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My dear parishioners:
Season of Advent: Today the Catholic Church, along with many Protestant denominations, begins a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The name for this liturgical season comes from the Latin "adventus", meaning "coming". The season of Advent is a time of preparation, actually a dual preparation. It is a time for us to prepare for the second coming of Christ which has yet to occur (the first two weeks of Advent), and a time for us to prepare to celebrate the first coming of Christ which occurred over 2,000 years ago (the last two weeks of Advent). The season of Advent can be a difficult one for us to enter into fully as we have so many commitments and additional tasks to complete in the month of December. I hope that each of us can intentionally enter into the season of Advent by ensuring that our daily life and family life includes some time for prayer. We should pray that our lives are lived in such a way that we are a pure and loving gift to the Lord as we celebrate his birth, and that we will be gifted with eternal life at our death.

Honoring the Blessed Mother: During the next two weeks we will celebrate the great Mother of God, Mary Most Holy. On Saturday, December 8 we celebrate the Solemnity of the **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. It is a holy day of obligation. This solemnity acknowledges that the Blessed Mother was kept safe from the poison of original sin from the moment of her conception. This singular grace was gifted her by God so that she could be a perfect vessel to accept within her very womb the incarnation of Jesus, her Son and our Redeemer. The United States has been placed under the protection of the Blessed Mother under her title of the Immaculate Conception, so by honoring the Blessed Mother at Mass on her feast day, we are also asking her continued maternal protection of our country. **We will have Mass at 7:00 pm on Friday, December 7, and Mass at 9:00 am on Saturday, December 8.**

The **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** is celebrated on the liturgical calendar on December 12. However, so that our parish family can be united in prayer on the occasion of this feast, our parish tradition is to celebrate a Mass in which we recall Our Lady of Guadalupe on **Saturday, December 15. At 5:00 pm we will have the recitation of the rosary in Spanish, followed by a bi-lingual Mass at 6:00 pm.** Immediately after Mass we will be led by the matalchines (dancers) to the family center where we will enjoy a cultural program of music, dance and food. This feast celebrates the apparition of the Blessed Mother to Juan Diego on Tepayac Hill outside Mexico City in 1531. In 1999 Saint Pope John Paul II named Our Lady of Guadalupe as the patroness of all the Americas. Please plan to participate in this parish event by attending both the Mass and the reception. **There will not be a 4:30 pm Mass on Saturday, December 15.**

Sacrament of Reconciliation: The season of Advent is an appropriate time for each of us to make a sacramental reconciliation. We will have our parish **Advent Penance Service on Monday, December 10 at 7 pm.** Fr Ron Foshage from Jasper will join me in celebrating the sacrament. There will be a very brief communal service starting at 7 pm, immediately followed by

December 1 - December 9, 2018
Readings and Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 1 4:30pm—Mass
 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab [1 Cor 16:22b; cf Rv 22:20c]/
 Lk 21:34-36

Sunday, December 2 9:00am—Mass
 Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/1 Thes 3:12--4:2/
 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

Monday, December 3 4:30pm—Mass
 Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
Mass intention for Lloyd and Ron Chance

Tuesday, December 4 No Mass
 Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday, December 5 4:30pm—Mass
 Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37
Mass intention for Lloyd and Ron Chance


Thursday, December 6 No Mass
 Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday, December 7 9:30am—Communion Service
 Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday, December 8 4:30pm—Mass
 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/
 Lk 1:26-38


Sunday, December 9 9:00am—Mass
 Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/1 Thes 3:12--4:2/
 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (Ps 25)



Christmas Angel Tree
 Please bring unwrapped gifts to the church or the office by **Sunday, December 9, 2018.**
 If you did not have an opportunity to choose an angel from the tree, donations will also be accepted.

