

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A December 9th, 2007

Pastor: Fr. Patrick Furtado Associate Pastor: Fr. Leo Monroe Deacon: Michael Soentgerath



This Week In Our Parish LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 8th 5:00 pm mass:	Second Sunday of Advent, Year A †Tyrone Deane / Noreen and Eric Keefe
Sunday, December 9th 9:00 am mass: 11:00 am mass:	Second Sunday of Advent, Year A In Thanksgiving / Tan Family †Virginia Obligacion / Family †Marjorie Seidel 10th Anniversary / Seidel Family (2nd Intention)
Monday, December 10th 9:00 am mass: 10:30 am mass:	†Deceased Relatives / Edith and Romy Altares In Thanksgiving / Alfonso Family (2nd Intention) Southwood Care Centre: For all parishioners, living and deceased
Tuesday, December 11th 9:00 am mass:	Andre / Bible Study
Wed., December 12th 7:00 am mass: 9:00 am mass: 6:30 pm:	†Nan Coulter / Peter and Madeleine †Ernesto Obispo / Family †Justito Bernardo / Family (2nd Intention) Prayers for the Sick
Thursday, December 13th 7:00 am mass: 9:00 am mass: 6:30 pm mass:	†Justito Bernardo / Staff & Students of St. Matthew School Georgina & Anne Christine Guinto / Family St. Cecilia's School: Advent Celebration
Friday, December 14th 7:00 am mass: 9:00 am mass:	Charlotte / Bible Study In thanksgiving for friends and relatives / Patricia Bradley
Saturday, December 15th 6:30 am Rorate Mass: 9:00 am mass:	Ludwig Hens / Dawna Richardson †Mary Elias / Marie Hill and Family
Saturday, December 15th 5:00 pm mass:	Third Sunday of Advent, Year A †Tyrone Deane / Deane Family
Sunday, December 16th 9:00 am mass: 11:00 am mass:	Third Sunday of Advent, Year A †Josue and Adoracion Suple / Family Adelaide and Caroline and †Deceased Family Members / DeMores Family



Dear Parishioners,

"The kingdom of heaven is at hand," John proclaims. And the Liturgy today paints us a vivid portrait of our new king and the shape of the kingdom He has come to bring.

The Lord whom John prepares the way for in today's Gospel is the righteous king prophesied in today's First Reading and Psalm. He is the king's son, the son of David - a shoot from the root of Jesse, David's father.

He will be the Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit, endowed with the seven gifts of the Spirit - wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

He will rule with justice, saving the poor from the ruthless and wicked. His rule will be not only over Israel - but will extend from sea to sea, to the ends of the earth. He will be a light, a signal to all nations. And they will seek Him and pay Him homage.

In Him, all the tribes of the earth will find blessing. The covenant promise to Abraham, renewed in God's oath to David, will be fulfilled, in His dynasty. And His name will be blessed forever.

In Christ, God confirms His oath to Israel's patriarchs, Paul tells us in today's Epistle. But no longer are God's promises reserved solely for the children of Abraham. The Gentiles, too, will glorify God for His mercy. Once strangers, in Christ they will be included in "the covenants of promise".

John delivers this same message in the Gospel. Once God's chosen people were hewn from the rock of Abraham. Now, God will raise up living stones - children of Abraham born not of flesh and blood but of the Spirit.

This is the meaning of the fiery baptism He brings - making us royal heirs of the kingdom of heaven, the Church.

Reflection from: St. Paul's Centre for Biblical Theology

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR AT ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH

Monday, December 24th: Christmas Eve

6:30 p.m.	Children's Pageant
7:00 p.m.	Christmas Vigil Mass
10:45 p.m.	Carol Singing
11:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass

Tuesday, December 25th: Christmas Day

9:00 a.m.	Christmas Dawn Mass
11:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass

Monday, December 31st: New Year's Eve / Mary, Mother of God

5:00 p.m.	Mass, followed by Benediction and Parish Potluck
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Tuesday, New Year's Day / Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.