

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR CATHOLIC PARISH

DECEMBER/DICIEMBRE 19 & 20, 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Mass Times/Horario de Misas

Saturday/Sábado Vigilia

8:00 a.m. English

5:00 p.m. English

7:00 p.m. Español

Sunday Masses:

8:30 a.m. English

10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Español

2:30 p.m. Vietnamese

Weekday Masses (English)

8:00 a.m. - Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri.

First Friday/Primer Viernes

7:00 p.m. Español

Baptisms/Bautismos

Call Office/Llame La Oficina

Confessions/Confesiones

Saturday/Sábado 3:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

English & Spanish

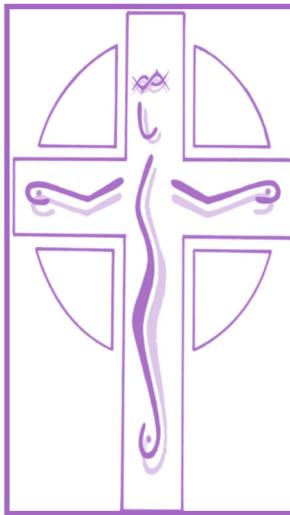
No appointment required—No Requiere Cita

Eucharistic Adoration

Exposición del Santísimo Sacramento

First Friday/ Primer viernes 8:00 a.m.

Despues de la misa de la 8:00 a.m.



REV. JOSEPH ROBILLARD

PASTOR

REV. RUDY PRECIADO

IN RESIDENCE

DEACON THOMAS CONCITIS

DEACON LOUIS GALLARDO

DEACON JOE GARZA

DEACON JORGE SANCHEZ

LUIS A. RAMIREZ
PARISH DIRECTOR

ROSA RUIZ DE MAYORGA
COORDINATOR FAITH FORMATION

YAZMIM ABREU

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

DIEGO VELASCO

CONFIRMATION/YOUTH MINISTER

SCOTT MELVIN
DAVID ESPINOSA
MUSIC MINISTRY

NANCY LOPEZ
DEAF MINISTRY

PARISH OFFICE STAFF
VICKIE COLON
CONSUELO SANCHEZ
SUSANA VENTURA

CHRIST OUR FOUNDATION + CHRIST OUR HOPE + CHRIST OUR SAVIOR



CHRISTMAS

A young mother, her eyes shining with fatigue, who is arranging her hair; a father who finds himself alone with his pretty wife and baby, straightening the stable to make himself useful in some way; shepherds who bring cheese and perhaps also some curdled milk; sheep who look at their shepherds while bleating; a donkey who is eyeing his manger changed into a cradle; an adorable swaddled baby whom one calls Savior, Christ and Lord: This is the manifestation of the goodness and the tenderness of God. This is the most fantastic birth in the history of humanity, the one which changed the face of the world! This is how far God humbled and compromised himself with us! This is Emmanuel!

—From God's Word Is Our Joy, Vol. 1 by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright © 1998, World Library

NAVIDAD

Una joven madre, con los ojos brillantes de fatiga, que se arregla el pelo; un padre que se encuentra solo con su bella esposa y su bebé, enderezando el establo para que sea útil de alguna manera; pastores que traen queso y quizás también leche cuajada; ovejas que miran a sus pastores mientras bailan; un burro que está mirando su pesebre se convirtió en una cuna; un adorable bebé envuelto a quien uno llama Salvador, Cristo y Señor: Esta es la manifestación de la bondad y la ternura de Dios. ¡Este es el nacimiento más fantástico en la historia de la humanidad, el que cambió la faz del mundo! Hasta aquí Dios se humilló y se comprometió con nosotros! Este es Emmanuel!

—De la Palabra de Dios es nuestra alegría, vol. 1 por Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright © 1998

PARISH OFFICE HOURS — HORAS DE LA OFICINA

MON., TUES., THURS., FRI. 9:00 A.M. — 12:00 P.M.; 12:30—2:30 P. M.

