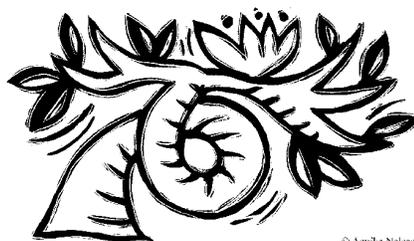


Daily Mass Intentions

December 4, 2006– December 10, 2006



- Monday, December 4:** 8:30am Mass
Arcaro Family
- Tuesday, December 5:** 8:30am Mass
+ Kathleen Alders
- Wed., December 6:** 8:30am Mass
+ Marge Laney
- Thurs., December 7:** 8:30am Mass
+ Kay Laney
- Friday, December 8:** 8:30am Mass
+ Michael Bradley
- Saturday, December 9:** 8:30am Mass
Conner Coen
- Saturday, December 9:** 5:00pm Mass
+ Dorothy J. Smith
- Sunday, December 10:** 8:30am Mass
+ Eugene Pittner
- Sunday, December 10:** 11:00am Mass
+ Jayme Jones
- Sunday, December 10:** 5:00pm Mass
All Parishioners



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**First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2006**

I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.
— *Jeremiah 33:15*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



- Monday: Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;
Lk 1:26-38
- Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35 — 10:1,
5a, 6-8
- Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11;
Lk 3:1-6

THE COMING KINGDOM

Jeremiah could see it coming—the kingship of Jesus and the restoration of Jerusalem. But was anybody listening? Is anybody listening now? It must have been tough being a prophet, but Jeremiah was persistent in his message because he knew that it needed to be heard.

Also persistent in his message is Paul as he encourages the Thessalonians—and all of us—to live in accordance with the kingship that Jeremiah foretold. He encourages us to conduct ourselves in ways of holiness so that we may be well prepared for the king’s coming. Finally, Jesus himself tells us to be ever diligent so that we may gain favor before our God and King.

Jeremiah could see the kingship of Jesus coming. As we begin the season of Advent, Paul and Jesus tell us not only how to prepare for the Kingdom, but how to live it day to day.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

Psalm — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — Abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

Gospel — Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

LOVE AND FAITH

It is love that makes faith, not faith love.

—John Henry Newman

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



Immaculate Conception

December 8, 2006, The Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass schedule for this day is as follows:

Thursday, December 7 (Vigil): 6:00pm
Friday, December 8: 8:30am & 7:00pm

**4th week of November 2006:
\$10,749.52**

Thank you for your Support
(Our goal is \$12,000 per week)



A TIME FOR GIVING

We received a \$2,000 gift this past week. We thank you.



ADVENT

(Ref: The Book of Ordo)

Advent has a two-fold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs our heart and mind to await Christ's second coming at the end of time. Advent is a time of devout and joyful expectation.

Human beings cannot live without hope. We all need something to live for, something to look forward to. To be without hope is to give despair, birth and a foothold in our lives. We can find all kinds of things to live for, some things that are fleeting and others that are more permanent or eternal. Hope and dreams of a better life for oneself and a better world for mankind are pretty good places to start. These forms of hope have given dignity and purpose to the lives of countless generations.

Hope was present in the Old Testament when our forefathers prayed and worked for great things: that divided peoples would eventually gather together; that the blind would see, the deaf hear, the lame walk; that all the earth would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. In our time we hope for the same things but we differ from the people of the Old Testament in two ways. First, the coming of Christ as Messiah who fulfilled God's promise and strengthened our hope. Secondly, Jesus revealed to us that the Kingdom of God is not far off, but is already in our midst.

