

Holy Spirit Parish

Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2017

THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

Children who are poor make toys out of the unlikeliest things: milk cartons, nails, bottle caps, sticks, plastic bags, corn cobs, clothespins. Folks who have plenty consider these things trash—in fact, some poor children literally make their toys out of trash. Their abject need gives them a different perspective, seeing blessing where the rich see only waste.

Material poverty is a scourge on our planet, and we must never make excuses for it. We must work tirelessly for decent conditions for every human person. As we work, we can learn from the special perspective of our brothers and sisters who do not have enough to live. We can see how depending on others for resources can transform a rich person's trash into a poor child's treasure.

SPIRITUAL POVERTY

On this "Rejoice!" Sunday in Advent, we can pray in a particular way for an end to material poverty. Today's readings assure us that the kind of poverty God desires for us is spiritual poverty, a radical knowledge that all things come from God. Where material poverty can wound the human spirit, spiritual poverty cultivates boundless joy. John the Baptist provides a startling model for us. In all sincerity, he admits that he is not worthy to touch Jesus' sandals. John says this not to charm the crowds by being coy and self-deprecating. No, John embraces the truth that God is the source of all goodness. We are utterly dependent on God for all good things. We cannot do anything to earn God's favor; God simply provides for us because we need God. This is massively good news! No one could possibly care for us like God does. At our very best, we merely reflect God's brightness into the world. God's brilliant joy is exactly what we are called to. As Saint Paul says, "The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it."

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Masses:

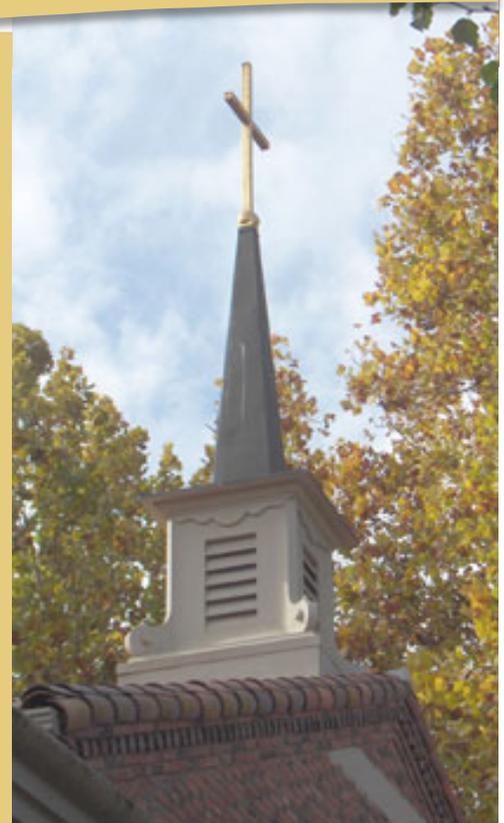
Saturday Vigil 5:15 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
Weekday 8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. and Wednesday 5:30-7:00 p.m. during Advent

Baptisms: By appointment. Please call the Rectory 443-5442

Marriage: Couples planning marriage are asked to make an appointment at Rectory at least six months prior to your anticipated wedding date.

- **Holy Spirit Parish School: (Grades TK-8) 448-5663**
Ann Marie Faires, Interim Principal
- **Catholic Faith Formation (CFF): Patricia Scott, Director**
Grades K-8; Mondays, 5:45 to 7p.m. at Holy Spirit School.
- **Respect Life Ministry: Mack & Lucy White 447-7327.**
- **Care of Sick & Elderly: Call the Rectory for Holy Communion home calls. 443-5442**
- **St Vincent dePaul Society ~SVdP Meet 4th Tues each month 397-7264**



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Rev. Michael Hebda, Pastor

*We, the people of
Holy Spirit Parish
seek to live as disciples of Christ.
Guided by the Holy Spirit,
fed and strengthened
at the Eucharistic table,
we are called to witness the Good
News of the Gospel by our
lives of faith, service,
community, and hospitality.*



**Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2017**

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.
— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK



Saturday	5:15 pm	Rhonda Haberman +
Sunday	9:00 am	Dorothy Jarzen +
	11:00 am	Annetta Caselli +
	5:15 pm	Holy Spirit Parishioners
Monday	8:00 am	Paul Snyder family Sp Int
Tuesday	8:00 am	Richard Oehmke +
Wednesday	8:00 am	Doug Holbrook +
Thursday	8:00 am	Vocations
Friday	8:00 am	Poor Souls
Saturday	5:15 pm	Robert Donaldson +
Sunday	9:00 am	Holy Spirit Parishioners
	11:00 am	Holy Spirit Parishioners
	4:00 pm	Holy Spirit Parishioners
	6:00 pm	Holy Spirit Parishioners
	11:00 pm	Holy Spirit Parishioners

Additional Confession time during Advent
Now that Advent is here, it is time to prepare! To aid in your preparation, there will be additional Reconciliation time on Wednesday evenings 5:30-7pm during Advent.