DUE TO THE PANDEMIC EVENING AND WEEKEND HOURS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

714-444-1500 WWW.COSCP.ORG 2000 W. ALTON AVE. SANTA ANA, CA. 92704-7169



Mass Intentions Please Call: 714-444-1500
 Para Intenciones de la Misa Llame: 714-444-1500

Saturday/sábado December 19, 2020

- 8:00 a.m. †Linda Pinson
- 5:00 p.m. † Phalol Ly Tâi
- 7:00 p.m. † Lydia Soriano; †Aniseto Zamona
- Sunday/domingo December 20, 2020**
- 8:30 a.m. † Margarita Salazar; †Lupita Salazar;
†Andres Salazar
- 10:30 a.m. †Lourdes Ruiz
- 12:30 p.m. Maribel Torres—Intentions
- 2:30 p.m. VMI—Intentions
- Monday/lunes December 21, 2020**
- 8:00 a.m. †Phaolo Ly Tâi
- Tuesday/martes December 22, 2020**
- 8:00 a.m. †Sylvia Wirth; †Myron Lay; †Bill Lay
- Thursday/jueves December 24, 2020**
- 8:00 a.m. Priest Intentions
- Friday/viernes December 25, 2020**
- 8:00 a.m. Priest Intentions

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Vigil

December 24, 2020

- 4:00 p.m. Mass in English
- 6:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish
- 9:00 p.m. Mass in English

Christmas Day

December 25, 2020

- 9:00 a.m. Mass in English
- 11:00 a.m. Mass in Spanish
- 1:00 p.m. Mass in Vietnamese

Mary Mother of God

January 1, 2021

- 9:00a.m. Trilingual Mass



The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

—Luke 1:35

*El Santo, que va a nacer de tí,
será llamado Hijo de Dios.*

—Lucas 1:35

HORARIO DE ADVIETO Y NAVIDAD

Noche Buena Vigil

24 de diciembre, 2020

- 4:00 p.m. Misa en Inglés
- 6:30 p.m. Misa en Español
- 9:00 p.m. Misa en Inglés

Navidad

25 de diciembre, 2020

- 9:00 a.m. Misa en Inglés
- 11:00 a.m. Misa en Español
- 1:00 p.m. Misa en Vietnamita

María Madre de Dios

1 de enero de 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Misa trilingüe

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

This coming Thursday evening and Friday we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem of Judea almost 2,000 ago. We find ourselves approaching this great time of the year in a very different world than last year. With all that we have lost, family members and friends to the Covid-19 virus, businesses shutting down, people losing jobs, more people being forced out of their homes and a general sense of uncertainty and confusion, it would be easy to say this is the worst Christmas in our time. Although I do not want to minimize the losses we have all experienced, I think it is important to also recognize the blessings that have come our way.

I would like to share with you what I see as blessings. There is the blessing of uncertainty to begin with. I think we tend to think out into the future. We want to make plans, look forward to vacations, family gatherings, weddings, anniversaries and birthday. Some of these events we plan for a year or more in advance. I think it gives us the illusion of control of our lives. We are now in a time of not being certain about the future. We have put plans on hold. In this uncertain time, we have become disillusioned. This is great! To be disillusioned is to remove the illusions of our thinking. Illusions are not real, they are fantasy. We are now faced with our mortality, that at any time everything we think is important can disappear. We are forced to look out into the great darkness of nothingness. What do we see in this darkness?

The first thing to acknowledge is mystery. God is mysterious. God's plan, God's ways are not ours. We have no idea what God is doing. It creates fear within us. It invokes fear and the need to flight or fight. It paralyzes us and can create despair. It also challenges us to hope in God. That is some mysterious way we are being lead to something better, even if the now is not so great. As St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans, "Now hope that sees for itself is not hope. For hopes for what one sees?" (Rom. 8:24)

When we hold a baby in our arms, we often wonder what this child will be. We can have our ideas, but in truth, we have no idea of the direction of this child's life. But we hope that this child in our arms will do great things. It is the same with the child Jesus. What did Mary and Joseph hope for? What did the shepherds hope for? What do we hope for when we come to the birth of Jesus?

We of course are handicapped with this question of hope in Jesus. We know the end of the story. We know that he rises from the dead. Our hope then becomes the encounter with the risen Jesus in our daily life. This is a mystery. We cannot plan for it or somehow make it happen. It has to do with when Jesus desires to reveal his risen self to us. Will we be ready, attentive to when this happens?



