



Good news, Christian stewards — we are gaining ground on our Advent mountain climb and it is time to take a moment to rejoice in the Good News that our Savior will come again in triumph one day. Today's readings on this Gaudete ("Rejoice") Sunday are filled with reminders of God's final victory over suffering and injustice, and encouragement to remain steadfast in our mission to live as faith-filled disciples.

Our first reading from the prophet Isaiah seems to shout out good cheer as he paints a picture of what the long-awaited Savior will usher in: "the eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf will be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag..."

the tongue of the mute will sing. Those whom the Lord has ransomed [that's us!] will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee."

Such a day almost seems too good to be true, especially when we look around at the dire circumstances we face in our world at present. But by faith, we know this day is coming. Lest we grow weary as we await the glorious day of Christ's return, St. James, in our second reading, offers wise counsel. "Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord... Make your hearts firm... Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged."

This is excellent advice for us Christian stewards as we face the challenges of everyday life in our broken world, especially in the hectic days that precede Christmas when stress can make us and those around us less than our best selves. St. James reminds us that we can choose our response to both the great strains and the minor annoyances of life.

In other words, we can be good stewards of our attitude, "making our hearts firm" by practicing patience with others and refusing to give in to the temptation to complain. We can choose to see and rejoice in God's presence with us, no matter the circumstances surrounding us.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, connects the prophecy of Isaiah to the arrival of Jesus, almost word for word. In this passage we find the imprisoned John the Baptist sending his disciples to ask Jesus if he is indeed the long-awaited Messiah. Jesus' re-ply is almost identical to Isaiah's prophetic words. He says, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised..." The Savior really has arrived just as promised! Yet that arrival was 700 years after Isaiah's prediction. God always fulfills his promises, but patience and firmness of heart are required as we await his perfect timing.

As John's disciples go off to report this wonderful news, Jesus has high praise for John. "Among those born of women, there has been none greater." Yet, Jesus adds, "The least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." Honorable as it was for John the Baptist to serve as the one who would announce the Savior's arrival, it is a much greater privilege to attain membership in His kingdom.

Let us rejoice in the knowledge that God has called us to enter this kingdom. Let us keep our hearts firmly fixed on this eternal goal and strive with all our might to give God and others the very best of ourselves in gratitude for such a privilege.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

December 4, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$ 5,663.62
Vigil Candles.....	\$ 153.05
Facilities Improvement.....	\$ 581.25
Immaculate Conception....,	\$ 15.00
Mass Intentions.....	\$ 135.00
Festival.....	\$ 75.00
Christmas Poinsettias.....	\$ 240.00
Donations.....	\$ 1,105.00

**Second Collection - December 18:
to Support our STM School**



**LIGHT THE FIRE WITHIN YOU
THERE'S STILL TIME TO GET YOUR
COMMEMORATIVE ASSEMBLY CANDLES
QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED! COST \$5
CALL PARISH OFFICE TO ORDER
(210) 655-5070**



Join us... As we celebrate the Feast Day for Our Lady of Guadalupe...
Monday, December 12th

We will begin with our Matachines dancers at 6 pm,
followed by Mass at 6:30,
and a light reception in Carolan Hall afterwards

We would love to see you there!



St. Vincent de Paul at St. Pius X



St Vincent de Paul is asking for our continuing and generous help.

Are you looking for a way to celebrate this season of Advent? SVdP needs assistance with their annual Christmas Project!
You can make a monetary donation, purchase a HEB or Walmart gift card, or donate food for the Christmas food bags.

Monetary donations and gift cards can be dropped off at SVdP or the SPX Church office.

Food can be dropped off at SVdP or placed in the blue bins located at the church entrances.

We are in need of basic items: Stuffing Mix, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Turkey Gravy, Chicken Broth,
Canned Fruit and Vegetables, Canned Cranberry Sauce, 1 lb. bags of Pinto Beans etc.

Your donations of food and / or monetary gifts make a tremendous impact in the lives of many and are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all your support to this ministry!

