

First Sunday of Advent – December 2, 2018

Readings: [Jeremiah 33:14-16](#); [Psalm 25:4-5,8-10,14](#); [1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2](#); [Luke 21:25-28, 34-36](#)

Every Advent, the Liturgy of the Word gives our sense of time a reorientation. There's a deliberate tension in the next four weeks' readings—between promise and fulfillment, expectation and deliverance, between looking forward and looking back.

In today's First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah focuses our gaze on the promise God made to David, some 1,000 years before Christ. God says through the prophet that He will fulfill this promise by raising up a "just shoot," a righteous offspring of David, who will rule Israel in justice (see [2 Samuel 7:16](#); [Jeremiah 33:17](#); [Psalm 89:4-5; 27-38](#)).

Today's Psalm, too, sounds the theme of Israel's ancient expectation: "Guide me in Your truth and teach Me. For You are God my Savior and for You I will wait all day."

We look back on Israel's desire and anticipation knowing that God has already made good on those promises by sending His only Son into the world. Jesus is the "just shoot," the God and Savior for Whom Israel was waiting.

Knowing that He is a God who keeps His promises lends grave urgency to the words of Jesus in today's Gospel.

Urging us to keep watch for His return in glory, He draws on Old Testament images of chaos and instability—turmoil in the heavens (see [Isaiah 13:11,13](#); [Ezekiel 32:7-8](#); [Joel 2:10](#)); roaring seas (see [Isaiah 5:30](#); [17:12](#)); distress among the nations (see [Isaiah 8:22/14:25](#)) and terrified people (see [Isaiah 13:6-11](#)).

He evokes the prophet Daniel's image of the Son of Man coming on a cloud of glory to describe His return as a "theophany," a manifestation of God (see [Daniel 7:13-14](#)).

Many will cower and be literally scared to death. But Jesus says we should greet the end-times with heads raised high, confident that God keeps His promises, that our "redemption is at hand," that "the kingdom of God is near" (see [Luke 21:31](#)).

Father Blake Evans, Pastor



Rest in Peace

Alice Smith, died on Friday, November 23.
Faithful parishioner and member of the Choir

Eternal rest grant unto her, oh Lord



The **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** of the Blessed Virgin Mary is December 8th. It is a holy day of obligation, the faithful must attend Holy Mass. Nativity will offer a vigil at 5:30 pm and 2 masses: 8:00 and 10:00 am.

REMINDER: No flowers are permitted in the Church during Advent except for Guadate Sunday, the Rose colored joyful Sunday of Advent.

ADW statements. For those who would like responses from the ADW and the leadership following the resignation of Cardinal Wuerl and the recent publishing of past abuse scandals, please visit adw.org/media-events/media-portal/news-updates/ which includes statements from Bishop Fisher, the ADW Office of General Counsel, the other auxiliary Bishops of Washington, and a statement regarding the same from our other Auxiliaries.

Congratulations to Tevick L. Skinner and Brandi Janise Wyatt for the wedding on November 10, 2018 at St. Ignatius Church.



Nativity Sodality is having a "Fun Raiser Bake Sale" on [December 9, 2018](#). There will be lots of homemade goodies. Please come to the lounge after the 8am and 10am Masses. The funds will help us support our Parish.

Sacred Heart League will meet, at the chapel, for Adoration on Friday, November 7 after the noon mass.

"Gratitude is to live the memory of The Heart." - French Proverb

Mass Intentions for the Week

December 1 – 8, 2018

Sat. 12/1	8:00 am	Homebound sick parishioners
	4:30pm	People of the Parish
Sun. 12/2	8:00am	+Jacob Hicks
	10:00am	+Patricia Hallman
	1:00 pm	Garcia Family (thanksgiving)
Mon. 12/3	12:00	NO MASS
Tue 12/4	12:00	Micheline Mussol (sick)
Wed. 12/5	12:00	NO MASS
Thu. 12/6	12:00	NO MASS
Fri. 12/7	12:00	+Ongbehala family
	7:30pm	People of the Parish
Sat. 12/8	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	Youth of the Parish
	4:30pm	People of the Parish

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Ann Butler, *William Cammack, *Lukas Pastier, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Maria Cruz, *Maurice & Flora Detiege *Kevin Fagan, *Isel Fitzgerald, *Dion A. Fortune, *Linda Foster, *Charlie Gick, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, * Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Irene Jimenez, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Keneddy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, * Theresa McNair, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Clarence Morris, *Gina Myers, *Iris Newman, *Sheryl Newman, *Amelie Ongbehala, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Auristela Roman, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Andre Sims, *Bonafacio Selayo *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Suzie Thompson, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta

A special Marian/Advent/Christmas Youth day

DECEMBER 8th. 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

For young people starting at 3rd grade to Senior in High School

✓ Fun, games, lessons, lunch, daily mass, prices

Our Lady of Bethesda Center will run the program - (Our Lady of Bethesda center 1 Priest, 1 Brother, 1 Lay Youth Missionary; and High School volunteers. Chaperones and other helpers are welcome.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

11/25/18

Attendance: 448 souls
Offerings & Tithes: \$7,282
Spanish Mass: \$322
Utility fund: \$162



Thank to Fr. Kevin Kennedy for hosting us on Thanksgiving DAY AND FOR BEING WITH US THIS ADVENT SUNDAY.



Sunday - 2	Advent Sodality monthly meeting BICOL Christmas meeting
Friday - 7	12:30pm Adoration. Sacred Heart League 5:30pm Vigil mass – Immaculate Conception
Saturday - 8	Immaculate Conception. 8:00am Mass 10:00am mass Youth Day
Sunday -9	Sodality Bake Sale
Wednesday – 12	6:30pm Mass Virgin of Guadalupe
Saturday -15	8:00am Legion of Mary Meeting 9:00am Salesian Cooperators Advent Retreat

