

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

PASTOR'S CORNER

We have arrived at Gaudete Sunday (*Gaudete* is the Latin word for "rejoice") this Third Week of Advent, and the Scriptures take on a joyful tone as we continue our preparations for the feast of our Savior's birth.

Our Second Reading gives us cause for joy as St Paul reminds us, "The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all...." Then he gives us a prescription for maintaining this peace: "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Paul's instructions for obtaining peace come as an early Christmas gift. They remind us that we can and should go to God with all our needs and present them to Him *along with our thanks*. This guidance calls to mind a vital aspect of a stewardship way of life: gratitude to God in response to His great love and countless gifts to us.

The Gospel passage, from Luke, shows us how to *live out* this thanks, making our lives a "Christmas gift" to Christ in joyful response to His love for us. When the crowds hear John the Baptist's message that their Savior is coming, they ask him what they should do to prepare. He responds, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do the same." He tells tax collectors to stop collecting more than is prescribed and soldiers, to be satisfied with their wages. In other words, he tells them to be good and generous stewards of all God's gifts to them!

As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ's extravagant love. Let's avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. And let's look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him.

DAILY MASS READINGS

- Monday:** *Advent Weekday*
Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17
- Tuesday:** *Advent Weekday*
Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25
- Wednesday:** *Advent Weekday*
Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25
- Thursday:** *Advent Weekday*
Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38
- Friday:** *Advent Weekday*
Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45
- Saturday:** *Advent Weekday*
1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56
- Sunday:** *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
Micah 5:1-4a; Luke 1:39-45

This Week's Program Schedule

Monday, December 17

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	Rosary	Church
8:30AM	Bible Study	Lounge
7:00PM	Adoration/Reconciliation	Church

Tuesday, December 18

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	Rosary	Church
6:30PM	Knights of Columbus	Lounge

Wednesday, December 19

8:00AM	Mass	Church
6:00PM	CRE Christmas Program	Church

Thursday, December 20

Friday, December 21

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

Saturday, December 22

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

Sunday, December 23

9:00AM	Mass	Church
6:00PM	Mass	Church

Something for our Children!

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

RWSDOC	CSKLAO	GEASW
RSTAHE	SSLAAND	RIFE

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: \$ 7,251.05
Community Assistance Fund: \$ 6,279.50
Immaculate Conception: \$ 2,026.00

God bless you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

5:00PM Saturday, December 15 Pacita Cisneros†
9:00AM Sunday, December 16 Jesus D. Rodriguez†
6:00PM Sunday, December 16 All Saints Community
8:00AM Monday, December 17 Larry Figueroa†
8:00AM Tuesday, December 18 Andria Farinha†
4:30PM Friday, December 21 Temistocles & Fortunata Fortich†

ANGEL TREE: Thank you to everyone who took an angel from our tree. Please return your unwrapped gifts to the office by **December 17.**

TURLOCK TOGETHER: Each year Turlock businesses and agencies combine their efforts to collect toys and food for needy families in Turlock. A receptacle has been placed in our church lobby to collect your non-perishable food donations. Please bring food by **December 17.** Distribution will take place on Saturday, **December 22.**

NATIVITY PLAY: We are seeking children ages 5 and up who would be interested in participating in a Nativity Play during the 5:00PM Christmas Eve Children's Mass. There will be speaking and nonspeaking parts. **The next practice is scheduled for December 16 after the 9:00am mass.** Please meet in the church. If your child wants to participate, contact the office at 669-0473.

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE: YLI Queen of Faith Institute #254 will hold a bake sale after all masses this weekend. Proceeds will be for the Seminarians. God bless you for your generosity!

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. There will be different photo package options available for purchase, however, no purchase is necessary. 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/>.

DIOCESE OF STOCKTON is seeking input from parents and prospective parents. Please visit the Diocese of Stockton/Catholic Schools Office page (<https://bit.ly/2C1KWMP>) to share your education choices and perspective on local schools. This survey should take approximately 5-7 minutes. Please submit your responses by December 21.

This week's helpers include ...

Altar Linens ~ Regina deboss
Children's Liturgy ~ Rachelle Mello

Thank you and God bless you for your unselfish service!

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS: CROWDS, CLOAKS, WAGES, HEARTS, SANDALS, FIRE. How did you do?

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Sacred Heart, Turlock

December 19 @ 7:00pm

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 & Tom Scott</i>	<i>Yvonne Riley</i>	<i>Joe Parolini</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>		

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.)

PLEASE PRAY: It is with sadness that we announce that our beloved parishioners, **Linda Seymour** and **Henny van Warmerdam**, passed away. Please pray for Linda and Henny's families and for the repose of their souls. May God grant them eternal rest.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CRE)

Wednesday, December 19 at 6:00pm: Children's Christmas Program

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!

THE FACTOR

Sunday, December 16, 3pm-5:30pm: Join us for our annual dodgeball tournament and white elephant gift exchange with Good Shepherd Lutheran's youth group. We will be meeting at 640 Minaret Ave.

Monday, December 17, 6:30pm: Meeting at All Saints.

Saturday, December 22, 6:30am-10am: Join us as we help our neighbors in need! We will be packing boxes of dry goods and celebrating the giving spirit of the holidays.

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.