

DECEMBER 13, 2020

3rd Sunday
OF ADVENT



Saint Andrew Catholic Church

566 4th St NW, Elk River, MN 55330 | 763-441-1483 | www.saint-andrew.net



Fr. Mark Innocenti



Use of Pfizer, Moderna COVID-19 vaccines is morally acceptable, say bishops

November 24, 2020 - November 25, 2020
Catholic News Service Feature, Nation/World
By Julie Asher | Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — While confusion has arisen in recent days in the media over “the moral permissibility” of using the COVID-19 vaccines just announced by Pfizer Inc. and Moderna, it is not “immoral to be vaccinated with them,” the chairmen of the U.S. bishops’ doctrine and pro-life committees said Nov. 23.

Bishop Kevin J. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Doctrine, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, addressed the issue in a memo to their brother bishops.

A copy of the memo was obtained by Catholic News Service Nov. 24.

“Neither the Pfizer nor the Moderna vaccine involved the use of cell lines that originated in fetal tissue taken from the body of an aborted baby at any level of design, development or production,” the two prelates said. “They are not completely free from any connection to abortion, however, as both Pfizer and Moderna made use of a tainted cell line for one of the confirmatory lab tests of their products.

“There is thus a connection, but it is relatively remote,” they continued. “Some are asserting that if a vaccine is connected in any way with tainted cell lines, then it is immoral to be vaccinated with them. This is an inaccurate portrayal of Catholic moral teaching.”

Bishop Rhoades and Archbishop Naumann cited three Vatican documents that “treat the question of tainted vaccines”: the 2005 study by the Pontifical Academy for Life, “Moral Reflections on Vaccines Prepared from Cells Derived From Aborted Human Fetuses”; paragraphs nos. 34-35 in the 2008 “Instruction on Certain Bioethical Questions” (“Dignitatis Personae”) by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith; and the 2017 “Note on Italian Vaccine Issue,” by the Pontifical Academy for Life.

“These documents all point to the immorality of using tissue taken from an aborted child for creating cell lines,” they explained. “They also make distinctions in terms of the moral responsibility of the various actors involved, from those involved in designing and producing a vaccine to those receiving the vaccine.

“Most importantly,” they added, “they all make it clear that, at the level of the recipient, it is morally permissible to accept vaccination when there are no alternatives and there is a serious risk to health.”

In a Nov. 21 statement, the president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association, Mercy Sister Mary Haddad said CHA ethicists, “in collaboration with other Catholic bioethicists,” used the guidelines released by the Vatican’s Pontifical Academy for

Continued on next column →

Life in 2005 and 2017 on the origin of vaccines and “find nothing morally prohibitive with the vaccines developed by Pfizer and BioNTech (Pfizer’s German partner) and Moderna.”

She also said CHA “believes it is essential that any approved COVID-19 vaccine be distributed in a coordinated and equitable manner,” because COVID-19 “has had a disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, low-income communities, persons with preexisting health conditions, and racial and ethnic minorities.”

CHA encouraged Catholic health organizations “to distribute the vaccines developed by these companies.”

Bishop Rhoades and Archbishop Naumann did not point to any specific media outlets claiming the moral unsuitability of the vaccines. However, after Pfizer and Moderna announced their vaccines, at least two Catholic bishops warned against using them, saying they are morally tainted...

On Nov. 16, Bishop Joseph E. Strickland of Tyler, Texas, tweeted the Moderna vaccine “is not morally produced. Unborn children died in abortions and their bodies were used as ‘laboratory specimens.’ I urge all who believe in the sanctity of life to reject a vaccine which has been produced immorally.”

In a Nov. 18 video posted on his diocesan website and subsequent interviews with local media, Bishop Joseph V. Brennan of Fresno, California, weighed in on the vaccines, saying: “We all want health for ourselves and for others. We want to promote that also ... but never at the expense of the life of another.”

Other COVID-19 vaccines on the horizon include one being developed by AstraZeneca with Oxford University.

Like Bishop Rhoades and Archbishop Naumann, John Brehany, director of institutional relations at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, said a recent interview on the “Current News” show on NET TV, the cable channel of the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York, that the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines were not themselves produced using cell lines derived from aborted fetal tissue.

