



SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Baruch 5:1-9
Psalm 126
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

KEY VERSE: "All flesh shall see the salvation of God" (v 6).

READING: Luke situated the beginning of Jesus' ministry within the political and religious history of Palestine. He noted that it was the fifteenth year of the reign of the Roman emperor Tiberius Caesar (27-29 C.E.), the successor of Augustus, and the second of the Roman emperors. Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of Judea, Herod Antipas ruled Galilee and Perea, and Caiaphas served as high priest. During this time, God called John the Baptist to announce the coming salvation in God's anointed one. God did not call the prophet in a Temple or a palace, but in the desert. John was called to preach a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins in preparation for the imminent reign of God. Luke quoted the prophet Isaiah to show the fulfillment of God's promises in the scriptures. John was sent to prepare the way for the coming of Christ. It required a preparation of mind and heart.

REFLECTING: As you light the Second Candle of the Advent Wreath pray for someone in your parish who needs Christ in their life.

PRAYING: Lord Jesus, help me to clear a pathway for you in my life.



*Holy Family Parish
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412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009
www.hfpncc.org*



Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2009

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements, please contact the Parish Office by calling 412. 276.5562 or 412.678.0566. **Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Father by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at BSleczkowski@aol.com

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Advent Wreath Candle lighting Liturgy

The Second Sunday of Advent

DREAMING

Reader 1: On this second Sunday of Advent we hear stories of the dreams and longings of God's people. The Hebrew people dreamed of a king who would rule with justice and peace. The apostle Paul had a dream that all people would belong to God. John the Baptist invited people to dream with him about the coming of God's reign.

Reader 2: We share these dreams that can lead to life-changing action.

Reader 1: God's people have long dreamed of the coming of peace, justice, and faithfulness to God's ways. In our own time we dream of equality and good life for everyone. Such dreams come from God and inspire us to work for justice and peace.

Reader 2: With John the Baptist we dream of making crooked paths straight, of making smooth highways broad enough for all God's people to move on together in peace and harmony.

Reader 1: Our actions can help build that highway. God's dream can become our dream.

Reader 2: Last week we lit the first candle. Its flickering flame reminded us that our waiting is to be both contemplative and active. The flame of the second candle reminds us that just as candles can be given a flame, so God's dreams can become real in our world. (The second candle is lit)

Let us Pray Together

Loving God, give us the desire, the willingness, and the courage to be part of your dream for a world made new. We pray in the name of Jesus, your dream incarnate. Amen.



Who is St. Nicholas?

St. Nicholas, whose feast is celebrated on December 6, was Bishop of Myra, Lycia (modern Turkey). He was generous to the poor and a special protector of the innocent and wronged. Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as guardian and helper of those in need. One story tells of three young women, who wished to marry, but their father was poor and they had no dowry. Hearing of their plight, Nicholas went to their house by night and threw three bags of gold in through the window, possibly saving the girls from a life of destitution. The bags of gold are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. These stories led to his patronage of children in general, and his becoming known as Santa Claus. December 6th is still the main day for gift giving in much of Europe. Nicholas, who is about more than gift giving, is the same person who has become Santa Claus. St. Nicholas will be visiting our SOCL classes today.



CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A feast called the Conception of Mary arose in the Eastern Church in the seventh century. It came to the West in the eighth century. In the eleventh century it received its present name, the Conception. In the eighteenth century it became a feast of the universal Church. While Mary is "clearly the mother of the members of Christ," she is a "wholly unique member of the church," a "type and outstanding model in faith and charity." Through her obedience to God's will, she is the "New Eve who placed her faith, not in the serpent of old but in God's messenger without wavering in doubt." Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the church imitates Mary's obedience and charity. Through Christian baptism, the Church brings forth children who are "conceived of the Spirit and born of God." We will celebrate a special Mass on Tuesday at 10:00 A.M. in honor of our Holy Mother. Holy Mary pray for us so we can imitate your love and devotion to Jesus our Lord each day.



Christmas Poinsettias

Memorial and Christmas Blessing Poinsettia Flower Envelopes are available in the Church Narthex. Please place your order as soon as possible for the Christmas Season. This year the plants are still \$10.00 apiece and please print the names of the memorials and blessings. Thank You.

Sacramental Altar Wine for your Wigilia Celebration is available in the parish kitchen during Coffee Hour. \$10 donations to our Music Ministry will give you the gift of wine.

Oplatki-Christmas Wafers are available in the back of the Church.

Advent Reading and Mediations are available in the book stand in the Church Narthex. Take One.

2010 Envelopes are available in the Church Narthex. Please inform the parish office if you cannot find your envelopes. Thank You.

Advent Meditation Concert and Parish Wigilia Dinner

The TriCounty Village Singers will perform an Advent Concert, December 20th at 3:00 P.M. followed by the Annual Holy Family Wigilia Dinner at 5:00 P.M. The Advent concert is free (a free will offering will be taken during the performance) and tickets for the Wigilia Dinner is \$15.00 Adult; \$7.00 Child (under 7) RSVP is requested. Our choir and youth will perform during the dinner plus a visit from Santa Claus.

