

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 8, 2019

*John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the
desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the
kingdom of God is at hand!" "Produce good
fruit as evidence of your repentance."
Matthew 3: 1-12*

A real Christmas tree

Long ago there was a forest of the most beautiful evergreen trees. Every tree endeavored to grow its branches and needles to perfection so that it might be chosen by the queen for the castle's Christmas tree. There it would reign in the great hall, adorned with silver ornaments, golden angels and the light of a thousand candles. One cold night, a small pine who had the promise of being the finest in the forest, heard the yelping of hunting dogs. A small rabbit was frantically searching for cover. The young tree dipped its branches down to the ground to hide the terrified rabbit. The rabbit was safe; but the next morning, the little tree could not quite lift its branches. Then a powerful blizzard lashed through the land. A small wren desperately sought sanctuary but the evergreens clenched their branches tight at first. The little tree,

however, opened its heart and branches to the exhausted wren. The bird was warm and safe; but the little tree had trouble rearranging its branches.

Sometime later in the winter, a small fawn was caught in a strong gale. The perfect evergreens held their branches open so the wind could whistle through them without breaking or bending their limbs. Again the little pine took pity and closed its branches around the fawn, providing a windbreak; but when the wind ceased, the small pine was permanently bent out of shape.

Just before Christmas, the queen and her forester went to select a beautiful tree for the great hall. She was about to walk right past the little misshapen pine until she noticed tracks surrounding the tree – the tracks of the many animals of the wood that had found shelter there. She picked up a small downy feather from its branches where a bird had nested. And, through the gaping hole in its side, she felt the worn bark along its wind-whipped trunk. The queen understood what this little tree had been through. She chose the little pine for the great hall for in it she saw the love of Christ expressed on earth.

We are all called to the Christmas work of the little evergreen. As John the Baptist admonishes his hearers on the banks of the Jordan River, our "branches," broken and worn down for others, are the "fruit" of our repentance, the harvest of our work to create a highway for the coming of our God.

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 7 - 13

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Kathleen Stacey
Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Cecily Olsen
Monday 9:00 a.m. Parishioners
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Corwin H. Lakin
Thursday 9:00 a.m. For the Sick Men and Women
6:00 p.m. Parishioners
Friday 8:00 a.m. + Donald W. Hanley

**MONDAY DECEMBER 9: THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, PATRONAL
FEAST DAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICAN
MASS AT 9:00 A.M.
(NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS
YEAR)**

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 12TH
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
MASS AT 9:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
(BILINGUAL)
"HOT CHOCOLATE" AFTER THE MASS**

**The Annual 2019 Christ Child Coat Drive Is
Coming To A Close**

The coat drive is coming to a close on Sunday Dec. 8. We will gladly receive jackets, coats, winter hats, gloves and scarves until then. A collection box is located in the foyer of the church.

Please contact **Joe or Andrea Bruna,**
Phone 408 353-3101 with any questions.
Thank you, thank you, and thank you!

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th AFTER
THE MASS AT 10:00 a.m.
CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!**

STRUDEL SALE

We are taking orders this week-end and will give to you for Christmas: small and large this year. Large \$35 and Small ones \$25
Great for holiday gifts! A delicious way of supporting our Parish!
Contact Gina Boisvert at 408 656-7677 or order after Mass.

**THE VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE
LORD**

**Tuesday, December 24th
The Mass at 5:00 p.m.**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
CHRISTMAS Wednesday, December
25th
The 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 Friday December 13 at 6:00 PM.**

16th Annual Giving at Greenfield
All gifts should be dropped off at Christ Child no later than 11 am. On Sunday, Dec. 8th we will deliver gifts
SATURDAY, December 14th

Contact Karen at 408 375-0984 (Cell).