

Christ Child Catholic Church

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

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 20, 2020

First reading 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

God's Covenant with David

During this time of **rest** within David's kingdom, a dream was born. While the context of the dream was peace, the concern was a place. David looked out at the world from his **house of cedar** and saw that there was no permanent place to carry on the work of God.

Nathan responded to David's question out of turn, before he had received a revelation from the Lord, and his first answer turned out to be inconsistent with God's will.

David's desire to **build a house for God** to dwell in was noble, but God had given him the role of warrior. The time to build the temple would be after all the battles were won. Furthermore, the Lord of Israel was not like other nations' gods, who were concerned about the temples that were built for them. God was concerned with rising up a spiritual kingdom of people.

The covenant that was given to Noah and then to Abraham and his descendants was renewed for David.

It was an unconditional promise grounded in God's purposes that would one day be fulfilled in the Messiah.

God did not want a permanent temple to be built until the nation of Israel had conquered the Promised Land and was at rest.

"And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever."

Second reading Romans 16:25-27

Benediction

Mystery means something that has been hidden in the past but is now revealed. In the NT, mystery refers to part of God's revelation not known in the OT that has become known in the NT.

At the beginning of Romans Paul says, **Grace to you;** at the end, **To God...be glory.** These expressions are worthy bookends for the most famous letter in Christendom. It expounds upon the salvation that has come by the grace of Christ and for the glory of God.

The Gospel Luke 1:26-38

Christ's Birth Announced to Mary

Gabriel is God's announcing angel! This conversation with **Mary** probably took place in her home in **Nazareth**, a city of questionable reputation. (John 1:46)

This passage is often called "**the Annunciation.**" Many scholars believe that Luke learned the details of this story directly from Mary as part of his research for writing this Gospel.

The Latin Vulgate translates **highly favored** as "full of grace." This was a special grace endowed by God that Mary could not impart to others.

Blessed are you among women, the statement foreshadows her unprecedented role in history.

The doctrine of the virgin birth of Christ teaches that Jesus was divinely conceived in the Virgin Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, thus bringing together His two natures: deity and humanity.

"Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel."

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or appointment

Sacrament of Baptism and Marriage

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 requests: can be emailed to
christchildchurchprayerline@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS - December 19 - 25

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + John Del Vecchio

Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Martina Durham

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Helen Dolores Sullivan

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Ms. Lola Hammons

**Thursday 2:00 p.m. Ewa & Wlodek Kunalski
4:00 p.m. Parishioners**

Friday 10:00 a.m. + Irene Ann Miller

Stewardship of Treasury

Report Sunday December 12 & 13, 2020

TOTAL \$1,306.00

Thank you and May God bless you!

We pray the **ROSARY** together every Saturday at **3:30 PM. Please come to pray for the families and our Country.**

Women's Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month,

January 27th from 1 to 2:30 pm.

Our focus is social and spiritual; at the same time.

17th Annual New Year's Eve Interfaith Peace

Vigil - Time: 7:30pm - 9:30pm.

Moments of Silence and Prayers for Peace and Unity

A musical offering from Fr. Cyprian Consiglio, monk and prior of New Camaldoli Hermitage Interfaith prayers and chants from Christian, Native American, Judaic, Muslim, Bahai, Hindu, and Buddhist traditions.

Across from Mission Plaza, Santa Cruz

All people hope for peace

All people work for peace

In their hearts first and then

Bringing their peaceful hearts

Into their families, their neighborhoods, their city and the whole world.

All are welcome!

Ziggy-Rendler Bregman Sangha Shantivanam

Please click on this link to register:

SanghaShantivanamInterfaithPeaceVigil2020

Sponsored by: Sangha Shantivanam

This message is for the person who helps us connect Greenfield families for Christmas,

Mrs. Flora Chan:

Father Eugenio:

Thinking about poverty in Greenfield, these thoughts came into my heart.

How many families live in poverty, how many do not have a roof over their heads? Many do not have any shelter from the cold; others do not have food on their simple tables because there is not food in their homes. Many are sick and it is not possible for them to go to the doctor or purchase medicine because they do not have the means to do so. Others weep because they feel impotent when confronting their living circumstances. There is sadness on their faces and it is necessary to take them into account. In this year where much has changed, I see many sad faces without hope or a smile.

Today, I was able to see happiness and smiles of the families that received gifts and this was very valuable for me. I give thanks to every person that took the time to put a smile on the face of each child and his/her parents. Today, I want to thank God that Christ Child parishioner's brought hope to these families. Given the circumstance in which we are living, your parishioners are a blessing for these families, the majority of which work in the fields.

Many thanks to each person that adopted a Holy Trinity family!

Thank you for the gifts, for the food, for your time and for your having a heart open to the person next to you. My prayer for each one of you is that God bless you and your family with every type of blessing and that the joy of God is always in your heart and family.

Flora Chan.

I find the response of all of you to this Christmas Greenfield project incredible. I have no words to thank you all. More than that I am proud of everyone! There are many people, but this year Karen Joesten and Caralie Olsen...

It's Christmas!!! Fr/ Eugenio