



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 6, 2009
God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low.
— Baruch 5:7

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Dec. 7-13, 2009



- Monday**
6:30 pm Sisto Ortiz & Jose Guajardo, Jr. † - Shirley & Jim Duggan
 6:30 am Michael Rowsome - Family
 6:30 pm Grace Purches† - Msgr. Morgan
 7:00 pm (S.M.) Intention of Celebrant
- Wednesday**
 6:30 pm Carmen Villarreal† - Family
- Thursday**
 8:00 am Vernell Dolezal† - Raymond & Judi Hoelscher
- Friday**
 8:00 am Jim Martini (B-day) - Evelyn Martini
- Saturday**
 6:00 am (SM) Tim & Adela Zapata† - Zapata Family
 6:00 pm Floy Lee Stock† - Margaret Boerm
- Sunday**
 8:00 am Dolores Tristan† - Tristan Family
 9:30 am People of the Parish
10:00 am Eduardo Gonzalez† - Family
12:00 pm Javier Tanguma† - M/M Raymond Tanguma
 6:00 pm Michael C. Booth(B-day) - Rosa Ena Gutierrez

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Envelope Contributions (348)	\$14,755.45
Loose Collection	\$559.70
Children's Collection	\$189.12
Other Fees	\$947.00
Total	\$16,451.27

Thank You!

ST. MARY MISSION

Envelope Contributions (16)	\$370.00
Loose Collection	\$ 97.00
Total	\$467.00

Dear Friends,

On this second Sunday of Advent, we read from the Gospel of St. Luke, and hear some very important words from John the Baptist. He tells all of us to "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Surely this is our Advent call and we are all urged to respond to it in many different ways. "The Lord who has done great things for us" can fill us with joy, peace and the gift of grace, if we take the time and make the effort to fill in our valleys (faults) and remove the hills (sins & bad habits) by our prayers, rituals, Bible readings and Sacraments. Below are printed some Christmas Commandments that will help you have a holy Advent and a Joy filled Christmas.

Your Friend,
Msgr. Morgan

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS

- 1. Thou shalt prepare early.** Don't wait until the last minute to get into the Christmas spirit.
- 2. Thou shalt keep Christ at the Center of Christmas.** Don't allow yourself to be overwhelmed by the commercialism of the season. Resolve to read the daily Mass readings from now until Christmas and meditate upon what it means that Christ came into the world.
- 3. Thou shalt make Christmas a family time.** Do things together: Decorate the tree, play games, bake cookies, shop, write Religious Christmas cards, have the Advent Wreath Ceremony, go caroling, attend Church together.
- 4. Thou shalt remember those who are less fortunate.** Contribute sacrificially to an organization serving the needs of others throughout the year. Give a generous Christmas gift to your Church.
- 5. Thou shalt give thyself with every gift.** Put some thought into the gifts you purchase. Give a gift that represents you. If possible, make or bake something instead of buying something.
- 6. Thou shalt learn to be a good receiver.** Many of us have trouble receiving graciously and gracefully. Let us appreciate the gifts that God, our parents, friends and others give us and take time to let them know that we really appreciate their "gifts." An attitude of gratitude is essential if we want a happy and holy Christmas.
- 7. Thou shalt put music in Christmas.** Buy several Christmas CD's and play them again and again. Watch Special Christmas programs on T.V. and sing carols with loved ones.
- 8. Thou shalt slow down.** Remember: Christmas is supposed to be a season of peace. No panic, avoid hypertension and keep stress to a minimum. Watch a Christmas movie with the family.
- 9. Thou shalt remember to worship.** In order to keep Christ in Christmas, pray at home every day, attend Mass frequently but especially on Sunday and Christmas, visit the live Nativity Scene and spend some time in Adoration.
- 10. Thou shalt receive Christ into your life in Holy Communion.** Don't just talk about or sing about the Christ of Christmas, but welcome him into your life in Holy Communion. Jesus is not in the stable nor in the tomb today, he is 'risen' and truly present in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and in Holy Communion.

This Week at St. Peter Church

MONDAY: Rosary 6:00 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m.. Feast of St. Ambrose; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

TUESDAY: Holy Day of Obligation. Feast of the Immaculate Conception; Mass 6:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. at St. Mary Mission. Bible Class 8:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY: Feast of St. Juan Diego; Novena & Rosary 6:00 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY: Mass 8 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting 7-9 p.m. RCIA Meeting 7-9 p.m.

