

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2007

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return
and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy.

— Isaiah 35:10a



December Rosary – For those suffering from AIDS

Music for Sunday, December 15 & 16:

323 – Every Valley
325 – Patience People
664 – Earthen Vessel
339 – Let the Valley Be
Raised



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

Psalm — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing. The dead are raised to new life! (Matthew 11:2-11).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45
Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent;
Las Posadas begins;
Eid al-Adha (Muslim feast of the sacrifice of Ishmael) celebrated this week
Friday: St. Peter Canisius
Saturday: Winter begins

Christmas Liturgy Schedule

December 24:
4:00 p.m. – Vigil Mass (Children's Liturgy)
10:15 p.m. – Music Program
11:00 p.m. – Mass During the Night

December 25:
10:00 a.m. – Mass During the Day
2:00 p.m. – Mass in Spanish

Confessions will be heard on Saturdays, 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. and on Christmas Eve following the 8:15 morning Mass.

A SEASON OF HOPE

Today we can bask in the imagery that the Mass readings offer us. In particular, Isaiah's vision of a parched land that blooms with abundant flowers holds a message for each of us. Too often we are just like that parched land. We can allow ourselves to become absorbed in the waves of consumerism that grip so many. We look for fulfillment in the things that money can buy. Unfortunately, this leaves us like parched land, thirsting for something that money can't buy. This holy season has much to offer to quench our thirsts. In a word, this season offers hope. We are told that those who are ransomed by God will know joy and gladness. For them, sorrow and mourning will be no more. Let us place our hope in these promises.

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Flowers on Altar donated by
The Altar Guild Society

This Week at Our Lady of Sorrows

Saturday, December 15th

Mass— 8:15 am
2nd grade Penance Service 10:00 am
Confessions – 3:00 – 3:30 pm
Mass – 4:00 pm

Sunday, December 16th

Mass 8:00 am & 10:30 am
Altar Guild Selling Cheese Ravioli & Sauce after 8:00 am & 10:30 am Mass
PRE - 9:00 am Christmas Party
PRE Living Nativity 9:15 am in front of Church if rains go to Gym
Christmas Caroling after 10:30 Mass
Bake Sale after Masses
Adult Classes – 9:15 am Krug Hall
Bible Study class 7-9 pm in Krug Hall
Spanish Mass 5:00 pm

Monday, December 17th

Mass - 8:15 am

Tuesday, December 18th

Mass – 8:15 am
School Board Meeting 6:00 pm Teachers Lounge

Wednesday, December 19th

Mass – 6:30 pm
Legion of Mary – 5:15 pm in Lucius Hall
RCIA 7:00 Krug Hall
Youth Group after Mass

Thursday, December 20th

Mass – 8:15 am
STVDP Meeting 6:30 pm Krug Hall

Friday, December 21st

Mass – 8:15 am
School Dismiss at 11:30 am

Bible Study – Deacon Don Bennis will offer a Bible Study on St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans on Monday evenings in Krug Hall. Classes will begin on January 7 and conclude on March 3. Catholic Bibles and the Catechism of the Catholic Church are required texts. There will be a \$5.00 fee. This class is sanctioned by the Diocese of Memphis and teachers and catechists can earn up to 12 hours credit for participating. For more information call 353-1530.

Mass Intentions

Saturday December 15th 4:00 pm

Rex Mayo+

Sunday December 16th 8:00 am

Deceased Members of STVDP

Sunday December 16th 10:30 am

People of the Parish

Sunday December 16th 5:00 pm

Jackson Family+

Monday December 17th 8:15 am

Clyde Leonard+

Tues. December 18th 8:15 am

Frank Chaput+

Wed. December 19th 6:30 pm

Thanksgiving to Our Blessed Lady

Thur. December 20th 8:15 am

Edward Cobb+

Friday December 21st 8:15 am

Russell McKenize+

Saturday December 22nd 8:15 am

Tommie Thomason+

Saturday December 22nd 4:00 pm

Angelo Bursi+

HOLY MEALS ON WHEELS – Maureen Spain, a true leader of the Frayser community and member of OLS, has been diagnosed with bone cancer and is unable to prepare meals for her husband herself. Some parishioners have volunteered to prepare meals and deliver them to the Spain’s during her treatment period. Would you like to extend the hand of Christ to a fellow parishioner in a time of need? The more people involved means less burden on each participant. Call Linda O’Donnell at 382-2167 to volunteer.

December 2007						
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

PERSPECTIVE

A mountain shames a molehill until they both are humbled by the stars.

—Old adage

NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION!

Do you want to receive the New Year Joyfully? As the year 2007 approaches its conclusion and we meditate on how to receive 2008; there is no better way to celebrate than including Christ in our lives! The Hispanic Community of Our Lady of Sorrows is sponsoring a special evening of fellowship, food, music and entertainment for our entire parish community. Everyone is invited! The cost for this event is \$35.00 per family and \$15.00 single person. All proceeds will benefit our parish school. The menu includes rice, beans, flautas, salad, desserts and a regular drink. There will be piñatas for the children as well as other activities, as The New Year's Baby costume contest (for babies of one year and under); the winner will receive an age appropriate gift. Cocktails are available at additional cost. So shake the old way of living and step into the New Year filled with hope and with the love shared among us The Body of Christ! To purchase your ticket, please contact Mrs. Carolina Roque at 357-5245 or Mrs. Wanda Rivera at 872-1281. Also, we will have the tickets available after every weekend Mass.

