

**3RD Sunday of Advent
December 16 - 17, 2017**



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;
Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;
Lk 1:46-56
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;
Lk 1:57-66
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Budget to Actual

Weekly goal	\$ 25,900.00
Week of 12/10/2017	23,784.18
Keep Praying!!!!	\$ - 2,115.82

****TREASURE STEWARDSHIP****
12/10/2017

Envelope Receipts	\$ 14,080.50
Online Giving	7,743.25
Loose Plate	1,960.43
Total	\$ 23,784.18

Catholic Charities Collection
12/10/2017 \$ 727.00

Church Expansion

Total Pledged	\$ 3,488,938.38
Collection week of 12/10	23,586.50
Online giving week of 12/10	2,942.84
Total Given to Date	\$ 2,799,640.45

Organ Cost	\$ 297,230.00
Organ Fund as of 12/10	- 42,458.64
Organ Debt	\$ 254,771.36

May God bless you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

"Mass is Heaven on Earth" – St. John Paul II

SATURDAY, DEC. 16: 3RD Advent Sunday

4:-4:45 pm Confessions
5:00 pm +Simona Mancha, by Margie Lara

SUNDAY, DEC. 17: 3RD Advent Sunday

7:30 am +Roy & Alison Langford, by Mike & Patti Langford

10:00 am +Josefina Cantu, by Ernesto & Mildred Sierra

11:30 am +Norma Ybarra, by Graciela Chapa
5:00 pm For the People of St. Elizabeth's

MONDAY, DEC. 18: Late Advent Weekday

6:30 am +June & Francois Boutin, by Butch & Sheila Denton

TUESDAY, DEC. 19: Late Advent Weekday

6:30 am Tommy Martinez, by Joe & Peggy Martinez
6:00 pm +Nora Hernandez, by Graciela Chapa

WED'DAY, DEC. 20: Late Advent Weekday

6:30 am +Anita Martinez, by Adan & Josie Mediano

6:00 pm +Harrison Yarnell, by David Rucker

THURSDAY, DEC. 21: Late Advent Weekday

6:30 am +Martin Rucker, by David Rucker
6:00 pm All Souls Memorial Mass

FRIDAY, DEC. 22: Late Advent Weekday

6:30 am Leigh Ernest, by David Rucker
6:00 pm All Souls Memorial Mass

SATURDAY, DEC. 23: 4TH Sunday of Advent

4-4:45 pm Confessions
5:00 pm +Humberto "Slim" Lara, by Margie Lara

SUNDAY, DEC. 24: 4TH Sunday of Advent

7:30 am +Bob & Paula Friday, by Mike & Patti Langford

10:00 am +Louis & Dorothy Wiesman, by Marilyn Wacksmann

11:30 am For the People of St. Elizabeth's
No 5:00 pm For 4TH Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DEC. 24: Christmas Masses

5:00 pm For People of St. Elizabeth's
10:00 pm For the Donors of the Church Addition

MONDAY, DEC. 25: Christmas Masses

8:30 am +Esteban Herrera, by Herrera Family
10 am +Dr. Chad Vanderford, by Gwen P. Landreneau

Advent Penance Liturgies

Thursday, Dec. 21, 6:30 pm. St. Joseph's
St. Elizabeth's:

*Every Tuesday, 11:30-Noon, 6:30-7:30 pm
*Every Saturday, 4:00-4:45 pm

No 6 pm weekday Mass 'til February

Beginning after Christmas, we are cancelling the Tues-Fri 6 p.m. Mass until February 1 – Fr. Innocent will be away in Nigeria until then.

Next Latin Mass

Not until February after Fr. Innocent returns from Africa.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Back-to-back: Sunday & Christmas!!!!

Please plan your Sunday & Christmas Mass attendance!!!

Sunday, Dec. 24 is the 4TH Sunday of Advent

Masses are:

Saturday, Dec. 23 – 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 24 – 7:30, 10 and 11:30 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 25TH is Christmas

Masses are:

Sunday, 5 p.m. & 10 p.m.

Monday, 8:30 & 10 a.m.

You must go **TWICE** on the weekend, once for the 4th Sunday of Advent, and once for Christmas.

Good options:

1. Saturday evening and Sunday evening or Monday morning
2. Or Sunday morning & Sunday evening or Monday morning

Church Dedication

Sunday, January 14
9 a.m.

Bishop Michael J. Sis will dedicate our enlarged church & bless the new altar;

All Parishioners should attend this very historic liturgy.

New Sunday Mass Schedule

Beginning Sunday, Dec. 31 our Sunday Mass schedule will be:

5 p.m. Saturday

9 a.m. Sunday

11:30 a.m. Sunday

5 p.m. Sunday

Question of the Week

(from Deacon Gary Brooks)

What do you do to rejoice always?

Breaking Open the Word

There will be no classes on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Pope's December Intention

The Elderly.