El próximo jueves por la noche y viernes celebraremos el nacimiento de Jesús en Belén de Judea hace 2,000 años. Nos acercamos a esta gran época del año en un mundo muy diferente al del año pasado. Con todo lo que hemos perdido, familiares y amigos al Covid-19. Igual negocios que cierran, personas que pierden sus trabajos, más personas se ven obligadas a abandonar sus hogares y una sensación general de incertidumbre y confusión, sería fácil decir que esta es la peor Navidad de nuestro tiempo. Aunque no quiero minimizar las pérdidas que todos hemos experimentado, creo que es importante reconocer también las bendiciones que nos han llegado.

Me gustaría compartir con ustedes lo que veo como bendiciones. Para empezar, está la bendición de la incertidumbre. Creo que tendremos a pensar en el futuro. Queremos hacer planes y esperamos con ansias las vacaciones, las reuniones familiares, las bodas, los aniversarios y los cumpleaños. Algunos de estos eventos los planeamos con un año o más de anticipación. Creo que nos da la ilusión de tener el control de nuestras vidas. Ahora estamos en un momento en el que no estamos seguros del futuro. Hemos dejado nuestros planes en espera. En este tiempo incierto, nos hemos desilusionado. Estar desilusionado es eliminar las ilusiones de nuestro pensamiento. Las ilusiones no son reales, son fantasía. Ahora nos enfrentamos a nuestra mortalidad, que en cualquier momento todo lo que pensamos que es importante puede desaparecer. Nos vemos obligados a mirar hacia la gran oscuridad de la nada. ¿Qué vemos en esta oscuridad?

Lo primero que hay que reconocer es el misterio. Dios es misterioso. Los planes y los caminos de Dios no son los nuestros. No tenemos idea de lo que está haciendo Dios. Crea miedo dentro de nosotros. Invoca miedo y la necesidad de huir o luchar. Nos paraliza y puede generar desesperación. También nos desafía a la esperanza en Dios. Lo misterioso es la forma en que estamos siendo llevados a algo mejor, incluso si ahora no es tan bien. Como nos recuerda San Pablo en su carta a los Romanos, "¿Quieres ver lo que esperas? Ya no será esperar; porque, ¿puedes esperar lo que ya ves?"(Romanos 8:24) Cuando tenemos un bebé en nuestros brazos, a menudo nos preguntamos qué será este niño. Podemos tener nuestras ideas, pero en realidad, no tenemos idea de la dirección de la vida de este niño. Pero esperamos que este niño en nuestros brazos haga grandes cosas. Lo mismo ocurre con el niño Jesús. ¿Qué esperaban María y José? ¿Qué esperaban los pastores? ¿Qué esperamos cuando lleguemos al nacimiento de Jesús?

Por supuesto, estamos en desventaja con esta cuestión de la esperanza en Jesús. Conocemos el final de la historia. Sabemos que resucita de entre los muertos. Nuestra esperanza se convierte entonces en el encuentro con Jesús resucitado en nuestra vida diaria. Este es un misterio. No podemos planificarlo o hacer que suceda de alguna manera. Tiene que ver con cuando Jesús resucitado desea revelarse a nosotros. ¿Estaremos preparados, atentos a cuando esto suceda?

Cha Sở Nhắn Gửi (Pastor's Message)

Vài ngày thứ Năm và thứ Sáu tuần này chúng ta sẽ mừng lễ Chúa Giê-su sinh ra tại Bê-lem miền Giu-de-a, gần 2000 năm qua. Năm nay chúng ta đi vào thời gian đặc biệt này khác hẳn với năm qua. Với tất cả những gì bị mất mát, kể cả gia đình hay bạn hữu vì bệnh dịch Corona, nhiều người bị mất công ăn việc làm, nhiều người mất nhà cửa, và cùng lúc là không nhìn thấy tương lai thế nào, rồi chúng ta có thể cho là năm nay là lễ Giáng sinh tệ hại nhất trong đời. Dẫu tôi chẳng muốn coi nhẹ những mất mát mà chúng ta phải chịu, nhưng tôi nghĩ điều quan trọng là chúng ta cũng phải nhận ra những ơn lành mà chúng ta đã nhận được.