Christmas is just around the corner.

- We are preparing to decorate the altar with
- Christmas Poinsettias.

If you would like to help defray the costs of this Christian tradition, please pick up a Poinsettia Envelope from the table at the back of the church.

Thank you.



Navidad está a la vuelta de la esquina.
Nos estamos preparando para adornar el altar con flores de pascua de Navidad.

Si usted desea ayudar a sufragar los costos de esta tradición cristiana, por favor recoja un sobre de Poinsettia de la mesa en la parte posterior de la iglesia

Gracias.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation A Sacrament of Healing!

Over time, many Catholics have lost sight of an important blessing of Confession... **HEALING!!**

A true gift from the Holy Spirit... when you feel separated from God and it feels as if the weight of the world is on your shoulders!

Confession brings you heart-to-heart with the Lord and His infinite mercy.

Come back to confession and find Peace!

SERVICIO DE PENITENCIA BILINGÜE

Habrá un Servicio de Penitencia Comunal
el Martes, 13 de diciembre.

Será precedido por un Examen de Conciencia.

Varios sacerdotes estarán disponibles para escuchar confesiones individuales.

Aprovecha esta oportunidad para prepararte para la Navidad. Trae a la familia... Dile a un amigo...
Mantengamos ocupados a nuestros sacerdotes!

6:30 pm - Preparación con Examen de Conciencia
7:00 pm - Confesiones



El sacramento de la Reconciliación Un sacramento de sanación!

Con el tiempo, muchos católicos han perdido de vista una importante bendición de la Confesión. **¡CURACIÓN!!**

Un verdadero don del Espíritu Santo... cuando te sientes separado de Dios y sientes como si el peso del mundo estuviera sobre tus hombros!

La confesión te lleva de corazón a corazón con el Señor y Su infinita misericordia.

¡Vuelve a la confesión y encuentra la Paz!

BI-LINGUAL PENANCE SERVICE

There will be a Communal Penance Service
Tuesday, December 13th.

It will be preceded by an Examination of Conscience.
Several priests will be available to hear Individual Confessions.

Take advantage of this opportunity to prepare for Christmas. Bring the family... tell a friend...

Let's keep our priests busy!!

6:30 pm - Preparation w/Examination of Conscience
7:00 pm - Confessions



Looks like space is at a premium again this week... so this will be a short 'Corner.'

Well, we finally had our first, hopefully of many, Parish Assembly meeting this past weekend. Mass was great! '**Standing Room Only!**' We should be so blessed each week.. (and, yes-I know there was only 1 Mass).

The Assembly participation was good... not as great as it could have been... but a good start.

Some people stayed away because of COPS involvement... they may have had a bad 'taste' from previous COPS experiences. I thought a lot about that and came to the realization that God uses *what / who* he wants to accomplish His desired results. Think about that for a moment. That didn't happen *only* in antiquity... It's still happening today!

He used a pagan king, King Cyrus, to get His people back to Israel after the Exile. PAGAN!... Not Jew, Not Catholic, Not even another main-stream Christian!! A Bonified PAGAN! (*yes, I know there were no Christians back then*).

Look at our Catholic Christian Faith! God used numerous heretics / heresies to firm-up / dogmatize our beliefs. Over the years, heresies abounded! But, as they would come up He, through the Magisterium, would come together in Council and resolve the conflict... beginning with the first Council of Nicea in the year 325... and continuing through to modern times with Vatican II in 1962! ***How great is our God!***

I'm not saying that COPS is God-Sent... But, could it be that God is using them to help bring our Parish together? To help us be more aware of and '*in tune*' to the needs of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ? Good possibility... I won't stand in His way. It may require some of us get '*out of our comfort zone*'... but in the end I think it will be worth it. I say... Let's give it a try... Until next time... God Bless- DT.

