

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR CATHOLIC PARISH

DECEMBER/DICIEMBRE 12 & 13, 2020
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
TERCER 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



11.12.2019

demusstudio.architecture

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 12, 2020

8:00 a.m. Those affect by COVID-19 Pandemic
 10:00 a.m. Virgin de Guadalupe
 5:00 p.m. Bill Graham; Michelle Graham-Intentions
 7:00 p.m. Luna Sofia Rodriguez; Arturo Martin-Intentions

Sunday/domingo December 13, 2020

8:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish
 10:30 a.m. †Jose Isabel Robles; †Margarita Robles
 12:30 p.m. †Jesus Gómez; Socorro Gómez
 2:30 p.m. VMI—Intentions

Monday/lunes December 14, 2020

8:00 a.m. †Alberta Ninichuck

Tuesday/martes December 15, 2020

8:00 a.m. †Don Jackson

Thursday/jueves December 17, 2020

8:00 a.m. Thao Nguyen—Intentions

Friday/viernes December 18, 2020

8:00 a.m. †Linda Pinson



In order for us to maintain our services, meet our expenses, the parish needs an average of at least \$10,000.00 in it's weekly collection.

Para nosotros mantener nuestros servicios, pagar nuestros gastos, la parroquia necesita un promedio 10,000.00 dólares en nuestra colecta semanal.

DECEMBER 6 & 7, 2020

\$8,785.00

Thank you for sharing what God has given You, with our parish.

Gracias por compartir con su parroquia lo que Dios le ha dado a usted.

HORARIO DE ADVIETO Y NAVIDAD

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Our Lady of Guadalupe



December 12, 2020

8:00 a.m. Mass in English
 9:30 a.m. Mañanitas
 10:00 a.m. Mass in Spanish

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

Posadas will not take place this year due to the pandemic.

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

12 de diciembre, 2020



8:00 a.m. Misa en Inglés
 9:30 a.m. Mañanitas
 10:00 a.m. Misa en Español

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

Posadas no se llevará a cabo este año debido a la pandemia.

Due to the Pandemic there will be no communal Penance Service. Fr. Joe will be available for individual confessions before the Daily Novena Masses for Our Lady of Guadalupe from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Debido a la pandemia no habrá servicio de penitencia comunal. Padre Joe estará disponible para confesiones individuales antes de las Misas de Novena para Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de 6:00-7:00 p.m.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

MENSAJE DEL PASTOR

It's almost Christmas! Did you do your decorating? Did you send out your Christmas cards? Did you do all of your Christmas shopping? The question that is most important to me in this Advent season, "How have you prepared your heart to receive the presence of Christ, Our Savior?"

Perhaps in this very different year of caution, concern and worry, this might actually be the most important question we all need to answer. We proclaim each year at Christmas that Jesus is born in Bethlehem of Judea as Savior from sin and death. He is the light of hope in a time of darkness, as proclaimed by the star in heaven that the magi followed. Yet, after we go through all of the preparation and celebration with family and friends each year, we all remain the same. Christ Jesus born in Bethlehem makes no difference in how we live our lives.

So maybe this year it can be different. If we take some time to think and pray about what is going on inside of us, the hurts that need healing, that result in fear and anger, holding us back from fully engaging in love of God and neighbor. It has been my experience that we often ignore or we cannot recognize these hurts. These hurts trap us in endless cycles of reacting to those around us with impatience, criticism and angry responses. It can also mean that we look for relief from our pain by unhealthy activities like excessive drinking, use of "recreational" drugs, unhealthy eating habits and pornography. We look for some simple passing pleasure hoping to escape the unconscious pain we experience from the past and present.

What then is the remedy for these afflictions? We need a soul healer. We can spend a great amount of time talking to others, whether they be professionals or friends. We might gain some clarity to our hurts and pains, but never really achieve peace. I suggest two methods. First, is the sacrament of the Eucharist. When we come forward to receive the Body of our Savior, we come before Him with our hands extended holding our hurts and pains. We are offering Him these hurts and pains as really the only gift worthy of His love. He desires from us what we are not willing to let go of. He then takes our hurts and pains to the Cross to transform them into the medicine we need for our healing. This is the gift He gives us in Holy Communion.

