

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00PM Anthony Dragas
10:00AM Edward H. Szweida
Silvestri & Libero Families
12:00PM Filomena Pallotta

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7
ST. AMBROSE

11:00AM Betty, Otto & Elizabeth Bamert
Antonia Dragoslavich
5:00PM Joseph Ferrara & Adrienne
Pellegrino Webster

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

11:00AM Carmela & Attilio Dente
Kathleen Meserole
7:00PM Zafra, Villarama & Santos Fam.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

ST. JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN

11:00AM Tomasso Morin
Dec'd of. Legreca & Douros Fam.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

11:00AM Donato Balon
Maria Morin

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

ST. DAMASUS I

11:00AM Nedjelko Radovic
Tony Mircovich

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

11:00AM Mary Corrado
Arnaldo Giovanni Lombardo
Maria Juros
John Panebianco

5:00PM Anthony Paretto

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00AM Marino Santiago
Dinko Busanic

12:00PM Ann Judith Santiago

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

D'Andrea & Milone Families

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of

Ernie Sdrigotti

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of

Potenciano Villegas, Jr.

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of

Kenny Pinto

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for this Sunday are:

Is. 40:1-5, 9-11

Prepare for the glory of the Lord to be revealed.

Ps. 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

2 Pet 3:8-13

Do not be impatient about the second coming.

Mark 1:1-8

The importance of the coming of the Messiah.

REFLECTION

Once upon a time, Dave's mom comes home to announce to him and his dad that her closest friend Mrs. Brown would be visiting them by the weekend with her husband and their only daughter Jane. Dave is excited about the visit though he tries not to show it because his mum noticed he was bonding with Jane the last time the family visited.

With the announcement of the visit of the Browns, the entire house turned into a hub of activities. Dave's dad had to put the lawn mower into action, fix new curtains, and rearrange the dining. Dave's mum did extensive shopping and even got something they never used. Dave had only one thing to do, and that is to appear in clean clothes on that day.

On the day of the visit, as Dave's parents make the final preparations, Dave decided to draw and paint some animals to impress Jane who may be coming into his room. He spent some time drawing and painting various animals from the letter A to Z. The family finally arrives and receives a warm welcome from the host family.

Dave could hear them coming in and decides to do the last painting on the Zebra. As he was finishing, his father invites him to welcome Jane and the parents. Dave rushes out to greet them, but Jane remarks with disappointment that his clothes are spotted with paints all over. At that point, Dave takes a closer look at himself to realize how awful he is looking. His parents could not hide their anger as they order him to change into new clothes immediately. "Did Dave prepare for the visit of the Browns?" We shall find out later in the reflection.

The central message of this Second Sunday of Advent is about preparation. The rhythm of life functions with preparations. We could also learn that from God. Before He created the creeping things and sea animals he already prepared the land and the sea. Before he created Adam and Eve, He prepared a garden for them. It is one thing to prepare but another to prepare well; in the case of God, the Bible tells us they (all his preparations) were all excellent. Hence, preparation can be done well or poorly like in the case of Dave who messed up his clothes while preparing to entertain Jane with his drawings.

In the First Reading (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11) and the Gospel Reading today (Mark 1:1-8), the Old and New Testament prophets Isaiah and John the Baptist, give us the dynamics for preparing for the coming of the Lord. The prophet Isaiah tells us to do three important things while making way for the Lord before the appearance of his glory:

Fill the valleys: This points to the emptiness in our lives which we need to fill with virtues. The virtues we need this time among others are patience, watchfulness, and love.

Level the mountains: We often have a lot of destructive mountains in the form of sins in our lives. This season invites us to level these mountains. The presence of these mountains in our lives would block us from seeing the Lord when he comes.

Make the rugged land plain: This has to do with the straightening out of our attitudes and making positive changes. Often, we are lukewarm; neither hot nor cold. The word of God says He will spit us out if we are lukewarm (Rev. 3:15-16).

The Gospel Reading shows us the operationalization of these three steps in the ministry of John the Baptist through the administering of the baptism of repentance. To repent is to turn around and to do something differently. John the Baptist appeared wearing camel's hair with a belt around his waist, and for food, he ate locust and honey.

There is a message for us with the description of his wardrobe and diet. The materials mentioned may look common but to get each of them requires thorough work. We are therefore instructed to not only to be modest in our clothing and diet this season but also to be ready to tie up our waist in readiness for the coming of the Lord. In the Second Reading (2 Peter 3:8-14) Peter tells us that it will be like the coming of a thief so we should conduct ourselves in holiness and devotion.

