



# IMMACULATE HEART OF *M*ARY

— Parish Mission + Mision Parroquial —

*With Mary, we seek to know Christ better and to make him better known through our words and actions.  
Con María, deseamos conocer mejor a Cristo y darlo a conocer por medio de nuestras acciones y palabras.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—NOVEMBER 29, 2020

## *Advent* *The Season of Hope and Expectation*



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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

## Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland

The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ

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**Parish Office: (925) 634-4154**

Mon-Fri Office Hours: 9 AM - 3 PM

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**George Muggee**

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## The Pastor's Page/Página del Pastor

Dear families of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

With Advent we begin a new church year as we renew our preparations for the coming of Christ. The scriptures show a profound movement from despair in the first reading, as we feel the wrath of God's anger and a sense of being abandoned, to the responsorial psalm, which begs us to turn toward God, and the second reading where we see a glimmer of hope. Brimstone returns in the Gospel. This sense of unease and pain is much like what we have endured throughout 2020 with COVID-19, racial struggles, and political campaigns. Frankly, everyone is ready for a restart, for a do-over, for a better year. We can understand the heartfelt prayer of the prophet Isaiah: "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down." Hide not your face from us, O God, but during these days of Advent may you reveal yourself to each of us once again.

This author was very aware of the language of "master/servant" in the Gospel today and is reading it and praying it in light of discussions on racism in recent months. Perhaps this goes with the last imperative at the end of the parable to "Watch!" This year has taught us to be alert in our actions such as social distancing, masks, and sanitizing, as well as in our language and even our thoughts. Now how do we apply that to our spirituality, to our faith? For many, due to restrictions on numbers in church, singing, and choirs, this has meant learning to pray in a whole different way. The celebration of liturgy is the same as ever, with its focus always on the Word and the Eucharist, but for those in the pew, or still watching on livestream, the sense of active participation has taken on a very different meaning from how most of us have experienced liturgy in our lifetime. It feels like we have become spectators rather than participants. Perhaps this challenge can move us from complacency in our faith, to rediscover and relate to God in new ways, and call us to be even stronger in our personal faith. We must remain diligent. **We must "watch." We must hope. We must love. We must pray.**

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

Father Quang

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Queridas familias del Inmaculado Corazon de Maria,

Con el Adviento comenzamos un nuevo año eclesial mientras renovamos nuestros preparativos para la venida de Cristo. Las escrituras muestran un profundo movimiento desde la desesperación en la primera lectura, al sentir la ira de Dios y un sentimiento de abandono, hasta el salmo responsorial, que nos pide que nos volvamos hacia Dios, y la segunda lectura donde vemos un rayo de esperanza. Brimstone regresa en el Evangelio. Esta sensación de malestar y dolor es muy parecida a la que hemos soportado a lo largo de 2020 con COVID-19, las luchas raciales y las campañas políticas. Francamente, todo el mundo está listo para un reinicio, para un nuevo comienzo, para un año mejor. Podemos entender la sentida oración del profeta Isaías: "Oh, que rompas los cielos y bajas". No escondas tu rostro de nosotros, oh Dios, pero durante estos días de Adviento que te reveles a cada uno de nosotros una vez más.

Este autor era muy consciente del lenguaje de "dueño/esclavo" en el Evangelio de hoy y lo está leyendo y rezando a la luz de los debates del racismo de los últimos meses. Tal vez esto va con la última frase imperativa al final de la parábola "permanezcan alerta". Este año nos ha enseñado a estar alerta en nuestras acciones como el mantener una distancia física, el uso del cubre bocas y el desinfectar superficies, así como en nuestro lenguaje e incluso en nuestros pensamientos. Ahora, ¿cómo empleamos eso a nuestra espiritualidad, a nuestra fe? Para muchas personas, debido a las restricciones al número de personas permitido en la iglesia y en los coros, esto ha significado aprender a rezar de una manera totalmente diferente. La celebración de la liturgia es la misma de siempre, con su enfoque en la Palabra y en la Eucaristía, pero para aquellas personas que están en las bancas o que la ven transmitida en las redes sociales o en la TV, el sentido de la participación activa toma un significado muy diferente de cómo la mayoría de nosotros hemos experimentado la liturgia en nuestra vida. Se siente como si nos hubiéramos convertido en espectadores en lugar de participantes. Tal vez este desafío puede hacernos pasar del exceso de confianza en nuestra fe, a redescubrir y relacionarnos con Dios de nuevas maneras y llamarnos a ser aún más fuertes en nuestra fe personal. Debemos seguir siendo perseverantes. Debemos "permanecer alerta".

