

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2020

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT HOME RESOURCE 

The Grace of Becoming



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

PRAYER IN THE CHURCH

M,W,F 9:00 am - 4:00 pm | T 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Th 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM

SUNDAY MASS

Sat 4:00 pm

Sun 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 6:30 pm

DAILY MASS

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 6:45 am & 8:30 am

Tues 6:45 am & 6:00 pm | Sat 7:00 am

CONFESSION

Tues 5:00 - 5:45 pm & Sat 2:30 - 3:30 pm

THE GRACE OF BECOMING

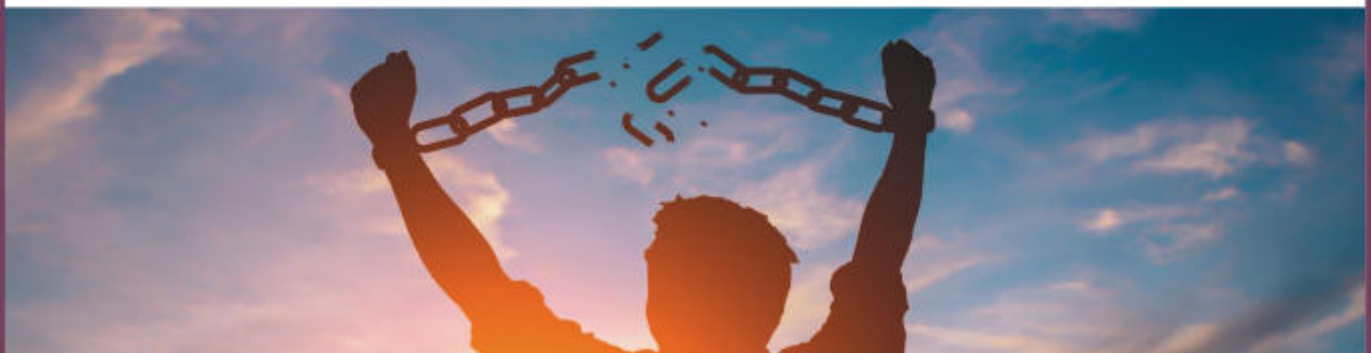
We are not the same today as we were yesterday. In fact, if we are, then something is definitely wrong with us!

Each day brings us new information, new experiences, and new perspectives. Of course, we have to be open to these new things in order to benefit from them, and that openness is at the heart of what we call repentance. Repentance seems a very harsh word for many of us, perhaps, but we're only fooling ourselves if we think we've got everything all figured out, and that there is really nothing new we need to consider.

Of course, the truth is the truth: The Living God is one God in three Divine Persons. Jesus Christ took flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary. He died for us and rose from the dead. He is coming back at the end of time to bring us into the fullness of His Kingdom. These things we don't need to reconsider, but how we can live these truths more profoundly—therein lies out the need for the continuing conversion which starts with repentance.

The beginning of the Gospel of Mark begins with a message of repentance, brought forth by the great messenger of repentance, St. John the Baptist. What a marvelous and extraordinary individual he was: honest, strong, single-minded, and entirely dedicated to the mission God gave him, to announce the coming of the Messiah, one whom would, despite his own importance, would be even more important.

St. John the Baptist is a model for each of us. No, we don't need to necessarily live as radically as he did, nor do we need to storm about telling everybody to get it in gear. But he told the truth, and so should we. And he pointed not to himself, but to Jesus, as the One who mattered most. And so should we.



YES VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS

And Santa Claus – Saint Nicholas – really lived, and really used his inheritance to do good works for the sick and the poor, and especially for the young.

Perhaps the most famous account of Good Saint Nicholas recalls a poor man who had three young daughters. Now, in those days, a young woman's father was expected to offer prospective husbands something of value, called a dowry. The larger or more valuable the dowry, the better the chances that a young woman would attract a good husband. However, without a dowry at all, a woman was unlikely to ever marry and would be sold into servitude.

Well, this particular poor man's daughters, who were very beautiful, were likely to be sold into prostitution because they lacked dowries. However, on three different nights, a bag of gold mysteriously appeared in their home, providing the needed

dowries. The bags of gold, tossed through an open window, are said to have landed in girl's stockings, left before the fire to dry. They were saved from their poverty, able to each attract a fine husband!

This beautiful testimony about Saint Nicholas eventually led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes on the eve of the saint's feast day—December 6—in anticipation of gifts from Saint Nicholas, the renowned gift-giver and patron saint of children, who was also a dedicated believer in the truth about our Lord Jesus Christ, that he was, from the very beginning, the Son of the Living God.



