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December 4, 2022 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**INVEST JUST FIVE MINUTES A DAY,  
AND YOUR FAITH WILL DEEPEN AND  
GROW, A DAY AT A TIME.**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 04, 2022**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT; PEACE**

**TO ALL WHO ENTER HERE:** The holiday season can be full of exciting plans and activities. It can also be stressful, as social demands increase. Shopping and seasonal food preparation take time—a thing always in limited supply. And as families and communities gather, opportunities for harmony or conflict arise. Francis de Sales offers advice for the harried: "Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset." Commit to Isaiah's peaceable kingdom, where calf and lion share the field and childhood innocence leads the way.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12 (4).* "The calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them."

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 05, 2022**

**ADVENT WEEKEAY: FEED MY FLOCK;**

"Mandela Day" is an annual international day in honor of South African anti-apartheid activist Nelson Mandela celebrated on his birthday in July as a call to action to every individual to change the world with acts of service. Today is the anniversary of Mandela's death and also International Volunteer Day, another reminder for each person to make a positive difference in the lives of others. In 2022, the Nelson Mandela Foundation focused on the intersection of food security and climate change—also themes of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*. How can you and your parish help provide nutritious food to all in your community in ways that are sustainable? For suggestions, visit [mandeladay.com](http://mandeladay.com).

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26 (181).* "We have seen incredible things today.."

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2022**

**ADVENT WEEKDAY; MEMORIAL OF  
NICHOLAS, BISHOP: SECRET SANTA:**

The anonymous generosity of Saint Nicholas, bishop of Myra in the 300s, is legendary. So as not to attract praise from others, Nicholas performed charitable deeds on the sly—like the time he saved three poor maidens from destitution because they had no dowry for marriage. Under cover of night, Saint Nick secretly dropped three bags of gold down their chimney to ease their plight. The size, shape, and color of these bags of gold gave rise to the "Christmas orange" traditionally placed in Christmas stockings. Consider an anonymous act of charity today—and maybe treat yourself to an

orange, too!

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 (182).* "It is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost."

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 07, 2022:**

**MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP;**

**DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH; FIRM**

**STANCE, GENTLE HAND:** Saint Ambrose

of Milan, the esteemed early church theologian and pastor, was consecrated bishop of Milan on this day in 374, during a trip to the city to quell a succession crisis for the contentious church post. Known for his conciliatory demeanor, Ambrose was a staunch defender of orthodox beliefs about the divinity of Jesus, but he was also respected by those who believed Jesus not to be God, because of his willingness to listen to them. Among his countless contributions to the church, he converted Saint Augustine of Hippo with his preaching and baptized the wayward son before his own journey to theological greatness. In this season of charity, may we all emulate Ambrose's devotion to peace and unity on his holy feast.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183).* "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves."

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2022**

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE**

**CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED**

**VIRGIN MARY (PATRONAL FEAST DAY**

**OF THE U.S.A.); HOLINESS IS ABOUT**

**MORE THAN CLEAN LIVING; BUILD ON**

**HIGHER GROUND:** Older Catholics might smile as they recall the imagery for sin that they learned in the mid-20th century. Sin-free meant a clean soul. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception refers to Mary as free from "all stain of original sin." Rather than emphasize Mary's clean soul, today many contemporary theologians choose to emphasize Mary's active faithfulness over a lifetime. That's something each one of us can aspire to.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689).* "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2022**

**MEMORIAL OF JUAN DIEGO**

**CUAUHLATOATZIN DON'T LOSE**

**SIGHT OF MARY:** After providing a mantle of roses with the image of Mary miraculously impressed upon it as proof to the archbishop of Mexico City of her appearance to him, Juan Diego spent his days living as a hermit and guide to pilgrims near a shrine built in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a title Mary

reportedly chose for herself. The Mexican bishops define the "Guadalupe Event" as the "beginning of evangelization with a vitality that surpassed all expectations." The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe now holds the honor of being the most visited Catholic shrine in the world. As with any Marian apparition, spiritual transformation is Mary's primary purpose—all in the hope of leading a new generation to Christ. Draw on the presence of Mary today, as Saint Juan Diego did centuries ago, to help orient you toward God's boundless love.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185).* "Wisdom is vindicated by her works."

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022**

**MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF  
LORETO; LET YOUR SPIRIT SOAR!**

The title of Our Lady of Loreto is owed more to a building and a statue than to a person. The building is the Basilica of the Holy House (Basilica della Santa Casa) in Loreto, Italy. A tradition arose that the Holy House was the actual house where the Virgin Mary lived in Nazareth, which had later miraculously been transported by angels to Loreto. (Crusaders returning from the Holy Land may have more plausibly transported it with them, stone by stone.) The statue is a Madonna and Child image, called Our Lady of Loreto, carved in Cedar of Lebanon and enshrined in the basilica. Whatever you might make of the miraculous story about Our Lady of Loreto, the next time you embark on a long journey or relocation, it might not hurt to ask for her protection. **TODAY'S READINGS:** *Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186).* "Elijah has already come."

**Next Sunday**

**Sunday, Dec 11, 2022**

**'Tis the season to be generous**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11 (7).* "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk . . . and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

**Dec. 10-11, Third Sunday of Advent**

This Sunday the readings tell us where to look for the Lord's coming: when the blind see and the lame walk; and when the dead are raised to life and the poor have good news preached to them. In our day the Lord's presence is seen when walls of oppression fall, when enemies seek avenues of fellowship and trust, when the poor and homeless find care and the forgotten are included. The Kingdom is among us, are we acting as Kingdom people?