The second is the sacrament of Reconciliation. We confess our sins. We admit to our darkest and most base desires. And our Lord speaks to us His words of love. It is not just forgiveness, but much more. Our Lord Jesus loves the darkest most sinful aspects of our lives. He says, "I love you because of your sins." He invites us then to rest in this loving embrace.

This I believe is the true gifts of Christmas. It only requires that we are willing to receive these gifts of healing and love. And in receiving these gifts our lives are transformed.



¡Es casi Navidad! ¿Has decorado? ¿Has enviado tus tarjetas de Navidad? ¿Hiciste todas tus compras navideñas? La pregunta que es más importante para mí en esta temporada de Adviento es, "¿Cómo has preparado tu corazón para recibir la presencia de Cristo, nuestro Salvador?"

En este año tan diferente de cautela y preocupación, esta podría ser la pregunta más importante que todos debemos responder. Proclamamos cada año en Navidad que Jesús nace en Belén de Judea como Salvador del pecado y la muerte. Él es la luz de la esperanza en tiempos de oscuridad, como lo proclamó la estrella en el cielo que siguieron los magos. Sin embargo, después de pasar por toda la preparación y celebración con familiares y amigos cada año, todos seguimos siendo los mismos. El nacimiento de Cristo Jesús en Belén no hace ninguna diferencia en la forma en que vivimos nuestras vidas.

Tal vez este año pueda ser diferente. Si nos tomamos un tiempo para pensar y orar sobre lo que está sucediendo dentro de nosotros, las heridas que necesitan curación, que resultan en miedo e ira, impidiéndonos comprometernos plenamente en el amor a Dios y al prójimo. Ha sido mi experiencia que a menudo ignoramos o no podemos reconocer estas heridas. Estas heridas nos atrapan en ciclos interminables de reacciones a quienes nos rodean con impatience, críticas y respuestas airadas. También puede significar que buscamos alivio de nuestro dolor en actividades que no son saludables como el consumo excesivo de alcohol, el uso de drogas "recreativas", hábitos alimenticios poco saludables y pornografía. Buscamos un simple placer pasajero con la esperanza de escapar del dolor inconsciente que experimentamos del pasado y del presente.

¿Cuál es entonces el remedio para estas aflicciones? Necesitamos un sanador de almas. Podemos pasar una gran cantidad de tiempo hablando con otros, ya sean profesionales o amigos. Podríamos obtener algo de claridad en nuestros dolores y heridas, pero nunca realmente lograr la paz. Sugiero dos métodos. Primero, es el sacramento de la Eucaristía. Cuando venimos a recibir el cuerpo de nuestro Salvador, venimos ante Él con nuestras manos extendidas sosteniendo nuestras heridas y dolores. Le estamos ofreciendo estas heridas y dolores como realmente el único regalo digno de Su amor. Él desea de nosotros lo que no estamos dispuestos a dejar ir. Luego lleva nuestras heridas y dolores a la Cruz para transformarlos en la medicina que necesitamos para nuestra curación. Este es el regalo que nos da en la Sagrada Comunión.

El segundo es el sacramento de la Reconciliación. Confesamos nuestros pecados. Admitimos nuestros deseos más oscuros y básicos. Y Él Señor nos habla con sus palabras de amor. No es solo perdón, sino mucho más. Nuestro Señor Jesús ama los aspectos más oscuros y pecaminosos de nuestras vidas. Él dice, "Te amo por tus pecados". Él nos invita entonces a descansar en este abrazo amoroso.

Este creo que son los verdaderos regalos de la Navidad. Solo requiere que estemos dispuestos a recibir estos dones de sanación y amor. Y al recibir estos regalos nuestras vidas se transforman.

Cha Sở Nhân Gửi (Pastor's Message)

Đã gần đến lễ Giáng Sinh rồi! Quý Ông Bà và Anh Chị em đã trang hoàng nhà cửa chưa? Đã gửi thiệp Giáng Sinh chưa? Đã đi mua quà Giáng Sinh chưa? Đối với tôi thì câu hỏi quan trọng nhất trong mùa Vọng này là: "Quý Ông Bà và Anh Chị em đã chuẩn bị lòng mình thế nào để đón Chúa Ki-tô Cứu Thế?"

