

Second Sunday of Advent–05 December 2021

Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126; Philippians 1:4-6,8-11; Luke 3:1-6

Our technological world likes things to fit neatly together. We expend energy to get results, we invest time for promised returns. Careful planning intends to eliminate surprises. Today's readings describe a God who likes the unexpected, a people who should enjoy divine surprise.

The Book of Baruch was written by an anonymous author perhaps as late as the fourth century B.C. The writer sees the return of the exiles in 538 B.C. as a catalyst for envisioning a great future. Jerusalem will cast off the widow's weeds and will take a new name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory" (verse 4). Yahweh will be at the head of this jubilant procession. God's surprise will be this gift of victory.

Psalm 126 is a communal lament that captures the joy of Israel's return from exile and her earnest prayer for help in a new predicament. The people survey their desolate land and encounter the hostility of the local population. The experience of the return gives the former exiles the ability to contrast the tearful sowing with the abundant harvest. This is a God who discovers another opportunity to transform disaster into success. Luke introduces the passing of one age and the start of another. This is the boundary between the time of Israel and the time of Jesus. Luke presents John as a prophet called by God to make ready the way of the Lord. John announces God's new intervention in human history. There is a surprise as well: this intervention is for all, Jew and Gentile alike.

By accepting a God of surprise, we make hope possible for all people.

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L. Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

2nd Sunday of Advent- 05 December 2021

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Preparing the Way. In announcing the first coming of the Messiah, John the Baptist urges all people to be right with one another and the world. In awaiting the coming, prophet Baruch tells us how to dress for that day – clad in justice and peace and mercy. In praying for us, as we await the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, Saint Paul confidently urges us to do good work, to love more and more, and to be filled with what is right.

-In these troubled times, how can I make things right with _____?

-What good work of justice and peace can I do this week?

-What mercy work is Jesus urging me to do?

3rd Sunday of Advent- December 12, 2021

Zephaniah 3:14-18a. Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6. Philippians 4:4-7. Luke 3:10-18.



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Mission: Live Catholic teachings,

Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Parish Council Chair: Steve Pobst

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am

Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

Fulfilling God's Promise

Advent is a time of joyful anticipation. It is time, the prophet Baruch says, “to take off your robe of mourning and misery,” for God is leading his people “with his mercy and justice for company.” God’s people “are wrapped in the cloak of justice from God,” and they “will be named by God forever the peace of justice.”

Paul, too, speaks of joyful anticipation, of waiting for “the day of Christ Jesus.” He encourages the Philippians to grow in “love, understanding, wealth of experience, clear conscience, and blameless conduct,” and he concludes with a wish: “that you may be found rich in the harvest of justice which Jesus Christ has ripened in you.”

The message of John the Baptist is to prepare the way for the coming of Christ, to make straight the windings and to make smooth the rough ways.

We need a “baptism of repentance,” a cleansing from the old ways of “greed and darkness” and a commitment to a new way of living. We need to challenge the wisdom of the world in the way it was challenged by that prophet in the desert.

While we are warned that it profits a man nothing if he gain the whole world and lose himself, the expectation of a new earth must not weaken but rather stimulate our concern for cultivating this one. For here grows the body of a new human family, a body which even now is able to give some kind of foreshadowing of the new age.

Vatican II, [Constitution on the Church in the Modern World](#), 1965: 39

Gerald Darring from SLU Sunday site.

Vol. 22 # 49 -2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 05 December 2021

Schedule of Masses

Sun Dec 5 8:00 am Mass Bill Kinead
Wed Dec 8 11:00 am Immaculate Conception Mass (holy day)
Wed Dec 8 5:00 pm Immaculate Conception Mass at St. Mary's Harrisburg
Fri Dec 10 6:00 pm Mass
Sun Dec 12 8:00 am Mass William Anderson

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Dec 5 8 am	S Widowski	K Pobst	V Anderson	M Palmer M Bergmann	*J Nelson, J Nelson
		<u>Cantor</u>	J Starratt		
	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Dec 12 8 am	E Garrett	L Coleman	Z Garrett	Vol.	*M McMahan, R Weeks
		<u>Cantor</u>	S Pobst		

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Nov 28, 2021

Envelope 990.00(20), Loose \$80.00
CCHD \$50.00 Thanksgiving (2) \$45.00Total \$1165.00
Bld. & Main. \$25.00(1) Total \$25

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Dec 5 Mass.....8:00 am
PSR classes.....9:00 am
Wed Dec 8 Mass Holy Day Immaculate Conception. 11:00 am
*At St. Mary's Harrisburg Mass5:00 pm
Fri Dec 10 Mass.....6:00 pm
Sun Dec 12 Retired Fund for Religious
Mass.....8:00 am
Christmas Pageant & Potluck.....9:00 am

Birthdays Dec 11
Gabriel Ross
Kathy Hupe
Laurie Coleman



REMEMBER WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 IS THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (holy day of obligation) Mass will be 11:00 am at St. Paul. Mass will also be offered at St. Mary's in Harrisburg at 5 pm and a fish fry sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and KCLA is available after Mass in the parish hall.

RETIRED FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION IS NEXT SUNDAY December 12. A flyer about this collection is in today's bulletin. Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST AND PAGEANT BY OUR PSR CHILDREN will follow December 12 Mass. No need to RSVP or bring anything but the gift of yourself! The CCW is providing breakfast food.

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE FOR OUR ADVENT SEASON IS FRIDAY DECEMBER 17 AT 6 PM. This reconciliation service is conducted by Fr. Christian with an opportunity for private reconciliation with Fr. Christian or another priest. *Also Fr. Christian always tries to be available 30 minutes before Sunday Mass to hear private confessions.

THANK YOU to Vickie Anderson for taking the donations to the Food Pantry. Vickie also checks our rectory mailbox and phone messages every day along with many other volunteer duties.

THANK YOU to Madonna Slife for arranging the Angel Tree with Cathy Kruep. And thanks to the Slife family for setting up our Advent Wreath (Matt!) and Advent banners etc. in the church. Madonna also prepares our liturgical minister schedule each month.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS
Please consider volunteering for this important service to our parish family.

LOOK FOR THE ADVENT ANGEL TREE in the church foyer. Each parishioner is asked to pick an angel tag from the tree and provide the item that the child requests. Gifts need to be returned by December 12 with the tag attached to the present by December 12 so they can be taken to the schools before Christmas holidays. Call Madonna Slife if you wish to sponsor an angel tag but cannot make it to Mass.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 19 so we can prepare the Christmas Insert

VOCATION CORNER December 5 – “The priestly vocation is essentially a call to sanctity, in the form that derives from the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Sanctity is intimacy with God; it is the imitation of Christ, poor, chaste and humble; it is unreserved love for souls and self-giving to their true good; it is love for the church which is holy and wants us to be holy, because such is the mission that Christ has entrusted to it. Each one of you must

be holy also in order to help your brothers pursue their vocation to sanctity.” – St. John Paul II, October 9, 1984