**Debemos tener esperanza. Debemos amar. Debemos rezar.**

Inmaculado Corazon de Maria, ruega por nosotros.

Padre Quang

### Weekday Masses/Misas Diarias

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00AM (English) - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:00AM (Bilingual)

### Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00PM (English)

### Sunday Mass/Domingo Misa

7:30AM (English) - 9:00AM (English) - 10:45AM (Español) - 12:30PM (English) - 2:00PM (Español)

5:00PM - Traditional Roman Rite (Latin)

### Confessions

Tuesdays 6:00PM - 7:00PM — Saturdays 3:30PM - 4:30PM

## Prayers & Weekly Scriptures/Oraciones y Lecturas de la Semana

### **MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK INTENCIONES PARA MISAS DE LA SEMANA**

#### **SAT. NOV. 28<sup>TH</sup>**

8:00AM + Tina Rodriguez  
+ Fank Icoletti

#### **SUN. NOV. 29<sup>TH</sup>**

9:00AM + Angelita and Carol Morris  
+ Simeon Zano  
+ Linda McDaniels  
+ Craig Steven Hagist  
+ George Aguilar  
10:45AM + Paula Fregoso  
+ Cecil Corre  
+ Eulalia Vega  
+ Maria Concepcion Alcantar Sanchez  
+ Maria del Rosario Marquez  
12:30PM + Priscilla Martinezi  
5:00PM Immaculate Heart of Mary

#### **MON. NOV. 30<sup>TH</sup>**

8:00AM + Shane Rojo  
+ Maureen Behrens

#### **TUE. DEC. 1<sup>ST</sup>**

8:00AM Banuelos de Zesati Family  
+ Ernesto Martinez

#### **WED. DEC. 2<sup>ND</sup>**

8:00 AM + Henrietta Cervantes  
+ Edmond Nalam

#### **THU. DEC. 3<sup>RD</sup>**

8:00AM + Maria Cerda

#### **FRI. DEC. 4<sup>TH</sup>**

8:00AM Rita Nahm - Birthday

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for  
Christmas.

We who have so much to do and seek quiet  
spaces to hear your voice each day.  
we who are anxious over many things look  
forward to your coming among us.  
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the  
complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of  
your presence. We are your people, walking in  
darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.

### **Sick Relatives & Friends Parientes y Amigos Enfermos**

Ryan McCloud, Ramon Antonio Toledo, Kay Aviani, Mia Eternal,  
Rosa Velasquez, Giselle Honore, Gina Lilly, Mary Spinelli, Bev  
Casey, Stanley Etienne, Mary McCann, Jacqueline Reed,  
Frances Brecht, Sean Bowen, Susan Rossillon, Kathleen  
Hernandez, Corey Amesquita, Barbara Snider, Gloria Crabaugh,  
Deacon Ron Horan, Barbara Crandell, Ryan Adler, Anita and Ed  
Camera, Edu Sunga., Richard Grimes, Kim Wiley, Lois Valley  
\*\*\*\* Mary Jeanne and Dave Brink, Debbie Morris, Debbie  
Juarez, Therese Brantome, Eleanor Janson, Maria Luisa Guisar  
Oseguera, Maria Guadalupe Espindola, Sotico Amboy, Connie  
Madrid, Chris Heuer, Louise Delia, Mickey Eitner, Ida Gutierrez,  
Elisa Heitzmann, Troy Moncada, Marge and Larry Cragle,  
Romano Marchetti, James Halvorsen, Sandy Heinisch, Juanita  
Cruz, Rose Marie and Michael De Marzo, Greg Fasula, Arlie  
Blackshear, Mary and Larry Ratto, Arlie Blackshear, Michael  
Lopez, Peggy Scalise, Beth Camola, Catalina and Eulogio  
Oseguera, Chris Kamola, Jose Velez, Michelle Young, Juan and  
Patricia Galarza, Elena Sanchez, Jan Cooper, Kate Friend,  
Margarita Orosco, Sandy Gamble, Dolores McLean, Cecille  
Cansino, Joe Stiglich, Toni Fulscher, Lana terry, Juanita Young,  
Art Silverglid, Frances Ramos, Chipa Moore, Lori Crommie-  
Carrillo, Elsee MartindaleNicole and Solangue Patrino-Patroni.

