

Dear Beloved People of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors: Our readings for this second Sunday of Advent provide a buffet of inspired thoughts that prompt us to continue our preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Divine Savior. We open our hearts so that, in reference to our first reading, we will be renewed by the spirit of the Lord as we are blessed with wisdom and understanding. Relying on these gifts, we pray that we can be a support to one another and help each other grow in delight as we come to know the Lord more intimately.

The more we learn about Jesus the more we will be inclined to think in harmony. We will be more eager to welcome all who seek encouragement and want to develop a deeper sense of hope, that despite all that is going on in our world that can confuse, frustrate or cause us worry, we would nonetheless be capable of being the best possible instruments of justice. We need to keep in mind that "justice" in the Bible means to get all things in our world in line with the way God designed the world to be.

We realize only too painfully that there are many people around the world and down the street who are suffering because of a lack of essentials. Many people are afflicted for a variety of reasons in a variety of ways. We are to collaborate with God to find ways to rescue the poor and the afflicted when there is no one else to offer needed assistance. In this light, we are very grateful for the various ministries of our parish that provide services to those who need assistance, whether that be for food, housing, utilities, prayer, bring communion or provide a smile and pleasant greeting.

In his own quite unique way, John the Baptist arrived on the scene to make real what the prophet Isaiah spoke of, namely, that he was to be a voice of one crying out in the deserted places of peoples' lives a message of hope and encouragement. One might ask why he did this in the desert and not in the town square. The desert is a place where one reflects on one's life, where we face the fact that we depend on God for our security, and where we ponder how we might make adjustments in our lives so that we are more capable of uniting with one another to glorify God as we do our best to imitate Jesus.

The people that came to John did so to acknowledge their sins. As John stated, he baptized with water as a sign that people had decided to repent, to acknowledge that choices were made that were not in line with the loving relationship that God had established with His people. This Baptism was a way for people to prepare for the coming of the One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. John realized who he was and what his place and role was in helping people to achieve peace in their lives. The baptism that Jesus would celebrate involved having people be intimately a part of His life.

This Baptism is lived out by doing all we can in cooperation with God to bring the vision that Isaiah shared at the end of the first reading. There would no longer be any harm or ruin because all people would be filled with the knowledge of the Lord.

~Fr. Roman

**Schedule for the week of December 9th—December 13th**

<b>Monday-December 9th</b>		
6:00pm	Rosary Group	Church
<b>Wednesday-December 11th</b>		
9:15am	Tai Chi	Church
Noon	Lectio Divina	St. Cecilia rm.
<b>Thursday-December 12th</b>		
9:00am	Divine Mercy Chaplet	Church
6:00pm	Community Meal	Halls
<b>Friday-December 13th</b>		
7:00am	Men's Prayer Group	M 4
6:45pm	Reconciliation Service	Church
<b>Saturday-December 14th</b>		
10:00am	Healing Service	Church

**PRIESTS AWAY FROM THE PARISH**

Fr. Roman left on Saturday morning, December 7, for some vacation time and will return on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Fr. Marcel will be leaving early on December 15<sup>th</sup> to fly to Rome to renew his visa. He will return on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. On December 26<sup>th</sup> he will leave for vacation in Nigeria and preside for a couple of family weddings. He will return to the parish on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**SECOND COLLECTION**

**THIS week we will have a second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which includes the Salvatorian Order who staff our parish.** This appeal asks us to recall those women and men religious whose ministry has nourished our own faith, served our Church, and strengthened our nation. Today, more than 37,000 women and men religious are past age 70. Their institutes face critical economic challenges as the costs of health care escalate and as the need for handicapped-accessible housing increases. Special envelopes are available in the vestibule.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

December 8th is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It's also the Second Sunday of Advent, which takes precedence, liturgically. Therefore the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9th. The Immaculate Conception remains a solemnity, but is NOT a holy day of obligation this year.



**MASS INTENTIONS**

December 7th	4:30pm	Richard Alway (D) Sean English (D)
December 8th	7:45am	Gerrie & Paul Parker
	9:30am	Rose Kenney (D) Zoe Mann (C)
	11:30am	Corazon Jacinto (D) Inocento Santos (D)
	5:30pm	People of the Parish
December 9th	8:30am	Tootie Jennings (D)
December 10th	8:30am	Yober Guaraldi (D)
December 11th	8:30am	Ricky Plein (D)
December 12th	8:30am	Gregoria & Benito Hernandez (D)
December 13th	8:30am	Ana Maria Gomez (D)
December 14th	8:30am	Tracy Hass Scott Bassett
	4:30pm	Richard Alway (D)
December 15th	7:45am	
	9:30am	Sheila Stratakos Henry Gomez (D)
	11:30am	Rita Marie Maisano (D) Danielle Dulgerian (D)
	5:30pm	People of the Parish

