

Nurturing Our Franciscan Tradition



# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

*December 10, 2023 - The Second Sunday of Advent*



Dec 11 -  
St. Damasus I



Dec 12 -  
Our Lady of Guadalupe



Dec 13 - St. Lucy,  
Virgin and Martyr



Dec. 14 -  
St. John of the Cross

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The Church ushers in a new liturgical year this weekend, the **First Sunday of Advent**. Advent is about waiting...waiting for the birth of Christ in Bethlehem, and waiting also for his Second Coming at the end of time. But the waiting is not passive. We stand watch so as not to be caught asleep. We wait in hope, knowing that there is more than the darkness, that even as we wait for Jesus, we know that He is with us.

**The Season of Advent** brings with it a different look. Liturgically, we make room for watchful anticipation... the lighting of the Advent candles... an empty creche... praying for God's mercy in the Confiteor... putting away the Gloria to await its return at the first Mass of Christmas....

On the **Third Sunday of Advent**, we participate in the tradition of recent Popes, bringing the baby Jesus figures from our home nativity scenes for a blessing.



**"Honoring the Virgen de Guadalupe"**

Join us on **Sunday, December 10, 2023** after the 7:30AM Mass, at approximately 8:30 AM

**As we celebrate the Patroness of the Americas -**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

We will have have Mexican food and pastries with coffee and Mexican Chocolate... and serenade her with "Las Mañanitas"

**Join us for MASS: Tue December 12 at 12:10pm All are Welcome!**



**Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus,  
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**PRAYER BEFORE THE CRUCIFIX**



*St. Francis prayed this prayer before the crucifix in the little church of San Damiano in 1205/1206 in the early days of his conversion.*



**M**ost High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, **L**ord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command.

**Weekly Readings**

**Readings for the week of December 10:**

- Sun: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
- Mon: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26
- Tue: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
- Wed: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
- Thur: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15
- Fri: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
- Sat: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28





**Daily Reflections for Advent & Christmas**

Waiting for Joyful Hope, with reflections for the days of the Advent and Christmas seasons, is available after all the Masses beginning on the First Sunday of Advent, December 02/03, for a \$1 donation (\$2.99 on Amazon).

# AN ADVENT PRAYER



GOD OF EXILES, REVEAL TO US THE PART OF OURSELVES IN EXILE, THE PART THAT IS WANDERING AND NEEDS TO COME HOME.

GOD OF EXILES, HEAR THE CRIES AND GROANING OF THE HOMELESS, THE ORPHANED, THE REFUGEES, AND THE IMPRISONED OF THE EARTH.

KEEP US CLOSELY UNITED TO THEM THROUGH OUR COMPASSION AND OUR ACTIONS. GRANT US VISION, COURAGE, AND THE STRENGTH TO STAND UP FOR THE VALUES OF THE GOSPEL.

GOD OF EXILES, KEEP CALLING US HOME. MAY THIS ADVENT SEASON BE A TIME OF COMING HOME TO THE BEST OF WHO WE ARE. AMEN.

FROM "AN ADVENT PRAYER" BY SR. JOYCE RUPP



## JOIN US FOR Advent and Christmas

- The Immaculate Conception, Solemnity** Fri, Dec 8  
*Holyday of Obligation -*  
Mass at 12:10pm (livestreamed) and 6:30pm
- Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve** Sun, Dec 24  
Fourth Sunday Masses: 7:30am, 9:30am (livestreamed)  
Christmas Eve -  
Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm (livestreamed) + 7:00 pm  
Choir Concert-Lessons and Carols, 9:00 pm (livestreamed)  
Mass During the Night: 10:00pm (livestreamed)
- Christmas Day** Mon, Dec 25  
*Holyday of Obligation -*  
Mass at 7:30am and 9:30pm (livestreamed)
- Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph** Sun, Dec 31  
Mass Sat. at 5:15, Sunday at 7:30 and 9:30 (streamed)
- Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**  
Mass 10:00am Mon, Jan 1
- Epiphany of the Lord, Solemnity**  
Vigil Mass 5:15 pm Sat, Jan 6  
Mass 7:30, 9:30 am (9:30am livestreamed) Sun, Jan 7
- Baptism of the Lord, Feast** Mon, Jan 8  
Mass at 12:10pm



# Tis the Season for See's Candies



School volunteers will be at the doors of the church: **December 9th and 10th and December 16th and 17th at all Masses!**

## DO YOU LIKE TO SING?



### Come join the choir as we prepare for Advent and Christmas!

Commitment is a rehearsal on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm and rehearsal one hour before 5:15pm or 9:30am Mass.

