

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEKEND

SAT 5:00 pm	11/30	All Holy Spirit Parishioners, Family Deceased, Ancient Deceased, Peter, Deceased Family Members, Thanksgiving, Special Intentions
SUN 10:00 am	12/1	All Holy Spirit Parishioners, Joseph Loi Tran, Poor Souls, Peter and Deceased Family Members, Mary Sen, Mary The, Joseph, David Scarnato

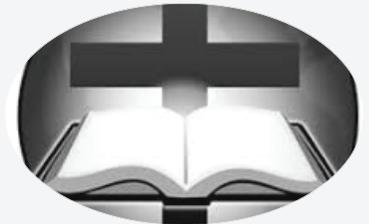
MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEKEND

SAT 5:00 pm	12/7	All Holy Spirit Parishioners, Mat Hue, Peter and Deceased Family Members, Special Intentions, David Scarnato
SUN 10:00 am	12/8	All Holy Spirit Parishioners, Joseph Loi Tran, Poor Souls, Deceased Family Members, All Souls, Thanksgiving, Conversion of Sinners

WEEKDAYS

MON 12/2	Family Deceased
TUE 12/3	Ancient Deceased
WED 12/4	Family Deceased
THU 12/5	Ancient Deceased
FRI 12/6	Family Deceased

Reading 1 Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.



Reading 2 1 Cor 1:3-9 Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord..

Gospel Mk 13:33-37 Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!"

- Advent originates from the Latin word meaning coming.
- It is the beginning of the Christian church year and commences on the nearest Sunday to St Andrew's Day.
- Advent commences on **Sunday 2nd December in 2007.**
- It is a time which enables people to prepare for Christmas.
- Advent ends with Christmas.
- Christian Clergy & Priests usually wear purple or blue vestments in their churches during Advent.
- During Advent churches are not decorated with flowers, but it is customary to have an Advent Crown or Advent Wreath.
- Advent Wreaths are made from circles of holly and ivy – this symbolizes God with no beginning or end. Holly is also a symbol of the crown of thorns that Jesus wore during the crucifixion.

1st CANDLE – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE** or **CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE – (white) **"CHRIST CANDLE"** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death

“... What I say to you, I say to all: **'WATCH!'**”

As we plow up the stubborn earth of our inner self and expose it to the Son, we will root out the contradictions that keep us in the dark. That day which bring the destruction of the evil and the vindication of the good.

Many centuries ago a rabbi once asked his students how they could tell when the night was passed and the day was on its way back again.



- ◆ One suggested "when you see an animal in the distance and you can tell if it is a sheep or a goat."
- ◆ Another said: "When you can see a tree in the distance and you can tell whether it is a fig tree or a peach tree."
- ◆ But the rabbi was not impressed with these answers. He finally told his students: "It is when you can look at the face of any human being and see there the face your brother or sister - because if you cannot do this, then no matter what time it is - for you it is still night."

Often when we think of the Second Coming, we think of judgment and are moved to anxiety and fear. Have we ever thought of the Second Coming of Jesus as an event to be welcomed, when the Son of Man will come in glory with all his angels? So we excitedly watch and wait.

While the Master is 'away', we have been given our tasks to do, not the least to preach and to live authentic Gospel values. We cannot afford to be found sleeping during this crisis in the life of the Church.

But if we are awake and ready, the coming of the Son of Man is an event to be greeted with joy. St Paul tells us that the whole of creation is groaning while awaiting the final redemption. Then the suffering Church will be vindicated and glorified as Jesus himself:

Eyes have not seen nor ears heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, those things that God has prepared for those who love him.

The world seems to be getting more violent. Our country has so many murders each day that all of them do not even make the news. Hearing that a human being killed another human being is "no big deal"! We see it all the time on television.



- ◆ Why has the world gotten so violent?
- ◆ What do you think are the contributing factors to the attitude that violence is an acceptable way to respond to conflict?
- ◆ How can a group of young people concerned about violence affect their neighborhood or school?

**In the silence of the heart, prayerfully, together
let us respond to these concerns.**

Fr. Bach

A Walk Through the Mass A Step-by-Step Explanation

Catholics know what is going to happen next. One of the basic, distinctive marks of our way of praying is ritual: We do things over and over. When the priest says, "The Lord be with you," without any thought or hesitation the congregation responds, "And with your Spirit." The priest says, "Let us pray," and the congregation stands up.

Our daily lives have their rituals also: There are set ways of greeting people, eating, responding to a text. And when we are accustomed to a certain way of doing things we seldom ask why we do it that way. In the Eucharist, too, we have many ritual actions which we perform without asking why. *(To be continued)*



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