THE JESSE TREE

A Jesse Tree is a way of preparing for Christmas by journeying through the stories on Jesus's family tree. Each day of Advent, we read a short Bible story about someone on Jesus's family tree and then hang an ornament symbolizing the story on our tree. As we gradually decorate our Jesse tree, we're able to see how God, gradually and carefully, prepared the world for Jesus's coming through several generations.

The tradition of the Jesse Tree is rooted in Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of David, Israel's greatest king. Jesus is descended from the line of David. He is the branch God promised would grow from Jesse's family tree. Thus, each decoration represents a particular story from within the family tree of Jesus, and with each story, we take a step closer to his birth. In some homes,



*"A shoot shall come out
from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow
out of his roots."
Isaiah 11:1*

the Christmas Tree begins first as a Jesse Tree, decorated only with lights and the symbol decorations. Then, on Christmas Eve, Christmas ornaments either replace or are added to the Jesse Tree symbols, and the Christmas Tree literally "blooms" from the Jesse Tree, just as our blessed Lord bloomed from the Virgin Mary, whose husband was Joseph, of the house and lineage of David, the son of Jesse.

KEEPING THE SEASON EVERY DAY: PAUSE, PRAY, AND PROCEED

Prayer is important for both individuals and families, for it is the way in which we enter into a true and meaningful conversation with the Lord. Here is a simple way to incorporate a few moments of prayer into each day.

After making the Sign of the Cross, the scripture verse may be said aloud, between leader and response, said aloud just by one person for all to hear, or be silently read by all. Take time to pause for a few moments and listen for what the Lord might be saying to you as an individual or family (some questions to help in this are provided). Sharing our thoughts with one another might be useful, but isn't necessary. Singing the familiar part of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" can bring everyone together in sung prayer, and then the Glory Be is prayed aloud by all.

We pause for a few moments, we pray in listening and in speaking and singing, and then we proceed to apply what we've learned as we continue our day.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7 - ST. AMBROSE, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Saint Ambrose was the bishop of Milan in Italy in the fourth century and was known for his ability to teach the true faith in the face of strong opposition, and for his holiness of life. He helped bring Saint Augustine into the Church, and was his mentor. He also wrote many beautiful hymns which helped spread the faith at a time when the average person couldn't read, and so learned the truth by memorizing poetic texts and the like. "Doctor of the Church" is a title given to those saints whose contributions to the faith have had an extraordinary impact. There are only 36 saints who have been given this title in the history of the Church.

Sign of the Cross

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Scripture

V/. Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication;
R/. With divine recompense he comes to save you. (Isaiah 35:4)

Reflection

What are the things that frighten me the most? How can the Lord help me with my fears? With his help, what then must I do to be rescued from my fears?

Hymn

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Doxology

V/. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
R/. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

In order that she might serve as the Mother of the Incarnate God, and to be able to give Jesus his humanity without stain or compromise, the Blessed Virgin Mary, from the very moment of her being, her conception in her own mother's womb, was preserved free from the stain of sin by the saving grace of her own Son. Let us never forget that God's grace is possible in every situation we find ourselves, it is so powerful and triumphant. Mary always cooperated with this special gift of grace, by her own free will, and we also are able to cooperate with the grace God bestows on us!

Sign of the Cross ☩

Scripture

V/. "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you. Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

R/. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."
(Luke 1:28, 38)

Reflection

We venerate the Blessed Virgin Mary not necessarily because of what God did for her—for these things, we rightly praise God himself—but for the way in which she always cooperated with the Lord's will in humble obedience. How can I better imitate the example of Mary in submitting myself to the will of God? What things, in particular, should I do that she did?

Hymn

Doxology

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

SAINT JUAN DIEGO

Saint Juan Diego was the one to whom the Blessed Virgin Mary first appeared as Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1591. Impoverished and illiterate, a simple man of no stature, he cooperated with God's grace and trusted in the Lady who appeared to him, and as a result, the Good News of Jesus Christ came in a special way to the people of Mexico.

Sign of the Cross ☩

Scripture

V/. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

R/. "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves." (Mat 11:28-29)

Reflection

Saint Juan Diego trusted Mary as his Mother and did not allow his poverty and lack of social standing to deter him from carrying her message to his bishop. How can I seek Our Lady's help as a mother when I face similar obstacles? What message might the Lord wish for me to bring to others? How can I become a better messenger of God's love?

