



MAKING JESUS KNOWN

Saint Joseph on the Rio Grande Catholic Community

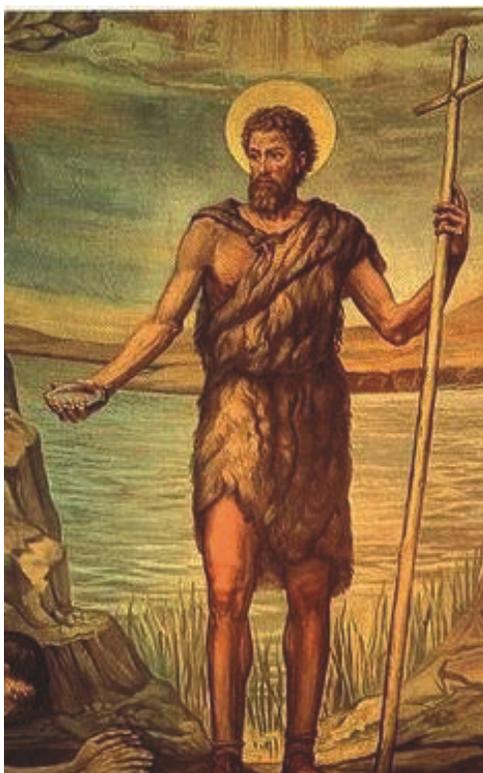
December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

Rejoice in the Lord always. Indeed, the Lord is near.

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are You?", he admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of the one crying in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie. This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

John 1:6-8, 19-28



The first readings during this Advent season have been from the Prophet Isaiah, who pleads with the Lord to restore his people. He complains, he begs the Lord to make them whole. He also expresses gratitude, and hopes for the comfort their God can give.

Today's first reading from Isaiah prepares us for the role of John the Baptist in the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecies. He will encourage the people to repent and to be ready to accept the One who is to come. This reading even points to the fact that John will, in the course of baptizing his hearers in the Jordan, will also baptize Jesus as he begins his ministry of salvation.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Community of St. Joseph on the Rio Grande is a member of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe and is in union with the Roman Catholic Church. We believe in and celebrate the presence of Christ in our world through Word and Sacrament. We strive to make Jesus known in the local community through ministries of faith, hospitality, liturgy, compassion and justice. |

www.sjrgcc.org | 5901 St. Joseph Drive NW | Albuquerque, NM 87120 | 505-839-7952 |

New Restrictions & Protocols

Archbishop Wester has directed that Churches cease regular Mass schedules after October 25. This proactive step is being taken to protect the faithful at this time that COVID-19 cases are increasing in New Mexico coupled with the influenza season soon to begin.

This means that attendance at Mass is not permitted for the time being. The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday continues to be dispensed for all and the faithful are reminded that HOME IS THE HOLY PLACE. Keep holy the Lord's Day by your prayer at home.

Sunday Mass will be live streamed on Saturday afternoon at 4:00 pm beginning November 7th. The Mass may be viewed on Sundays—usually beginning about 10:00 am—on your computer or mobile device. Also, Mass will be celebrated live in the church on Sunday at 10:00 am.

Communion will be distributed following the Saturday afternoon Mass from 5:00 – 5:30 pm and following the Sunday morning Mass from 11:00 – 11:30 am. Communion will be given in the Gathering Space.

Line up outside and keep the social distance as indicated on the sidewalks by the blue hash marks. Enter the church by the far, right door and exit by the middle door. There will be two communion stations inside.

Daily Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am and will be live streamed. Communion will be given after Mass at 9:30 am for 10 minutes.

Confessions will be heard on Saturdays from 2:00 – 3:30 pm with the same protocols that are in place. Line up outside the church keeping social distance. Only one person enters the church at a time. Dress warmly.

Fr. Don's Daily Reflection

Psalm 39 is full of poetic expressions of the shortness of life:

You have given me a short span of days; my life is nothing in your sight.

A mere breath, the one who stood so firm; a mere shadow, the one who passes by; a mere breath, the hoarded riches—and who will take them, no one knows...

