



Holy Cross Catholic Church

5227 N. Bowdoin St., Portland, OR 97203

Office: 503.289.2834

Office Hours: 9am - 4pm (Mon. thru Fri.)

Email: holycrossoffice@archdpdx.org

Website: www.holycrosspdx.org

Holy Cross Catholic School

5202 N. Bowdoin St., Portland, OR 97203

Office: 503.289.3010

Email: dlarsen@archdpdx.org

Website: www.holycrosspdx.org/school

Welcome:

If you are a new parishioner, or visiting for the first time, welcome to Holy Cross Catholic Church! We are happy you are here and hope you find our parish home to be a warm and welcoming place. If you would like to become a member of our parish, please check with the parish office or give us a call.

Homebound: For Communion to the sick or the homebound, please call the parish office.

St. Vincent de Paul: Food Pantry hours: Tuesday, 10am - noon and Thursday evenings, 5:30 - 7pm.

Funerals: To ensure the availability of a priest and the church, please call the office before you make arrangements with the funeral director.

Baptism Preparation: Classes offered as needed. Please contact the parish staff for more information. Se ofrece una clase cada tercer sábado del mes a las 10 de la mañana.

Senior Luncheon: We are working on re-establishing the Luncheons and will notify everyone when we are ready to offer lunch once a month for Seniors and Friends.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Mark Bachmeier
holycrossoffice@archdpdx.org

Hispanic Ministry: Carmina Perez
503.289.2834

Rel. Education/Youth Ministry: Andrea Swanson
503.206.8069 or aswanson@archdpdx.org

Director of Evangelization: Mary Jane Weber
503.953.8328 or mweber@archdpdx.org

Parish Office: Lori Kreutzer
503.289.2834 or holycrossoffice@archdpdx.org

Business Manager: Deb Volker 503.289.7130

CASE Administration: Tessa Johnson
tejohnson@archdpdx.org or 503.791.6848

SCHOOL STAFF

Principal Holy Cross School: RJ Tagorda
503.289.3010 or rjtagorda@archdpdx.org

Development Director: Julie Johnson
jjohnson@archdpdx.org

Legacy Giving Director: Sister Mary Ryan
503.289.2834

MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday - Friday: 8am Rosary, 8:30am Mass

Saturday: 5pm Vigil, English

Sunday: 9am, English & 12pm, Español

Adoration: Thursdays, 8:30am-8:30pm

Adoración al Santísimo: jueves, 8:30am-8:30pm

Reconciliation: Wednesdays, 7pm & Fridays, 9am

Reconciliación: miércoles, 7pm y viernes, 9am

Anointing of the Sick: Second Wednesday of each month following the 8:30am Mass.

(Anointing is available at all hours in emergency.)

School Mass: Fridays, 8:30am (Sept.—June)

St. Vincent de Paul: Extra hours each “Final Sunday” of the month, after the Spanish Mass

December 2nd & 3rd, 2023: First Sunday of Advent

The Church Teaches...



For many of us who use technology today, making a journey sometimes means pulling up some program on the internet (or on the phone) into which we enter the location to which we are headed (the end of the journey).

As we begin this Advent season, we pick up the Gospel of St. Luke. From now until next November, with very few exceptions, we shall make our way – as though on a journey – with St. Luke as our guide.

We begin the journey this First Sunday by entering the “information” about our destination. (If we don’t know where we’re going, we’re never going to get there. It’s as simple as that.) This Sunday and next we shall take a look through the eyes of St. Luke at where we are going and at how this journey will end. The last two weeks of this season St. Luke will then help us explore how everything begins, where it starts: in Nazareth and Bethlehem.

In the course of this year and its journey, the whole of Christ’s life and teaching will pass before us. We will re-visit all the mysteries of His life, reliving His whole story. It is a story we have heard many times and, because of that, there is great danger – and that danger is that we will fall asleep like children listening to familiar nursery rhymes told over and over again.