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

**Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Sunday:** Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

**Pray for our Military Personnel wherever duty calls them to serve, homeland or overseas.**

Adrienne Aleschus, James Aleschus, John Aleschus, Logan Amos, Sean Amos, James Atwood, Andrew Bauer, Jordan Biasotti, Anthony Brooks, Jonathan Brooks, Jacob Camarillo, Aimee Chabot, Ephrem Choi, Elsie Cruz, Matt David, Travis Dardis, Derek Deatherage, David DeLaCruz, Alisen Dowell, Joe Downey, Andrew Durham, Brian Eberhard, Katharine Ernst & A.J. Smith, Tom Feyoe, Mathew Fox, Timothy Fox, Joseph Gast, Tyler Gedstad, Ereik Hartsell, Jeremy Herbert, Susan Hocker, Yutaro Hosaka, Ben Isla, Tyler Kenobbie, William Kraintz, Tyler Kraintz, Andy Kuehn, Dayna Landry, Charles Philip Lopez, Kelly Mancini, Doran Martin, John Masterson, Bennet D. McGrane, Garrett McMann, Aaron McMurray, Francis Montojo, Joseph M. Paddock, Nathan Paddock, Chris Payant, David Petisor, Darin Pillman, Tim Pillman, Rachael Portoman, Logan Rasmussen, Trey Rasmussen, Tim Reid, Neal Ridge, Tony Rodriguez, Nicholas Roha, Ryan Roux, Matthew Sandoval, April Skou, Jacob and Nikki Steeb, James Thatche, Jadyne Trujillo, Aimee Vigil, Noah Villarreal, Danny Walsh, David Wentling, Kyle William and Brian Wright, Alexander Wrinkle. **If your loved one is out of the military please call Mary at 916-988-4984 to have them removed.**

Please pray for those who are sick, in pain or recovery, or in need of spiritual healing. (Names will appear for 3 weeks unless an extension is requested.)

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|--------------------|---------------------|
| Alice Amantea      | Bill Amantea        |
| Bill Anderson      | Sheldon Anderson Jr |
| Sharon Backus      | Talon Bonanno       |
| Julie Bouse        | Eduardo Bravo       |
| Marlys Burke       | Pat Collier         |
| Lauri Comly        | Jo Ann Coughlin     |
| Madeleine Crepin   | Noreen Davis        |
| Michael W. Donner  | Susan Drumm         |
| Lexi Ewen          | Reggie Faulk        |
| Dorothy Feldman    | Paulie Flowers      |
| Ruben Gomez        | Gary Green          |
| J.J. Hall          | Stephany Hammer     |
| Tracy Hass         | Bridgette Hubbard   |
| Martin Jennings    | Michele Kinaan      |
| Angelita Martinez  | Vicente Meno        |
| Allen D. Nelson    | Glen Newton         |
| Shirley Newton     | Ronnie Nichols      |
| Patty Nicholson    | John Padden         |
| Karen Paddock      | Waldi Paige         |
| Linda Parker       | Eleanor Peterson    |
| Gladys Reilly      | Roxanne Rosales     |
| Madeline Rose      | Gerry Ryden         |
| Donna Schulte      | Tom Sekel           |
| Lee "Lucky" Shaver | Shari Sigl          |
| Barbara Smith      | Joan Spagnolo       |
| Casey Wick         | John Wick           |

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

- |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Danielle Dulgerian | Larry Hulse |
| Rita Marie Maisano |             |

—For these and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**VOCATIONS CROSS**

Sunday, December 8th at the 11:30am Mass, **Tommy, Marlyn, Allyson, Lauren & Lucas Puyot** will take home the Vocations Cross to pray daily for Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and the Religious Life.



**Parish Announcements**

**LITURGY CORNER—**

**Why is 'Gloria' omitted during the season of Advent?**

The Gloria is omitted during the season of Advent because Advent is a penitential season of the Church, just like Lent. Even though the Church sings Alleluia during Advent, the Church gives us this penitential season to call us to the same conversion that St. John the Baptist called the Jews as they awaited the arrival of the Messiah. Because the Gloria is a prayer of joy, it is suppressed during Advent and is not heard until the vigil Mass of Christmas Eve.

**Baby Jesus....really, we are! Sczking**

Each year we look for young families that have a newborn to play Baby Jesus during our Christmas Celebrations. Of course, Mom and Dad get to participate as Mary and Joseph, too! Grandparents, are your grandbabies visiting for Christmas? If your family has a new baby, and you will be celebrating with us on December 24th or 25th, please contact Elaine Bauer, Director of Liturgy, at 559-307-4216 or email [elaine@divinesavior.com](mailto:elaine@divinesavior.com). (baby boys OR girls qualify!)



**PARENT'S NIGHT OUT!!**

Wait, what?! It's December? I haven't started Christmas shopping yet! Don't worry! Our Divine Savior Parents' Night Out is **Friday, December 13th**. For more information, and to RSVP, email [jennifer@divinesavior.com](mailto:jennifer@divinesavior.com) before **Wednesday, December 10th**.



