

Second Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018



The people of Jerusalem had been driven out by the Babylonians during Baruch's time. But Baruch envisions the day – it had already happened by the time this book was written – when the Chosen People will return to the holy city. He holds out God's promise of transformation, when misery will change to joy. God will name Jerusalem "the peace of justice" (Baruch 5:4). A just peace seems especially distant in our day. How will justice come to those who live without means and without the opportunity or the power to change their condition? Only a true sharing of resources, opportunity, and power will bring a just peace, the peace of justice, to the world.

A baptism of repentance, which John proclaims throughout the region, is both wonderful and challenging. The baptism part of it is cleansing and life-giving. But repentance—truly feeling remorse for what we have done and turning away from sin—is difficult. This kind of baptism calls for the action from both parties. It echoes Isaiah, who proclaims both "make straight his paths" and "the winding roads shall be made straight" (Luke 3:4, 5). God acts in our lives, but we must act as well. God's grace does not release our responsibility.

Saint Paul's prayer for the Philippians, "that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus," is an apt prayer for us at this time (Philippians 1:6). We need to be attentive to the second half of his prayer as well, to discern what is of value so that we can live lives that are good and holy.

Question of the Week

Can I properly discern what is of value and then act according to those values?

Saturday, December 8, 2018

Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent

4:00.m. Darrell and Elodie Gabriel – Bruce Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Tu Tran – Joseph Cong Cao – Audrey Jefferson – Danny Jon Singletary – George Marcell – Daniel and Elizabeth Ripoll – Virgil and Mary Duplessis – Vernon Mercadel – Veronica V. Richards – Frank Donze – Ellsworth McKendall

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent

8:30a.m. Darrell & Elodie Gabriel – Bruce Gabriel – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – France Hai Cao – Earthy B. Lazard – Walter Banks, III – Calvin Tate – Corrine Singletary – Tu Tran – James St. Charles – Mary Pham – Joseph Nguyen – Eloise C. Parker – Melvina Kepp – Intentions of Stacey Martin – Tamerle Young – All poor souls in purgatory

10:30a.m. Lamar & Shirley Smith – Lordeas Glapion Nix – Melvin Thomas – Melba Fletcher – Chad Rancatore – Augustine Clarke Bozant – Andrew Joseph, III – Veronica V. Richards – Albert R. Pierre – Barbara Reese Lee
12:00p.m. Byron Brooks, Jr. – Forest Buxton – Intentions of St. Maria Goretti Parish

Monday, December 10, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Mr. Charles Winchell, Jr. – Tu Tran – Melba Fletcher – Deacon Poncho – Mary Pham – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of Stacey Martin

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Deacon Poncho – Mary Pham – Joseph Nguyen – Tu Tran – Melba Fletcher – Intentions of Stacey Martin – All Poor Souls

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Joseph Cong Cao – Peter & Mary Kham Nguyen – Tu Tran – Mary Pham – Joseph Nguyen – Melba Fletcher – Austin Burroughs – Intentions of Stacey Martin and Family

Thursday, December 13, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Tu Tran – Deacon Poncho – Mary Pham – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of James and Tamerle Young

Friday, December 14, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Tu Tran – Deacon Poncho – Joseph Nguyen – Melba Fletcher – Selina Moss – Intentions of Martin Family – Tamerle Young

Saturday, December 15, 2018

8:30a.m. All Poor Souls in Purgatory – Mary Pham – Joseph Nguyen – The Living and Deceased Benefactors of the Catholic Negro American Mission.

Announcement

“Give of yourself this holiday season. Give true love, and respect to everyone you encounter.” Eucharistic Adoration Monday – Friday, 9:00a.m. –12:00 noon and Saturdays, 12:00p.m – 3:00pm

Bible Study

The Bible Study theme for **Second Sunday of Advent: Lord we wait for ...** The purpose of this theme is to inaugurate a term of active waiting through service, as we prepare to receive Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. The theme for the First Sunday in Advent is: **Lord we wait for Word.** The Bible Study is based on the readings for the, **Second Sunday in Advent: Reading I: Baruch 5:1-9; Responsorial Psalm: 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Reading II: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Gospel: Luke 3:1-6.** Welcome home returning Citizens from prison – invite them and their families to join us and serve their needs. Visit nursing homes, orphanages and Juvenile detention homes. The Bible Study can be downloaded for your personal use. Join us Monday, evening at 7:00p.m. in the Center.

God is the Head of the Church and we are the body of the Church. Let us open wide our doors to everyone as He has opened wide his heart and welcomed us. Let us praise and honor him.



Thursdays, 8:00p.m. in the Center where you might win and have some fun with friends and family.

RCIA

Welcome someone back home this Christmas. Are your children still Catholic? Do they practice their faith? Do you know enough about your faith to help them? Every Catholic has a role in welcoming those seeking to join the Catholic Church. God has touched them in a special way that leads them to us. Let us get out of the pews and into the community. The St. Maria Goretti RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is in its **Evangelization and Pre-Catechumenate phase.** Do you know someone who wants to be Catholic? Come and join us. Registration forms can be found in the rear of the church or by contacting RCIA team members. The RCIA is in its Period of Inquire. This week we will discuss: **What is the sacrament of Reconciliation? Must I be Reconciled with God to Spread His Word?** For more information contact the RCIA Team: Deacon Terrel J. Broussard or any member of the RCIA Team or by email at tbroussard@smgnola.com, or visit the website at smgnola.com

We welcome everyone into our parish. If you have not filled out a census card, the cards can be found on the table at the entrance of the church.



Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church for this week will burn in memory of Spencer Knox
The Sanctuary Lamps in the chapel this week will burn in memory of Albertine B. Knox and Glen F. Mogilles, Sr.



In Our Parish

Monday, December 10, 2018

- 5:00p.m. Youth Foundation Tutoring – Rms. 3 & 4
- 6:00p.m. Zumba Class – Center

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

- 6:00p.m. Knights of Columbus Assbly – Center Rms. 3 & 4

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

- 5:00p.m. Youth Foundation Tutoring – Rms. 3 & 4, 9
- 6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center
- 6:00p.m. Lake Carmel HOA – Rm. 7
- 7:00p.m. Liturgical Dance Practice – Center
- 7:00p.m. First Place Class – Rm. 10

Thursday, December 13, 2018

- 6:00p.m. Bingo

Friday, December 14, 2018

Saturday, December 15, 2018

- 8:00a.m. Lord Teach Me to Pray – Rms. 3 & 4
- 9:00a.m. The Forgotten Angles – Center & Kitchen
- 11:00a.m. Just Faith Meeting – Library
- 3:12:00p.m. East New Orleans Parade Line Up – Park Lot

Advent Prayer



Jesus, help me to encounter you each day this Advent and Christmas.