

Second Sunday in Advent December 6, 2015

La Historia y Usted: El Segundo Domingo de Adviento Tuve un “momento” en la tienda de abarrotes el día antes de Acción de Gracias. Aunque ya había estado comprando por toda una semana, todavía había una gran lista de artículos de ultimo minuto que debía recoger a las cuatro el miércoles en la tarde. Estaba terriblemente frío afuera, y los carritos de mercado parecían carros chocones conducidos por sus apresurados operadores. Nos escabullíamos unos entre otros. Sonreíamos a fuerzas sonrisas estresadas mientras nos arrebatábamos los bollos y los bombones.

Acaparé el ultimo ramo de flores de la hielera. En mi jornada victoriosa a la cajera varias personas me felicitaron. Se rieron. Me reí. Y luego nos dimos cuenta de que tan ridículo era todo esto, y de algún modo sentí que todos lo sentimos al mismo tiempo.

¿En serio? ¿Me estresaba por la decoración de la mesa? ¿Dónde estoy, en Siria? ¿Irak? ¿Afganistán? ¿Mali? ¿Paris? No creo haberme imaginado esto. Creo que un momento de lo que solíamos llamar “gracia verdadera” fue desatado en la tienda, al menos en el área donde yo compraba. La gente se relajó. Se sonrieron y le desearon feliz Día de Acción de Gracias a extraños- esos abundantemente bendecidos conductores de carritos de supermercado, ninguno de los cuales tendría que estarse peleando por alojamiento en los abarrotados albergues esa noche, o quedarse parados en las calles congeladas con cartelones pidiendo algunas monedas. Fue un Milagro de Acción de Gracias. Un descanso, una paz, una inundación de verdadera gratitud pareció extenderse por toda la tienda. O tal vez fue solamente en mi corazón. Es donde la mayoría de los increíbles milagros comienzan. Y ahora es Adviento, y el tan esperado Año de la Misericordia. Habiendo sentido el resuello del Espíritu, pienso pasar este año atiborrándome de gratitud, y cediéndoles a otros el ultimo ramo de flores.

¿Cómo piensas celebrar el Año de la Misericordia?

Kathy McGovern ©2015 www.lahistoriayusted.com

The Story and You: Second Sunday of Advent

I had a “moment” in the grocery store the day before Thanksgiving. Although I had been shopping for a week, there was still a significant list of last-minute items to pick up at 4pm Wednesday afternoon. It was bitter cold outside, but the store was bumper-to-bumper buggies and their harried operators. We squeezed past each other. We smiled tight, stressed smiles while reaching over each other for rolls and marshmallows.

I snagged the last bouquet out of the cooler. On my victorious journey to the checkout lane several people congratulated me. They laughed. I laughed. And then the realization of how ridiculous it all was came over me, and somehow I think we all felt it at the same time.

Seriously? I was stressing over a table decoration? Where am I, Syria? Iraq? Afghanistan? Mali? Paris?

I don’t think I imagined this. I think a moment of what we used to call “actual grace” was released in the store, at least in the area where I was shopping. People relaxed. They smiled and wished a Happy Thanksgiving to strangers—those

abundantly blessed buggy drivers, none of whom would be jockeying for a place at the overcrowded shelters that night, or standing on the frozen street with signs asking for spare change.

It was a Thanksgiving Miracle. An ease, a peace, an immense swelling of true gratitude seemed to waft through the store. Or maybe it was just in my heart. That’s where most of the really awesome miracles begin.

And now it is Advent, and the long-awaited Year of Mercy. Having felt the breath of the Spirit, I intend to spend this year gorging on gratitude, and handing others the last bouquet.

How will you celebrate the Year of Mercy?

Kathy McGovern ©2015 www.thestoryandyou.com

Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish—

James Ayala, Olivia Scott, Guadalupe Sanches, Clarita Rubio, Veronica Aragon, Mary Maes, Steve Mione, Calista Pugh, Tillie Estrada, Don Milner, Alicia Aguilar, Dana Tracy

Community Ministry Food Bank—would like us to collect **Canned Vegetables** for the month of December. Please leave your donations in the church vestibule.

Robert Cordova is the Knights of Columbus Membership Director for St Rose of Lima. Contact Robert for info on becoming a Knight.

Robertcordova57@gmail.com

^^

Readings for the week of December 6, 2015

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9//1 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11//Lk 3: 1-6

Monday: Is 35: 1-10//Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15,20//Eph 1:3-6, 11-12//Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40: 25-31//Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41: 13-20//Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19//Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17//Lk 1: 26-38

^^

Ho! Ho! Ho!—This is it!! The Altar & Rosary Society Holiday Cash Bonanza is this weekend after all the 11:30am Mass. Tickets are \$1 OR \$5 for 6 (such a bargain!) Grand prize is \$500, second is \$100, and third is \$50. This is their major fundraiser of the year, so please a buy a book or two.

Christmas Toy Drive++++

The Knights of Columbus and the parish community are conducting the Annual Christmas Toy Drive. The remaining timeline is as follows:

=Gathering of unwrapped gifts delivered to Foyer with Ornament (has code for recipient)—Dec 14 to Dec 18

=Gift wrapping party in Community Room—Dec 18

=Santa here to help get toys to kids & families—Dec 19

Listen to a “Deacon’s Wife’s Tale”

on 1060 AM. Dana Tracy, Deacon Don’s wife will tell all on Monday, December 7, from 8:30am to 9:30am. So get your morning coffee ready and take some time to listen to the shocking and compelling story of living with an Ordained member of the Catholic Clergy!!!

Just a note—Countries such as the Netherlands, where assisted suicide has been legal for decades, show that assisted suicide cannot be contained or limited to the terminally ill. However, Dutch policy and practice have expanded to allow the killing of people with disabilities or even physically healthy people with psychological distress; thousands of patients, including newborn children with disabilities, have been killed by their doctors without their request. The Dutch experiment teaches us that the “slippery slope” is very real.

The monthly **Altar & Rosary Society Meeting** is this Thursday, December 10, at 6:30pm in the Church Basement. All women of the parish are invited. Come and see what we do for fun and to help out around the parish. If you can, bring a plate of food to share and an ornament for the ornament exchange.

Visiting Relics—Catholics usually have to travel to Europe to venerate major relics, but Colorado Catholics have a chance to venerate the bone relics of St Sharbel closer to home. St Sharbel was born Youssef Antoun Makhoul in 1828 in the mountains of northern Lebanon. He was a Maronite monk and mystic and died on Christmas eve, 1898, at the age of 70. One of the most dramatic of his attributed miracles is a light that began emanating from his tomb soon after he was buried. He was canonized by Pope Paul VI on October 9, 1977. His relics will be presented at St Rafka Maronite Catholic Church at 2301 Wadsworth Boulevard from December 8 to December 10. Please call them for more info. 720.833.0354.

Christmas schedule—

Thursday-December 24

4:00pm—Mass with Children’s Choir

9:30pm—Caroling

10:00pm—Mass

Friday-December 25

9:00am—Mass