

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

“A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust”

December 4, 2022

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg



SACRAMENTS

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The sacrament is available during Confession hour and after each Mass per request.

MATRIMONY

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact a priest of the parish one year in advance of the wedding. Diocesan regulations require that couples begin to work with the parish at least one year prior to a wedding.

BAPTISM

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized should call the parish office to register for Baptism Prep. Please call well in advance of birth of your child.

CONFESSION

Anytime by appointment

Tuesday: 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.; Saturdays: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 3

8:00 a.m. HEALING MASS AT ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

4:30 p.m. William Coates (Daughters)

Sunday, December 4

8:00 a.m. Frank Bonifati (Family)

10:00 a.m. Al, Mary Lou & Mary Kay Lynn (Son)

11:30 a.m. William Kranitz

(Andy & Marta)

Monday, December 5

7:45 a.m. Jerold Gesmond (Family)

Tuesday, December 6

7:45 a.m. Our Parish Family

6:30 p.m. Month's Mind

Wednesday, December 7

7:45 a.m. Rick Borland (Carol)

6:30 p.m. Mary Jane Sistik

(Daughter Cindy)

Thursday, December 8

Feast of the Immaculate

Conception

8:00 a.m. Manning, Francese, White

Families (Toots)

Noon Andy Duris (Janice)

6:30 p.m. David Federline (Scavnicky)

Friday, December 9

7:45 a.m. Patricia Durler

(Catherine & James)

Saturday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Bob Brackney (Kurt & Janet)

4:30 p.m. Darrell Dole (Wife & Family)

Sunday, December 11

8:00 a.m. Bess & Russ Alberts (Family)

10:00 a.m. Bob Crupie (Anthony)

11:30 a.m. Kathy Montrose (Bob & Sue)

What's Inside

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308 SECOND STREET • IRWIN, PA 15642 • PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

CLOSED 12:00 NOON • 1:00 pm

2 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Office

724-863-9550 • www.icirwin.org



Parish Staff

Pastor

Fr. John Moineau
icfatherjohn@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Roniel Bantugan Duenas
rduenas@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Business Manager

Courtney Ruby
cruby@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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Regional Youth Minister

Jennifer Henry Wilson
jnwilson@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Director of Music Ministry

Bridget Deveney
bdeveney@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Operation Safe Mode (OSM)

Sunday 8:00 am Mass
www.YouTube.com/operationsafemode

Queen of Angels Catholic School

Jennifer Filak, Principal
One Main Street
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724-978-0144
jfilak@queenofangelssch.org
www.queenofangelssch.org

Diocese of Greensburg

www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

Catholic Charities

724-837-1840

St. Vincent DePaul

www.svdpgreensburg.org
724-691-3711

IC's On The Corner Event Planner

Activities for everyone on the horizon so keep a watchful eye open for the following coming in December:

- ✓ Breakfast with Santa - December 10th
- ✓ Advent Penance Service - See area schedule on page 9
- ✓ Lessons and Carols - December 18th

'Tis the Season! We are looking for a few good men, women, and teens to help the Decorating Committee prepare our church for Christmas with

climbing ladders, decorating trees, setting up nativities and poinsettias, hanging wreaths, etc. on **Thursday, December 22nd at 6:30 pm.** Questions? Call Sandy, 724-863-5860. This is a good opportunity for those needing community service. Something for everyone!



The tradition of the Oplatki originated in Poland during Early Christian times. This Christmas custom began with a simple white wafer, baked from flour and water. The wafers are wonderfully designed to display Christmas images, such as the Nativity.

HOW TO CELEBRATE THE OPLATKI TRADITION

The Oplatki are enjoyed by families, typically right before the Christmas Eve meal. The entire family will gather around the table with the Oplatki. Generally the eldest member of the family will begin the ritual by breaking off a piece of the wafer and passing it to another family member with a blessing. This blessing can simply consist of what you desire for your loved one in the upcoming year – whether it be good health, success, or happiness. The purpose of this act is primarily to express one's unconditional love and forgiveness for each member of his or her family.

THE SYMBOLISM

The significance of the Oplatki Christmas wafer is in that it shadows the Eucharistic meal that Catholics participate in at each Mass. Just as we share in the Eucharist as one family in Christ and receive Christ's love through the Eucharist, the Oplatki allows for one's immediate family to come together and share the love they have for one another. This symbolism is deepened by the fact that the name of the town where Jesus Christ was born, Bethlehem, means "House of Bread," which makes the Oplatki tradition an especially beautiful way to celebrate the charity and unity so characteristic of the Christmas season.

