St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Parish . Martinez . California
St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all,
sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.
La parroquia de Santa Catarina de Siena sigue a Jesús dándole la bienvenida a todos, compartiendo nuestros dones y dando gloria a Dios.
**PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF**

Fr. Anthony Huong Le, Parochial Administrator

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925-229-2255

**CHURCH LOCATION:**  
606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

**PARISH OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS:**  
1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA 94553-1720

**TELEPHONE / FAX:**  
925-228-2230 / 925-228-1318

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
www.stcathmtz.org

**SUBMISSIONS:**  
bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-1PM & 2 PM-5 PM

**GRAMMAR SCHOOL:**  
604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

**TELEPHONE / FAX:**  
925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:**  
http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/

**PRE SCHOOL:**  
1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA

**TELEPHONE / FAX:**  
925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT:**  
www.virtusonline.org

**BAPTISMS:**  
Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class before reception of the Sacrament.

**MARRIAGES:**  
Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to the wedding.

**FUNERALS:**  
We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS:**  
To place an announcement in the bulletin, email request to: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com. The deadline for requests is no later than noon on Fridays one week prior to the date of the bulletin in which the announcement is requested to appear.

**EARLY DEADLINES:**  
Closely watch early deadlines imposed by the publisher and plan ahead accordingly.

**THERE IS NO BULLETIN FOR DEC. 23.**

Submissions for Dec. 30 has passed. Next deadline for bulletin: All items must be submitted by Fri, Dec 21 by noon for Jan 06.

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**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY:**  
8:00 AM and 4:30 PM

**SUNDAY:**  
8:00 AM and 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM

**WEEKDAYS:**  
8:00 AM (Thursday is a Communion Service)  
10:30 AM  
12:30 PM Spanish

**HOLY DAYS:**  
8:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM

**ADORATION:**  
Fridays from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

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**St. Catherine of Siena Holiday Schedule for Your Reference**

**Simbang Gabi**  
5:30 am Dawn Mass  
TUE DEC 18  
St. Francis Church

**FRI DEC 21**  
7:00 pm— 8:15 pm  
All Choirs Concert

**SAT DEC 22**  
4:30 pm  
Vigil Mass  
SUN DEC 23  
4th week of Advent  
7:00, 8:30 (morning prayer), 10:30, 12:30

**Christmas Eve ~ Nativity of the Lord**  
MON DEC 24  
4:00 pm Children/Youth  
11:45 pm Prelude  
11:59 pm Midnight Mass

**TUE DEC 25**  
8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

**SAT DEC 29**  
4:30 pm  
Vigil Mass  
SUN DEC 30  
Feast of the Holy Family  
7:00, 8:30 (morning prayer), 10:30, 12:30

**MON DEC 31**  
7:00 pm New Year's Eve  
Vigil Mass  
TUE JAN 1  
Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God  
10:00 am & 12:10 pm

**SAT JAN 5**  
4:30 pm  
Vigil Mass  
SUN JAN 6  
Epiphany of the Lord  
7:00, 8:30 (morning prayer), 10:30, 12:30

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**IGNITE Movie Study**  
Three Part Series  
Presence the Mystery of the Eucharist  
Sat., Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, @ 5:30 to 8:00 PM  
Parish Center Library... Pizza provided. Donations accepted. SAVE THESE DATES for future Formed events: SAT. APR 13 and SAT. MAY 11.

St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the families; and, the repose of the souls of

- Erlinda Bonifacio
- Judy Geis
- Christine Sanfilippo
- Jaclynn Shikuzawa
- Erik Walton
From the Desk of the Parochial Administrator
Third Sunday of Advent
Let us celebrate Christmas with Christ

Dear friends,
Christmas greetings to you and those you love in Christ, our Lord.

Christmas is here. Again, we are reminded of a great mystery of God who emptied Himself in embracing humanity for our own sake. He was rich but chosen to be poor so that we can become rich in mercy and love of God and of neighbor.

Christmas is not always so bright and shiny as we have it today. He was born to a woman and a foster father, experienced homelessness and coldness in a manger saturated with animal smell and waste. Among those who welcomed the newborn child were three wise men, foreigners from the East, the lowest class citizen, the poor shepherds, and divine beings, the Angels from on High. In contrary, His own chosen people did not welcome Him. The local king ordered to kill Him at all costs. His family was forced to take refuge in a foreign land. Oh Jesus, what a first Christmas you had!