In your house I am a passing guest—a pilgrim, like all my forebears.

We remember happy times that we enjoyed so much before COVID-19.

Will we ever have a chance to enjoy them again?

"Those were the days, my friend, we thought they'd never end.

The obituary for a much-loved physician offers guidance for us who are enduring this time of change, of necessary restrictions on our lives and actions as social beings.

His obituary makes us ask this question: will we ever have a chance to do so much good?

Will we ever be so helpfully positive to our fellow human beings, to others oppressed by the present restriction on human relations?

We can encourage each other's spirits by not pushing our bad moods, anger or boredom onto others.

We can keep up the spiritus of those around us by our own positive and hopeful spirit.

What positive can we do?

How about phone calls (Face Time, etc.) to the isolated, lonely and forgotten. Even letters off the printer or handwritten (in ink on paper!

(The latter will knock their socks off!)

The physician often worked 7 days a week. Given how overworked, drained, and burnt out so many health workers are, we can't suggest that.

Possibly though given the severe limitations of COVID-19, there may be some way in which we can still do a bit beyond our ordinary service, our ordinary custom.

We hear frequently of how accommodating an helpful this man or woman at the supermarket is. What a ministry! What a blessing for the tired and exasperated customer!

What about an extra phone call or a more patient one with someone alone who has no one else to talk to.

? ? ? ? ? ?

In a normal year, we would be in the midst of collecting funds for Christmas Baskets and getting gifts for children on the Angel Tree. But, because of the pandemic, we are unable to do either this year, so we wanted to offer two other good opportunities to fulfill our parish mission in the Advent season by making Jesus known in the local community with acts of compassion!

Special Collection for Good Shepherd Center

Good Shepherd Center helps the poor and homeless in Albuquerque, but they need our help during these trying times. Normally there is a special collection at Mass in April to collect donations, but because of the pandemic, this was not done this year.

But the need is still great, so we are asking you to make donations now to support the work of Good Shepherd Center. You can do so in any of the following ways:

Drop off an envelope (You can use one of your collection envelopes, but any envelope will do) with your donation at the church office. Please note on the envelope (and on the memo line if you are using a check), that the donation is for Good Shepherd Center. Also note your normal collection envelope number on the envelope (and check)

On-line Giving. Go to <https://sjrgcc.org/online-giving-1> and hit the Blue Give button.

Brothers of the Good Shepherd is one of the Fund options available. (Info on how to give by text, if you prefer to do so, is also on this page.)

More information on Good Shepherd Center is available at <https://www.gscnm.org/>

Support St. Vincent de Paul Society

St. Vincent de Paul helps the poor having trouble paying rent or utilities or needing food or furnishings. To perform this mission in these trying times, they also need our financial support.

You can support them by donating in any of the following ways:

Drop off an envelope (You can use one of your St Vincent de Paul collection envelopes, but any envelope will do) with your donation at the church office. Please note on the envelope (and on the memo line if you are using a check), that the donation is for St. Vincent de Paul. Also note your normal collection envelope number on the envelope (and check)

On-line Giving. Go to <https://sjrgcc.org/online-giving-1> and hit the Blue Give button. St Vincent de Paul is one of the Fund options available. (Info on how to give by text, if you prefer to do so, is also on this page.)

Help us fulfill our mission of making Jesus known in the local community with this act of compassion in the Advent season!

In this time of need, **Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)** invites all the faithful to seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe for the Protection from Coronavirus

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas. We fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, Wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.



