



December 23-25, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

UPCOMING DATES

Mon Dec 24, Christmas Eve:

- Christmas Carols 4 PM
- Christmas Eve Mass 5 PM

Tues Dec 25, Christmas Day:

- Christmas Day Mass 10 AM

No daily mass Wed-Fri this week

Tues Jan 1, New Years

Wed Jan 2, St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting 1 PM

Finance Committee Meeting (TBA)

St. Colman Guild Meeting (TBA)

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS

Who are ill or in pain: Nilda Falero, Don Schaffert, Lawrence Peterson, Claudette West, Alan Barich, Ed Copeland, Andrew Cebalo, Nina Cantacessi, Posie, William Donnellan, Ernest Souder, Robert Cebalo, Kathleen Sheridan, Sister Gabrielle, Virginia Loosli, David Cross, Helen Johnson, Billy Henthorn, Steve Arcia, Jim & Mary Crowther, Lorelie Fulwider, Fr. Andrew Metcalf, JoAnn Coules, Dinah Smith, Lorna Marie Hastings, Laverne Jones, Joanne & Bill Rodgers, John Breig, Linda Schmidt, Michell Jackson, Jim Ward, Nini Sanchez, Jacqueline Donovan, Art McNulty, Terry Devlin, Mary Hall Smith, Stan Moorman, Maggie Nelson, Stella Dunne, Nina Cantacessi, John Hoffman, Mary Tamargo, Don La Plante, Sarah & David, Ed Fulwider, Vicki Gonzalez, Jesus Chavez Torres.

Who have been called to Eternal Life: Evelyn Shuster, John Seymour, George Ayoob, Charlie Marbach, Joe Mercieca, Elaine Benson, Suzi Schaffert, Janet Guidotti, Keith Poulsen, Doris Porras, Helen Leseberg, Bette Campbell, Margaret Maher, Carole Williams, Fr. Philip Ryan, Joseph Kobler, Rebecca Jane Ruiz, Janine Bekker Carrig, Margie Sanchez, Matthew Gonzalez, Billy Ferree, Tom King, Tom Kelly, Axel Avera, Victor Theander, John Sanchez, Don Covello.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 4 pm: Steve Pacatte req Michele and Torr McDonell

Sat 5 pm: All parishioners

Sun 9 am: John Seymour⁺ requested by Gail Culverwell

Sun 11 am: All parishioners

READINGS

Mi 5: 1-4a

Ps 80: 2-3. 15-16. 18-19

Heb 10: 5-10

Lk 1: 39-45

LITURGICAL MUSIC CORNER

by our Music Director, Rebecca Brown

Dec. 23rd Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.”

Gathering Song: Gathering Song For Advent

“Come, Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus, come and give us your peace.”

Psalm 80: Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Preparation of the Gifts: Hail Mary, Gentle Woman BB #705

Communion Hymn: Ave Maria, inst./ Celtic Advent Carol

Recessional Hymn: Save Us, O Lord BB # 667

BB: Breaking Bread Hymnal SS: Song Sheets

Processional Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful/ *Adeste Fideles* (BB # 96)

Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria, gloria!

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra, terra pax!

Psalm 96: Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Preparation of the Gifts: Gesu Bambino, by Pietro Yon

Communion Hymn: Silent Night (BB # 80)

O Holy Night, choir

Recessional Hymn: Joy to the World (BB # 84)

Hymn Notes:

O Holy Night ("Cantique de Noël") was composed by Adolphe C. Adam in 1847 to the French Christmas poem "Minuit, chrétiens" by Placide Cappeau.

On Christmas Eve, 1906, Canadian inventor Reginald Fessenden broadcasted the first AM radio program and played "O Holy Night" on the violin, making the popular carol the first piece of music to be broadcast on radio.

<http://christianmusic.about.com/od/christmas/a/oholynight.htm>

Please join us for caroling, choral pieces, and scripture reading at 4:00 pm on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec 24th, followed by the Christmas Vigil Mass at 5 pm. All are welcome, so encourage your friends to attend! Let us fill our beautiful church with song and praise celebrating the birth of Christ!

PASTOR'S DESK

I had a wonderful time at the Christmas party and I hope you did too! It was great to see everyone there. I had a chance to talk to people I've never met before like Randy, a friend of one of our parishioners, he told me that it was his first time to attend to any Parish function. I also got to meet Terry's wife. It was nice to connect with people and their families, even if only for a moment. John C. showed up with his wife, it was nice to see them. I was SO impressed with parishioners who took the challenge of sitting with people they didn't know. I'm sure new friendships were formed.

Author *Marcus Bach* once interviewed *Josef Meier*, the actor who for many years played the part of Jesus in a highly successful "Passion Play." Mr. Meier, who had enacted the role more than four thousand times, told Mr. Bach a secret. Here is how the author describes the interview:

Mr. Meier said there was a period in the early history of the play when it seemed that the performances would never "catch on." There was something about the production and the organization that just "didn't click." Often, he would meet with the cast and they would discuss the option of just giving up and disbanding. What miracle occurred to turn the project from failure to phenomenal success? Here is how Mr. Meier explained it:

"One evening when I was playing the part of the Christmas, as I had done many times before. There were very few people in the audience, and hope was running low. I came to the lines in the play where Jesus says, 'Why take ye thought for the morrow, O ye of little faith?' I had said these words many times before. On this particular night, I heard myself saying this line as I had often done, but something happened. For the first time, I asked myself, 'Josef Meier, why don't you have the will to believe these words with all your heart? Don't just say them, believe them!'"

He went on to say,

"Like a flash, it dawned on me that I had been playing the part of the Christ without actually believing as He believed or living the faith as He had lived it. I don't know whether the spectators sensed that I paused momentarily at this point, but something was happening to me. Belief ... trust ... the conviction came to me and from that moment on a change took place in everything connected with the Passion Play and its future."

As I read the words of Mr. Meier I have to ask myself, how often do we play the role of a Christian, speak Christ's words, and never have the will to believe that they are the words of life? Josef Meier, in his enactment of the Lord's passion and death, even hung upon a literal cross as Jesus did, but the miracle came when he suddenly went beyond merely playing the part and believed it! That was the turning point. That is the turning point in every Christian life!

That was the turning point in the Mother Mary's life, as Luke describes it in today's Gospel Lesson. It came immediately following the angel's declaration to Mary that she was to bear a Son and call His Name Jesus, and that He would reign over God's Kingdom.

We read, "Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Yes, she who believed that the promise made by her Lord would be fulfilled'" (Lk. 1:31, 39-42, 45).

If I don't see you on Christmas eve and day, may you have a wonderful Christmas!

Fr. Luis

PARISH DONATIONS

Period reflected: Dec 15 – Dec 16

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| St. Elizabeth 1 st collection | \$1,071.00 |
| St. Elizabeth 2 nd collection | \$193.00 |
| St. Catherine 1 st collection | \$183.00 |
| St. Catherine 2 nd collection | \$201.00 |
| St. Colman 1 st collection | \$34.23 |
| St. Colman 2 nd collection | \$100.00 |

Thank you for your generosity! \$1,782.23

Have you remembered the St. Elizabeth church in your will?

To be placed on our Sunday Bulletin email list, send your request to: ChurchElizabeth@comcast.net

The deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday at 5pm. Submit them (proofread and spell-checked) via email or the following meetings at St. Hubert's Hall:

St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting (1st Wednesday at 1 pm)

Finance Committee Meeting (3rd Wednesday at 4 pm)

St. Colman Guild Meeting (4th Tuesday at 12 pm)