Và có lẽ vào một năm đầy khốn khổ và đầy lo lắng như năm nay, đây cũng là câu hỏi quan trọng nhất mà chúng ta phải trả lời. Mỗi năm đến lễ Giáng Sinh chúng ta lại tuyên xưng Chúa Giê-su sinh ra ở Bê-lem miền Giu-đê-a, để cứu chúng ta khỏi tội lỗi và sự chết. Người là ánh sáng hy vọng trong đêm tối tăm, như ánh sao từ bầu trời chiếu soi mà các nhà đạo sĩ tìm đến. Thế mà sau khi chuẩn bị và mừng lễ cùng với gia đình và bạn hữu, chúng ta vẫn sống như thế. Chúa Giê-su Ki-tô sinh ra ở Bê-lem chẳng mang lại sự khác biệt nào nơi chúng ta và cách chúng ta sống.

Vậy thì năm nay có lẽ sẽ khác hơn. Nếu chúng ta bỏ thì giờ cầu nguyện và suy nghĩ về cuộc sống của chúng ta, về những tổn thương cần hàn gắn, những điều làm ta sợ hãi hay tức giận, những gì làm ta xa Chúa và xa người khác. Kinh nghiệm cá nhân của tôi cho thấy là đôi khi chúng ta làm ngơ hoặc không nhận ra những tổn thương này. Những điều này làm cho chúng ta không thoát ra được cái vòng lẩn quẩn với những người chung quanh do sự thiếu kiên nhẫn, do chi trích hay những lời lẽ tức giận. Và có thể chúng ta tìm cách giải thoát đau khổ bằng những hành động không lành mạnh như uống rượu, dùng thuốc, ăn uống quá độ, hay xem các hình ảnh khiêu dâm. Chúng ta muốn mượn một vài cách để giải quyết những đau khổ trong hiện tại và quá khứ.

Vậy thì phương thuốc gì để chữa những đau khổ này? Chúng ta cần một người chữa lành tâm hồn. Chúng ta có thể tham khảo với những người khác, dầu họ là những nhà chuyên môn hay là những người bạn. Chúng ta có thể hiểu ra được nguyên nhân của những tổn thương và đau khổ, nhưng có thể không tìm được sự bình an. Tôi xin đề nghị hai phương cách. Một là Phép Thánh Thể. Khi chúng ta đến nhận Mình thánh Chúa Cứu Thế, chúng ta đến với Ngài bằng cả hai tay mang đầy tổn thương và đau khổ. Chúng ta dâng cho Ngài tất cả những tổn thương và đau khổ này như là những tặng vật xứng đáng với tình yêu của Ngài. Ngài muốn chúng ta trao cho Ngài những gì chúng ta còn ràng buộc. Rồi Ngài đưa những tổn thương và đau khổ của chúng ta lên Thánh giá và biến chúng thành những liều thuốc chữa lành mà chúng ta cần đến. Đó là một món quà Ngài ban cho chúng ta qua việc Rước lễ.

Phương cách thứ hai là Phép Giải tội. Chúng ta xưng ra tội của mình. Chúng ta nhìn nhận những ham muốn thấp hèn của chúng ta. Và Thiên Chúa nói với ta bằng những lời yêu thương. Không phải chỉ là sự tha thứ, nhưng còn hơn thế nữa. Chúa Giê-su yêu thương những gì yếu kém thấp hèn trong cuộc sống của chúng ta. Ngài nói: "Ta yêu con vì những tội lỗi của con." Rồi Ngài mời chúng ta nghỉ ngơi trong tình âu yếm của Ngài.

Đây chính là điều tôi cho là những món quà Giáng Sinh. Chúng ta chỉ cần có tâm hồn sẵn sàng đón nhận những món quà này cho yêu thương và chữa lành. Và trong khi nhận những món quà này, cuộc sống của chúng ta sẽ thay đổi.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS

JOHN THE BAPTIST

At a school open house a woman could be overheard introducing her husband to some of the other parents. "Oh, Bill, I'd like you to meet Johnny's father. And over here, this is Marie's mom; you know, the little girl from our Ellen's soccer team."

With satisfied resignation Bill introduced himself not by name: "I'm Ellen's Dad."

It's good to know who you are. Be it someone's father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife, it's important to embrace the full meaning of our various roles.

John the Baptist knows who he is. And who he is not. He is not the Christ. Nor Elijah. Nor like any other prophet God's people had ever seen.