The constant urging of this Advent season is that we stay awake, because we don’t want to be among those who sleepwalk through life. “They have ears but do hear, eyes but they do not see.” St. Luke will tell us again and again that those enlightened by Christ Jesus are people who are indeed awake, alive, and alert.

Toward the very end of the Gospel, St. Luke will remind us that this world is in agony and full of suffering – just like Jesus was in the garden the night before He died. What He asked of those disciples then, He asks of us today: to be awake and watchful, so that we might see this “story” as new, present, and alive.

We are not playing “an old song” here. Each celebration of every feast which lies ahead will bring back the event in its original clarity and vitality never growing cold, lifeless, or fading away. We are not spectators in Advent (or in life!), but active participants in all of this. What is expected of us is that we live with joy and bear witness to truth, to justice, to love, and to peace. **May God bless our Advent journey!**



The Holy Cross Worship Schedule—
❖ Daily Mass: Tues. - Fri., 8:30am
❖ Confessions: Wednesdays, 7pm & Fridays, 9am

(Appointments for Confession are also available throughout the week.)

Bulletin Announcements

School News—Holy Cross Catholic School is excited to support **The Traveling Crib...** a program of the Catholic Charities Pregnancy Support Program.



From **Friday, Dec. 1st to Friday, Dec. 8th**, please donate the following NEW items to the school office:

- Bottles & Pacifiers
 - Books in Spanish & English
 - Diapers (all sizes) & Wipes
 - Burp & wash cloths/ hooded towels
 - Baby hygiene items (shampoo/body wash/diaper ointment)
 - Christmas themed clothing (small sizes)
- ~Thank you!



Advent Supplies & Craft/Bake Sale, too!

Sunday, Dec. 3rd—We will have Advent supplies available and a Craft/Bake Sale between the Masses.

Please come and prepare for the Advent season with Advent supplies for your family. Check out the homemade crafts and bake sale items in the parish office!

All Souls Day Family Pictures—Please take a moment this week to drop by the parish office to pick up your unclaimed All Souls photos/other remembrances.



A big “thank you” to Debbie & Mike Myers, Connie Davis, Mary Medley, Bunny Brown, and Stevie Rhodes for putting up and decorating a *beautiful Altar of Remembrance*.



Coming this week... on **Friday, Dec. 8th** we will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Join us for Mass on this Holy Day:
8:30am (*School Mass*), 5:30pm (*English*) & 7pm (*Spanish*) *Confessions, 9am

Mary, under the title Immaculate Conception, is the patron saint of our Archdiocese.

*“In heaven the blessed your glory proclaim;
on earth we your children invoke your fair name.
Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!”*

Retirement Fund for Religious

You can help. “Religious are blessed to serve,” says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for religious next week.



Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.

For more information or to give online, please go to:
<https://retiredreligious.org/>

Bulletin Announcements: Activities & Opportunities



Holy Cross Advent Giving Project—

Jesus has told us that when we help those in need, we help Him.

Within our Holy Cross parish community there are families going through challenging times that could use our help. As a part of the **Advent Giving Project**, you are invited to contribute toward the purchase of Fred Meyer scrip, purchased through the school, to help parish and school “families in need” during the winter months.

Beginning **Sunday, December 3rd**, please look for the envelope basket located near the Baptismal Font, and place your tax-deductible contribution in and envelope labeled “**Advent Giving Project**.” Donations may be returned to the basket in front of the altar or the parish office.

To give online, go to:

<https://www.holycrosspdx.org/holy-cross-church/give/>

- Click on: **“Click HERE to Give Online”**
- Click on: **FUND** and scroll down to **Advent Giving Project**

God Bless you, and thank you for your generosity!

On December 12th, we will celebrate the Feast of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**.

Please make plans to join us in the church as we rejoice in the good help of Our Lady of the Americas:

- Morning Prayer/Mañanitas with Mariachi México En La Piel, 6-7:30am
- Mass, 8:30am (English)
- Aztec Dance, 5pm
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Serenade with Mariachi México En La Piel, 6pm
- Mass/Misa, Bilingual, 7pm



2023 Christmas Box Deliveries, St. Vincent de Paul Needs You!—

Holy Cross SVdP in partnership with the University of Portland will be providing Christmas food boxes to those in our area in need.

