

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 C Journeysong 860

December 1, 2024

# Good News

# dear Padre

# OLS News

**First Sunday of Advent (C) Jeremiah 33:14-16 / 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 / Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

Advent is a time of hope but also a time of waiting. Different than wishing, hope is the belief that, one day, all will be well.

Teenagers eagerly wait to be out on their own, believing then all will be well. Students are eager to graduate and get away from papers to write, books to read, and exams to take—then all will be well. Some singles long to find a partner, marry, and settle down, believing—then—all will be well.

Always there is the faith that, although life may not now be what we wish, the future will bring a time when all will be well. We are inveterate people of hope. Yet life is a process that cannot be rushed.

Author Annie Dillard once watched a butterfly hatch from a cocoon. A bit impatient, she decided to gently warm the cocoon and so hasten the process. It worked, except by rushing the process the butterfly's wings were undeveloped, too weak to fly. All that we hope and long for in life must happen at its own pace, faithful to the process.

How, then, do we negotiate the waiting? The Gospel's encouragement is to pray, but not for what we want. Rather, we are to pray for the strength to stand with hope before the Son of Man, trusting that God will bring forth the goodness we need. Though it may be different than what we seek, it will be what we need.

—Father Joseph Juknialis

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December: For pilgrims of hope. We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.**

*I've been Catholic all my life, but I don't understand Advent. It's too much like Lent and seems an odd way to prepare for the birth of a baby.*

In a society that is primarily secular, one skill of the believing Christian is the ability to balance competing realities. From a secular perspective, Christmas is part of the period identified as the "holidays," beginning with Thanksgiving until New Year's Day, when it abruptly ends and stores begin advertising Valentine's Day.

For Christians, Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the great promise fulfilled after centuries of waiting and expectation. The creative energy of the Father is displayed in wonder and awe as the angels sing and people of good faith gather to celebrate. We join our ancestors in anticipation of this event through the liturgical season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation.

The Christian holy day is a singular day, the feast of the Nativity of the Lord—Christmas—but the Church continues the celebration of God's life and love through the days that follow, culminating in the Baptism of the Lord, the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. We are invited to hold the secular and the liturgical experiences in an integrated balance.

We can celebrate the secular holidays and we can enter the liturgical season that helps us contemplate something much grander and more spectacular.

—Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

**Pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for their release to praise the Lord. In return, these Souls will pray for us.**

### 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.

**This Sunday, the 2nd collection is for our Maintenance Fund. Thank you for your generosity!**

**Altar Society meets Tues. Dec. 3rd at 11 am in the Social Hall. Please join us (bring your lunch).**

**First Friday Holy Hour: December 6th, 9am. Please join us after the 8:30 am Mass for Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This is a wonderful way to celebrate the Season of Advent.**

**Holy Day of Obligation: Monday December 9th is a Holy Day of Obligation for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Two Masses will be celebrated that day: at 9:30 am and 5:30 pm.**

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Thursday, Dec. 12th. There will be 2 Masses on this date: 8:30 am and 5:30 pm.**

**Our Parish Christmas Dinner: Join us at 5 pm on Friday, Dec. 13th for a delicious dinner and celebration! There is no charge, but there is a sign-up sheet in the Social Hall so that we know how much food to prepare. Sponsored by the OLS Altar Society.**

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



## Pray for our Sick and Deceased Loved Ones

### ***Father Josh's Liturgical Tidbits: The Gestures at Mass***

Now that we have gone through the different parts of the Mass, let's move on to the different gestures during Mass, starting with a general overview. Something that distinguishes our Catholic worship from other Christian services is that within the Mass we use quite a few different gestures: sitting, standing, kneeling, bowing, genuflecting, striking the breast, etc.

You may have wondered why we do all of these things in Mass and why not simply sit down for the duration. The answer is quite simple, really. We make gestures in Mass, because ***they convey basic human emotions communicated through actions.*** When the president of a country enters a conference room, most people in that room will probably stand in order to greet him/her. In the ancient world, if the king and queen is in someone's presence, then that person would usually greet them with one knee on the ground or by bowing. If a person is sorry for something they've done, one of the ways they can express their sorrow for their offense is to strike their chest. We do all of these basic gestures in Mass, too!