He expressed “great respect for Bishop Strickland,” calling him “a bold courageous witness to the faith,” who is saying “some true things about issues that go back decades in pharmaceutical research and development,” in the production of vaccines for measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox and other diseases.

But in the case of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, Brehany emphasized, any connection to aborted fetus cell lines is extremely remote.

For Dr. Robert Tiballi, an infectious disease specialist in Chicago and a member of the Catholic Medical Association, this indirect use raises an ethical issue for Catholics.

“The fetal cell lines were not directly used in the Moderna vaccine, but they were indirectly used several steps away from the actual development of the vaccine,” he told “Currents News” in a separate interview.

Any such cell lines were derived from tissue samples taken from fetuses aborted in the 1960s and 1970s and have been grown in laboratories all over the world since then.

Continued on Page 3 →

Mass Schedule

Weekday	Monday	No Mass
	Tuesday	6:00 PM
	Wednesday	10:00 AM
	Thursday	8:00 AM
	Friday	10:30 AM
Weekend	Saturday	5:00 PM
	Sunday	8:30 AM
		10:30 AM
		1:30 PM (Spanish)

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

Eucharistic Perpetual Adoration

Monday - Friday 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Sacraments

Reconciliation Saturdays, 2:30 - 4:00 PM or by appointment.

Baptism Call the Parish Office.

Marriage Contact Parish Office at least six months before wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick
Seasonally or by request

Vision

Building the kingdom of God here and now through the witnessing of a lived faith.

Mission

We, as a Catholic faith community, cast wide our net in welcoming all people as Christ. In a spirit of generosity, we utilize our time, talent and treasure to educate and serve one another.

Pastor

Fr. Mark Innocenti
minnocenti@saint-andrew.net

Sacramental Minister with Hispanic Ministry

Fr. Tom Skaja
father.skaja@gmail.com

Early Bulletin Deadlines

Bulletin Date	Deadline
Sunday, December 20.....	Monday, December 14, 10:00 AM
Sunday, December 27.....	Friday, December 18, 10:00 AM
Sunday, January 3.....	Monday, December 28, 10:00 AM

Died in Christ

Mass of Christian Burial was held for Patty Lefebvre this past week. Please keep Patty and her family in your prayers.



Masses for the Week

MONDAY, December 14, St. John of the Cross
No Mass

TUESDAY, December 15, Advent Weekday
6:00 PM † Geraldine Johnson

WEDNESDAY, December 16, Advent Weekday
10:00 AM † Cole Messer

THURSDAY, December 17, Late Advent Weekday
8:00 AM † Tom LaPlante

FRIDAY, December 18, Late Advent Weekday
10:30 AM † Paul Juenemann

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SATURDAY, December 19
5:00 PM † Millicent Busch

SUNDAY, December 20
8:30 AM † Jerry Busch
10:30 AM † Oliver Thomas Aubart
1:30 PM Parish of Saint Andrew

Readings for the Week of December 13, 2020

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
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/ Mt 1:1-17
Friday:	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/ Mt 1:18-25
Saturday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Next Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

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In its 2005 study, the Pontifical Academy for Life said Catholics have a responsibility to push for the creation of morally just, alternative vaccines, but it also said they should not sacrifice the common good of public health because there is no substitute.

“Catholics can have confidence if there is a great need and there are no alternatives, they are not forbidden from using these new vaccines,” Brehany told “Current News,” but he added: “There is much the church calls us to do in seeking out alternatives and advocating for alternatives.”

Catholics “need to provide the urgency and advocacy” to get pharmaceutical companies to understand there are alternatives to using fetal cell lines to develop vaccines, “so they can see the need for this,” he added, echoing the Pontifical Academy for Life.

A case in point is the decision by Sanofi Pasteur to no longer use an aborted fetal cell line in producing its polio vaccines, a move recently approved by the FDA.

