

# Saint Michael the Archangel Church

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## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2015

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

### Mass Intentions

Sun. Dec. 20th	Fourth Sunday of Advent, <i>I Class</i>
8:00 a.m.	† Debbie Altire - <i>A Friend</i>
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Dec. 21st	St. Thomas, <i>Apostle, II Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Francisco Javier Zepeda
Tues. Dec. 22nd	Greater Feria of Advent, <i>II Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	† Gabriel Testo
Wed. Dec. 23rd	Greater Feria of Advent, <i>II Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Sr. Marie Bernard - <i>Grandparents</i>
Thu. Dec. 24th	Vigil of Christmas, <i>I Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Diana McGuirk
Fri. Dec. 25th	<b>Nativity of Our Lord</b> , <i>I Class</i>
Midnight	<i>Pro Populo</i>
10:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Sat. Dec. 26th	St. Stephen, <i>Protomartyr, II Class</i>
9:00 a.m.	† Col. Dennis Huntley Williams - <i>Eileen Hanisch</i>
Sun. Dec. 27th	Sunday Within the Octave of Christmas, <i>II Class</i>
8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Mary & Leonard Tabone
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Sunday

Low Mass: 8:00 am

High Mass: 10:15 am

#### Weekdays

Monday-Thursday: 7:45 am

Friday: 6:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am

### CONFESSIONS

Monday-Saturday

One half hour before Mass

Sunday: 7:15-7:50

& 9:15-10:05

### DEVOTIONS

#### Exposition-Benediction

Friday 5:00 pm

Saturdays 8:00 am

### DAILY ROSARY

Monday-Thursday - After Mass

Friday-Sunday - Before Mass

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Friday 9 am-4 pm

**THURSDAY - CLOSED**

Saturday - 10 am-Noon

# Fourth Sunday of Advent (*Korate*)

## **INTROIT**

*Is. 45, 8*

Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just; let the earth be opened and bud forth a Saviour. The heavens show forth the glory of God, and the firmament declareth the work of His Hands. *V.* Glory...

## **COLLECT**

Bestir, O Lord, Thy might, we beseech thee, and come; and with great power come to our aid, that, by the help of Thy grace, that which is hindered by our sins may be hastened by Thy merciful forgiveness. Who livest...

## **EPISTLE**

*1 Cor. 4, 1-5*

Brethren, let a man so account of us as of the ministers of Christ, and the dispensers of the mysteries of God. Here now it is required among the dispensers, that a man be found faithful. But to me it is a very small thing to be judged by you, or by man's day: but neither do I judge my own self. For I am not conscious to myself of any thing, yet am I not hereby justified: but He that judgeth me is the Lord. Therefore judge not before the time, until the Lord come; Who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise from God.

## **GRADUAL**

*Ps. 144, 18, 21*

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth. *V.* My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; and let all flesh bless His holy name.

## **ALLELUIA**

Alleluia, alleluia. *V.* Come, O Lord, and do not delay; forgive the sins of Thy people Israel. Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL**

*Luke 3, 1-6*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod

being tetrarch of Galilee, and Philip his brother tetrarch of Iturea and the country of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilina, under the high priests Annas and Caiphas; the word of the Lord came to John the son of Zachary, in the desert. And he came into all the country about the Jordan, preaching the baptism of penance for the remission of sins; as it is written in the book of the sayings of Isaias the prophet: A voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight His paths. Every valley shall be filled; and every mountain and hill shall be brought low: the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways plain: and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

## **OFFERTORY**

*Luke 1, 28*

Hail, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

## **SECRET**

Look with favor, we beseech Thee, O Lord upon these offerings here before Thee, that they may profit both for our devotion and for our salvation. Through our Lord...

## **COMMUNION**

*Is. 7, 14*

Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bring forth a son; and His name shall be called Emmanuel.

## **POSTCOMMUNION**

Having received Thy gifts, O Lord, we pray that the saving effect of the mystery may increase as we frequent it. Through our Lord...



## **Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, *Divine Intimacy***

### **THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

Behold, I am at the feet of my Incarnate God, who has become a Child for love of me! I adore, I thank, I love!

God is charity: He has loved us with an everlasting love! “I think God must have said to Himself: Man does not love Me because he does not see Me; I will show Myself to him and thus make him love Me. God’s love for man was very great, and had been great from all eternity, but this love had not yet become visible... Then, it really appeared; the Son of God let Himself be seen as a tiny Babe in a stable, lying on a little straw” (St. Alphonsus). This is the mystery of the Nativity; this is St. Paul’s exultant cry: “The grace of God our Savior hath appeared to all men... The goodness and kindness of God our Savior appeared” (Ep 1st and 2nd Masses: Ti 2, 11-15 — 3, 4-7). These are the blessed tidings “of great joy” brought by the Angel to the shepherds; “This day is born to you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!”