NURSING HOME VISITATION



- Before COVID we had 2 '**Teams**' of **Dedicated Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** that would bring Our Lord in the Most Blessed Eucharist weekly (*usually on Saturday mornings*) to the residents of the Northeast and Heritage Rehab Centers (*on Corrine and Eisenhauer Rd respectively*).

- The Pandemic shut everything down and the 'Teams' fell apart. The Nursing / Rehab Centers have reopened and the residents have been asking us to return.
- If you would like to be on a '**Team**' to bring Our Lord to our brothers / sisters please let Deacon Tim - or - the Parish Office know.

Thank you in advance for your caring response...

God Bless-

LAS POSADAS

The Coro Alegría will be having hosting a "Posada" on Sunday, December 18th beginning at 6 pm.

Everyone is invited to join us as we re-enact Mary and Joseph's search for lodging as they await the birth of the baby Jesus.

The procession will begin in the church parking lot and travel/walk to three homes in the area to ask for "shelter". It will end in Carolan Hall as the doors are opened and the pilgrims are welcomed in.



A light supper will be served and festivities

VISITAS A HOGARES DE ANCIANOS

Antes de COVID teníamos 2 '**Equipos**' de *Ministros Extraordinarios Dedicados de la Sagrada Comunión* que traerían Nuestro Señor en la Santísima Eucaristía semanalmente (*generalmente los sábados por la mañana*) a los residentes del NorthEast y Heritage Centros de rehabilitación (*en Corrine y Eisenhauer Rd respectivamente*).

La pandemia cerró todo y el los 'equipos' se desmoronaron. Los Centros de Enfermería / Rehabilitación han reabierto y los residentes nos han estado pidiendo que regresemos.

Si desea estar en un '**Equipo**' para traer a Nuestro Señor a nuestros hermanos / hermanas por favor deje que el diácono Rolando - o – la Oficina Parroquial lo sabe.

Gracias de antemano por su respuesta cariñosa...

Dios los bendiga-

LAS MAÑANITAS

The Coro Alegría and the Grupo de Oracion will lead our parishioners in singing the "**Las Mañanitas**" to Our Lady of Guadalupe starting at 6am on Monday December 12th inside the Church.



Coffee and pan dulce will be served following the serenade to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This Week at Our Parish

Sunday, 8:30 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm	December 11, 2022 KC Breakfast - <i>Carolan Hall</i> School Christmas Festival / Breakfast - <i>Carolan Hall</i> Guadalupano Novena / 9 - <i>Church</i>
Monday, 12:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:00 pm	December 12, 2022 Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - <i>Church</i> Cenaculo de la Divina Misericordia - <i>RMR</i> OLG Feast Day Celebration - <i>Carolan Hall</i>
Tuesday, 12:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	December 13, 2022 Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - <i>Church</i> Divine Mercy - <i>Rectory Mtg Room</i> Coro Alegria Choir Practice - <i>Rectory Mtg Room</i> Advent Penance Svc - <i>Church</i> CDA General Mtg - <i>Carolan Hall</i>
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 12:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - <i>Church</i> Grupo de Oracion Christmas Dinner - <i>Carolan Hall</i> Guadalupano Choir Practice - <i>Church</i>
Thursday, 12:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	December 15, 2022 Daily Holy Hour - <i>Church / CANCELLED</i> English Prayer Grp Fellowship - <i>Rect Dining Rm</i> STM School Christmas Program - <i>Church</i> RCIA - <i>Rectory Mtg Room</i>
Friday, 12:00 pm 6:30 pm	December 16, 2022 Daily Holy Hour (12 - 1p) - <i>Church</i> Guitar & Choir Practice - <i>Rectory Mtg Room</i>
Saturday, 4:00 pm	December 17, 2022 Reconciliation - <i>Church</i>
Sunday, 8:00 am 10:00 am	December 18, 2022 Guadalupanos Mass - <i>Church</i> CDA Mass - <i>Church</i>