Sanofi is one of the companies currently developing a COVID-19 vaccine by utilizing “cell lines not connected to unethical procedures and methods.” Inovio Pharmaceuticals and the John Paul II Medical Research Institute are other such companies.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

May our Adoration never cease

The Adoration Ministry will be extending their hours beginning **Sunday, January 3.**

- **Sunday:** 7:00 PM - 7:00 AM Monday
- **Monday - Thursday** 11:00 AM - 7:00 AM **the following morning.**
- **Friday - 11:00 AM - 11:00 AM Saturday morning.**

Door B will be reactivated so you can use the code to get in starting in January, please contact your Hourly Coordinator for Code.

Extended Hour adorers needed :

- 12:00 AM & 1:00 AM, Mondays
- 10:00 PM, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- 1:00 AM and 5:00 AM, Saturdays

Snowbird needs subs on Tuesdays at 1:00 AM,

January 5 & 12, February 2 & 9, March 2, 9 & 16.

If you can help us out by blessing an hour or two please contact Colleen or Eva.

Christmas:

- Adoration will close Friday, December 18 at 7:00 PM.
- No Adoration Monday, December 21-Sunday, January 2.
- Adoration will reopen on Sunday, 7:00 PM, January 3.

To reserve an hour contact:

Colleen Solors: 763-441-7179 or 612-532-7378 or
Eva Jahnke: 763-257-7109.

Saint Andrew Respect Life Committee

Before there was Abby Johnson, there was Bernard Nathanson.

Dr. Bernard Nathanson was an obstetrician and one of the co-founders of what became the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), now known as NARAL Pro-Choice America. Nathanson and his associates worked hard for the legalization of abortion in the United States. Nathanson went as far as to highly exaggerate numbers of deaths from “back alley” abortions in order to achieve his goal.

Like Abby Johnson, an ultrasound changed Nathanson’s life. Ultrasounds were brand new and he was given the opportunity of watching an abortion on the ultrasound as it occurred. He was horrified by what he saw. This experience led to his making of documentaries about abortion. Nathanson called abortion “the most atrocious holocaust in the history of the United States.” In 1974, Nathanson wrote, “I am deeply troubled by my own increasing certainty that I had in fact presided over 60,000 deaths.” This was a year after the Supreme Court legalized abortion in the Roe vs. Wade decision.

Dr. Nathanson was an atheist. In 1996, he converted to Catholicism. He said he did so because “no religion matches the special role for forgiveness that is afforded by the Catholic Church.”

Abba, soon to be Elevier Pregnancy Resource Center, will be providing ultrasounds to women in crisis pregnancies at their new location.

Continued on next column →

Financial Report



Stewardship

Adult Envelopes	\$ 16,229.02
EFT Adult Envelopes	\$ 10,045.93
Loose Plate	\$ 138.78
High School Students	\$ 5.35
Children	\$ 4.35
	\$ 26,423.43

Other Donations

Seasonal Decorations & Flowers	\$ 1,247.41
New Years Day - Solemnity of Mary	\$ 180.00
Christmas	\$ 1,840.00
All Saints	\$ 10.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 1,461.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 539.00
Tuition Assistance Program	\$ 175.00
Saint Andrew School Donation	\$ 120.00
Legacy Endowment Donation	\$ 1,409.00
Miscellaneous Donation	\$ 25.00
	\$ 7,006.41

Outreach Ministry

CAER	\$ 140.00
World Mission	\$ 5.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$ 5.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 440.00
Saint Andrew Mission Outreach	\$ 400.00
	\$ 990.00

Total Contribution

\$ 34,419.84

Regular Weekly Contributions	\$ 26,423.43
Amount Needed for Budget	\$ 18,175.00
This Week's Surplus/Deficit	\$ 8,248.43
Fiscal Year-To-Date Surplus/Deficit	\$ 36,448.61

Stewardship Thought

All of the people in today’s readings—the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist—seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?



Get Your Coffee

Coffee sales are available during business hours at the Parish Office.

We pray that, like Dr. Bernard Nathanson and Abby Johnson, the women receiving these ultrasounds will see the humanity of their child and choose life.

If you know someone who has had an abortion, God loves that individual and calls her to back to him. Rachel’s Vineyard (rachelsvineyard.org) provides post abortive healing. Silent No More (silentnomoreawareness.org) is a campaign by Priests for Life and Anglicans for Life which seeks to help women and men who have been touched by abortion.

