

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 2, 2018

I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land.
 — Jeremiah 33:15

THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE

We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice. Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God's justice is something other than this, of course. God's justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind. Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off stump of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah's time. Israel's kings held the promise of God's fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God's promise could be realized through them. Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his voice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke's Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so Advent begins with a promise.
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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).
Psalm — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).
Second Reading — Abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).
Gospel — Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$4,286.00	\$3,009.00
Number of Families contributing	136	105
Total Pledge for 2018	\$118,199.00	\$167,136.00
Pledged to Date (46 Weeks)	\$151,146.00	\$147,378.00
Received to Date	\$153,957.20	\$118,727.00
Envelopes Outstanding	(\$2,811.20)	\$28,651.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2018
\$118.00	\$8,857.00

Twenty ladies made a contribution last week.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

2018 Parish Goal	\$25,705.00
Amount Received to Date	\$13,421.94
Amount Outstanding	\$12,283.06

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

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2018
\$6,630.00	\$64,312.00

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

PARKING LOT totaled \$3.00.

18 **CHILDREN** contributed \$155.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$54.00

THANKSGIVING COLLECTION totaled \$203.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 300, 7:00 P.M. Mass was 150 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 120.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In All Quiet on the Western Front, a young German soldier lies in a crater, taking cover from artillery fire. Suddenly a French soldier leaps into the same crater, taking cover also. The German youth bayonets and kills him. This is the first man he has killed, and he wonders what his name is. Seeing a wallet in the dead man's pocket, he takes it out. In it is a photograph of a young mother holding a child. The German gets a lump in his throat. The dead man is not an enemy but a father and a husband like himself — someone who loves and is loved. This new vision of his one-time "enemy" makes forgiveness and love possible.

What might I do to change my vision of someone I ought to forgive, as Jesus has forgiven that same person?

A sinful woman fell at the feet of Jesus and began washing them with her tears. Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."
 —LUKE 7:48

To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover that the prisoner is ME.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Donnie and Lindsay in thanks for Honor on her 10th Birthday;
2. the Family of Eddie E. Carroll and Kate Hun Carroll on the Anniversary of their deaths;
3. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

The Banns of Marriage are announced for the third time for Johnny Thomas Carroll and Laken Carroll.

THREE BEAUTIFUL THOUGHTS

- No one can destroy iron, but its own rust can! Likewise, no one can destroy a person, but its own mindset can.
- Ups and downs in life are very important to keep us going, because a straight line even in an E.K.G. means we are not alive.
- The same boiling water that hardens the egg, will soften the potato! It depends upon individuals reaction to stressful circumstances!

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 this Thursday, December 6th. If you would like to participate in this very rewarding opportunity, please contact Ann T.

PINEVIEW MEMORIAL GARDEN CANDELIGHT VIGIL

Come join Pineview Memorial Gardens for a Candlelight Vigil December 8th at Dusk. Candles will be placed on each grave.

THANK YOU

to three members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

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.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS It is asked that everyone donate \$10 for poinsettias.

SATAN'S BEATITUDES

1. Blessed are those who are tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week in Church ~ they are my best workers.
2. Blessed are those who sow gossip and trouble ~ they are my beloved children.
3. Blessed are those who have no time to pray ~ for they are my prey.
4. Blessed are you when you hear this and think it has everything to do with other people, and nothing to do with you ~ I've got room for you at my inn.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

The old farmer from the countryside who was visiting a big city for the first time with his son, stood speechless before the elevator of a big hotel, watching in wonder, as an old woman got into the elevator and, within minutes, a beautiful young woman came out.

He called out to his son who was registering at the reception. "Son, put your mother into that miracle machine immediately. It will transform her into a beautiful young lady."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday:** St. Francis Xavier
Tuesday: St. John Damascene
Thursday: St. Nicholas
Friday: St. Ambrose; First Friday; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Saturday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday:** In honor of the Holy Spirit and Precious Blood for a special intention.
Tuesday: For the repose of the soul of Ann Sherlock on her Birthday.
Wednesday: In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.
Thursday: For the repose of the soul of Maul's Jim on his 86th Birthday.
Friday: In thanks for Jax Carroll on his 13th Birthday.

BE MY GUIDE

*This long smooth road I walked upon
 Seems like a jungle now;
 The weeds of fear, doubt and strife,
 Conceal the way somehow.
 Thou art the great physician, Lord,
 So ease this broken heart;
 Help me control this turmoil within,
 just show me where to start.
 Thou art the mighty counselor Lord,
 So take this feeble mind;
 Guide me down this long rough road,
 Thou it may weave and wind.
 I know you are the Prince of Peace,
 And yet the judge of life;
 Please, Lord, be all these things to me,
 Just see me through this strife.*

READERS

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat. Dec. 1st, 4:00 P.M.
Karen & Cathy Lisa Butts | Sat. Dec. 1st, 7:00 P.M.
Jay & Mary Melissa |
| Sun. Dec. 2nd, 10:00 A.M. | Mary Cat & Jimmy Joseph |
| Sat. Dec. 8th, 4:00 P.M.
Rita Riley & Grace | Sat. Dec. 8th, 7:00 P.M.
Jimmy Joseph & Natalie |
| Sun. Dec. 9th, 10:00 A.M. | Mary Cat & Theresa Maria |

READERS – WEEKDAYS

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| Monday | - | Reed |
| Tuesday | - | Melissa Gallon |
| Wednesday | - | Skylar |
| Thursday | - | Christina Apple |
| Friday | - | Fallon |

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Saturday 4:00 P.M. | December 1st |
| Front | Bridget Ann |
| Left Cup | Winnie Ann |

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

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| December 2nd | December 9th |
| Pete Man's Nora | Pete Man's Nora |
| Rose Marie | Rose Marie |

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

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|------------------|-----------------|
| Monday | Mary Cat |
| Tuesday | Pete Man's Nora |
| Wednesday | Rosie Cat |
| Thursday | Betty Jo |
| Friday | Rose Marie |

VAGARIES OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- *How do you get off a non-stop Flight?*
- *Why do doctors 'practice' medicine? Are they having practice at the cost of the patients?*
- *Why do they call it a TV 'set' when there is only one?*
- *What are you vacating when you go on a vacation?*

LIFE IS THREE

Ex=Ex=Ex

Yesterday was "Experience"

Today is "Experiment"

Tomorrow is "Expectation"

Use your "Experience" in your "Experiment" to achieve your "Expectation"

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

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. Amen.