**HEALED IN CHRIST**

On Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am we will have a special healing service. The fire of God's love can pierce even the hardest of hearts and allow the wounded to be healed, and the captive set free. Let us come together as community to share our faith and trust in God as we ask for healing, whether physical, emotional or spiritual. Join us for this intimate service of hope and healing. All are welcome.



**Parish Announcements**

**ADVENT SOCIAL TODAY**

Please join us in the gym **THIS Sunday, December 8th, from 1-3pm for a very special Advent celebration!** There will be activities, Advent stations, and dessert. This is a family-friendly event and everyone is invited to "prepare the way"!



**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**Advent Communal Reconciliation Services**  
Experience God's love

**December 13th, 6:45pm**

**December 21st, 2:00pm**

(for those who do not drive at night)

Reconciliation is what God does. Receiving it and celebrating it is what we do.

Advent is an ideal time to celebrate the reconciling love and the healing graces our Divine Savior offers us.

**Christmas Eve Masses**

**4:00pm**-Mass of Christmas

**6:30pm**-for Families & Children  
all ages welcome

**10:00pm**- Candlelight Mass of Christmas in the dark of night beginning with Las Posadas

**Christmas Day Mass**

**10:00am**-Mass of Christmas

**THIS weekend, the Knights are hosting Hospitality after all Sunday morning Masses. Please stop by for some treats!**



**CANNED FOOD DRIVE— DEC. 14th-15th!**

We are collecting non-perishable food to supplement our Christmas Basket Ministry and St. Vincent de Paul Society. These donated items will help those in need to have enough food especially during the schools' winter break period. Please place canned and non-perishable food into the large red box in the vestibule on **December 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>**.  
**Ideas: canned soups/vegetables/fruits, ramen, instant rice/mashed potatoes, mac-n-cheese, pasta noodles and sauces, juice boxes, applesauce, cereals, oatmeal, granola bars, crackers.** Thank you for your generosity!



**Parish Announcements**

**Year over Year Plate Collection Performance**

	Week # 22	YTD thru Week # 22
<b>2019-2020 Year</b>	\$ 17,386	\$ 377,125
<b>2018-2019 Year</b>	\$ 12,242	\$ 350,307

**A MESSAGE OF THANKSGIVING**

As we conclude this Thanksgiving season, I want to thank all of you for the many ways that you bless this parish community through the generous sharing of your time, talents and treasure. We realize that all we have and are is a gift from God and the action of being grateful helps us to become more appreciative while lifting our spirits and helping us to think and act more positively.

As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Savior, God's greatest gift par none, I encourage everyone to do whatever extra we can that will adequately express our gratitude and share the joy that our faith brings us at this sacred time of the year. I offer several ways by which we can prepare for this wonderful celebration.

- Invite neighbors, co-workers, and family members to come to Mass this season, especially for our Christmas Masses. This could be the greatest gift we can offer them;
- Share what Christmas means to us with our family, our relatives and friends, our coworkers, and the people at the gym;
- Donate winter clothes to St. Vincent de Paul or any other charity;
- Make a monetary gift to the parish in memory of a loved one;
- In anticipation of a tax refund, give a percentage of it to our parish;
- For those taking IRA withdrawals, give a percentage to the parish and other charities.

Advent blessings to all,

Fr. Roman Mueller, S.D.S.



**FREE MONEY FOR DIVINE SAVIOR!!!**

Every time you make a purchase on Amazon you can make a donation to Divine Savior. Just go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-3954550> or click on the link at [divinesavior.com](http://divinesavior.com). Sign up today and help support your parish family.

**Parish Announcements**

**FAIR TRADE COFFEE HEADS UP!**

Be sure and buy fair trade coffee for you and all your friends this month, Dec. 14-15. at the current price! We have been able to keep the price of coffee at \$8.50 for about 5 years. In January the price per 12 oz. bag will go up to \$9.25 to cover the rising cost of coffee and shipping.

**FAIR TRADE COFFEE** Sales will take place **NEXT Saturday and Sunday, December 14th & 15th** at each Mass in the Vestibule.



**FLU SEASON UPDATE**

Due to an early onset of flu season Bishop Soto has recommended that we not share the Communion Cup at Mass.

We are not suspending the use of the Cup at this time and leave it up to your discretion.

The fullness of the Sacrament of Eucharist is present in the Precious Body and the Precious Blood of Christ whether or not both species are consumed.

The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and other Holy Days does not apply to those who are sick. If you are sick, stay home and take care of yourself and pray for all those who are sick.

**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

The Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated during the 4:30 pm Mass on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Please join us in song,



worship and fellowship on this day to reflect upon the apparitions of the Virgin ("Our Lady of the Americas") witnessed by St. Juan Diego and her miraculous gift of the incredibly beautiful image that she left on his tilma nearly 500 years ago.

**Divine Savior's Our Lady of Guadalupe Society is also pleased to invite you to enjoy Mexican hot chocolate and treats after Mass.**