Contact John Iosefa at [johni@stfrancisparish.com](mailto:johni@stfrancisparish.com) for more details, and come talk to us after Mass.

At  **ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • EST. 1895

### VOLUNTEER SCHOOL COUNSELOR NEEDED

In 1990, a statement entitled *"In Support of Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools"* was released by the Catholic Bishops of the United States. This statement affirmed a strong conviction that catholic schools *"are of great value to our church and nation"* and *"the entire ecclesial community...is called to value ever more deeply the importance of this task and mission, and continue to give it full and enthusiastic support"* (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005).

Our parish school is in need of a volunteer school counselor to support the spiritual, intellectual, social, and psychological development of our TK - 8th grade students.

#### About the Volunteer Position:

Seeking one (1) volunteer school counselor with an LMFT or LCSW professional designation. The time commitment would be any weekday(s) with no minimum or maximum time requirement.

**IF INTERESTED IN SERVING OUR PARISH SCHOOL, PLEASE CONTACT:** [mmccrimons@stfranciselem.org](mailto:mmccrimons@stfranciselem.org) or [ihrga@stfranciselem.org](mailto:ihrga@stfranciselem.org)



### Parish Youth Christmas Choir



The St. Francis Parish Youth choir is looking for kids and teens in grades 2-12 who love to sing. We will begin practicing for the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass on Sunday December 10th and 17th from 8:45 – 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Center Chapel.

For more information please contact Janet Stites at [janetstites@earthlink.net](mailto:janetstites@earthlink.net)



**St. Francis Parish Center Offices:** 1066 26th Street, Sacramento, CA 95816 • Phone: 1-916.443.8084

Fax: 1-916.443.7356 • Website: [www.stfrancisparish.com](http://www.stfrancisparish.com) • Email: [info@stfrancisparish.com](mailto:info@stfrancisparish.com) Open M-F 9:00am-12:00pm

**St. Francis Elementary:** 2500 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816 • Phone: 1-916.442.5494 Website: [www.stfranciselem.org](http://www.stfranciselem.org)

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Principal	Ivan Hrga	<a href="mailto:Principal@stfranciselem.org">Principal@stfranciselem.org</a>	1-916-442-5494
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Parish Custodian and Facilities Assistant	Manny Dabay	<a href="mailto:MannyD@stfrancisparish.com">MannyD@stfrancisparish.com</a>	x107
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Youth Ministry Coordinator	Faith Formation Team	<a href="mailto:DFF@stfrancisparish.com">DFF@stfrancisparish.com</a>	
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Communion Visitation Ministry Coordinator	tbd	<a href="mailto:sfcommunionvisitation@stfrancisparish.com">sfcommunionvisitation@stfrancisparish.com</a>	
Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Darrin Greer	<a href="mailto:ParishCouncil@stfrancisparish.com">ParishCouncil@stfrancisparish.com</a>	
Finance Council Chair	tbd	<a href="mailto:FinanceCouncil@stfrancisparish.com">FinanceCouncil@stfrancisparish.com</a>	



# The Second Sunday of Advent



St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
December 9-10, 2023



We adore you Most Holy Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all your churches in the world,  
And we bless you, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world. Amen.

## Gathering:

## *Maranatha, Lord Messiah*

Kathy Powell

**VERSES**

3. Fra - grant Bud of Jes - se, whose bloom - ing kings re - vere,  
4. Da - vid's Key of Heav - en, re - lease us from our sins.

