

A reflection from the Pastor

Peace. I hope you and your families had a good Thanksgiving. The Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving celebration was very nice. Thank you to all who helped serve as greeters, in the kitchen, and those who brought covered dishes to share with our guests.

Today we enter the season of Advent. Jesus in the gospel reminds us to "be vigilant at all times." This vigilance is not a nervous or excited sense of being on the verge of mental instability. Rather, it is a vigilance that speaks of making good decisions in ones life, praying, and keeping God's commands; so that when he comes in glory we will be as ready as we can be to receive him.

Pray this week that in the busy preparations for Christmas, we will make the time to sit down and spiritually welcome the Lord who wants to be with us here and now, even in the midst of our busy lives.

The Season of Advent

The new liturgical year begins with Evening Prayer 1 of the First Sunday of Advent. In this new year (Year C) the Sunday Gospel readings will come from St. Luke. The weekday lectionary will come from year two. The two-fold purpose of Advent is to prepare our hearts for Jesus' first coming at Christmas as we celebrate his birth on December 25th, and His second coming in glory. Let us prepare ourselves well. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus, Come!

Immaculate Conception

December 8, 2009
Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 8, 2009, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation for all Catholics. Mass times will be:

Vigil: 6:00 p.m. Monday December 7

Day: 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. December 8th

On this day we celebrate the fact that Mary was conceived without the stain (macula) of original sin. This was declared a dogma of the faith, December 8, 1854 by Pope Pius IX and has been celebrated as a universal feast since 1476 by Pope Sixtus IV.

Liturgy / Mass Schedule for the week ahead

Tuesday, 1st	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Beatrice Cantu + by Isaac Martin & Family</i>
Wednesday, 2	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Anne Mundine + by Therese Hernandez</i>
Thursday, 3rd	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>David Escalante, Sr. + S. Francis Xavier</i>
Friday, 4th	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Special Intention</i>
Saturday, 5th	3:30 p.m. Nuptials – <i>Kristin Gaskamp/Leland Lange</i> 5:15 -5:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance 5:40 p.m. Rosary – <i>leader: Lupe Olguin</i> 6:00 (vigil) Mass – <i>Edward G. Gamez + by Regina Gamez, Rebecca Hernandez</i> <i>and Rose Tarrant</i>
Sunday, 6th	8:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Pro Populo</i>
Second Sunday of Advent	10:00 a.m. Mass – <i>Joe & Ludmilla Volek + by Elenora Jelinek</i>

Readings – Sunday December 6 Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading – Baruch 5:1-9

Liturgical Assignments for the week ahead

Saturday 5th, 6 p.m.

Lector	Lisa Canales
Altar Servers	Gabriella & Madeline Canales
Ushers	A. Garcia, B. Hernandez, H. Cardona, A. Escalante

Sunday 6th, 8 a.m.

Lector	Bacilio Gonzalez
Altar Servers	April Chapa, Evan Andrade, Mauricio Ledezma
Ushers	L. Rivera Jr., T. Cabral, H. DeLuna, E. Ledezma

Sunday 6th, 10 a.m.

Lector	Gracie Perez
Altar Servers	Angelica, Michael, Jason Valenzuela
Ushers	D. Hybner, A. Rodriguez, A. Reyes, H. Longoria

Religious Education News

This Wednesday
Regular Class Schedule

Collection Overview:

Last Sunday: \$ 1940.20
Campaign Human Dev.: 251.29

Advent Bible Study

Advent is soon approaching. In this Church proclaimed "Year of the Priest," I will be leading a four week biblical study of the priesthood. This will be a great opportunity to study the Word of God concerning this sacred ministry. Classes will be each of the Mondays of Advent; November 30, December 7, 14, and 21 from 7:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. in the Heritage Room. No registration is required. Please bring a bible, pen, paper, and open heart.

What's your Catholic IQ -Faith Quiz

Last week's question:

Starting on the first Sunday of Advent, many families and parishes light candles
b. on a wreath to joyfully await Jesus' birth

This week's question:

The group of mysteries of the rosary that includes the Nativity is

a. Joyful b. Sorrowful c. Glorious

Answer coming next week.

Advent Calendar of Events

Nov. 30 Class One – Bible & Priesthood
7:15 Heritage Room

Dec. 7 Class Two - Bible & Priesthood
7:15 Heritage Room

Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception
6 on Dec. 7, 8 & 6 on Dec. 8
Penance 5:15 – 6:00 on Dec. 8

La Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Patrona de las Américas FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS Saturday December 12, 2009

5:30 a.m. Las Mañanitas
6:00 a.m. La Misa/Mass (en español)
7:00 a.m. Reception/gathering hosted by
Guadalupanas in Parish Hall

A Brief History

In 1531 a "Lady from Heaven" appeared to Juan Diego at Tepeyac. She identified herself as the ever virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live, of the Creator of all things, Lord of heaven and the earth. She asked a church to be built on the site, and submitted her wish to the local Bishop. When the Bishop hesitated, and requested her for a sign, the Mother of God obeyed without delay or question, sending Her native messenger to the top of the hill in mid-December to gather an assortment of roses for the Bishop.

After complying to the Bishop's request for a sign, She also left for us an image of herself imprinted miraculously on the native's *tilma*, a poor quality cactus-cloth, which should have deteriorated in 20 years but shows no sign of decay 475 years later and still defies all scientific explanations of its origin. According to scientists who have inspected her eyes, in *both of them* and in the precise location as reflected by a *live human eye*, could be seen many figures that have been extensively analyzed and seem to correspond to the shape and size of human figures located in front of the image.

