

First Sunday of Advent — *November 29, 2009*

First Sunday of Advent C 1 *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

Hungry for Justice and Peace

The Scriptures of Advent open this year with an appeal for justice and security. Our society longs for a better life the same way ancient Israel and Judah did. We long for safety within our borders. We long for leaders of blameless conduct. We long for these blessings to last.

During Advent we want to see the fulfillment of God's promises. God promised peace. God promised safety. God promised good leaders. God promised food, drink, and strength. During Advent we anticipate the fulfillment of God's main promise: salvation. We await the annual celebration of the birth of Jesus, whose name means Savior and whose mission brought redemption.

But we still await something more. We need God's presence in our midst now. We need peace in our lives now. We need leaders in whom we can trust, leaders we can admire, leaders who cooperate with the plan of God. And we need them now.

Through Jeremiah, we hear God's promise for something unique and wonderful: "a just shoot." God promises a strong sprout of new growth nudging up from the earth. This shoot will flower with justice. The earth and rain will fertilize its seed and make it grow from year to year.

This Advent our society yearns for a just shoot, the fulfillment of God's promise.

Readings For Next Sunday

December 5 & 6

1st Reading...Bar 5:1-9
2nd Reading...Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel...Lk 3:1-6

ALTAR SERVERS

(Week of November 30)

Monday	Noon	Jim Gates, K. Gibson, A. Eisert
Tuesday	Noon	To Be Contacted, A. Durbin, M. Wilkinson
Wednesday	Noon	Bud Koshewa, K. Gibson, D. McFarland
Thursday	Noon	Steve Sternberg, M. Hamilton, M. Graft
Friday	Noon	Communion Service
Saturday	4:30pm	+H. Thiersch, A. Durbin, S. Davis
Sunday	10:00am	+L. Sturgill, S. Tedder, T. Ciacio

+denotes Crossbearer

MASS INTENTIONS

(Week of November 30)

Monday	Noon	Mary C. Hafferman
Tuesday	Noon	Dec. Mem. of the Creed Family
Wednesday	Noon	Phoebe Mattingly
Thursday	Noon	Barbara Dietz
Friday	Noon	Communion Service
Saturday	4:30pm	St. Raphael Community
Sunday	10:00am	Dec. Mem. Of the Tinsley & Gast Family

HOSPITALITY MINISTERS

(December, 2009)

4:30pm....David Worland (cpt), Joe O'Toole, **Need 4**
10:00am... Frank, Anne(cpts) & Ben Raymond, Pat Wessel, Ray, Anthony & Dan Hart, Kenny Hoehler

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

(December 5 & 6)

4:30pm...Team A...George Gates, Cpt., Mike Armes, Judy Fieldhouse, Don Bayers, Joan Raap, Cleo Leonhardt, Marty Purcell
10:00am...Team B...Horace Lynch, Cpt., Lisa Stearns, Mike Littell, Carolyn Bell, Karen Willenger, Kelley Gates

LECTORS

(December 5 & 6)

4:30pm...Sr. Paulanne Diebold & Paul DeZarn
10:00am....David Meyer & Anne Raymond

GIFT BEARERS

(December 5 & 6)

4:30pm...Kenny & Ronda Hoehler
10:00am....Jennifer Hood

Stewardship Reflection

Tithing for November 22.....not available

Love is contagious. So is stewardship. Both involve an overflowing of generosity. The U.S. Bishops tell us: "As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord."

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Stay Tuned:

Keep checking the bulletin for more youth events in our December calendar.

Chili Cook Off Winners:

1st Place: Carrie Kaelin

1st Runner-up: Bob and Susan Meyer

Honorable Mention: Mary Bland

All three participants can pick up your prizes in the parish office any-time Monday through Thursday from 9am to 3 pm. Thanks to all who participated.

Congratulations:

Saint Raphael Youth Ministry would like to congratulate our 3 youth and 3 adult leaders that made the trip to Kansas City, MO for National Catholic Youth Conference. Way to go youth group!

Purification Prayer...Whenever the priest purifies the vessels after communion, he says a particular prayer quietly. It is one of the parts of the Mass that is not to be spoken aloud, so it concerns the priest more than the people, but it serves as a reminder of the holiness of the communion that everyone shares.