individual confessions and absolution. If you are not able to attend our Penance Service, please consider attending the one at St. Michael Church, Jasper on Tuesday, December 11 at 7 pm, or the one at St. Joseph Church, Livingston on Wednesday, December 19 at 7 pm. And of course, confessions will be heard by me on Wednesday, December 12 during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7-8 pm, and on Saturdays, from 3:45 to 4:15 pm. Because I cannot hear a lot of penitents before the 4:30 pm Saturday Mass, please do try to attend one of the communal Penance Services. It would be wonderful to be able to celebrate Christmas knowing your heart has been purified in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

 Msgr. Frank H. Rossi
 Pastor

Sun. Dec 2 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00am—Mass <i>Anointing during Mass</i>	Mon. Dec 3 4:30 pm—Mass	Tues. Dec 4 6:30pm—RCIA	Wed. Dec 5 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE	Thurs. Dec 6 8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. Dec 7 9:30am—Communion Service 7:00pm—Vigil Mass for Holy Day, Immaculate Conception	Sat. Dec 8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation 9:00am—Mass 3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
Sun. Dec 9 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> 9:00am—Mass	Mon. Dec 10 4:30 pm—Mass 7:00pm—Advent Communal Penance Service	Tues. Dec 11 6:30pm—RCIA	Wed. Dec 12 10:00am—Stewardship 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE 7:00pm—Eucharist Adoration/Confessions	Thurs. Dec 13 8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	Fri. Dec 14 9:30am—Communion Service	Sat. Dec 15 5:00pm—Rosary/Spanish 6:00pm—Bilingual Mass 7:00pm—Our Lady of Guadalupe Fiesta

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church and Two-Twelve Ministries present an Advent Mission:
EXPECTATION
 HOPING • HEARKENING • HEALING
Monday - December 3 - 9:00am and 7:00pm
 "HOPING"
Tuesday - December 4 - 9:00am* and 7:00pm
 "HEARKENING"
Wednesday - December 5 - 9:00am* and 7:00pm
 "HEALING"
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
 1600 N. Main Street • Vidor, TX • 77662 409-769-2865
There is no fee to attend this Mission. To support the ongoing Catholic evangelical ministry of Dan Duet's

Online Giving
 If you would like to give electronically, visit our website
www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com
 and click on **Donation.**

PRAYER REQUESTS
 Please pray for: Nelda Leathem, Don Watt, Ed Sanderson; Dennis Welch, David Wells, Bowie Leatherwood, Lois Cuccia, Bennie Mahaffey, Ila Hayes, LaDona Landry, Norton Leger, Luana Lee, Bobbie Broussard, Rebecca Duckworth, Bobby Hatcher, Tim Kessler, Jean Greaux, Diane Necessary, Joe Williams, Edgar Whatley, Chuck Reed, Serafin & Maricela Ramirez & children, Cynthia, Manuelita, and Jesus
 Repose of the soul: George Morris, Monique Epley
Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You may list names in the Prayer book in the vestibule of the Church and your intention will be offered at daily Mass.

Weekly Stewardship

November 24 & 25 Weekly Offering	\$ 2,320.00
Average Weekly Cost	\$ 3,152.00
Excess/Deficit	\$ -832.00

Thank you for your generosity.



If you or someone you know has a kitchen stove that is not being used, either gas or electric, please call the church office.
 409-283-5367

Religious Articles
 Come and see Christmas items.
 Pick up a stocking stuffer for someone you love.

Rosaries	Prayer books	Prayer cards
Bibles	Art for your walls	Figurines

Many other items available
 Browse on Saturday after Mass or while having coffee on Sunday mornings.

Upcoming Events

December 3-5: Advent Mission, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, vidor, TX
 December 8: Immaculate Conception, **Holy Day of Obligation**
 December 10: Advent Reconciliation Service
 December 12: Outdoor Christmas Decorations
 December 15: Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration
 December 20: Christmas Church Cleaning
 December 25: Christmas Day
 January 1: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, **Holy Day of Obligation**