

Saint Michael the Archangel Church

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Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2015

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Sun. Dec. 6th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent, <i>I Class</i> † Angela Bonavoglia - Her Niece <i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Dec. 7th 7:45 a.m.	St. Ambrose, Bishop, Confessor & Doctor, <i>III Class</i> Evelyn Tereshko & Joyce Keifer - Anon
Tues. Dec. 8th 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	<i>Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary, I Class</i> <i>Pro Populo</i> † Fr. Kenneth Walker, FSSP - Brian & Jennifer Gustke
Wed. Dec. 9th 7:45 a.m.	Votive Mass of St. Joseph, <i>IV Class</i> † Robert Brook - Mike and Nancy Emig
Thu. Dec. 10th 9:45 a.m.	Votive Mass of Jesus Christ High Priest, <i>IV Class</i> <i>Pro Populo</i>
Fri. Dec. 11th 6:00 p.m.	St. Damasus I, Pope & Confessor, <i>III Class</i> † John Michael Kiernan - Mrs. Cunningham
Sat. Dec. 12th 6:00 a.m.	Rorate Mass, <i>III Class</i> Fr. Zepeda, FSSP - Anon
Sun. Dec. 13th 8:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent (<i>Gaudete</i>), <i>I Class</i> † Dec'd & Living Bellington Family - John Bellington <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

Second Sunday of Advent

INTROIT

Ps. 30, 30

People of Sion, behold the Lord shall come to save the nations; and the Lord shall make the glory of His voice to be heard in the joy of your heart. Give ear, O Thou that rulest Israel: Thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep.
V. Glory...

COLLECT

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the ways of Thine only-begotten Son, that through His coming we may be worthy to serve Thee with purified minds. Who livest...

EPISTLE

Rom. 15, 4-13

Brethren, what things soever were written, were written for our learning; that through patience and the comfort of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now the God of patience and of comfort grant you to be of one mind one toward another, according to Jesus Christ: that with one mind, and with one mouth, you may glorify God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive one another; as Christ also hath received you, unto the honor of God. For I say that Christ Jesus was minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers. But that the Gentiles are to glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: Therefore will I confess to Thee, Or Lord, among the Gentiles, and will sing to Thy name. And again He saith: Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with His people. And again: Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and magnify Him, all ye people. And again, Isaias saith: There shall be a root of Jesse; and He that shall rise up to rule the Gentiles, in Him the Gentiles shall hope. Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; that you may abound in hope, and in the power of the Holy Ghost.

GRADUAL

Ps. 49, 2, 3, 5

Out of Sion the loveliness of His beauty: God shall come manifestly. V. Gather ye together His saints to Him; who have set His covenant before sacrifices.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: we shall go into the house of the Lord. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matt. 11, 2-10

At that time when John had heard in prison the works of Christ: sending two of his disciples, he said to Him: Art Thou He that art to come, or do we look for another? And Jesus making answer, said to them, Go and relate to John what you have heard and seen. The blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead rise again, the poor have the gospel preached to them; and blessed is he that shall not be scandalized in Me. And when they went their way, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John, What went you out into the desert to see? a reed shaken with the wind? But what went you out to see? a man clothed in soft garments? Behold they that are clothed in soft garments are in the houses of kings. But what went you out to see? A prophet? Yea, I tell you, and more than a prophet. For this is He of whom it is written, Behold I send My angel before Thy face, who shall prepare Thy way before Thee.

OFFERTORY

Ps. 84, 7, 8

O God, turning, Thou wilt bring us life; and Thy people shall rejoice in Thee: show us, Or Lord, Thy mercy, and grant us Thy salvation.

SECRET

Be appeased, we beseech Thee, O Lord, by the prayers and offerings of our lowliness, and where no support of merits is at hand, do Thou hasten to us with Thine aid. Through our Lord...

COMMUNION

Bar. 5, 5; 4, 36

Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand on high: and behold the joy that cometh to thee from thy God.

POSTCOMMUNION

Filled with the food of spiritual nourishing, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord, that by our partaking of this mystery Thou wouldst teach us to contemn earthly and love heavenly things. Through our Lord...

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

I recollect myself in the interior sanctuary of my soul to seek God there, living in me by grace.

“The kingdom of God is within you” (*Lk 17,21*), Jesus taught us, and St. Teresa of Avila comments, “If a soul wishes to speak with its Father and enjoy His company, it does not have to go to heaven... It needs no wings to go in search of Him but only to find a place where it can be alone and look upon Him present within itself” (T.J. Way, 28).

But if God is within us, why do we have so much difficulty in finding Him and recognizing His presence? St. John of the Cross answers, “It is to be observed that the Word, the Son of God, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, is hidden, in essence and in presence, in the inmost being of the soul. Wherefore, the soul that would find Him must go forth from all things according to the affection and will, and enter within itself in deepest recollection, so that all things are to it as though they were not... God, then, is hidden within the soul and there the good contemplative must seek Him with love” (J.C. SC, 1,6).