Many people here in California and elsewhere in the world will experience something similar this Christmas. Many have no home to go to. Many will have no welcome by their own or others: “There is no room in the inn.” Many will receive rejection and loneliness. Many will uniquely share what Jesus and His family had experienced.

As we celebrate this Christmas with families and friends, gifts, lights, music, and good foods, let us then not forget the central message of Love and Mercy that God wanted to share with us since the first Christmas. Let us not forget our brothers and sisters who resemble the face of Jesus in poverty, suffering, and loneliness. May God inspire us to pray, support, and share our gifts with these brothers and sisters.

As a community of faith, we will come together to celebrate this Christmas with humility, thanksgiving, and devotion. We cordially invite you and your families to join us in signing, praising, and celebrating this great mystery of our faith: God became man and dwelt among us.

Please come and join us in the following events:

- **Dec 21** Songs of the Season Concert – 7:00 PM Church
- **Dec 24** Christmas Eve – Nativity of the Lord
  - Children/Youth Mass: 4:00 PM
  - Prelude: 11:45 PM
  - Midnight Mass: 12:00 AM
- **Dec 25** Christmas Day – Nativity of the Lord
  - Masses: 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM (Spanish)
- **Dec 31** New Year’s Eve Vigil Mass – 7:00 PM followed by the New Year Countdown!

Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
- New Year Day—Holy Day of Obligation
  - Masses: 10:00 AM, 12:10 PM

As a token of our love and appreciation for your support and love, we are offering you a subscription of FORMED valued at $1,800.00 as a Christmas and New Year gift. FORMED is a bilingual (English and Spanish) revolutionary digital platform that offers a wealth of information and entertaining Catholic audio talks, eBooks, feature films, documentaries, and video-based study programs from trusted providers like Catholic Answers, Sophia Press, Knights of Columbus, Ignatius Press, St. Paul Center, and more.

There are two ways you can use FORMED.

1. Go to Internet Explorer and Click https://formed.org
   Enter Access Code: XPTJK8 (case sensitive).
   Enter your email and create a password (you'll need this to login later.)

2. Download the FORMED App to your smartphone and login with Access Code: XPTJK8

May God bless you all and those you love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Fr Anthony Le and the Community of Saint Catherine of Siena

Pope John XXIII’s Christmas Prayer
O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which You alone can give to them. Help them to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to them also Your beauty, holiness, and purity. Awaken in their hearts love and gratitude for Your infinite goodness. Join them all together in Your love. And, give us Your heavenly peace. Amen.

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**Third Sunday JOY**

Light two purple candles and the one pink candle. We pray: Lord God, we light these candles to thank You for Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ who brings us great joy. We who have walked in the shadow of the valley of death have found life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We give You thanks and praise in Jesus’ name, because He lives and reigns with You in Your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

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**Fourth Sunday LOVE**

Light all four candles. We pray: Lord God, we light these candles to thank You for Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ who is the Prince of Peace. We who live in discord & strife have found peace in the promise of eternal life, through Jesus Christ. We give You thanks & praise in Jesus’ name, because He lives & reigns with You in your glory, & in the unity of the Holy Spirit. AMEN. We remember. We celebrate. We believe.
### TWO WEEKS-AT-A-GLANCE

Week-at-a-glance dates, times, and locations are taken from the website calendar: www.stcmtz.org. If further clarification is needed, please contact the parish office at 925.228-2230 extension 0.

**Sunday, 12/16**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**
- 8:00 AM PH K of C Breakfast **Cancelled**
- 12:15 PM Susana Park beginning of Procession
- 12:30 PM CH Traditional Pasada
- 1:30 PM PH Traditional Pasada reception
- 2:00 PM CH Baptisms
- 4:00 PM PH Youth Ministry Christmas Party

**Monday, 12/17**  
**St. Florian, pray for us.**
- 10:00 AM CH Memorial Mass
- 6:30 PM PC IGNITE Reading Reflection with Clergy
- 7:00 PM PH Guadalupe Society Meeting

**Tuesday, 12/18**  
**St. Moses, pray for us.**
- 6:00 PM CH Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM PH YLI Meeting
- 7:30 PM CH Spanish Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, 12/19**  
**St. Darius, pray for us.**
- 9:00 AM PCL IGNITE Retreat for Women
- 5:00 PM PH Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM CH/SC Faith Formation PreK-8th Grades
- 6:30 PM PCL Legion of Mary Meeting

