



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024**



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are already in the second week of the Advent season. There are not many days left for us to thoroughly prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christmas and “be ready” for the second coming in glory of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Where are you now in this spiritual preparation? Do you have time to sit down and look deeply into your heart and soul to see if there is/are any obstacle(s) that **prevent** you from celebrating Christmas joyfully? Do you let anyone or anything have the power to “block” you away from the peace, love and joy that Jesus brings to the world, to those who want to follow and accept Him?

*“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”*

This is what the prophet Isaiah and John the Baptist called everyone to do for the coming of the Messiah. This call, after centuries, still echoes to you and me today.

The Messiah, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did come to the world, but not many people recognized Him or accepted Him. They did not want to make straight “their paths;” they refused to lower “their mountains;” they were afraid to make straight “their winding roads,” and they ignored directions to make smooth “their ways.”

Two thousand years after the first coming of the Messiah, the *mountain of pride* is still too high; the *valley of wickedness* is too deep; the *winding road of hatred* increases the division among religions and nations; the *road of conversion and understanding* becomes rougher.

Unless you and I truly “prepare the way of the Lord” from within (ourselves, our families, our community) and promote it, we cannot “see the salvation of God.”

I think that the key for this preparation is **HUMILITY**. Humility will open the way. It will lower the mountain of pride, fill up the valley of wickedness, break down the wall of hatred, bring unity to nations and religions, and lead people to conversion and the understanding of each other. Friends, we need to see our own weakness; we must realize our need of repentance and forgiveness from God. **HUMILITY** will help us to do so.

Jesus Christ - the Messiah - humbled Himself to be born of the virgin, He died on the cross, was buried in the tomb and God exalted Him above everything.

Peace in Christ,  
 Fr. Tien



Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas **Eve** – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
 6:00 p.m. **Family Mass**  
 9:00 p.m. **Mass (In Spanish)**  
**Our Children’s Choir** will sing ½ hour  
 prior to the 6:00 p.m. Mass

Christmas **Day** – Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
 9:00 a.m. Mass





Catholic Adult Education on Monday night Dec 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. is **The Mystical Union Christ & the Church - the four 'Marks' of the 'Church'**. What are the four important characteristics of the Church? Come join your fellow parishioners in the spirit of fellowship.

Snacks provided. We meet in the Family Life Center downstairs. Deacon David & Education team

Our Food Pantry is anticipating serving 85 families at the December 18<sup>th</sup> Pantry distribution. Donations of hams, turkeys or roasting hens are needed for a great Christmas meal. Monetary donations are always welcome. Thank you to all who donated empty egg cartons. At this time we have enough.



Envelopes are available at the Church entrances for offerings to go to our Christmas altar flowers and decorations. You may make an offering in honor of or in memory of loved ones and friends. You can bring your offering to the Parish Office or put it in the weekend collection basket.

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Religious Retirement Fund. This annual appeal benefits senior Catholic women and women (sisters, brothers, and religious order priest) who have consecrated their lives to serving God. Please be generous.



The Feast of the Immaculate Conception was transferred this year to Monday, Dec. 9, and is a holy day of obligation for Catholics. Mass times will be at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please fulfill your obligation.

Our Women's Guild will meet this Monday at 10:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center. All women of the Parish are invited to attend. **Do not forget their cookie sale next weekend!!!**



**Pray for healing:** Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Robert Barnable, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Sarah Fricks, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Sarah Holloran, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Michelle Mercer, Dee Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, Benjamin Nemeth, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Patricia Ruelle, Mike Scarborough, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell



Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces: Stephen Fox, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriquez, Elizabeth Scoon



## Mass Schedule and Intentions

### Saturday, December 7

#### Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

4:00 P.M. † Antonio Zendejas Pacheco  
† Ronald M. Trosh, Sr.  
by Matt & Lisa Michalik

### Sunday, December 8

#### Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 A.M. Bill and Suzin Matthews by Marilyn Ricke  
Tim & Renee Vanderwoude by Mary Murphy  
† Antonio Ortiz Vasquez  
11:30 A.M. † David Ruiz-Ordaz, † Holy Souls in Purgatory  
† Petra Diaz Pacheco by Sele Ramos  
Juanito Bohorquez Hernandez

### Monday, December 9

#### Holy Day of Obligation for the

#### Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 A.M. † Bernadine Deimel by Glenn Deimel  
† Mary Lorenz and  
Josette Roisin & John Spadado by Pam Brady  
7:00 P.M. † Damaso Daniel Acevedo, † Juan Acevedo,  
† Antonio Ortiz Vasquez, † Cecilia Rios

### Tuesday, December 10

#### Our Lady of Loreto NO DAILY MASS

### Wednesday, December 11

#### Saint Damasus I, Pope

5:30 P.M. † Damaso Daniel Acevedo, † Holy Souls  
† Marciano Diaz Acevedo  
† Armando Acevedo

### Thursday, December 12

#### Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 A.M. † Mercedes Cecilia Daza, † Holy Souls  
John & Joyce Mielnik by Stan Michalik

### Friday, December 13

#### Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

9:00 A.M. John & Joyce Mielnik by Stan Michalik  
† Maria Refugio Acevedo, † Jonathan Cruz  
Flora Acevedo

### Saturday, December 14

#### Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

4:00 P.M. † Charles Hoefeyzers by Rosalie  
† Antonio Zendejas Pacheco  
† Frederick Garbinski by the Garbinski Family