

Frist Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2017

The Old Testament reading today is a prayer thought to have been written during the time that the Chosen People were exiled in Babylon. The writer-not Isaiah, but writing in the tradition of Isaiah-acknowledges their sinfulness and expresses their repentance. He longs for God to “rend the heavens and come down,” to redeem them from their sin. What he cannot know is that God will do exactly that in the person of Jesus. Though he could now imagine God’s son coming into the world, he prophesied that God could do awesome deeds for those who placed their trust in the Lord.

The writer of this passage from Isaiah uses this wonderful image of God as the potter. Think of a potter throwing the clay on a wheel and shaping a pot or vase. The potter’s hands immediately get messy with the wet clay. We who are the clay have this image of God actively shaping us through a hands-on, messy process. Perhaps this sense of intimacy enables the writer to plead with God the way he does.

The caution in today’s Gospel - “You do not know when the time will come” - is reminiscent of a pop quiz in school or a surprise inspection at work (Mark 13:33). The only assurance of being prepared, then, is to be prepared always. But Jesus does not only come at Christmas or at the end of time. Jesus also comes to us every day. Let us prepare our hearts to receive him always.

Question of the Week

As we begin in the season of Advent, how am I preparing a place for Jesus in my life?



Saturday, December 2, 2017

Vigil of First Sunday of Advent

4:00p.m. Darrell and Elodie Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Ellsworth McKendall – Corinne Singletary – Leonard Belton – Bruce Gabriel – Miriam Page – Daniel and Elizabeth Ripoll – Virgil and Mary Duplessis – The deceased children of the Thomas Family – Intentions of James and Tamerle Young

Sunday, December 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

8:30a.m. Darrell & Elodie Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Earthy B. Lazard – Calvin Tate – Walter Banks, III – Lawrence Miller, Jr. – Corinne Singletary – Melvina Kepp – Bruce Gabriel – Nathaniel Wilson, Sr. – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of Yvonne & Jeff Guerin

10:30a.m. Lamar and Shirley Smith – Lordeas Glapion Nix – Fred and Dorothy Johnson – Charles Breaud, Sr. – Albert Pierre – Frank Richards, Jr.

12:00p.m. Enix Smith, Jr. – Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr. – Parishioners of St. Maria Goretti Parish

Monday, December 4, 2017

8:30a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Charles Winchell, Sr. – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr. – Sandra Guillory and Tamerle Young – Maude DeGrasse

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr. – Maude DeGrasse – Yvonne & Jeff Guerin

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Cong Cao – Peter and Mary Kham Nguyen – Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of James and Tamerle Young – Maude DeGrasse

Thursday, December 7, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – Edgar and Carolyn Morgan - Intentions of Yvonne and Jeff Guerin – Joseph Simms, Jr. – James Young – Leo Schwarkhart, Jr.

Friday, December 8, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Nguyen – Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr. – Yvonne and Jeff Guerin – James Young – Maude DeGrasse

Saturday, December 9, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Nguyen – Jerome Rixner, Jr. – Intentions of James and Tamerle Young – The Living and Deceased Benefactor of the Catholic Negro American Mission.

Announcements

“Give of yourself this holiday season. Give true love and respect to everyone you encounter. Show the pure light we process from our savior, Jesus Christ. Let it shine all over the earth as God intended it too.” Eucharistic Adoration Monday - Friday, 9:00a.m. – 12:00 Noon and Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 3:00pm.

Bible Study

The Bible Study theme for Season of Advent is: “**What are you looking for?**” For each week in Advent a weekly theme, based on the Gospel for that Sunday, will be the focus of our mediation for that week. The theme for the First Sunday in Advent is: “Are you looking for Love?” The focus for this week is on love for children and the helpless. This Bible Study is based on the readings for the First Sunday in Advent. **Reading I: Isaiah 63:16b-17; 64:1, 3b-8; Responsorial Psalm: 80:1ac, 2b, 14-15, 17-18; Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Gospel: Mark 13:33-37.** This Bible Study can be found on the parish website at and it can be downloaded for your personal use. **Join us on Monday’s in the Center at 7p.m.**



Let us all together prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ the most high.



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

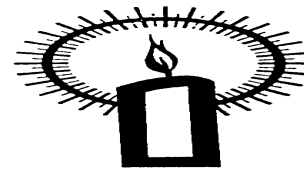
RCIA

The St. Maria Goretti (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) has begun. Registration forms can be found in the rear of the Church or by contacting a RCIA team member.

This week’s Session is a continuation of a discussion of how God reveals Himself to us entitled: **The Church Tour. Are Catholic Churches built in a unique way with a special meaning? Why does the Church have a liturgical year? What is the meaning of Advent? Are their sacred things used in the liturgy? Sessions are held every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM in the chapel. The activities above will take place on November 27, 2017.**

For more information please contact the RCIA Team: Deacon Terrel J. Broussard, Harold Broussard, Sheila Thompson, or any member of the RCIA Team or by email at tbroussard@smgnola.com, or visit the website 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 thanksgiving for prayers answered. The Sanctuary Lamps in the chapel this week will burn in memory of Spencer J. Knox and In Thanksgiving.



Monday, December 4, 2017

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

7:00p.m. Tuesday First Place Class – Rm. 10

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

9:00a.m. UNTO – Center Area

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

7:00p.m. Liturgical Dance Practice – Center

7:00p.m. Tuesday First Place Class – Rm. 10

7:00p.m. Catholic Men's Fellowship - Library

Thursday, December 7, 2017

6:00p.m. Bingo

Friday, December 8, 2017

Center is Closed

Saturday, December 9, 2017

7:00a.m. **Peppare The Way** Men’s Fellowship – Rms. 3 & 4

10:00a.m. Star Class – Rm. 10

11:00a.m. Just Faith – Library

12:00p.m. Haiti Partnership – Library

4:00p.m. Indians Christmas Party

Show The Love Of God To Everyone Always.