**Thursday, 12/20**  
**St. Julian, pray for us.**
- 6:00 PM CH SCS School Christmas Pageant
- 7:00 PM PH SCS School Pageant Reception
- 7:00 PM CH Lectors Meeting

**Friday, 12/21**  
**St. John Vincent, pray for us.**
- 12:00 PM CH Adoration
- 5:00 PM CH Benediction
- 7:00 PM PH SCS All Choirs Christmas Concert

**Saturday, 12/22**  
**St. Demetrius, pray for us.**
- 9:30 AM PCL SVdP Food/Gift Distribution
- 3:00 PM CH Reconciliation
- 4:30 PM CH SPARK Young Adult Mass followed by Twilight Retreat & Dinner

**Sunday, 12/23**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**
- 6:00 PM CH SCS Pageant Rehearsal

**Monday, 12/24**  
**St. Adele, pray for us.**
- 4:00 PM CH Christmas Nativity Mass
- 11:45 AM CH Musical Prelude to Midnight Mass
- 11:59 AM CH One minute to Midnight Mass

**Tuesday, 12/25**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**
- Holy Day of Obligation
- Parish Office Closed
- Midnight Christmas Mass

**Wednesday, 12/26**  
**St. Stephen, pray for us.**
- Parish Office Closed
- NO Faith Formation PreK-8th Grades

**Thursday, 12/27**  
**St. John, Apostle, pray for us.**
- Parish Office Closed

**Friday, 12/28**  
**St. Anthony the Hermit, pray for us.**
- Parish Office Closed
- Adoration
- Benediction

**Saturday, 12/29**  
**St. Thomas Becket, pray for us.**
- Parish Office Closed
- SVdP Food Distribution
- Reconciliation

**Sunday, 12/30**  
**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**
- CH = Church  RC = Rectory  SC = School
- PH = Parish Hall  YD = School Yard  YS: Youth Shack
- PC = Parish Center  PCL: Parish Center Library

### PARISH STEWARDSHIP

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DECEMBER 9, 2018</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Collection</td>
<td>$4,880.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Victims</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flowers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immaculate Conception</td>
<td>$1,350.00</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Retirement</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCS Education Fund</td>
<td>$ 96.00</td>
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Thank you for your continued generosity!

**MEMORIAL MASS**

- **SAT 12/15** 4:30 Walter, Michael Narodzonek †
- & Jenny Samuels †
- **SUN 12/16** 7:00 Mother Cabrini †
- **12/24** 12:00 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish

**INTERCESSIONS**

- **MON 12/17** 8:00 Int. Ellen Concepcion—Birthday
- **TUE 12/18** 8:00 Int. John Concussion—Birthday
- **WED 12/19** 8:00 Int. Nick & Pauyla Bocanegra—Anniversary Blessings
- **FRI 12/21** 8:00 Rev. James McGee †
- **SAT 12/22** 8:00 Int. Ferdinand Navarro—Birthday
- **12/24** 12:00 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish
- **MON 12/24** 4:00 Benjamin & Toni Rangel †
- **TUE 12/25** 8:00 Int. Marylou Martellacci
- **12/26** 10:30 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish
- **WED 12/26** 12:30 Joe & Dolores Cardenas †
- **FRI 12/28** 8:00 Int. Simon Nunez—Birthday Blessings
- **SAT 12/29** 8:00 Ray Martellacci †
- **12/30** 4:30 Bob Tomashich †
- **SUN 12/30** 7:00 Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish
- **12/30** 8:30 Francis & Katherine Rose †
- **12/30** 10:30 Reynaldo Lejano †
- **12/30** 12:30 Toby Trujillo & Jessie Castro †

**Call the Parish Office for Mass intentions.**

Christmas day is a painful day for those who have lost loved ones through death or divorce. Join us for a supportive time on Christmas day, Dec 25, from 12:30 to 2 PM in the library at Mullen Commons at St. John Vianney Parish. For more info call Eileen at 925.939.8149

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**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA ALL CHOIRS CHRISTMAS CONCERT in CHURCH**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 @ 7 PM**
Advent does not only entail getting ready for Christmas. The season of Advent is an invitation to recall God’s love for his people in the past, present, and future. Advent is a time for us to remember the story of salvation: how God has been working to bring fallen humanity back to Him. We also remember the advent, or arrival, of Jesus, whose coming we celebrate on Christmas. We remember why He came: to restore our relationship with the Father through His Paschal Mystery. Lastly, we look forward to his future advent, the time of His second coming. This study draws from the SYMBOLON series to deliver beautiful and insightful teaching on each of these Advent themes, so you may grow deeper in your faith as you journey towards the celebration of Christmas.

