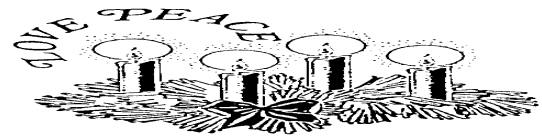


*Second Sunday of Advent*  
*December 10, 2017*



*It may be difficult to fully appreciate the extent of the suffering that the Jewish people underwent during the years of their exile in Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar's army had defeated Judah, the temple was destroyed and the people were deported from the Promised Land. It would have been easy to lose hope, not knowing how long they would be without a home. The author of this section of Isaiah wrote during this bleak time. It would have been natural to write a diatribe or a lament. But he wrote a message of hope, a book of consolation as it is often called. One can hope that it consoled the faithful, giving them a vision of redemption. Such a vision can sustain us as we suffer in our own time.*

*The author of Second Peter wrote during an interesting era. A hundred years or so after the Resurrection, Christians still anticipated that Jesus would return in glory any day. We still believe this, but we are not surprised when another year, or indeed our entire lifetime goes by without it happening. But at this time, in the second century, Christians were just gradually coming to accept the reality that the Parousia, Second Coming, was not right around the corner. This may have led to consternation among the faithful and derision from nonbelievers. Second Peter makes the observation that God's perspective of the time is nothing like ours, so "one day" could be "a thousand years" (2 Peter 3:8). He then attributes this delay as a sign of God's patience, giving time for all to repent and become holy.*

*In order to prepare people for the coming of Jesus, John the Baptist invited them to repent and be forgiven. The water of the Jordan River symbolized the cleansing of sin that baptism brought to the believer. It also symbolized the renewal of the life after being parched in the desert as John was, as Isaiah was, as the people in exile were, as we still can be today.*

**Question of the Week**

*In what ways do I feel parched, spiritually or emotionally? How can I prepare myself for Christ's presence?*

**Saturday, December 9, 2017**

**Vigil of Second 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 – Richard Page – Daniel and Elizabeth Ripoll – Virgil and Mary Duplessis – Lynn Landry – The deceased children of the Thomas Family – Intentions of James and Tamerle Young – Lelica Brustie

**Sunday, December 10, 2017**

**Second 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 – France Obioha - Intentions of Yvonne & Jeff Guerin

**10:30a.m.** Lamar and Shirley Smith – Lourdes Glapion Nix – Fred and Dorothy Johnson – Charles Breaud, Sr. – Albert Pierre – Frank Richards, Jr. – Intentions of Alcina Sampson

**12:00p.m.** Andrew Joseph III – Intentions of Joseph Simms, Jr. – Parishioners of St. Maria Goretti Parish

**Monday, December 11, 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 12, 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 13, 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 14, 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 15, 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 16, 2017**

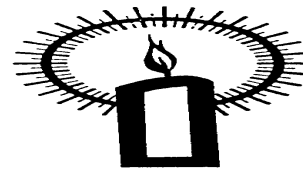
**8:30a.m.** Joseph Nguyen – Jerome Rixner, Jr. – Intentions of James and Tamerle Young – The Living and Deceased Benefactor of the Catholic Negro American Mission.

**Announcements**

“How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.” Eucharistic Adoration Monday - Friday, 9:00a.m. – 12:00 Noon and Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 3:00pm. No Eucharistic Adoration December 22 thru 30, resuming Monday, January, 2, 2017.

**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 meditation 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 and it can be downloaded for your personal use. **Join us on Monday’s in the Center at 7p.m.**



*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 Frances Obioha and In Thanksgiving.



*In Our Parish*

**Monday, December 11, 2017**

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

**Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

6:00p.m. ENONAC - Center

7:00p.m. 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights – Rms. 3 & 4

7:00p.m. First Place Class – Rm. 10

**Wednesday, December 13, 2017**

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

6:00p.m. Lake Carmel HOA – Rm. 8

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

**Thursday, December 14, 2017**

6:00p.m. Bingo

**Friday, December 15, 2017**

**Saturday, December 16, 2017**

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

9:00a.m. Toys for Tots – Library

10:00a.m. Star Class – Rm. 10



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 there 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 December 5, 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](mailto:tbroussard@smgnola.com), or visit the website [smgnola.com](http://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