Hymn & Doxology

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT**

Sign of the Cross ✠

Scripture

V/. “Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist;

R/. yet the least in the Kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”
(Matthew 11:11)

Reflection

We already have understood the importance of John the Baptist. But what does Jesus mean when he says that the “least in the Kingdom of heaven” is greater than he? Could this possibly mean that, here on earth, even the greatest among us is less than anyone in heaven? If so, why might that be?

Hymn

Doxology

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT**

Sign of the Cross ✠

Scripture

V/. Thus says the LORD, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

R/. I, the LORD, your God, teach you what is for your good, and lead you on the way you should go. (Isaiah 48:17)

Reflection

Are the commandments of God good for us simply because God has given them, or has God commanded certain things which he knows are good for us? Either way, how can I better follow the commandments of the Lord? Obeying which of the Lord’s commandments might be something especially good for me right now, that I might become a happier child of God?

Hymn

Doxology



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 - OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

This feast goes back to the sixteenth century when Mary appeared to Saint Juan Diego and requested his help in securing that a chapel to her honor be built on the hill of Tepeyac in what is now inside the borders of Mexico City. She instructed him to go to the bishop and make her request. The bishop in response to Juan Diego insisted on a sign, which Our Lady offered in the form of roses which she presented to Juan Diego to give to the bishop (it was winter, and so roses would not be in season). However, when Juan Diego opened his tilma (cape) in which he was carrying the roses, as they fell to the floor, an image of Our Lady, exactly as she had appeared to Juan Diego on the hill, miraculously appeared upon the tilma. The holy faith was extended to the native people of Mexico through our Lady and through her beloved servant Juan Diego. The tilma is enshrined in the church built there, and cannot be scientifically explained away.

Sign of the Cross ✠

Scripture

V/. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

R/. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father." (Luke 1"31-32)

Reflection

Mary always did whatever served the Lord God. She received the Father's invitation to become the Mother of God incarnate, she conceived by the Holy Spirit the child Jesus, and she served Him as His first and most faithful disciple. She stands close to her Son in heaven and intercedes for us. How does she help me in my becoming a better disciple of her Son? Do I take the fullest opportunity to seek her intercession and to imitate her example?

Hymn & Doxology



PARISH GIVING

Weekly income needed is \$ 41,941

Collections, 4 week moving average \$ 31,881

<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
November 28th & 29th	\$ 16,332
November 21st & 22nd	\$ 22,477
November 14th & 15th	\$ 18,958
November 7th & 8th	\$ 22,042
November 10 th -23 rd EFTs	\$ 39,068
November 20 th -66 EFTs	\$ 12,533
EFTs Quarterly-1 EFTs	\$ 300

Endowment Balances as of 9/30/20:

Church Endowment:	\$ 114,020
Educational Endowment:	\$ 94,010

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 7th

St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

6:45 am Joan Kampschroeder, Sp. Int.

8:30 am †Peter Leibham

Vigil of The Immaculate Conception

6:00 pm †Marie Eckert & Phalynda Lusnia, Sp. Int.

Tuesday, December 8th

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 am †Gladys Abbott & †Gwenn Peacock

8:30 am †David Ash & †Gene Poythress

12:10 pm †Poor Souls in Purgatory &
Peter & Annemarie Yorck, Sp. Int.

6:00 pm †Gerri Enslinger

Wednesday, December 9th

St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

6:45 am †John M. Rielley, IV

8:30 am †Jerrie Lipke

Thursday, December 10th

6:45 am †Bob Basgall & †Jim Maher

8:30 am †Pat Wiedenhaft

Friday, December 11th

St. Damasus I, Pope

6:45 am †Veronica Horn & Andrea Sturken, Sp. Int.

8:30 am †Honorata Montanez

Saturday, December 12th

Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 am †Louise Naumann

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

†Fred Kempin

Sunday, December 13th

Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 am People of the Parish

9:00 am †Katie Reynolds Scott &
Dan & Bobbi Gassel, Sp. Int.

11:00 am †Mary Herrman

6:30 pm †Ron Lohrmeyer

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH

913.492.7318

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DEACON	Dcn. Michael Schreck	mschreck@hscatholic.org
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	Kathleen Kaufman	
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MUSIC & LITURGY	Denise Slaven	dslaven@hscatholic.org
EVENT COORDINATOR	Kim Hudson	khudson@hscatholic.org

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YOUTH MINISTRIES	Doug Leikam	dleikam@hscatholic.org
RCIA	Michael Podrebarac	mpodrebarac@hscatholic.org

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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OFFICE MANAGER	Kathleen Currie	kcurrie@hscatholic.org
ENROLLMENT MANAGER	Anita Pauls	apauls@hscatholic.org

