

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018**

God has commanded
that every lofty mountain be made low.
— *Baruch 5:7*

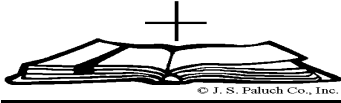
AWAITING THE SALVATION OF GOD

The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn't big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God's salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters.

According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God's salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees.

It can't get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God.

Mass Intentions



- Sat., Dec. 08, 8:00 a.m. Amy Goff
- Sat., Dec. 08, 4:30 p.m. Alana Addotto, Henry McNamara, Dennis McCloskey, Sidney Huval and Family, Lester Shackford, Thomas Pitre, Karge Family (L), John Ehrlich, Nick Sita, Ruth Olson (L), Ethel Istre (L), Ricky Sterner, Karen Brown (L), Mother and Baby (L)
- Sun., Dec. 09, 7:30 a.m. Carol Pieri, Doris M. Letsch, Margaret Mary Mule', Larry Kass, Alvin Satches, Eric Plauche (L), David Tucker, Beulah Blount, Nick Sita, Jon Craig (L), Angela Hebert (L), Gloria Fabre, Pieri Family (L), Larry and Theresa Plauche (L), Patricia Syman, Elsa Carlin, Linda Blanchard
- Sun., Dec. 09, 9:15 a.m. Parishioners
- Sun., Dec. 09, 11:00 a.m. Bob Pecunia
- Mon., Dec. 10, 8:00 a.m. Joseph Legnon
- Tues., Dec. 11 NO MASS
- Wed., Dec. 12, 8:00 a.m. Dolores Reiser
- Thurs., Dec. 13, 8:00 a.m. Margaret Mary Mule'
- Fri., Dec. 14, 8:00 a.m. Macario Sampang
- Sat., Dec. 15, 4:30 p.m. Henry McNamara, Dennis McCloskey, Sidney Huval and Family, Thomas Pitre, Karge Family (L), Nick Sita, Ruth Olson (L), Ricky Sterner, Ballard Family (L), Bob Kerry (L), Gene Vizzini (L), Linda Chandler (L), Bob Chandler (L)
- Sun., Dec. 16, 7:30 a.m. Carol Pieri
- Sun., Dec. 16, 9:15 a.m. Dolores Reiser, Gregory Santos, Mary Theresa Knapper (L), Mary Jane Mehaffey, Joseph LeBlanc, Jean F. Segura, Ashton Neubig, Bill Zimmermann (L)
- Sun., Dec. 16, 11:00 a.m. Parishioners

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Can I possibly discern what is of value and then act accordingly to those values?

PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Helen Lafleur | Rosalind Baham |
| Ashlie Cox | Louise Cashmere |
| Max Jones | Ethel Istre |
| Rudy Huval | Rhonda Taylor |
| Sophie LeBlanc | Rolland Golden |
| Joseph LeBlanc | Ruthi Olson |
| Freddie Addotto | Pam Addotto |
| Carolyn Pierre | |

Weekly Collections
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- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Envelopes | \$ 3,331.00 |
| Loose | \$ 1,201.00 |
| Building and Preservation Fund | \$ 1,333.00 |

THE CANDLES BURN IN HONOR OF:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Sanctuary:</i> | Leonard Wilfert |
| <i>Blessed Mother</i> | Amy Goff |
| <i>St. Joseph</i> | Nick Sita |
| <i>St. Ann</i> | Kathy Holmes and Family (L) |
- If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7 day candle please call 796-3806.