Fr. Michael's 21st Anniversary
On Wednesday, December 20th Fr. Michael will be celebrating the 21st Anniversary of his Ordination as a Priest.
Please keep him in prayer on this very special day.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



As we near the end of the year, many of us take the opportunity to express our gratitude and thanks for our many blessings by making charitable contributions to causes that are important to us. Through those donations the church and other organizations are able to assist the poor of God's people. A Christmas offering for our parish helps us to provide help to those who reach out to us, build community and continue proclaiming the good news through our parish life. Please consider adding us to your Christmas gift list!

REJOICE

Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us! God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life! Good tidings!

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New Parishioner Registration

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____ Ph. # _____

Email: _____

Please place form in the collection or drop off at the rectory.

Here at Home

Time Talent Treasure (TTT)

Faithful Stewardship. A way of life. Everything we think, say and do after we say "I believe."

"Vocations are important. But what is a vocation? That's what the new ministry forming at Holy Spirit is all about-helping individuals think about and embrace his/her vocation-whether in the priesthood or religious order, as a married person or a single person. This is important to me because I have known numerous people at one time or another say, "I used to want to be a priest/nun but didn't know what to do." We are human but we don't always feel like the work we do is a good fit and we live in turmoil instead of peace. I know that God speaks to each person's heart and I hope and pray for holy guidance through this church community that each one understands what is being said. Beginning in the new year we will be moving forward, with help from the Diocese, in structuring and implementing the new Vocation Ministry group. Please consider being a part of it."

Blessings, Elizabeth Moseby

Christmas Pageant this Sunday



The simplicity of a children's pageant invites all of us to enter into the real meaning of Christmas. This **Sunday, Dec. 17 at 2:30 pm** in the church, the CFF children will present their annual pageant for the parish. All are invited.

The pageant will be followed by a reception in the McHugh Hall. Please come and support them through your presence.

Save the Date!

Mark your calendar for these fun up-coming events:

- ◆ **Epiphany Sing-a-Long on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018**
- ◆ **Annual HSPS Crab Feed on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018**

Watch for more details coming soon!

Christmas Memorial Flowers

If you would like to donate Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for God's gifts, please fill out the form below. You can either put it in the collection basket or send to the rectory. Suggested donation is \$20.

Name _____

Intention _____



This Week At A Glance

- Dec 16/17 Brown bag lunch collection
- Dec 16/17 Parish town hall meeting
- Dec 17 CFF Christmas Pageant
- Dec 18 TTT Committee meeting
- Dec 20 Coffee & Catholicism
- Dec 21 Bible Study



Christmas Schedule



4th Sunday of Advent Mass
Saturday, Dec 23rd
at 5:15pm (Confessions from 4:00-4:45pm)

4th Sunday of Advent Mass
Sunday, Dec 24th
at 9:00am & 11:00am

Christmas Eve Mass
Sunday, Dec 24th
Vigil: 4:00pm and 6:00pm
(Carols begin at 5:30pm)

Christmas Mass at Night: 11:00pm
(Carols begin at 10:30pm)

Christmas Day Mass
Monday, Dec 25th
Mass at 10:00am (no 8:00am Mass)

New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary
(not a holyday of obligation this year)
Monday, Jan 1st
Mass at 10:00am (no 8:00am Mass)

Best Advent Ever!

We prepare for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. Join our parish for Best Advent Ever, a free email program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a unique way. To sign up, visit BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope

Feast of the Holy Innocents

On Thursday, December 28, Bishop Jaime Soto will lead the annual Feast of the Holy Innocents Candle Light Rosary Procession and Mass. We will meet at 6 pm at the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament and pray for the sanctity of life as we walk to Our Lady of Guadalupe for Mass at 7 pm. This March for Life commemorates those male infants of Bethlehem who were killed by decree of King Herod, as well as those innocent unborn babies lost by abortion today. Bring your family and walk to Mass praying the rosary. Candles will be provided. Carpools will shuttle people back to their cars. Dress warmly and bring umbrellas if needed. For more information, please call Leticia at 916-519-0417.

When have you found your voice and stood up for the truth?

CHURCH NAME AND NUMBER —

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CONTACT PERSON —

Sharon Ambrose

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1 through 4

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