Tôi muốn chia sẻ với quý Ông Bà và Anh Chị em những điều tôi đã nhận được mà tôi cho là những ơn lành. Trước hết là những điều mà ta không biết trước. Chúng ta thường có khuynh hướng nhìn về tương lai. Chúng ta thường sắp đặt chương trình, mong mỏi đi chơi hay đi nghỉ hè, tụ họp gia đình, dự đám cưới, sinh nhật, hay những dịp kỷ niệm khác. Đôi khi những biến cố này làm ta sắp đặt cả năm. Làm cho ta có cảm tưởng là ta làm chủ được cuộc sống. Bây giờ ta đang ở trong thời kỳ không biết trước được tương lai. Mọi chương trình và dự tính phải dừng lại. Và trong thời kỳ này chúng ta thấy âu ú. Cũng tội thỏi! Cảm thấy âu ú là ta khơi bị ảo tưởng. Ảo tưởng là không có thật, là hoang tưởng. Bây giờ còn lại là sự chênh, là những gì ta cho là quan trọng rồi cũng có thể biêt mất. Chúng ta bắt buộc phải nhìn vào một màn đêm của hư không. Chúng ta nhìn thấy gì?

Điều đầu tiên phải nhận ra là sự huyền bí. Thiên Chúa là huyền bí. Chương trình của Chúa, công việc của Chúa không phải là của ta. Chúng ta không hiểu Chúa làm gì. Điều đó làm cho ta lo sợ. Và sự lo sợ làm cho ta muôn xa lìa hay muôn chống trả. Nó làm cho ta tê liệt và có thể làm ta tuyệt vọng. Nhưng nó cũng làm cho ta đặt hy vọng nơi Chúa. Đó là điều huyền bí làm ta hướng đến một điều gì tốt đẹp hơn, cho dù bây giờ là thời gian không mấy tốt đẹp. Như Thánh Phao-lô nhắc nhở chúng ta trong thư gửi Giáo đoàn Rô-ma: "Hy vọng mà thấy được thì hết là hy vọng, vì điều thấy được, ai nào còn hi vọng nữa!" (Rom. 8: 24)

Khi chúng ta cầm một đứa bé trong tay, chúng ta thường tự hỏi đứa bé này rồi sẽ ra sao. Chúng ta có thể có nhiều suy nghĩ, nhưng thực tế là chúng ta không biết được cuộc đời đứa bé này rồi sẽ ra sao. Nhưng chúng ta có thể hy vọng là đứa bé rồi sẽ làm những điều lớn lao. Đối với Chúa Hải Đồng Giê-su cũng vậy. Đức Mẹ và Thánh Giú-se đã hy vọng gì? Những người chân chiên đã hy vọng những gì? Chúng ta hy vọng gì khi chúng ta mừng lễ Giáng sinh của Chúa?

Đi nhiên chúng ta luồng cuồng trong câu hỏi về hy vọng nơi Chúa Giê-su. Chúng ta đã biết câu chuyện kết thúc thế nào. Chúng ta biết Ngài đã sống lại từ cõi chết. Niềm hy vọng của chúng ta trở thành một cuộc gặp gỡ Chúa Giê-su sống lại trong cuộc sống của chúng ta. Đó là một huyền bí. Chúng ta không thể sắp đặt trước và làm cho nó xảy ra. Chỉ có Chúa Giê-su làm được khi Ngài muốn tỏ hiện ra với chúng ta. Liệu chúng ta có sẵn sàng và chăm chú khi điều ấy xảy ra không?

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS

THE ETERNAL GOD

King David wished that the ark of God might have a more permanent home. David may have envisioned something like the cedar palace where he resided. God had in mind something more: a throne where David's descendants would rule for ever, a kingdom where Jews and Gentiles alike would be welcome.

Mary's prayerful nature led to an even more disturbing message. She would conceive and bear a Son though she was not yet married. "How can this come about?" Mary wondered. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you," she was told (Luke 1:35).

Mary's acceptance of this difficult challenge ushered in this, the final age of God's reign. What was once a secret known only by chosen people like King David and his descendants must now be made clear to all so that, as Saint Paul wrote to the Romans, we can be brought to the "obedience of faith" "according to the command of the eternal God" (Romans 16:26).

GIVING SUNDAY

DOMINGO DE DAR

THANK YOU/GRACIAS/CAM ON !!



