

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2019

“You . . . must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” — Matthew 24:44

HOPEFUL EXPECTATION

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ’s new day. Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God’s power will have brought universal peace and God’s Word will have instructed all people, radiating God’s “light” (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks “in the light of the LORD” (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed “in [God’s] ways” (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to “awake from sleep” for this final “day is at hand” (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday’s scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God’s plan of salvation. J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD’s house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

Psalm — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11–14).

Gospel — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week’s Collection	\$4,611.00	\$3,362.00
Number of Families contributing	106	90
Total Pledge for 2019	\$167,031.00	\$163,188.00
Pledged to Date (47 Weeks)	\$151,096.00	\$146,438.00
Received to Date	\$130,700.00	\$104,774.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$20,396.00	\$41,664.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$52.00	\$7,941.00

Seven ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$4,330.00	\$58,481.00

Eight people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$208,330.00
Total Received	\$14,247.00

PARKING LOT totaled \$3.00.

14 **CHILDREN** contributed \$41.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$30.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 185; Saturday 7:00 P.M. was 290 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 150.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

One of the most famous Aesop’s tales of gratitude is the Lion and Androcles. Androcles, a slave who was wandering in a forest, chanced upon an injured lion, which had a huge thorn stuck inside its paw. Androcles helped the lion by removing the thorn and gave the lion a new lease of life. Later, Androcles was captured, and thrown in a dungeon with a hungry lion, the lion rushed towards its victim, but it soon realized that Androcles was the same man who saved its life in the forest. The lion did not attack the slave. Instead, it licked his face like a pet dog and showered the slave with love. That’s a simple story of gratitude that we tell our kids to remind them about the importance of gratitude.

But how many of us truly remember to express gratitude? In the daily humdrum of life, you forget to thank the neighbor who keeps a watch on your kids when you need to be away at work. You forget to thank the teacher, who stays back after school to help you with your school projects. You fail to express gratitude to your parents, who have immensely contributed all through your life. And who remembers to thank the librarian, the banker, the plumber, or the garbage pickup truck driver?

Gratitude should not be merely customary politeness. It should reflect a deep humility and love that we feel towards one another. Saying, ‘thank you’ is just the beginning of expressing gratitude. To make gratitude go a long way, you should give back in any way possible. Just like the lion in the story.

“In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.” - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. The Wife and Family of Cracker in loving memory of him on the 32nd Anniversary of his death;
2. the Wife and Family of Johnny Mumbo Carroll in loving memory of him on the 14th Anniversary of his death and in loving memory of Jack Dempsey Carroll on his Birthday;
3. The Family of Mary Frances Rouk in loving memory of her on her 66th Birthday;
4. Pat Butts and Susan in loving memory of Johnny Mumbo Carroll on the 1th Anniversary of his death;
5. a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite, St. Theresa and St. Anthony;
6. Petie, Carolyn, Allie, Pete Joshua and Kara in thanksgiving;
7. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

MASTER’S TABLE Ann T.’s Legion Group, Our Lady of Epiphany, is scheduled to prepare and serve a hot meal to the clients of the Master’s Table in Augusta on this Thursday, December 5th. If you would like to participate in this very rewarding opportunity, please contact Ann T.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother.

It is believed that whoever recites the above prayer 15 times a day from the Feast of St. Andrew (November 30) until Christmas will obtain what is asked.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to the Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart, Precious Blood and St. Expedite; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Raphael and St. Mother Theresa; and to a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS It is asked that everyone donate \$10 for poinsettias. Please give your donation to Bibbie’s Catherine Ann, Bridget Rita, or the Church Office.

JOKE OF THE WEEK Bob goes to see his supervisor in the front office. “Boss,” he says, “we’re doing some heavy house-cleaning at home tomorrow and my wife needs me to help with the attic and the garage, moving and hauling stuff.”
“We’re short-handed, Bob” his boss said. “You know I can’t give you the day off.”
“Thanks, boss,” Bobs said with a smile. “I knew I could count on you.”

ADDICTION PROBLEMS Do you have addiction problems? Please call Richard Harmon 803-270-8376.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday: First Sunday of Advent; World AIDS Awareness Day
Tuesday: St. Francis Xavier
Friday: St. Nicholas; First Friday
Saturday: St. Ambrose; First Saturday; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

MASS INTENTIONS
Monday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague for all the sick and St. Joseph for all the holy souls in purgatory.
Tuesday: In thanks for Honor Carroll on her Birthday.
Wednesday: For the repose of the souls of Apples Mattie and Keystone on the Anniversaries of their deaths.
Thursday: For the repose of the soul of Ann Sherlock on her Birthday.
Friday: In thanks for Jax Carroll on his 14th Birthday and the repose of the soul of Maul’s Jim on his Birthday.

WITH WARMEST MEMORIES

*When I was just a little child
I first became aware,
How Jesus loves all His children
And keeps them in His care.*

*And I remember how so well
Where it was often said,
We kindly thank You, Father
For our food and daily bread.*

*As I recall my childhood days
It seems that I can see,
A picture clear within my heart
With warmest memories.*

READERS

Sat. Nov. 30th, 4:00 P.M.
Karen & Cathy Lisa
Sat. Nov. 30th, 7:00 P.M.
Christina & Natalie
Sun. Dec. 1st, 10:00 A.M.
Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat
Sat. Dec. 7th, 4:00 P.M.
Rita Riley & Grace
Sat. Dec. 7th, 7:00 P.M.
Bridgette Anna & Carolyn
Sun. Dec. 8th, 10:00 A.M.
Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday - Taneil
Tuesday - Fallon
Wednesday - Cathy Lisa
Thursday - Pamela
Friday - Christina

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. Nov. 30th
Front Bridget Ann
Left Cup Winnie Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

Dec. 1st Dec. 8th
Pete Man’s Nora Pete Man’s Nora
Rose Marie Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday Cathy Pole
Tuesday Pete Man’s Nora
Wednesday Margaret Butts
Thursday Betty Jo
Friday Mary Cat

GRATITUDE

**Today, upon a bus, I saw a very handsome man,
and wished I were as beautiful.
When suddenly he rose to leave, I saw him hobble down the
aisle.
He had one leg and wore a crutch. But as he passed, he
passed with a smile. Oh, God, forgive me when I whine. I
have two legs; the world is mine.**

BE GENUINE

Work for a cause, not for applause. Live life to express, not to impress.
Don’t strive to make your presence noticed, just make your absence felt.

RIGHT ATTITUDE

Almost every successful person begins with two beliefs; the future can be better than the present, and I have the power to make it so.

BE HAPPY

You don’t need anyone’s permission to be Happy.
Cherish yesterday; Dream for tomorrow; Live for TODAY!

~~~~~**PRAYER CORNER**~~~~~

**THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

*Oh, Heavenly Father,  
We thank Thee for food and remember the hungry.  
We thank Thee for health and remember the sick.  
We thank Thee for friends and remember the friendless.  
We thank Thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.  
May these remembrances stir us to service,  
that Thy gifts to us may be used for other Amen*