Parish Staff

Phone 763-441-1483

Parish Business Administrator - Melissa Anderson
melissaa@saint-andrew.net

Director of Liturgy and Music - Diane Pederson

Parish Secretary - Tracy Schroedl
tracys@saint-andrew.net

Coordinator of Strategic Pastoral Planning - Randy Bayerl
randyb@saint-andrew.net

Parish Nurse - Betsy Clark
parishnurse@saint-andrew.net

Trustee-Finance Council - Donna Dohmen

Trustee-Finance Council - Michael Dubois

Chair-Pastoral Council - Ron Beckerleg

Faith Formation Office

Phone 763-441-1483

Director of Youth Formation (Grades 6-12) - Hollie Danis
hollied@saint-andrew.net

Coordinator of Youth Formation (Grades 1-5)-Nicole Bourgeois
nicoleb@saint-andrew.net

Coordinator of Youth Ministry - Kent Yoder
youthministry@saint-andrew.net

Saint Andrew Catholic School

Phone 763-441-2216

School Principal - Ann Dettmann
adettmann@saint-andrew.net

School Secretary - Sherri Stefano
sstefano@saint-andrew.net

Catholic Charities Counselor

Phone 1-800-830-8254

Counselor - Sr. Mary Fran Reichenberger, LICSW, OSF

Saint Andrew Catholic Cemetery

John Greene 763-441-6632

Richard Eversman 763-258-6175

Dan LeFebvre 763-213-5414



KNIGHTS KORNER



Wanted: Good men to join our fraternal brotherhood organization for faith, fun and fellowship in service to our church and community. For membership information, call Bob Hurd, 763-498-3734.

Blessings!

Don Valentiny, Grand Knight
Queen of Peace Council No. 5296



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CELEBRACIONES DE DICIEMBRE

Misa de Navidad

El padre Tom celebrará la misa de Navidad en español el viernes 25 de diciembre a la 1:30 de la tarde. Cada familia tendrá un lugar asignado así es que deberán reservar su lugar e indicar cuántas personas asistirán a misa. Se entregarán boletos de entrada en la oficina o en la misa dominical el 19 de diciembre.

También se celebrará misa en español el día 1 de enero a la 1:30 PM. No es necesario reservar su lugar para ese día. Los esperamos!

INTENCIONES

Si tienen una intención que desean ofrecer en la misa dominical, por favor envíenla a hispanos@saint-andrew.net

Oración a la Virgen de Guadalupe



Virgen Santísima de Guadalupe, Reina de los Ángeles y Madre de las Américas. Acudimos a ti hoy como tus amados hijos. Te pedimos que intercedas por nosotros con tu Hijo, como lo hiciste en las bodas de Caná. Ruega por nosotros, Madre amorosa, y obtén para nuestra nación, nuestro mundo, y para todas nuestras familias y seres queridos, la protección de tus santos ángeles, para que podamos salvarnos de lo peor de esta enfermedad. Para aquellos que ya están afectados, te pedimos que les concedas la gracia de la sanación y la liberación. Escucha los gritos de aquellos que son vulnerables y temerosos, seca sus lágrimas y ayúdalos a confiar. En este tiempo de dificultad y prueba, enséñanos a todos en la Iglesia a amarnos los unos a los otros y a ser pacientes y amables. Ayúdanos a llevar la paz de Jesús a nuestra tierra y a nuestros corazones. Acudimos a ti con confianza, sabiendo que realmente eres nuestra madre compasiva, la salud de los enfermos y la causa de nuestra alegría. Refúgianos bajo el manto de tu protección, manténnos en el abrazo de tus brazos, ayúdanos a conocer siempre el amor de tu Hijo, Jesús. Amén.

José H. Gomez Arzobispo de Los Angeles

Prayer for Vocations

Gracious God and Father, we praise You for Your goodness and love.

We ask You to stir the hearts of all those You call to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life in the Diocese of Saint Cloud.

Send Your Holy Spirit upon our families and our children. Choose from our parishes, our homes and our schools those called to this adventure of love. With Mary, Mother of every vocation, we ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Prayer Line: If you would like to put someone on the prayer line, please call Sherri at 612-801-3965.



