

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 1, 2019

Dear Parishioners,



You also must be prepared. (Matthew 24:44)

This is it—we have lit the first Advent candle. Christmas is less than four weeks away, so we need to get ready. If we plan on giving gifts, sending Christmas cards, or having guests over for Christmas dinner, now is the time to start planning. Jesus is saying something similar in today’s Gospel reading, but with a different focus: “Get ready; you don’t know when I will come again!” So how can we prepare ourselves for Jesus’ coming, both at Christmas and at the Second Coming? Here’s one idea: just as you give Christmas gifts to your friends and family, think of a gift you could give the Christ child. Here are some possibilities.

- Set aside an hour each week to sit before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. In the quiet of his presence, praise and thank him for becoming a man and saving you from sin and death.
- Serve the needy in some way. Volunteer at a food kitchen, buy gifts for a struggling family, or help decorate the home of an elderly neighbor.
- See where you have strayed from God. Then go to Confession and receive his forgiveness and the grace to follow him more closely.
- Is there anyone you need to forgive? Ask Jesus to help you forgive that person, and then reconcile with them if possible. As you decide what you will give Jesus, remember: it’s not only about what *you* do to get ready for his coming. It’s also about what *he* wants to do for you.
- As you sit before him in adoration, he wants to give you his peace.
- As you reach out to the needy, he wants to encounter you in his beloved poor.
- As you go to Confession, he wants to fill you with his mercy.
- As you forgive other people, he wants to help heal your wounded relationships.

Jesus is so generous that he wants to help *you* get ready for *him*. So slow down this Advent, and let him give you the gift of a willing heart.

“Jesus, I long for your coming. Help me to get ready!”

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

Men, Mark Your Calendars

Transfiguration Annual Retreat for men will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center on the weekend of January 24, 25, and 26 2020. Join your fellow parishioners for this weekend of spiritual enrichment and growth. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, and Confession and Stations of the Cross. You may arrive as early as 3:00 PM Friday. Our retreat opens at 5:45 PM with a buffet supper and closes Sunday after lunch about 12:30 PM. A **\$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your weekend Retreat, this is reserved for you**. This year’s Retreat theme: **“God is doing something New In Us... Exploring paths of deepening Faith”**. For more information or to make your reservation please call Greg Warner your parish retreat Captain at 323.974.7405 or 310.538.2214.

You may register online at: materdolorosa.org/event/mens-weekend-retreat-jan-24-26-2020

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Is 2:1-5, Ps 122:1-9, Mt 24:37-44
Monday	Is 4:2-6, Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10, Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10a, Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6, Mt 7:21-27
Friday	Is 29:17-24, Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Is 30:19-26, Mt 9:35-10:8
Sunday	Is 11:1-10, Ps 72:1-17, Mt 3:1-12

Mass Intentions

Saturday	November 30
5:15 PM	Soul of Wilfreda Moreira
Sunday	December 1
8:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
10:00 AM	Soul of Yula Wilkes
12:15 PM	Soul of Gwen Harmon
Saturday	December 7
5:15 PM	Soul of Milton Keys
Sunday	December 8
10:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners

NEXT WEEKEND – DECEMBER 8, 2019 Retirement fund for Religious Offering

Give thanks for religious...

Please give generously to next week's offering for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

SAVE THE DATES

Mass of Anointing

Our church community will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick on **Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 11AM** here at Transfiguration. **NO 8AM MASS.** A light luncheon will follow.

AND

Advent Penance Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019 at 7PM
at Holy Name of Jesus Church

Transfiguration Choir Christmas Concert



Sunday, December 15 at 5PM

This year's theme is:

"May the Blessing of the Baby Jesus flow to you".

The choir invites you to an evening of beautiful Christmas music, Gospel music and Songs of Christmas. Get your tickets today from a choir member...adults tickets are \$15 and \$7 for children.

PCAP

13th Annual Peter Claver Awards Program Luncheon

Come out and celebrate with this year's honorees **Most Reverend Joseph V. Brennan; Reverend Kenneth Templin, S.M.; Sister Kathleen Bryant, R.S.C.; and Sister/Dr. Oralisa Martin** on Sunday, December 8, 2019, at the Proud Bird Restaurant at 1:00 PM. Tickets are \$75. Please call Peggy Goods at 225.772.7302 or email pgoods51@msn.com

Annual Christmas Brunch

Join *Transfiguration 50 Plus Club* for their Annual Christmas Brunch on Sunday December 8, 2019 from 11:30 AM until 3:00 PM. The event will take place at the Double Tree Hotel, 21333 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503. Please call Cynthia Richardson at 323.750.0723 for more details.

Christmas Boutique Thank You...

Thank you to all parishioners who supported the Annual Christmas Boutique. You made this a very special fun-filled day. The committee would like to thank everyone who helped decorate the hall so beautifully and festive. Special thanks to "Santa".

Stewardship Thought

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." MATTHEW 24:42

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God's active presence in your life.

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Cyd Michelle Anderson, Brian Argusta, Percenia Beasley, Fr. Emile Belletty, Glenda Brown, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Katherine Clark, Agnes Cooper, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Alton Duhon, Cynthia Fortier, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Michael Frierson, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Janie Jackson, Robert Johns, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Mercedes LeBlanc, Baby Amani Leffall, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Sally Price, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Sandra Sterling, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, Johnnye Washington, and Alice Williams.