John the Baptist knows his mission is divine. He's more than satisfied to be the one to announce the coming of God's reign. The Christ is near. Make straight your paths.

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REFLEXIONEMOS SOBRE LA LECTURAS

JUAN EL BAUTISTA

En una casa abierta de la escuela se escuchó a una mujer presentando a su marido a algunos de los otros padres. "Oh, José, me gustaría que conozcas al padre de Juanito. Y aquí, esta es la mamá de María, ya sabes la niña que juega fútbol con nuestra Elena".

Con satisfecha resignación Bill se presentó no por su nombre sino: "Soy el padre de Elena".

Es bueno saber quién es uno. Si somos el padre o la madre de alguien, hijo o hija, esposo o esposa, es importante que aceptemos el sentido pleno de nuestras diferentes funciones.

Juan Bautista sabe quién es. Y quién no es. No es el Cristo. No es Elías. Tampoco igual a ningún otro profeta que el pueblo de Dios hubiese visto.

Juan Bautista sabe que su misión es divina. Está más que satisfecho de ser el que anuncia la venida del Reino de Dios. El Cristo está cerca. Enderecen sus caminos.

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SPECIAL COLLECTION

"Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses," says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

COLECCIÓN ESPECIAL

"Cada dólar ayuda a cubrir nuestros gastos", dice un abad trapense. Cientos de comunidades religiosas en Estados Unidos luchan para cuidar a sus miembros ancianos porque la mayoría de las hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes católicos mayores de órdenes religiosas sirvieron recibiendo escaso o ningún pago. Su donativo al Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos ayuda a estas comunidades a cubrir las carencias, ofreciendo ayuda para recetas, médicas, cuidados de enfermería y otras necesidades., Por favor sean generosos.

GIVING SUNDAY



DOMINGO DE DAR

Don't forget next Sunday the third Sunday of the Month, is Giving Sunday! Our Second Collection is to offset Operating Expenses including Maintenance and to subsidize parish ministries.

We will also be collecting your non-perishable food for Catholic Charities. Thank you!

No olvide que el próximo domingo, como cada tercer domingo del mes, habrá una segunda colecta para recaudar Gastos de Operación incluyendo Mantenimiento, y subsidio para los Ministerios Parroquiales.

También estaremos colectando alimentos no perecederos para Caridades Católicas. ¡Gracias!

**LIFE, JUSTICE AND PEACE
CATHOLIC TEACHING PUT INTO PRACTICE**

This is a series that will supply portions of the new encyclical from Pope Francis, entitled "Fratelli Tutti"

A "throwaway" world

Some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence. Ultimately, "persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected, especially when they are poor and disabled, 'not yet useful' – like the unborn, or 'no longer needed' – like the elderly. We have grown indifferent to all kinds of wastefulness, starting with the waste of food, which is deplorable in the extreme".

A decline in the birthrate, which leads to the aging of the population, together with the relegation of the elderly to a sad and lonely existence, is a subtle way of stating that it is all about us, that our individual concerns are the only thing that matters. In this way, "what is thrown away are not only food and dispensable objects, but often human beings themselves". We have seen what happened with the elderly in certain places in our world as a result of the coronavirus. They did not have to die that way. Yet something similar had long been occurring during heat waves and in other situations: older people found themselves cruelly abandoned. We fail to realize that, by isolating the elderly and leaving them in the care of others without the closeness and concern of family members, we disfigure and impoverish the family itself. We also end up depriving young people of a necessary connection to their roots and a wisdom that the young cannot achieve on their own.



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

Esta es una serie que proporcionará porciones de la nueva encíclica del Papa Francisco, titulada "Fratelli Tutti."

El descarte mundial

Partes de la humanidad parecen sacrificables en beneficio de una selección que favorece a un sector humano digno de vivir sin límites. En el fondo «no se considera ya a las personas como un valor primario que hay que respetar y amparar, especialmente si son pobres o discapacitadas, si "todavía no son útiles" —como los no nacidos—, o si "ya no sirven" —como los ancianos—. Nos hemos hecho insensibles a cualquier forma de despilfarro, comenzando por el de los alimentos, que es uno de los más vergonzosos».

