Second Sunday of Advent (A)







May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 15:5

Pretend the Dream

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

hen I was in college, we had a professor who would often say that if, instead of acting the way we feel, we would act the way we would like to feel, then we would soon begin to feel the way we hoped. Over the years, I've found a fair amount of wisdom in that advice, although I don't always remember to tap into it. I know it's all a kind of pretending, but somehow the pretending does seem to make a difference.

Each year, we make our journey into Christmas with a year's baggage. We come with good memories of moments of lazy fun, sun-drenched summers, and dappled autumns, vacations, and birthday parties. But we also make our way into this red and green season with a generous share of hurts and pains, failures and even sins, just because most years are lived that way.

And so, during this last month of each year we play at being happy and pretend that all is good. We sing carols

and toast friendships and wish each other blessings and goodness. And we do it all with an unspoken honesty, knowing full well that life is not always so, but maybe by pretending, and by some freakish twist of godliness, we can find for some short time the harmony once prophesied by Isaiah. Maybe the wolf and the lamb will be kind, and the calf and lion will forget their history, and for at least one brief shining moment we will live in harmony with one another. •

Reflect-

This Advent, once a week, try to skip doing something that stresses you.

Once a week, act the way you would like to feel. Fake it if you must.

Our Lady of the Rosary ~ Our Lady Queen of Peace

Our Lady of the Rosary and Queen of Peace Catholic Churches

Office Phone (850)740-1003

Office email - office@olr.ptdiocese.org
OLR website - https://olr.ptdiocese.org

Pastor ~ Fr. Kurian Manikuttiyil Rosary PCL ~ Kevin Hall-(850)276-2621 Rosary Lector Coordinator – Alice Haynes Rosary Choir ~ Arlene Hall – (850)276-8739 Peace Contact ~ Larry Fern – (850)527-0813

Mass Schedule ~ Our Lady of the Rosary

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm Sunday 8:30am Monday – Wednesday 8:30am Friday 5:00pm

Mass Schedule ~ Queen of Peace, Fountain

Sunday 10:30am Wednesday 10:30am

Baptisms

Contact the PCL

Reconciliation

Upon Request

Sacraments for younger Children

Contact PCL

Please pray for Mary Kay Collins,
Hai Van Heller, Mary Ann Hugg, Russ
Blount, Julie Kim Rollence, Zoom Elliott
Jackie Ochampaugh, Carol Brust, Shari
Letson, Bonnie Hunt, Robert Wade,
Robert Nagel, Helen Hall, Fr. William
Brown, Barbara Lourcey, Jessica Havel,
Gloria Morrison, Harry Carmello, Ethan
Findlay, Chris Weller, Mary Munzel,
Dennis Nuber, Jordan Taylor, Trisha
Roberto, parishioners of Rosary,
parishioners of Queen of Peace,
Mike Battcher, Don Culbreath; Joseph
Lockard; Jan Garner

The Sanctuary Lamp for the week of December 3 - 9, 2022 is in loving memory of Barbara Brondum.



Last Week's Collection ~
Offertory - \$2,375.51
Building Fund - \$15
Christmas Flowers - \$50

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is Thursday, December 8, and it <u>IS</u> a holy day of obligation. Mass at Rosary will be at 8:30am and at Queen of Peace in Fountain at 10:30am.

Lighten the load ~ An abbot writes, "Your gift helps ease our worldly burdens and allows us to continue living out our mission of seeking God and serving the Church." Donations to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection help hundreds of US religious communities to provide for their aging members. Please give generously. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.



St. Dominic Books & Gifts
Christmas Sale ~ Starting Sunday
December 11th through Saturday
December 17th. Everything in the
store on sale. 10, 15, 20, &

25%off. Come in for savings for everyone on your list.

Catholic Charities is

hosting a toy drive for the Catholic Charities Christmas connection. This program gives toys to the parents to give to



their children for Christmas. Can be any toy, but **MUST** be new. Talk to Annie Pieroni after Mass on Sunday if you have any questions.