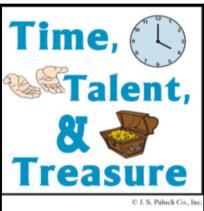
Food Pantry



Despensa de alimentos

Thank you for your donations to our monthly Canned Food Drive for Catholic Charities. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Please remember to drop off your donations of canned goods, non-perishable foods on **Giving Sunday** (Third) Sunday of each month. Thank you for remembering those less fortunate.

Muchísimas gracias a todos los que donaron al programa de Comida a Domicilio para Catholic Charities. ¡Se le agradece su generosidad!



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REFLEXIONEMOS SOBRE LA LECTURAS

EL DIOS ETERNO

El rey David deseaba que el Arca de Dios tuviera un hogar más permanente. David podría haberse imaginado algo así como el palacio de cedro donde residía. Dios tenía en mente algo más: un trono donde los descendientes de David gobernarían para siempre, un reino donde judíos y gentiles serían bien recibidos por igual.

La actitud devota de María llevó a un mensaje aún más inquietante. Concebiría y daría a luz un hijo a pesar de que aún no estaba casada. "¿Cómo podrá ser esto?", preguntó María. "El Espíritu Santo descenderá sobre ti", le contestó el Ángel (Lucas 1:35).

La aceptación de María de este difícil desafío marcó el comienzo de esta, la era final del Reino de Dios. Lo que antes era un secreto conocido solo por el pueblo elegido como el Rey David y sus descendientes ahora debe quedar claro a todos para que, como escribió San Pablo a los romanos, podamos llegar a la "obediencia de la fe", "en cumplimiento del designio eterno de Dios" (Romanos 16:26).

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*IT TAKES ALL OF US TO
PARTICIPATE TO
BUILD OUR CAMPUS!*

*CON LA PARTICIPACIÓN DE TODOS
TENDREMOS ÉXITO!*



¿HAS HECHO TU PROMESA?

HAVE YOU PLEDGED?

Quý vị và quý Anh Chị đã bắt đầu đóng góp chưa?

LIFE, JUSTICE AND PEACE
CATHOLIC TEACHING PUT INTO PRACTICE

**Continuation on the topic of “A ‘throwaway world’ from last week. ‘Fratelli Tutti’”
 Pope Francis**

20. This way of discarding others can take a variety of forms, such as an obsession with reducing labor costs with no concern for its grave consequences, since the unemployment that it directly generates leads to the expansion of poverty. In addition, a readiness to discard others finds expression in vicious attitudes that we thought long past, such as racism, which retreats underground only to keep reemerging. Instances of racism continue to shame us, for they show that our supposed social progress is not as real or definitive as we think.

21. Some economic rules have proved effective for growth, but not for integral human development. Wealth has increased, but together with inequality, with the result that “new forms of poverty are emerging”. The claim that the modern world has reduced poverty is made by measuring poverty with criteria from the past that do not correspond to present-day realities. In other times, for example, lack of access to electric energy was not considered a sign of poverty, nor was it a source of hardship. Poverty must always be understood and gauged in the context of the actual opportunities available in each concrete historical period.

LA VIDA, JUSTICIA Y PAZ
LA ENSEÑANZA CATÓLICA PUESTA EN PRÁCTICA

**Continuación sobre el tema de “Un ‘mundo de usar y tirar’ de la semana pasada. ‘Fratelli Tutti’”
 Papa Francisco**

20. Este descarte se expresa de múltiples maneras, como en la obsesión por reducir los costos laborales, que no advierte las graves consecuencias que esto ocasiona, porque el desempleo que se produce tiene como efecto directo expandir las fronteras de la pobreza. El descarte, además, asume formas miserables que creímos superadas, como el racismo, que se esconde y reaparece una y otra vez. Las expresiones de racismo vuelven a avergonzarnos demostrando así que los supuestos avances de la sociedad no son tan reales ni están asegurados para siempre.

21. Hay reglas económicas que resultaron eficaces para el crecimiento, pero no así para el desarrollo humano integral. Aumentó la riqueza, pero con inequidad, y así lo que ocurre es que «nacen nuevas pobrezas». Cuando dicen que el mundo moderno redujo la pobreza, lo hacen midiéndola con criterios de otras épocas no comparables con la realidad actual. Porque en otros tiempos, por ejemplo, no tener acceso a la energía eléctrica no era considerado un signo de pobreza ni generaba angustia. La pobreza siempre se analiza y se entiende en el contexto de las posibilidades reales de un momento histórico concreto.

