

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT; 'Tis the season to be generous: Seasonal gift-giving was originally an expression of generosity toward the needy. These days, gift-giving has become many other things, including a source of anxiety or obligation, mindless consumerism, one-upmanship, and often, an annual occasion of snowballing debt. The gifts Jesus brings are different—they are restorative, occasions of good news. Consider offering gifts that fill hearts, not closets. Heifer International, World Wildlife Fund, and PlanUSA are among the many organizations that accept donations in directed ways to honor your loved ones.
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."*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022 FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: WE'RE GOOD ENOUGH FOR GOD: The appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Saint Juan Diego in December 1531 is reminiscent of the appearance of the angel Gabriel to Mary. Juan and the young Mary were both understandably overwhelmed by what was asked of them. In the Gospel of Luke, Mary is "greatly troubled at what was said." According to later accounts, Juan told Our Lady to pick someone of higher standing as messenger, since he was a "man of no importance." But by accepting the challenge, a Jewish peasant girl became the Mother of God, and an indigenous Mexican persevered in getting a church built in Our Lady's honor. Today, the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City is the most-visited Catholic shrine in the world. Think you're not good enough for God's plan? Trust that God equips us all for what we're called to do.
TODAY'S READINGS: *Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47 (690A). "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022: MEMORIAL OF LUCY, MARTYR: FOLLOW THE LIGHT: Lucy, whose name means "light," is a great saint for these darkening days of Advent. Her name and example personify the "light" mentioned throughout the Bible, not only

Isaiah's promises of a future messiah—"people who walk in darkness will see a great light"—but Jesus, who called himself the "Light of the World", while also calling us the same. Scandinavian celebrations of Lucy, with a crown of candles on her head, remind us that she fed persecuted Christians hiding in the catacombs, affixing candles to her head in order to use both hands to serve. How will you be a light to the world today?
TODAY'S READINGS: *Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32 (188). "Take refuge in the name of the Lord."*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022: MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF THE CROSS, CARMELITE PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH: IN THE DARKNESS, A GREAT LIGHT: One of multiple doctors of the church celebrated this month, Saint John of the Cross was a renowned priest and friar in Spain, descended from a line of "conversos" (Iberian Jewish converts to Catholicism). A contemporary of another Carmelite saint, Teresa of Ávila, John was, like her, a mystic whose writings have lived far beyond his own lifetime as classics of European literature. His seminal work, the poem "Dark Night of the Soul," is the basis of a widely held tenant of spirituality involving spiritual distress as a part of searching and growth. (We all have our "dark nights of the soul.") His "Ascent of Mount Carmel" is likewise widely revered. In this season of holy joy as we celebrate the approach of the Messiah, may we likewise honor the legacy of the humble Catholic friar of Jewish descent whose profound and mystical faith has inspired millions the world over.
TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Luke 7:18b-23 (189). "And Jesus said to them in reply, 'Go and tell John what you have seen and heard.'"*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2022 ADVENT WEEKDAY: THE GREATEST GIFTS ARE PRICELESS: The tradition of Christmas gift-giving can be uncomfortable for those wanting to take seriously Catholic teaching about the environment and consumerism. Fortunately, more and more people are open to alternatives: gifts of time or special skills, gifts made from household items, gifts to charitable causes in loved ones' names. How can you celebrate creatively, in keeping with the spirit of Christmas?
TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 54:1-10; Luke 7:24-30 (190). "I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John."*
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2022

