

PREPARE THE WAY

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance. Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD (Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalm — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent
 Monday: International Human Rights Day
 Tuesday: St. Damasus I
 Wednesday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
 Thursday: St. Lucy
 Friday: St. John of the Cross

Mass Intentions For The Week



- Monday, December 10: 8:30am Mass + Gerald Ignacio
- Tuesday, December 11: 8:30am Mass + Eugene Pittner
- Wednesday, December 12: 8:30am Mass + Frank Mathews
- Thursday, December 13: 8:30am Mass + Howard Zoll
- Friday, December 14: 8:30am Mass Christopher Wingate
- Saturday, December 15: 8:30am Mass Our Lady
- Saturday, December 15: 5:00pm + Tom Schuck
- Sunday, December 16: 8:30am Mass + Harry & Rose Carvalho
 11:00am Mass + Tom Stefani
 5:00pm Mass + Matonis Family



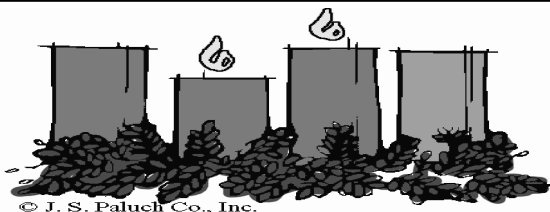
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR CHRISTMAS

Our Communal Penance Service is scheduled for Monday, December 17, 2007 at 7:00pm. We encourage all to attend.

1st Week of December 2007

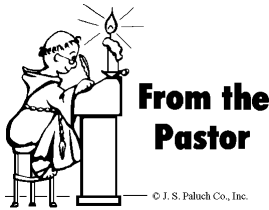
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We Thank You!
 Our goal is \$12,000 Weekly



Second Sunday of Advent

RECONCILIATION FOR CHRISTMAS



As we enter our last weeks 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 usFather, 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 accused 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 searchings 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.....

Communal Penance Service: Monday, December 17th at 7:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, December 22nd, 11:00am—12:30pm & 3:00—4:30pm

Christmas Eve: Monday December 24th at 1:00—3:00pm

Christmas Day Bulletin

I am asking young and old to write a short story "A Christmas I Remember". We will publish them in our Christmas edition of our parish bulletin. The stories should be personal and should reflect the spirit of this sacred season. So if you have a Christmas story of the war, of your children, of your grandparents, etc. etc., please hand them into the parish office before noon on Monday, December 17th. The stories should be 150—200 words, or less. I will publish about ten stories and keep the rest on file for next year and beyond. To remember is to celebrate,

God Bless, Fr. Mike



2008 CALENDARS

Our 2008 parish calendars are here! They are located at the back of the Church. Please pick one up on your way out of Mass today.

******YOUTH NEWS******

The Junior High Youth Group meets today after the 5:00pm youth Mass in the pre-school. Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming youth group meetings:



High School Youth Group: January 6, 2008
Junior High Youth Group: January 13, 2008

Have a very Merry Christmas, and we look forward to seeing you next year!!!!!!



~Jamie Anderson,
 Youth Coordinator

CALLING ALL CHILDREN

We are looking for volunteers to re-enact "The Christmas Story" at the Children's Christmas Eve Mass.



We will be meeting on Tuesday, December 11th and Wednesday, December 13th at 3:30pm in St. Teresa's Church. If you are interested, please join us in making this a memorable Christmas Mass. If you have any further questions, please call Judy Jones at 823-7122.

WEEK AT A GLANCE 12/10/07—12/16/07		
Monday, 12/10/07		
9:30am	Bible Study	Chapel
3:15pm	School Basketball	Parish Hall
6:00pm	RCIA Christmas Dinner	Fireplace Room
Tuesday 12/11/07		
10:00am	Music Class	Fireplace Room
3:15pm	School Basketball	Parish Hall
6:30pm	Liturgy Committee	Parish Office
7:00pm	Just Faith	Fireplace Room
Wednesday 12/12/07		
9:00am	Music Class	Fireplace Room
9:00am	Rosary Ministry	Cry Room
5:30pm	Bingo	Parish Hall
Thursday 12/13/07		
11:00pm	CLRS	Fireplace Room
3:15pm	School Basketball	Parish Hall
Friday, 12/14/07		
5:00pm	Pre-School Christmas Program	Parish Hall
Saturday, 12/15/07		
11:00am	Swank Baptism	St. Teresa
12:00pm	KC's Christmas Party	Parish Hall
Sunday, 12/16/07		
8:00am	Youth Choir Christmas Party	Parish Hall

THE GIVING TREE

TODAY IS THE DAY!! Gift tags, in a gift bag, are due back to the Church today.



Thank you for your participation and generosity. Please know that your involvement makes a difference in the lives of so many.

Any further questions, call Renee Reale at 888-1508.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS: After next Sunday, there will be no Religious Education classes due to the Christmas holidays. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 6, 2008 at 9:45am. We wish everyone a safe and wonderful Christmas and New Year's. See you next year!!!!



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Open your hearts in song by joining this years Christmas caroling to the convalescent homes. This is our third year spreading joy and cheer to those who are not able to get out and about. All that is required is a holiday spirit, dress in Christmas colors and arrive at the scheduled sight 10 minutes before designated time. Listed are dates and times so come join in a faith sharing experience. Any questions call Barbara at 889-2254 or to put your name on the singing list.

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|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Oaks of Auburn | December 9 th at 6:30pm |
| Emerald Hills | December 15 at 1:30pm |
| Colonial Healthcare | December 16 at 1:00pm |
| Country Villa | December 16 at 6:30pm |
| Oakwood Village | December 18 at 5:30pm |
| Siena Care | December 19 at 5:30pm |
| Health For All | December 20 th at 1:00pm |

New Parish Ministries

Parish Service Ministries:

Interfaith Food Closet: Last Sunday we hosted Welcome Sunday and handed out commitment forms to help our community. Please during this season remember the Interfaith Food Closet as you share your bounty with others.

Cleaning Committee: The Church is looking great—thanks guys.

Grounds Committee: We met this Saturday morning after the 8:30am Mass and began clearing up the grounds around our Church.

Circle of Friends: We are now distributing the gifts that our parishioners, so generously gave, to make Christmas a time of blessing for all.

Eucharistic Ministers for the Sick: We trained last week, and we are now looking forward to bringing The Lord to His people.

Environment Committee: The décor is brilliant.

Rosary Making Ministry: Learn to make the mission rope rosaries and help spread this beautiful devotion throughout our community. Rosaries made will be donated to Hospice, Sick & Homebound, Auburn Faith Hospital and as a gift to be given on "Welcome Sundays" to new and visiting members of our faith community. We meet on the second Wednesday of every month after the 8:30am Mass in the cry room of the Church.

Giggles: Confusing Our Children

Kids will never understand why parents make them go to bed when they're wide awake, and then make them get up when they're sleepy.

Jimmy carried the following excuse to the teacher the next morning. "Please excuse Jimmy from being absent. He had a new baby brother. It was not his fault."

The mother said, "Off you go to school now and don't talk to strangers unless you know them."

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We Welcome all who are joining us today. If you are not registered with our parish and would like to, please complete the following and return to the parish office.

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Family Last Name	Street Address
.....
Home Phone	City and Zip code
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