



December 25, 2019

The Nativity Of The Lord

UPCOMING DATES

Wed Jan 8, 12:30pm: St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting
Tues Jan 28, 4pm: St. Colman Guild Meeting
Wed Feb 19, 4pm: Finance Committee Meeting

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 24th: Loved ones who are with our Savior.
Dec 25th: Those struggling mentally, emotionally or financially.
Dec 28th & 29th: All parishioners.

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS

Who are ill or in pain: Paul Aguilar, Jim Jennaro, Sonja Falero, Carolyn Falero Young, Bill Hatch, Cathy Olsen, Bart Strady, Kim Warburton, Bill Harmon, Mike Hogan, Hernan Enrique Caceres, Veronica Natalia Chavez, Maria Sol Montel, Veronica Rodriguez, Luz Alejandra Bringas, Carolina Silvia Brizuela Perez, Rodolfo Martin Arruabarrena, Dorothy Maceira, Jack Burger, Charlotte & Neil Berry, Jim Rossi, Raul & Iris Bisbal, Frank Falero, Guillermina Hernandez, Gabe & Renee Snodgrass, Thomas Gregory, Nini Johnston, Don Creech, Nilda Falero, Don Schaffert, 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: Helen Mik, Len Heinz, Emilio Porta, Allan Barich, Despo Pullaro, Claudette West, Susan Manick Dodge, Dana Couey-Harmon, Allo Castano, Cecilia Heinz, Lawrence Peterson, Evelyn Shuster, John Seymour, George Ayoob, Charlie Marbach, Joe Mercieca, Elaine Benson, Suzi Schaffert, Janet Guidotti, Doris Porras, Helen Leseberg, Bette Campbell, Margaret Maher, Carole Williams, Fr. Philip Ryan, Joseph Kobler, Janine Bekker Carrig, Matthew Gonzalez, Billy Ferree, Tom King, Tom Kelly, Axel Avera, Victor Theander, John Sanchez

READINGS

Christmas Eve:	Christmas Day:
Is 9: 1-6	Is 62: 11-12
Ps 96: 1-2. 2-3. 11-12. 13	Ps 97: 1. 6. 11-12
Ti 2: 11-14	Ti 3: 4-7
Lk 2: 1-14	Lk 2: 15-20

LITURGICAL MUSIC CORNER

by our Music Director, Rebecca Brown

Dec. 24th 4 pm Caroling service, 5 pm Mass
Dec. 25th 9 am Mass

Processional Hymn:
O Come, All Ye Faithful/ *Adeste Fideles* (BB # 97)
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: The Little Drummer Boy
Communion Hymn: Silent Night (BB # 81)
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>

PASTOR'S DESK

A woman whose husband died six months before Christmas, sat down to write out a Christmas card to a close friend. This is what she said: "Some say to me, 'Life during this first Christmas without your husband will be hard for you.' It will be, of course. But without Christmas, it would be impossible." At the time of her husband's death, that woman thought that God had turned out the light. But then came the Christmas Message to remind her that God had reached out and turned on the light for all time and for all people.

At Christmas, people send messages and warm greetings to family members and friends. At Christmas, there is an unusual display of caring and affection by many people. At Christmas, the suffering of the sick and the condition of the lonely seem less acceptable than on other days. At Christmas, it seems that almost everyone wants to contribute to the success of the festive holiday. At Christmas, more than on any other day it seems, people need the kind of festive spirit that brings peace and light into their lives. Indeed, at Christmas, more than at any other time of year, something comes to life deep within us and gives us light -- not in the form of easy answers to our anxious questions about evil and suffering and death, but in the form of an Infant, born in a stable, in a town called Bethlehem, two thousand years ago.

"God is Love." It's not meant to be an optimistic motto. It's not meant to be a pious slogan. It's meant to be the Guiding Light toward our life's fulfillment. It's meant to be the basis for an intimate relationship with the Teacher who came from God and identified Himself as the "Light of the World." It's meant to be the supreme expression of the reality that the Power that holds the stars in their places, the Power that controls the rise and ebb of tides, the Power that keeps the entire Universe in running order, that Power is Love. It's meant to be the supreme revelation of the Truth, that one who loves God and neighbor is in union with the Almighty Creator and Sustainer of all of life.

Many thanks to all our parishioners who have supported our parishes, here in the River area!

May all of you create lasting, love-filled memories with family, friends and most of all experience of God's love and presence in your life.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Peace and blessings!

Fr. Luis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be NO daily morning Mass on Thursday Dec. 26th, Friday Dec. 27th, Monday Dec. 30th and Tuesday Dec. 31st.

Due to New Year's Day landing on Wed Jan 1st, St Elizabeth's Guild meeting and Installation luncheon will be held at Main Street Station on Wednesday Jan 8th at 12:30pm. Please call Francine at (707) 869-9341 or Maryanne at (707) 869-0323 for information and reservations. Hope to see you there!

Enjoy growing your faith with fellow travelers on your faith journey! Pivotal Players: Bishop Barron's production, Vol. 1 of the most influential figures in church history. St. Francis of Assisi, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Henry Newman, G.K. Chesterton and Michelangelo. Each segment is approximately 1 hour. Wednesday afternoon viewings at 5:00 pm at the home of Mary Ann. ***RSVP is necessary*** please call Mary Ann at (707) 869-0323.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

by Anne Osdiek, St. Louis University

First Reading: Isaiah 9: 1-6, Isaiah: 62:11-12

1. "For a child is born to us, a son is given us. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace." What do these names mean to you? Would you expect to see someone named God-Hero born in a stable? Who is born in stable-like places today? Give an example.

2. "They shall be called a holy people, the redeemed of the Lord, and you shall be called 'Frequented,' a city that is not forsaken." Why are they called holy? Why is this a time of universal goodwill? Is this grace offered to all people? What does this mean to you in your daily life?

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

1. "In time past, God spoke in partial and various ways." Name a partial way God has spoken. What are some of the various ways God speaks to you? Do you look for God in the lowly events of your life as well as the great ones?

2. What does St. Paul mean when he says that the Son is the very "imprint of the Father's being"? What would any of us look like if we were the imprint of Christ? Have you been acquainted with Christ lately?

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14, Luke 2:15-12

1. If you wanted to find God today where might you start looking? Do you think the shepherds were the same people after their experience? Did they understand what the angels said when they went and found Mary and Joseph and the baby in the stable? What enables you to see the divine in the ordinary?

2. In his homily on Christmas Eve, Pope Francis said the Jesus is the meaning of life and history, and he pitched his tent among us. Why does he say the shepherds were the first to see this "tent"?

The shepherds were the first to see this "tent," to receive the news of Jesus' birth. They were the first because they were among the last, the outcast. And they were the first because they were awake, keeping watch in the night, guarding their flocks. The pilgrim is bound by duty to keep watch and the shepherds did just that. ...

To us the Lord repeats, "do not be afraid!" (Lk 2:10). As the angels said to the shepherds: "do not be afraid!" And I also repeat to all of you: do not be afraid! Our Father is patient, he loves us, he gives us Jesus to guide us on the way which leads to the promised land. Jesus is the light who brightens the darkness. He is mercy: our Father always forgives us. He is our peace. Amen.

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
December 24, 2013
Vatican Basilica

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:

<i>St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting (1st Wednesday at 1 pm)</i>
<i>Finance Committee Meeting (3rd Wednesday at 4 pm)</i>
<i>St. Colman Guild Meeting (4th Tuesday at 12 pm)</i>