ADVENT WEEKDAY: TRULY RIGHT AND JUST: The prophet Isaiah tells the Israelites to "observe what is right, do what is just." No easy task, often leading us to ask for some guidance. Fortunately, Jesus showed us the way. As we await the celebration of Christ's coming, take a moment to ponder some of the examples of right and just living Jesus gave us, such as caring for outcasts, being a healing presence, praying, evangelizing, and forgiving. Simply put, follow Christ's advice to love God and your neighbor as yourself and to count your blessings, and let Christ take care of the rest.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 56:1-3a, 6-8; John 5:33-36 (191). "These works that I perform testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me."*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2022 ADVENT WEEKDAY (O WISDOM) DIP INTO GOD'S WISDOM: Today we begin the recitation of the O Antiphons. The church sings these seven lines during evening prayers (vespers) on the last seven days of Advent, and also uses them as the Alleluia Verse during the daily Mass. Each antiphon is a title for Christ taken from the Book of Isaiah. They go back to an unknown source some 1,500 years ago in medieval Europe, and all begin with "O," thus known as the "O Antiphons." Take an opportunity today to connect to this ancient tradition by enjoying sung versions and explanations of the antiphons on the internet, starting with today's antiphon, O Wisdom.
TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17 (193). "The mountains shall yield peace for the people, and the hills justice."*

Next Sunday

Sunday, Dec 18, 2022 WELCOME! FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O SACRED LORD)
TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24 (10). "The Lord's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it."*

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

Website:www.holycrossaustin.org Email: holycross@holycrossaustin.org
December 11, 2022 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 8:00AM

Healing Graces for Gene Sistrunk

In loving memory of Mary Lena Richard
 Brown requested by Lena Brown-Owens

Happy Birthday Blessings to Selwyn King
 for his 76th birthday

Happy Birthday Blessings to Father Basil
 requested by the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 10:00AM

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

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

For the repose of the soul of Frances P.
 Smith requested by Barbara Scott

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

Happy Birthday Blessings to Father Basil
 requested by the Parish

CALENDAR OF WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY MASS
8:00AM – 10:00AM

FAMILY ROSARY ZOOM
SUNDAY - 8:30PM

12:00 Noon Mass, Tuesday - Friday

December 4, 2022

OFFETORY	\$4797.00
OFFETORY (E-GIVE)	3015.11
SVDP	\$170.00
SVDP (E-GIVE)	321.20
FLC/DR	\$75.00
FLC/DR(E-GIVE)	840.50
FLC RENTAL	\$1600.00
NEEDS OF PARISH	\$1575.00
NEEDS OF PARISH (E-GIVE)	40.15
MSP	\$95.00
MSP (E-GIVE)	105.05
HOLIDAY RAFFLE	\$1285.00
CANDLES	\$178.00

Today is
The Third Sunday of Advent,
Found in our gray hardback,
"Word of The Lord",
Lectionary, Year A, page 71

PRAY FOR THE SICK

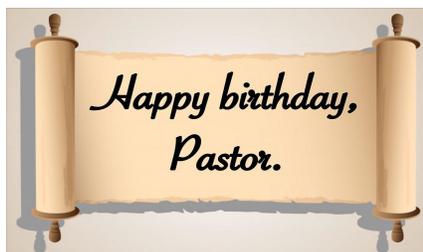
Ella Adams	Mr. Lima Galega
Mary Anthony	Ella Pease
Troy Anthony	Bernadette Phifer
Evelyn Battle	Betty Ridley
Tina Frank	Mary Sobers
Mildred Carter	Mary Waters
Jim Castro	Moffet Waters
Pearl Cox	Marion Welch
B.J. Dukes	Dr. Joe Quander
Monica Godsey	Jackie Wallace
Gloria Harris	Jonathan Bryan
Lester Johnson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

ANNUAL ADVENT REVIVAL

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



FATHER BASIL, WE ARE SO BLESSED TO HAVE YOU AS OUR PASTOR. OUR LIVES YOU HAVE TRULY TOUCHED. MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AND PROTECT YOU NOW AND ALWAYS.

TRAIL OF LIGHT AT ST. PAUL IN AUSTIN

St. Paul Parish in Austin will host a Christmas Trail of Light on Dec. 17 from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be Christmas lights, carols, a pageant, piñatas and refreshments for all. Everyone is invited to celebrate the birth of Jesus with St. Paul Parish.



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.

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).

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

