

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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To register, please fill out and put bulletin in collection basket

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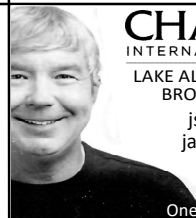
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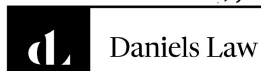
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## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C Journeysong 863

December 8, 2024

# Good News

# dear Padre

# OLS News

**Second Sunday of Advent (C) Baruch 5:1-9 / Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 / Luke 3:1-6**

Coming home can take place in many varied ways. Sometimes it's at the end of a long day when we come home to where we can be ourselves without any pretensions. Sometimes it's going back to the neighborhood we grew up in, to the old haunts that remind us of the dreams we had and how they now seem tucked in every niche. Sometimes coming home is what happens after many wanderings, after we've sown our oats and harvested little and now have nowhere else to go. That too is a coming home, back to where it all began, back to where we dare to hope that life might begin again.

All of this is how the Hebrew people found themselves coming home to Jerusalem after eighty years of exile, coming back to start anew with the hope that their God would once again be proud of them, back to where they could be as God intended them to be.

All of that is what we do when we decide we will try to be the sort of person we'd always hoped to become. It's when we attempt a second effort at making a marriage work, or a job productive, or maybe simply putting the pieces of our lives back in some sort of order.

It's all about coming back home to God's dream for us, a kind of second Advent, when God comes into our lives and is born once again.

—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.**

***If Christmas is on December 25, why is the Immaculate Conception on December 8, rather than sometime in March?***

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception asserts that Mary was free of the stain of original sin from the time she was conceived in her mother's womb. Jesus was also free of the stain of original sin and His conception by Mary is referred to as the Incarnation of Christ.

Mary's Immaculate Conception is often confused for Christ's Incarnation. In the Church's liturgical calendar, Mary's conception is celebrated on December 8; her birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on September 8. Likewise, Christ's conception is celebrated on March 25 on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; His birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on December 25.

Mary's Immaculate Conception was celebrated many centuries before Pope Pius IX defined it as dogma on December 8, 1854: "The doctrine that maintains that the Blessed Virgin Mary in the first instant of her conception, by a unique grace and privilege granted to her by Almighty God, in consideration of the merits of Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful" (Ineffabilis Deus). In fact, eight years before, in 1846, the bishops of the United States had already adopted the Immaculate Conception as the patronal feast for Catholics in this country. —Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

**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 weekend, the 2nd collection will be shared by Helping Hands in Chester and Westwood Resource Center.**

**Holy Day of Obligation: Mon. 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 Lady of Guadalupe is one of the Patron Saints of our Diocese. She has also been declared the Patroness of all the Americas. We hope you can join our Mass celebration on her feast day!

**Have you picked up your Little Blue Book** of daily readings and reflections for the season of Advent? The books are in our Social Hall—a gift from OLS.

**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. Thank you so much!

**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.



**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.**