



Fourth SUNDAY of Advent

December 20, 2020

The angel Gabriel
said to Mary,
"Do not be afraid,
Mary, for you have
found favor with God.
Behold, you will
conceive in your womb
and bear a son, and you
shall name him Jesus."

Luke 1:30–31



Mass Intensions

December 20 until December 27, 2020

Sunday - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12/20 8:00 am Norma Claudio
 10:00 am Delfin Sto. Domingo
 12:00 noon Alexander Cea

Monday - Advent Weekday; Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12/21 8:30 am Victor Rubio

Tuesday - Advent Weekday

12/22 8:30 am Mary Brandt

Wednesday - Advent Weekday; Saint John of Kanty, Priest

12/23 8:30 am People of the Parish

Thursday - Advent Weekday

12/24 8:30 am Georgetti Family
 2:30 pm Cristeta B. Pielago
 5:00 pm Buddy O'Connell
 10:00 pm Jose Nunes

Friday - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas) Holyday of Obligation

12/25 8:00 am Daniel and Mary O'Callaghan
 10:00 am John Hrablook
 12:00 noon Jack, Maureen and Jackie Taylor

Saturday - Saint Stephan, The First Martyr

12/26 8:30 am Deceased Members of the Umanzor Family
 5:00 pm John Hrablook

Sunday - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

12/27 8:00 am Evienne James Razal (Living)
 10:00 am Lawrence Lyons
 12:00 noon Luigi Beninca (30th Anniversary)

Youth Ministry (201) 845-9566, ext 117

Any youth in grades 8-12 are invited to join us.
 Please email justine.garcia@olqp.org



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Rest in Peace

Gus Aversa
 Rev. Arthur Schute

Sick Relatives & Friends

Cristina Aguilar	Eric Hagberg	Francis Quinn
Josefina Baldoza	Dominic Jengo	Robert Raimo
Mary Ellen Barberia	Rosemarie Kaminski	Elsy Ruiz
Dcn. Anthony Balestrieri	Roberta Leibowitz	Fran Sampson
Claire Borrello	Alice Liso	Wilbert Santos
Michael Bowers	Diane Lohrer	Pat Sommers
Dcn. Joseph Mantineo	Gerry Marcincavage	Joanne Sontag
Ginny Cattaneo	Sonia Medrano	Richard Spagnuolo
Carmen Cepeda	Andrew J. Mendez	Joseph Steiner
Carmen Maria Colon	Jim Moran	Gary Taras
Paul DiGrazia	Barbara Nelson	Angelo Tempio
Phil Dimitri	Sharon Osnowitz	Liam Justin Torres
Eileen Diverio	Harriet Pellicione	Connie Vitale
Emily Ferreira	Larry Purcell	Mary Walker
Yancey Garcia	Vallie Pompilio	Andrew Wey
Kathy Gula		Joyce Wilson

Memorials

Altar Bread and Wine

in Memory of John Hrablook by Lauren Hrablook

Altar Candles and Blessed Mother Candle

in Memory of Michael Nunes by Teresa Nunes

Sanctuary Lamp

in Memory of Samuel and Frances Monaco
 by Maryann Monaco

St. Joseph Candle

in Memory of Anthony Maglio
 by Charles and Rachel DeSalvo

December 20, 2020 - 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).

Dear Our Lady Queen of Peace Brothers and Sisters,

It is not Christmas yet! We are still on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

Being the last Sunday before Christmas, it is easy to get caught up with the “rush” of many last-minute things that still need to be done - gifts to buy and wrap, greetings cards to send, cookies to bake, more decorations and ornaments to hang, etc. This is also true for many of us priests, particularly pastors and administrators, who are in the parishes. The last few days leading to Christmas could get us so caught up with the rush of many things - making sure everything is set -up for the season within and outside the church, preparing the liturgy that would uplift the spirit of the faithful who are coming in greater numbers during these very trying times, etc. Thankfully, we get by with the help, support, and assistance from our parishioners.

I am, therefore, very grateful to each and every one of you for assisting us prepare our church and grounds for Christmas with your gifts of time, talent, and treasure! Thank you for your “Yes” to help make our church more welcoming, beautiful, and inspiring for the coming Christmas!

Not by coincidence, our Gospel Reading this Sunday narrates the story of the Virgin Mary’s humble “YES” to God’s invitation as announced by the Angel Gabriel that she would conceive and become the Mother of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. And with that “Yes” of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the First Christmas happened.

In the same token, each “Yes” of ours to the Will of God in our lives brings His presence to the world in our time; in particular, our “Yes” to help our parish family of faith in small and big ways makes Christmas more meaningful here at OLQP!

