

Serving the Communities of the Almanor Basin

# OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS CATHOLIC PARISH

220 Clifford Drive, Lake Almanor



**O**ur Lady of the Snows Parish is a community that is ever-mindful of the presence of God in the Blessed Sacrament, in our church, in each other and in ourselves. We envision all who enter our doors will be welcomed and valued for their gifts. We strive to respond to the needs of all -- to bring about joy and spiritual growth. We open our hearts to the poor and vulnerable. We promote peace and justice for all. We are committed to be active stewards of God's creation, to preserve the beauty of nature and our surroundings and be ever grateful for His bountiful blessings.

PASTOR  
Rev. Fr. Joshua Sia

## MINISTRIES & COMMITTEES

Altar Society - Julie Chavez	(530) 596-4951
Baptismal Preparation (call Rectory at least 1 month in advance)	(530) 259-3932
Bulletin - Sally Harvey	(530) 570-5437
Environment Ministry - Luci Burgess	(530) 596-4636
Facilities & Maintenance - Steve DeWitt	(530) 258-4222
Hospitality Ministry (Ushers) - Carl Deveny	(530) 596-3319
Liturgy Committee - Pat Martin, Chair	(530) 258-2101
Marriage Preparation (call Rectory at least 8 months in advance)	(530) 259-3932
Men's Group - Larry Gibbs	(707) 479-6661
Music Ministry - Cindy Hawkins	(530) 258-0319
Parish Pastoral Council - Fr. Joshua	(530) 259-3932
RCIA - Debbie & Larry Rives	(530) 941-5506
Sick & Homebound Ministry - Fr. Joshua	(530) 259-3932

## MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday - 8:30 a.m.

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

Confessions: Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

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Mailing address: P.O. Box 1970, Chester, CA 96020

Office: (530) 259-3932

Website: [ourladyofsnowsparish.org](http://ourladyofsnowsparish.org)

Email: [olslakealmanor@gmail.com](mailto:olslakealmanor@gmail.com)

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## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A Journey song 859

December 3, 2023

### Good News

#### *First Sunday of Advent (B)*

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 / 1  
Corinthians 1:3-9 / Mark 13:33-37

Sometimes it seems as if life is a laboratory of designed experiments on how to become human, all of them allotted ten-year blocks.

Have you noticed how nine- and ten-year-olds can be easy to be around? Then about the time we've gotten being a kid down to a science, life begins to move us into adolescence. We want to be independent and responsible, but we don't yet have all the skills. We have sexual feelings, but we're expected not to act on them.

About the time we reach adulthood and move into our twenties, it seems we can finally do what we want, but then we might drink too much, spend too much, drive too fast, and party too long.

Once we begin to settle down around year thirty, we have to learn how to live with another person. One likes it warm, the other cool. One seeks to save, the other spends. One is a homebody, the other enjoys going out on the town.

By the time we've gotten to our sixties and seventies, we may have figured out life, but by then we've used up most of our energy. What's going on?

Faith suggests it's the hand of God shaping us into the sort of persons we're meant to be. "Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:7). Advent may be a time to figure out how God is acting in your life now and look back to see that God was shaping you all along.

--Father Joseph Juknialis

### dear Padre

*Why are the Gospels Matthew and Mark so alike? Why did the Church keep both Gospels when so much of Mark seems to be a mirror image of Matthew?*

The Gospels were written over time and used by the faithful when they gathered for worship. They read the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus collected by Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

The Christian communities were often great distances from one another. A community may have had access to only one of these accounts. There is considerable similarity because the Gospel writers depended on one another. All three Gospels include some of the same incidents. Each also has incidents or details unique to that Gospel.

These were not the only accounts written about the life and ministry of Jesus. At some point, the Church had to decide which should be considered the inspired word of God. There were four accounts that were widely used: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. With their similarities and differences, the Church accepted these four accounts as Gospel—the Good News.

--The Redemptorists

**Please pray for the Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for December:**

*"For persons with disabilities-- We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation."*

### OLS News

#### Mass Schedule:

Saturday 5 PM

Sunday 9:30 AM

Weekdays Tues. thru Fri. 8:30 AM

Confessions: Sat. 4 to 4:30 PM or by appt.

With the season of Advent, which begins this weekend, a new Church year begins.

Altar Society meets Tues. Dec. 5th at 11 am in the Social Hall. Hope you can attend! Please bring a lunch.

Friday Dec. 8th is a Holy Day of Obligation, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Masses will be held at 9:30 am and at 5 pm (new time).

You are invited! The Our Lady of the Snows Christmas Dinner takes place on Fri. Dec. 8th, beginning at 6pm (after the 5pm Mass for the Immaculate Conception). There is no charge for our dinner, but there is a sign-up sheet in the Social Hall so that we know how much food to prepare. Hope you can attend! The Christmas Basket winner will be drawn at the dinner!

Raffle tickets for our Christmas Basket are on sale after our weekend masses: \$1 each, or spend \$5 and get 6 tickets! If you cannot attend our dinner, you can still participate! If you win, we will contact you so that you can make arrangements to pick up your winnings! Sorry, we can't mail to a winner.