A SYMBOL OF FAMILY UNITY

The Oplatki tradition is one that is easy, fun, and deeply meaningful to introduce to the family anytime during the long Christmas season. All it requires is a simple wafer paired with love and affection, and the willingness to share it. This is a heartwarming tradition that will complete your family's time together during the Christmas season

Oplatki are located in the Hall of Memories!

This Week on the Corner

Month's Mind

Tuesday, December 6th/6:30 pm

- ✠ Wendy Day
- ✠ Elizabeth "Betty Ann" Thomas
- ✠ Anthony DePaulo
- ✠ Paul Zawodni
- ✠ Michael Schmidt

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday - Dec. 10th 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Tickets will be available at the Parish Office \$5.00 for adults and free for children. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Cheplic at skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org

'Tis the season to be thinking of others! Our Faith Formation children made a gift for our homebound and elderly parishioners for this Christmas. If you know someone who should be on our home bound list, please let us know so we can bring them Christmas cheer! Email Susan skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org or call the parish office.

Homebound Ministry If you know of any family, neighbors, or fellow parishioners who are homebound and would like to have a Homebound Minister come to visit, please call Sharyn Gesmond at the Parish Office 724.863.9550 or email sgesmond@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

If anyone is in need of the Sacrament of the Sick please contact the Parish Office.



GET YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses at Immaculate Conception Dec 3rd and Dec. 4th.

\$\$ Holiday Cash \$\$

FOUR DAYS TO WIN

Winning number taken from *First PA Pick 3 EVENING* Number drawing on

Dec. 24, 2022 - Win \$500.00 CASH Dec. 25, 2022 - Win \$1000.00 CASH

Dec. 31, 2022 - Win \$500.00 CASH Jan. 1, 2023 --- Win \$500.00 CASH

Benefits Immaculate Conception & St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parishes

Donation \$10.00 500 Tickets Sold SGOCLicense #269 and #326

FAITH FORMATION -

Grades 3-6 – Faith Formation for Public School Students, Monday, December 5th, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, 2nd Floor of the Administration Building

7th Grade Faith Formation– Class will be Monday December 12th from 5:30-7:30pm in Our Lady's Plaza at Immaculate Conception.

8th Grade Faith Formation– Class will be Monday December 12th from 7:45 to 9pm in Our Lady's Plaza at Immaculate Conception.

CHURCH WILL BE LOCKED

December 5th and 6th 8:30 am to 4:00 to clean the floors. There will be no Adoration on December 6th

2023 Lottery Calendars are still available



for purchase at Immaculate Conception Parish Office. Each calendar is \$30 and offers chances to win each day of the year. Cash or checks (payable to St. Anne Home) are accepted. They make perfect gifts! Their sale expands programs and services for residents as well as their campus facility.

Thanks for your continued support of St. Anne Home. Proceeds benefit St. Anne's Home in Greensburg.



"Hail and blessed be the hour, and the moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe, O my God, hear my prayer, grant my desire, in the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, and His Blessed Mother, Amen"

4 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Thoughts from the Pastor



Heart/Soul Healthy Advent:

Three Things to Strengthen Your Disposition

Last Sunday, in my homily I suggested as our mission to “Become Heart/Soul Healthy” as a way to prepare for the coming of our Salvation. We all know that a healthy heart provides us with a healthy life. Jesus and Saint Paul remind us that we must not lose heart and to be strengthened by the love of God in order to be found blameless in His sight. So, this stands as a reminder of the Three things we can do during this Advent Season to be Heart/Soul Healthy.

