

DECEMBER 17, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

"I am the voice of one crying
out in the desert,
MAKE STRAIGHT THE
WAY OF THE LORD."

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH

STAFF

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Rev. Msgr. Conor J. McGrath | Pastor |
| Sister Frances Briseño | Pastoral Administrator |
| Martha Gomez | Pastoral Administrator |
| Heidi Neuenfeldt | Dir. of Religious Ed |
| A J Rabel | Plant Manager |
| Deana Giuliani | Parish Accountant |
| Ana Holbrook | Religious Ed Admin Asst. |
| Susan Ramsower | Music Director |
| Lisa Casas | Middle School Faith Formation |
| Mary Koonce | Youth Minister |
| Suzanne Villanueva | Middle School Faith Formation |
| Valerie Trevino | Elementary Faith Formation |
| Michelle Marroquin | Communications and Dev. |
| Dr. Maria Leavy Hoelscher | Counseling 210-364-2215 |
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;
Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;
Lk 1:57-66

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4 p.m.

WEDDING: Must be registered in parish and make an initial appointment with the Pastor at least six (6) months in advance of the wedding date.

BAPTISM: Call the office to make an appointment (210) 698-1941. Our Baptism classes will be held on Jan. 4, Feb. 1, Mar. 1, at 6:30 p.m. in Seton Hall.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or considering becoming a Catholic? Are you an adult Catholic wanting to prepare for Eucharist and Confirmation? Classes will be held every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Please call Sr. Frances Briseño for more information at 210-698-1941.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

We ask God to bless all those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them. To have the Ministers of Care pray for your loved one email anna@seaschurch.com or call the parish office at 210-698-1941.

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (210) 698-1941 Pastoral Center Fax: (210) 698-1983
8500 Cross Mountain Trail. San Antonio TX 78255 www.seaschurch.com

December 17, 2017

Mass Intentions & Schedule

Monday December 18, 2017

8:00 A.M. Eloy Alvarado (d)
Presider: Fr. George

Tuesday December 19, 2017

8:00 A.M. Natalia Madrid (d)
Presider: Fr. George

Wednesday December 20, 2017

8:00 A.M. Veronica Lobo
Presider: Fr. Conor

Thursday December 21, 2017

8:00A.M. Elizabeth Ann Jimenez (d)
Presider: Fr. Lambert

Friday December 22, 2017

8:00 A.M. Paulina, Brayon, & Edward Johnson
Presider: Fr. Conor

Saturday December 23, 2017

5:00 pm Linda Royal (d)
Presider: Fr. George

Sunday December 24, 2017 Christmas Eve

Sunday Masses

8:00 A.M. Presider: Fr. Kinney
9:30 A.M. Presider: Fr. Kinney
11:00 A.M. Presider: Fr. George
12:30 P.M. Presider: Fr. George

Christmas Eve Masses

3:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Children's Mass
6:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Mass
9:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Mass

Weekly Schedule

Monday December 18, 2017

9:00 am & Catholicism (*Seton Hall*)
7:00 pm (*Marron Center*)

Tuesday December 19, 2017

9:00 am CDA Rosary Making (*Seton Hall*)
6:00 pm Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)
6:30 pm FF Elem (*Marron Center*)
7:00 pm Young Adults Ministry (*Seton Hall*)

Wednesday December 20, 2017

5:00 pm NO Spanish Good Shepherd (*Marron Ctr*)
6:30 pm EDGE (*Marron Center*)
6:30 pm Women ACTS Team (*Marron Center*)

Thursday December 21, 2017

5:30 am NO TMIY
9:00 am Catholicism (*Seton Hall*)
4:00 pm NO Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)
6:30 pm Confessions (*Church*)

Friday December 22, 2017

8:30 am Confessions (*Church*)
6:30 pm Confessions (English/Spanish) (*Church*)

Saturday December 23, 2017

8:00 am Confessions (*Church*)
6:00 pm Confessions (*Church*)

Sunday, December 24, 2017

9:00 am RCIA (*Seton Hall*)
9:00 am NO Faith Formation Elem (*Marron Center*)
9:00 am NO Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)
10:30am NO Faith Formation Elem (*Marron Center*)
10:45am NO Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)
5:30 pm NO Life Teen/ High School (*Marron Ctr.*)

Weekly Offertory Collection

December 16/17 \$ 34,412.99
Dec. 25 Second Collection for Assumption Seminary

Photography Sessions

All Photography sessions next week will take place in the Activity Center across from the CYO Ball-fields.