Let us say our YES to God.... and prepare ourselves for the coming of Christmas!

Sincerely in the Lord,

Father Tony

OLQP Served by

Rev. Antonio L. Ricarte, Pastor
frtony@olqp.org
Rev. Rafal T. Smola, Parochial Vicar
frrafal@olqp.org
Rev. Msgr. Peter J. Zaccardo, Pastor Emeritus
Deacon Christian Scalo, Transitional Deacon
Deacon Joseph L. Mantineo, Permanent Deacon
dcnjoe@olqp.org
Deacon Anthony A. Balestrieri, Deacon Emeritus
Justine Garcia, Pastoral Associate for Religious Ed.
ReEd@olqp.org
Giovanni Longo, Director of Music
dirmusic@olqp.org
Glenn Clark, Principal, St. Peter Academy
Dorothy Feula and Harriet Sottile, Lay Trustees

Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:00 PM
(Anticipated Mass)*
Sunday - 8:00,10:00 AM and
12:00 Noon*
Daily - Monday-Saturday
8:30 AM
Holy days - See Bulletin for
Mass Schedule
*Livestreamed at
www.facebook.com/olqppch

Reconciliation

Saturday - 1:00 PM or by
appointment

Baptism

Please call to arrange for your child’s baptism
soon after birth

RCIA

Adults desiring to be baptized, confirmed or
become a Catholic, please contact Deacon Joe
Mantineo

Anointing of the Sick (973.567.7424)

Please call for a priest to schedule this Sacrament
of healing and forgiveness for someone who is
seriously ill or in danger of death. Do not wait
until the sick person is unconscious.

Matrimony

All Catholics should seek to have their marriage
blessed by the Church so as to live in God’s good
grace and receive the Holy Eucharist. Contact a
priest a year prior to the intended date of marriage
to ensure proper preparation.

Parish Center Office Hours Monday through Thursday: 9AM - 12N / 1PM - 3PM; Friday & Saturday: 9AM - 1PM



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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]

Silent Night Wednesday Evenings

Silent Night will take place at approximately 7:45 pm every Wednesday during Advent after the Mother of Perpetual Help Novena. During this Advent season, it is an opportune time to pray, reflect and adore Him. The Holy Sacrament of Confession will also be available.



NEW PARISH CENTER HOURS

Starting in January, please note that the Parish Center will no longer be open on Saturdays.

Monday - Thursday
9 am - 12 & 1 - 3pm
Friday 9 am - 1 pm

2021 Calendars

2021

2021 calendars are now available at the doors of the Church. Thank you to Trinka Faustini for their most generous donation of calendars this year!

Every year our friends at Trinka supply us with enough calendars for our entire parish family. Please make sure to take one home.

Thank You for Your Generosity!



Thank you to all those who donated gift cards for the Advent Giving Tree and to those who contributed to the Decorations Fund. May God bless you for your generosity!

Thank you too to all who donated to the Soup Kitchen Coat Drive on 12/5/20. Our Soup Kitchen Ministry will continue to collect coats (new or used) throughout the winter season. If you would like to donate a coat, please contact the Parish Center.

Advent Wreath and Grave Blanket Sale

This year's sale will be coordinated by the Knights of Columbus in conjunction with their Christmas tree sale. You may pick up your wreaths, pillows, and/or grave blankets at the opposite end of our campus. Sales continue through Advent.

Wreaths \$25.00

Pillows \$30.00

Grave Blankets \$40.00

Cash and Checks made payable to Our Lady Queen of Peace are accepted. Should you have any questions, please contact Justine Garcia at (201) 961-4782.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

Welcome! New Parishioners are requested to register in the Parish as soon as possible. Active parishioners should notify the Parish office of any changes in address & phone number.

New Email List Sign-Up!

Sign Up ▶

For announcements, bulletin updates, and the latest news happening at Our Lady Queen of Peace, please sign up for our email mailing list by visiting www.olqp.org!

Show Me the Money

(Continued from last week) Follow-up on the children, get them to sports activities, make sure they do their homework, have uniforms or school clothes ready for the next day, make lunch, pack book bags, take care of children's hygiene and health. Take out the garbage that everyone else in the house thinks magically disappears, mop and sweep floors, look pretty for the husband when he comes home from work and be very compassionate about his "tough" day at work. *(To be continued next week)*

2021 MASS BOOK

The 2021 Mass book is now open. Please call the Parish Center to schedule an appointment for your mass reservation.