Mama's Angel Tree! Pick up a "gift suggestion star" from the tree in the Social Hall. Then purchase and wrap the gift, and place it under the tree. Before Christmas, these gifts will be taken to Mama's in Susanville to help little ones in need. Thank you for your support!

Please take a moment to say a prayer for all of our sick and deceased parishioners.



### ***Father Josh's Liturgical Tidbits: The Homily***

You know it when you hear it! Many of us probably don't have a good consistent experience with homilies, because each priest has his own style and not every priest's gift is preaching. Preparing and delivering a homily requires putting together many different skills and types of knowledge: public speaking, creativity, knowing sound doctrine, the Scriptures, historical context, current news, and social issues among other things.

So what is a homily? A homily serves as an instruction, reflection, consolation, and exhortation within the liturgy. What makes it different from simple "preaching" or a "sermon" is that its structure must be found within the liturgy (mass, baptisms, wedding, funerals, etc.), and therefore must be done by members of the clergy who represent the figure of Christ. Its purpose, then, is to unpack the Lectionary readings of the liturgy being celebrated. A homily brings forth the timeless Word of God to our lives today, our lives as we live in the world, and our lives in the world to come. From the time of the Apostles, the Church Fathers, the saints of the past, even until today, it is a place of instruction for the faithful to know and develop their relationship with Christ and each other.

### **Weekly Offerings**

Sunday, Nov. 19th	\$ 1,298.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$ 269.00
Maintenance	\$ 50.00
Helping Hands and Westwood Resource Ctr	\$ 20.00

### ***--- This Weekend's Ministry Schedule ---***

#### **Eucharistic Ministers**

#### **Lectors**

<b>SAT. 5 PM</b>	Toni Pleau	Pat Didier
<b>SUN. 9:30 AM</b>	Jessica Dowling	Sonja Anderson

Email us at: [olslakealmanor@gmail.com](mailto:olslakealmanor@gmail.com)

To receive our bulletin by email, contact Steve DeWitt: [cranmorti@gmail.com](mailto:cranmorti@gmail.com) or call him at 530-258-4222.

Sunday mass is live on Facebook: <https://fb.me/ourladyofthesnowslakealmanor>.

ONLINE GIVING: simply click the "Donate Now" link on our website [ourladyofthesnowsparish.org](http://ourladyofthesnowsparish.org). There are also information cards in the Social Hall. Thank you for your contributions!

**Commemorative Bricks** can be ordered for \$100. Forms are available in the Social Hall. Contact Steve DeWitt at 530-258-4222 or [cranmorti@gmail.com](mailto:cranmorti@gmail.com) for more information. The proceeds from the bricks help with many special projects, such as the beautiful flooring in the Social Hall.

### ***Pray for our Sick and Deceased Loved Ones***

Joe Beuchat	Helen Karch †	Miguel Pena †
Jayden Bird †	Erin Kelly	John Pezzi †
Vernon Burgess	Karen Klemek †	Kerry Phillips †
Paul Burke	Abigail Krebs	John Price
Troy Buzzell †	Alma Kopernik	Linda Porter
Lucia Carillo †	Nancy Lambert †	Joe Rawson
Reuben Chavez †	Ronald Longacre †	Janet Saitone
Ron & Fran Dennis	Lou Ann Martin †	Robert Shadley †
Mary Deveny †	Pat Martin	Lori Sinclair
John Fehrman †	Andrea Maumoynier	Marcella Unalles
Jean Fernandez †	Priscilla McEfee †	Bruce Van Alostyne
Monique Figlietti	Fran Moale †	Faye Wilkinson
Dan Higgins	Kathy O'Donnell	Ruby Vocke †
Mary Hasselwander	Lawrence Oliver †	
Aubrey Hawkins †	Scott Oswald	
Jane & Reed Hilliard	Francis Ouellette	
Matthew Hunt †	Diana Pallari †	† indicates deceased

### **Weekly Mass Intentions**

December 2	Saturday	5:00 pm	Breeda McCarthy †
December 3	Sunday	9:30 am	All sick parishioners
December 4	Monday	-----	NO MASS
December 5	Tuesday	8:30 am	The Homeless and Hungry
December 6	Wednesday	8:30 am	Joe Beuchat
December 7	Thursday	8:30 am	Special Intention
<b>December 8 Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>2 masses Friday</b>	9:30 am <b>5 pm</b>	Pat Martin Genny Amante †

### ***OLS NEWS (continued)--***

**Pick up your beautiful 2024 Calendar in the Social Hall, a gift from the parish.**

#### ***Advent Prayer***

Lord and Brother, Jesus,  
You came to reveal our loving God,  
You came to show us the way to life with God,  
You came to teach us how to love each other.  
Bless us this Advent with  
a little quiet,  
a little peace,  
a little time to reflect on how we might be  
the loving people You call us to be.  
We pray, be born in us, be born in our world. Amen

**Please remember if you are in need of spiritual guidance, special anointing, or just information—call the Rectory (530-259-3932) for an appointment. We are here to help and to ease your burden.**