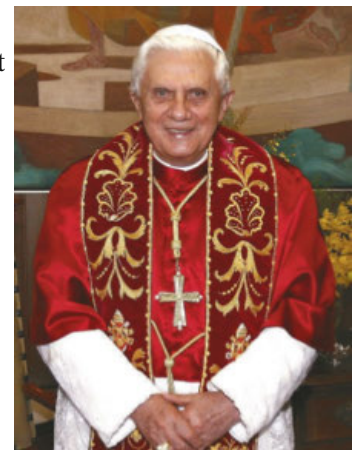
1. **Exercise 20 minutes a day.** We all know that prayer is the exercise of our Spiritual lives... So, let’s pump it up over the next 20 days! Suggestion:
 - ✠ **BLUE ADVENT BOOK** that we handed out last week. This day to day exercise (15 minutes) will set your heart and soul on a focus for the day. These little meditations are best as morning prayer.
 - ✠ **ADVENT NOVENA PRAYER** a part of your family prayer at night. (There are copies/cards in the narthex and in last week’s bulletin). This prayer sets our hearts and souls in Bethlehem at the very moment of the birth our Lord. ‘Ask and you shall Receive!’
2. **Eat Properly** and be nourished with substantial Foods. I suggested that is why we attend Sunday Liturgy so that we can:
 - ✠ **“FEED” ON THE BREAD OF LIFE...** Christ our Lord. We first eat of the Word of God in the Liturgy of the Eucharist and then feast on His Divine Presence in Holy Communion. I would challenge you to eat more of this Food during Advent: Consider attending Saturday morning Mass or Tuesday evening Mass.
 - ✠ **EAT OF THE HOLY WORD** - of the Scriptures: Read the beginning of Saint Luke’s Gospel... the Infancy Narratives... wonderful reading as a family as well.
3. **Rest** - We all need a “rest” from the hustle and bustle of the “xmas” season.... Award yourself this rest by
 - ✠ **PRAYING YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS** - Once a day sit in the quiet and open your Christmas Cards and pray them... most of them have a spiritual verse.... Let it resonate in your heart/soul. Then pray for the sender and their families. Make it a true spiritual gift rather than a decoration on the back of the door or to adorn your stair case.... You deserve to know that you are loved by the Faith shared in Christ by the sender.
 - ✠ **RECITE THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES** – After praying your Christmas cards holding the love of those who send wishes recite the First Three joyful mysteries entering into the Faith restored in the Annunciation; The Hope of the Visitation and the love of the Nativity. Stay in those holy moments. You can add the last two mysteries after Christmas!

Holy Day of Obligation: December 8th!! Feast of the Immaculate Conception Benedict XVI Homily in honor of the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The great feast of Mary Immaculate invites us every year to gather here, in one of Rome’s most beautiful piazzas, to offer homage to her, to the Mother of Christ and our Mother. With affection I greet all of you who are present here and those who are joining us via radio and television. And I thank you for your choral participation in my act of prayer.

At the top of the column that we crown Mary is represented by a statue that in part recalls the passage from the Book of Revelation that was just proclaimed: “A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed in the sun, with the moon under her feet and, upon her head, a crown of twelve stars” (Revelation 12:1). What is the meaning of this image? It represents both Our Lady and the Church.





First of all the “woman” of the Book of Revelation is Mary herself. She appears “clothed in the sun,” that is, clothed in God: the Virgin Mary is in fact surrounded by the light of God and lives in God. This symbol of the luminous garments expresses a condition that regards the whole of Mary’s being: she is the one who is “full of grace,” filled with the love of God. And “God is light” as St. John says (1 John 1:5). This is why she who is “full of grace,” the “Immaculate” reflects with her whole person the light of the “sun” that is God.

This woman has the moon beneath her feet, the symbol of death and mortality. Mary, in fact, is wholly associated with the victory of Jesus Christ, her Son, over sin and death; she is free from

every shadow of death and is completely filled with life. As death no longer has any power over the risen Jesus (cf. Romans 6:9), thus, by a grace and a singular privilege of almighty God, Mary has left death behind, she has overcome it. And this is manifested in the two great mysteries of her life: at the beginning, being conceived without original sin, which is the mystery that we celebrate today; and, at the end, being assumed in soul and body into heaven, into God’s glory. But also her whole life on earth was a victory over death, because it was spent entirely in the service of God, in the complete offering of herself to God and neighbor. Because of this Mary is in herself a source of life: she is the creature in whom the word of Christ is already realized: “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it in abundance” (John 10:10).

In the vision of the Book of Revelation there is another detail: upon the head of the woman clothed in the sun there is “a crown of twelve stars.” This sign represents the 12 tribes of Israel and means that the Virgin Mary is at the center of the People of God, of the whole communion of saints. And thus this image of the crown of twelve stars introduces us to the second great interpretation of the celestial sign of the “woman clothed in the sun”: besides representing our Lady, this sign personifies the Church, the Christian community of all times. She is pregnant, in the sense that she carries Christ in her womb and must bear him for the world: this is the suffering of the pilgrim Church on earth, who in the midst of God’s consolations and the world’s persecution must bring Jesus to men.



