

## Greetings.

*Be vigilant at all times....  
Your redemption is at  
hand. (Luke 21:36, 28)*



So begins another Advent—with words of warning to stay alert, but also with words of confident reassurance. Isn't it funny how we are so quick to focus on the verses that sound threatening but lose sight of the ones that remind us how faithful God is and how deeply committed he is to us?

Do you believe that right now, God wants nothing but good things for you? After all, he has been pouring out grace on his people for millennia. From the very beginning, he has been leading us to the day of our "redemption," so why would he stop now (Luke 21:28)?

In today's first reading, we see St. Paul praying that the people of Thessalonika will deepen in their love for each other as they wait for the Lord's return (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13). Paul didn't say this because he thought that the Thessalonians were doing poorly. Quite the opposite—he begins his letter by praising them for their "work of faith and labor of love" (1:3). Paul wasn't correcting them or admonishing them; he was congratulating them and urging them to keep up the good work!

The same is true for you. God isn't upset that your faith in him or your love for other people isn't greater than it is. He knows your heart; he knows how much you want to please him. He delights in the faith and love that you do have—incomplete though it may be. Now he is urging you to take another step so that you can be even more faith filled and loving.

We are entering Advent, a season of grace when God invites us to journey deeper into his love and his presence. Over the next four weeks, you'll find numerous opportunities to connect with the Lord, whether it is at Mass, in prayer, or in your encounters with other people. Make the most of them. Trust that each situation is another opportunity for your redemption to unfold even more.

*"Lord, draw me closer to you this Advent!"*

*~Deacon Mark Race, Administrator*



## *Please join us for our* **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE** Sunday, November 29, 2015

*Transfiguration Parish Hall After all Masses.*

### **New and Exciting Vendors**

Jewelry, Accessories,  
Christmas Ornaments,  
Baked Goods, Yummy Food,  
Health/Fitness Coach and More...

*Enjoy great music and*

**FREE** picture taken with Santa

**Something for Everyone!**

**COME CHECK IT OUT!**



### **RCIA**

*Come, learn or renew your Catholic faith...*

Tuesday, December 1 "History of the Catholic Church", by Fr. Michael Okechukwu at Holy Name of Jesus (*Acacia Center*), 1955 W. Jefferson in Los Angeles from 7PM to 8:45PM.

### **SAVE THE DATES**

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Tuesday, December 8, 2015 ~ Masses at 8AM and 7PM.**  
**(HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)**

### **Mass of Anointing**

Our church community will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of Sick on **Friday, December 11, 2015 at 11AM** here at Transfiguration. A light luncheon will follow.

### **Holiday Boutique**

You are invited to join the **Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet and CSJ Associates** to a Holiday Boutique for Peru on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, from 10AM to 3PM. The event will take place at St. John Chrysostom House of Hospitality, on 550 East Florence Avenue in Inglewood. For more information please call Sister Kathleen, CSJ at 310.677.7178.

### **"Baby Jesus, Watch over Us!"**

Join Transfiguration's Adult Choir and Mr. Oscar Pratt, Director for their Annual Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7PM**. Enjoy an evening full of Christmas and Sacred Songs that help keep the spirit of Christ in Christmas. Bring the entire family. Donation: \$15 for Adults and \$7 for Children and Youth.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Sunday</b>	Jer 33:14-16, Ps 25:4-14, Lk 21:25-36
<b>Monday</b>	Rom 10:9-18, Mt 4:18-22
<b>Tuesday</b>	Is 11:1-10, Lk 10:21-24
<b>Wednesday</b>	Is 25:6-10a, Mt 15:29-37
<b>Thursday</b>	Is 26:1-6, Mt 7:21-27
<b>Friday</b>	Is 29:17-24, Mt 9:27-31
<b>Saturday</b>	Is 30:19-26, Mt 9:35—10:1-8
<b>Sunday</b>	Bar 5:1-9, Ps 126:1-6, Lk 3:1-6

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 28</b>
5:15 PM	Soul of Lillian White
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 29</b>
8:00 AM	Souls of Roland Hithe & Karen Lee
10:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
12:15 PM	Souls of the Faithful Departed
<b>Monday</b>	<b>November 30</b>
8:00 AM	Souls of the Faithful Departed
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 5</b>
5:15 PM	Soul of Milton Keyes
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 6</b>
8:00 AM	Souls of Larry & Learie Apparicio
10:00 AM	Souls of Patricia Ann Riley & Mary Ann Mayer
12:15 PM	Intention of all Parishioners

## WEEKLY OFFERING

**November 22, 2015**

\$3,904.05 Tithe and offering  
25.00 Building Fund  
0 "We Care"



## Thank you to Mr. Willie Morgan

who donated the beautiful flowers on the altar *last week* in memory of his wife **YVONNE**, his daughters **JACKELINE** and **DILCIA** and his son **WILFRED MORGAN, JR.**

## Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by **Joyce Hithe** in memory of husband **ROLAND HITHE** and **Tamara Brantley-Davis** in memory of her mother **KAREN LEE**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.

## ABOUT THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is part of our long-standing Catholic tradition. However the actual origins are uncertain. Pre-Christian Germanic peoples used wreaths with lit candles during the cold and dark December days as a sign of hope in the coming spring. In Scandinavia during winter, lighted candles were placed around a wheel, and prayers were offered to the god of light to turn "the wheel of the earth" back toward the sun to lengthen the days and restore warmth.



By the Middle Ages, the Christians adapted this tradition and used wreaths as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas-Christ is "the Light that came into the world" to dispel darkness of sin and to radiate the truth and love of God (John3:19-21). By 1600, both Catholics and Lutherans had more formal practices surrounding the Advent wreath. Christians have adapted this tradition, using wreaths as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas.

The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. It is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The four candles, three purple and one rose, represent the four weeks of Advent. The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at the time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, known as Gaudete Sunday, a Sunday of rejoicing because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's coming.

All of the candles can be replaced with white candles or decorated Christmas candles and used as a centerpiece during the Christmas season. Or you may return the purple and rose candles and add a white one in the center to symbolize Christmas.

## PRAY FOR THE SICK



*Hold my hand in weakness Lord God, you are my strength. Hold my hand in my weakness and teach my heart to fly. With you, there's nothing to fear, nothing to worry about. Hold me tight in your embrace, so that I can be stronger than the challenges in my life. Amen.*



Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Veronica Bearce, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Daniel Boone, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Harry Charles, Katherine Clark, Agnes Cooper, Rita Cormire, Edward Cousin, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Nigel Dunn, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Ferdinand Foye, Betty Flowers, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Sister Mary Michaeline Gahwolf, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Nancy Goosby, Mary Hall, Barbara Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Dr. Michael Martini, Mary Jené, Aaron Jittu, Joan Johnson, Robert Jordan, Briana Katz, Leah Kelley, Walita Keyes, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vyldred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriguez, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Reanna Semien, George Simon, Sr., Jeremiah Skyes, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Patricia Williams, Peggy Wright and Ralph Wright.