2023 Offertory Envelopes now available. See Arlene after Mass to get yours.

Events Committee ~ We have a few to sign up, but there is always room for more. This committee will work together in planning events for the upcoming year for our Parish. If you have great ideas, or are a great organizer, please, we need



great organizer, please, we need you. There is a sign-up on the bulletin board in the foyer.



Choir practices have changed to

Tuesdays at 4:00pm. Come and join us while we prepare for the Christmas Season.

Living Faith Booklets for January are now available in the foyer. Please feel free to pick one up to enhance your daily prayer life.

Parish Christmas Party is

next Sunday, December 11 @ 2pm. Be sure to sign up this weekend and don't miss out on the fun. There will be an Ugly Sweater / T-shirt contest, optional gift exchange (minimum \$15.00) for



adults and children and a visit by St. Nicholas. If you would like to help, please contact Kevin Hall @ (850) 276-2621.



We need your help! We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Thursday, December 22 beginning at 9:00am. "Many hands make light work!" For more information,

talk to Judy Riera after the Saturday Vigil Mass or Arlene Hall after the Sunday morning Mass.

We are now collecting for Christmas Poinsettias ~ there is an envelope included in your offertory envelopes. If you do not get envelopes, but would like to donate, just be sure to mark your checks or plain envelopes



with *Christmas Flowers*. All donations in honor of someone will be listed in the Christmas bulletin.

This Week's Calendar

Saturday, December 3

3:30pm ~ Pray the Rosary (CH) 4:00pm Vigil Mass, Rosary ~ +Sr. Therese Corcoran

Sunday, December 4

8:00am ~ Pray the Rosary (CH)

8:30am Mass, Rosary ~ +Barbara Brondum;

+Sandi Ann Morehouse; +George Dupuis

9:30am ~ CCD (RE)

10:30am Mass, Peace

Monday, December 5

8:00am ~ Pray the Rosary(CH)

8:30am Mass, Rosary ~ +George Dupuis

Tuesday, December 6

8:00am ~ Pray the Rosary(CH)

8:30am Mass, Rosary ~ +George Dupuis;

+/LParishioners of Rosary

9:00am ~ Bible Study (PH)

4:00pm ~ Choir Practice (CH)

Wednesday, December 7

8:00am ~ Pray the Rosary (CH)

8:30am Mass, Rosary ~ +George Dupuis; +Mike

Paige

Thursday, December 8

8:00am ~ Pray the Rosary (CH)

8:30am Mass, Rosary ~ +Donlean Gary

10:30am Mass, Peace

Friday, December 9

4:30pm ~ Pray the Rosary (CH)

5:00pm Mass, Rosary ~ +Peter & Maria Tran

Saturday, December 10

3:30pm ~ Pray the Rosary (CH)

4:00pm Vigil Mass, Rosary ~ +George Dupuis

Sunday, December 11

8:00am ~ Pray the Rosary (CH)

8:30am Mass, Rosary ~ +Barbara Brondum;

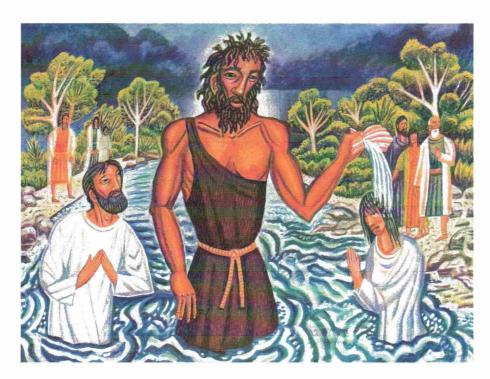
+Sandi Ann Morehouse; +George Dupuis

10:30am Mass, Peace

2:00pm ~ Parish Christmas Party (PH)

Parish Census ~ this is a very important event in order to correct our outdated database. Please be sure to get your census sheet from Arlene at all Masses, or you can find one on our website at https://olr.ptdiocese.org/2023-parish-census/. You can mail it to the office, or drop it in the collection basket. Thank you SO much for your cooperation in this effort.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Come, Peaceable Kingdom

Almighty God, you are the giver of peace, the source of harmony. Guide us to follow your will so that we may be united

in thought and act and look forward to a time when the wolf is guest of the lamb. and all the earth knows you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 4, 2022 Kings Rule, God Reigns

Today's readings: Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17; Romans 15:4–9; Matthew 3:1–12. Isaiah's prophecy reinforces the vision that a new king will come from the "holy mountain" upon which Jerusalem will be built. The scene that Isaiah imagines is much like the Garden of Eden, where animals have no enemies and the kingdom is peaceful. The prophet puts forth the hope that one day God will reign over the earth and the will of God will bring true harmony and peace.