Preparation Class for Quinceañera – Classes will be held at St. Joseph Church, 3825 Neely Road, on the 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th of January and on the 3rd of February after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, beginning at 10:30 a.m. and lasting one hour/ all candidates must have received the Sacrament of confirmation before they can celebrate her Quinceañera. Families may register by telephoning St. Joseph at 396-9996. The cost is \$25.00 per person.

In your prayers please remember: Barbara Allard, Bill & Grace Aspinall, Dewey Aureli, Theresa Baker, June Bennis, Rebecca Bethune, Julius (Sonny) Black, Robert Butler, Carolyn Fracchia, Trudi Collier, Sarah Copeland, DePriest Family, James Essary, Elena Everroad, Margaret Dries, Rena Frazier, Sue Guinn, Linda Gonzales, Eileen Haklitch, Amanda Hall, Peggy Hooten, Michael Jackson, Earline Johnson, Paul Kennedy, Robert Kuehner, Mildred Lewis, Jerry Lynn, Louise Macdonald, Thomas Miller, Bill Nutt, Eudora Mays, Jackie Perfetti, Waldyr Poilis, Dr. Cheryl Pearson, Louisa Reilly, Fran Schmitt, Maureen Spain, Fr. Bryan Timby, Keith Trenham, Carolyn Walsh, Lewis Wilkinson, Mary Wilson, and Angie Wright.

Christmas Around the World – Someone loaned Fr. Timby a coffee table book about how Christmas is celebrated around the world. He can't remember who loaned it to him and would like to return it to the proper owner. Please help him by calling the Parish Office if you were the kind soul who shared this book with him. Thank you.

Ministers Schedule – for December 15th 16th

*****Please note the dates*****

for the Minister and Altar Server Schedule

4:00	8:00	10:30	5:00
F.Bursi	D.Bennis	K.Pope	
E.Monroe	C.Vasquez	P.Badowski	
G.Hooten	B.Plessinger	B.Allard	
Lector			
J.Pettit	J.Bish	T.Floyd	
Altar Server			
A.Younger	K.Hudson	D.Bailey	
	B.Hudson	C.Bailey	

Ministers Schedule – for NEXT

Weekend of December 22nd & 23rd *Please note the dates*****

for the Minister and Altar Server Schedule

4:00	8:00	10:30	5:00
G.Geer	D.Bennis	N.Caldwell	
G.Pannell	T.Acklen	B.Bustos	
R.Pannell	M.Hensley	J.DeStefano	
Lectors			
E.Monroe	D.Hall	M.Owen	
Altar Server			
L.Carter	H.Williams	P.DeStefano	
	G.Williams	K.Hissong	

Financial Report for Last Week

December 9, 2007

Envelopes	\$2,432.00
Loose Checks	855.00
Loose Currency/Coin	236.20
Debt reduction	80.00
Improvements	107.00
Retirement	613.00
Immaculate Conception	669.00
Total Collection	\$4,992.20
Church Budget for the Week	- 5,324.00
Collection Diff for the Week	\$(331.80)

Collections Revenues Y-t-D	107,978.67
Church Budget Y-t-D	127,776.00
Collections Deficit Y-t-D	\$ (19,797.33)

Altar Guild will be selling Cheese Ravioli and Sauce after the 8:00 am & 10:30 am Mass this weekend.

Parish Retreat Weekends – The Cathedral parish has invited members of Our Lady of Sorrows to join with them in making a spiritual retreat at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Retreat Center in Danceyville, TN (I-40 East, exit #47). A Men’s Retreat is scheduled Feb. 8-10, and a Women’s Retreat is scheduled for April 4-6. Henry Littleton is coordinating our participation in these retreats. If you are interested in participating in one or more of the retreat weekends, please contact the Parish Office.

Holy Day Schedule – Beginning in January, the Holy Day Mass schedule will change a little. The times will remain the same with liturgies at 6:30 p.m. (Vigil Mass), 9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The change will affect the 6:30 p.m. liturgy on the actual Holy Day. Beginning on January 1, the 6:30 p.m. Mass on the actual Holy Day will be a Spanish liturgy to meet the needs of our Spanish-speaking community and their obligation to assist at Mass on days of obligation. The 6:30 p.m. (Vigil Mass) and the 9:00 a.m. Holy Day Mass will both continue to be celebrated in English.

The Giving Tree will make its annual appearance again this Advent. This year we will again focus on the needs of the St. Vincent De Paul Society and the nuns at Poor Clare Monastery. Each year, the generosity of our parish does indeed make an impact in helping these ministries. Indirectly we are feeding, clothing and sheltering the poor as Jesus would have us. Please remember those in need in your Christmas plans this season.



