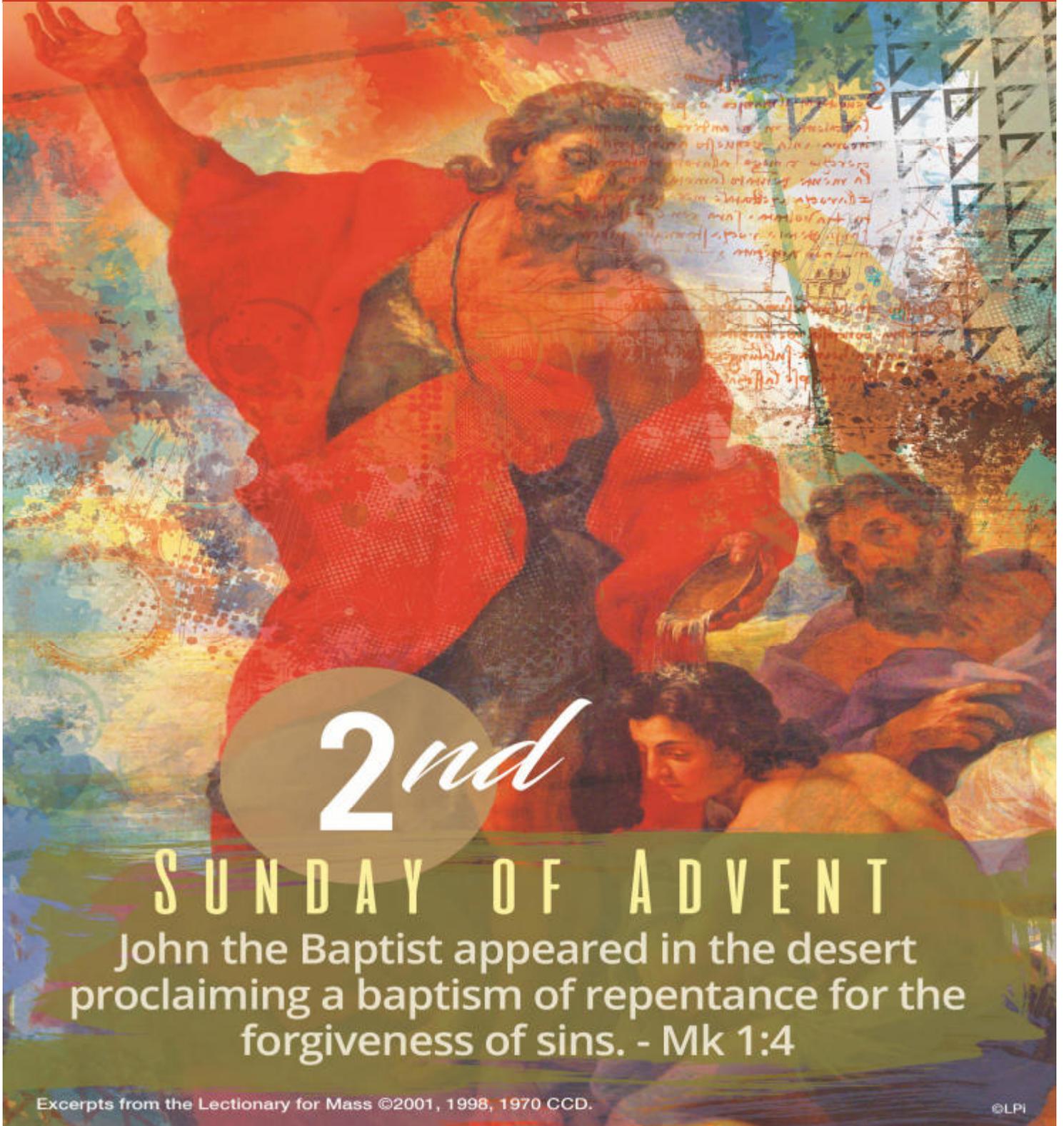


# Church of Corpus Christi

2131 Fairview Avenue North, Roseville, MN | 651-639-8888 | [www.ccmn.org](http://www.ccmn.org)

Sunday, December 6, 2020



2<sup>nd</sup>

## SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist appeared in the desert  
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the  
forgiveness of sins. - Mk 1:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### Mission Statement

The Church of Corpus Christi, a welcoming parish community, making Christ present through sharing his message, celebrating the liturgy and challenging members to practice justice, peace and charity.

## TAKING ANOTHER LOOK

### The Valley

"Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears!" So begins one of the most well-known Catholic prayers.

As a child and a teen, I disliked this prayer. I wouldn't pray it unless forced to do so. Can you guess why?

Simple. I didn't live in a valley of tears. Oh sure, I shed plenty of tears, but almost all of them were over temporary, ordinary aches and pains of life. I wasn't "mourning and weeping" and my tearful moments weren't a valley, they were just moments.