Supplemental Study of Sunday Lectionary Scriptures provided by Deacon Tom

Liturgy of the Word Biblical Study related to the Scripture passages of the Lectionary Readings for the following Sunday. By reflecting on the inspired Word of God we see how God speaks to us in the various passages of the Bible. In the first part of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word, we hear selected passages from Scripture where God imparts His Wisdom on how we are to live our Spiritual Lives.

If you'd like to learn more about the Sunday readings, Deacon Tom can include you in his email list for the weekly distribution of the basic materials. Contact Deacon Tom at: deakuno07@gmail.com.

HELP BUILD OUR NEW PARISH HOME

Four years ago, we began a Capital Campaign to build a “permanent home for our parish family.” As you can see from the progress of our construction project, **we are almost “home!”**

We hope that our permanent church will be completed by Easter, but we need to pay close to one million dollars **MORE** than what has been pledged when construction is completed. That means taking out a loan on which we will have to pay interest – making it more expensive for us as a parish family.

If you have not yet made a pledge to the capital campaign, **PLEASE** take an envelope and do so now! If you have completed your pledge and are able to add to it at this time, thank you! Gifts of **ANY** amount will be recognized with your family name in a permanent Donor Book in the new Parish Center, and donors of gifts totaling \$4,000 and more will have their names engraved on a plaque in the Church. Best of all, you will know that you helped build a center of love and compassion, a place in which to celebrate the sacraments, minister to one another, and draw more people to Christ, Our Savior.

FIESTA DE LA FE

Pedimos perdón

Como el amor de Dios es algo tan obvio, es posible que nos resulte un poco difícil explicarlo. Resulta aun más difícil explicarlo cuando en nuestra vida no nos hemos sentido amados por Dios, así como somos, en nuestra humanidad más plena. Si el amor es lo único que basta, si sólo Dios basta, como escribió santa Teresa, ¿cómo es que ese amor no nos llega? Pues sí nos llega, a todos y todas, lo que muchas veces sucede es que no siempre estamos abiertos a ese amor, en cierta forma, nos negamos a él, o bien, no respondemos a ese amor tan grande que recibimos de Dios. Por eso pedimos perdón durante la celebración de la Misa, porque no hemos amado a Dios como él nos amó; porque no hemos seguido su mandato de amar al prójimo como a nosotros mismos; porque no hemos caminado humildemente ante su presencia y tampoco hemos vivido la justicia. Porque no hemos dejado todo para seguirlo. Le pedimos perdón mediante el Acto Penitencial, el Señor ten piedad o durante la Pascua, con la aspersión del agua bendita. Experimentamos así la gran misericordia de Dios, cuyo amor por nosotros es ilimitado.

AYUDE A CONSTRUIR NUESTRA NUEVA CASA PARROQUIAL

Hace cuatro años, comenzamos una Campaña Capital para construir un “hogar permanente para nuestra familia parroquial”. Como puede ver en el progreso de nuestro proyecto de construcción, ¡estamos casi en “casa”!

*Esperamos que nuestra iglesia permanente esté terminada para Pascua, pero tenemos que pagar cerca de un millón de dólares **MÁS** de lo que se prometió cuando se complete la construcción. Eso significa sacar un préstamo sobre el que tendremos que pagar intereses, lo que lo hace más caro para nosotros como familia parroquial.*

*Si aún no ha hecho un compromiso a la Campaña Capital, ¡POR FAVOR tome un sobre y hágalo ahora! Si ha completado su compromiso y puede y quiere añadirle en este momento, ¡Gracias! Las donaciones de **CUALQUIER** cantidad serán reconocidas con el apellido de su familia en un libro permanente de Donantes que estará en el nuevo Centro Parroquial, y los donantes de donaciones por un total de \$4000 y más tendrán sus nombres grabados en una placa en la Iglesia. Lo mejor de todo es que sabrá que ayudó a construir un centro de amor y compasión, un lugar en el que celebrar los sacramentos, ministrarse unos a otros y atraer a más personas a Cristo, Nuestro Salvador.*

FEAST OF FAITH

Gathering

When Pope Benedict XVI visited the United States in 2008, tens of thousands gathered in Yankee Stadium to celebrate the Eucharist with him. What made them different from all the other excited crowds who have assembled there through the years? When they began to sing together, to listen together, to pray together, they ceased to be a crowd, and became a liturgical assembly. It was not where they were but what they did that set them apart.