This feature can be enjoyed through the SCS Access: Go to internet explorer and click http://formed.org. enter code: XPTJK8 (case sensitive)

Fr. Anthony invites all parishioners to take part in this hospitality outreach to our community. If you as an individual or as part of a group of friends or organization or ministry would like to host a Sunday in 2019, please email: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com. Your selected date(s) will be confirmed. Thank you for your participation.

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY 2019

LUKE 3:10-18

Prepare the Way: An Advent Journey
SUN, DEC 16, 2018: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT The forgotten wrong

In an affluent society, the sin rarely referred to is avarice. We redefine it as ambition, upward mobility, or simply “doing well.” But the clutch of personal possessions is still the spiritual stranglehold it always was. The needle’s eye isn’t getting any bigger, and our modern camels still won’t pass through. John the Baptist offers several key remedies. First, share what you have with those who don’t have. Second, don’t cheat, ever. Third, don’t keep striving for more. Finally, be humble. These remedies for avarice are countercultural. They also prepare the way of the One who is coming. Today’s readings: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18 (9). The crowds asked John the Baptist: “What should we do?”

MON, DEC 17, 2018: ADVENT WEEKDAY Trace your holy family tree

The internet has given a boost to the widespread fascination with genealogy. Any number of websites will do the research for people who want to find out more about their ancestors. Folks in the ancient world also took a keen interest in their forebears. For them, where you came from and who came before you had a lot to do with your social standing. It’s not surprising, then, that Jesus got the ancestry.com treatment not once but twice in the gospels: in Matthew and Luke. While Matthew’s version has some unexpected characters, it also traced Jesus back to David and Abraham and therefore made him worthy of great esteem. Advent is a good time to renew your acquaintance with Christian tradition. Read a good history of the church, like Paul Johnson’s now classic A History of Christianity (1976). Today’s readings: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17 (193). “The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.”

TUE, DEC 18, 2018: Give measure for measure

Joseph, Mary’s betrothed, is called a righteous man. That is an antique word best explained in terms of weights. A righteous weight is truthful in its measure. Joseph weighed the situation—pregnant fiancée, not his child—and originally determined the most generous measure of his response: to get out of the deal and protect Mary without causing scandal. God, however, asked for more from this good man: to marry the woman and raise the child as his own. This baker’s-dozen measure of what justice requires is still in force today. Pray that the Lord of justice will help you imitate Joseph’s brand of benevolent giving. Today’s readings: Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25 (194). “This is the name they give him: ‘The Lord our justice.’ ”

WED, DEC 19, 2018: Turn your heart toward children

After hearing of a newborn king in Bethlehem, King Herod ordered the slaughter of all young male children in the village. Truth be told, it has never been easy to be a child. Historian John Boswell reveals in The Kindness of Strangers that child abandonment was a common and often accepted practice from antiquity until the Renaissance. Although strides have been made in child welfare, abuse, neglect, and exploitation are still alarmingly widespread. A society that puts children first has a great future to look forward to. Be a voice for those who are still learning to speak. Today’s readings: Judges 1:19-14a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 (12). “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”

THU, DEC 20, 2018: The key to the mystery

With all the Advent talk of expectant waiting for new life, the reality for many families is that some of their sick and elderly are choosing this time of year to let go and go home to God. We hold these mysteries of birth and death together. If you are around death and the dying at this time of year—or any time—remember that a God who can bring life from Mary, a virgin, and Elizabeth, an elderly woman, can draw eternal life out of the bounds of death. Today’s readings: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38 (196). “She was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.”

