 26

No Mass

#### Thursday, December 27

#### Friday, December 28

4:30PM	Mass	Church
6:15PM	Spanish Prayer Group	Lounge

#### Saturday, December 29

3:30PM	Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM	Mass	Church

#### Sunday, December 30

9:00AM	Mass	Church
9:00AM	Children's Liturgy	Conf. Rm
6:00PM	Mass	Church

### Something for our Children!

Can you unscramble the following words from today's Gospel?

WNOT	FNNTAI	MWBO
IEOVC	RITUF	YOJ

Answers on the next page→

### SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Give back to the Lord a sacrifice, a share of what the Lord has so generously given to you.

Sunday's Offertory: \$ 7,262.69

**God bless you for your generosity!**

*We wish all of our friends and their families  
a very Happy and Blessed Christmas.  
God bless you all at Christmas time and always!*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

5:00PM Saturday, December 22	David Amesquita†
9:00AM Sunday, December 23	Jack Shaw†
6:00PM Sunday, December 23	All Saints Community
8:30PM Monday, December 24	Ed Sr. & Ruth Sai†
9:00AM Tuesday, December 25	Frank & Josephine George†
4:30PM Friday, December 28	Mae Chaves†

**CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE**

Christmas Eve Children's Mass	5:00PM	Dec. 24
Christmas Eve Mass ( <i>Midnight Liturgy</i> )	8:30PM	Dec. 24
Christmas Day Mass	9:00AM	Dec. 25
Christmas Day Mass	11:15AM	Dec. 25

**SPECIAL PRAYERS**

*Please pray for our sick community members and friends:*

<i>Gustavo Delgadillo</i>	<i>Ed H</i>	<i>William Jackson</i>
<i>Carol Parks</i>	<i>Jack B. Shaw</i>	<i>Flynn Hillman</i>
<i>Thelma Tamis</i>	<i>Tim Grahn</i>	<i>Pamela Hall</i>
<i>Rita Yonan</i>	<i>Bill Nixon</i>	<i>Emil T.</i>
<i>Patti &amp; Tom Scott</i>	<i>Yvonne Riley</i>	<i>Sue Egbert</i>
<i>Danny Thompson</i>	<i>Purita Canada</i>	<i>Linda Climaco</i>
<i>Mark B.</i>	<i>Linda Butler</i>	<i>Betty Nunes</i>
<i>Benigna Fabillar</i>	<i>Joe Nguyen</i>	<i>Cody Hein</i>
<i>Taylor Holt</i>	<i>Kayla Castro</i>	<i>Toni M.</i>
<i>Everett Castro</i>	<i>Mary Farinha</i>	<i>Chase O.</i>
<i>Julio Lucas</i>	<i>Ken Hara</i>	<i>Melissa...</i>
<i>Robert A. France</i>	<i>Jackie Ferreira</i>	<i>Janet Riley</i>

*Your special prayers for these and others suffering from illness are gratefully appreciated. Thank you and God bless you!*

Notify the office if you have anyone you would like to place on our list of persons in need of prayer due to illness. So that space will always be available for your loved ones, names will be kept on our list for three months. (However, your prayer requests can be renewed.)

**NATIVITY PLAY:** The next and final practice is scheduled for December 23 after the 9:00am mass. Please meet in the church. If your child wants to participate, contact the office at 669-0473.

**NO DAILY MASSES:** There will be no daily mass on Wednesday, December 26. However, there will be mass on Friday, December 28 at 4:30pm. .

**OFFICE CLOSED:** The office will be closed Monday, December 24, and Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU** to Ernie and Mary Jane Scheuber for donating all the beautiful poinsettias to decorate our altar this Christmas season. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity!

**ANOTHER SPECIAL THANK YOU:** Another special thank you to Tawnya Gomes-Perez for doing such a beautiful job of decorating our Christmas Tree on the Altar. Thank you as well to Rich Delgado and Steve Buck for setting up the Christmas tree on the altar. God bless you all for your unselfish service!

**2019 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are available in the lobby this weekend. Please stop by and pick up your box of envelopes. The boxes are arranged **alphabetically by last name**. If you do not see your name, please take an unassigned box, record your name on the line corresponding to the box number on the sign-up sheet. If you have questions please contact the office at 669-0473.

**HOSPITALITY MINISTRY:** "All are welcome here." Help put these words into action by becoming a part of our new Hospitality Ministry. All of us (yes, even YOU) have special gifts to offer and are called to share those gifts. To become a part of this exciting ministry, in any capacity (i.e, greeter, new member welcoming, ministry committee member, etc.) please contact the office.

**LIFETOUCH PORTRAITS:** Please be sure to sign up for a photography session for the new parish directory. You will receive a free 8x10 photo and a directory. Sign-ups will be after each of the masses throughout December. The photo sessions will take place on January 17, 18, 21, 22 and February 7, and 8 at 1-8pm. There will also be Saturday sessions on January 19 and February 9 at 9:30-4:30. You can also sign up online at: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yk1669jg/>.

**CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CRE)**

There will be no CRE on December 26, January 2 and January 9. Classes will resume on January 16. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**RCIA**

Any adult wishing to embrace the Catholic faith or any Catholic wishing to be confirmed should contact Michael Fuller by calling the church office at 669-0473.

**PUZZLE SOLUTIONS: TOWN, INFANT, WOMB, VOICE, FRUIT, JOY. How did you do?**

**Poinsettia ...**

The poinsettia with its scarlet leaves, now of many hues, came from Mexico where it grows as a shrub. It was brought to the U.S. by the first U.S ambassador to Mexico, Dr. Joel Roberts Poinsett (1779-1851) who had them grown in his greenhouse in South Carolina. Eventually, they were named after him. Only since 1920 have they become potted plants. Poinsettias are now associated as much with Christmas as lilies are with Easter. *Catholic Customs & Traditions, P. 70-71*

**SCAM ALERT:** Recently it was discovered that someone has been texting or emailing parishioners claiming to be Fr. Bill and asking them to purchase goods for him as a favor. If you get a request of this type, please do not purchase anything and let the office know.

*This week's helpers include ...  
Altar Linens ~ Regina deBos*

*Thank you and God bless you for your unselfish service!*