

# Christmas During WW II

Editor's note: This article appeared in Liguorian in December 1944, when Americans were struggling with issues many face today.

Shopping for Christmas will not be much fun this year. To inject something new into the spirit of Christmas despite the shortage of gifts at hand, we have a few suggestions. First of all, make this Christmas more than ever the season of peace by remembering some of the persons whom, ordinarily, you would not remember at all. For instance, that relative you dislike and who has never remembered you. Those neighboring children who get on your nerves. Your boss, whom everybody in the office calls "an old bear." The man with whom you had a political argument which left you both glaring at one another. Perhaps you could send a card to say in effect, "I'm not holding any grudges. Let's be friends."

Don't forget the value of good books



as Christmas presents. People have been sobered into much reading by war; they have unusual opportunities for it because of the difficulties of travel and other kinds of amusement. Watch the Catholic magazine book lists for suggestions in this line. Help to scatter far and wide the

good books that not only provide pleasure and amusement but help people live wisely and fully.

Lastly, with whatever gift you send to a friend, include a note promising that you will be remembering him or her especially at Christmas Mass. Maybe, that way, somebody who has forgotten will suddenly be brought back to the realization that Christmas is nothing without its spiritual significance and spiritual realities; maybe, even, somebody will be led back to God through your reminder. †



*Lord Jesus, so that we may be witnesses to your presence among us, we pray—  
Be born in us,  
be born in our world.*

The Redemptorists

## Signs of the Season—Part II: Beggars

Paige Byrne Shortal

Beggars had a place in ancient times—it was a kind of profession, albeit a lowly one. Today, except for the pleasant clang of the bell outside stores, many of us encounter beggars only on social media or through the mail.

We used to toss all those beggar letters in the recycle bin, unopened and disregarded. Then a few years ago our family started doing something different. Throughout the weeks of

Advent, we save every appeal letter. After our Sunday family dinner with the Advent wreath candles still lit, we open those letters one by one. Our older children read the letters aloud while I prepare the envelopes and the youngest child affixes the stamps. My husband writes checks to each one. Usually, they're only for five dollars each, sometimes ten or twenty for an effort we want to support in a special way. We say a Hail Mary for each effort.

Children are beset by the world's

problems and feel powerless to do anything about them. They need their adults to show that they care and to take the lead in making some kind of response. Our small donations are but drops in the bucket, but at least for a moment we don't ignore the human suffering that is presented to us. It's worth a few dollars and a little time, rather than simply stepping over the beggar on the sidewalk—or the one in the mailbox. †



### WEEKDAY READINGS

December 11–16

**Monday, Advent Weekday:**

Is 35:1–10 / Lk 5:17–26

**Tuesday, Our Lady of Guadalupe:**

Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab / Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47

**Wednesday, St. Lucy:**

Is 40:25–31 / Mt 11:28–30

**Thursday, St. John of the Cross:**

Is 41:13–20 / Mt 11:11–15

**Friday, Advent Weekday:**

Is 48:17–19 / Mt 11:16–19

**Saturday, Advent Weekday:**

Sir 48:1–4, 9–11 / Mt 17:9a, 10–13

Bringing Home  
the Word

December 10, 2023

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# Bringing Home the Word

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

December 10, 2023

## Prepare the Way of the Lord

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

The admonition in the title of this reflection is found in the reading from Isaiah and in the Gospel passage. Isaiah describes a long line of exiles returning to Jerusalem after many hard years in Babylon. God leads them back home. In preparation for God's and the people's entry, the way is made clear: "Every valley shall be lifted up...The rugged land shall be a plain" (Isaiah 40:4). The road is repaired, just as we might do if someone important were coming to town. The Gospel writer reinterprets this passage. Instead of repairing an actual roadway, the words of John the Baptist prepare for the entrance of Jesus into his public

ministry. Despite their differences, both passages speak of the "way of the Lord," which is the way of salvation.