2020 Raffle Winners Date 11-28-2020 Drawn By Dcn. Dana Nearnmeyer

	Order/Winings	Ticket Number	Winner's Name	Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	1st / \$500	2897	Trevor Whitney	Ascension
<input type="checkbox"/>	2nd / \$100	305	Kevin Luther	Holy Trinity
<input type="checkbox"/>	3rd / \$100	5942	Josh Heeney	Nativity
<input type="checkbox"/>	4th / \$100	3695	Mark & Jane Sullivan	Holy Spirit
<input type="checkbox"/>	5th / \$100	6689	Tom Roudebush	St Michaels
<input type="checkbox"/>	6th / \$50	1237	Tracy Bragg	Holy Trinity
<input type="checkbox"/>	7th / \$50	3249	Nadia Davis	Holy Spirit
<input type="checkbox"/>	8th / \$50	1863	James Tyrrell	Ascension
<input type="checkbox"/>	9th / \$50	6470	Paul Cacciatore	St Michaels
<input type="checkbox"/>	10th / \$50	5647	Fr. Al Rockers	Nativity
<input type="checkbox"/>	11th / \$50	6659	Charles Winters	St Michaels
<input type="checkbox"/>	12th / \$50	1306	Tim Walsh	Holy Trinity
<input type="checkbox"/>	13th / \$50	1906	Phil Glasser	Ascension

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NEWLY BAPTIZED

Charlotte Sierra Gaunt, daughter of Cory and Maree Gaunt

Micah Douglas Leikam, son of Doug & Talita Leikam

WITH SYMPATHY WE PRAY FOR

Bernice Berning, sister of Jerry Gerstberger

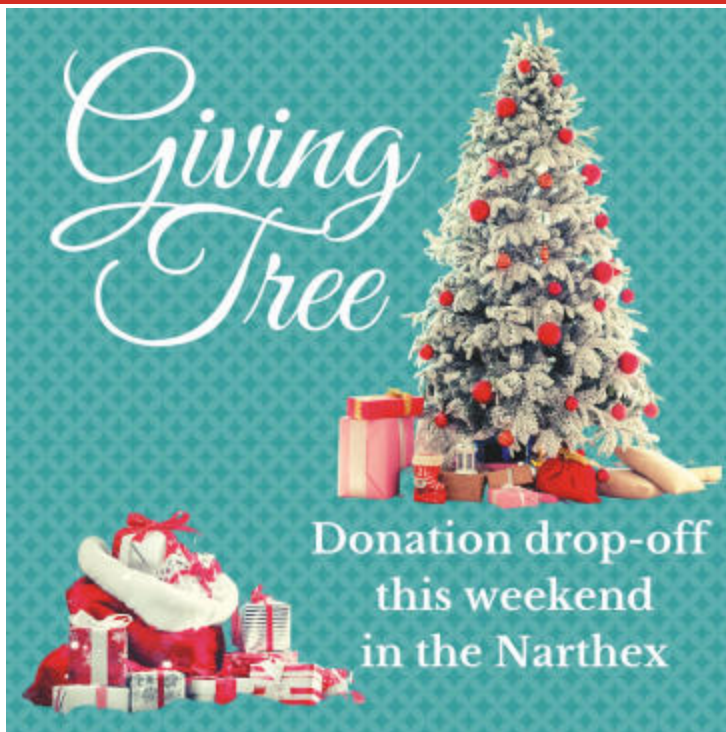
MASSTIMES: FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 7th—Vigil: 6:00 PM

December 8th: 6:30 AM, 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, 6:00 PM

FOOD DRIVE

Holy Spirit will be hosting a **FOOD DRIVE** for Catholic Charities Tuesday, December 15th & Wednesday, December 16th. A truck will be in the parking lot to receive your donations from 9 AM -7 PM both of these days. No glass. Non-perishable food items only. You may



Christmas Decorating

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Monday, December 21st after the 8:30 AM Mass.

Please join us! Many hands make for light work!

There are light jobs and heavy jobs, so all of our parishioners are needed.



Christmas Mass Times

CHRISTMAS EVE:

2:00 PM: CHURCH
2:00 PM: GYM
4:00 PM: CHURCH
4:00 PM: GYM

CHRISTMAS EVE:

6:00 PM: CHURCH
10:00 PM: CHURCH
MIDNIGHT: CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY:

8:00 AM: CHURCH
10:00 AM: CHURCH

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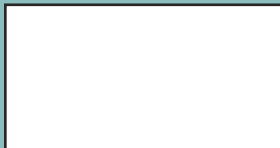
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