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

BAPTISM

PREP CLASS-Our next baptism preparation class is Saturday, January 6 @ 9 a.m. **You must call to register for this class.** Please call after December 19. If there is no answer, dial 21 for Vickie's ext. and leave a message.

To Schedule a Baptism-In order to baptize at St. Elizabeth's, the parents of the child should be registered members of St. Elizabeth's, or live within our boundaries. Parents please come to the office to schedule your child's baptism. You will need to bring in the baby's birth certificate, **from the county**, the godparents' confirmation certificates, if the godparents are married, a copy of their church marriage certificate and proof of baptism prep classes for parents and godparents. We do baptisms the 1ST, 2ND and 3RD weekends of each month. Baptisms held on the 3RD weekend will be in **Spanish, if requested**. The first person to come into the office with all necessary paperwork to register for a weekend will get to pick which day, Saturday or Sunday, for **all** baptisms that weekend. You must register in the office, before the date of your child's baptism and you must have all paperwork!

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Please keep our **overseas** service men and women in your prayers, especially the following who have relatives in our parish!

Stephen Gilson	Brandon Ritz
Zachary Hamilton	Sean Ernst
Ian Davis	Dallas Ryan Luera
Jason Tyler Pope	Tony La
Adam Arellano	Matthew Cagle
Eric Huki	Samuel Urias
Khiry Gallegos	Mario Montoya
Douglas M. Hicks	Mark McComick, Jr.
Joshua Lambert	Andres Contreras
Christopher Clemenza	
Mateo Soto	Paul Porras



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Last week, we looked at a form of nativity scene called a *presipio*, characterized by framing the crèche of Jesus with a vast array of personalities and a rich geographical context. The tradition was carried to the New World, and finds very rich expression in Latin America today. While in Europe the *presepio* was reserved mostly to the homes of wealthy nobles and great churches, in Latin America it was claimed by the poor and expressed the skills of native artisans. In Mexico, you can still find clay figures in every village market. In a way, the native people took the religion of Spanish rule and baptized it with their Indian culture by surrounding the crib of Jesus with local geography and people. In Brazil, where Christmas falls in summer, the figure of the baby Jesus is wrapped in gold and gems, and set on a hillside surrounded by flowers and animals of all kinds. Sometimes there is a double *presepio*, presenting both Nativity and Crucifixion.

In some places in Latin America, even non-religious people take care to have a *presepio* in the home, sometimes dedicating one whole room in the house or apartment to the scene. Some cities have markets where people from the countryside sell plants and figurines. In Cuzco, churches and families provide hot chocolate for the children of the poor who come down to help create the nativity scenes. In Paraguay, the baby Jesus grows—the small infant who arrives on Christmas Eve is replaced at New Year with a toddler Jesus who holds in one hand the globe and in the other a cross. Few Christmas traditions have the vitality and variety of *presepios* and crèches honoring the Nativity.

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

REJOICE

Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us! God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life!

Good tidings!

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Elementary CCD **December – January News** **Christmas/New Year Break**

NO CCD

December 24, 27, 31

January 3, 7, 10, 14

**ALL STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS ARE
ASKED TO ATTEND THE DEDICATION OF
THE CHURCH AND ALTAR
ON SUNDAY, JAN. 14TH – 9 AM**

In Memoriam

We remember deceased parishioners who died in the month of December in years past.

Carol Chenot	1	Johnnie Williams	18
Lewis Hoover	2	Helen Chambers	19
Ollie Blank	2	Genowefa Starnes	19
Diego Pazos	3	Mary Jo Rauscher	19
Charles Dickey	4	Myla Madrid	20
Vidal G. Ramos	4	Linda Bell	20
Leo Goulet	5	Humberto "Slim" Lara	22
Julian Cardenas	5	Margarita Sanchez	23
Sonia Camacho	5	Prudencio Minjarez	24
Tink Schott	8	Marion Tiner	25
Lillian Buss	9	Patti Hardison	25
Esther Leal	10	Russell Strasser	26
Herman Lawson	12	Marie Martin	26
Jesus Aguirre	12	Al McAllister	28
Ted Dutchover Sr.	13	Sisto Gonzales	28
Virginia Nagel	14	Eleanor Rivera	29
Paula Sanchez	14	Stacey Fingerle	29
Ruben Gandara	14	Robert Ganter	29
James Hoffman	15	Jerry Martel	30
John Clark	16	Carlos Hernandez	30
Betty Strackbein	16	Louis Wiesman	30
Charles Tacker	18	Michael Dominguez	30
Barbara Landa	18	James Puga	31
Thelma Moyaert	18	Florence Richey	31
William Edmiston	18	Charles Blythe	31

Shrine of the Virgin of Childbirth

A simple shrine of the Virgin of Childbirth has been erected in the Chapel of the Risen Lord. It's a place to pray for:

- the conception of a child,
- a safe birth once pregnant,
- and thanks giving after the child is born.

If you wish to have the votive candle lit for your intention, call the office at 367-4657 to arrange it so we can post the name of the parents!