It is precisely for this, because she brings Jesus, that the Church meets the opposition of a ferocious adversary, represented in the Book of Revelation by the “great red dragon” (Revelation 12:3). This dragon sought in vain to devour Jesus – the “male child destined to govern all the nations” (12:5). The dragon tries in vain because Jesus, through his death and resurrection, has ascended to God and he has taken his seat upon his throne. This is why the dragon, defeated once and for all in heaven, turns his attacks toward to the woman – the Church – in the wilderness of the world. But in every age the Church is sustained by the light and by the power of God, which nourishes her in the wilderness with the bread of his Word and the Holy Eucharist. And so in every tribulation, through all of the trials that she meets in the course time and in different parts of the world, the Church suffers persecution but is always victorious in the end. And precisely in this way the Christian community is the presence, the guarantee of God’s love against every ideology of hatred and egoism.

The only threat the Church can and must fear is the sin of her members. While, in fact, Mary is the Immaculate, free from every stain of sin, the Church is holy, but at the same time she is stained by our sins. This is why the People of God, in pilgrimage through time, turns to its heavenly Mother and implores her help; it asks this so that she might accompany us on the journey of faith, that she might encourage the undertaking of a Christian life and support our hope. We need her above all in this very difficult moment for Italy, for Europe, for various parts of the world. Mary helps us to see that there is a light beyond the dark clouds that seems to envelop reality. For this reason we too, especially on this occasion, do not cease ask for her help with filial confidence: “O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.” *Ora pro nobis, intercede pro nobis ad Dominum Iesum Christum!*

Lessons and Carols

Celebrate the birth of Christ through
scripture and song at Immaculate Conception's
Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 18th, 7:00PM



Candles

Sanctuary Candle: In Memory of Dolores Cancino

Easter Flame Candle: In Memory of Anna Mae Heim

Divine Mercy Candle: In Memory of John Churma by Wife & Family

St. Peregrine Candle: In Memory Mary Ann Vogtman

Altar Candles for the Month of December:
In Memory of Judd Shiffler by Family

ADVENT Candles In Memory of Joe, Jinny, Beverly, Mary Jo and John Ott

Angels Corner



Mark your calendars for the Queen of Angels Family Christmas Celebration, Monday December 19, 2022, at 6:30 PM in our school auditorium. Queen

of Angels is excited to invite our school family to come together to celebrate the Christmas season. Our K-8 students will perform the nativity story, "Sing With Us - The Christmas Story." We all then enjoy Christmas carols and much more!

Readings of the Week GLPI

December 4th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah	11:1-10
Romans	15:4-9
Matthew	3:1-12

December 11th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah	35:1-6a; 10
James	5:7-10
Matthew	11:2-11

Prayers and Sympathy

Prayers and sympathy for Michael Zawodni on the death of his father Paul Zawodni and Virginia Schmidt on the death of her husband Michael Schmidt. May they rest in Peace.

No Eucharistic Adoration on December 6th - Cleaning Church Floors



Divine Mercy will meet in the Gathering Room at 3:00 pm on Dec. 5th & 6th

Stewardship Corner**

Weekly Offering

Sunday Offertory Week of , 2022 \$

OSV online giving Nov. 15-20, 2022 \$4,737.62

**Offerings may not be listed during the Christmas season due to the timeliness of getting our bulletins to the publisher to meet our accelerated submission and printing deadlines.



The following Masses will be offered by the Priests at Saint Vincent's Archabbey:

- † In Memory of John Ott from the following:
 - † Maureen Knack
 - † Meg & Bill Shiffler
 - † Funeral Choir
 - † Richard Hensler
- † In Memory of Michael Scott Borland from the following:
 - † Meg and Bill Shiffler
- † In Memory of Anthony DePaulo from the following:
 - † John & Patti Pagnanelli
 - † Ronald Surmacz
 - † Al & Bonnie Borgony
 - † Nick & Toni Michel

Don't forget that Immaculate Conception has online giving available to our members.
<https://www.icirwin.org/giving/funds>

8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



PARISH GIVING TREE HELPING THE LEAST OF OUR NEIGHBORS

As, in the past, the parish will be sponsoring a giving tree project to help families of our parish to cope with the overwhelming expenses of the Christmas Season. These families have been identified as in need of financial support in order to purchase gifts for their children and prepare a Christmas meal for the family.