FRI, DEC 21, 2018: MEMORIAL OF PETER CANISIUS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH How to get things done

Have you noticed there are only four more shopping days left till Christmas? Better get moving or there won’t be enough time to put up the decorations, finish sending Christmas greetings, get the food prepared, and clean up the house for the guests. Maybe you need to beg the intercession of today’s saint, Peter Canisius (1521-97), who is known as the patron saint of getting things done. He said, “If you have too much to do, with God’s help you will find time to do it all.” Hey, it’s worth a try. Otherwise, you might need to call on Saint Jude, patron of hopeless causes! Today’s readings: Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45 (197). “Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

SAT, DEC 22, 2018: Generous Christmas to you

The constant jingle-jangle of ads this time of year reminds us that it is not too late to get into the “spirit of giving.” Most of the time those words are followed by encouragement to run to the local mall for last-minute shopping, but there are many other ways to give as well. We can give of our time, lend an ear, share our table, make a donation, deliver a gift to those who are less fortunate. There are many ways to experience the special feeling that comes from an act of generosity. If there is magic to the season, that is surely it. Today’s readings: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). “He has filled the hungry with good things.”

SUN, DEC 23, 2018: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Cherish the future

The future is a land to which we’re all headed, and sooner than we imagine. You’d think we’d treat the future a little better, considering how much time we hope to spend there. One way to be kinder to our future is to invest very, very heavily in our children. Certainly our actual, literal offspring deserve every benefit we can provide, including especially our love and protection. The world’s children could use the same advantages: homes that are stable and secure, proper nutrition, health care and education, safety from violence. What are you investing in the future? Today’s readings: Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 (12). “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>16 DIC 2018 TERCER DOMI</th>
<th>El mal olvidado.</th>
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<tr>
<td>En una sociedad opulenta, el pecado al que rara vez se hace referencia en la avaricia. Lo definimos como ambición, movilidad ascendente, o simplemente “haciendo bien”. Pero la belleza de las posesiones personales sigue siendo el estrangulamiento espiritual que siempre fue. El ojo de la aguja no se está agradando, y nuestros camellos modernos aún no pasan. Juan Bautista ofrece varios remedios clave. Primero comparte lo que tienes con los que no tienen. Segundo, no hagas trampa, nunca. Tercero, no sigas esforzándote por más. Finalmente, se humilde. Estos remedios para la avaricia son contra culturales. También prepara el camino del que viene Lecturas de hoy: Sofonías 3:14-18a; Filipenses 4: 4-7; Lucas 3:10-18 (9) “La multitud le preguntó a Juan Bautista: ¿Qué debemos hacer?”</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>17 DIC 2018 ADVIENTO DE LA SEMANA</th>
<th>Traza tu sant arbol genealógico</th>
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<tr>
<td>El Internet ha dado un impulso a la fascinación generalizada con la genealogía. Cualquier número de sitios web realizará la investigación para las personas que desean obtener más información sobre sus antepasados. Las personas en el mundo antiguo también mostraron un gran interés en sus antepasados. Para ellos, de donde viniste y quien vino antes, tuvieron mucho que ver con la posición social. No es sorprendente, entonces, que Jesús recibiera el tratamiento de ascendencia no una, sino dos veces en los evangelios de Mateo y Lucas. Si bien la versión de Mateo tenía algunos caracteres inesperados, también remonta a Jesús hasta David y Abraham, por lo tanto, lo hizo digno de una gran estima. El Adviento es un buen momento para renovar tu relación con las tradiciones cristianas. Lea una buena historia De la Iglesia, cómo el clásico de Paul Johnson: Una historia del cristianismo (1976). Lecturas de hoy: Génesis 49:2, 8-10; Mateo 1:1-17 (193) “El libro de la genealogía de Jesucristo, el hijo de David, el hijo de Abraham.”</td>
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<tr>
<th>18 DIC 2018 SEMANA DE ADVIENTO</th>
<th>Dar medida por medida</th>
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<tr>
<td>José, el prometido de María, se llama justo. Esa es la palabra antigua mejor explicada en términos de pesos. Un peso justo es un peso justo. Sopesó la situación (prometida emba-</td>
