

A reflection from the Pastor

Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! The season of Advent has begun and so has our new liturgical year. Please find in your bulletin the Advent flyer I have prepared which will keep you abreast of Advent activities. On the reverse are some prayers that may be said at meals with your family. With the new year comes a new Gospel. The majority of the Sunday gospel readings will now come from Cycle A which is according to Saint Matthew.

In today's gospel Jesus reminds us to stay awake: "you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Advent is about being awake for his coming. Let us prepare ourselves this season through holy acts of kindness to welcome Him.

May you have a blessed week,

Fr. Ty

Knights of Columbus - Chicken Barbecue
This Sunday - December 2, 2007

Plates to go
Barbecue Chicken and trimmings
\$6 per plate - Parish Hall

Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an Obligatory Holy Day. As you know, the Saturday evening Mass anticipates Sunday each week. This does not count toward your obligation for the Holy Day. **The Mass times for the Holy Day are:**

Friday - December 7 at 6:10 p.m.

Saturday - December 8 at 9:00 a.m.

Religious Education This Week

This Wednesday, December 5
Regular Classes

Grades 1-6 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Grades 7-12 7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Liturgy / Mass Schedule and Intentions

December 4 - December 9

Tuesday, 4th	6:00 p.m.	Angelus
	6:10 p.m.	Mass - <i>Guadalupe Gonzalez + by Vida Nueva Music</i>
<i>Group</i>		
Wednesday, 5th	8:00 a.m.	Mass - <i>Ann Jurica</i>
Thursday, 6th	8:00 a.m.	Mass - <i>Lillie Bomersbach</i>
Friday, 7th		
<i>Immaculate Conc.</i>	6:00 p.m.	Angelus
<i>Anticipated</i>	6:10 p.m.	Mass - <i>Carl Brzozowske + by Hillyer Family</i>
Saturday, 8th		
<i>Immaculate</i>	9:00 a.m.	Mass - <i>Arturo Madrigal + by Juanita Madrigal</i>
<i>Conception, Holy Day</i>		
	5:15 -5:45 p.m.	Penance
	5:40 p.m.	Rosary - <i>leader: Bebe Canchola</i>
	6:00 (vigil)	Mass - <i>Mildred Hroch by Barbara Hybner</i>
Sunday, 9th	7:30 a.m.	Santissima Rosario
<i>2nd Sunday Advent</i>	8:00 a.m.	Mass - <i>Guadalupeanas</i>
<i>2nd Collection:</i>	10:00 a.m.	Mass - <i>Pro Populo</i>
<i>Retired Religious</i>		

Sunday Readings: December 9
Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Lectors

Saturday 6 p.m.	Jeanne Lange, Paulette Brandl
Sunday, 8 a.m.	Martina Aguayo, Elida Cortina
10 a.m.	Maribel Gonzalez, Melinda Valenzuela

Ministers of the Precious Blood

Saturday 6 p.m.	Paulette Brandl, Jeanette West
Sunday 8 a.m.	Juanita Canales, Juanita Madrigal
10 a.m.	Gracie and Ismael Perez

Gift Bearers

Saturday 6 p.m.	M/M Joe Canales, Sr.
Sunday 8 a.m.	Joey and Elia Duenez and family
10 a.m.	Albert and Lucia Rodriguez

Ushers

Saturday 6 p.m.	S. Torres, R. Reyes, B. Cantu, D. Hybner
Sunday 8 a.m.	A. Posada, H. Cardona, H. DeLuna, L. Rivera Jr.
10 a.m.	A. Escalante, A. Reyes, J. Troncoso, H. Longoria

Altar Servers

Saturday 6 p.m.	Gabriella & Madeline Canales
Sunday 8 a.m.	Mauricio Ledezma
10 a.m.	J. Adkins, A. Adkins, A. Gonzalez

Parish Meeting Calendar – December

11	Catholic Daughters	7	Heritage
16	Parish Christmas Dinner	5:30 p.m.	Hall
29	Baptismal Instruction	10-12	Heritage

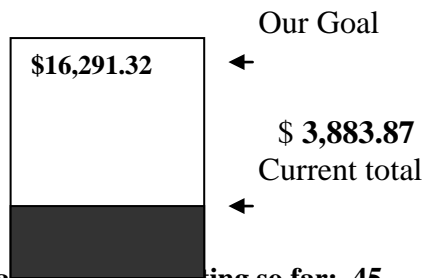
Last Sunday's Collection:



General: \$ 1820.98
Christmas Flowers: \$212

Diocesan Services Appeal (D.S.A.) Update

This annual appeal goes to help the bishop run the diocese. I know we can do it; **there is power in numbers.** Thank you to those who have already given. To those who have not, you still have time. We now have a total of \$3,883.87 toward our goal.



Number of Families contributing so far: 45
Total Number of Parish Families: 330
Percentage of families that have given: 13.6 %

If every family can help, as I suggested \$50 or if you can give more, we would more than reach our goal. Please feel free to give what you can. We would also not have to have the January raffle which requires selling \$50 tickets.

Thank you again for your support. Encourage one another.

Around the Diocese...

- Dec 6 St. Mary's Altar Society Bazaar**
10-4 at St. Mary's Activity Center. Lunch available at 11:00 a.m. Christmas décor, and much more.
- Dec 7-8 Advent Retreat at Renewal Center**
Cost is \$45 (three meals, overnight, materials) with Fr. Bob Knippenberg. See message board in church for more details.

Fall Scripture Class
Understanding the Bible

The fall scripture series began with our comprehensive look at the bible. We have looked at various books of the bible in terms of their author, date written, and a summary of important information.