La falta de hijos, que provoca un envejecimiento de las poblaciones, junto con el abandono de los ancianos a una dolorosa soledad, es un modo sutil de expresar que todo termina con nosotros, que sólo cuentan nuestros intereses individuales. Así, «objeto de descarte no es sólo el alimento o los bienes superfluos, sino con frecuencia los mismos seres humanos». Vimos lo que sucedió con las personas mayores en algunos lugares del mundo a causa del coronavirus. No tenían que morir así. Pero en realidad algo semejante ya había ocurrido a causa de olas de calor y en otras circunstancias: cruelmente descartados. No advertimos que aislar a los ancianos y abandonarlos a cargo de otros sin un adecuado y cercano acompañamiento de la familia, mutila y empobrece a la misma familia. Además, termina privando a los jóvenes de ese necesario contacto con sus raíces y con una sabiduría que la juventud por sí sola no puede alcanzar.



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.

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.*

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

THANK YOU! ¡GRACIAS!

To all who purchased the "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets, your generosity has resulted in a \$580.00 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 \$ 580.00 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.

*The King of Israel, the Lord is in your mist,
you have no further misfortune to fear.
Zephaniah 3:15b*



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*El Señor sera el rey de Israel en medio de ti y
ya no temerás ningún mal. Sefonias 3:15b*

TREASURES FROM TRADITION

Today there is an abrupt shift in the season of Advent. From here on the tone is more joyful and expectant and the tug of the Christmas message is irresistible. At daily Mass on December 17 we begin to unfold the story of Jesus' birth. Who can resist the beauty of the first reading today—deserts aflame with flowers, arthritics set to dancing, the tone-deaf singing hymns? So we don't miss the change, the parish may take rose-colored vestments out of mothballs, we may light rose-colored candles on the wreath, or fill in our wreaths with desert flowers, pink seashells, seed pods, cones and berries. The seeds of God's kingdom have been sown in us. In these shining days of Advent they are sprouting in many ways. How do we bring the promise to light? This is the week to prepare gifts for the poor. It is the week to invite a lonely neighbor to your Christmas dinner, the week to write a note forgiving a lost friend, the week to shatter a family grudge so that even in the desert places of your heart, Christ's life may blossom.

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

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

El día 16 de diciembre comienza la Novena de Aguinaldos en Colombia y otras partes de Latinoamérica. La novena consiste en 9 partes que se repiten por 9 noches:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1□ Oración inicial | 4□ Reflexión del día |
| 2□ Oración Mariana | 5□ Gozos |
| 3□ Oración de José | 6□ Oración al Niño Jesús |
| | 7□ Un Salmo |
| | 8□ Invocación final |
| | 9□ Villancicos (cantos navideños) |

Los participantes buscan aguinaldo (regalo). Para esto los Colombianos tienen la costumbre de jugar "pajita en boca" buscando quien no trae una pajita en boca. La persona que no pueda mostrar que trae pajita en boca tiene que dar un regalo a quien lo descubrió. Los aguinaldos son recuerdo del regalo que nos dio Dios en su Hijo Jesús, prenda de su amor. Y si Dios nos da un aguinaldo tan grande es porque Dios no tiene pajita en boca cuando nos dice que nos ama.

En el corazón de la Novena está el refrán de Gozos:

*Dulce Jesús mío / mi niño adorado
ven a nuestras almas / ven no tardes tanto.
Muy buen mensaje para el Adviento.*

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos □ Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Before you buy a bunch of "stuff" for family and friends this holiday season, try asking them what they really NEED.

Maybe they need help with a utility bill, or a car payment, or the rent.
Maybe they need a kid-free night, and could use a free babysitter.
Maybe they need a night off of cooking, and could use a homemade meal.
Maybe they need help with gas for their car.
Maybe they need a night out with friends.
Maybe they need a cup of coffee, and someone to just listen.
Maybe they need help making the holidays bright for their children.
Maybe they need help in some other way, but they either don't know how to ask for help, or are embarrassed to ask.

Maybe YOU could be the one to give them what they really need this season, rather than just more "stuff".

The Little Ones

Los Más Pequeños

Jim Burrows



There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light. Jn 1:6-8

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Vino al mundo un hombre enviado por Dios, cuyo nombre era Juan. Este vino como testigo, para testificar de la luz, a fin de que todos creyeran por medio de él. No era él la luz, sino que vino para dar testimonio de la luz.
Jn 1:6-8

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