Hospital visits

If you or someone you know is hospitalized and would like a priest to visit, please call the Parish Office.

Youth Formation



Director of Youth Formation

Grades 6-12

Hollie Danis hollied@saint-andrew.net
441-1483 x 307



Coordinator of Formation

Grades 1-5

Nicole Bourgeois nicoleb@saint-andrew.net
441-1483 x 305

December Monthly Resource & Weekly Planner /

Sunday Gospel Resource: Registered families should have received these resources via email on Sunday, November 29. If you did not receive them please contact Hollie or Nicole.

Unlocking the Treasure at Home

Treasure Box #2 Pick Up Dates: Registered families—your second “Treasure Box” will be available for pick up on the following dates/times:

- **Sunday, January 10 (11:30 AM – 1:30 PM)**
- **Monday, January 11 (8:00 AM – 7:00 PM)**

This box contains resources for January through May. Pick up will be in Meeting Room 1 (enter through main church doors, then proceed to the left).

Prayer Intentions & Feedback Survey: A survey went out to all registered families via email. Please take a minute to provide us with your feedback, we want to hear from you! We would also love to bring your prayer intentions with us to our weekly holy hour, please provide them in the survey!

CORE Team:

Mark your calendar! Our next Core Team Formation Meeting will be **Wednesday, January 6 (6:30 - 7:30 PM)**.

Saint Andrew Catholic School Second Graders

First Reconciliation will take place during the school day on Thursday, December 17 with Fr. Mark and Mrs. Leither. Look for certificates to come home that afternoon!

All Second Grade Families (Youth Formation and Saint Andrew Catholic School Families)

Preparation for First Communion will begin at the end of January. We will be using the same format as the First Reconciliation preparation. More information coming soon!

Act of Spiritual Communion



My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



School Principal

Ann Dettmann adettmann@saint-andrew.net
441-1483 x 327

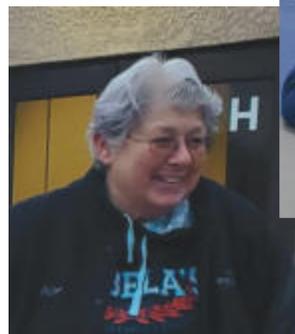
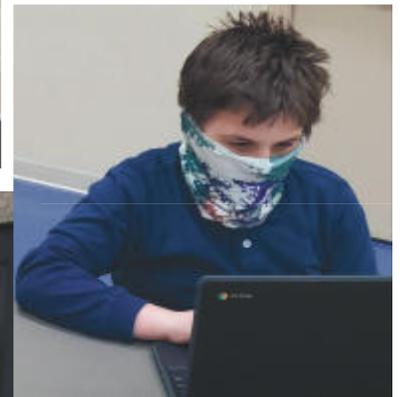
When going through things at my mom’s house recently, I came across my dad’s tackle box. Dad passed away in 2003, but some of his things will always be there. In our large family (14 children) almost everything was shared, but not that. This was his special tackle box. That, along with his open faced rod and reel, were off limits to us kids.

At Saint Andrew, we also have a Tackle Box, and it is also very special! Our Tackle Box is our before and after school child care. Families can drop students age 5 and up starting at 6:30 AM. They are fed breakfast and spend time relaxing, playing games and talking with friends.

After school, our Tackle Box again fills with some wonderful children. The afternoon starts with a snack and then there is lots of time to run and play, to tackle homework and to relax and enjoy friends. The group is often outside on the playground enjoying the fresh air, but they love time in our large gym, too.

When school has a planned day off, such as a teacher work day, a holiday, or a break, or now a distance learning time due to the pandemic, students can be in Tackle Box for the whole day. They pack a lunch since the kitchen is closed these days and they have a great day. If it is a distance learning day, the staff does a great job of finding a quiet spot for them to join the online teaching sessions and to work on their assignments. In the summer, when there isn’t a pandemic, the group goes on lots of outings adding variety and fun to each week.

We are blessed to have this great program at our school!



SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10a)

PSALM:

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

SECOND READING:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,
be preserved blameless for the coming of our
Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

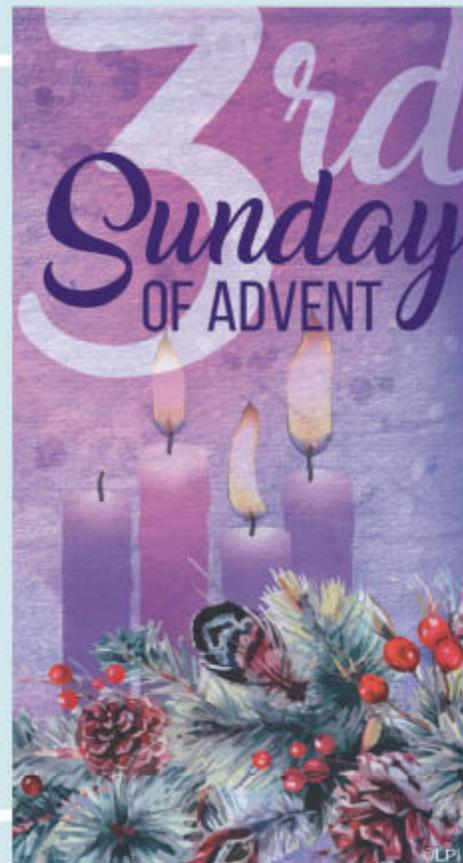
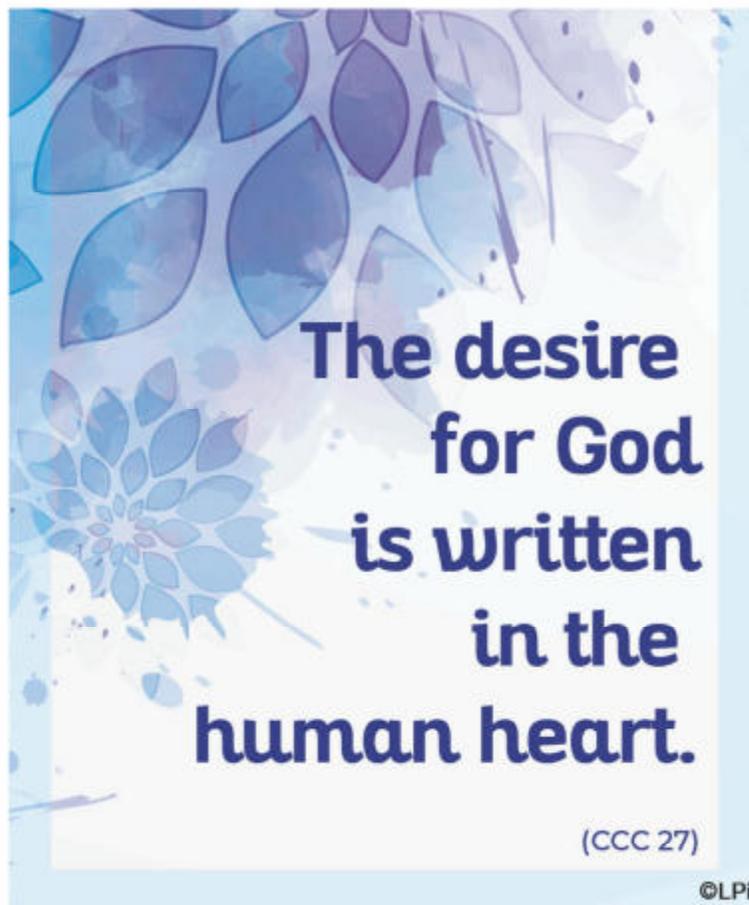
GOSPEL:

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent



REFLECT

FIRST READING

Isaiah shares his understanding of his prophetic call and his experience of the Lord as a God of justice and compassion. As we continue in the season of Advent, what new spiritual insights are you discovering?

SECOND READING

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be thankful to God and be active in their newly found faith in Christ by following his moral imperatives. How are you putting your faith into practice during this Advent?

GOSPEL READING

John tells us that the religious leaders in Jerusalem questioned the identity of John the Baptist, wondering if he was the Messiah, Elijah, or the Prophet who Moses prophesied would come. John the Baptist responds in humility, with a clear sense of his own call. Do you humbly accept God's call in your life?

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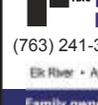
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