The texts in today’s liturgy, following each other in tones of increasing exultation, sing the praises of the sweet Child Jesus, the Word made Man, living and breathing among us: “Whom have you seen, O shepherds? Speak and tell us who has appeared on earth? We saw the newborn Child and choirs of angels loudly praising the Lord” (RB). “Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth exult in the presence of the Lord! (RM). Our God is here in the midst of us, He has become one of us. “A Child is born to us, a Son is given to us... His name is Admirable, God, Prince of peace, Father of the world to come!... Rejoice, O daughter of Sion, sing, O daughter of Jerusalem... Rejoice, ye inhabitants of the earth! Come, ye nations, adore the Lord! (RB). Come! Come, adore, listen, and rejoice! Jesus, the Word of the

Father, speaks to us a wonderful word: God loves you!

The three Christmas Masses place before us a majestic picture: the touching description of the birth of Jesus as man alternates with the sublime one of the eternal birth of the Word in the bosom of the Father; and there are also allusions to Christ’s birth in our souls by grace. However, this three-fold birth is but one single manifestation of God who is Charity. No one on earth could know God’s love; but the Word, who is in the bosom of the Father, knows it and can reveal it to us. The Word was made flesh and has shown to us the love of God. Through the Word, God’s incomprehensible, invisible charity is made manifest and tangible in the sweet little Babe, who from the manger holds out His arms to us. Today’s Preface solemnly declares it: “O eternal God, because of the mystery of the Word made flesh, the light of Thy glory hath shone anew upon the eyes of our mind: that while we acknowledge Him to be God visible, He may draw us to the love of things invisible.” Yes, this “Child, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger” is our God, who, for us, has made Himself visible: our God, who shows us in the most concrete way His infinite charity. One cannot contemplate little Jesus without being captivated and enraptured by the infinite love which has given Him to us. The Infant Jesus reveals to us God’s love, He manifests it in the clearest, most touching way. St. Paul says in the Epistle of the Third Mass: “God, in these days hath spoken to us by His Son... the brightness of His glory, and the figure of His substance.” Jesus, the Incarnate Word, in His silence as a helpless Child, speaks to us and reveals to us the substance of God: His charity.

I recollect myself before the humbling manger: I contemplate the divine Infant, begging Him to teach me how to give Him love for love.

**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH** extends a warm welcome to all visitors and new parishioners in the parish.

**2016 ENVELOPES:** The Offertory envelopes for 2016 are now available in the vestibule of the church.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Our annual Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, January 3rd. We are asking parishioners to contribute a potluck main dish for at least 10 people and a dessert. Everyone is welcome!

**Christmas Pageant:** Some children of the parish will be performing a Christmas Pageant during the party. We hope you all come and enjoy the food and festivities!

**BOYS NIGHT OUT:** Friday, January 29th, following the 6:00 PM Mass, Father Zepeda invites boys of the parish and their dads to hear a talk by Fr. Harkins on his journey and vocation to the priesthood. Refreshments will be served prior to the talk, which will begin at 7:30 PM.

**FIRST SATURDAY** is January 2nd. It is really important in these times to pray the Rosary, meditate for 15 minutes on the Mysteries, and make sacramental confession and Communion in reparation for sins and blasphemies against Mary's Immaculate Heart.

**ALTAR BOY PRACTICE:** We will not have Altar Boy practice in January.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Carols 11:00 pm**  
**Midnight Mass**

**SPECIAL CREW will serve Midnight Mass.**

**Christmas Day**  
**Sung Mass 10:00 am**

**SPECIAL CREW will serve Midnight Mass.**

**COLLECTION:** December 13th - \$2,713.00

*Altar Boy Schedule*

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Dec. 20th**  
**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**ACI** Patrick Schneider  
**AC2** Colin Chidester

**TEAM C**  
**MC** Dominic Gardner  
**TH** Robert Seeley  
**AC1** Timothy Emig  
**AC2** Patrick Seeley  
**C** Jack Gardner  
**S1** Michael Gardner  
**S2** Sean Michelin

**WEEK ONE**

**Monday** Patrick Schneider  
**7:45 a.m.**

**Tuesday** Collin Chidester  
**7:45 a.m.** Ian McGuirk

**Wednesday** Andrew Pheasant  
**7:45 a.m.**

**Thursday** John Skuba  
**7:45 a.m.** Joseph Skuba

**SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE**  
**OF CHRISTMAS**

**Dec. 27th**  
**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**ACI** Joshua Sica  
**AC2** Timothy Sica

**TEAM A**  
**MC** Andrew Pheasant  
**TH** Timothy Emig  
**AC1** John Gillenkirk  
**AC2** Matthew Gillenkirk  
**C** Sean Michelin  
**S1** Joseph Seeley  
**S2** Brendan Seeley