

Holy Spirit Parish

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017**

POSSIBILITIES

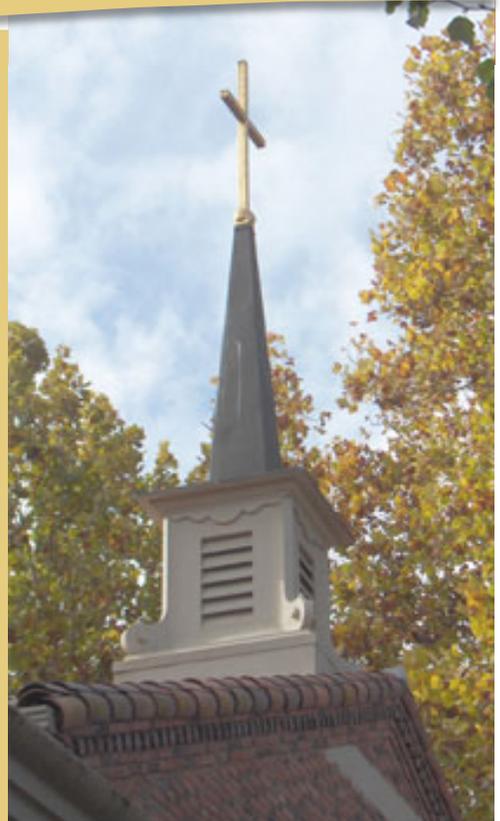
"What could happen?" That question affects each of us differently. Some of us are thrill-seekers, diving into unfamiliar territory with no regard for obstacles or dangers; others have learned from painful experience that the future may hold suffering or disaster. This last, brief Sunday of Advent emboldens us. Our readings remind us that our God is the God of possibilities. And while God's care does not guarantee that we will not encounter suffering, we can absolutely count on God's power to raise us to glory.

GLORY BE!

Truly, God creates us for glory. The burdens of daily life can shrink our hopes, but we must remember that we are made for nothing less than infinite glory. Who could have believed that the beleaguered Israelite nation could defeat all of its enemies? And yet our first reading today proclaims that God gave David "rest from his enemies on every side." Who could hope to unify the entire world in obedience to one Messiah? And yet Saint Paul insists that the "only wise God" has revealed salvation through Jesus to all people. Who could expect one young woman to decide the course of human history? And yet the angel tells Mary that her yes will establish a kingdom to endure forever.

We know, of course, that Israel did not maintain its peace. Even today, that area of the world is far from stable. We also recognize the wide variety of world religions that do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as the true savior. Though God has set us on the path to fullness and glory, we are still broken. Our danger lies not in hoping for too much, but in trusting too little in God. God can resurrect any darkness--replacing terror with peace, healing ancient wounds, uniting families, bringing stability to chaos. This is the message of Christmas. God can, and will, do everything to cover the world in love.

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Sacramento, California, 95818

Phone: (916) 443-5442

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www.HolySpiritParishSac.org

Rev. Michael Hebda, Pastor

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.

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**

*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.*

Hail,
full of grace!
The Lord is
with you.



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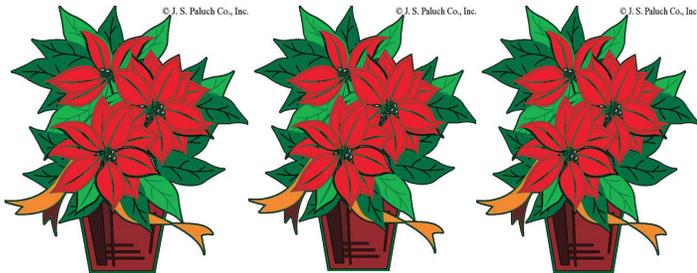
The child to be born will be called holy,
the Son of God.

—Luke 1:35

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK



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
Monday	10:00 am	Holy Spirit Parishioners
Tuesday	8:00 am	Tom & Jo Aubin +
Wednesday	8:00 am	Robert & Loretta Williams, Spec Int
Thursday	8:00 am	The Unborn
Friday	8:00 am	Holy Spirit Parish Volunteers
Saturday	5:15 pm	Victoria English +
Sunday	9:00 am	Holy Spirit Parishioners
	11:00 am	Holy Spirit Parishioners
	5:15 pm	Holy Spirit Parishioners



GOD'S PROMISE

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined.

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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!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	<u>Vigil:</u> Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] <u>During the Night:</u> Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 <u>Dawn:</u> Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 <u>Day:</u> Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Tuesday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Wednesday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Thursday:	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18
Friday:	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]



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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



Christmas Schedule



**4th Sunday of Advent Mass
Saturday, Dec 23rd at 5:15pm**

**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)**

**Now Accepting Applications
for TK and Kindergarten**

Holy Spirit Parish School is now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year for both Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes. If your child will be 4 or 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2018 you can apply by contacting the school at 916-448-5663. Holy Spirit Parish School focuses on following the teachings of Jesus and developing the love of learning. 1:1 iPad Technology - Academic Excellence - Fine Arts Program - Spanish - After School Care.



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.

Epiphany Celebration

Sunday, January 7th, 4:00pm



Epiphany is coming & it falls on **January 7th**. As usual, Holy Spirit will celebrate the end of the Christmas Season with music. We will gather in the **church at 4:00** and sing everyone's favorite Carols. Drop your requests in the collection baskets so we know what you'd like to include. This program will take about one hour & will include some featured performances as well. If you don't want to sing, come & just listen. If you haven't gone to Mass, you can then attend the 5:15pm Mass.

The cost is **FREE!** And, of course there will be refreshments afterwards. Let's get together as a parish to celebrate the end of this joyous season.

Hat, Gloves, and Scarf Drive

Holy Spirit St. Vincent de Paul is hosting a warm hat, gloves, & scarf drive. It's winter and there are hundreds of homeless in Sacramento living without necessary warm clothing items. Your kind donations will be accepted at Collection bins located at front/side Church entrances during all Mass schedules on **Jan. 6 & 7 and Jan. 13 & 14.**



Annual HSPS Crab Feed

Come support Holy Spirit Parish and School at our annual Crab Feed!

- ◆ Where: Holy Spirit Parish School gymnasium
 - ◆ When: **Saturday, January 20, 2018.** Cocktails at 5:30, dinner at 7:00pm
 - ◆ Tickets: \$50 per person. Table for 20 people: \$1000
- Reservations/questions: Contact Heather Balfour at 916-296-5132 or heatherdbalfour@gmail.com or purchase online at www.hs-ps.com.

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 _____



The angel reassures Mary. What reassurance does Christmas bring to you?