



All mankind shall see the **SALVATION OF GOD.** The Holy Spirit empowers us to gather together as a community of faith on this **Second Sunday of Advent.** Inspired by the rich images of today's scriptures we eagerly await the coming of the Lord. John the Baptist summons us this day to prepare the way of the Lord.

**Readings for the Week of December 7, 2008**

Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
<b>Monday</b>	<b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION</b> Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday	Saint Juan Diego, hermit Is 40:1-11; Ps 96; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday	Saint Damasus I, pope Is 41:13-20; Ps 145; Mt 11:11-15
Friday	Our Lady of Guadalupe Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 1; Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47
Saturday	Saint Lucy, virgin, martyr Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Daily readings: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/index.htm>



The second candle of **ADVENT** urges us to prepare – to make ready for the coming Guest. Houses are certainly made ready this time of year. But are our hearts?

Are YOU ready? Prepare to meet your Savior. "Prepare the way of the Lord..." Isaiah 40:3

**Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>** is The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated at **8:30 a.m.** and **5:30 p.m.**  
**Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated -- 6:45am Las Mananitas, **7:00am MASS**, 8:00am Traditional Mexican Breakfast in the FLC Hall

**Don't forget the Discernment for our 2009 Parish Pastoral Council is Sunday Dec 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the Angelina Room. Please attend and participate in this important process.**



Each Sunday during Advent we will have **Evening Vespers.** This will take place in the "F" Wing at **6:30p.m.** Vespers is a beautiful, peaceful way to end each week and begin the next in this very busy season of Advent. **Please join us in the "F" Wing this Sunday, Dec 7th.**

If you would like to make a donation towards the **Christmas flowers for the church,** please contact the Parish Office at 297-3041. The requested donation is \$15.00 per poinsettia.



Poinsettias

*LORD, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.*

**DECEMBER 9 THROUGH DECEMBER 14**

**Masses For The Week**



<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	All Mothers, living & deceased
	<b>5:30 P.M.</b>	✠Unborn Children
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>5:30 P.M.</b>	✠Leonard T. Williamson, Jr. ✠Harold Pfeiffer
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	Claire Cromeans
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>5:30 P.M.</b>	✠Mary Kubesch
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	✠Daniel Godinho ✠Jean Pientka ✠Mary Ann Haley
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>5:30 P.M.</b>	✠Kirk Rutkowski
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:00 A.M.</b>	✠Evelyn Kotrous Martin
	<b>9:30 A.M.</b>	David Cromeans ✠Carolyn Rooks ✠Bob Rogido
	<b>11:00 A.M.</b>	✠Michael Cleary

**Beginning Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, names submitted for the prayer list will remain in the bulletin for one month.** Please call the parish office with an update if you would like the name to remain on the prayer list for an additional period of time.

Karen Abdelkader, Carolyn Sue Allen, Arnold Areson, Natalie Barron, Brenda Bartlett, Ann Bomba, Paul Bono, Michael Brown, John Buettner, Doris Causbie, Robert Causbie, Kellie Chaney, John Henry Cook, Cecil Cromeans, Charlie Dirba, Lenora Duval, Leada Fecanin, Marcia Flournoy, Margaret Flournoy, Ann Foster, Betty Lou Furlong, **Emil Galetka**, Ashton Garrett, Michael Gillman, Arthur Haas, Paige Haas, Belia Hardesty, Maury Havlik, Pat Havlik, Dennis Heinroth, Jose Hernandez, Alice Jasek, Vickie Kaatz, John Karacostis, **Emily Krell**, Willie (Bill) Kubala, Mary LaCoume, **Julie Lange**, Sarah Langston, **Pat Latkovich**, **Juan Longoria**, Delia Luna, Bobby Marshall, Gene Matus, Paula Matzke, Otis Mayes, Myra Lee McFarling, Ora Meritt, Raymond Muniza, Marty Murphy, Heloise Murray, Charlene Burrige Paschall, **Cindy Patlik**, Jim Pawelek, Mary Pelliccia, Lea Marie Perez, Doris Perryman, Cecelia Peterson, Marilyn Pikas, Joe Ragland, June Ragland, Kenny Rentrop, Ellen Rice, **Celeste Rohde**, Vince Rowan, Prudencia Sanchez, Catherine Schoppe, **Donna Schwertner**, Jim Seidler, June Stanke, Bill Stevens, Bud Stover, Edward John Thigpen, Tommy Tumlinson, Ernie Valdez, Loyd Wainscott, and **Jack Yonge.** (Bold denotes new on prayer list or in crisis.)



**WIN A \$25 CASH GIFT CARD by participating in a Mass Quiz at all the Masses the weekend of Dec 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>.** The winner will be notified by phone and announced in the next bulletin. Sponsored by the Envision "Understanding the Mass and the Eucharist" team. You may also subscribe to our free monthly online magazine "Light For The World" at [www.smlj.org](http://www.smlj.org)

**K OF C PANCAKE BREAKFAST** – Join us in the Family Life Center Hall **after the 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.** Proceeds to be used to buy Christmas gifts for local needy children.

