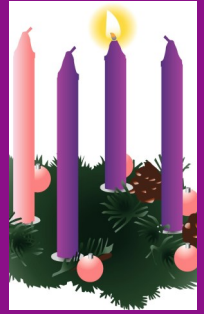


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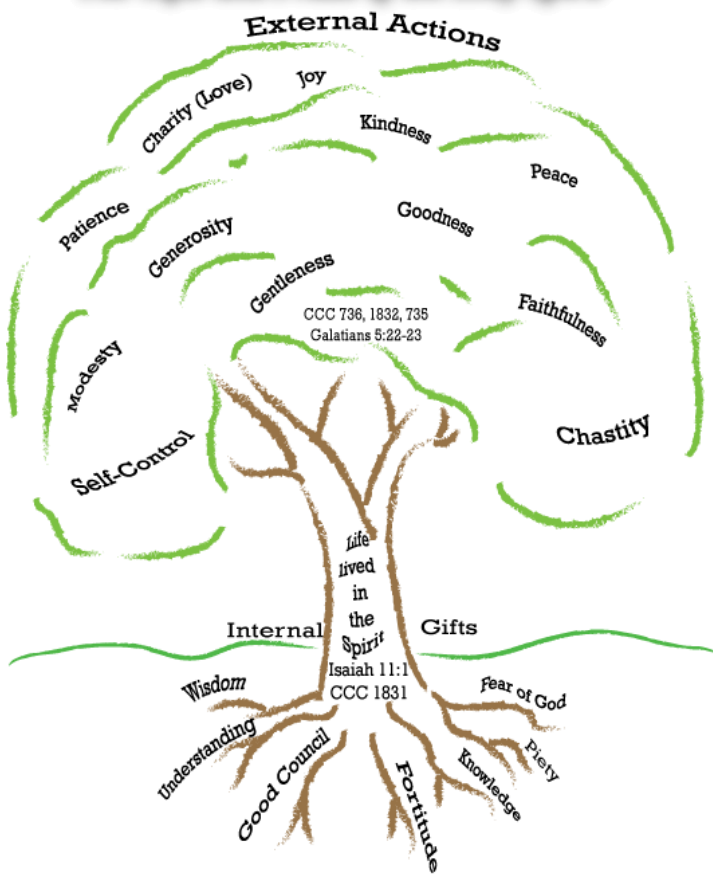
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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DEC. 3RD, 2023

**YOU ARE NOT LACKING IN ANY SPIRITUAL GIFT
AS YOU WAIT FOR THE REVELATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit



Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples—Peter, James, John, and Andrew—who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face.

Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of

conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

I DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO – DICIEMBRE 3RD, 2023

NO CARECEN DE NINGÚN DON, USTEDES, LOS QUE ESPERAN LA MANIFESTACIÓN DE NUESTRO SEÑOR JESUCRISTO.

El Evangelio de hoy está tomado del final del Evangelio de Marcos, el capítulo que precede inmediatamente al relato de Marcos sobre la Pasión de Jesús. Después de haber sido interrogado repetidamente por los escribas y fariseos, Jesús ahora es interrogado por sus discípulos (Pedro, Santiago, Juan y Andrés), quienes quieren detalles sobre su predicción de la destrucción del Templo. Jesús responde con muchas advertencias sobre las dificultades que enfrentarán los discípulos.

El pasaje de hoy llega al final de las advertencias de Jesús a sus discípulos. Jesús enfatiza la necesidad de estar alerta. El Hijo del Hombre vendrá sin previo aviso; sólo el Padre sabe la hora exacta. Los discípulos no deben quedar desprevenidos cuando llegue ese momento.

Los eruditos creen que el Evangelio de Marcos fue escrito alrededor de la época de la destrucción de Jerusalén por los romanos en el año 70 d.C. La audiencia de Marcos estaba formada por cristianos que vivían en tiempos sociales y políticos difíciles, tiempos de conflicto. Probablemente estaban comenzando a enfrentar persecución como seguidores de Jesús. En este momento difícil, ayudó recordar que Jesús había predicho tales dificultades. Las primeras comunidades cristianas se animaron con la advertencia de Jesús de permanecer alerta y vigilantes, y encontraron en sus palabras una manera de perseverar a través del sufrimiento.

El Evangelio de hoy nos recuerda que el Adviento es más que nuestra preparación para la celebración de la Iglesia del nacimiento de Cristo en Navidad. El Adviento también se trata de prepararnos para el regreso de Cristo en gloria al final de los tiempos. Al igual que los discípulos y los fieles de la comunidad de Marcos, también debemos permanecer alerta y vigilantes. Nuestra fidelidad a Dios, tanto en los buenos tiempos como en los difíciles, nos muestra que estamos preparados para la venida del Hijo del Hombre.

WHAT IS ADVENT?

Sunday, December 3, 2023 - Sunday, December 24, 2023

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest wears violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose may be worn (GIRM, no. 346). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

U.S Catholic Bishops

EVENT CALENDAR

Sat. Dec. 2nd & Sun. Dec. 3rd:
Human Trafficking - Second
Collection.

Wed. Dec. 6th No 12 noon Mass
(Fr. Jhonnatan and priests attending
a day of Advent Retreat)

Thu. Dec. 7th. 3-6pm Rectory
Christmas Open House Party.

**Fri. Dec. 8th Immaculate
Conception.** 'Holy Day of
Obligation' 12 noon English Mass.
6:30pm Bilingual Mass.

**Tue. Dec. 12th Santa Maria de
Guadalupe
Manana:**

6:00 Mananitas & 6:30 Rosario

Tarde:

6:00 pm Danza; 6:30 pm Misa con
Marichis; 7:30 pm Convivio

Thu. Dec. 15th @ 6:30pm. First
Day of the **Posadas** in the Church.

