

Christ Child Catholic Church
*Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the
Challenges of Loving Service*

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 9, 2018

The Best I Could With What I Have
12-9-2018

I saw a movie once where there was a man being pulled in 2 different directions. One arm being pulled by an angel in a white outfit with wings. The other arm pulled by a devil all equipped with a red outfit and horns. "Do this," one would say. "No do not, do that," the other would shout. The guy's head was spinning and spinning. I feel like this guy when I start thinking about Advent and Christmas.

On one side the Church is pulling, reminding me it is Advent again. Blue vestments, Advent wreaths, for candles, and special environment. A time of patient waiting, Special preparations for the Re-birth of Jesus in our life. All good stuff.

On the other side, Christmas carols 2 days after Thanksgiving, advertisements everywhere, "buy this, buy now, pay later," Christmas decorations and parties and Santa Claus everywhere. It is like we skipped from Thanksgiving to Christmas in one day. Being pulled apart.....

I know for me I want to use the next 3 weeks, we call Advent, to deepen my relationship with Jesus Christ. I want to be more aware of where Christ is present in my everyday life. I also know I will get caught up in the Christmas frenzy. That will be ok and a lot of fun. With that being said, I want Christmas to be different this year.

I remember one Christmas a few years back that was very different for me. My perspective was changed by an automobile accident. 5 innocent and unsuspecting people were killed in a head-on collision. (Snap fingers) It shook me and many others. I thought to myself, "that could have been me." "That is the same road I travel to go see my mom." It could have been me. This experience caused me to ask myself some significant questions. Maybe I need to ask them again during Advent 2018? Perhaps you could ask them to yourself?

Has my life on the earth made a difference for the better? Am I doing the best I can to develop and share the gifts and talents God has given me? What are my priorities? Are God and my family in the top 3? Are there relationships or some areas of my life that need healing? Needs to change for the better? The final question. Do I need to forgive someone? Do I need to forgive myself? Do I believe God could never forgive me? Pick one or two of these questions and spend a few minutes thinking about your answers. Be honest. Ask God to help you make the changes you need to make now! Those few minutes might be the best way to make Christmas different this year. Pray for me as I try to do this and I will pray for you.

Father Ron Shirley

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or appointment

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Call the office for an appointment

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually call for an appointment

For Pregnancy Support

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

Prayer Group in the Parish

Every Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. All Women and All Men

MASS INTENTIONS December 8 - 14

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Michael Mobley

Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Cecily Olsen

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. The Stehly Family

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Parishioners

Thursday 9:00 a.m. The Stehly Family

Friday 8:00 a.m. Communion Services

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 12TH

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

MASS AT 6:00 P.M.

"HOT CHOCOLATE" AFTER THE MASS

Stewardship of Treasury

Report Sunday December 1 & 2, 2019

TOTAL \$ 2,005.00

THANK YOU! And May GOD bless you in your generosity!

We appreciate the wonderful response to the **Annual Coat Drive**. We're doing great!

Thank you for the effort.

From, Joe & Andrea Bruna 408 353-3101

Thank you and May God bless.

Every vocation is a call to love and every baptized person has one!

But how can you know God's plan for you? Come and see! Single, Catholic women between the ages of 18 and 38 years are invited to spend a day with the cloistered Dominican Nuns of Corpus Christi Monastery in Menlo Park, California, **Saturday, January 19th**. Learn more about discerning God's will for your life and catch a glimpse of the same hidden life of love that has been lived at the heart of the Church and the Dominican Order since Saint Dominic founded the first community of Dominican nuns in 1206. For more information days and events, visit our website at www.nunsmenlo.org or contact Sister **Joseph Marie, O.P.** at vocations@nunsmenlo.org

The Christmas
December 24 – Monday
VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

Mass at 5:00 p.m.

December 25 - Tuesday

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Safety Message

Parents and Caregivers of children: When you and your children are attending Mass or any other events at the Parish, please keep your child with you at all times. If your child needs to leave the building, he or she must be accompanied by an adult. Thank you!

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
On Tuesday December 11 at 6:00 PM.

On that day, the mountains shall drip new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk.

(Jl 4:18)

The messianic promises are never vague. They always hold out the hope that the One who comes will fulfill the real dreams of the human heart for peace, healing, and plenty. What we pray for, we must also work for. Thus do we prepare his way!