

First Sunday of Advent December 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

This First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. All the readings during this period of waiting and anticipation concentrate on making us aware that it is time for us to awaken our lives as Christians. Jesus opens our Gospel Reading from St. Mark by saying “Be watchful! Be alert!” and closes it with an intense “Watch!”

For many, Advent and Christmas are times of light, whether it is the light of the candles on Advent wreaths or the lights on a tree or the festive lights which decorate many houses and businesses. Jesus brings light into our worlds, but we must allow this light to permeate our own lives, to enter into the dark and sinful parts of our lives to illuminate and cleanse them.

This should be a time of renewed prayer and penance which truly prepares us to “watch” for the Lord, not just at Christmas but throughout our lives. There is a natural wonder among children at this time of year, but sometimes as we age, we lose that sense as if we are sleeping. It is time to awaken. Our minds may say “Let go” but our spirituality tells us to “Awaken.” We are filled with spiritual depths. It is time to seek them, find them, and awaken them. It is Advent, time for us to awaken and become aware of the gifts of love we have received from God and others. Or as Jesus reminds us: “Watch.”

~Catholicsteward.com, Stewardship Bulletin Reflections



DAILY MASS READINGS

- Monday:** *Advent Weekday*
Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11
- Tuesday:** *Advent Weekday*
Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24
- Wednesday:** *Advent Weekday*
Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37
- Thursday:** *Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Memorial)*
Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
- Friday:** *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Luke 1:26-38
- Saturday:** *Advent Weekday*
Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Sunday:** *Second Sunday of Advent*
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Mark 1:1-8

This Week's Program Schedule

Monday, December 4

- | | | |
|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| 8:00AM | Mass | Church |
| 8:30AM | Bible Study | Lounge |
| 6:00PM | Adoration/Reconciliation | Church |

Tuesday, December 5

- | | | |
|---------|---------|--------|
| 8:00AM | Mass | Church |
| 6:30 PM | Squires | Lounge |

Wednesday, December 6

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 10:00AM | Bible Study | Conf. Rm |
| 1:00PM | Mass @ CSUS | Lakeside Rm |
| 4:00-5:00PM | 1 st Session CRE | Church |
| 5:15-6:30PM | 2 nd Session CRE | Church |
| 6:45-8:00PM | 3 rd Session CRE | Church |

Thursday, December 7

Friday, December 8 ~ A Holy Day of Obligation ~

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- | | | |
|--------|------|--------|
| 8:00AM | Mass | Church |
| 4:30PM | Mass | Church |

Saturday, December 9

- | | | |
|--------|----------------|--------|
| 3:30PM | Reconciliation | Church |
| 5:00PM | Mass | Church |

Sunday, December 10

- | | | |
|--------|------|--------|
| 9:00AM | Mass | Church |
| 6:00PM | Mass | Church |

Something for our Children!

Can you unscramble the following words from today's Gospel?

ARETL	MIET	MHOE
KWOR	WHTCA	EELPSNGI

Answers on the next page→

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Give back to the Lord a sacrifice, a share of what the Lord has so generously given to you.

Last Sunday's Offertory: \$5,815.89
CCHD/Retirement for Religious: \$2,697.68

Thank you and God bless you!

MASS INTENTIONS

5:00PM	Sat., Dec. 2	Norma Corriea†
9:00AM	Sun., Dec. 3	Javier Martinez
6:00PM	Sun., Dec. 3	All Saints Community
8:00AM	Mon., Dec. 4	Fred Neto, Sr. †
8:00AM	Tues., Dec. 5	Jack Shaw† & Jack B. Shaw
8:00AM	Fri., Dec. 8	Robert Screen
4:30PM	Fri., Dec. 8	Frank & Josephine George†

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

St. Joachim, Newman	December 5 @ 7:00pm
All Saints, Turlock	December 11 @ 7:00pm
Our Lady of the Assumption, Turlock	December 13 @ 6:45pm
Sacred Heart, Turlock	December 14 @ 7:00pm
Sacred Heart, Patterson	December 15 @ 7:00pm

ANGEL TREE: You may select an angel from the tree to provide a gift for a child in need. Turlock Together distributes gifts for children ages 0-12. United Samaritans distributes gifts to children ages 12-17. Please return your unwrapped gifts to the office by **December 17**. **In years past we have had one or two families that we assist directly. If you would be interested in sponsoring a family, please call the office at 669-0473.**

TURLOCK TOGETHER: Each year Turlock businesses and agencies combine their efforts to collect toys and food for needy families in Turlock. A receptacle has been placed in our church lobby to collect your non-perishable food donations. Sign-ups for families in need are at the Salvation Army, 893 Lander Avenue from Monday, November 27 to Friday, December 8, from 9AM-6:00PM for a food basket and toys for their children. Distribution will take place on Saturday, December 23.

LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE CELEBRATION is on Tuesday, December 12. Please join Fr. Matthew for Mañanitas at 6:00AM followed by Mass at 6:30AM. A special hospitality of *pan dulce*, coffee and hot chocolate will follow Mass. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join us to honor our Lady.

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE: YLI Queen of Faith Institute #254 will hold a bake sale after all masses on December 16 and 17. Proceeds will be split between the Seminarians and the Sisters of the Cross. God bless you for your generosity!

NATIVITY PLAY: We are seeking children ages 5 and up who would be interested in participating in a Nativity Play during the 5:00PM Christmas Eve Children's Mass. **First practice is scheduled for this Sunday, December 3 after the 9am mass.** Please meet in the church. Call the office for more details.

THIS SUNDAY'S 2nd COLLECTION is for our *Building Fund*. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

This week's helpers include ...

Altar Linens ~ Tricia Hoobyar
Children's Liturgy ~ Grace Delgado
Hospitality Sunday ~ Dave & Pennie Segna
Don & Sherry Mailloux

Thank you and God bless you for your unselfish service!

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS: ALERT, TIME, HOME, WORK, WATCH, SLEEPING. *How did you do?*

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, December 8

Masses will be held at 8:00AM and 4:30PM

SPECIAL PRAYERS

Please pray for our sick community members and friends:

Gustavo Delgadillo	Socorro Aguilar	Ed H
Peggy Howard	Rita Yonan	Andres...
Sarah Anderson	Linda Seymour	Stephen...
Jim Perdomo	Edward Lytle	Janet Fiorini
Carol Soares	Catherine Harris	Jack B. Shaw
Cynthia Basco	Jackie Ferreira	Thelma Tamis
Edie Ferrari	Efren Ramirez	Sharon...
Patti & Tom Scott	Beto Garcia	Ed Rocha
David & Paula Back	Robert Screen	William Jackson
Joanne Mattos	Isabel Rodriguez	Flynn Hillman
Ubaldo Sanchez	David Brian Baca	Wayne Maass
Elena Sandoval	Artie Romero	Raul Campusano
Katarina Renenger	Doree O'Connell	Kevin Downs
Maritza Dominguez	Josephina Camacho	Shelly...
Bernard & Ann Pannella	Keith Bentley	Taylor Holt
The Merchant Family	Cecilia Renenger	Fred Clerici
Taurino & Concepcion Lopez	David & Linda Back	Matthew...

Your special prayers for these and others suffering from illness are gratefully appreciated. Thank you and God bless you!

Notify the office if you have anyone you would like to place on our list of persons in need of prayer due to illness. So that space will always be available for your loved ones, names will be kept on our list for three months. (However, your prayer requests can be renewed.)

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CRE)

CRE Christmas Program will be on Wednesday, December 20.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held every Wednesday at 10:00AM in our conference room. Come join us – *all parishioners are welcome!*

RCIA

Any adult wishing to embrace the Catholic faith or any Catholic wishing to be confirmed should contact Michael Fuller by calling the church office at 669-0473.

BELL RINGING SEASON: Turlock Salvation Army needs bell ringers for the holiday season. For information or to become a bell ringer, contact Sandra Blair at 667-6091 x211, email at Kettle.Turlock@usw.salvationarmy.org or you can download the app registertoring.com to sign up and get reminders.

NEXT WEEKEND'S 2nd COLLECTION will be for the benefit of our *Community Assistance Fund*. Thank you and God bless you for your continued generosity!

ADVENT PARISH MISSION 2017, Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Turlock. *Our Lady of Fatima & Her Son's Message of Salvation* will be presented by Fr. Wade Menezes, CPM of the Fathers of Mercy & EWTN. Each evening Fr. Wade will present a different message. Times are Sunday, Dec. 3 at 7:30PM; Monday, Dec. 4 through Thursday, Dec. 7 @ 7:00PM. Holy Confession is offered daily from 5:30-6:30PM and 8:15PM to completion. For more detailed information see our bulletin board in the lobby or call 634-2222.