FRIDAY: Feast of St. Damasus I; Mass 8 a.m. Rosary 7:30 a.m.

SATURDAY: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe; Mass 6 a.m. at St. Mary Mission; Confessions 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Mass 6:00

GOOD NEWS FOR YOUTH

CHOIR PRACTICE for HS is every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. and on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. in the church. Come join us in singing praise to the **LORD**.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR to hold practice on Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:15 p.m. All Children are invited to come and prepare for Sunday and Christmas Masses.

YOUTH NIGHT - FEATURING: ROCK BAND on Sunday, immediately following the 6:00 p.m. Mass in the Youth Center. All youth are asked to bring a new unwrapped toy to the event. HS Youth Christmas Caroling and Party will be Sunday, Dec. 20th.

Our Coat & Blanket drive has begun. Please donate your slightly used coats and blankets so that those less fortunate can stay warm this winter. Please see any H.S. Youth or Adult sponsor.

"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" POSTER & ESSAY CONTEST: The Knights of Columbus invite students in grades Kinder thru 12th to participate in their Annual **"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS"** Poster and Essay Contest. Students must turn in their entry to their CCD teacher no later than Wednesday, Dec. 9th. Prizes will be awarded at the Parish Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 12th. 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

Kinder - 2nd gd - Poster only **3rd - 5th gd** poster only
6th - 8th gd - Essay only **9th - 12th gd** - Essay only
 The class with the most entries will be treated to a Pizza Party on the last day of class before the holidays. Last days of classes: Dec. 13, Dec. 14 & Dec. 16th

ST. PETER, ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY will have a Christmas Bake Sale the weekend of December 19 & 20th after all the Masses. Leave your holiday baking to us.

Upcoming Events

TODAY IS THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT.

We urge all families to have the Advent Wreath Ceremony each night before dinner as a reminder of the comings of Christ. Light two purple candles this week and say the following prayer: "God, Our Father, as John the Baptist prepared the way for people to know Jesus, may we too, prepare our hearts and homes and help others to come to know, love and serve the Lord. We pray for peace in the world and in our own country and for a holy Christmas for our family, friends and neighbors. Help us to be kind and generous to everyone we meet this week. We ask these blessings through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SMALL GROUP LEADER TRAINING FOR "LONGING FOR THE HOLY" TO TAKE PLACE ON MON., DEC. 7 AT 7P.M. All group leaders and those who wish to learn more about leading a group are urged to attend. It is not difficult and there are plenty of material to show you how to conduct a session that will benefit you and all who attend.

HOLY DAY MASSES WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY AT 6:30 P.M. AND TUESDAY AT 6:30 A.M. AND 6:30 P.M.

Tuesday is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation and all Catholics are obliged to attend Holy Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Masses at St. Peter Church are listed above and the Mass at St. Mary Mission will be on Tuesday at 7 p.m. America was placed under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception and we should all attend Holy Mass and pray that Mary will ask Jesus to bless the USA with peace, prosperity and a greater respect for life.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE THIS SATURDAY. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patron saint of the Americas and we will have a special Mass at St. Mary Mission on Cynthia Street (off Sharpsburg) on Sat. Dec. 12 at 6 a.m. The Mananitas will start at 5:30 a.m. and the Mass will be followed by breakfast for everyone. The Mass at St. Peter Church is at 6 p.m. on Saturday evening.

OUR ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY IS SET FOR THIS SATURDAY FROM 7-9 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend the community event as we enjoy each others company, eat delicious food, sing Christmas Carols, see the children receive gifts from Santa Claus and wish each other "Merry Christmas." Please spread the word and bring a neighbor or friend to enjoy this fun night with us...this is a good way of evangelizing.

EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD GO TO CONFESSION DURING ADVENT. We have our Parish Communal Penance Service for Adults on Tuesday, December 15 from 7-9 p.m. Ten priests will be present to hear Confessions (privately or face to face) for all who want to prepare the way of the Lord during this Holy Season. On Wednesday, December 16, our youth will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. We also have Confession every Saturday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. but please come to the Communal Penance Services if possible and don't wait until a day before Christmas.

CONGRATULATIONS to Craig Havrda and Stacy Everett. They received the Sacrament of Matrimony on Saturday, Nov. 28, 2009 in St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles Church.