3. Root your words with - in us, God's Word for all to hear.\_\_\_\_  
4. Freed from er - ror's pris - on, our life in you be - gins.\_\_\_\_

**REFRAIN**

Ma-ra - na - tha, Lord Mes - si - ah, long a - wait - ed from a - far. Come and  
make your home a - mong us. Let us see your birth - ing star.

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**Confiteor:** I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

## Kyrie:

## *Mass of Creation*

Curtis Stephan

Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

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## Psalm: Psalm 85: "Lord, Let Us See Your Kindness..."

Marty Haugen

Lord, let us see your kind - ness;\_\_ Lord, let us see your kind - ness.\_\_

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## Gospel Acclamation:

Marty Haugen

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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# The Second Sunday of Advent

## APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

AMEN+

### Preparation of Gifts:

### *Prepare! Prepare!*

*Stephen Pishner*

**OSTINATO REFRAIN**

Pre-prepare! Pre-prepare the way of the Lord... Pre-prepare! Pre-prepare the way of the Lord, oh, Pre-prepare! Pre-prepare the way of the Lord. The Lord our God is coming soon. (Oh, )

Prepare the way, the way of the Lord. Ready your hearts. Oh, the Lord our God is coming soon!

Make straight the path, level the hills, lift up the gates. Oh, the Lord our God is coming soon!

Justice and peace, kindness and truth shall come to the earth. Oh, the Lord our God is coming soon!

Sing and rejoice! The Lord is near, I say rejoice! Oh, the Lord our God is coming soon!

A virgin will bear a son, Emmanuel; God is with us! Oh the Lord is coming soon!

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### Liturgy of the Eucharist:

### *Mass of Creation*

*Marty Haugen*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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# The Second Sunday of Advent

## Communion:

### *A Voice Cries Out*

Michael Joncas

1. Console my people, the ones dear to me; speak to the heart of Jerusalem:  
the time of your mourning is ended now, the Lord of life will come. **(Refrain)**



2. Ev'ry valley is made a plain, ev'ry mountain is leveled;  
the glory of God shall then be revealed, and the nations will sing in praise. **(Refrain)**

3. A voice shouts: "Cry!" O what shall I cry? All flesh is like grass and its flowers:  
the grass may wither, the flowers may fade, but the Word of the Lord is forever. **(Refrain)**

4. Zion, shout from the mountain top, lift up your voice, O Jerusalem,  
and say to the people of God's own land, "Behold, behold your God!" **(Refrain)**

5. The Lord will appear as a shepherd, holding his lambs in his arms,  
keeping his flock so close to his heart, leading them all, old and young. **(Refrain)**

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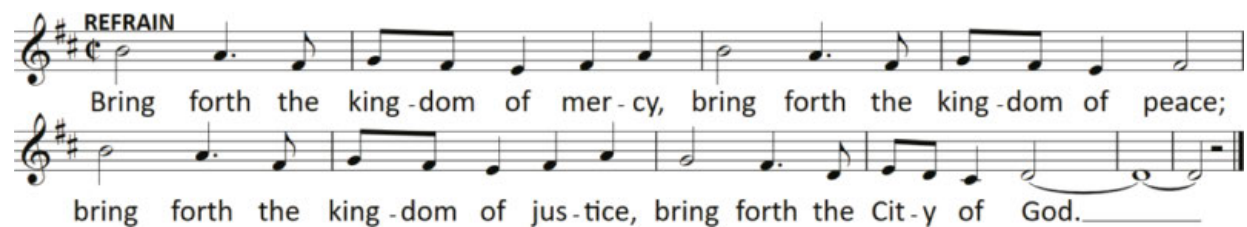
## Sending Forth:

### *Bring Forth the Kingdom*

Marty Haugen

**Cantor/Choir:** You are a seed of the Word, O people:  
**Cantor/Choir:** Seeds of mercy and seeds of Justice

**All:** Bring forth the kingdom of God!  
**All:** Grow in the kingdom of God! **(Refrain)**



**Cantor/Choir:** We are blest and a pilgrim people:

**All:** Bound for the Kingdom of God!

**Cantor/Choir:** Love our journey and love our homeland:

**All:** Love is the kingdom of God! **(Refrain)**

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