

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2017

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

— Mark 1:3

NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Psalm — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

Gospel — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$2,828.00	\$1,933.00
Number of Families contributing	103	80
Total Pledge for 2017	\$175,815.00	\$188,514.00
Pledged to Date (48 Weeks)	\$163,500.00	\$173,137.00
Received to Date	\$164,152.56	\$139,716.20
Envelopes Outstanding	(\$652.56)	\$33,420.80

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$268.00	\$14,277.00

Thirty-nine ladies made a contribution last week.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

2017 Parish Goal	\$25,705.00
Amount Received to Date	\$14,573.61
Amount Outstanding	\$11,131.39

Ten people made a B.A.A. contribution last week.

HALL RENOVATION FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$130.00	\$10,791.00

Six people made a Hall Fund contribution last week.

PARKING LOT totaled \$8.00.

27 **CHILDREN** contributed \$118.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$16.00

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mass was 303, 7:00 P.M. Mass was 95 and Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass was 110.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A person asked a question to his Pastor, "My workers are not true to me. My children, my wife and the entire world are very selfish. Nobody is correct." The Pastor smiled and told a story..., "In one small village there was a room with 1000 mirrors. One small girl used to go inside and play! Seeing thousands of children around her she was joyful. She would clap her hands and all the 1000 children would clap back at her she considered this place as the world's happiest and beautiful place and would visit often.

This same place was once visited by a sad and depressed person. He saw around him thousands of angry men staring at him. He got scared and raised his hands to hit them and in return 1000 hands lifted to hit him back. He thought...this is the worst place in the world and left that place. This world is also a room with 1000 mirrors around you."

What we let out of us is what the universe will give back to us! This world is a Heaven or Hell. It's up to us what we make out of it. God wants us to be happy, but we have to create a right attitude.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Faro and Family in loving memory of Mary O'Mally Carroll on her 73rd Birthday,
2. the Family of Ned Blaster Sherlock in loving memory of him on the 43rd Anniversary of his death;
3. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Easton Sherlock who was chosen as the Physical Education Leader of the Week at Our Lady of Peace School.

TIMELY DECISIONS

Race cannot be **Won** by accelerating in "**TOP GEAR**" but it can be **Won** by **Changing the Gear at Right Time**.

Timely Decisions in **LIFE** can **Help Win the Race of LIFE**.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

will be celebrated this Monday, December 11th at 7:00 P.M. The Young Girls Organization is taking care of the celebrations.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PENANCE SERVICE

Monday, December 18th 14th — 4:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICE

Tuesday, December 12th — 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, December 20th — 6:30 P.M.

SPECIAL COLLECTION The second collection this weekend will be for the *Retirement Fund for the Religious*.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation of \$500 in thanks to God the Father; a member for a \$100 donation in thanks to St. Expedite for a favor received; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Joseph and St. Expedite for the needy; and to four members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS It is asked that everyone donate \$10 for poinsettias. Please give your donation to Mary Rita O'Hara, Bridget Rita, or the Church Office.

THANK YOU TREE This year we will have a *THANK YOU TREE*. The money will be distributed to the poor and needy during Christmas time. The contributors' name will be put on the tree. Kindly give your donation to the church Office or Mary Rita O'Hara.

LIFE

A doctor can **SAVE** your life.

A lawyer can **DEFEND** your life.

A soldier can give you a **PEACEFUL** life.

But only GOD can give you an **EVERLASTING** life.

JOKE OF THE WEEK *Just days before Christmas, a couple received a mysterious envelope in the mail. Inside were two tickets to a play at the big city theater and a card signed: "Guess who?" Intrigued, they went to the theater, had a great time and returned home to find their back door open and their home robbed of many valuables.*

On the kitchen table was another nice card signed, "Now you know."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: International Human Rights Day
Monday: St. Damasus I
Tuesday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Wednesday: St. Lucy
Thursday: St. John of the Cross

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For the repose of the soul of Mary O'Malley Carroll on her 73rd Birthday.
Tuesday: In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.
Wednesday: In thanks for Middleton Carroll on her 3rd Birthday.
Thursday: For the repose of the souls of Pete Turner Riley on the Anniversary of his death for the repose of the soul of Susie Mulholland on the 2nd Anniversary of her death.
Friday: In honor of the Holy Souls and Precious Blood.

I LIFT THEM TO THEE

***Whenever I'm troubled, from sorrow I flee,
I lift them to Thee, Lord, I lift them to Thee.***

***These heartaches so heavy, You'll carry for me,
I lift them to Thee, Lord, I lift them to Thee.***

***I pray in the darkness my fears You will see,
I lift them to Thee, Lord, I lift them to Thee.***

***With solace and mercy Your peace You send me,
I lift them to Thee, Lord, I lift them to Thee.***

***I feel my heart eased, Lord, your glory I see,
No troubles to carry, They're lifted to Thee.***

READERS

Sat. Dec. 9th, 4:00 P.M.
Grace &
Rita Riley

Sat. Dec. 9th, 7:00 P.M.
Jay &
Mary Melissa

Sun. Dec. 10th, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Theresa Maria Cat

Sat. Dec. 16th, 4:00 P.M.
Cathy Lisa Butts &
Karen

Sat. Dec. 16th, 7:00 P.M.
Jay &
Bridgette Anna

Sun. Dec. 17th, 10:00 A.M. Theresa Maria Cat & Jimmy Joseph

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday Kara
Tuesday Karen
Wednesday Christina Apple
Thursday Cathy Lisa Butts
Friday Annette

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.
Front
Left Cup

December 9th
Bridget Ann
Winnie Ann

Saturday 7:00 P.M.
Front
Cup

December 9th
Jay
Johnny Jay's Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

December 10th
Pete Man's Nora
Rose Marie

December 17th
Pete Man's Nora
Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday Mary Cat
Tuesday Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday Ann T.
Thursday Bibbie's Catherine Ann
Friday Ann Rita

ALWAYS BE BEST

If you have a choice,

Then choose the BEST.

If you have no choice,

Then do the BEST.

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

PRAYER FOR THE DEARLY DEPARTED

In Your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters. In this life You embraced them with Your tender love; deliver them from now from every evil and bid them eternal rest. The old order has passed away: welcome them into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain, but fullness of peace and joy with Your Son and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.