

## *Greetings.*

The one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it.

(Philippians 1:6)



Every winter, the Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival takes place in China's Heilongjiang province. Artists take blocks of ice from the nearby Songhua River and carve them into buildings, creating a magnificent frozen city. When everything is finished, the ice city is filled with lights, and tourists come from all over to marvel at it.

In today's second reading, Paul tells us that God is a sculptor. But instead of carving ice, God is shaping us. His goal is to make us into shining witnesses to his love and his grace. Paul goes on to say that he is very confident that God will finish what he has started. Paul's statement leaves us with two questions: first, what is the "good work" that God has done? And second, why is Paul so confident this work will be completed?

The "work" that God has done in us is our salvation. It's the work of his Spirit in shaping us to become more and more like Christ. This is why we celebrate Christmas in the first place: God sent his Son into the world not to condemn us but to save us (John 3:17)!

Paul is confident because he knows that this is primarily God's work, not our own – and God always finishes what he starts! At the Last Supper, Jesus said, "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you" (John 15:16). Just as he chose Mary and Joseph, Peter and Paul, God has chosen each of us and called us to salvation. We belong to him!

Now, God chooses everyone, but not everyone responds to his call. Yes, so much is his work, but we do have a part to play. So make it a point to choose Christ today. Know that he will give you all the grace you need to become like him. He has chosen you; he has begun sculpting you; he won't rest until you shine with his light and his love!

"Jesus, I am yours! Come and continue your work in my heart."

*~Deacon Mark Race, Administrator*

## 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.  
{No 8AM Mass December 11<sup>th</sup>.}

### Advent-Christmas Penance Service

**Thursday, December 15 at 7:30 PM**  
at St. Bernadette Church.

### 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.

### St. Vincent dePaul Bundle Sunday

On **Sunday, December 20** our Parish is having a Bundle Sunday for the Society of St. Vincent dePaul Thrift Stores. Please bring your usable clothing and usable household items on this day. Their truck will be at our church parking lot. Please help in their endless efforts to assist the needy. They are in great need of furniture and large appliances. Call them for pick-up of any heavy items at 323.224.6280 or 800/97-HELP-1.

### Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by **Cynthia Richardson** in memory of her beloved father **MILTON KEYS**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | Bar 5:1-9, Ps 126:1-6, Lk 3:1-6     |
| <b>Monday</b>    | Is 35:1-10, Lk 5:17-26              |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Gn 3:9-20, Lk 1:26-38               |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Is 40:25-31, Mt 11:28-30            |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Is 41:13-20, Mt 11:11-15            |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Is 48:17-19, Mt 11:16-19            |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | Zec 2:14-17, Lk 1:26-38             |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | Zep 3:14-18a, Is 12:2-6, Lk 3:10-18 |

## MASS INTENTIONS

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <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                |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>December 8</b>                            |
| 8:00 AM         | Soul of Preston Thompson                     |
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>December 12</b>                           |
| 5:15 PM         | Intention of all Parishioners                |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>December 13</b>                           |
| 8:00 AM         | Soul of Tom Franklin                         |
| 10:00 AM        | Soul of Robert Evans                         |
| 12:15 PM        | Soul of Gloria Robottom                      |

## WEEKLY OFFERING

November 29, 2015

\$4,407.00 Tithe and Offering  
2.00 Building Fund  
1.00 "We Care"



NEXT WEEKEND – DECEMBER 13, 2015

## Retirement fund for Religious Collection

Support elderly religious.

A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

## 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 Carolyn Briscoe, Rosemary Campbell, Julia Jimenez, Derek Madere, Cynthia Richardson, Chris Robertson, Jr., Terrye Thomas, Rochelle Williams, Felecia and Sarah Johns, who decorated the hall so beautifully and festive. Special thanks to Jimmy Martin, and to "Santa" Roberto Haro.

The **FREE** Herbalife gift winner was Dominic Domally who was a visitor at Transfiguration that day.

*~Blessings to all this Christmas from Vickie Race and Evelyn Payne*

## Sunday and Christmas TV Mass FOR THE HOMEBOUND KDOC Channel 56 at 9:00 AM

Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Advent and Christmas? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joyful hope in the coming of our newborn Savior. Mass is also online at <http://www.HeartoftheNation.org>. For those who can get to church, the TV or online liturgy does not fulfill the Sunday or Christmas Mass obligation.

## Did You Know?

**Archdiocese implements strict policies for children's safety**  
The Archdiocese of Los Angeles has implemented rigorous policies and procedures to provide a safe environment in our parishes and parish schools for all children and young people. **These include: Zero Tolerance;** Guidelines for adults working or volunteering with minors; Archdiocese of Los Angeles boundary guidelines for junior high and high school youth working or volunteering with children or youth; and Megan's Law compliance procedures. To view these and other policies visit: <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting>.

**2016 Calendars** are available in the church sacristy for a donation of \$2. Thank you for your support.

## 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.