Drivers are needed on **Saturday, Dec. 23rd starting at 9am**. We will meet at the Pilot House on the University of Portland Campus. If you are able to help, please contact Steve Spitalski at 503.283.1207 (home) or 503.913.6867 (cell). *Thank you!*



Advent 2023 Resources—Pick up a **Twenty-Third Publication** Advent booklet at the entrances of the church.

This year, we have four booklet options that are wonderful for individuals, families, kids, or a special friend!



Christmas Flower Offering—Please use the envelopes provided at the church entrances and in the pews to honor living loved ones or remember deceased loved ones during the coming Christmas season.

Our floral decorations will be all the more beautiful because of your generous gift. We will display a list of all those for whom you have asked us to pray and in whose honor or memory you have provided flowers! **Please return envelopes by December, 18th.*



RCIA—We are excited to have 8 people in our RCIA process this year. **Our next class is Dec. 3rd**. Some of the participants are being Baptized and others are completing their Profession of Faith and receiving Confirmation. Please keep them in your prayers.



Our Capital Campaign Committee is excited to announce that a parish family has pledged an additional \$20,000 gift to our Community Center – but they want to make this gift as a challenge to the rest of the community!

Starting now and until the end of 2023, any gift or pledge you make will be doubled immediately! So, if you have already responded to the Campaign and would like to add to your gift – it will be doubled. If you have not yet given to the Campaign, your gift will also be doubled. What a terrific way to mark the end of the year (think of the tax advantages!) and your giving is matched dollar for dollar.

As we look back at our long history here in North Portland, it is clear that we are living with a legacy left by those who have gone before us (from four parishes). We are so grateful for that legacy of faith, prayer, vision, determination, and action that previous generations have given us as a gift. And yet, there is still much to be done so that our present dream may be realized.

Please join us in the effort to become even more of a beacon of light and hope for our whole community and our neighbors. We have many golden opportunities before us and we want to position ourselves to continue building the Kingdom of God – by serving and meeting all needs of our parish, school, and neighborhood far into the future.

Help us as we create a new legacy for future generations – in anticipation of what is yet to be – truly blessing our future.

Family Page — December 3rd, 2023: First Sunday of Advent

Upcoming Key Dates/Events:

December 3rd:

- First Sunday of Advent, get your **Advent Supplies!**

December 10th:

- Youth Masses, 9am & Noon
- First Communion Classes, 10:15am to 11:45am
- Confirmation Classes, 10:15am to 11:45am

December 17th:

- First Communion Classes, 10:15am to 11:45am
- Confirmation Classes, 10:15am to 11:45am

December 24th:

- No Classes, **Christmas Eve!**
- Join us for the Family Christmas Mass, 5pm!

December 31st:

- No Classes, **Christmas Break!**

January 7th:

- First Communion Classes, 10:15am to 11:45am
- Confirmation Classes, 10:15am to 11:45am

January 14th:

- Youth Masses, 9am & Noon
- Family Faith Fun between the Masses!

Stock up on your Advent Supplies, Today, December 3rd!

It's that time of year! Advent time!

Our plans have had to shift a bit, so we won't be having a full Advent Fair this year. However, we will have lots of supplies for your home. Pick up a pack full of items to make the most of your family's Advent season.

We will also have Advent wreath rings and candle sets for purchase between the Masses.

Our craft ladies have some items for purchase in the Parish Office Front Meeting Room; come and check them out!

Come and get your gear to dive into this season of Advent!



Check Out our Magnifi-kids!