If You would like a name added to the prayer list, please call the parish office at  
(925) 634-4154 or e-mail:  
[bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com](mailto:bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com). At the end of each month you must call to place the  
name again on the list.

Ud. quiere añadir un nombre en esta lista, por favor llame a la oficina de la parro-  
quia al (925) 634-4154 o mande un correo electrónico al: [bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com](mailto:bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com).  
Al final del mes, usted debe llamar a la oficina si desea que el nombre aparezca de  
nuevo.

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

#### **LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA**

Monday: 684: Rom 10:9-18 Ps 19:8-11  
Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday: 176: Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:7-8, 12-13,  
17 Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: 177: Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-6  
Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: 178: Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21,  
25-27a Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: 179: Is 29:17-24 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14  
Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: 180: Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Ps 147:1-6  
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: 5: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-14  
2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

## Lectura

### Gloria

Gloria a Dios en el cielo,  
Y en la tierra paz a los hombres  
Que ama el Señor.  
Por tu inmensa Gloria te alabamos,  
te bendecimos,  
te adoramos,  
te glorificamos,  
te damos gracias,  
Señor Dios, Rey celestial,  
Dios Padre todopoderoso.  
Señor, Hijo único, Jesucristo,  
Señor Dios, Cordero de Dios,  
Hijo del Padre;  
Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,  
Ten piedad de nosotros;  
Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,  
Atiende nuestra suplica;  
Tu que estas sentado a  
La derecha del Padre,  
Ten piedad de nosotros;  
Porque solo tu eres Santo,  
Solo tu Señor,  
Solo tu Altísimo Jesucristo.  
Con el Espíritu Santo  
En la gloria de Dios Padre.  
Amen.

### Primera lectura

Is 63, 16b-17, 19b; 64, 2b-7

Tú, Señor, eres nuestro padre y nuestro redentor;  
ése es tu nombre desde siempre.  
¿Por qué, Señor, nos has permitido alejarnos de tus  
mandamientos  
y dejas endurecer nuestro corazón  
hasta el punto de no temerte?  
Vuélvete, por amor a tus siervos,  
a las tribus que son tu heredad.  
Ojalá rasgaras los cielos y bajaras,  
estremeciendo las montañas con tu presencia.  
Descendiste y los montes se estremecieron con tu  
presencia.  
Jamás se oyó decir, ni nadie vio jamás  
que otro Dios, fuera de ti, hiciera tales cosas en favor  
de los que esperan en él.  
Tú sales al encuentro del que practica alegremente la  
justicia y no pierde de vista tus mandamientos.  
Estabas airado porque nosotros pecábamos  
y te éramos siempre rebeldes.  
Todos éramos impuros y nuestra justicia era como  
trapo asqueroso; todos estábamos marchitos, como las  
hojas, y nuestras culpas nos arrebatában, como el  
viento.  
Nadie invocaba tu nombre nadie se levantaba para  
refugiarse en ti, porque nos ocultabas tu rostro  
y nos dejabas a merced de nuestras culpas.  
Sin embargo, Señor, tú eres nuestro padre; nosotros  
somos el barro y tú el alfarero; todos somos hechura de  
tus manos.

### Salmo Responsorial

Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Señor, Dios nuestro, restáuranos, que brille tu rostro y nos salve.

