



### St. Regina's Church Staff

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### Remember In Prayer

Michaelle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,  
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,  
Martha Jo Neuenschwander , Judy Hendricks  
, Genevieve Schachle

## Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

—Luke 1:35

### THE ETERNAL GOD

King David wished that the ark of God might have a more permanent home. David may have envisioned something like the cedar palace where he resided. God had in mind something more: a throne where David's descendants would rule for ever, a kingdom where Jews and Gentiles alike would be welcome.

Mary's prayerful nature led to an even more disturbing message. She would conceive and bear a Son though she was not yet married. "How can this come about?" Mary wondered. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you," she was told (Luke 1:35).

Mary's acceptance of this difficult challenge ushered in this, the final age of God's reign. What was once a secret known only by chosen people like King David and his descendants must now be made clear to all so that, as Saint Paul wrote to the Romans, we can be brought to the "obedience of faith" "according to the command of the eternal God" (Romans 16:26).

### FEAST OF FAITH

#### Gathering

When Pope Benedict XVI visited the United States in 2008, tens of thousands gathered in Yankee Stadium to celebrate the Eucharist with him. What made them different from all the other excited crowds who have assembled there through the years? When they began to sing together, to listen together, to pray together, they ceased to be a crowd, and became a liturgical assembly. It was not where they were but what they did that set them apart.

The Gospels speak of many instances when Jesus prayed alone to his Father. But Jesus also put a special value on communal prayer. "Where two or three are gathered together in my name," he told his disciples, "there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). Jesus gave his own mission to his followers, sending them forth to do everything he did: to heal, to teach, to proclaim the kingdom. Jesus wants us to meet God in and through each other. So the Christian community continues to gather, Sunday after Sunday. When we get up on Sunday morning and come to Mass, we respond to Jesus' invitation, and we express our trust in his promise that whenever we come together, he comes, too.

The office will be closed December 21st  
through January 1st.

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — I will fix a place for my people.

(2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

**Psalms** — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

(Psalm 89).

**Second Reading** — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

**Gospel** — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

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

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

### Special Collection

Villa Vianney Retirement

Home for Priest

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Monday: Winter begins

Wednesday: St. John of Kanty

Thursday: The Vigil of Christmas

Friday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Saturday: St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa

### CHRISTMAS IN THE HEART

Christmas! 'Tis the season for kindling  
the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial  
fire of charity in the heart.

Christmas Mass is at 11:00  
a.m. on Friday Dec 25th

Christmas Dec 25th

LECTOR Mary

DEC. 27TH 2020

LECTOR Jeff

### WEEKLY OFFERING

BUDGET

\$ 1351.00

DEC. 13TH

\$ 824.00

Flowers

\$10.00

Fund for Religious

\$50.00