Frankly, I read the prayer as an encouragement to feel sorry for ourselves. I was sure God didn't want us thinking about this gift of life as a sad, pitiful place to be. As a young guy, I certainly didn't want to look at life that way, especially because the prayer insinuated that life on this earth, by its very nature, would be a life-long valley of tears. What a downer! No thanks.

Of course, the reality was that I didn't understand the prayer. It's not that I couldn't read the words, but rather that they didn't make sense to me. And here's why. Neither searing pain, nor devastating loss, nor existential fear – of the kind and intensity that would bring one to look heavenward sighing and crying from one's depths to be saved from it all – had yet come to me. And so, the words of the prayer seemed exaggerated and pessimistic and whiny.

Let's put it more briefly: my youth was sheltered. And so, I couldn't "get" it. I was ignorant, naive.

As we entered the Advent season last week, the words of this ancient prayer surprisingly came to me as connected to Advent. Why would I think of this prayer at this time?

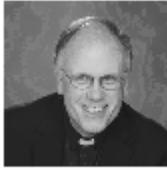
I didn't know at first. I had to ponder that question for a while. Then it hit me. My relationship to Advent in my youth was just like my relationship to the prayer. It wasn't real to me, this whole thing of waiting for salvation all over again. My protected life had never even brought me to wait for, yearn for, or cry for any real salvation a *first* time, much less again. So, the prayer and Advent were merely "spiritual" things, not real things.

Fortunately, life became tougher for me in my adult years. In fact, in a few matters, it became nearly brutal or at least felt brutal to me. I began to have at first occasional days and later occasional stretches of time when I cried out for help from above.

Yet, it wasn't those personal struggles that most brought me to a better connection to the Advent season and the "Hail, Holy Queen" prayer. It was the opportunities granted me to meet and share a bit of life with people who truly live on the edge of life. Through my work with the Christian organization *Food for the Poor*, I was able to visit communities of people in our hemisphere who live in literal destitution – not just poverty. Each time, I was freshly shocked by the nail-biting conditions in which so many people live *in our own hemisphere*.

And, so often, when seeing them and talking to them, I'd be hit with the realization that, for them, every day is a prayer in a valley of tears. Every day is an Advent for them, a waiting for the Savior to come to them, a hope for salvation.

—continued in next column



## TAKING ANOTHER LOOK *continued*

For me, that state of living has been only for a period of time at most. For them, it is the seemingly endless context of life. What struck me on each visit to such communities, I'm glad to report, is that so many of those brothers and sisters keep praying, keep hoping, and firmly keep expecting that God will one day reach into their life and fulfill his promise to them. So, they rejoice, even as they cry!

This Advent season, I've decided to remember them each day, those great witnesses of faithful watching and expectation. I pray them to teach me in my memories the spirit of Advent.

My friend, may your Advent teach and transform you as well!

—Father Michael

## PARISH NEWS

### RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

This collection will take place *next* Sunday, December 13. Please use the envelope in your offering packet. Extra envelopes are in the parish offices entryway, door #1. Please be generous.



### WORSHIP AT HOME MATERIALS

You can watch and participate with the Mass from your home. The video can be found on the main page of our website. Recorded Mass will be available on Saturdays. We will continue to update the Worship At Home materials if you prefer to create your own Sunday worship experience. [www.ccmn.org/worship-at-home](http://www.ccmn.org/worship-at-home)

As always, if you wish to receive the link to join the 10:30 Zoom Church, contact Sue Valois at [sue@ccmn.org](mailto:sue@ccmn.org)

### ADVENT REFLECTION RESOURCE

Looking for some guidance for reflection throughout this Advent Season? The Jesuits of Ireland have prepared an online retreat experience for you entitled "God is With You." This requires just a few minutes of reading and reflections each day, whatever time is best for you. Find it here: <http://pixly.link/Advent-Retreat-2020>

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The feast of the Immaculate Conception takes place this Tuesday. Mass will be held at 7:30 am in the Gathering Area. An envelope can be found in your offering envelope packet. Thank you.



### DECEMBER COMMUNITY PRAYER

The Faith Formation team has created an Advent and Christmas Calendar focusing on intercessory prayers and acts of kindness for the month of December. The calendar began the First Sunday of Advent, Nov 29, and continues through Dec 31.

Daily prayers and optional acts of kindness will be posted in the blog section of our website and on our Facebook page. Boxes containing a prayer & action card for each day can be picked up in the parish office entryway.

## PARISH NEWS *continued*

### GIVING TREE



GIVING TREE

A list of specific requested gift items is available online at <https://forms.gle/UufryH9DrSBZRkAj6>. If you'd rather not go online, gifts of postage stamps, dark and milk chocolate candy with NO nuts, cozy throw blankets, bed socks for women, Gold Bond Daily Moisturizer lotion, or a cash

donation of \$20 for Beauty Parlor visits were highly requested and are always appreciated.