### Segunda Lectura

1 Cor 1:3-9

Continuamente agradezco a mi Dios los dones divinos  
que les ha concedido a ustedes por medio de Cristo  
Jesús, ya que por él los ha enriquecido con abundancia  
en todo lo que se refiere a la palabra y al conocimiento;  
porque el testimonio que damos de Cristo ha sido  
confirmado en ustedes a tal grado, que no carecen de  
ningún don, ustedes, los que esperan la manifestación de  
nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Él los hará permanecer  
irreprochables hasta el fin, hasta el día de su  
advenimiento. Dios es quien los ha llamado a la unión  
con su Hijo Jesucristo, y Dios es fiel.

### Evangelio

Mk 13:33-37

En aquel tiempo, Jesús dijo a sus discípulos: "Velen y  
estén preparados, porque no saben cuándo llegará el  
momento. Así como un hombre que se va de viaje, deja  
su casa y encomienda a cada quien lo que debe hacer y  
encarga al portero que esté velando, así también velen  
ustedes, pues no saben a qué hora va a regresar el  
dueño de la casa: si al anochecer, a la medianoche, al  
canto del gallo o a la madrugada. No vaya a suceder que  
llegue de repente y los halle durmiendo. Lo que les digo a  
ustedes, lo digo para todos: permanezcan alerta".

### Credo de Nicea

Creo en un solo Dios, Padre todopoderoso, Creador del  
cielo y de la tierra, de todo lo visible y lo invisible.

Creo en un solo Señor, Jesucristo, Hijo único de Dios,  
nacido del Padre antes de todos los siglos: Dios de Dios,  
Luz de Luz, Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero,  
engendrado, no credo, de la misma naturaleza del Padre,  
por quien todo fue hecho; que por nosotros, los hombres,  
y para nuestra salvación bajó del cielo, **y por obra del  
Espíritu Santo se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se  
hizo hombre**; y por nuestra causa fue crucificado en  
tiempos de Poncio Pilato, padeció al tercer día, según las  
Escrituras, y subió al cielo, y está sentado a la derecha  
del Padre; y de nuevo vendrá con gloria. Para juzgar a  
vivos y muertos, y su reino no tendrá fin. Creo en el  
Espíritu Santo, Señor dador de vida, que procede del  
Padre y del Hijo, que con el Padre y el Hijo recibe una  
misma adoración y Gloria, y que hablo por los profetas.

Creo en una iglesia, que es santa, católica y apóstolica.  
Confieso que hay un solo bautismo para el perdón de los  
pecados. Espero la resurrección de los muertos y la vida  
futura del mundo. Amen.





## Readings

### Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

### First Reading

Is 63:16b-17. 19b; 64:2-7

You, LORD, are our father,  
our redeemer you are named forever.  
Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,  
and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?  
Return for the sake of your servants,  
the tribes of your heritage.  
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
with the mountains quaking before you,  
while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for,  
such as they had not heard of from of old.  
No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you  
doing such deeds for those who wait for him.  
Would that you might meet us doing right,  
that we were mindful of you in our ways!  
Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful;  
all of us have become like unclean people,  
all our good deeds are like polluted rags;  
we have all withered like leaves,  
and our guilt carries us away like the wind.  
There is none who calls upon your name,  
who rouses himself to cling to you;  
for you have hidden your face from us  
and have delivered us up to our guilt.  
Yet, O LORD, you are our father;  
we are the clay and you the potter:  
we are all the work of your hands.

### Reponsorial Psalm

Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Lord make us turn to you, show us your face, and we shall be saved.

### Second Reading

1 Cor 1:3-9

Brothers and sisters:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Gospel

Mk 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:  
"Be watchful! Be alert!  
You do not know when the time will come.  
It is like a man traveling abroad.  
He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.  
Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning.  
May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.  
What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

### The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



# Advent Parish Retreat

December

3<sup>rd</sup> – English, 7:00 PM. in Church

10<sup>th</sup> – Español, 7:00 PM. in Church

Rev. Mr. Candelario Jiménez

*"Prepare the Way of the Lord"*

*Isaiah 40: 1-11*

## Oracion San Miguel

San Miguel Arcángel,  
defiéndenos en la batalla.  
Sé nuestro amparo contra la  
perversidad y asechanzas del  
demonio. Reprímale Dios,  
pedimos suplicantes,  
y tú Príncipe de la Milicia Celestial,  
con el divino poder de Dios,  
arroja al infierno a Satanás  
y a todos los espíritus malignos  
que andan dispersos  
por el mundo  
para la perdición de las almas.  
Amén.



## Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle,  
be our protection  
against the wickedness and  
snares of the devil.  
May God  
rebuke him we humbly pray;  
and do thou, O Prince of the Heav-  
enly host,  
by the power of God,  
cast into hell Satan  
and all the evil spirits  
who prowl about the world seeking  
the ruin of souls.  
Amen



## Information/Información

### St. Vincent de Paul for Friday's Food Pantry

For the weekend of December 6, 2020, please bring canned tuna and other meats.  
THANK YOU!

Para el fin de semana del 6 de diciembre, 2020, por favor traigan tuna y otras carnes enlatadas.  
GRACIAS!!!

### SCHEDULE OF SECOND COLLECTIONS

December 6, 2020 - Facility Improvement fund  
December 13, 2020 - Christmas Flowers

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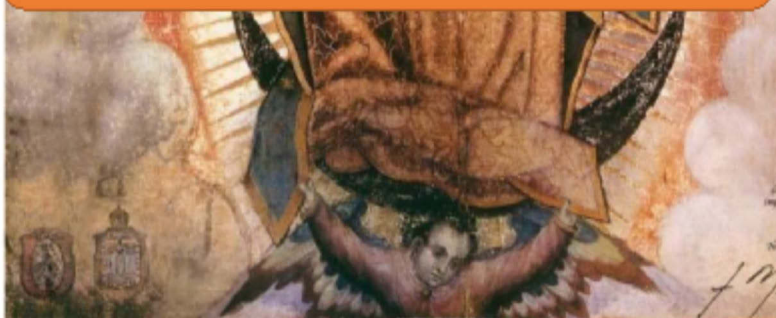
### FECHAS DE SEGUNDAS COLECTAS

6 de diciembre, 2020 - Fondo del Mejoramiento de las Instalaciones  
13 de diciembre, 2020 - Flores para la Navidad



**Participa en el rezo de los 46 Rosarios  
a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**

Todos los días a las 7:00 p.m. en la Parroquia  
Iniciamos el 28 de Octubre y concluiremos el 12 de Diciembre



FAITH  
DIRECT

"People rejoiced because  
they had offered so willingly,  
for they made their offering  
to the Lord with a whole heart."  
- 1 Chronicles 29:9

Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season,  
but Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you  
one less thing to remember each week.  
No more envelopes to find before you go to Mass,  
no more scrambling thru your purse for your donation.

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net)

and use our church code: CA752.

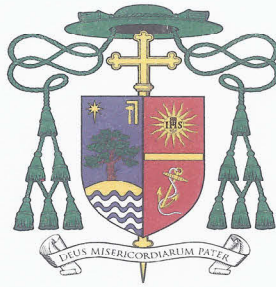
*Thank you for your continued support.*

### Spirituality of The Lord of the Rings

In early 2021, we are going to offer a class on the Spirituality of The Lord of the Rings, the classic work of JRR Tolkien. In 1999, readers named it one of the best books of the millennium. The BBC named it one of the most inspiring books ever written! If it's been a while since you read it, dust it off and dig in. If you have never read it, get it and get ready for an adventure! The class will be based on the book not the films. More information will be coming, so start reading and keep an eye on the bulletin!



MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J.  
BISHOP OF OAKLAND



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November 18, 2020  
The Dedication of the Basilica of  
Saints Peter and Paul

### **Your home is a holy place; worship the Lord there**

Dear faithful of the Diocese of Oakland:

When I was based at the US Navy submarine base in Bangor, Washington, from time to time a sailor would come to my office at the chapel. "Father Barber, our boat is going out, and I need some Catholic materials."

"Oh," I'd say. "Where are you going?"

"Sorry, that's classified."

"Okay," I'd reply. "How long will you be gone?"

"Sorry, I can't tell you," he'd say.

"What's your mission?" I would push.

"Father, I could tell you, but then I'd have to kill you."

He smiled, like Tom Cruise in "Top Gun."

