

November 28th - First Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 27

9:00am

4:30pm

Sunday, November 28

8:00am

10:00am † *Maurice Brennan*

12:00pm

Monday, November 29

9:00am † *Marie Picetti*

Tuesday, November 30

9:00am

Wednesday, December 1

9:00am *Poor Souls in Purgatory*

Thursday, December 2

9:00am *Thanksgiving*

Friday, December 3

9:00am

Saturday, December 4

9:00am

4:30pm *Cami Cayabyab (bday)*

Second Collection: November 28th

It is for **St. Patrick's Seminary**, the Seminary of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. The Archdiocese sends men to St. Patrick's to prepare for the priesthood. Proceeds from the collection will provide the seminary with much needed funds.

Thank you for your generosity

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA

November 15th - November 21st, 2021

Weekend Offering.....\$ 2,752.72

Campaign Human Dvlpmnt..\$ 684.00

From the Desk of the Pastor

We human beings cannot live without hope: without something to live for, without something to look forward to. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death in despair.

We may find all sorts of things to live for and we can hope for almost anything: some measure of success or security or realization of some modest dream or ambitions. However, the scripture readings chosen for the Advent season guide us with a moral compass in order that we examine, discern and learn what to really hope for.

The Readings chosen for the Advent season teach us to have courage to hope for big things: that

- the desert would be turned into fertile land;
- their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again;
- their hurts, betrayals, infidelities, disappointments, failures, and divisions would be healed for
- He comes to reclaim the people he has made his own.
- the blind would see; the deaf would hear; the lame would walk; the lepers will be cleansed, the dead would be raised;
- the evil spirits cast out and
- sins forgiven
- all people on earth would have Messianic splendor
 - ◊ tranquil lives: in harmony with God, with nature and with one another
 - ◊ sufficiency of food: the earth will bring forth abundance, with an
 - ◊ end to suffering, pain and misery, and

be united in the blessing of everlasting Peace.

The Advent Wreath

Today we introduce the Advent Wreath in our liturgies. This is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in our homes. The blessing of an Advent wreath take place on the First Sunday of Advent immediately following the Prayers of the faithful.

Advent has a two-fold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming is remembered, and as a season when that remembrance directs our mind and heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time.

We are on the 'cusp' of God's salvation, so be alert and watchful in prayer, while on the threshold into the kingdom of God.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

The Church is open for Masses

Weekday masses at 9:00am Monday through Saturday

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30pm and Sunday Masses at 8am & 10am in English and 12 noon en español

The church is open for personal prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays from 7:30am to 1:00pm.

We pray the rosary at 9:30am in English and at 11:30am in Spanish. Come and join us in praying the rosary.

The Parish thanks the Knights of Columbus, Council 615 and our liturgical ministers who generously offer their time, talent and treasure in faithful stewardship every weekend, keeping watch in the church and taking care of the church.



History and Time of the Advent Wreath

The lighting of an Advent wreath is a custom that began in 16th-century Germany among Lutherans and Catholics. The original purpose of the wreath was to bring focus on Christmas rather than on Advent as a distinct season. In Western Christianity, Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, or the Sunday which falls closest to November 30, and lasts through Christmas Eve, or December 24.

The symbolism of Advent Wreath Candles:

Set on the branches of the Advent wreath are four candles: three purple candles and one pink candle. A more modern tradition is to place a white candle in the center of the wreath. As a whole, these colored advent candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world.

As we advance through the season of Advent, each Sunday opens a new week of Advent: a new Advent candle is lit. Catholic tradition states that the four candles, represents the four weeks of Advent; each candle stands for one thousand years, to total the 4,000 years from the time of Adam and Eve until the birth of the Savior.

Prophecy Candle

On the first Sunday of Advent, the first purple candle is lit. This candle is typically called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, primarily Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ: Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

This first candle represents hope or expectation in anticipation of the coming Messiah.