This advent season please share your hopes with Christ. Record them somewhere privately and look at them this time next year. This hope, that God has placed in your heart is strengthened by your personal relationship with Christ and is modified by the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

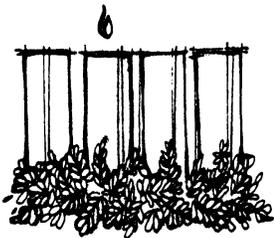
Advent Prayer

*Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus come,
Let your face smile on your servant
And let your sunlight hurry back into our lives*

**God Bless,
Fr. Mike**

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

(one purple candle is lit)



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O Lord, In this season's darkness Our Advent Wreath so bright reminds us of the coming of Jesus Christ, our light. As we light One candle our prayer is this to You, protect us from all evil in everything we do. Amen.

Giggles: "My Husband ran away with my best friend", said Mary Murphy. "What was her name?", asked her neighbor. "I don't know," said Mary, "I never met her."

Definition of a hangover: The wrath of grapes.

Casey was a paratrooper and one day his sergeant said to him "How many successful jumps must a paratrooper make before he graduates?" Casey said, "all of them, or else he is in trouble."



CHRISTMAS POINSETTAS

Christmas is coming! We would love to fill the sanctuary with poinsettias like we have in the past. Your donations will help us honor the Lord's birth in this way. We will be accepting red or white poinsettias from now until Christmas

Eve. Please leave them in the back of the Church at any time.

Also, we need many able bodied people to transform our sanctuary from Advent to Christmas. Because December 24th is also the last Sunday of Advent, we need to do this in three hours. Anyone who is able to help for a few hours on December 24th after the 11:00am Mass would be welcomed with smiles and eggnog ...Please call Robin at 268-9158 with any questions or comments.



Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS

Thank you to everyone who took a gift tag to assist a local organization in our community from the giving tree. Please be sure to attach the tag to a gift bag and return to the the Church by placing it under the tree after Mass.



Gifts need to be returned no later than Sunday, December 10, 2006. If you have any questions, please contact Renee Reale at (530) 888-1508.

God bless you all and thank you for your generosity.

Penance

Our Penance Service is scheduled for Wednesday, December 20, 2006 at 7:00pm.

We encourage all to attend this penance service.

SCHOOL NEWS



As our school transitions from the Thanksgiving Holiday to the Season of Advent and Christmas, it is important for us as a school community to remember all of the blessings that we have to be thankful for. On behalf of the school children and families we would like to thank all of the parishioners who support our parish school by coming to school events, participating in school fundraisers and keeping our students, and teachers in your prayers. Thank you to everyone who came to the Christmas Craft Faire. We would especially like to thank the Knights of Columbus for their continuing financial support of the school and their willingness to help the school out whenever we ask. Please remember that one of the most important factors in keeping enrollment at our school up is the positive testimony of our community. We are extremely proud of our parish school and need to keep the message out there in the larger community.

We would like to invite all of our parishioners to the school Christmas program on Thursday, December 14, 7:00pm at St. Teresa of Avila Church. This will be a beautiful musical celebration of the Christmas Season and the birth of our Savior.

Please continue to keep Connor Coen in your prayers. He is in New York receiving treatment for his cancer. Thank you to everyone who has continued to help the Coen family financially during this difficult time.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE



The Hispanic community would like to invite everyone to the celebration of Guadalupe on Tuesday, December 12, 2006:

~ **5:00am** - Mañanitas at St. Joseph Church

~ **3:40pm** - Walking from High Street to Saint Joseph Church. We will be meeting in front of the PG&E office.

~ **5:00pm** - Mass at St. Joseph's Church

~ **7:30pm** - Reception at the Parish Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend!!!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Please join us once again this year, singing at all of the local convalescent homes. Our caroling will begin the week of December 4th. The cost is just a bit of your time and the rewards are priceless. If you interested in singing and spreading good cheer, please call Barbara at (530) 889-2254 ext. 10 to sign up and obtain the schedule.



Christ is born, that by his birth he might restore your nature.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

Do you know someone who has left the Church or who seldom practices their religion anymore?