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Youth Ministry 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**DECEMBER**

Dec 6<sup>th</sup> Jr HS decorate Rectory tree - after 5:30 Mass

Dec 7<sup>th</sup> CLASS, 6:30-8:30-- Bring back wrapped and tagged toy by TODAY!

Dec 14<sup>th</sup> CLASS, 6:30-8:30

Dec 21<sup>st</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Dec 28<sup>th</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Dec 31<sup>st</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

**JANUARY**

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> NO CLASS, Christmas Holiday

Jan 11<sup>th</sup> CLASS, 6:30-8:30 - Vocation Night

Youth Ministry "SAVE THE DATE"

Jr High Youth Rally will be held on Saturday, Feb 21, 2009



**Did you miss receiving your Confirmation as a teenager or young adult?** If so, now is the time to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Contact Tommie Holt at 265-4685 for more information.

**SVDP needs your help.** There will be envelopes in the pews this weekend Dec 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> for those wishing to assist the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in their work with people in need of assistance in our local area, especially after the economic disruption caused by Hurricane Ike. SVDP also needs your regular food donations of **Cereal, Spaghetti and Sauce, and Macaroni & Cheese.** Please donate generously to help those in need.



Our next K of C blood drive will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>** from **3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center Hall.** Since this is not on a Sunday, we are taking appointments so you can schedule

the time you wish to give blood. You can go to "eblooddrive.org" (login & click on "where to donate"—our code is 0628) on the internet or call Gilbert Bohuslav at 297-6800 to schedule an appointment. Appointments take priority over walk-ins but walk-ins are still welcome.

Christmas is a time for giving so please consider giving the **GIFT OF LIFE--your blood.** You may save someone's life. **Free long sleeve T-SHIRTS** to all donors as well as our annual **HUG-A-BEAR** for the children who are in the hospital during Christmas.

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**Formation Toward Christian Ministry (FTCM) Semester II** will begin on **Jan 8<sup>th</sup>** at Most Holy Trinity Church in Angleton.

**Classes will again be on Thursdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Registration Deadline is Dec 30<sup>th</sup>.** This program offers basic theology and spiritual development to Catholic adults who want to deepen their commitment to Jesus and more fully answer their baptismal call to service as a mature disciple. **Cost is \$25 to the participant** for the semester, with the remaining \$50 being paid by St. Michael's and the Archdiocese. Semester I is NOT required for you to take Semester II. Registration forms can be found in the Hall of the Family Life Center or on-line at [www.smlj.org](http://www.smlj.org). Contact the Parish office for more information.

**Advent Penance Services - 7:00 p.m.**

Weds, **Dec 10<sup>th</sup>** MANVEL Sacred Heart  
Weds, **Dec 17<sup>th</sup>** ANGLETON Most Holy Trinity  
Thurs, **Dec 18<sup>th</sup>** WEST COLUMBIA St. John the Apostle  
**Mon, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>** here at **St. Michael the Archangel**  
There will be 6 Priests to hear individual confessions following the communal service.

**Second Sunday of Advent -- 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

**Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 -- Paving a Direct Route**

Whenever a highway changes from two lanes to four, you can often see the improvements. The old highway follows the dips and curves of the landscape. The new highway better controls the landscape. It is straighter and more level. The engineers have figured out how to improve the road, and citizens have supported the additional expense. People like straight highways. They are quicker, safer and more pleasant. In the prophecy of Isaiah, a voice cries out, "In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!" John the Baptist quoted this passage to prepare people for the coming of Jesus. Make a straight highway in the wasteland. Fill in the valleys and lower the mountains. Make a smooth, direct road in your spiritual life. During Advent we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ in our lives. In the past we formed habits as sturdy as two-lane roads. They get us where we want to go, but sometimes not by the most direct route. We have only a few weeks till Christmas. It is time to move the roadblocks and detours that keep us from encountering Christ. Hardness of heart, stinginess of time, or unbending habits — Which of these need repair on your highway toward Christ?

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**There will be a special collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious next weekend, Dec 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.**

Your contribution benefits elderly and frail religious. Please "**Share in the Care**" of our retired religious with your generous donation. Informational flyers are available in the rear of the church.

**ADULT SENIORS!!**

Come share some Christmas SPIRIT! Join in on the fun at **SENIOR FRIENDS Bingo** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of December (Come early, have a cup of coffee or tea and visit with friends.) **Remember to bring a dish to share.** We have prizes to give away, including some fun Christmas Ornaments. Lots of good food, fellowship and new friends -- just in time for the holidays!  
**Join us on Tuesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> in the F-Wing at 10:00a.m.**