You might have noticed a new addition at the doors to our church. We have added an amazing resource for families, called **Magnifi-kid!**

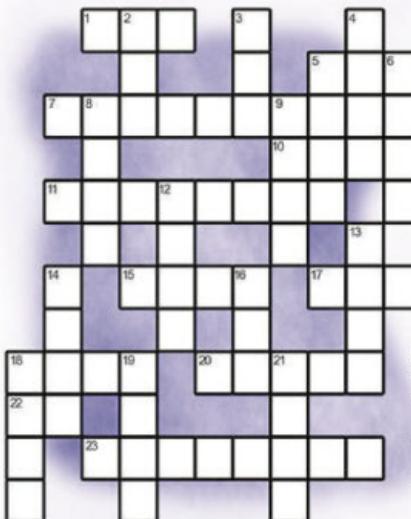
These are booklets designed to make the Mass more accessible for our children. They have the full order of the Mass with readings, prayers, and parts, and they have additional activities, prayers, and crafts that are themed for each Sunday.

Grab one at the doors to the church for your child!

Feel free to bring it home and enjoy the prayers and activities!



Immaculate Conception Cross-Word



Fill in the blanks to do this puzzle about Our Lady.

ACROSS:

1. _____ was without sin.
5. God _____ that Mary would do His will.

7. She was the _____ Conception.

10. God watched _____ Mary.

11. God decided to _____ her from sin.

15. Mary's soul was not stained- it was _____.

17. God's Son became _____.
18. He is called the _____ of God.

20. When the time was _____, the angel came to Mary.

22. She said, "I _____ the handmaid of the Lord."

23. She had no _____ sin, so she was always ready to obey.

DOWN:

2. Whatever God wanted she would do for _____.
3. She brought the Saviour into the world for _____ and me.

4. She teaches us to love God and _____ sin, which offends Him.

5. God had decided to _____ Mary from all sin.

6. If you _____ God, how would you make your mother?

8. The name of God's mother is _____.

9. She did every single thing out of _____ for God.

12. He had preserved her _____ from every stain of sin.

13. Before she was even a little _____ she was chosen by God.

14. We all have original sin because of _____ ...

16. ... and his wife, _____, who committed the first sins.

18. They had chosen to disobey God's _____.

19. Since then, every other person* was _____ with original sin.

21. Mary was the daughter of the holy saints, _____ and Joachim.

* Except Saint John the Baptist, who, according to tradition, was freed from original sin - "filled with the Holy Spirit" when his mother was greeted by Mary who was expecting Jesus.

Important Dates

December 3: 1st Sunday of Advent

December 6: Confessions, 7pm

December 7: Adoration, 8:30am-8:30pm

December 8: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Masses: 8:30am (School), 5:30pm (English) & 7pm (Spanish), Confessions, 9am

December 10: 2nd Sunday of Advent



Next Week's Readings— December 9th & 10th

Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 40, 1-5, 9-11 Psalm: 85

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3, 8-14

Gospel: Mark 1, 1-8



Justice Matters—It is important to remember that every commitment to peace, justice, and human rights is a witness to the Gospel. The way to witness to truth is to live truthfully. The way to witness to justice is to act justly – in all our dealings with others. The way to witness to love is to act lovingly. And the way to witness to peace is to live in peace with others.

When all the world denies the truth and lives a lie, when justice and peace are mocked by the powerful who rule for their own preservation, Jesus says we should stand erect and hold our heads high, for in Him we find the strength to remain steadfast and faithful, sure of what is to come – the happy fulfillment of God's promises.

In this hemisphere we are moving into the darkest time of the year, but we know that by the end of this season, the days will grow longer and the darkness of night will give way. In our world today, *we* are the hope and the light which so many are looking for. **This Advent season** gives us a marvelous opportunity to brighten the lives of everyone who lives in darkness, of everyone who is worn out and tired, of everyone living with pain or sickness and ready to give up. People of God, Church of God, stay awake, stand up! Hold up your heads. Be ready for the revelation of the presence of God within us, all around us ... every single day and night.

