

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday in Advent

From the Desk of Rev. Msgr. Hugh J. Corrigan:

I have been feeling unusually anxious lately. Is it because I will be seventy-nine years old on Dec. 24? Or that, after thirty years, this will be my last Christmas at St. Mary's? I don't think so. It is more a reaction to the breakdown in kindness and civility in our nation. In this time of high anxiety, will it get worse? Some religious communities can heighten the anxiety by interpreting the present situation in apocalyptic terms: "It is the end of times; there is nothing you can do about it". Other religious communities can lessen the anxiety by remembering and acting upon their core values. David Brooks expressed this well: "It means believing that life can be more of a conversation than a war if you open up by starting a conversation. It means collectively focusing on problems and not divisively destroying people. It means believing that love is a genuine force in human affairs and that you can be effective by appealing to the better angels of human nature". When I reflect on the scene in Bethlehem this year, I will pay more attention to the angels and their message.

Monday is Reconciliation Day. In the past this meant our priests would be present in the confessionals in the chapel for four hours (4pm-8pm). The problem is that last year only five people came for confession. This year we will do something different. Confessions will be held in the chapel between 11:30am-12 and in the rectory from 2pm-8pm.

Christmas this year is the day after the fourth Sunday in Advent. That means you are obliged to go to Mass on both days. The Sunday schedule is as usual with a Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5pm and 7:30pm. On Sunday evening the Christmas Vigil Mass is at 5pm and Midnight Mass is at 12 midnight. There is no 7:30 pm Mass on Sunday. On Monday Christmas Day, Masses are at 7:30am 9:00am and 11:00 am.

Collection : the collection for last Sunday, December 10, 2017 was \$3,130.

This Sunday the second collection will be our monthly Church Property Insurance collection

3rd Sunday in Advent: Daily thoughts and Scriptures Readings to Prepare for Christ's Coming:

Sunday December 17, 2017: *Isaiah 61:10*: God is My Joy! ~ Share your joy that God is coming nearer.

Monday December 18, 2017: *Matthew 1:18-25*: Joseph Accepts Jesus! ~ Like Joseph let us decide to focus our life on Jesus.

Tuesday December 19, 2017: *Luke 1:10-17*: Trust God's Messengers! ~ Like Zechariah trust in God and not be afraid.

Wednesday December 20, 2017: *Luke 1:36-38*: Nothing is Impossible for God! ~ Like Mary, invite God to be with you.

Thursday December 21, 2017: *Luke 1:39-45*: Share Your Joy! ~ like Elizabeth & Mary, share your joy today.

Friday December 22, 2017: *Luke 1:46-56*: God has Come to Help! ~ Mary praises God who always helps those in need.

Saturday December 23, 2017: *Luke 1:57-66*: The Messenger is Born! ~ John the Baptist's birth prepares for that of Jesus

December 2017:

23rd NO Religious Education Instruction today "Christmas Recess"

30th NO Religious Education Instruction today "Christmas Recess"

January 2018:

6th Religious Education Classes resume 9:30-11:00

13th Religious Education Classes 9:30-11:00

20th Religious Education Classes 9:30-11:00

27th Religious Education Classes 9:30-11:00

**Mass Schedule for the week of
December 17, 2017 to December 24, 2017**

Mass are daily at 8:15 and 12:05 in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:00pm

Below are the Special Intentions for this week

Sunday, December 17, 2017:

7:30 for the Parishioners

9:00 Dibursio Tovar & Hudelio Galindo Torivio Tovar

11:00 Hilal Ereifej Doraid Ereifej

Monday, December 18, 2017:

8:15 Mr. & Mrs. Edner Pierre Marie M Jean-Baptiste

12:05 the Dec Members of the Jean-Baptiste Family Marie M Jean-Baptiste

Tuesday, December 19, 2017:

8:15 Stephanie L Mital (L) the Mital Family

12:05 Alexandre Fusco Patricia Fusco

Wednesday, December 20, 2017:

12:05 Alexandre Fusco Patricia Fusco

Thursday, December 21, 2017:

8:15 Alexandre Fusco Patricia Fusco

12:05 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Boraenave Marie M Jean-Baptiste

Friday, December 22, 2017:

12:05 Magdalena Garcia Daughter & Grandson

Saturday, December 23, 2017:

12:05 Mary & Joseph Haggerty Chris & Bob Haggerty

5:00 Rose Kunny Family

Sunday, December 24, 2017:

7:30 for the Parishioners

9:00 In Thanksgiving Jose Andres Garcia

11:00 Celina & Juvenil Anato Michael Rodrigues

5:00 Alexandre Fusco Patricia Fusco

12:00 am **Christmas Eve Midnight Mass**