Most of us do not have to look very far to find non-practicing Catholics among our circle of family and friends. Most inactive Catholics are searching, but need help to find their way home. Some may have been hurt by the Church or may carry with them a tremendous amount of guilt, shame, or misinformation about the Church. Others may think they are not welcome to return or are afraid of being rejected. Many are hesitant to take that first step but would eagerly respond to an invitation to return. They need to know that the Catholic community misses them and is waiting to welcome them back into our Church family.

As baptized, practicing Catholics, we have been blessed with the precious gift of faith and love from our Father. It is a gift God calls each of us to share with our non-practicing brothers and sisters. Certainly, we should pray for their return. However, as practicing Catholics, we also have an obligation to reach out to them, entreating them to come home to the Catholic Church and to the Catholic community.

Here in the Auburn-Sierra foothill area, St. Teresa of Avila Parish will again host a special program begun four years ago called "**Catholics Returning Home**". This is a program of support to help non-practicing Catholics to return to the faith, regardless of how long they have been away or for whatever reason. If they are at all interested in renewing their relationship with God and the Catholic Church, they will be warmly welcomed. Program sessions will be conducted in a support group format facilitated by Parish laypeople, several who were once non-practicing Catholics themselves and who may have experienced the same problems, concerns and feelings as those invited to attend. They will be there to listen and to help participants take that first step in returning to the Catholic community. There will also be discussions on the Catholic faith today, on the celebration of the Eucharist, and on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The first of six consecutive Monday evening sessions will begin at 7:00 PM on January 8, 2007 in the Fireplace Room at the Parish Hall on Atwood Road. Please pass this article or information on to anyone who might be interested. For more information, call Jim McKeveitt at (530) 878-7883.

**Week At A Glance
December 4, 2006—December 10, 2006**

MON.	8:30am	Music Class	Fireplace Room
12/04	3:00pm	Basketball	Parish Hall
TUES.	8:30am	Music Class	Fireplace Room
12/05	10:00am	Funeral	St. Teresa
	1:00pm	St. Theresa Play	St. Teresa
	3:00pm	Basketball	Parish Hall
	7:00pm	JustFaith Committee	Fireplace
	7:00pm	St. Theresa Play	St. Teresa
WED.	11:00am	Catholic Ministry Mothers	Fireplace Room
12/06	5:30pm	Bingo	Parish Hall
	7:15pm	R.C.I.A. Class	Chapel
THURS.	3:00pm	Basketball Practice	Parish Hall
12/07	7:30pm	KC's Meeting	Fireplace Room
FRI.	5:00pm	Pre-School Christmas	Parish Hall
12/08			
SAT.	7:00pm	Sierra College Choir	St. Teresa
12/09			
SUN.	8:30am	KC's Breakfast	Parish Hall
12/10	7:00pm	ICF Christmas Party	Parish Hall

GATHERING INN

It is that time of year when we think of helping others. Our parish will be helping serve a meal for the Gathering Inn on December 9th. The meal will be served at Pioneer Methodist Church. If you think you would like to participate in this very rewarding event, please contact Lonna Giles at (916) 663-4108. Also, if you know of any businesses that would like to donate any food items, it would certainly be appreciated. Thank you and may you all have a joyous holiday season

**OASIS DAY
OF PRAYER & CONTEMPLATION**

The first Tuesday of every month there is a prayer and reflection day at Mercy Center Auburn from 9:15am to 2:30pm. Voluntary donation.

Pre-registration by phone 887-2019 or e-mail mercycenter@mercyauburn.com appreciated but not required. Please bring your own lunch.

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS
(Second Collection)**

Next week's appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious asks us to recall those women and men religious whose ministry has nourished our own faith, served our church, and strengthen our nation. Today, more than 37,000 women and men religious are past age 70. Their institutes face critical economic challenges as the costs of health care escalate and as the need for handicapped - accessible housing increases. Please give generously.

Extra envelopes will be in the back of the Church.