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Lesly J. Collins
Accountant & Payroll Specialist
Hablo Español

Mass Intentions for December 5th—10th, 2023:

Tues. +Mary Jo Harmon by Glenda Bell

Wed. +Leonard Lucas by Dick & Nina Wisher

Thurs. +Helen Stanley by Doreen Ytteroy

Friday People of the Parish (*Immaculate Conception of the BVM*)

Sat. (5pm) +Florence Mildenberger by Bob Mildenberger Family

Sun. (9am) +Ed Doell by the Senffner Family

(12pm) People of the Parish

To arrange for a Mass intention, please contact the parish office.
Please plan ahead if you are requesting a specific date.



In our prayers, let us remember all those who have died, including: Sue Zeglinski, Barbara Valdez, José Ramírez García, and Joe Schweitzer

Let us pray for all those who are ill or homebound, including: Darlene Thayer, Shayna Ramirez, Sue Anne Boettcher, Mary Ragland, Irene Heaverin, Bob Hungerford, John Bachmeier, Greg Busch, Amanda Holmberg, Anita Verbout, Erma Faoro, Christina Gardener, Carl Cawley, Tiem Nguyen, Jim & Marvella Graiff, Kathy Ackley, Sandra Blossom, Ann O'Reilly, Richard Lund, Sr. Mary Ryan, Annie Braunstein, Donna Hatley, Chris Kelly, Rose Petersen, Jane Bachman, Ann Renon, Bernie Maloney, and Tina Paradiso

Stewardship



November 18th & 19th, 2023

Weekend Offertory: \$7,162.58

Online Giving: \$2,658.40

Total: \$9,820.98

November 25th & 26th, 2023

Weekend Offertory: \$3,389.67

Online Giving: \$1,600.00

Total: \$4,989.67

***Weekly Offertory needed \$11,805.00**

The much-loved Fred Rogers once said, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" Obviously, this is good advice, and as timely today as it was when Mr. Rogers was a child.

When we look for the helpers we also find the teachers. We find people who teach and model a better way of being and living in this world. In order to be good stewards we need to be "always on the watch" for the teachers and the helpers, for we need to be mentored in the life of faith and discipleship.

We find encouragement and help in the faithful witness of saints both past and present. Are we willing to be taught in the way of peace, of lasting life, and of boundless love?

LA IGLESIA NOS ENSEÑA



¡Comenzamos el Adviento! Es nuestro “retiro espiritual” de espera – de anhelo por el Salvador. Este camino comienza y expresamos a través del profeta Isaías, nuestra frustración con nuestra propia naturaleza humana. “¿Por qué, Señor, ¿nos has permitido alejarnos de tus mandamientos...?”

¡Que fácil para nosotros es meternos en problemas! Desde un principio, constantemente tentados e intentando vivir, existir, sin necesitar a Dios. Estamos en una constante lucha con nosotros mismos, donde tenemos que realizar, repetidamente, que necesitamos a Dios, que no hay vida sin Él.



Servicio Penitencial—La parroquia de San Redentor, el lunes, 4 de diciembre, a las 7pm va a ofrecer confesiones. Habrá varios sacerdotes/confesores. Vamos a estar en oración por un rato, hacer un examen de conciencia juntos, y después habrá confesiones individuales. Todos estarán invitados.



El 8 de diciembre vamos a celebrar la Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción: habrá Misa a las 8:30am, 5:30pm, y a las 7pm (en Español). Esta significativa fiesta mariana se sitúa en el marco del Adviento, tiempo de preparación para la Navidad, caracterizado por la vigilancia y la oración. Tiempo en el que María nos acompaña y nos indica cómo hacer vivo y activo nuestro camino hacia la Noche Santa de Belén.

HORARIO DE NUESTRA CELEBRACIÓN DEL DÍA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE (EL 12 DE DICIEMBRE)

- **Mañanitas con Mariachi México en la Piel, 6-7:30am**
- **Misa, 8:30am (Inglés)**
- **Danza Azteca, 5pm**
- **Celebración de Nuestra Señora con Serenata con Mariachi México en la Piel, 6pm**
- **Misa Bilingüe, 7pm**



PARA REFLEJAR....