Then I would give him a dozen rosaries, with leaflets on how to say the rosary. I would give him a supply of Sunday missalettes, St. Christopher medals and holy water. I also gave him a link to Father Robert Barron's "Word on Fire" website, so he could download in advance sermons for the Sundays they would be underway. With these materials, the senior Catholic sailor or officer onboard would be authorized by the Commanding Officer to conduct an informal worship service for the Catholic crewmembers "in the absence of a priest."

Something like that is possible now in our homes because of the COVID-19 lockdown. We just heard this week that Governor Gavin Newsom has halted indoor worship services in 41 California counties, including Alameda and Contra Costa. This comes as a blow, as we were just getting used to going back to indoor Mass, while taking all the precautions. Now we have to move back outdoors, not easy in the coming winter months, or have livestream Mass, or both.

It's the "yo-yo" effect that is particularly frustrating. I believe the reasons the governor gives are sound. Hospitals are at 75% capacity right now. Infection cases are rising. Italy, France, England and parts of the United States are seeing a resurgence of infections, sickness and rising deaths. All are good reasons for Church leadership to follow advice of health professionals to keep all our parishioners safe.



*Letter to the Faithful*

*Nov. 18, 2020*

*Page 2 of 2*

Yet that does not mean we are reduced to “nothing.” The first church any of us belong to is the “domestic church” -- meaning the church of our own homes. This was stressed when I was a kid. Our teachers at my Catholic school -- mostly nuns -- had a campaign asking our families to pray the rosary together nightly at home. “The family that prays together, stays together,” the Sisters said, echoing Father Patrick Peyton, the “Rosary Priest.” My own family was not particularly religious, but I remember us saying the rosary together as a whole family at least for some weeks.

The Mormon Church has a laudable practice called “Family Home Evening,” where outside activities take second place to all the family staying home one night a week for prayer and discussion of family issues. Maybe it’s time we Catholics rediscover the “domestic church” of our own homes. Do you have a place in your home for the crucifix or the image of Our Lady is placed? Maybe you could pray together before or after participating in a livestream Mass? Maybe you could make a small home altar, with some statues of Christ, Our Lady or your favorite saints? You could write out and place your urgent prayer requests under the feet of the saints. Pope Francis does that with his “Sleeping St. Joseph” statue. I have so many prayer needs, I have two of those statues.

In this time of frustration, trials of patience, and even sickness and death, let’s not lose hope. Hope is the hallmark of the Christian. Bring the holiness of God from your parish church into your own home. Your home is a holy place. Worship the Lord there. The first Christians were not free to come together for Mass and worship openly, so they gathered in “home churches.” Maybe we can learn from our Catholic sailors in the submarines on months-long underwater deployments, and come together as best we can to recognize Christ in our midst.

And take courage from St. Paul, who certainly endured worse hardships than us. But his suffering, his carrying the cross, only made his faith stronger. “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Rom 8:38-39).

With the assurance of my continued prayers and blessing, I am

Yours sincerely in Christ,



The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.  
Bishop of Oakland

## ADVENT

For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new liturgical year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

*'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.'*<sup>1</sup>

The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting, that prepares us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate, who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary, but essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives. We could say that the true light enters the world through the immaculate womb of Mary but it does not stay there. On the contrary, this light flows out into our dark, obscure, sinful lives to illuminate them, so that we can become the light that illuminates the world. For this reason, let us live this time of waiting not only to celebrate a historical memory but to repeat this memory in our lives and in the service of others. To wait for the Lord who comes, means to wait and to watch so that the Word of Love enters inside us and focuses us every day of our lives.

As Blessed John Henry Newman reminded us in a homily for the Advent Season: "Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation but it is also a time of commitment because it motivates us to live the present as a time of responsibility and vigilance. This 'vigilance' means the necessity, the urgency of an industrious, living 'wait'. To make all this happen, then we need to wake up, as we are warned by the apostle to the Gentiles, in today's reading to the Romans: 'Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed'" (Rm 13:11).

