

DECEMBER 6, 2020 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**INVEST JUST FIVE MINUTES A DAY,  
AND YOUR FAITH WILL DEEPEN AND  
GROW, A DAY AT A TIME."**

### **SUNDAY, DEC 06, 2020 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT BEGIN AT THE END**

Beginnings are really the Act II of endings. That's why we hear so much Apocalypse in the early Advent readings. Something has to give way for the new thing to arrive. In order to move into the new house, you have to leave the old one. That goes for the life of the world to come, as well. So when John the Baptist summons us to prepare the Lord's way, he simultaneously obliges us to repent our former way. Consider what obstacles need to "pass away" to "make straight" the path of the Christ child's arrival into your heart.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8 (5).* "The heavens will pass away with a mighty roar, and the Earth and everything done on it will be found out."

### **MONDAY, DEC 07, 2020 MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH TO THE MOON AND BEYOND**

You think you're busy? Ambrose, one of the four first doctors of the church, challenged emperors and combated heresies. He converted Saint Augustine and championed celibacy. He was a prolific theologian and contributed to the music of the church. He was so admired he was made a bishop by popular acclaim. Ambrose did a lot of different things—who of us could keep up? —but he had one vision that we can all get behind: that the church rise "like a growing moon" above fleeting worldliness.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26.* "We have seen incredible things today."

### **TUESDAY, DEC 08, 2020 SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (PATRONAL FEAST DAY OF THE USA) ORIGINAL GRACE**

The Immaculate Conception is so key to Catholic consciousness, it's hard to believe it hasn't been around forever. The teaching—that Mary was born without original sin—was in fact opposed by scholarly saints like Anselm, Aquinas, Bernard, and Bonaventure. They insisted that, because sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, Mary would need salvation as much as the rest of us. But the Council of Trent concluded that Mary had been spared, and popular piety began to revere her Immaculate Conception. The significance? Perhaps, as theologian Elizabeth Johnson eloquently points out,

it's that "grace is more original than sin."  
**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689).* "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

### **WEDNESDAY, DEC 09, 2020 MEMORIAL OF JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN CELEBRATE THE MESSENGER OF LOVE**

Born in 1474 near modern-day Mexico City, Saint Juan Diego was named Cuauhtlatoatzin (Talking Eagle) and according to tradition lived among his Chichimeca people until the conquest of Mexico in 1521. At the age of 50, Juan Diego was baptized by Franciscan missionaries and began attending daily Mass. While he walked to Mass on December 9, 1531, the Blessed Mother appeared to him with a special request. So begins the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast we celebrate in three days. Today, we honor Juan Diego, the first indigenous saint of the Americas, canonized in 2002, who spent the rest of his life as a prayerful hermit tending the first shrine built to Guadalupe. On this Advent day, we pray for the grace to imitate his humility, trust, and faithfulness.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183).* "They that hope in the LORD will . . . soar as with eagles' wings."

### **THURSDAY, DEC 10, 2020 ADVENT WEEKDAY WALK THE SIMPLE BUT ELUSIVE PATH TO PEACE**

As Christians await the Prince of Peace, today the world celebrates this year's Nobel Peace Prize awardee—the U.N. World Food Program—for their heroic efforts in war-torn lands in the midst of the pandemic. Human beings are prone to conflict, but the craving for peace and reconciliation runs deep across cultures and faiths. The perennial question is how to achieve it. Here's a simple but profound answer that has been put forth by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development for decades: "If you want peace, work for justice." Ask yourself what step toward justice you can take today.  
**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15 (184).* "Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist."

### **FRIDAY, DEC 11, 2020 MEMORIAL OF DAMASUS I, POPE STORMY WEATHER**

If we think we've got it tough—juggling the gift list, social schedule, family feuds, and ailing bank account—consider Damasus. He embodied the truism that faith is more a compass than an insurance policy. When he was elected pope, another faction chose someone else. What

followed were violent battles, scandals, accusations, heresies, and troubled relations with the Eastern Church. While we might sing carols about the Prince of Peace, the hard reality of human life has, since the Incarnation, also involved moments of hurricane-force wind. Today, let's welcome whatever problem we're reluctant to engage, knowing it might be our teacher.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185).* "If you would hearken to my commandments, your prosperity would be like a river."

### **SATURDAY, DEC 12, 2020 FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATE THE FEAST!**

The apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Mexico City's Tepeyac Hill in 1531 was a game changer. Images of the Virgin had typically carried a distinctly European flavor. The Virgin of Guadalupe, however, had indigenous features. She would become the first Mestiza image, for a people who comprise the racially and culturally diverse population of modern-day Mexico. Under her spiritual care and influence, a variety of peoples could unite at least in spirituality. For Mexican Americans, and Latinos everywhere, la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe is among the biggest religious celebrations of the year. Join the fiesta.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47 (690A).* "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord." Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen.

#### **Next Sunday**

#### **SUNDAY, DEC 13, 2020 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DISCERN THE SPIRIT**

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28 (8).* "Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances."