The Angelus

R/. The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:
V/. And she conceived of the Holy Ghost
Hail Mary...
R/. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
V/. Be it done unto me according to Thy word.
Hail Mary...
R/. And the Word was made Flesh:
V/. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...
R/. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
V/. that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Let us pray:
Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

Treasures from Our Tradition

We are experiencing the darkest, longest nights of the year. For centuries, people in the Northern Hemisphere have kindled fires against the dying of the light, turning away the dark of the winter solstice, and leading the imagination to hope and new beginnings. It is thus easy to understand why these solstice celebrations of non-Christian Europe attracted the annual remembrance of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

In time the solstice migrated away from December 25, but the Christmas feast remained in place. From this day, a whole season of celebration developed, stretching from Advent through the days of Christmas, and even beyond to the February 2 blessing of the candles, and beyond that to March 25, the Annunciation, nine months before the next Christmas. Centuries ago, this was New Year's Day, and many reasoned that it was the date of Adam and Eve's fall, and the date of the Crucifixion. The message is clear: don't let your Christmas be over too soon. Keep the lights blazing into January, and savor the meaning of the feast!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Treasures from Our Tradition (December 25)

An old joke asks, "What time is Midnight Mass?" The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of "midnight" predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as "The Shepherds' Mass," and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus' birth to focus on the key to the day's celebration: John the Evangelist's majestic theology of Christ's identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you're officially late!

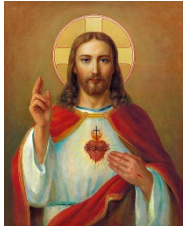
—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

This novena prayer was recited every day by Padre Pio for all those who asked for prayers.

I. O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you." Behold I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of [insert your intention.]

Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.



II. O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, He will give it to you." Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace of [insert your intention.] Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

III. O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away." Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace of [insert your intention.] Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender mother and ours.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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).

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Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Wednesday:	St. John of Kanty
Thursday:	The Vigil of Christmas
Friday:	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Saturday:	St. Stephen

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.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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.

—Washington Irving



CONTINUAL CHRISTMAS

A good conscience is a continual Christmas.
—Benjamin Franklin

NOT TOO MUCH

If you have too much to do, with God's help you will find time to do it all.

—St. Peter Canisius

Fourth SUNDAY of Advent



December 20, 2020

The angel Gabriel said to Mary,
"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus."
Luke 1:30-31

GOD IS PRESENT

"Where does God dwell?" is a question on the minds of many as we continue to adjust to the pandemic. David wanted to build an ornate dwelling for the Ark of the Covenant, but God said, "No, that's not what I had in mind!" The reading from Romans teaches us that God is present in the Word, and in Luke's Gospel passage today, Jesus is residing in the womb of Mary. We know that Jesus is present in the assembly gathered, the Koinonia, as well as within the Eucharistic species. But no matter how one experiences the presence of Jesus, these days are challenging. In many places, only limited numbers continue to be allowed in church, while others are only able to worship via live stream. None of the pat answers to where God dwells really fit. We need to try and answer this with new eyes and ears and heart.

A CLASSIC IMAGE

When we think of today's Gospel, the image of this meeting between the Angel Gabriel and Mary by Fra Angelico (1440-1445) likely comes to mind. In this fresco, Gabriel and Mary are outside sitting among the columns, and Gabriel, with his big wings and hands crossed, gazes upon Mary and gestures towards her. She is well dressed in a traditional blue garment, and though her face shows shock, her folded hands model submission and humility. This work of art is so beautifully executed that we can miss some of its finer details. Similarly, because the Gospel scene is so familiar, we can forget to take in its small details. A few years ago, this author found a children's book called "The Nativity" illustrated by Julie Vivas. Because her drawings were so fresh and charming and simple, she invited new perspective on the story.

LOOKING AGAIN

Luke says that Mary "was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be." She asks, "How can this be?" These questions don't fit with how Fra Angelico positioned Gabriel and Mary. In the Vivas illustrations, the Angel Gabriel sits down with battered wings and a balding head and has a cup of coffee with Mary as the two of them try to figure it out together. The text is the same, but the message conveyed is different. There is a different degree of comfort and familiarity to these illustrations.

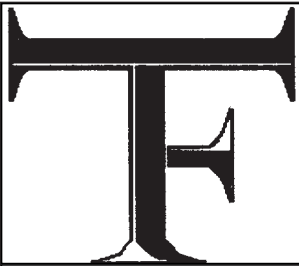
This "having a cup of coffee" is something we need to learn to do with the scriptures and with our lives. After this event, pregnant Mary traveled into the hill country to be with Elizabeth; an older, wiser, mentor—a mother figure. She spent three months there reflecting and preparing for the birth of her child. In this final week of Advent, take a few moments to find a Gabriel/Mary or an Elizabeth/Mary moment and read the Christmas readings again to see what you might have overlooked, and to find a new way for Christ to dwell in you.

TODAY'S READINGS

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

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