

Daily Mass Intentions

December 18, 2006– December 24, 2006



Monday, December 18: 8:30am Mass
Christopher Warner

Tuesday, December 19: 8:30am Mass
+ Henry Oliveria

Wed., December 20: 8:30am Mass
+ Richard Gavranich

Thurs., December 21: 8:30am Mass
Cael Chapelle

Friday, December 22: 8:30am Mass
+ Jean R. Ford

Saturday, December 23: 8:30am Mass
Our Lady

Saturday, December 23: 5:00pm Mass
+ Patrick O'Rourke

Sunday, December 24: 8:30am Mass

Sunday, December 24: 11:00am Mass

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;
Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;
Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80; Heb 10:5-10;
Lk 1:39-45

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Your God will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

Psalm — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12:6).

Second Reading — Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! (Philippians 4:4-7).

Gospel — Whoever who has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. Whoever who has food should do likewise (Luke 3:10-18).

IMPRESSIONABLE

A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every passerby leaves a mark.

—Ancient Chinese proverb



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**Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2006**

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.

— Zephaniah 3:15b

CELEBRATE

This Sunday, God rejoices and sings because of us. We read in Zephaniah today that God “will sing joyfully because of you, / as one sings at festivals” (Zephaniah 3:18). We know plenty about singing at festivals. Already our ears are ringing with the songs and carols that anticipate the Christmas season.

Paul reminds us of the source of our own double rejoicing: God is the mighty savior who is in our midst (in Zephaniah's words). Because this is so, says Paul, we can rejoice and be at ease. We don't have to worry, for God's peace will stand guard over our hearts and minds.

A medieval carol depicts Christmas as “my dancing day” and urges us to enter into the dance. Why all the merrymaking? Because “the Lord is near,” as Paul reminds us (Philippians 4:5). He then points to another reason for the dancing: the dawn of the promise of peace, the peace beyond all understanding, that is now within our grasp.

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2nd Week of December 2006

\$ 10,168.50

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



A generous gift was given from a new parishioner for \$13,500.00 and another parishioner gave \$3,000.00. We thank each and every one of you for your support in the growth of our parish.



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Forgiveness, Reconciliation, and Peace

As we enter our last week of preparation for Christmas I want to draw your attention to one of the great gifts Christ gives us, which help us make new beginnings. That gift comes in the form of a sacrament, the Sacrament of Forgiveness. At Christmas Christ becomes one with mankind. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we become one with God and one with each other. Forgiveness is not an option for Catholics. It is one of the seven sacraments in which Christ gives us the graces to make new beginnings. The road to reconciliation and peace begins with God's help.

FORGIVENESS

For those who have betrayed us -----	Father, forgive them.
For those who have let us down-----	“ “ “
For those who have been indifferent to us -----	“ “ “
For those who have crippled our lives-----	“ “ “
For those who have doubted us-----	“ “ “
For those who have preferred others to us-----	“ “ “
For family members who have hurt us-----	“ “ “
For those who have walked away from us-----	“ “ “
For my own self pity-----	Father, forgive me.
For my luke warmness-----	“ “ “
For my times of despair and distrust-----	“ “ “
For my refusals to be hugged-----	“ “ “
For my disbeliefs in your love-----	“ “ “
For my searching's every where but in your heart-----	“ “ “
For apologies frozen on my lips-----	“ “ “
For my words of love unspoken-----	“ “ “
For my kisses and embraces not given-----	“ “ “
For compliments never offered -----	“ “ “
For a heart closed in self-centeredness -----	“ “ “
For my own unforgiving postures-----	“ “ “
For not believing in your forgiveness -----	“ “ “

**God Bless.
Fr. Mike**



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE**

Wednesday, December 20, 2006: 7:00pm

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 23, 2006: 1:00 – 4:30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, December 24th: 4:30pm (Children's Mass)
 Christmas Eve, December 24th: 7:00pm (Youth Mass)
 Christmas Eve, December 24th: Midnight Mass (12:00am)
 Christmas Day, December 25th: 8:30 & 11:00am
(Sacred music played before all Masses – Come Early)



CHRISTMAS POINSETTAS

Christmas is coming! We would love to fill the sanctuary with poinsettias like we have in the past. Your poinsettia is to remember a deceased loved one. 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.



SCHOOL NEWS



The students and staff of St. Joseph Parish School would like to wish a Merry Christmas to all of the members of our parish community. Many blessings come to our students, teachers and staff through the support, prayers and generosity of our Catholic community. We would also like to thank everyone who came to the Christmas Craft Faire, the event was a great success. Our thanks also go to everyone who is praying and helping with fundraising for Connor Coen. Please keep Connor and his family in your prayers, he is in New York receiving treatment for cancer.

~Jonathan Molnar, Principal

ATTENTION ALL SENIORS



All Seniors 65 years and over are invited to a Christmas Appreciation Luncheon sponsored by St. Teresa of Avila Parish. Come and get acquainted with fellow parishioners, relax in a holiday atmosphere while sipping a cup of eggnog.