In the Spirit of the Wise Men, who brought gifts to the infant child Jesus to reveal his divinity, we ask you to help be the giver of gifts that will allow the spirit of the Christ Child to be alive in the hearts of the needy. You will find upon our humble tree tags that you may select to purchase Giant Eagle & Walmart gift cards with a variety of denominations. You may also purchase gift cards through Queen of Angels School. Forms are on the next page of this bulletin and by the tree.

This tree is displayed in the Hall of Memories. I want to thank you in advance for serving in the spirit of the Jesus Creed.

All gifts and monies need to be returned to parish office no later than Monday, December 12th.



If you would like to purchase a gift card from the Parish Giving Tree, please consider helping Queen of Angels Catholic School at the same time. You can help raise easy money for Queen of Angels Catholic School by purchasing your gift cards through the school's SCRIP program.

Complete These Three Easy Steps:

1. Fill out the form below
2. Include a check made payable to Queen of Angels Catholic School
3. Place both items in the collection basket.

No going to the store required!!!

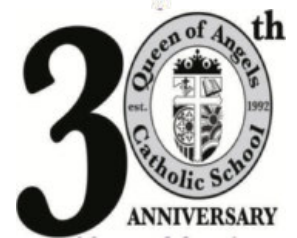
Queen of Angels will fill the gift card orders that you purchased and return the gift cards to Immaculate Conception. The parish will then distribute the gift cards to area families in need

Giant Eagle:		
Value	Quantity	Total
\$10	()	\$ _____
\$25	()	\$ _____

Walmart:		
Value	Quantity	Total
\$25	()	\$ _____

Kohl's:		
\$10	()	\$ _____
\$25	()	\$ _____

Total \$ _____



Please make checks payable to:
Queen of Angels School

Thanks for Your Support!!!!

If you have any questions please call the school's office 724-978-0144 or contact Christina Torok at

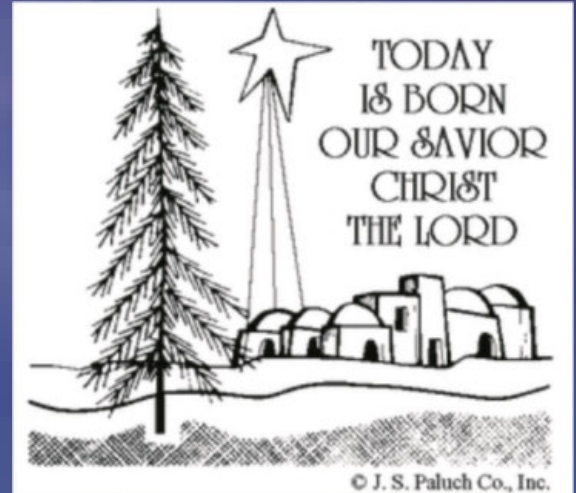
ctorok@queenofangelsch.org

Christmas Schedule 2022

REGIONAL PENANCE SERVICES:

- Tuesday, December 13 6:30 p.m.
St. Agnes, North Huntingdon
- Monday, December 19 6:30 p.m.
Immaculate Conception, Irwin
- Tuesday, December 20 6:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, North Huntingdon

Please see parish bulletin for additional confession times.



REGIONAL MASS SCHEDULE:

	<u>St. Agnes</u>	<u>Immaculate Conception</u>	<u>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</u>
<i>Christmas Eve</i> Saturday, December 24	(No Morning Mass) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. & 12:00 midnight	4:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.
<i>Christmas Day</i> Sunday, December 25	10:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	9:00 a.m.
<i>New Year's Day</i> Sunday, January 1 <i>Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God</i>	9:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.



“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him *Emmanuel*” which means “God is with us”

-MATTHEW 1:23

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Irwin, Pennsylvania

Office of Liturgical Music Ministry

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022 - Order of the Mass

VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by the Father:
 courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate,
 faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage.
 Holy Spirit, help us to live our universal vocation to holiness by listening to the Father's voice and
 responding with a sacrificial love. Holy Mary, Model of vocations, pray for us.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

On Jordan's Bank



1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An -
 2. Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make
 3. For you are our sal - va - tion, Lord, Our
 4. To heal the sick stretch out your hand, And
 5. All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose



noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and heark - en,
 straight the way for God with - in, And let each heart pre -
 ref - uge and our great re - ward; With - out your grace we
 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; Shine forth and let your
 ad - vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 pare a home Where such a might - y guest may come.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 light re - store Earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 we a - dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: *Jordanis oras praevia*; Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. by John Chandler, 1806-1876, alt.
 Tune: WINCHESTER NEW, LM; adapt. from *Musikalisches Handbuch*, Hamburg, 1690

KYRIE

Chant



Ký - ri - e, e - lé - i - son. Chri - ste, e - lé - i - son.