The refrain for Psalm 72 parallels justice and peace. Peace will result when a king governs with justice, when the poor are rescued and saved. To govern with integrity, the king must be blessed. From that blessing, "all the tribes of

the earth" can be blessed. Listen carefully to this psalm that proclaims that a leader protects and serves those who are defenseless, vulnerable, and victims of injustice. What better way to anticipate the second week of Advent than to find a way to treat with kindness a victim of injustice? What better way to "think in harmony," as St. Paul states in the second reading, than to seek reconciliation with a family member or friend? Keep in mind St. Paul's instruction to "welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomes you."

The reading from Romans today speaks of endurance, encouragement, unity, harmony, and hope. Each day this week, as you contemplate John the Baptist's call to repent, read Romans 15:4–9 and choose a different phrase to ponder.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, December 5 Be Strong and Hope

In the first reading, Isaiah imagines the peaceful wonders that will come to pass when the Son comes to save. Scripture envisions a beautiful and peaceful world, as we glory in salvation. The images of the desert blooming with flowers, the lame leaping, and streams bursting forth in the desert are all ample subjects for quiet reflection as we await the nativity of the Lord. Just as the bystanders to the cure of the paralytic witnessed something "incredible," so do you during your day. Watch for the incredible. *Today's readings: Isaiah 35:1–10; Psalm 85:9ab, 10, 11–12, 13–14; Luke 5:17–26.*

Tuesday, December 6 St. Nicholas

"Comfort, give comfort to my people," begins the reading from Isaiah. These are apt words for the optional Memorial of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, prostitutes, sailors, and repentant thieves, among others. To celebrate this day, many traditions have arisen involving candy and small gifts. Some consider St. Nicholas the "real Santa" because of his acts of charity, especially to the poor. Celebrate this fourth-century holy and generous bishop by being kind to another. *Today's readings: Isaiah 40:1–11; Psalm 96:1–2, 3 and 10ac, 11–13; Matthew 18:12–14.*

Wednesday, December 7 St. Ambrose

In the Gospel today, Jesus invites the crowds to find solace in him, saying, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." Today too we find hope in these words, knowing that we can give our burdens over to God. On the Memorial of St. Ambrose (340–397), we recall someone who unburdened many people by helping them resolve conflicts. He was an eloquent defender of the faith. Today's readings: Isaiah 40:25–31; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 8 and 10; Matthew 11:28–30.

Thursday, December 8 Immaculate Conception

On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the refrain of the responsorial psalm sings of God's "marvelous deeds," then the Letter to the Ephesians tells of our adoption by God. Finally, in the Gospel, faith is proclaimed in Mary's words, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord." Celebrate Mary's yes to God through an action for another. Today's readings: Genesis 3:9–15; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12; Luke 1:26–38.

Friday, December 9 Flowers of Hope

The optional Memorial of St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin is dear to many Mexican Catholics because it celebrates the appearance of Mary to a peasant. After Mary's appearance, Juan's cloak was inscribed with the Virgin's face and filled with flowers. This proved to the bishop that Juan Diego was the Blessed Mother's messenger and that the bishop should build a shrine at Tepeyac Hill. Juan Diego, canonized in 2002, was the first Catholic indigenous saint from the Americas. Put a fresh flower today on your table and share the story of St. Juan Diego with a friend. *Today's readings: Isaiah 48:17–19, Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6, Matthew 11:16–19.*