We must start our journey to ascend to the mountain of the Lord, to be illuminated by His Words of peace and to allow Him to indicate the path to tread (cf. Is 2:1-5). Moreover, we must change our conduct abandoning the works of darkness and put on the 'armor of light' and so seek only to do God's work and to abandon the deeds of the flesh (cf. Rm 13:12-14). Jesus, through the story in the parable, outlines the Christian life style that must not be distracted and indifferent but must be vigilant and recognize even the smallest sign of the Lord's coming because we don't know the hour in which He will arrive (cf. Mt 24:39-44)

November 29, 2020

## First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7 | 1 Cor 1:3-9 | Mk 13:33-37

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE** | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Sometimes I grow nostalgic for the laid-back Advents of my childhood: making a list for Santa, digging into the perforated cardboard Advent calendar for chocolate for breakfast, and lighting the Advent wreath (fire!) each Sunday. We all know, however, that the season can quickly become usurped by things to do – shopping, family, cleaning, etc. Today's readings remind us that this is not what Advent is about. The tone in our Scriptures which begin the Advent season is not subtle. Isaiah asks God to return, to "rend the heavens and come down" – to save and deliver his people. The psalm is equally adamant: "Lord, make us turn to you." We, as a Church, are waiting for the fullness of the Kingdom on earth, and we must prepare.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I'm a cradle Catholic, but for me, Advent was always about waiting to celebrate the birth of Christ. I love pulling out the Nativity scene and lighting the candles each week leading to the celebration of Christ's birth. Only in recent years have I grown in awareness of the dual meaning of Advent – that we Christians also are waiting for Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. I admit, it's always seemed to me something far into the future and perhaps not applicable to my lifetime here on earth. However, as Jesus reminds us in the Gospel, "You do not know when the Lord of the house is coming." And while this is true, it not something to fear, but something to prepare for and look forward to! We wait in joyful hope, asking for the grace to remain faithful to our baptism and to live in a way that makes Christ's presence known to others.

**STUDY** Remember the pre-pandemic holidays? Chances are, you've got some extra time on your hands this season. Why not use it to take a deeper dive into Advent this year, by participating in an online Bible study or reading and praying with the Scriptures each day of Advent.





# Information/Información

# DECEMBER 2020

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SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

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is subject to change.



01

8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
6:00 Confessions

02

8:00 Fr. Quang

03

8:00 Fr. Arturo  
Benediction / Adoration  
  
4:00 Benediction  
  
7:00 In English  
Dcn. Candelario -  
Advent Reflection &  
Retreat

04

8:00 Fr. Quang  
Benediction / Adoration  
  
4:00 Benediction

05

8:00 Fr. Quang  
10:00 Bap.-Dcn. Paul  
12:00 Sp. Bap -  
Dcn. LeLand  
3:30 Confessions

06 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent

9:00 Fr. Quang  
10:45 Sp. Fr. Arturo  
12:30 Fr. Quang  
5:00 Latin-Fr. Erick

07 St. Ambrose

8:00 Fr. Arturo

08 Conception

8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
6:00 Confessions

09

8:00 Fr. Arturo

10

8:00 Fr. Quang  
Benediction / Adoration  
  
4:00 Benediction  
  
7:00 In Spanish  
Dcn. Candelario -  
Advent Reflection &  
Retreat

11

8:00 Fr. Quang  
Benediction / Adoration  
  
4:00 Benediction

12 OL Guadalupe

8:00 Frs. Arturo,  
Quang - Anointing of  
the Sick  
3:30 Confessions  
7:00 Sp. Fr. Arturo  
Our Lady of Guadalupe

13 3<sup>rd</sup> Advent

9:00 Fr. Quang  
10:45 Sp. Fr. Arturo  
12:30 Fr. Quang  
5:00 Latin-Fr. Arturo

14 St. John

8:00 Fr. Arturo

15

8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
6:00 Confessions

16

6:00 Fr. Quang  
8:00 Fr. Quang

17

6:00 Fr. Arturo  
8:00 Fr. Arturo  
Benediction / Adoration  
  
4:00 Benediction

18

6:00 Fr. Quang  
8:00 Fr. Quang  
Benediction / Adoration  
  
4:00 Benediction

19

6:00 Fr. Arturo  
8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
3:30 Confessions

20 4<sup>th</sup> Advent

6:00 Fr. Quang/P.  
9:00 Fr. Quang/J  
10:45 Sp. Fr. Arturo  
12:30 Fr. Quang/J  
5:00 Latin-Fr. Arturo