The answer is clear: *God is within us but He is hidden. If we wish to find Him, we must go forth from all things, according to the affection and will.* To “go forth,” according to the terminology of the Saint, signifies to *detach oneself, deprive oneself, renounce oneself, annihilate oneself, to die spiritually to oneself and to all things.* This is the path of the “nothing,” of complete detachment: it is the death of the old man, the indispensable condition for life in God. St. Paul too has said, “You are dead; and your life is hid with Christ in God” (*Col 3,3*).

The loving search for God hidden within us goes hand in hand with this dying to the world and to ourselves. The more we die to ourselves, the more we find God.

St. John of the Cross continues, “He that has to find some hidden thing must enter very secretly even into that same hidden place where it is, and when he finds it, he too is hidden like that which he has found. And since thy

beloved Spouse is the treasure hidden in the field of thy soul, for which treasure the wise merchant gave all that he had, it will be fitting that, in order to find it, thou *forget all that is thine, withdraw thyself from all creatures,* and hide in the interior closet of thy spirit” (J.C. SC 1,9). This is a new invitation to detachment - to *forget* everything, to *withdraw* from everything - in order *to enter into* the depths of your soul, the place where God hides Himself.

We live too much in the exterior. Too often there is in us a host of inclinations, ideas, and strong passions which make us turn to creatures and induce us to give them our hearts, build our hopes on them, and find consolation in thinking about them. We live in this superficial world which absorbs us so completely that it makes us forget the more profound life, the really interior life where a soul may live in intimate union with its God. The Lord waits for us, so to speak, in the depths of our soul, but we do not go into these depths, taken up as we are with our affairs, to which we give all our interest.

We must then *go forth* from our self and from all things, *forget* our self and everything else; we must escape from the exterior world, from the superficial life, in order to hide our self with the hidden God.

“O my God, make me understand that I am Your dwelling-place, the hiding place where You conceal Yourself. Have courage and rejoice, my soul, knowing that the object of your hope is so near to you that He dwells in you and you cannot exist without Him. What more could I desire, and what do I seek outside of myself, O my Lord and my God, when You have deigned to put Your kingdom, Your dwelling-place, in my very soul? Here, then, in the innermost sanctuary of my heart, I wish to love, desire, and adore You; no, I shall no longer go to seek You outside myself” (cf. J.C. SC, 1,7.8).

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

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR: All children ages 5-16 years old are invited to sing in the Children's Christmas Choir which will perform with the Adult Choir before the Midnight Mass. Practices will be on the four Sundays in Advent after the 10:15 High Mass. The first practice will be Sunday, **November 29th at 12:15 pm.** Each family is allowed to take one music binder with a cd to aid their children in learning the music. Please see Mrs. Hanisch at the first rehearsal.

UPCOMING MASSES:

Immaculate Conception: Dec. 8th, High Mass 9:00 a.m., Low Mass 7:00 p.m. **TEAM A** is scheduled to serve both masses.

Rorate Mass in honor of our Blessed Mother will be on Dec. 12th at 6:00 a.m.

Fr. Gerard Saguto, FSSP, will give his last talk on the Parables of Christ on Wednesday, Dec. the 16th at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

COLLECTION: November 29th - \$2,561.00

Fr. Zepeda will be away from the parish from December 13th through December 16th. Fr. Harkins will say the masses on Sunday. We will resume daily mass on December 17th.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13TH: Mr. Dennis Mitchell, who went on a pilgrimage this past spring to Quito, Ecuador, will give a short talk on the miracles of Our Lady of Good Success and the incorrupt Foundress Mother Mariana de Jesus Torres, during the coffee hour (12:15pm) for those interested.

SECOND COLLECTION: Next Sunday December 13th there will be a second collection to help support all Religious and Diocesan Priests.

Prayer to the Divine Christ Child

Divine Child Jesus! May Thy sublime majesty fill me with holy fear. May Thy power strengthen me in my weakness. May Thy wisdom enlighten me in my ignorance. May Thy goodness heal me of my malice. May Thy mercy make me happy in my misery. May Thy innocence purify me from all stain of sin. May Thy purity destroy within me all sensuality. May Thy simplicity direct all my thoughts toward God alone. O spirit of the Holy Infant Jesus! Be thou my strength, my wisdom and my love! Be Thou my light, my life and my all! Teach me and convert me, lead me and direct me, now and for all eternity. Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dec. 6th
8:00 a.m. Mass

- ACI** Stephen LaFata
- AC2** Francis LaFata
- TEAM D**
- MC** Joshua Sica
- TH** Andrew Pheasant
- AC1** Patrick Schneider
- AC2** Timothy Sica
- C** John Skuba
- S1** Joseph Skuba
- S2** Peter Sica

WEEK TWO

- Monday**
7:45 a.m.
- Tuesday** Joseph McWhirter
7:45 a.m.
- Wednesday** Joshua Sica
7:45 a.m. Timothy Sica
- Thursday** John Mitchell
7:45 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(GAUDETE)
Dec. 13th
8:00 a.m. Mass

- ACI** Dominic Gardner
- AC2** Jack Gardner
- TEAM B**
- MC** Francis LaFata
- TH** Joseph McWhirter
- AC1** John Mitchell
- AC2** Stephen LaFata
- C**
- S1** Brian LaFata
- S2** Ian McGuirk