El Adviento nos puede recordar que la bondad de Dios nos brinda consuelo y tiempo— días, semanas, años,

hasta toda una vida—para prepararnos, alistarnos, desear, y poco a poco, recibir.

La paciencia: si no hubiera nada que mereciera la pena esperar, semejante virtud sería ridícula. Sin embargo, el nacimiento de Cristo al mundo y en nuestros corazones sí merece la pena esperar.

Algunos dicen que Cristo ya nació, pero de hecho su nacimiento está todavía en “proceso,” de una manera sorprendente y misteriosa. Seguimos siendo crueles hacia nuestros próximos. Todavía les escondemos la verdad a los que nos aman. Envidiamos y deseamos lo que no nos pertenece. Y los terrores del mal nos rodean en este siglo veintiuno.

¿Qué debemos hacer? ¿Esforzarnos más? Sí, pero la verdadera respuesta es un esperar paciente y acogedor a que el Espíritu de Dios nazca en nuestras vidas. Y una determinación de contribuir en todo lo posible a este mundo.

* * *

“**Oh Dios**, inspíranos con el poder de tu Espíritu y mantén nuestra esperanza, para que nos comprometamos a construir entre nuestros hermanos y hermanas un mundo y una cultura que sean humanas, pacíficas, y justas – como una ofrenda que te agrade a ti, que vive y reina por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.”



OPORTUNIDAD DE IGUALAR SU DONACIÓN PARA LA CAMPAÑA CAPITAL POR FAVOR RESPONDA—Nuestro Comité de la Campaña Capital se complace en anunciar que una familia parroquial ha prometido una donación adicional de \$20,000 a nuestro Centro Comunitario, ¡pero quieren hacer de esta donación un desafío para el resto de la comunidad!

A partir de hoy y hasta finales de 2023, cualquier donación o promesa que haga se duplicará ... ¡inmediatamente! Entonces, si ya respondió a la Campaña y desea **aumentar** su donación, se duplicará. Si aún no ha donado a la Campaña, su donación también se duplicará. Qué manera tan estupenda de celebrar el fin de año (¡piense en las ventajas fiscales!) y sus donaciones se igualan dólar por dólar.

Por favor acompañenos en el esfuerzo por convertirnos aún más en un faro de luz y esperanza para toda nuestra comunidad y nuestros vecinos. Tenemos muchas oportunidades de oro ante nosotros y queremos posicionarnos para continuar construyendo el Reino de Dios, sirviendo y satisfaciendo todas las necesidades de nuestra parroquia, escuela y vecindario en el futuro. **Ayúdenos a crear un nuevo legado para las generaciones futuras**, anticipándonos a lo que aún está por suceder, bendiciendo verdaderamente nuestro futuro.

MINISTERIO HISPANO

Equipo Pastoral 503.289.2834

Pláticas Pre-Bautismales:

Tercer sábado del mes a las 10am.
Recuerde que necesita registrar a su hijo/a
antes de asistir a la plática.

Bautismos:

El primer sábado del mes a las 9:30am y el **último domingo del mes** después de Misa.

Estas fechas son solo para niños menores de 6 años.

Los niños mayores de 6 años deberán de comunicarse a la oficina antes de apartar alguna fecha.

Preparación Sacramental para:

Iniciación Católica para Adultos (*RICA*) y Bodas – por favor llame a la oficina

Misas de Quinceañeras:

Misa de Acción de Gracias para Quinceañeras en grupo, el segundo sábado del mes a la 1pm.

Confesiones:

Los miércoles a las 7pm,
los viernes a las 9am,
y por cita entre semana.

Adoración al Santísimo:

Cada jueves de las 8:30am a las 8:30pm.

Misa con Unción de los Enfermos:

Segundo miércoles del mes inmediatamente después de la Misa de 8:30am.