Remember now, whenever we're in Mass, we are in the presence of Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe. We stand in the beginning to honor His entrance in our worship; we strike our breast during the *confiteor* to express sorrow for our offenses against Him; like Jesus' disciples, we sit down as we listen to His words and stories; and we kneel down as He presents Himself to us as our King and Savior. We don't make different gestures in Mass just because we're told to do it; rather, we make them because there's usually a symbolic meaning attached to them.

Genny Amante †	Alma Kopernik	Diana Pallari †
Joe Beuchat	Ronald Longacre †	Miguel Pena †
Vernon Burgess	Lou Ann Martin †	Kerry Phillips †
Lucia Carillo †	Pat Martin	Linda & Dennis Porter
Al & Estelle Cartlidge	Priscilla McEfee †	Janet Saitone †
Reuben Chavez †	Jack Meissner †	Lori Sinclair
Ron & Fran Dennis	Mary Meissner	Frances Smith †
Mary Deveny †	Diane & Larry Miller † †	Marcella Unalles †
Dolores Gard †	Fran Moale †	Ruby Vocke †
Paul Gray	Dante Najera †	John Willhoit
Dan Higgins	Colin & Susan O'Brien † †	Carole Zimmerman †
Aubrey Hawkins †	Kathy O'Donnell	
Jane † & Reed Hilliard	Lawrence Oliver †	
Matthew Hunt †	Scott Oswald †	
Nancy Janus †	Francis Ouellette	
Erin Kelly	Cindee & Mitchell	
Karen Klemek †	Padula † †	† indicates deceased

## Weekly Mass Intentions

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November 30	Saturday	5:00 pm	<b>Ron and Fran Dennis</b>
December 1	Sunday	9:30 am	<b>Cindee and Mitchell Padula † †</b>
December 2	Monday	————	<b>NO MASS</b>
December 3	Tuesday	8:30 am	<b>Special Intention</b>
December 4	Wednesday	8:30 am	<b>Those Named On our Bricks</b>
December 5	Thursday	8:30 am	<b>Dolores Gard †</b>
December 6	Friday	8:30 am	<b>Pat Martin</b>

### Weekly Offerings

Sunday Nov.17th *See next week's bulletin*

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

#### Eucharistic Ministers      Lector

SAT. 5:00 PM    volunteers needed      Sally Harvey

SUN. 9:30 AM    Ray Pallari,      Jeffrey Janus  
Julie Chavez, Kitty DeWitt

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

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

Our website, [ourladyofsnowsparish.org](http://ourladyofsnowsparish.org).

**Commemorative Bricks** can be ordered for \$100. Forms are available in the Social Hall. Contact Steve DeWitt at 530-258-4222 or email him at [crannmorti@gmail.com](mailto:crannmorti@gmail.com) for information.

To receive our bulletin by email, contact Steve DeWitt: [crannmorti@gmail.com](mailto:crannmorti@gmail.com) or call him at 530-258-4222. Thank you, Steve, for your time and effort in doing this for all of us!

**ONLINE GIVING:** simply click the "Donate Now" link on our website [ourladyofsnowsparish.org](http://ourladyofsnowsparish.org). There are also information cards in the Social Hall.

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

**Christmas Basket Raffle!** Tickets are on sale now after weekend masses. The winner's name will be drawn at our Christmas Dinner on Dec. 13th! You do not have to be present to win, as long as you arrange for someone to pick up your basket for you.

**Mama's Angel Tree:** On the Christmas Tree in the Social Hall are tags with gift suggestions for the babies and toddlers served by Mama's Crisis Pregnancy Center in Susanville. Please take a tag, buy and wrap the gift, and place it under the tree. Let's make it a happy and blessed Christmas for these little ones in need! Sponsored by the Altar Society.

**Year-end Charitable Giving:** If you have a "Required Minimum Distribution" (RMD) from a retirement account for 2024, please think about giving a portion of that distribution to Our Lady of the Snows. Thank you for considering us, and thanks to those who have already sent a donation from your retirement account.

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.