21

6:00 Fr. Quang  
8:00 Fr. Quang

22

6:00 Fr. Arturo  
8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
6:00 Confessions

23

6:00 Fr. Quang  
8:00 Fr. Quang

24

6:00 Fr. Arturo  
8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
Christmas Eve  
  
5:00 Family- Fr. Quang  
7:00 Sp.- Fr. Arturo  
12:00 Fr. Quang

25 Christmas

9:00 Fr. Quang  
10:45 Sp. Fr. Arturo  
12:30 Fr. Quang  
5:00 Latin-Fr. Arturo

26

8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
3:30 Confessions

27 Holy Family

9:00 Fr. Quang  
10:45 Sp. Fr. Arturo  
12:30 Fr. Quang  
5:00 Latin-Fr. Arturo

28 Holy Innocents

8:00 Fr. Arturo

29

8:00 Fr. Arturo  
  
6:00 Confessions

30

8:00 Fr. Quang

31

8:00 Fr. Arturo  
Benediction / Adoration  
  
NO Benediction



## Ministry Meetings/Reuniones de Ministerios

+

### **Confessions / Confesiones**

Tuesday/Martes: 6:00 - 7:00PM  
Saturday/Sabado: 3:30 - 4:30PM

### **Devotions/Devociones**

Monday to Friday/Lunes a Viernes  
7:30AM

### **Holy Rosary/Santo Rosario**

+

Wednesday/Miércoles  
8:30AM

### **Mother of Perpetual Help Novena Novena Madre del Perpetuo Socorro**

+

Friday/Viernes  
8:30AM

### **Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena Coronilla a la Divina Misericordia**

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+

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Advent, which comes from the Latin word for *arrival* or *coming*, is a period of preparation for the birth of our Lord. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and is the start of the Christmas season, which lasts through the Baptism of Our Lord. The first Sunday of Advent also marks the beginning of the liturgical year, the Church's "New Year's Day," at which time we change the cycle of readings we are using at Mass.

Advent is a time of joyous anticipation, but also of penance and preparation for the great Christmas feast. The liturgical color of the season is purple, a sign of penance, which is also used during Lent. The Church discourages excessive ornamentation, boisterous music and even weddings during Advent, in order to foster a sense of quiet hope.

### **What is the Advent wreath?**

The Advent wreath is one of our most popular Advent traditions. Its origin is in pre-Christian Germany and Scandinavia where the people gathered to celebrate the return of the sun after the winter solstice. The circular wreath made of evergreens with four candles interspersed represented the circle of the year and the life that endures through the winter. As the days grew longer, people lit candles to offer thanks to the "sun god" for the light. For us, the lighting of the Advent candles represents the promise of the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.

To make an Advent wreath, begin with a Styrofoam circle, available at craft shops, and cut four evenly spaced holes into which you will place the four candles. Traditionally there are three purple candles and one rose candle (for the third Sunday), but blue candles can also be used. Purple reminds us to turn our hearts toward God; rose is a color of joy. Place fresh evergreen branches over the Styrofoam. Replace them when they dry out in order to preserve the symbolism of the vitality of God's love. Encourage children to participate as they are able, by gathering branches, placing the candles and so on.

What do Advent candles symbolize?

Violet or purple Advent candles are a symbol of **royalty** and recognize Advent as a time of preparation and repentance. Pink is the Christian symbol of joy. Each candle is a step prepares for the celebration of the birth of the baby Jesus. This is often called the Prophecy candle, or the Candle of Hope and expectation.

### **It's St. Vincent de Paul time again!**

The second collection the last Weekend in November supports St. Vincent de Paul here at IHM. Some of the money you donate goes towards purchasing food for our pantry, which feeds our neighbors in need. However, a large part of your donation is used to assist our neighbors when there is a crisis, or an unfortunate circumstance prevents them from making ends meet. As you well know, we are in crisis mode due to Covid-19.

Your donation this second collection on November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> makes you a partner in the help we give to the less fortunate. Thanks Partner, and God Bless you for your generosity during this Season of Thanks.



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