The first appearance of this prayer is in the Veronese Sacramentary, a collection thought to contain the prayers in use for Mass in Rome in the late sixth century. It has remained almost completely unchanged ever since. Today it is still assigned to the priest, but others could pray if profitably.

The text, as revised in 2008, goes like this: "What has passed our lips as food, O Lord, may we possess in purity of heart, that what has been given to us in time may be our healing for eternity." The prayer recognizes the holiness of the crumbs and droplets that remain after communion in the sacred vessels and the purity of heart required to receive them. The priest prays that his inadequacies may be healed for eternity as he receives these heavenly gifts at this moment in time. It is a beautiful prayer that shimmers with our beliefs in the real presence of the Eucharist, the promise of eternal life, the honesty of human failure, and the mercy of God.

After communion or after Mass, when the priest takes up the corporal in one hand, sweeps the crumbs from the paten into the chalice, ours in some water, and swallows the contents, he says this prayer. God purifies the priest, as the priest purifies the vessels.



The **Angel Tree** will be in the Narthex November 28-29. This is a week earlier than in the past which gives everyone extra time. Anyone wishing to help with the sign-up, can call Susan Meyer at 454-5806.

Advent Penance Service...

Sunday, December 13 at 3pm.

All Souls Day List: We would like to apologize to the family of Linnie Holland whose name was inadvertently omitted from the list read at the All Souls Day Mass.

Holy Day of Obligation...**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
Tuesday, December 8.

8:15am (All School Mass) & Noon

Mass Schedule

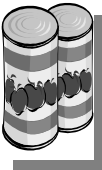
Christmas Eve — 4:30pm

Christmas Day — 10:00am

New Years Day — 10:00am

"The Gospel of Luke and the Infancy Narrative" will be the subject of presentations by Benedictine Father Eugene Hensell at 7 p.m. Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 and 2 in the undercroft of the Cathedral of the Assumption, 433 S. Fifth St. There is a \$5 fee for each session. For information, call the Cathedral parish office at 582-2971.

Thank you for your support of last week's Collection for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development!** Because of your generosity, more low-income people in the United States will be able to break the cycle of poverty and improve their communities. In these times when everyone's budget is stretched, we are especially grateful for your support.



Art Beck St. Vincent DePaul Food Basket collection will continue through December 12 and 13. Boxes will be in the vestibule of church for your donations. Please check the expiration dates on items being donated. The goal this year is 200 baskets so your help is greatly needed and appreciated.

Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin. Their support makes this bulletin possible.

This week's bulletin sponsor is **Hayes Contracting, LLC.**

MASS CANCELATION DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

As a reminder, when Catholic Elementary school classes are canceled due to inclement weather (Monday-Friday), masses for that particular day(s) are also canceled.

Please offer your prayers for our sick family & friends in the St. Raphael Parish community:

Bernadine Allbritten, Mary Lee Anderson, Helen Bethards, Charles Bauer, Mary Rose Brizendine, Jo Ann Carroll, James Caudill, Richard Chandler, David Charmoli, Victoria Clark, Pat Conner, Robert Coury, Martha Creed, Connor Day, Mary Jeannette Durham, Sara Fante, Daniel Flynn, Frances Gibson, Sue Harris, Marcella Horney, Rosemary Johnson, Mary Kautzman, Damion Kline, George Koestel, Henry Krebs, A.C. Leonhardt, Cleo Leonhardt, Charles Lucas, Marilyn Malone, Andrew McKinley, Tom Meyer, Malinda O'Daniel Ron Parrino, Connie Peters, Dr. Richard Phelps, Angelo Rappa, Tina Ray, Jean Reinstedler, Joseph Sauter, Elfriede Smith, Elmer Smith, Scott Spalding, Dorothy Thomas, John Tichenor, Anna Maria Verwest, Jane Wagner, Carol Walls, Mary Warken, Lillian Werkman, James Whelan, Marty Wiehebrink, Dorothy Wimsatt,

(In an effort to keep the prayer list up-to-date, please notify the Parish Office of any additions or deletions.)