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<td>Lecturas de hoy: Jeremías 23:5-8; Mateo 1:18-25 (194) “Este es el nombre que le dan: ‘El Señor, nuestra justicia.’”</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>19 DIC 2018 ADVIENTO DE LA SEMANA</th>
<th>Dirige tu corazón hacia los niños</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Después de oír hablar de un rey recién nacido en Belén, el rey Herodes ordenó a matar a todos los niños de la aldea. La verdad sea dicha, nunca ha sido fácil ser un niño. El historiador John Boswell revela en “The Kindness Of The Strangers” que el abandono de los niños era común y que a menudo se aceptaba como práctica desde la antigüedad hasta el Renacimiento. Aunque se han hecho grandes avances en el bienestar infantil, el abuso, el abandono y la explotación siguen siendo alarmantemente generalizados. Una sociedad que pone a los niños primero, tiene un futuro que esperar. Sea una voz para aquellos que todavía están aprendiendo a hablar. Lecturas de hoy: Jueces 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lucas 1:5-25 (195) “El irá ante él con el espíritu y el poder de Élías para dirigir los padres hacia los hijos.”</td>
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<tr>
<th>20 DIC 2018 SEMANA DE ADVIENTO</th>
<th>La clave del misterio</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Con toda la charla de Adviento sobre la expectativa de una nueva vida, la realidad de muchas familias es que algunos de sus enfermeros y ancianos están eligiendo esta época del año para dejar ir y volver a casa— a Dios. Mantenemos juntos estos misterios del nacimiento y la muerte. Si se encuentra cerca de la muerte en esta época del año, o en cualquier otro momento, recuerde que un Dios que puede traer la vida de María, una virgen, y Elizabeth, una anciana, puede sacar la vida eterna fuera de los límites de la muerte. Lecturas de hoy: Isaías: 7:10-14; Lucas: 1:26-38 (196) “Ella estaba bien preocupada por lo que se dijo y saqueó el tipo de saludo que podría ser.”</td>
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| 21 DIC 2018 MEMORIAL DE PEDRO CANISIOS, SACER- DOTE, MÉDICO DE LA IGLESIA. O SEMANA DE ADVIENTO | Cómo hacer las cosas? Te has dado cuenta de que sólo quedan cuatro días más de compras para navidad! Será mejor que se ponga en movimiento o no habrá tiempo suficiente para colocar las decoraciones, terminar de enviar saludos navideños, preparar la comida y limpiar la casa para los invitados. Tal vez deba mendigar la intersección del santo de hoy, Pedro Canisios (1521-97), conocido cómo el santo patrón de hacer las cosas. Él dijo: “Si tienes mucho que hacer, con la ayuda De Dios, encontrará tiempo para hacerlo todo.” Oye, vale la pena intentarlo. De lo contrario, es posible que tengas que llamar al santo Jude, patrón de las causas sin esperanzas. Lecturas de hoy: Songs of Songs 2:8-14 o Zaphaninah 3:14-18a; Lucas 1:39-45 (197) “Bienaventurada es la que creyó que se cumpliría lo que el Señor había dicho.” |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>22 DIC 2018 ADVIENTO DE LA SEMANA</th>
<th>Navidad generosa para ti.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El constante jingle-jangle de anuncios en esta época del año nos recuerda que no es demasiado tarde para entrar en “el espíritu de lo dado”, pero hay muchas formas de dar también. Podemos dedicar nuestro tiempo, prestar atención, compartir nuestro tiempo, prestar atención, compartir nuestra mesa, hacer una donación, entregar un regalo a los menos afor- tunados. Hay muchas maneras de experimentar el sentimiento especial que proviene de un acto de generosidad. Si tres es mágico en la temporada, eso es seguro. Lecturas de hoy: I Samuel 1:24-28; Lucas 1:46-56 (198) “El que ha llamado al hambre de cosas buenas.”</td>
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<tr>
<th>23 DIC 2018 CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO</th>
<th>Aprecia el futuro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El futuro es una tierra a los que todos nos dirigimos, y antes de lo que imaginábamos. Pensaríamos que trataríamos el futuro un poco mejor, considerando cuánto tiempo esperamos pasar allí. Una forma de ser más bondadosos con nuestro futuro es invertir muy, muy fuertemente en nuestros hijos. Ciertamente, nuestra descendencia real y literal merece todos los beneficios que podemos proporcionar, incluyendo especialmente nuestro amor y protección. Los niños del mundo podrían usar las mismas ventajas: hogares que están abandonados de forma estable, seguros, nutrición adecuada, atención médica y educación, seguridad frente a la violencia. ¿Que estás invirtiendo en el futuro? Lecturas de hoy: Miqueas 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10;Lucas 1:39-45 (12) “Bendita eres entre las mujeres, y bendito es el fruto de tu vientre.”</td>
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