

St Bernadette Catholic Church
 3825 Don Felipe Drive
 Los Angeles, CA 90008
 (323) 293-4877



December 17/18, 2022
 Volume 2, Issue 51

The Fourth Sunday of Advent



Advent is the season in which believers eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ’s birth. Reading, prayer, and reflection are ways we can cultivate a sense of holy anticipation. The fourth Sunday of Advent we meditate on the peace Jesus brings our hearts and our world. Scripture is the place we can find the promises of God. We meditate on these truths and allow them to comfort our hearts. This week we focus our hearts on the “Lord of peace” who came down from heaven in the form of a baby. God knows we are in a constant battle against fear! Fear wants to cripple us, to push us to react rather than carefully respond, and fear steals our joy. God has given us the gift of peace so we can live more joy-filled lives! We pray *God’s unexplainable peace* will be evident in our hearts and home. This year we have faced chaos and uncertainty. God’s peace is something we need to hold onto *more than ever*. May God’s spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time in which we joyfully await our King!

Year after year, most of us spend an enormous amount of effort cleaning and decorating the house, purchasing Christmas gifts and preparing our favorite holiday foods. Unfortunately we are seldom as intentional about building family traditions which truly capture the heart of Christmas. When we evaluate all the busyness of Christmases past, it hardly seems an appropriate way to mark the birth of our Savior. Here are some **“Preventative Measures”** we can take. **Return the Blessing:** Gather up the latest batch of Christmas Cards each suppertime and pray for the senders and their families. **Tree of Promise:** Present each family member with a photo frame ornament, encouraging them to frame a Scripture verse which has been especially meaningful to them in the past year. **Christmas Countdown Calendar:** A bit late for this one, but combine a box of chocolates with your Advent wreath. (It’s also a great way to parcel out the snacks). **A Random Act of Christmas:** Undertake a special Christmas service project as a family (i.e. cleaning the garage of an elderly neighbor). **“Let’s reconnect!” card:** This year, send a special **“Let’s reconnect”** Christmas card for some select old friends. Along with the usual greetings, send your current phone number and let them know you will be trying to call them before Christmas. That way, you are committed to taking action, and they have time to think ahead about the call – and hopefully plan a date for you to get together!



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*MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 17 – DECEMBER 23, 2022

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Saturday 4:00 PM..... | All Parishioners |
| Sunday 10:00 AM..... | All Parishioners |
| Monday 8:00 AM..... | All Parishioners |
| Tuesday 8:00 AM..... | All Parishioners |
| Wednesday 8:00 AM..... | All Parishioners |
| Thursday 8:00 AM..... | No Mass Celebrated |
| Friday..... | No Mass Celebrated |

*Donations for Mass Intentions are accepted and appreciated



Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Peter Canisius SJ (8 May 1521 – 21 December 1597) was a Dutch Jesuit Catholic priest. He became known for his strong support of the Catholic faith during the Protestant Reformation in Germany, Austria, Bohemia, Moravia, Switzerland and the British Isles. The restoration of the Catholic Church in Germany, after the Protestant Reformation, is largely attributed to the work of the Society of Jesus, which he led. Canisius was an influential teacher and preacher, especially through his "German Catechism", a book which defined the basic principles of Catholicism in the German language and made them more accessible to readers in German-speaking countries. He was offered the post of Bishop of Vienna in 1554, but declined in order to continue his traveling and teachings. Protestantism had made much headway in Germany because many intellectuals had adopted it, making Catholicism appear to be the religion of the ignorant. By his debates, his writing and his teachings, Peter showed Catholicism was thoroughly rational and the Protestant arguments were

not convincing. By his efforts, Peter won Bavaria (southern Germany) and the Rhineland (central Germany) back to the Catholic Church. He also won converts in Austria, Hungary, Bohemia and Poland. Poland had become largely Protestant, but thanks to the efforts of Peter and other Jesuits, it returned to the Church and is still Catholic today despite Communist persecution. Canisius lived during the height of the Protestant Reformation and dedicated much of his work to the clarification of the Catholic Faith in light of the emergence of the new Protestant doctrines. His lasting contribution is his three catechisms, which he published in Latin and German, which became widespread and popular in Catholic regions. If you treat them right, the Germans will give you everything. Many err in matters of faith, but without arrogance. They err the German way, mostly honest, a bit simple-minded. He is venerated in the Catholic Church as a saint and as a Doctor of the Church.

Join us for Bible Study

1st and 3rd Thursday
1:00 & 7:00 PM
Via ZOOM

1:00 pm Meeting
ID: 87233018319
Passcode: 689472

Contact:
Carolyn James
(323) 394-5441

7:00 pm Meeting
ID 811 5705 8134
Passcode: 6FuFf7

Contact:
Elsie Dixon
(310) 410-2962



Outcomes of Thoughtfulness

The results of thoughtfulness are intellectual and social. On the intellectual side, one is more likely to have a full picture of the relevant pros and cons of an issue or decision; as a result, thoughtfulness results in better decision-making. On the social side, the thoughtful person has a strong sense of other people around them, who they are, and their value resulting in better relationships. The road of thoughtfulness is narrow. There are many ways to act thoughtlessly. Each of us will exemplify thoughtfulness and thoughtlessness to some degree or other. In general, it is better to be more thoughtful than not. ***Thoughtfulness is a matter of taking the relevant considerations into account.***



THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE - LOVE



On the fourth week of advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the last week of prayer and penance as we await the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes love. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men." No matter what the church tradition, we can assuredly know the virtues such as love, hope, peace, joy, and faith are important in the Christmas story as well as in our daily walk with Christ. Keep in mind, some church traditions vary depending on which candle goes on which Sunday. Some may light the "love candle" on the second Sunday of Advent instead of the fourth. Others have lit the candle of Peace on the fourth week of Advent instead of the candle of love.