Annual Christmas Caroling

Sunday
December 16th
after 10:30 am
mass. Meet in
the parking lot.
We will be
visiting the
homebound
parishioners. Come join us for fun and festivities.
For more information call Sharon O’Brien at 357-7078.



Eucharist & Ministers: Please pick up your schedule for 2008 in the back of the church, be sure to sign the sheet showing you pick up your schedule.

Lightening of Advent Candle this weekend:



- Saturday 4:00 pm Eula Eaves & Frances Peacock
- Sunday 8:00 am Dewitt & Sharon O’Brien
- Sunday 10:30 am Paula Busby
- Sunday 5:00 pm Wanda & Armando Rivera

FOR RENT: One Bedroom Apt at 1246 Carrolton Ave if interested call Nick Vinturella at 358-1547.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Did St. Francis of Assisi invent the Christmas crib? Not exactly, but his devotion to the Incarnation and his love for the poverty of the Christ Child certainly popularized this beloved custom. Long before Francis, it was a custom at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome to enshrine a rich image of Mary, gilded and bejewelled, embracing the child Jesus. This church was founded as a kind of home for the feast of Christmas in the fourth century. In 1223, Francis was ready to celebrate this feast in a new way. In the tiny city of Greccio, he asked friends to prepare a place where they could experience the poverty and suffering embraced by Christ in his birth. It was a living scene: an ox from the barn, an ass from the stable, and peasants standing in for shepherds and kings. The night of the celebration was beautiful, the weather was warm, and people came in crowds, bearing candles and singing hymns that echoed through the forest. Francis himself chanted the Gospel and preached. The custom spread quickly, and by the sixteenth century cribs were seasonal features not only in church, but in the home.

On December 17, the liturgy begins to unfold the Lord’s birth before us, and it’s the right time to follow this beautiful tradition. In Germany, each night throughout Advent children prepare a bedding for the manger. At bedtime prayer, a child places a single straw in the manger for each act of devotion or virtue performed during the day. If the children are good, then the Christ child will have plenty of soft bedding when he is placed in the manger on Christmas.

—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.



Posadas – Do you have room for the baby to be born? Do you want to be part of the journey that the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph went through trying

to find a place to bring Baby Jesus into the World? Then, open your home and your heart to the Holy Family and your Church family. Starting December 16th thru December 24th we will be celebrating the Posadas: the Posadas are a Hispanic celebration that symbolizes the trials which we believe the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph endured before finding a place to stay and where Jesus could be born. Your fellow Christians will knock on your doors as Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph did, to bring the Good News of Salvation. We worship the Lord by singing to Him with traditional Christmas carols and meditating the Scripture. If you will like to open your home for the posadas, there will be a sign up sheet on the back of the church with the dates; just put your name on the date that you will like to host your posada. The time for each posada is at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions please contact Wanda Rivera 271-2535 at work or at 872-1281 after 7:00 p.m.

Living Nativity – Our children in Sunday School Parish Religious Education will present a Living Nativity on Sunday, Dec. 17, 9:15 a.m., in front of the church. Please come by and support our children as they become the living Word of God in this presentation.



Christmas Basket Food Collection – The St. Vincent de Paul Society will be distributing food baskets to families in need on December 22. The following is a list of items needed for the baskets and the dates individual items will be collected:

- Sunday, Nov. 25 – canned green peas & canned corn
- Sunday, Dec. 02 – canned green beans & canned yams
- Sunday, Dec. 09 – instant potato flakes & brown sugar
- Sunday, Dec. 16 – stuffing mix & canned cranberry sauce

Please bring your food donations to Mass on the weekends between now and Christmas and put them in the containers provided.

PARISHONERS IN HOSPITAL:



- Maureen Spain** – Baptist East, room 4214
- Dewey Aureli** – Meth North ICU 267
- Bootsie Hammett** – Meth Central ICU 437

PARISHONERS IN NURSING HOME:

Sarah Copeland
St Peter Villa, room 314
141 N. McLean
Memphis, Tn 38104

Paul Kennedy
Ave Maria Nursing Home
2805 Charles Bryan Road
Bartlett, Tn 38134

Jackie Perfetti
St. Francis Nursing Home
5959 Park Ave, room 306
Memphis, Tn 38119

Visit the sick and/or send them a card to let them know they are not forgotten

Tickets for the Papal Mass at Yankee Stadium – A limited number of tickets will be made available to the Diocese of Memphis for the Papal Mass to be celebrated at Yankee Stadium on April 20, 2008. If you would like to apply for a ticket, please call Shari Ollis at the Office of the Bishop (373-1216) BEFORE December 21, 2007 to furnish the necessary information. Applying for a ticket does not guarantee a ticket.

Theology of the Body

Sexual union in this life as God intends it to be is a foretaste of union with God in heaven. The language of the body expressed in the intercourse is a renewal of the wedding vows. Intercourse physically expressed the commitment of one's wedding vows, to love freely, faithfully and to be open to life.