

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 2, 2018

Dear Parishioners,

The days are coming, says the Lord . . . (Jeremiah 33:14)

We often talk about “The Christmas Story,” as if it were one single story. Actually, it’s made up of a number of individual stories, each of which tells us something unique about the Christ child.



The story of the Annunciation tells us about Mary’s openness to God’s plan. The story of Zechariah and Elizabeth tells us how John the Baptist—Jesus’ forerunner—was called at birth. The stories of the shepherds and the Magi tell us that Jesus is worth searching for. There’s another story we don’t often think about because it’s not as long. It’s the story of the innkeeper whose closed doors led Mary and Joseph to the manger. But just imagine for a moment that he did manage to find room for them after all. His inn, not the manger, would be honored throughout the world. There would likely be a grand church marking its location, and pilgrims would flock to it year after year. As Advent begins, let’s not be like the innkeeper. He missed a grand opportunity because he didn’t make room for Jesus. Many of us will gather with family and friends this Christmas. Anyone who has hosted these gatherings will tell you how time consuming the preparations can be. They want to create a pleasant, welcoming environment, so everything has to be just right. But no matter how much work is involved, they don’t mind. The thought of seeing everyone together makes the work feel lighter. Let’s have this same attitude toward Jesus. Let’s get ready with joy and anticipation, even if it involves some work on our part. Let’s embrace the opportunities to pray a little more, to examine our lives, and to show more love to the people around us. Our first reading tells us that “the days are coming” when God will visit his people (Jeremiah 33:14). Let’s dedicate the next twenty-three days to making our hearts as open and welcoming as possible so that Jesus will find a comfortable home there.

“Lord, help me to make time for you this Advent.”

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Jer 33:14-16, Ps 25:4-14, Lk 21:25-36
Monday	Is 2:1-5, Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10, Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10a, Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6, Mt 7:21-27
Friday	Is 29:17-24, Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Gn 3:9-20, Lk 1:26-38
Sunday	Bar 5:1-9, Ps 126:1-6, Lk 3:1-6

Mass Intentions

Saturday	December 1
5:15 PM	Intention of Dorothy Stanley
Sunday	December 2
8:00 AM	Soul of Rudolph Liggins
10:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
12:15 PM	Intention of Jo Ann Levi
Friday	December 7
8:00 AM	Souls of Preston, Dante and Rosa Thompson
Saturday	December 8
5:15 PM	Soul of Milton Keys
Sunday	December 9
8:00 AM	Intention of Ruby Chapman
10:00 AM	Soul of Daisy Pratt
12:15 PM	Intention of all Parishioners



Weekly Offering for

November 25, 2018

\$4086.00 Tithe and Offering
478.00 Building Fund
4.00 “We Care”

DECEMBER 9, 2018

Retirement fund for Religious Offering

Give thanks for religious...

Thank you for your generosity!

Please remember your

“Together in Mission” 2018

PLEDGE COMMITMENT

Thanks to all!

Stewardship Thought

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (LUKE 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await his second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.

Christmas Boutique Thank You...

Thank you to all parishioners who supported the Annual Christmas Boutique. You made this a very special fun-filled day. The committee would like to thank everyone who helped decorate the hall so beautifully and festive. Special thanks to *Mr. and Mrs. Clause*".

DID YOU KNOW?

Keep Santa visits safe and secret-free

It's the Christmas season, which means children around the archdiocese will be lining up for a picture with Santa and a chance to tell him what they hope to find under their trees this year. The Santa visit is a fun holiday tradition, but it's not a time when parents can let their guard down. Santa and his helpers are usually volunteers and may not have gone through screenings or tests to ensure your child's safety, so it's up to you. Keep an eye on anything happening while your child visits with Santa. Never step away from the action, even for a moment, and don't allow your children to be led away to another room.

For a copy of the complete VIRTUS® article, "Safety for Children AND Santa's Helpers," visit <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx>

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Cyd Michelle Anderson, Sidney Anderson, Brian Argusta, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Katherine Clark, Ramona Clark, Agnes Cooper, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Alton Duhon, Gwen Files, Cynthia Fortier, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Janie Jackson, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Mercedes LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Joan Spencer, Dorothy Stanley, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, Johnnye Washington, and Alice Williams.

SAVE THE DATES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018 at 7PM
Advent Penance Service at
St. Bernadette Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2018 at 9AM
The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
(*Holy Day of obligation*)
Mass at 9AM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018 at 11AM
Mass of Anointing

Our church community will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick on **Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 11AM** here at Transfiguration. **NO 8AM MASS.** A light luncheon will follow.

Transfiguration Choir Christmas Concert



"God's Gift of Grace: The Baby Jesus".

Enjoy a wonderful evening of songs Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 7 PM. This year the concert will feature a special guest - Father Oscar Pratt II.

It promises to be an evening to remember.

2019 Calendars are available in the church sacristy for a donation of \$2. Thank you for your support.

Hope Peace Love Joy

ADVENT