Eucharist Visit for Shut -Ins

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for Christmas Eucharist visitations for our home bound parish family members and nursing home patients.



The Christmas Schedule Bulletin has been mailed this week. If you do not receive the mailing within the next week, please notify the parish office. Your address may be incorrect. Thank You.

A living church is one that remembers the past, lives in the present and works for the future, bringing Christ to the unchurched.

OPENING HYMN	“On Jordan’s Bank”	Hymn 8
INTRODUCTORY RITE		Page 63
INTROIT		Malachi 3:1-2a
P:	Lo, I am sending My messenger to prepare the way before Me; and suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord whom you seek.	
R:	And the messenger of the covenant whom you desire, yes, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.	
P:	Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.	
R:	As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.	
THE KYRIE		Page 67
OPENING PRAYER		
LITURGY OF THE WORD		
First Reading		Baruch 5:1-9
Responsorial Psalm		Psalm 126
L:	The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.	
R:	The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.	
Second Reading		Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel Acclamations.		
C:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.	
R:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.	
C:	Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths; all people shall see the salvation of God.	
R:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!	
Gospel		Luke 3:1-6
HOMILY		
NICENE CREED		Page 71
GENERAL INTERCESSION		
R:	Lord, Hear our Prayer	
PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS		
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING		
SANCTUS		Page 76
CANON	Eucharistic Prayer 3	Page 84
THE LORD’S PRAYER		Page 95
LAMB OF GOD		Page 97
COMMUNION		Page 98
POST COMMUNION PRAYER		
BLESSING		Page 100
CLOSING HYMN	“Come thou Long Expected Jesus”	Hymn 17

“And you child will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways.”

Luke 1:76



THEME-Advent prepares us for His Coming

Each Sunday during this season, we light a candle. The candle gives us the guidance of light in times of darkness to lead us on our path to salvation. It is a reminder that we are to clothe ourselves in God’s justice and glory. In a world that is bent in removing God from society, we must grab the light and remember, ‘the great things the Lord has done for us.’ Holding the Light of Christ close to our hearts, not conforming to the world but transforming from the world, we can joyously sing the song of salvation which Christmas will bring.

Even though when the Apostle Paul was in prison, we asked the early Church to rejoice. His prayer was that even though he was a prisoner, his experience of loss would teach the early Church to value what really mattered. On the Day of Judgment, they would be able to stand before the Lord with a “clear conscience and blameless conduct.” God would bring to completion the good works begun in each and every one of them.

Even with John the Baptist who we highlight in our Gospel today. Though the powers of the world threatened to destroy him, he continued to proclaim God’s message: “Prepare the way of the Lord.”

That candle we light each week should be a reminder of who we are waiting for, Jesus the Christ. With Jesus, the desolate valleys can be filled, obstacles can be overcome, and the twists and turns of our lives can be straightened out. But all this can happen if we truly believe it and commit to our beliefs by keeping the commandments and sacrificing to said commitments. Many baptized but non-practicing Christians will be surprised that they will not be welcomed into the kingdom. This is why many people are truly afraid of the Second Coming. But we who practice our beliefs will rejoice at Christ’s coming and will see the salvation of God. This is what Advent is all about, preparing ourselves to welcome the Christ.

Sunday Ministry Schedules

<u>This Week</u>	<u>9:00 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Lectors	Yellow Team	B. Zaucha
Greeters	J. Gibala	S. Kish
Ushers	J. Trumpe & J. Lawrence	F. Szatkowski
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers
<u>Next Week</u>	<u>9:00 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Lectors	Youth Team	B. Zaucha
Greeter	B. Kijowski	A. Fioravanti
Ushers	Youth	F. Szatkowski
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers

This Week

Sunday, December 6, 2009

2nd Sunday Advent

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<i>+Irene Belany Int. Frederic Chopin Choir +Alice Demski (6th Ann.) Int. son Gary Demski</i>	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Fellowship Hour	10:15 A.M.
SOCL Classes	10:15 A.M.
Special Parish Meeting	10:30 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.
<i>+Edward Ghetian Int. Mr. & Mrs. Warren Albeck</i>	

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary Mass	10:00 A.M.
Bible & Apologetic Class	7:00 P.M.
Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00 P.M.

Thursday December 10, 2009

Chopin Choir Rehearsal	7:00 P.M.
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Sunday, December 13, 2009

3rd Sunday Advent

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<i>+Dorothy Gibala Int. Mr. & Mrs. Ted Gibala; +Sophie Szalankiewicz Int. Mr. & Mrs. Anthon Turcan & Jozef</i>	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Fellowship Hour	10:15 A.M.
SOCL Classes	10:15 A.M.
SAMBS Monthly Meeting	10:30 A.M.
Rescheduled YMSR Meeting	10:30 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.
Youth Club Meeting	11:00 A.M.

Synodical Delegate Elections between Masses today

Last Pierogi Sale of the year this week. Please place your orders after Mass in the Church Hall for your Wigilia Dinner. Help is needed on Thursday and Friday, call Steffi @412.672.5403.