Mass Intention Requests

Mass Intentions are always welcome.

Your request should indicate:

If it for an individual? or family?

Is the person Living? Deceased?

Name of the individual requesting the Mass?

Contact person's name? Phone? Mailing address:?

Requested date of Mass?

Please note if the intention is for a special occasion such as an anniversary.



Join us for Coffee and Donuts

**After 10:00 Mass
Every Sunday!**

In the Hall



Dealing With Holiday Let Down

Discard your expectations Expectations are disappointments waiting to happen. Have a clear plan going into the Christmas season of who is handling what and where everyone is going when. Let people know what you need and ask them what they expect. You'll all be happier for it.



Forgive Everyone makes mistakes, and when it comes to the holidays and extended family, there's a lot of room for error. The Christmas season is a delicate balancing act and we all must work together. Forgive people before they offend you.

Stop trying to change people The only person we can change is ourselves, but we can pray for everyone else (and for guidance for ourselves).

Perfection is Impossible When things do go wrong, and your family lets you down, take a deep breath. Learn to be OK, no matter what happens, and have yourself a Merry Christmas.

Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly with a calm spirit. Don't lose your inner peace for any reason, even if your whole world seems upset—St. Francis de Sales

St. Bernadette Prayer Group

**Join Us Every Friday
12:00 Noon to 1:30 PM
In the Parish Office**



Calling All Men!!!

**St. Bernadette Men's Retreat Jan 27-29, 2023
Passionists Retreat Center
"Who Is Jesus Christ? Who Am I?
Finding the Divinity Within."**

The retreat focuses on ways to discover where Jesus Christ resides in us and the complex relationship we have with Him. Don't miss out!

The retreat begins Friday evening with a buffet supper and concludes early Sunday afternoon after Mass. The retreat weekend offers inspirational talks on the theme as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, Confession, and Stations of the Cross; perfectly suited for **spiritual renewal and growth.**

For more details. Contact Gilbert Wright at 310.849.5710



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent through Christmas Day

Monday, December 19

8:00 am

Communion Service
(Adoration to Follow)

Tuesday, December 20

8:00 am

Communion Service
(Adoration to Follow)

Wednesday, December 21

8:00 am

Communion Service
(Adoration to Follow)

Thursday, December 22

Liturgy of the Word (recorded)

Friday, December 23

Liturgy of the Word (recorded)

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Christmas Vigil Mass 4:00 pm
Mass at Night 11:59 pm

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

10:00 am Mass

Other Sacraments
(as Scheduled)

Mass Intentions

(323) 293-4877

j.carper.sbcc@gmail.com

PARISH STAFF

**DCN JIM CARPER, PLD
MSGR LORETO GONZALES
DCN EMILE ADAMS, RIP
DAVID CHRISTENSEN
EMANUEL HOLDER
CLARENCE DIXON
MARGARITA HURST
MARINA AYALA**

**(OFFICE VOLUNTEERS)
TERESA CARPER**

1 Corinthians 15:58

Oh Lord, help every worker to work wholeheartedly for the church. Help them to remember the work they do in the church is not in vain as Your Word declares Your work is never wasted.



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Twitter
https://twitter.com/stbernadettecc_



Don't Miss Out on your END-OF-YEAR Tax Credit

In most years, the donations you make to your church throughout the year can be deducted from your taxes if you itemize your expenses on Schedule A when you file your personal tax return. Most taxpayers use Schedule A, when their total itemized deductions exceed the standard deduction for their filing status. The total of your church cash donations plus all other charitable contributions you make during the year typically cannot exceed 60 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI). If it does, then you cannot deduct 100 percent of your donations in the current tax year. However, the amounts you can not deduct this year, can be used as a deduction on one of your next five tax returns.



Catholic Christmas Trivia

Is Santa Claus based on a real person? YES!

St Nicholas of Myra

15 March 270 – 6 December 343

His reputation evolved because of his habit of secret gift-giving.

Your Catholic Christmas List

Advent Wreath (too late!)

Nativity Scene (Not too late)

Feast of St Nicholas (Dec 06)

Immaculate Conception (Dec. 08)

Feast of St Lucy (Dec. 13)

Christmas Eve Day (Dec. 24)

Feast of St Stephen (Dec. 26)

Solemnity of Mary (January 01)

Feast of the Epiphany (Jan 06)



Did you know?

December 17-18

The Child Help Abuse Hotline is a valuable resource

The Child Help Abuse Hotline is a valuable resource available nationwide for reporting child abuse. If you have witnessed abuse, or if a child has confided that he or she has been abused, you can reach out to the Child Help Abuse Hotline for information on what to do next and where to report what you know. Counselors are available to talk through situations, answer questions, and research additional resources in your area. You can call or text the hotline at 1-800-422-4453, or start a live chat at childhelpline.org/