A blessing of the child in the womb is also available; call one of the priests to arrange it before or after Sunday Mass.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec 17 – Bryan Patino, Nariyah Munoz, Domenick Carrasco, Briana Anaya, Victoria Sandate, Alayna Lopez, John Hall, Carlos Soza, Nicholas Ybarra Jr., Abel Ybarra, Douglas Burns, Ruby Manzo, Robert Ruiz Jr., Arley Sosa

Dec 18 – Linda Hernandez, Preston Macias, Madison Dominguez, Caden Serrano, Nataly Pinedo, Mike Bond, Michelle Madrid, Rene Catano, Patsy Ramirez

Dec 19- Tristan Rivera, Lupe Munguia, Thomas Martinez, Edward Guerrero, Anthony Vasquez, Steven Pope, Apolinar Perez, Araly Escobedo, Guadalupe Gutierrez, Natalie Petersen, Joe Carrillo, Linda Ruiz, Kaylee Ruiz

Dec 20- TenLeigh Castillo, Andrew Branum, Jancielynn Granado, Maria Valles, Samuel Gonzales, Francisco Torres, Karina Aguilar, Daniel Munoz, Camila Silva, Juan Gamez III, Ruben Berdoza, Albert Mayans, Rayny Hagen, Evan Mendez, Francesca Asilom, Silvia Mota-Munoz, Janet Avila Gonzales, Darla Tilghman, Angel Natera, Lorenzo Roman, Rene Carrasco, Dee Porras, Mercedes Natera, Diego Ramirez

Dec 21- Kiana Ortiz, Saydee Gregg, Melinda Ryan, Gilbert Montemayor, Jakob Garcia, Steven Matta, David Rodriguez, Mike Loya, Kenneth Mangus, Angie Mata, Danny Vanderburg, Aaron Ochoa, Catherine Gonzales, Isaac Herrera, Gloria Holder, Calvin Poindexter, Elvira Maldonado, Sara Garcia

Dec 22- Gabriella Lopez, Ana Guevara, Sebastian Mancha, John Hubert, Christopher Gonzales, Makayla Madrid, Julianna Hernandez, Jim Watkins, Mark Escontrias, James Holloway, Mila Loya, Roxanna Garza, Alexa Castillo, Alice Robles

Dec 23- Victoria Detiveaux, Miguel Olague, Jesus Gutierrez, Rico Munoz, Mary Baeza, Tiffany Fino, Danny Carroll, Kris Darby, Klarisa Dominguez, Dylan Brazell Sr.

Please pray for:

Lois Chorney, Donovan Crawley, Dan Carpenter, Noah Johnson, Juan Urias, Jason Miller and family, Rhina Toruno-Haensly. Joe Villarreal,

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HOW BRIGHT IS YOUR LIGHT?

Our parish is growing in size and activities. As such, we need more volunteers to help spread the word of God. Please commit to helping the people of your community and yourself by volunteering in one of these ministries.

- Religious Ed teachers and aides
- First Communion teachers and aides
- Quincenera class teacher
- RCIA team member
- Youth Group leaders and chaperones
- Youth Confirmation leaders/teachers
- Steubenville chaperones
- Marriage Retreat team
- Baptism Prep class teacher
- Choir member
- Cantor
- Bell Choir member
- Hospital and Homebound Minister
- Eucharistic Minister
- Lector
- Ushers at all Masses (Sat. & Sun.)
- Marriage Retreat team member
- Altar server
- Altar linen laundering group
- Catholic Charities Volunteer

Call the office (367-4657) for more information.

To help us share our time and talents with our church community we have these opportunities to enrich our faith.

- Rosary Group
- ACTS
- Men's Bible Study
- Women's Bible Study
- Spanish Prayer Groups
- Knights of Columbus
- Adoration

Corinthians 12:7-11 A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

What is your gift?

Are you helping others?

Addiction Counseling

Call Randy at 432-631-9225 or
Angela at 432-803-9435

Adult Bible Study Opportunities

WOMEN

Women's bible study will begin again in the spring.

SPANISH

Los pequeños Hijos de Maria

Monday: Spanish Bible Study 7 – 9 pm in the classrooms.

Thursday: Spanish Mass, Rosary and Prayer 6 – 9 pm.

Los Angeles de Cristo Grupo de Oracion

Friday: Spanish Bible Study 7 – 9 pm in the Youth Building. Contact Pilar or Romelia Ornelas 362-4610.

Checks to St. Elizabeth's

Please make **all** checks out to St. Elizabeth's. Also, please only use **blue or black ink** for your checks. All processing is done digitally now and other colors are not picked up. This results in extra time and work, not only for us but also for the bank.

Deacon Gary's Prayer Chain

If you are in need of prayers or would like to be a prayer warrior with him and others in the community, please contact him at gbrooks@sanangelodiocese.org.

Quinceanera Guidelines

Parents must be registered and contributing and their daughter must have attended CCD for 2 years prior to the ceremony.