**Sanctuary Light Intention:**
*Ramon Mata Sr.*Lecturas de la Semana del 12 - 18 Dec

Lunes: Ap 11:19; 12:1-6,10; Jdt 13:18,19; Lc 1:39-47
Martes: Sof 3:1-2,9-13; Sal 33:2-3,6-7,17-19,23;
 Mt 21:28-32
Miércoles: Is 45:6-8,18,21-25; Sal 84:9-14; Lc 7:18-23
Jueves: Is 54:1-10; Sal 29:2 y 4-6,11-13; Lc 7:24-30
Viernes: Is 56:1-3,6-8; Sal 66:2-3,5,7-8; Jn 5:33-36
Sábado: Gn 49:2,8-10; Sal 71:1-4,7-8,17; Mt 1:1-17
Domingo: Is 7:10-14; Sal 23:1-6; Rom 1:1-7;
 Mt 1:18-24

Readings for the week of Dec 12 - 18

Monday: Rv 11:19; 12:1-6,10; Jdt 13:18,19; Lk 1:39-47
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2,9-13; Ps 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23;
 Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8,18,21c-25; Ps 85:9ab,10-14;
 Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2,4-6,11-12a,13b; Lk 7:24-30
Friday: Is 56:1-3a,6-8; Ps 67:2-3,5,7-8; Jn 5:33-36
Saturday: Gn 49:2,8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab,7-8,17; Mt 1:1-17
Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 10, 2022 8:00 am 5:00 pm	†Josheph Nguyen by Thuy Nguyen †Diana Sue Rangel Duncan by Delgado/Gonzalez Family †Misty Dawn Espinoza and †Roxanne Espinoza by Mom, Dad & Sisters †Vicente Nghiep by Kim Nguyen
Sunday, December 11, 2022 8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	†Juan Suarez by Suarez Family †Juan Urbano by Teresa Clark †Medardo E Morales & Evangelina G Morales by Family †Theresa Hoi by Kim Nguyen Thanksgiving by Kim Nguyen
Monday, December 12, 2022 8:00 am 6:30 pm	Souls in Purgatory by Catalina Reyes †Joseph Weich, †Misty Dawn & Roxanne Espinoza by Guadalupanos
Tuesday, December 13, 2022 8:00 am	†Edward McCoy †Vicente Nghiep by Kim Nguyen
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 8:00 am	†Ramon Mata, Sr by Mata Family †Theodore & Marie Willingham by Margie Murray
Thursday, December 15, 2022 (Communion Svc) 8:00 am	All Ordained Clergy and Religious
Friday, December 16, 2022 8:00 am	†Rosie Reyes & Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes †All Souls by Kim Nguyen
Saturday, December 17, 2022 8:00 am 5:00 pm	†Vicente Khanh by Kim Nguyen †Jan Riles & Donald Rand by Rand Family †Antonio Cortez by Debra Cortez STM Parishioners - Living and Deceased
Sunday, December 18, 2022 8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	†Vicente Nghiep by Kim Nguyen †Mary Monteverdi by Parish Friends †Juan Urbano & †Mike Urbano by Teresa Clark †Salome H Briseno & Carolina B Briseno by Family †Rosie Reyes & Suzell Waller by Eddie Reyes †Jose Jesus Cortez by Cortez Family
Liturgical Roles	
Saturday, December 17, 2022 5 pm	Altar Servers - (None) Eucharistic Ministers - R.Alvarado, T.S.Garza, E.Guerrero, R.Saldiva Lector - M.Fisher
Sunday, December 18, 2022 8 am	Altar Servers - (None) Eucharistic Ministers - P+R.Mendoza, B.Dausin, +1Vol Lector - O.Weich
10 am	Altar Servers - (Volunteers) Eucharistic Ministers - M.Briseno, R.Davis, B.McQueen, J+And.Perez, H.Rodriguez Lector - Abi.Perez
12 pm	Altar Servers - (Volunteers) Eucharistic Ministers - R.Borrego, A.Chavez, D+F.Malacara, C.Torres, G.Torres Lector - M.Cisneros / S.Garcia