Saturday, December 10 Our Lady of Loreto

While lighting the first two candles on your Advent wreath today, make a commitment to continue joyful expectation during Advent. Pray the Rosary or the Magnificat and observe yourself becoming less stressful during this time of many demands from the secular world. Today's memorial remembers the birthplace of Mary, in Palestine. *Today's readings: Sirach 48:1–4, 9–11; Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15–16, 18–19; Matthew 17:9a, 10–13.*







OUR LADY OF THE OF THE ROSARY CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11
AT 2:00PM IN THE PARISH
HALL

ACTIVITIES:

WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE-OPTIONAL;
UGLY SWEATER / T-SHIRT CONTEST
SAINT NICHOLAS VISIT
50 /50 DRAWING
RAFFLE PRIZES

REQUIREMENTS: SIGN UP TO BRING A FOOD DISH

WHITE ELEPHANT REQUIREMENTS:
HAVE A MINIMUM VALUE OF \$15, APPROPRIATE
FOR MALE OR FEMALE, <u>NO</u> ALCOHOL, <u>NO</u> GAG
GIFTS AND <u>MUST</u> BE WRAPPED.

WANT TO HELP?
CONTACT KEVIN HALL @ (850) 276-2621



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Elderly religious need your help. Like those pictured, nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer and ministry—educating the young, tending the sick, aiding the needy, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a profound shortage in retirement savings. Your support of the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish care, medicine, and other necessities. Please give generously.

Standing, from left: Fr. William Graham, OFM Cap, 75; Sr. Mary Lucille Stelly, SSF, 89; Sr. Angele Marie Sadlier, O Carm, 91; Fr. Bertrand Ebben, OP, 90.

Seated, from left: Sr. Joan Flores, SSF, 81; Sr. Denis Rodrigue, O Carm, 93; Sr. Ann Martinez, MSC, 82.

retiredreligious.org

To give at your parish: Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)					To donate by mail: Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.		
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Please check with your employer about matching gifts.

National Religious Retirement Office • 3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington DC 20017-1194 • Phone (202) 541-3215 • Fax (202) 541-3053

Many LGBTQ+ youth are homeless, suicidal, or even murdered because of who they are. How can we support them?

Your desire to be compassionate is very much in keeping with the Church's teaching. In 1986, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, led by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now emeritus Pope Benedict XVI), issued a strongly worded call for civility and respect for homosexual persons. On the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons emphasized, "It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of

VECTOR GODDESS / SHUTTERSTOC

violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's pastors wherever it occurs." The Catechism of the Catholic Church stresses that homosexual persons "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity" (CCC 2358).

"The Church actively asserts and promotes the intrinsic dignity of every person. As human persons, persons with a homosexual inclination have the same basic rights as all people, including the right to be treated with dignity," wrote the US Bishops in "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination" (2006). In terms of offering support, this document reads, "As baptized members of the Catholic community, persons with a homosexual inclination continue to look to the Church for a place where they may live in authentic human integrity and holiness of life. Being welcomed into and participating in their local faith community is the foundation of spiritual support that the Church offers to them. Full and active participation is encouraged. Participation in a worshiping Catholic community is a support for living a life of chastity and integrity and an encouragement to an ongoing personal conversion."

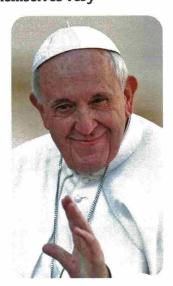
> — The Redemptorists DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Many people today are constantly using social media, but are not themselves very

social: they are caught up in themselves, prisoners of the cell phone in their hand. What appears on the screen is not the reality of other persons: their eyes, their breath and their hands.

ADDRESS IN A MEETING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, ATHENS, DECEMBER 6, 2021



MONDAY

December 5 Advent Weekday Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26

TUESDAY

December 6 Advent Weekday Is 40:1-11 Mt 18:12-14

WEDNESDAY

December 7 St. Ambrose. Bishop and Doctor of the Church Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30

THURSDAY

December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

FRIDAY

Lk 1:26-38

December 9 Advent Weekday Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19

SATURDAY

December 10 Advent Weekday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

SUNDAY

December 11 Third Sunday of Advent Is 35:1-6a, 10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liquori.org or call 800-325-9521.



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