

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2017

Dear Parishioners,

**BE WATCHFUL!
BE ALERT!
(MARK 13:33)**



It's the First Sunday of Advent, and you have just received an invitation: *The Most High God requests the honor of your presence at the entry of his Son into the world. This unprecedented event will be followed by a joyous celebration in two locations: heaven and earth. The event will take place on December 25, and you are encouraged to spend the next four weeks preparing for the festivities.*

Welcome to Advent—a season of hope and expectation! Over the course of the next month, you may be part of family gatherings. You might reenact time-honored traditions: buying gifts, decorating homes, and preparing special meals.

And to crown all these observances, Jesus himself will come and visit you. As today's Gospel tells us, we may not know when he is coming, but he promises he will come. Even now, he is looking for new ways to touch your heart. Right now, he is preparing special gifts of grace and blessing for you—Advent and Christmas presents that he will give as you open your heart to him.

What kind of gifts will he give? Reminders of his Father's love. A sense of hope as you face life's challenges. New insights and wisdom that you can share with your loved ones. Freedom from guilt as you lay your sins and failings at his feet. And above all, peace and joy as he tells you that he has you in the palm of his hand.

So take up his invitation today! Do everything you can to be alert and ready to receive Jesus and his gifts. Try to spend a little more time in daily prayer and Scripture reading. Go to Confession so that you can get rid of anything that blocks you from receiving his love and his gifts.

Jesus wants to celebrate with you. And he's given you a whole month to get ready! Step by step, day by day, you can draw closer to the Lord—and feel him draw closer to you!

"Jesus, I accept your invitation. By your Spirit and your grace, help me to get ready for your coming on Christmas Day."

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

SAVE THE DATES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017 at 7PM
Advent Penance Service at
Transfiguration Church

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017
The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
(*Holy Day of Obligation*)
Masses at 8AM, 9:30AM School Mass and 6PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017
NO 8AM MASS

Mass of Anointing at 11AM followed by
a reception in the parish hall.

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, December 8th is the **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are 8AM, 9:30AM with our school children and 6PM.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Veronica Bearce, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Jeannie Chapron, Katherine Clark, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Agnes Cooper, Rita Cormire, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Gwen Files, Ferdinand Foye, Betty Flowers, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Nancy Goosby, Barbara Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Aaron Jittu, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Gloria McClaurin, Vydred Manor, Sister Marianna, Sabrina Markos, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Dorothy Pulliam, Andrea Raggette, Dottie Rodriguez, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, George Simon, Sr., Maurice Simon, Jeremiah Skyes, Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Johnnye Washington, Cassandra Williams, Thomas Williams, Peggy Wright and Emmerson Young.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	Is 63:16-64:7, Ps 80:2-19, Mk 13:33-37
Monday	Is 2:1-5, Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10, Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10, Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6, Mt 7:21-27
Friday	Gn 3:9-20, Lk 1:26-38
Saturday	Is30:19-26, Mt 9:35-10:8
Sunday	Is40:1-11, Ps 85:9-14, Mk 1:1-8

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday December 2

5:15 PM Soul of Ann Rawles

Sunday December 3

8:00 AM Soul of Lauren Cote

10:00 AM Intention of Briana and Aaron Katz

12:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

Saturday December 9

5:15 PM Soul of Milton Keys

Sunday December 10

8:00 AM Intention of all Parishioners

10:00 AM Soul of Marcus Hill

12:15 PM Soul of Angela Dupré



Weekly Offering

November 26, 2017

\$4,957.00 Tithe and Offering
64.00 Building Fund
31.00 "We Care"

NEXT WEEKEND – DECEMBER 10, 2017

Retirement fund for Religious Offering

Give thanks for religious...

Please give generously to next week's offering for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Please remember your "Together in Mission" 2017 PLEDGE COMMITMENT

Thanks to all!

Stewardship Thought

"Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come." - MARK 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. Our lives are so busy, many of us are planning our time - our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to what God is saying to you.

"Baby Jesus; the God of All Gods"

You are invited to a Christmas Concert featuring Transfiguration's Gospel Choir with musical ensemble and strings...Oscar Pratt as Conductor. Please join us on Sunday, December 17th at 7:00 PM. Donations: \$15.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children. Refreshments in the hall will follow the concert.

Christmas Boutique Thank You...

Thank you to all parishioners who supported the Annual Christmas Boutique. You made this a very special fun-filled day. The committee would like to thank everyone who help decorated the hall so beautifully and festive. Special thanks to Bobby Dupré, and to "Santa".

Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by Cheryl Patterson-Sims and Joyce Hiithe in memory of the HITHE FAMILY. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.

2018 Calendars are available in the church sacristy for a donation of \$2. Thank you for your support.

Hope Peace Love Joy
ADVENT

A lit candle in a holder, with a bright flame and a soft glow. The candle is positioned on the right side of the page, and its light illuminates the surrounding area.