Sat. Dec. 24th @ 4:30pm

Christmas Eve Mass. Sun. Dec.
25th @ 9 & 11:15 am Christmas
Day Masses

SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass

Wednesday — Friday, 12 noon

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil at 4:30 PM

Sunday at 9:00 and 11:15 AM in English,
Spanish Mass: 2nd Sunday of the Month at
5:00 pm in the Church. 4th Saturday of the
month at 7:00pm in Cachagua.

Reconciliation

Saturday at 3:30 PM and by appointment

Office Hours

Wednesday — Friday:
10 AM - 12 PM; 2 - 4 PM

The church is open Wednesday — Sunday
from 10 AM to 4 PM for personal prayer.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions Decembre 2nd - 10th 2023

Saturday Dec 2nd 4:30pm: People of the Parish

Sunday Dec 3rd 9:00: + Maria Carmen Polanco

11:15: + Pym Gilbert

2:00 pm Cachagua Mass + Artemio Martinez

Wed. Dec. 6th 12:00: NO MASS

Thurs. Dec. 7th 12:00 + Henry Carmona

Fri. Dec. 8th IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

12:00: + Jill Lynch

6:30pm Bilingual Mass: + Bishop Richard Garcia

Saturday Dec. 9th 4:30pm: + Lois Lynne McCarhty

Sunday Dec. 10th 9:00: + Kim Cook

11:15: + People of the Parish

5:00 pm Misa en Espanol:

+ Emma Solano, + Jose Guadalupe Cabrera

*MAY THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL
DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD,
REST IN PEACE. AMEN.*

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Nov. 18 & 19: \$ 1,550.45

Thanksgiving Mass: \$ 340.00

Nov. 25 & 26: \$ 1,695.23

Maintenance 2nd C: \$ 779.00

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY*

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Jhonnatan Flórez Carmona

Parish Priest:

frjcarmona@ourladycarmelvalley.org

Gail Quinnan

Assistant to the Pastor (Volunteer)

olmc@ourladycarmelvalley.org

Rebecca Bayless

Bookkeeper

Music Ministry

4:30 pm Sat. Mass: Kim Hartford—Carlos Flores

9:00 am Sun. Mass: Stefania Ortiz—Richard Carr

11:15 am Sun. Mass Parish Choir

Angelica Lozano

Custodian

PARISH VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES

Pastoral Council

- Dede Woodhead (chair), Alondra Klemek (vice chair), Jeff Hawkins (secretary), Daryl Lyon, J Concepción Jara, Sean Devine, Trini Resendiz

Finance Council

- Alex Gray (chair), Jim Rice (secretary), A.B. Introcaso, Jack McAleer, Ed Quinnan

Faith Formation

- First Communion:** Susan Franks (1st year) Jennifer Bodner (2nd year). Supply teacher: Brisa Cabrera (1st year)
- Confirmation:** Tess Arthur (2nd year). Supply teacher: Alondra Klemek.
- RCIA / Adult Faith Formation:** John Condon—Derwin Borling

Bereavement Ministry:

Trudy Dowd

Manna Ministry:

Janice Hawkins

Human Trafficking

Brendan Cook

Parish Hall & Kitchen Rental:

A.B. Introcaso

Social Media:

Lorraine Yglesias

Website:

John Finn

Lectors:

Dede Woodhead

Ministers of the Eucharist:

Lorraine Ring

Coffee Hospitality Ministry:

Rosemary Ellis

Sacristans:

Richard Ring

Ushers:

John & Cheri

Dodsworth.-Vicky Young


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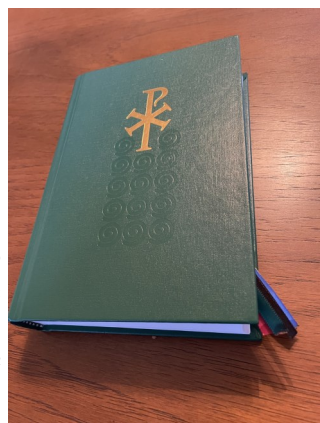


Eric Saulnier, Parishioner
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831.642.9118 831.601.0181

Starting this weekend, on the first Sunday of Advent, we will be using our beautiful new liturgical hymn books "JOURNEYSONGS".

Fr. Jhonnatan and the Pastoral Council have approved these new hard cover Hymn Books which contain the Sundays' and Holy Days' readings for the three Liturgical Cycles in the church year. They include colored bookmarks to select the weekly readings and hymns. Because we will not be throwing away a hymn book every year, we will now be taking better care of the environment.



**Your weekend readings are number: 859
 First Sunday of Advent B**


**SAINT OF THE WEEK: DEC. 3RD
 SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST.**



This young Spanish gentleman, in the dangerous days of the Reformation, was making a name for himself as a Professor of Philosophy in the University of Paris, and had seemingly no higher aim, when Saint Ignatius of Loyola won him to heavenly thoughts. After a brief apostolate amongst his countrymen in Rome he was sent by Saint Ignatius to the Indies, where for twelve years he was to wear himself out, bearing the Gospel to Hindostan, to Malacca, and to Japan. Thwarted by the jealousy, covetousness, and carelessness of those who should have helped and encouraged him, neither their opposition nor the difficulties of every sort which he encountered could make him slacken his labors for souls. The vast kingdom of China appealed to his charity, and he was resolved to risk his life to force an entry, when God took him to Himself, and on the 2nd of December, 1552, he died, like Moses, in sight of the land of promise. I-Breviary



**Thu. Dec. 7th. 3-6pm
 Rectory Christmas
 Open House Party.**



**Immaculate Conception
 Holy Day of Obligation**
 Fri. Dec. 8th
 12 noon English Mass.
 6:30pm Bilingual Mass.