If you are donating by check, please make out the check to "St. Anthony Park Home," put your check in an envelope marked "Giving Tree," and place it in the red lock box located in the entrance to the parish offices door #1, located in the old school wing. Please purchase a suggested item, and return it, unwrapped to the school wing entrance by Sunday, December 13. Your generosity is appreciated!

### BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU

Thankful for the wonderful turnout for the November 20th Bloodmobile. The drive netted 55 units of this essential life-sustaining substance.

We are grateful for those who donated, and those who tried. Keep up the good work. — Mary Ellen Brown



### STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

*"Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought [you] to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion..." 2 Pet. 3:11*

This Christmas season try buying fewer material gifts and give the gift of experience, such as theater and movie tickets, or the gift of time via a coupon book for loved ones. Donate to a charity such as Heifer Project. Draw names, so you have fewer gifts to buy, or just forego gifts altogether and focus on the birth of Jesus.



### PEACEMAKER THANK YOU

Dear members of Corpus Christi, thank you for participating in PeaceMaker Minnesota's Candle Lighter Campaign to show community support for peacemaking education in schools. We received 407 donations, including 15 for PeaceMaker's fund for Catholic Schools. \$885 was raised for the fund that will benefit peacemaking education in Catholic schools for generations. Thank you for your participation in the campaign. Your example demonstrates that teaching kids to live in peace and solidarity with one another is important. God bless you.

—Dan McNeil, Executive Director, PeaceMaker Minnesota

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

### 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively.

—*continued in next column*

## PARISH NEWS *continued*

It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not? ©LPi

### CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE

We invite you to donate in memory of a deceased loved one, or in honor of someone living, for our Church for the Christmas season. Please fill out this form and return it with \$10 for each name to the Parish Center Office. You may use the "Christmas Flowers" envelope found in the ledge on the top of the ramp or in the entryway to the parish offices, door #1 or place it in a separate envelope and mark it "Christmas Flowers." We will publish this list in the bulletin on December 20.



**Deadline: Wednesday, December 9.**

**PLEASE PRINT**

**DONOR'S NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**IN HONOR OF** \_\_\_\_\_

**IN MEMORY OF** \_\_\_\_\_



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2131 Fairview Avenue North, Roseville, MN 55113  
TELEPHONE 651-639-8888  
AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY 651-846-9212

**PARISH CENTER HOURS**

10 am to 2 pm Monday -Thursday, Closed on Fridays

**EMAIL** office@ccmn.org **WEBSITE** www.ccmn.org  
2131 Fairview Avenue North, Roseville, MN 55113

**Pastor 651-846-9211**

Fr. Michael Goodavish, fathermichael@ccmn.org

**Deacon 651-470-7572**

Glenn Skuta

**Business Administrator/Pastoral Minister 651-846-9212**

Toni Leach, toni@ccmn.org

**Administrative Assistant 651-846-9210**

Maureen Connelly, maureen@ccmn.org

**Coordinator of Liturgy and Music 651-846-9213**

Sue Valois, sue@ccmn.org

**Coordinator of Faith Formation 651-846-9215**

Laura Schaad, laura@ccmn.org

**Coordinator of Communications and Faith Formation  
651-846-9216**

Liz Russell, liz@ccmn.org

**Maintenance 651-639-8888**

Greg Graf, office@ccmn.org

**Gathering Area Kitchen 651-846-9220**

**Sacristy 651-846-9221**

**School Faith Formation Office 651-846-9222**

**WEEKEND MASSES—CHURCH RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

Sunday.....10:00 am

**DAILY MASS—CHURCH RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday.....7:30am

**BAPTISM**

Congratulations! Catechetical class required. Please contact the Parish Center for more details and registration at 651-639-8888.

**MARRIAGE**

Congratulations! Please contact the pastor one year prior to scheduling a wedding date.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Monday at 9:00 am

**MASS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Thursday at 9:00 am



## THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:30 am—Mass—Gathering Area  
Reservations Required

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

7:30 am—Mass—Gathering Area † *Mary Ambrosier*  
Reservations Required

9:00 am—Bible Study—  
Temporarily Suspended

10:00 am—Bible Study—Zoom Meeting



### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:00 pm—Mom's in Prayer—Zoom Meeting

7:00 pm—Bible Study—Skype Meeting

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

7:30 am—Mass—Gathering Area  
Reservations Required

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:45 am—9:30am—Walk-Up Communion—  
Enter School Door #1 by the Parish Offices

10:00 am—Mass—Church  
Reservations Required

† = *Mass Intention*



### ADDITIONAL MASS INFORMATION:

MASKS ARE REQUIRED, stay 6 feet apart, stay home if you are sick. Please wait for direction from an Usher to be seated. Reservations are required, please sign up at [www.SignUpGenius.com](http://www.SignUpGenius.com) on the main page of our website. You may also email [office@ccmn.org](mailto:office@ccmn.org) or call 651-639-8888.

We look forward to worshipping with you!

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

### WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2020

Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Monday:	Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/ Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Next Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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[marciahernick@edinarealty.com](mailto:marciahernick@edinarealty.com)

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