En nuestras oraciones recordemos:

...a todos los que están enfermos,

incluyendo: Darlene Thayer, Shayna Ramirez, Sue Anne Boettcher, Mary Ragland, Irene Heaverin, Sr. Mary Ryan, Erma Faoro, Bob Hungerford, Anita Verbout, Greg Busch, Amanda Holmberg, Jim & Marvilla Graiff, John Bachmeier, Sadrac Lopez, Carl Cawley, Kathy Ackley, Richard Lund, Sandra Blossom, Annie Braunstein, Donna Hatley, Chris Kelly, Rose Petersen, Jane Bachman, Bernie Maloney, and Tina Paradiso



...y a todos los que han muerto,
especialmente José Ramírez García,
Sue Zigliński, Barbara Valdez,
y Joe Schweitzer

*"Te pedimos, Señor, que tus siervos que han muerto ya para este mundo, vivan ahora para ti y que tu amor misericordioso borre los pecados que cometieron por fragilidad humana.
Por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor."*

HORARIO PARROQUIAL

3 de diciembre: I Domingo de Adviento

6 de diciembre: Confesiones, 7pm

7 de diciembre: Adoración, 8:30am-8:30pm

8 de diciembre: Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción de la Virgen María (Dia de Obligación) — Misas a las 8:30am, 5:30pm, y 7pm (en Español) y Confesiones, 9am



Corresponsabilidad Parroquial—

19 de noviembre: \$9,820.98

26 de noviembre: \$4,989.67

¡Gracias!

(El Ofertorio semanal necesita llegar al presupuesto Parroquial: \$11,805.00)

Durante este nuevo tiempo de Adviento nos sentimos confrontados por una pregunta muy vital para nosotros: ¿Qué espacio estamos dejando a Cristo en nuestra vida? ¿Nos sentimos cercanos a Él?

Una cosa es cierta: Él está cerca de nosotros. ¿Intentamos verle, reconocerle en las muchas formas como Él se hace presente entre nosotros: en nuestro prójimo, en la naturaleza, en los acontecimientos de la vida, incluso en nuestros problemas, y hasta en su propio silencio?

Tenemos que volvemos vigilantes para captar su presencia, no sólo en nuestro pequeño mundo, sino también en la Iglesia y en el ancho mundo. En el Adviento, clamamos: "¡Ven, Señor, muéstrate a nosotros; hazte visible entre nosotros!"

LA LITURGIA — LECTURAS

II DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO—10 DE DICIEMBRE

Primera Lectura: Isaías 40, 1-5. 9-11 **Salmo:** 84

Segunda Lectura: 2 Pedro 3, 8-14

Evangelio: Marcos 1, 1-8

EL DÍA DEL SEÑOR



La gente sueña con frecuencia en un mundo bello y hermoso, sin problemas, preocupaciones, y sufrimientos. Aunque sabemos que nuestro mundo nunca llegará a ser tal paraíso; la verdad es que la *imperfección* es la marca de nuestro mundo y de cada ser humano.

Pero el Adviento nos recuerda esto: Que ojalá Dios venga a nuestro mundo y entre en nuestras vidas — entonces todo será mejor. Y Dios vino ya — está con nosotros en Jesús. Con Él podemos hacer de este mundo no un paraíso todavía, pero al menos podemos hacerlo mucho mejor, si con Jesús aprendemos a soportar el dolor del mal en este mundo y luchar contra él con todas nuestras fuerzas. Entonces nuestro mundo podrá llegar a ser un signo del paraíso del cielo.

Dejemos que Cristo nos colme con esa fuerza y esperanza. "Señor Jesús, despierta tu poder y ven en nuestra ayuda. Recupéranos para ti. Que tu rostro brille sobre nosotros y así seremos salvos. Danos vida, para que invoquemos tu nombre."

Hard to say ...
easy to work with!

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LESLY COLLINS, CEO
ACCOUNTANT & NOTARY
lesly@nwprofitsolutions.com

PAOLA ALCANTAR
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
payroll@nwprofitsolutions.com

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