Have a beautiful Second Sunday of Advent and more blessings ahead.

Fr. Bonnie

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here.

Sunday Collection

November 22, 2020

\$4,687.00

Sunday Collection

November 29, 2020

\$3,958.00

"Prepare the way of the Lord..." – Mark 1:3

We are called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to behold, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well.



ALL DAY CONFESSION

Confessions, in preparation for Christmas, will be held on Friday, December 18th from 11:30AM-5:00PM. Confessions are also held every Saturday from 12 Noon – 1:00PM.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Tuesday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holyday of obligation. Masses will be on Monday evening at 5:00PM and on Tuesday at 11:00AM & 7:00PM. The rectory office will be closed on that day.

MISSALETTES FOR ADVENT-LENT

New Missalettes for Advent through Lent are on sale at the rectory for \$3.00 each. We will not be able to put the books into the pews during this pandemic. If you wish to have a book to follow along with the mass, please purchase your own. All books contain weekday and Sunday readings.

SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday Masses will be at 5:00PM on Saturday and on Sunday at 10:00AM and 12 Noon. We can now accommodate up to 150 persons at each mass. When you attend mass, you must wear a mask before you enter the Church and leave it on for the whole mass. Also, please sanitize your hands when entering the Church with the hand sanitizers found at the elevator entrance. Please do not take off or lower your mask when you approach the priest for Holy Communion. Take the Communion in your hand and step aside and lift your mask as you return to your seat.

Once again, please consider whether you are “at risk” and make a good choice about whether or not to attend mass. I remind you that the Archbishop has indefinitely dispensed all Catholics from their “Sunday obligation” so do NOT feel compelled to attend mass out of fear. If any of you is feeling “under the weather” or running a fever, we ask you please DO NOT come to the church. You may be jeopardizing the life and health of others.

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

**Keep us good Lord,
Under the shadow of your mercy,
In this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
And lift up all who are brought low;
That we may rejoice in your comfort
Knowing that nothing can separate us from
Your love.
In Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen**

**“WORRY IS LIKE A ROCKING
CHAIR; IT KEEPS YOU BUSY,
BUT GETS YOU NOWHERE!”**

ADVENT OF GIVING

Due to the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic, we have decided not to have the traditional Christmas Give-Away for needy families. Instead, we would appreciate Gift Cards to Walmart or Target, Visa, Master Card or American Express in increments of \$25.00.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

CONFSSIONAL SCHEDULE

Friday, December 18th11:30AM – 5:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Thursday, December 24th2:30PM & 5:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Friday, December 25th.....8:00AM, 10:00AM & 12 Noon

NEW YEAR’S EVE MASS

Thursday, December 31st.....5:00PM

NEW YEAR’S DAY MASSES

Friday, January 1st.....10:00AM & 12 Noon

PATRONAL FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 2nd.....5:00PM

Sunday, January 3rd10:00AM & 12 Noon

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

“Comfort, give comfort to my people.” (Is 40:1) Elections are over, mostly. This is a comfort to many in the USA. But December 7th is also the commemoration of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Life is often a mixture of comfort, pain, and waiting. Comfort each other when necessary.

PARENTING POINTERS

December 12th is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Even if you are not Hispanic, this Marian feast has a message for all humanity. Mary appeared to Juan Diego in the clothing and look of a Mexican woman. It reminds us that God often comes through people we can identify with. Having trouble getting a message across to your kids? Try tuning into their world, their needs.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Baby Michael, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate, Tatiana Flores, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Sean O’Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Louanne Mitchell, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Rosemarie Liversidge, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia, John Keegan, Kay O’Connor, Anthony Martini, Pantaleon Domingo, Conrado Trinidad, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Laura Cipullo, Richard Allen, Anthony Martello, Jr., Miguel Madera, Joe Villani, Lisa Mutchler, Elizabeth Chan, Benjamin Yap, Henry Yap, Anthony McCluskey, Jane Kim Estantino, Mike Hromin, Nancy Manto, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago, Vinny Franco, Baby Grayson DiNatale, Kathie Gumb, Michael O’Connor, Patrick Shanley, Perry Bonaguaro, Rev. John Renard, Louise O’Connor, Cathleen McLaughlin, Fran Barbato, Jared Lanzaloto, Joel Rivera, Angelica Colavito, Jennifer Van Dam, Angelina Cozzitorto, Dawn Troll, Joseph Kirincich.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Edward Duva, Doris Levy, Barbara Barrios.