The people are told they will get a new start. In the first reading it will be after exile; in the Gospel it is the new ministry of Jesus. Even St. Peter refers to this newness. He calls it "new heavens and a new earth" (2 Peter 3:13). He goes on to explain what this means. It will be existence "in which righteousness dwells." Saint Peter further states that this will come to pass on "the day of the Lord," the day when God's promises will be fulfilled and "all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9–10).

The events described in all three readings unfold because of God's merciful love of all. It is for such a day that we are called to prepare. Are we willing to exert the effort? Are we willing to listen to God's words? †

## Sunday Readings

**Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11**

Go up onto a high mountain, /  
Zion, herald of good news!

**2 Peter 3:8–14**

The Lord...is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

**Mark 1:1–8**

"Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way."

*There will be  
a new beginning:  
new heavens and  
a new earth.*



## A Word from Pope Francis

Today there is need for people to be witnesses to the mercy and tenderness of God, who spurs the resigned, enlivens the disheartened, ignites the fire of hope....So many situations require our comforting witness. To be joyful, comforting people....We are all called to comfort our brothers and sister.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 7, 2014



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Is there a change you need to make?
- Have you asked God for help?



## Parish of St. Vincent De Paul

"We as a community rooted in the Catholic faith seek to imitate Christ's  
Examples of love and service to others and spread the light of our faith to others."  
Parish phone: 509-234-2262 Dec. 10, 2023 website: [stvincentconnell.org](http://stvincentconnell.org)

Fr. Lutakome Deo Nsubuga

Deacon Arturo Biebrich parish phone: 509-222-9223 after 5 pm only

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

Mass Dec. 10, 2023

Lector: Brandy Ferguson

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

Maria Garcia, Wally Goade

**Greeters & Presentation of Gift**

Wally & Maria Goade

**Altar Servers:**

Giselle & Adrian

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

Mass Dec. 17, 2023

Lector: Victoria Ocampo

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

Stacy F. Eloisa M.

**Greeters & Presentation of Gift**

Helen & Terry Tobin

**Alter Servers:**

Mackenzie & Emmett

## Pope's Prayer Intentions:

**For persons with disabilities**

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the  
centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer  
inclusive programs which value their active participation.

### Mass Schedule

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m. @ St. Paul's in Eltopia

10:30 a.m. @ St. Vincent's (English)

12:00 p.m. @ St. Vincent's (Spanish)

**Saturday:** 7:00 p.m. @ San Juan Diego (Spanish)

**Wednesday:** 8:00 a.m. Adoration @ St. Vincent's

8:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Vincent's

**Confessions:** Wednesdays 6:30 pm @ St. Vincent's

Friday 4:30 pm @ San Juan Diego

**Church Secretary:** Elida Fernández - [secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com](mailto:secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com)

**Tues, Weds. Thurs 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm**

Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917; 12 pm – 3:30 pm on Tues. Weds. Thurs.

**Prayer Chain:** Call Carolyn Nordhus @ 509-234-5972

**Breezeway Calendar:** If you have any parish events or meetings that you would like  
on the all-parish calendar that is posted in the breezeway please contact  
Marla Goade @ 539-5354 [wmgoade73@gmail.com](mailto:wmgoade73@gmail.com)

**Weekly Bulletin:** Please email Elida Fernández [secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com](mailto:secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com) by  
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS for information to be included in the upcoming Sunday  
bulletin. Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917

**Website:** To add or send information, pictures or news to the website please  
email Jaeniffer Kaiser @ [jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com](mailto:jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com)

**LIKE our Facebook** page to get updated posts and information about our parish. You can also  
see photos of all the activities that have been happening. If you want to post church happenings on  
Facebook, please email Onna Pollock at [olpollock@yahoo.com](mailto:olpollock@yahoo.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Altar Flowers

Dec. – Altar Society

Jan. – Guadalupanas

### NO CONFESSIONS

This Wednesday Dec. 13

@ St. Vincent Parish

### Confession Schedule

@ St. Pat's –Pasco

Wednesdays

5 pm – 8 pm

@ Sacred Heart- Othello

Wed. @ 5 pm

## HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve—December 24<sup>th</sup>

Eltopia @ Regular Mass 8:00 a.m.

Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m.

Connell @ Regular Mass 10:30 a.m.

Regular Mass Spanish 12:00 a.m.

Vigil Mass English 7:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass Spanish 9:00 p.m.

Basin City @ Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m.

### Christmas Day—December 25<sup>th</sup>

Eltopia @ 9:00 a.m.

### New Year's Eve—December 31<sup>st</sup>

Eltopia and Connell Regular Masses

Basin City @ 7:00 p.m.

### New Year's Day—January 1<sup>st</sup>

Eltopia @ 11:00 am

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

GOAL TO DATE: \$26,485.72

OF \$28, 837.00

Only \$2351.28 to meet our goal!

## Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

Nov. 5, 2023

10:30 am - \$908.75

12:00 pm – \$695.00

Basin City – \$1065.06

Nov. 12, 2023

10:30 am - \$1412.25

12:00 pm – \$552.54

Basin City – \$1128.00

Nov. 19, 2023

10:30 am - \$864.00

12:00 pm – \$737.25

Basin City – \$1099.30

Nov. 26, 2023

10:30 am - \$1734.00

12:00 pm – \$641.00

Basin City – \$1043.37

### High School Rel. Ed

Meets this Wednesday the 13th

Christmas break and see everyone on

Jan. 10, 2024

### MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Meets this Monday the 11th

See everyone tomorrow Monday!

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Practice sessions are on Sundays,  
after morning Mass.

For more information

Please contact:

Andrea Shawver 509-990-0606 or  
Olivia Grassl Kniveton 509-531-9022

## ST. VINCENT PARISH

### OFFICE HOURS

Office will be closed

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

### Connell Food Bank

**Banco de Comida**

**Seniors: Tuesdays**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Edad- Tues. / Martes**

**Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 am – 11:30 am**

**General Public:**

**El público en general:**

**Wed. / Miércoles**

**Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**

## FR. LUTA'S SCHEDULE FOR 2 WEEKS:

**Dec. 10, 2023 – Dec. 24, 2023**

**Mon. Dec. 11:**

Fr. Luta's day of rest.

6:30 pm Pre-Teens Meeting

**Tues Dec. 12:**

5:00 am Mañanitas @ Connell

6:00 am Mañanitas @ Basin City

5:00 pm Procession from Columbia Park

6:00 pm Mass @ Connell

7:30 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Wed. Dec. 13:**

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Prison Ministry @ Connell

5:30 pm Hi School Rel. Ed

No Confessions @ Connell

**Thurs. Dec. 14:**

10:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Adoration @ Eltopia

5:00 pm – 7 pm Confessions @ Eltopia

**Fri. Dec. 15:**

8:00 am Mass @ Connell

4:00 pm – 7 pm Confessions @ Basin City

**Sat. Dec. 16:**

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Sun. Dec. 17: Mass Advent**

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell

2:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Mon. Dec. 18:**

Fr. Luta's day of rest.

6:30 pm Pre-Teens Meeting

**Tues Dec. 19:**

4:00 pm Confessions @ Eltopia

5:00 pm Mass @ Eltopia

**Wed. Dec. 20:**

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Prison Ministry @ Connell

No Hi School Rel. Ed- Christmas Break

6:30 pm Confessions @ Connell

**Thurs. Dec. 21:**

10:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Adoration @ Eltopia

5:30 pm Posada @ Connell

**Fri. Dec. 22:**

8:00 am Mass @ Connell

4:30 pm Confessions @ Basin City

5:30 pm Posada @ Connell

**Sat. Dec. 23:**

5:30 pm Posada @ Connell

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

**Sun. Dec. 24: Mass Advent**

Eltopia @ Regular Mass 8:00 a.m.

Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m.

Connell @ Regular Mass 10:30 a.m. Regular Mass

Spanish 12:00 a.m.

Vigil Mass English 7:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass Spanish 9:00 p.m.

Basin City @ Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m.