COLLECTIONS DEPOSITED NOVEMBER 11

OFFERTORY	5,825.50
SVDP	1,665.00
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	138.00
NAZARETH CENTER	1,347.00
TOTAL	8,628.50

Please pray for: Angela Hartfield, Elizabeth Montero, Michael Smith, D Chavez, Wayne Luco, Willie & Josie Vallejos, Mike Aragon, Amanda Mora, Sherry McManus, Rodrigo Pavon, Jessie Martinez, Hope Chavez, Josephine Smith, Lucia Larez, Shelby Wallace, Marcus Vigil, Carlene Lopez, Alfonso & Mike Uribe, Rick Lucero, Valen Romero, Robert May, Elena Baca, Delia Trujillo, Maureen Jett, Harriet B. Smith, Ruben Clemens, Angelica Apodaca, Claudette Chavez, Krista Valerio, Jose Alvarado, Brittany Miller, Josiah Lujan, Joseph Lopez, Richard Estrada, Tommy Trujillo, Andrew Ortiz, Linda Weakland, Lorenzo Gutierrez, Manuel Ortiz, Tina Archuleta, Nate Oiler, Ursula Torres, Isaiah Rodriguez, Angie Gurule, Mary Pauline Benavidez, Rigo Peña, David Aern, Angelina Romero, Steve Montoya, Tommy Orosco, Shirley Eddingfield, Alexander Sus-

DIRECTORY

Phone: 505.839.7952

Website: www.sjrgcc.org

E-mail address: bulletin@sjrgparish.org

Bulletin deadline: 3 pm Fridays

Contact Jeanine Fried at the parish office.

To view the bulletin, go to www.sjrgcc.org

Events and News: bulletin

PASTOR Monsignor Lambert Joseph Luna

SACRAMENTAL MINISTER Father William McNichols

DEACONS George Miller * Bert Dohle

OFFICE STAFF Dawn Wenzl

Isabel Orosco * Jeanine Fried

Jessica Armijo * Deborah Bauer

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Lawrence Encinias * Leo Apodaca

OFFICE HOURS

8:30 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Monday through Friday

RCIA Mary Ann Sabie 839-7952

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION (Religious Education)

George Miller 244-2154 YFF@sjrgparish.org

Stephanie Pickup

Hours: Monday, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Mass SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 5:00 pm MDT

(4:00 pm MST)

Mass Intentions for the week of December 6

Saturday, December 5

5:00 pm † Guillermo Almaraz

† Rosalie Maestas

† Mike Aragon

Sunday, December 6

8:00 am Frank & Tillie Luna:

60th wedding anniversary

Gru Vigil: Health

10:00 am **For the Intention of the People**

12:00 pm † Eduardo & Sally Martinez

Kenneth & Christopher Romero:

Birthdays

Consolation Ministry and families
they serve

Monday, December 7

9:00 am Lawrence Encinias: Birthday

Dawn Wenzl: Birthday

Tuesday, December 8

7:00 pm **For the Intention of the People**

Wednesday, December 9

9:00 am

Thursday, December 10

9:00 am

Friday, December 11

9:00 am

Saturday, December 12

9:00 am **Mass in honor of Our Lady of
Guadalupe**

4:00 pm

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER

2020 Dec 6 SUN: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11/ Ps 85 / 2 Peter 3: 8-14/ Mark 1: 1-8

2020 Dec 7 Mon: Ambrose,

Isaiah 35: 1-10/ Ps 85 / Luke 5: 17-26

2020 Dec 8 Tue: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY S. Holy Day of Obligation.

Genesis 3: 9-15, 20/ Ps 98 / Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12/ Luke 1: 26-38

2020 Dec 9 Wed: Advent Weekday/ Juan Diego

Isaiah 40: 25-31/ Ps 103 / Matthew 11: 28-30

2020 Dec 10 Thu: Advent Weekday/ Our Lady of Loreto

Isaiah 41: 13-20/ Ps 145 / Matthew 11: 11-15

2020 Dec 11 Fri: Advent Weekday/ Damasus I

Isaiah 48: 17-19/ Ps 1 / Matthew 11: 16-19

2020 Dec 12 Sat: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zechariah 2: 14-17 or Revelation 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab/ Jdt 13: 18bcde, 19/ Lk 1: 26-38 or Lk 1: 39-47

2020 Dec 13 Sun: Third Sunday of Advent/

Isaiah 61: 1-2a, 10-11/ Luke 1: 46-54/ 1 Thessalonians 126-24/ John 1: 6-8, 19-28

GOSPEL FOR DECEMBER 6

Mark 1:1-8

Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!"



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