(Then repeat the first Kyrie.)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea. On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 72
Michel Guimont

*Justice will flourish in his time,
 and fullness of peace forever.*

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-9

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord

Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written: *Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name.*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

12

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 life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
2. O come, O Wis - dom from high,
3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,
4. O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem,
5. O come, O Key of Da - vid, come,

And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
Who or - der all things might - i - ly;
Who to your tribes on Si - nai's height
From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them
And o - pen wide our heav'n - ly home;

That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
To us the path of knowl - edge show,
In an - cient times once gave the Law
That trust your might - y power to save,
Make safe the way that leads on high,

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
And teach us in her ways to go.
In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
And close the path to mis - er - y.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

Heritage Mass
Owen Asltott


Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na! Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your
Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come, un - til you come a - gain.

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A - men, a - men, a - men.

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AGNUS DEI

Chant, Mass XVIII



A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun-di: mi-se-ré-re no - bis. *(repeat)*
A - gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-cá-ta mun-di: do-na no-bis pa-cem.

Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx

Refrain

Like a shep-herd he feeds his flock and gath-ers the lambs in his
arms, hold-ing them care-ful-ly close to his heart,
lead-ing them home. home, lead-ing them home.

Text: Based on Isaiah 40:9ff; Ezekiel 34:11ff; Matthew 11:28ff. Text and music © 1976, Robert J. Dufford, SJ, and OCP.
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GENEVA 42

1. Com - fort, com - fort, O my peo - ple, Speak of peace, now
2. Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing In the des - ert
3. O make straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er
1. says our God; Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
2. far and near, Bid - ding all to full re - pent - ance
3. plac - es plain; Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,
1. Mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak un - to Je - ru - sa -
2. Since the king - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o -
3. As be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the
1. lem Of the peace that waits for them; Tell of all the
2. bey! Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
3. Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad; And all flesh shall
1. sins I cov - er, And that war - fare now is o - ver.
2. rise to meet him And the hills bow down to greet him.
3. see the to - ken That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: 87 87 77 88; based on Isaiah 40:1-8; Johann G. Olearius, 1611-1684;
tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Music: Psalm 42 (Genevan Psalter), 1551; Claude Goudimel, 1514-1572.

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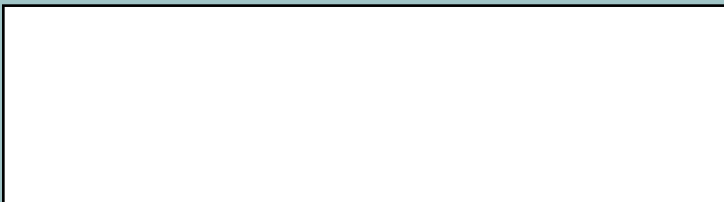
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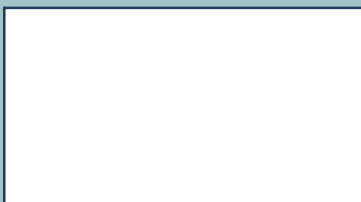


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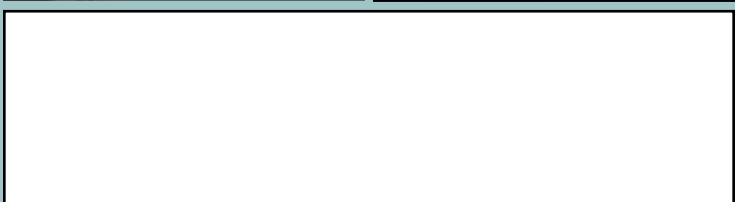
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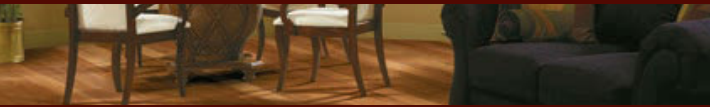
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