This past Tuesday we looked at the book of the Prophet Jeremiah. We concluded by looking at women prophetesses of the bible.

This week is the last class DECEMBER 4, 2007 in the Heritage Room, from 7:00 until 8:15 p.m.

All adults are invited to attend. Religious Education teachers are strongly encouraged to attend. If you don't have a bible, one will be furnished.

Some Notes from the Last Class

Jeremiah (name means "The Lord raises up")

Born 650 B.C. of a priestly family from near Jerusalem and called as a youth to prophesy. He remained among ruins of Jerusalem, but later forced into Egyptian exile – and murdered there by his own countrymen

More than the other prophets, Jeremiah seems to be a type and model of Jesus the Christ. For example:

1. They were both confirmed from womb of mother
Jer 1.5 Luke 1.26-38
2. Both Unmarried
Jer 16ff.
3. They were both hounded by hometown and family
Jer. 12.6 Luke 4.24-29
4. Both wept over Jerusalem
Jer. 8.23 Luke 19.41
5. Both spoke of temple as den of thieves
Jer. 7.11 Matthew 21.13
6. Both consulted secretly/fearfully
Jer 37.17 John 3.1ff
7. Both foresaw a new covenant
Jer 31.31 -34 (written on heart/not stone)
Luke 22.20 (cup of His blood = covenant)

Next and Final class:
this Tuesday, December
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Jesse Tree
Readings/Symbols
for the First Week of
Advent

Date	Person	Event	Scripture	Symbol
Dec 2	Introduction of Jesse tree		1 Sam 16:1-13	The Tree
Dec 3	God	Creation	Gen 1:1-2:3	Dove
Dec. 4	Adam and Eve	First Sin	Gen 2:4-3:24	Tree w/ Apple
Dec. 5	Noah	Flood	Gen 6:11-22	Rainbow or Arc
Dec. 6	Abraham	Covenant	7:17-8:12,20 - 9:17 Gen. 12:1-7, 15:1-6	Field of stars
Dec. 7	Isaac	Offering of Isaac	Gen 22:1-19	Ram
Dec. 8	Jacob	Assurance Of Promise	Gen 27:41-28:22	Ladder
Dec. 9	Joseph	God's providence	Gen 37, 39:1-50:21	Sack of Grain or coat coat

About the Jesse Tree: this custom from the Middle Ages comes from the words: 'A shoot shall come up from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a branch will bear fruit' (Isaiah 11. 1). Jesse was the father of King David and the Bible tells us that Jesus will be born 'of the house of David'. By going back to David's father, Jesse, the Jesse Tree can be thought of as Jesus' family tree.

Each day of advent a new symbol will be added to the tree beginning Dec. 2. I will be putting the weekly scripture

2008 Parish Calendars

The Parish calendars have arrived. Please pick one up at the entrance of the church. One per family please. We thank Artero Funeral Home for sponsoring the calendars again this year.

All Souls Pictures

As we end November, I ask that those of you who so graciously brought pictures of your loved ones, please reclaim them at the entrance of the church.

**May the souls of the
departed rest in peace**

Annual Christmas Parish Dinner

Sunday December 16, 2007

5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

All are welcome. It is a time for us as a parish to celebrate the joy of Jesus' birthday.

The Knights will supply the meat and each family should bring a side dish. We will also be collecting food for the hungry. Each family please bring canned or non-perishable food to be given to VCAM.

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT/CAROLS/DOOR PRIZES.

What's your Catholic IQ -Faith Quiz

Answer from last week:

An Hispanic Christmas custom of acting out Joseph and Mary looking for an inn is called:

c. Las Posadas

This week's question:

The name *Emmanuel* means?

- "Holy God, we praise thy name"
- "Savior of the Universe"
- "God is with us"
- "Hark the herald angels sing"

(Answer coming next week)

SAINT PATRICK  CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Parish Ministries

Back in July, I inserted a flyer asking you to consider giving of yourself to various ministries in the parish. Advent is here and now is the time to begin implementing these ministries. Please sign up for the ministry you feel the Lord calling you to serve the parish. Sign up sheets are posted in the narthex (gathering space). Once the list is complete we will organize a date for a meeting. Thank you and may God continue to bless our work in his name.

____ Lector

The lector reads from the ambo the readings that precede the Gospel. If there is no psalmist, the lector may also proclaim the responsorial Psalm after the first reading. When no deacon is present, the lector, after the introduction by the priest, may announce from the ambo the intentions of the Prayer of the Faithful.

____ Altar Server

The altar server assists the priest and the faithful in the celebration of the Holy Mass.

____ Homebound/Bereavement

This ministry seeks to bring the Sacraments and the news of God's love to those who are homebound for whatever reason; illness, age, etc. It also helps those who have recently lost a loved one.

____ Nursing Home

This ministry is one that seeks the homebound, but those from our parish who are presently in elderly care facilities.

____ Hospitality

To welcome visitors to our parish. To provide social gatherings and after-Mass opportunities for fellowship and food. Church greeters. First Sunday gatherings w/coffee and donuts after each Mass, etc.

____ Vocations

To encourage and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life. To foster prayer and teaching for families to encourage vocations. To implement ideas to promote vocations. Suggested: Traveling Family Statue monthly for vocation prayer. Prayer services, luncheons, speakers, etc.

____ Archives/History

In my estimation, each parish should have an archival team. This team will play an important role in chronicling the parish life and recording and preserving it. To archive the records of the parish and preserve important documents, pictures, etc. To be preparing for our fiftieth anniversary in 2010.

____ Marriage Sponsor Couple

To encourage and support the vocation of marriage for those couples preparing. Monthly talks to couples preparing for marriage, other ideas as discussed with pastor.