If you would like to submit a digital copy of a photograph for our parish directory, please contact Michelle in our parish office

Remember Our Heroes

Robert Castillo, Peter Greenburg, Roy Vaughn, Matt Pryor, Miguel T. Sotello and Ron Wyble, deployed to Iraq. Bruce Balvin, Luis A. Ramos, Zac Gerner, Jordan Bittner and Anthony Delgado, Jr., Matthew Wilkinson deployed to Afghanistan and Christopher Le Comte in Germany, Zachary Williams in Ethiopia and Mack Peter in Colombia. Austin Reyes in S. Korea.

For individual support (illness or emotional need), please call the SEAS Pastoral Center at 698-1941.

Third Sunday of Advent

Last week our readings urged us to cast off sin and to pursue holiness eagerly. God's grace helps us do this and prepares us for limitless, everlasting glory. Today's readings confirm the great joy of this endeavor and provide specific advice on how to proceed: by becoming poor. The prophet Isaiah describes the savior who comes "to bring glad tidings to the poor." We are the poor people in need of glad tidings. Following the example of John the Baptist, we acknowledge that we are poor; we are "not worthy" of the Lord's attention. Even so, Jesus delights in caring for us. Recognizing how poor we are, and yet how great is God's love for us, we can only "rejoice always," as Saint Paul advises. We continue our Advent journey, becoming poor by emptying our hearts of sin and giving thanks to God for helping us grow in holiness.

THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

Children who are poor make toys out of the unlikeliest things: milk cartons, nails, bottle caps, sticks, plastic bags, corn cobs, clothespins. Folks who have plenty consider these things trash—in fact, some poor children literally make their toys out of trash. Their abject need gives them a different perspective, seeing blessing where the rich see only waste.

Material poverty is a scourge on our planet, and we must never make excuses for it. We must work tirelessly for decent conditions for every human person. As we work, we can learn from the special perspective of our brothers and sisters who do not have enough to live. We can see how depending on others for resources can transform a rich person's trash into a poor child's treasure.

SPIRITUAL POVERTY

On this "Rejoice!" Sunday in Advent, we can pray in a particular way for an end to material poverty. Today's readings assure us that the kind of poverty God desires for us is spiritual poverty, a radical knowledge that all things come from God. Where material poverty can wound the human spirit, spiritual poverty cultivates boundless joy. John the Baptist provides a startling model for us. In all sincerity, he admits that he is not worthy to touch Jesus' sandals. John says this not to charm the crowds by being coy and self-deprecating. No, John embraces the truth that God is the source of all goodness. We are utterly dependent on God for all good things. We cannot do anything to earn God's favor; God simply provides for us because we need God. This is massively good news! No one could possibly care for us like God does. At our very best, we merely reflect God's brightness into the world. God's brilliant joy is exactly what we are called to. As Saint Paul says, "The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it."

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SVDP Angel Tree



A huge THANK YOU! To all our parishioners who help make the SVDP Angel Tree a success. We are so very blessed and grateful to all of you. We wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

Blessing Boxes

Young at Heart assembled 200 blessing boxes for the seniors served by the Daughters of Charity. A special thank you to the parishioners who donated to this ministry, the volunteers who put the boxes together, and to HEB for donating \$140 worth of items.

Christmas Schedule

Reconciliation

Thursday • December 21 • 8:30 am and 6:30 pm
Friday • December 22 • 8:30 am and 6:30 pm
Reconciliación en español a las 6:30 pm
Saturday • December 23 • 10 am, 4 pm and 6 pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses

December 24 Mass Times

8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am and 12:30 pm (Spanish)

Celebration of the Eucharist Christmas Eve

December 24 Mass Times

3 pm (*Children's Mass*), 6 pm and 9 pm

Celebration of the Eucharist Christmas Day

December 25 Mass Times

8 am, 9:30 am and 11am (Spanish Mass)

New Years Day Mass

January 1 • Solemnity of Mary Mother of God • 9 am