SANCTUARY FLORALS

The flowers at the Altar
in memory of

Walter Henry and Betty L. Nix

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve – Monday, Dec. 24

Vigil of Christmas, 4:30 p.m. in Jonathan Hall
9:00 p.m. in Church

NO MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas Day – Tuesday, Dec. 25

Nativity of the Lord
9:00 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
Holy Day Of Obligation

- Monday, Dec. 31st, 8:00 a.m., Communion service
- Monday, Dec. 31st, 4:30 p.m. - Vigil Mass
- Tuesday, Jan. 1st, - 9:00 a.m.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Look around most Catholic churches, and you will discover an image of John the Baptist, often in the old baptistery, or in a window near where the font is or was located. He has two feast days in the calendar: one commemorating his birth, and the other his death. There are only three nativities in our calendar: for Jesus, for Mary, and for the Baptist. John's birthday is reckoned according to the schedule given in Luke's Gospel of the angel's announcement to Mary. The angel tells her that her cousin Elizabeth is in the sixth month of pregnancy, and so Mary hastens to help her. Reckoning Christmas as December 25, we count backwards nine months to March 25 for the Feast of the Annunciation. Then we count forward three months to June 24 for John the Baptist's birth. Halfway to Christmas, his nativity gives ample reason for rejoicing in the summer, and his symbols of fire and water are used playfully in bonfires and dives into the sea. Even at the polar opposite of Christmas in the calendar, the energy of Christ's birth in the Incarnation provides cause for rejoicing.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

St. John's will have a Penance Service most commonly known as confession. As a Catholic, this is one of our sacraments. The service will be on December 14th from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. We will have two priests available for confessions.

"CHRISTMAS FLOWERS"

The Altar Society is asking for donations for flowers to help with the added expense for Christmas Flowers. Donations can be placed in the box on the wall in the back of church. You can enter the names of your loved ones in the book and they will be remembered at all Masses throughout the Christmas season.

ALTAR SOCIETY RAFFLE

The Ladies Altar Society would like to thank everyone who purchased raffle tickets for their fundraiser. The winner of the Rosary is Gail Peschlow and the pair of angels is Letitia Lemaire.

"ATTENTION ALL CHRISTMAS ANGELS"

Thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Angel's this year. Your generosity will surely bring joy and happiness to a child's Christmas.



Please find our family prayer on the blue laminated card in the pews.

The 2019 collection envelopes are in the back of church. There are in alphabetical order from left to right as you enter Church. If you do not use envelopes but would like to begin contributing with an envelopes please call the office.

RICHES

Riches are the instrument of all vices, because they render us capable of putting even our worst desires into execution.

Breakfast with Santa is Sunday, Dec. 16th. It is being sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, beginning at 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Kids of all ages (and those of you who are young at heart) are invited to visit with Santa and have a delicious breakfast. There is no charge for this event.

**Please join us in celebrating
the Christmas Season with
St. John's Parish School of Religion Christmas Program
Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m.
Jonathan Hall
Refreshments following
Family, friends, and parishioners welcome.**

REVELATION: THE KINGDOM YET TO COME

BY JEFF CAVINS AND THOMAS SMITH

Back by popular demand in case you missed it, Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come is an intriguing study that shows how the kingdom established by Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven. Here you will discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean. You will see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." It is a revelation of God as our Divine Bridegroom and the Church as his spotless Bride, forever united in a heavenly, holy, and mystical marriage that we enter into every time we celebrate the Mass. (11, 50-minute videos plus discussion)

WHEN Starting Monday, January 14th
for 11 weekly sessions at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Jonathan Hall, Library

Participant Book, **\$27.00**, includes session overviews, engaging study questions, responses to the questions, and talk notes. If you have any questions, please call George Hemelt at 504-391-6512.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETINGS ARE THE SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH AT 7:30 P.M. IN ODILO HALL

FIRST SATURDAY MASS AT 8:00 A.M. EVERY MONTH

CATCH FIRE YOUTH GROUP MEETS THE FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 6 – 7:30 P.M. IN ODILO HALL.

MEN'S GROUP, "RISE", THURS. 7:30 P.M. IN LIBRARY

MARY, ADULT BIBLE STUDY, THURS. OR FRI. IN LIBRARY AT 9 A.M.

PSR CLASSES, K-8 GRADE, WEDNESDAY, 6:15 – 7:30 P.M.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES EVERY SUNDAY, NOON UNTIL 1:15 IN LIBRARY