



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 8, 2019

**The earth shall be filled with
knowledge of the Lord, as water covers
the sea.**

THE LONG-AWAITED ONE

As the Sundays of Advent unfold the scriptures shift focus from the final coming of the Lord to his historical birth. Today's scriptures blend the two. Isaiah's disillusionment with the kings of his own day led him to envision an ideal king who would rule with divine approval and be led by divine wisdom. For centuries the Jewish people anticipated the arrival of that Messiah, who would usher in a blessed age when the whole world would finally dwell in justice and peace.

After centuries of such growing expectation, the preaching of John the Baptist about the imminent arrival of the Messiah could not help but provoke intense interest. The Baptist's message about preparation for "the one who is coming" (Matthew 3:11) makes clear that Jesus is, in fact, the

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace" is the often-memorized definition of sacrament, but through more than five decades of reform we have rediscovered the power of sacrament to bestow grace by re-shaping our lives as individuals and communities. Not so long ago, most people were not attentive to the nature of sacrament as an act of the Church, a power that flows from the Body of Christ. Fifty years ago, we were inclined to see a sacrament as an encounter between Christ and an individual.

Today, we see that definition does not go far enough. God's grace is not a trickle, but a gushing torrent washing over the whole Church. Like a photographer pulling back the camera for a broader picture, today we are not only interested in the person who is being baptized, reconciled, or anointed. We think about how celebrating a sacrament transforms a community. We think about the grace given by Christ to the community that baptizes or marries or ordains or confirms. Sacraments are for the good of the community. Even when it appears to be a private, hidden moment, as in individual confession, a sacrament is always for the sake of the whole body, always more than "meets the eye."

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD (Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalm — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;

Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;

Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;

Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,

or any readings from the Common of the

Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10;

Mt 11:2-11

JUSTICE AND OBEDIENCE

Justice is the insurance we have on our lives, and obedience is the premium we pay for it.

Deacon Moss will have a class for those interested in the ministries of Lector and Eucharistic Minister. The class will be about an hour and a half Saturday at nine o'clock the date will be chosen later by those wishing to attend and ok'ed with Deacon.

We are going to have a food box for a family for Christmas and the ages and sizes for the children. The information was received from the Carl Perkins center. Please be generous and we must have all of our gifts by Dec 19th to take to the center.

Pre Christmas play after Mass on
Wednesday Dec 18th

Dec 15TH
LECTOR ANN
E/M FLORENCIA/ANITA
USHERS SAL/JESUS
SERVERS FRANCISCO

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

Facilities Manager: Jim Molitor

Web Page: saintreginacatholicchurch.org

Email Address: saintregina@outlook.com

Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,
Louis Humble Sr. , Joy Williams,
Martha Jo Neuenschwander ,

Offertory 12/1/2019

BUDGET \$1351.00

ACTUAL \$ 116700

-\$184.00

B&M

\$555.00

**CHRISTMAS
FLOWERS**

\$30.00