This is a special opportunity for you to invite non-practicing Catholics or non-Catholic spouses to our new community. "Err on the side of inviting during this Sacred and Holy Season", Fr. Mike.

WHEN: Thursday, December 21, 2006

WHERE: St. Teresa Parish Hall

TIME: 12:00 – 2:00pm



Giggles: The first time you go out shopping after Christmas, you will see the gift you gave your wife marked down FIFTY PERCENT. If she's with you, she will assume you chose it because it was cheap.

"I'm lucky my husband is half Irish and half Scottish. Half of him wants to get drunk, while the other half does not want to pay for it."



OUR FATHER'S LOVE

Remember the parable of the prodigal son? After squandering his inheritance on worldly pleasures in a foreign land, a young man was destitute and suffering. Finally, he summoned the courage to return to his father, meek and humbled, determined to seek forgiveness for his failures. Yet, on seeing him from a distance, the father ran to greet him. Before the young man could utter a word, the father threw his arms around him and kissed him. He ordered a robe for his shoulders, a ring for his finger, and sandals for his feet. A feast was prepared. As the father explained later to his faithful son, "we must celebrate and rejoice because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found".

This father's love for his sons was obvious. We can only imagine how much greater is God's love for us, His children. With this parable, as with several others, Christ showed us that His Father's love, God's love, is always there for us. All we have to do is accept it. Even if we have sinned and been away from Him, we should never doubt that He will welcome us back without hesitation or condition.

In keeping with the lesson Christ gave us in the parable of the lost son, the Parish of St. Teresa of Avila is again hosting a special program to seek out and welcome back into our church family those who have been away. **"Catholics Returning Home"** is a program of support to help non-practicing Catholics to return to their faith community, regardless of how long they have been gone or for whatever reason. We all know someone who was baptized and once a practicing Catholic but who no longer practices their faith. Some may just have drifted away and need only a little encouragement to find their way home. Some may be burdened with guilt, shame, or misinformation about the Church. Still others may think they are not welcome to return or are afraid of being rejected. All need to know that the Catholic community misses them and is anxiously waiting to welcome them back into our Church family.

If you know of someone who may be interested in renewing their relationship with God and their Catholic family, please let them know of this program. Ensure them that they will be warmly welcomed by a caring community that will be there to listen to their concerns and help them take that first step in returning to the Catholic faith. 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 McKeivitt at (530) 878-7883.

Week At A Glance December 18, 2006—December 24, 2006

MON. 12/18	8:30am	Stripping Hall Floors	Parish Hall
TUES. 12/19	8:30am 7:00pm	Stripping Hall Floors JustFaith Committee	Parish Hall Fireplace Room
WED. 12/20	5:30pm 7:00pm	Bingo Penance Service	Parish Hall St. Teresa
THURS. 12/21	12:00pm 12:45pm 4:00pm	Seniors Christmas Lunch Liturgy Meeting Basketball Practice	Parish Hall Parish Office Parish Hall
FRI. 12/22	1:00pm 6:30pm	School Christmas Lunch KC's Christmas Party	Fireplace Room Parish Hall

ST. TERESA OF AVILA PARISH MINISTRIES

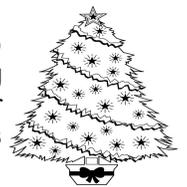
Angel Food Ministry:	Jo Anne Drummond, Barbara Freuler, 889-2254
Art & Environment:	Robin Guerra, 268-9158
Alter Servers:	Vince Anaclerio, 916-663-2514
Catholic Family Movement:	Steve & Robin Mathews
Catholics Returning Home:	Jim McKeivitt, 878-7883
Church & Grounds:	Dan Campos, 887-1325
Crime Victims Ministry:	Nina Ashford
Dir. Of Liturgy:	Jean Sawyer, 885-2958
Eucharistic Ministers:	Tony & Carrie Ivins, 885-1269
Hospitality:	Sylvia Fontes, 889-1005
Jail Ministry:	Deacon Mike Young, 887-8492
Lectors:	Joe Offer, 878-8419
Parish School:	Jonathan Molnar, 885-4490
R.C.I.A.:	Jim & Julie Opshal, 269-2595
Religious Education:	Carrie Ivins, 823-7122
Sick & Homebound:	Barbara Freuler, 889-2254 ext. 10
Youth Ministry:	Joe & Kelly Poggi, 887-8281

If anyone is interested in joining any of the above ministries, please contact the facilitator. We encourage all parishioners to get involved.

"We plant the seed of unselfishness when we give cheerfully to our Church"

THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone who generously gave to our parish Giving Tree for the less fortunate in our community. The response was overwhelming!



AN ADVENT PRAYER

May the God of peace make us completely holy.
May God keep us blameless in spirit, soul and body
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Forever faithful is the One who calls us—God our Father!
Expectant, let us live in joyful hope
for the revelation of the glory
of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!
To him be glory forever!
Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.