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022 8:00AM**

Healing Graces for Gene Sistrunk

For the repose of the soul of Charles Olivier requested by the Olivier Family

Happy Birthday to Derek Phillips requested by Gene, Jr., Marlexa, Trey and Sydni.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022 10:00AM**

For the repose of the soul of Frances Brown requested by Brent Brown

For the repose of the soul of the deceased Assiongbon requested by Jeanette Assiongbon.

For the repose of the soul of Godwyn Ukatu requested by daughter Ifeoma Ukatu.

God's protection and Thanksgiving for Chima Family requested by The Chima Family.

Happy Birthday blessings for Yan Ralph Ingabire requested by The Sendimaso Family.

**CALENDAR OF WEEKLY EVENTS**

**SUNDAY MASS  
8:00AM – 10:00AM**

**FAMILY ROSARY ZOOM  
SUNDAY - 8:30PM**

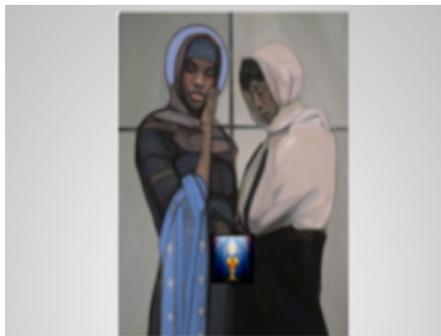
**12:00 Noon Mass, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday**

**Thursday - December 08 -  
6:30PM Mass *Solemnity Of The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary***

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Ella Adams	Mr. Lima Galega
Mary Anthony	Ella Pease
Troy Anthony	Bernadette Phifer
Evelyn Battle	Betty Ridley
Tina Frank	Mary Sobers
Mildred Carter	Mary Waters
Jim Castro	Moffet Waters
Pearl Cox	Marion Welch
B.J. Dukes	Dr. Joe Quander
Jude Ekpe	Monica Godsey
Gloria Harris	Jonathan Bryan
Lester Johnson	Naomi White
Vonnye Rice-Gardner	Jerry Wallace
Jackie Wallace	

**ANNUAL ADVENT REVIVAL**

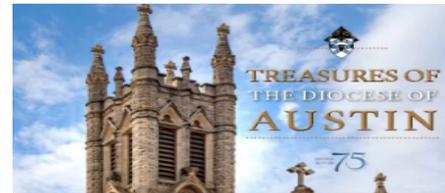


**"The Eucharist at the Visitation"**

The *Annual Advent Revival* will be held at 6:00pm on Sunday, December 11, at 6:30pm on Monday, December 12 and at 6:30pm on Tuesday, December 13. This year's Revival theme is **"The Eucharist at the Visitation"**. We will be spiritually fed by God's faithful servant, Reverend Father Oscar Pratt. Penance will be available on Monday. Take-out meals will be served on Sunday and Monday of the Revival and a reception with a meal will be in the Family Life Center on Tuesday of the Revival.

**HOLY CROSS HOLIDAY RAFFLE**

Our Parish is sponsoring a **Holiday Raffle**. The raffle will be held on **Friday, December 16, 2022 at our Annual Holiday Party**. There are over **\$2500.00** worth of prizes, *all with YOUR NAME on them* 😊; however, you must purchase your tickets to be eligible to win. Raffle tickets may be purchased and prize donations are being accepted after 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses each Sunday. Please see Fundraising Committee Co-Chairs, Leon Roberts and Brenda Jones if there are any questions.



**COMMEMORATIVE BOOK:  
TREASURES OF THE  
DIOCESE OF AUSTIN**

Commissioned by Bishop Joe S. Vásquez in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Austin are available to purchase in the church office. The cost is \$40.00 each.

**THE TRAVELING CHALICE**

to the collection basket or make a secure gift online at: [austindiocese.org/csa/give](http://austindiocese.org/csa/give).

**HAS YOUR FAMILY HOSTED THE TRAVELING CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE?**



Sign up and receive the blessings and benefits of praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

*It's easy and so rewarding!!*

To sign up, please come by the office or see Bernie Little, Michel Ukanda, Alice Scharfe, or Bernadette Cay.

**HOLY CROSS SVDP**

For information on joining Holy Cross SVDP, please contact Tina Frank ([tfrank1949@gmail.com](mailto:tfrank1949@gmail.com)).

<b><u>November 27, 2022</u></b>	
OFFETORY	\$2833.00
OFFETORY (E-GIVE)	\$2120.43
SVDP	\$75.00
SVDP (E-GIVE)	\$35.20
FLC/DR	\$50.00
FLC/DR(E-GIVE)	\$166.88
NEEDS OF PARISH	\$160.00
NEEDS OF PARISH (E-GIVE)	\$90.15
MSP	\$50.00
MSP (E-GIVE)	\$20.05
HOLIDAY RAFFLE	\$450.00
HOLIDAY RAFFLE (E-GIVE)	\$50.00

**Today is  
The Second Sunday of Advent,  
Found in our gray hardback,  
"Word of The Lord",  
Lectionary, Year A, page 68**

**Family Life Center Now Available for Renting**

For all your events like:

- Wedding Party**
- Birthday Party**
- Graduation Party**
- Wakes**
- Coporate Events**
- Ministry Events**
- Meetings**
- ETC**

Contact the Church Office for details  
5124723741