#### **Catholic Social Teaching Corner Dec. 5-6 -- Second Sunday of Advent**

In today's Gospel we hear the message of John the Baptist calling us to a change of heart and reminding us that the true light and glory of the earth is Jesus the Christ. While we are busy with trees and gifts and decorations, we might be especially mindful and attentive to Christ who is present to us in the one with no home to decorate, no place for a tree, no hope of gifts. Can we give them the gift of eye contact, or asking their name or of a few moments of conversation? This might be the most important gift we can give this year for we never know the distressing disguise Jesus might use to come to us!

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 8:00AM**

Happy 22<sup>nd</sup> Wedding Anniversary to Gene and Marlexa Phillips

For the repose of the souls of Laurel, Harice and Philly Derizan, Lucille & Charlie Jones and Hillery Williams, requested by Don Jones

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 10:00AM**

Happy Birthday to Alex King, requested by Adrienne, Ashley, Alyssa, Aaron and Rae

For the repose of the souls of, Oray Boston, Sr., Margaret Hendricks, Marissa Moore, Mable and Abraham Rabalais, Florance & Horace Boston, requested by Kim Boston.

**Tuesday, Dec 8, Noon Mass**

For the repose of the souls of Edward Sr., & Margaret Mullen, Carmen & Barbara Mullen, George & Marie Mullen, Margaret Madden, John Gately & Ernest Athanasius, requested by Ed & Elina Mullen

**Wed, Dec. 9, 2020 Noon Mass**

For the repose of the souls of Samuel, Serena, Sherman and Sharon Charles, Annis Charles Johnson, Marion Harrison, Lucille Pohyen, Judith and Jim McDonald, Gramma Anita Marshall, Matty Emma. Requested by Sandra Murry

**Thursday, Dec 10, 2020 Noon Mass**

For the repose of the souls of Rosalind Cunningham, Theresa Fontenette, Geri Stewart, Tony Colton, and Janet Patterson, requested by Johnnie Dorsey

**Friday, Dec 11, 2020, Noon Mass**

For the repose of the souls of Henry, Sr., Henry Jr., and Jimmie Sistrunk, Mozie, Sandy, and Leon Inge, Nellie Mae Dunaway and Lena Hodge.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**DECEMBER, 2020**

**SUNDAY MASSES**  
8:00AM 10:00AM

**TUESDAY, DEC 8<sup>th</sup>, NOON**  
Feast of The Immaculate Conception

**NOON MASS Tuesday - Friday**

**NOVEMBER 22, 2020**

OFFERTORY	\$5311.00
SVDP	5.00
E-GIVING	2019.81
SVDP(E-GIVING)	149.00
MSP(E-GIVING)	11.00
MSP	25.00
FLC/Debt Retirement	40.00
DR (E-GIVING)	321.00
Needs of Parish	550.00
Needs of the Parish(E-GIV)	321.00
Courageous Conversation	250.00
Candles	145.00
Gift Store	34.00

**NEEDS OF THE PARISH COLLECTION**

This collection helps to pay things like repairs, intervention, and other needs of the parish. This collection happens every last Sunday of the Month. We would like you to convert much of your gift to St Vincent the Paul to the needs of the Parish as the parish funds St Vincent the Paul monthly. Thanks for your generosity.

**HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR PARISH DURING THIS CHALLENGING TIME**

Remember, the Church depends on your weekly donation for paying bills, and maintaining of the Church facilities. Even though Masses and other events are cancelled, the Church is still operating. Your weekly offering and donations are direly needed. If you are not online giver, you can still do so by going to [www.holycrossaustin.org](http://www.holycrossaustin.org) and give your donation. You also can mail it if you are able to. Thank you for your faith and commitment.

**BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesday night Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Please join us for our weekly online Bible Study. Here is the Google Meeting access information and dates.

Telephone number: (314) 732-4135  
Access number: 462-091-806

Upcoming meeting dates:  
Wed December 9  
Wed December 16

If you have any questions please contact Craig Williams at (512) 626-1934.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THRIFT STORE**

The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store invites you to shop with us on Black Friday and Saturday. Everything in the store, except mattresses, will be 50% off! You'll find great affordable Christmas gifts and the revenue will help our neighbors in need in Central Texas. This sale is so huge that we are extending our hours. The Black Friday sale is November 27th and November 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 5:30pm. We're located at 901 W. Braker Lane. Make sure you follow us on Facebook and Instagram @vinnysatxthrift.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Ella Adams	Mary Anthony
Evelyn Battle	Mildred Carter
B.J. Dukes	Jude Ekpc
Vanessa Downey-Little	Bernie Little
Monica Godsey	Lester Johnson
Marion Welch	Sam King, Jr.
Vonnys Rice-Gardner	Bernadette Phifer
Ella Pease	Betty Ridley
Mary Sobers	Mary Waters
Charlene Postell	Gladie Stelly
Cornelius Harris	Jim Castro
Pearl Cox	
Brent Brown	
Frances Brown	

**Family Life Center Now Available for Renting**

For all your events like:

- Wedding Party
- Birthday Party
- Graduation Party
- Wakes
- Coporate Events
- Ministry Events
- Meetings
- ETC

Contact the Church Office for details  
5124723741