The Gospels speak of many instances when Jesus prayed alone to his Father. But Jesus also put a special value on communal prayer. “Where two or three are gathered together in my name,” he told his disciples, “there am I in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:20). Jesus gave his own mission to his followers, sending them forth to do everything he did: to heal, to teach, to proclaim the kingdom. Jesus wants us to meet God in and through each other. So the Christian community continues to gather, Sunday after Sunday. When we get up on Sunday morning and come to Mass, we respond to Jesus’ invitation, and we express our trust in his promise that whenever we come together, he comes, too.

Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM TRADITION

We are experiencing the darkest, longest nights of the year. For centuries, people in the Northern Hemisphere have kindled fires against the dying of the light, turning away the dark of the winter solstice, and leading the imagination to hope and new beginnings. It is thus easy to understand why these solstice celebrations of non-Christian Europe attracted the annual remembrance of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

In time the solstice migrated away from December 25, but the Christmas feast remained in place. From this day, a whole season of celebration developed, stretching from Advent through the days of Christmas, and even beyond to the February 2 blessing of the candles, and beyond that to March 25, the Annunciation, nine months before the next Christmas. Centuries ago, this was New Year's Day, and many reasoned that it was the date of Adam and Eve's fall, and the date of the Crucifixion. The message is clear: don't let your Christmas be over too soon. Keep the lights blazing into January, and savor the meaning of the feast!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

THANK YOU! ¡GRACIAS!

To all who purchased the "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets, your generosity has resulted in a \$585.00 parish donation our building fund.

If you missed out, or want more for family or friends, they are available in the parish office at \$5.00 each that goes to our building fund.

Thank you and God Bless your family during this Advent Season.



Para todos los que compraron los imanes "Keep Christ in Christmas", su generosidad ha resultado en una donación parroquial de \$585.00 para nuestro fondo de construcción.

Si se perdió, o quiere más para familiares o amigos, están disponibles en la oficina parroquial a \$ 5.00 cada uno que va a nuestro fondo de construcción.

Gracias y que Dios bendiga a su familia durante esta temporada de Adviento.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

Esta semana celebramos el nacimiento de Jesús, comenzando con la Misa de Gallo. A esta Misa se le añade la tradición popular que ha comenzado en el hogar con pesebres, comidas y regalos. Se nos haría difícil imaginar terminar el año sin la Navidad. Pero el calendario cristiano sólo la ha festejado algunos 1800 años. Los primeros cristianos únicamente celebraban la Pascua de Resurrección, siguiendo lo que todos los evangelios nos relatan de los eventos de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Jesús. Sólo Mateo y Lucas mencionan su nacimiento.

Alrededor del año 200 d.C., los egipcios empezaron a conmemorar el nacimiento de Jesús el 20 de marzo que era el noveno mes de su calendario. Con el tiempo, la idea de festejar el nacimiento del Mesías se extendió a otras comunidades cristianas, pero con diversas fechas como el 19 de abril, el 6 de enero, el 28 de marzo y otras. Fue hasta el siglo cuarto que se fijó la fecha para el 25 de diciembre, gracias a Juan Crisóstomo y al Papa Julio I. Otras fuentes señalan que en el año 366 los cristianos comenzaron a celebrar el nacimiento de Cristo, sol de justicia, precisamente el 25 de diciembre.

En realidad no sabemos cuándo nació Jesús, pero sí sabemos que hay que celebrar el hecho que Dios se hizo uno de nosotros.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gilz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

The Little Ones

Los Más Pequeños

Jim Burrows



When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. Lk 2:15-16

Scripture from the New American Standard Bible ® (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation.
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Cuando los ángeles se fueron al cielo, los pastores se decían unos a otros: "Vayamos, pues, hasta Belén y veamos esto que sucedido, que el Señor nos ha dado a saber".

Fueron a toda prisa, y hallaron a María y a José, y al Niño acostado en el pesebre. Lc 2:15-16

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