



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ❖ DECEMBER 9, 2018



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First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Baruch tells Jerusalem to rejoice because of God's plan to bring his exiled people back to Jerusalem. He emphasizes God's power and describes his plan to lower mountains and fill gorges to make their journey easier.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Paul encourages the Philippians to love each other completely. He hopes that their love and understanding will continue to grow so that they are prepared for the return of Christ.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Luke describes the work John the Baptist carried out to help people prepare for the birth of Jesus. Luke also discusses who was in power at the time, which helped historians to figure out the exact dates of certain events, including Jesus' birth.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday

Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday

Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13



Sunday, December 9	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:30 am	In Memory of Frances Gillespie Req. by Bonnie Keul
Monday, December 10	8:00 am	Intention of Albert Carreon Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Stan Snock
Tuesday, December 11	8:00 am	Special Intention Req. by Mr. & Mrs. William Long
Wednesday, December 12	8:00 am	In Memory of Ann Pfister Req. by Mrs. Anna Bilinsky
Thursday, December 13	8:00 am	In Memory of Josephine Abbas Req. by Hawla Donley
Friday, December 14	8:00 am	In Memory of Raymond Zorzi Req. By Mr. & Mrs. David Zorzi
Saturday, December 15	8:00 am	Special Intention
	5:30 pm	In Memory of Tom Kiley Req. by Deacon Mike & Becky Mochel

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Upcoming Second Collections

Today: Catholic Charities  
December 16: Poor Clare Nuns  
December 25: Christmas  
January 1: Solemnity of Mary



**Youth Choir – rehearsal today!**

All children and youth of the parish are invited to sing in the choir, play an instrument, or ring with the bell choir for the 6:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass! Come to practice today, Sunday, Dec. 9, 16 & 23 at 1:00pm in the Church. For additional information please contact Mrs. Dash at (703) 830-0966 or [tesera25@verion.net](mailto:tesera25@verion.net)

# \*\*\* Parish Schedule \*\*\*

## This Week's Parish Schedule

Sunday, December 9

### **Second Sunday in Advent**

LOSC Ornament & Cookie Exchange

3 pm, church basement



Thursday, December 13

Choir practice, 7 pm

Knights of Columbus: Rosary, 7 pm,

Meeting, 7:30 pm, church basement

Saturday, December 15

Knights of Columbus Rosary before 5:30pm Mass



## Next Week's Parish Schedule

Sunday, December 16

### **Third Sunday in Advent**

Knights of Columbus Rosary before all Masses

Thursday, December 20

Choir practice, 7 pm

## \*\*\* Religious Education News \*\*\*

**Regular classes today, Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Regular classes, Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

**No Classes, December 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Classes resume Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**



St. Clare's is partnering with **Mary's Shelter** (marysshelterva.org) in Fredericksburg for our annual **Advent Giving Tree**. Mary's Shelter provides an

expectant mother, and any additional children she may have, with housing for up to three years to further her education and/or secure employment. She must receive counseling, attend in-house parenting and life-skill classes and adhere to the program covenants which offer structure, self-discipline and guidance.

**Please drop off all donations by noon on Sunday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**IMPORTANT: New items only.**

**Please do NOT gift wrap your donations.**

Simply attach the ornament from the tree to your donation and place it in the box in the vestibule.

## OPERATION CLEAN LAUNDRY



**OPERATION CLEAN LAUNDRY** benefits the residents of the Kate Hanley Family Shelter: Parishioners --Help our 8<sup>th</sup> graders by donating **unopened boxes of non-bleach, powdered laundry detergent**. Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be dividing the boxes of laundry detergent into single-load packets as a service project for Confirmation. Please leave your donations in the marked area of the vestibule **by 12:00pm, December 16<sup>th</sup>**.

[Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org](mailto:Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org)

703-266-1310

## St. Clare's Christmas & New Year Mass and Confession Schedule

### Mass Schedule:

#### Christmas

Monday, December 24

8:00 am (Regular Daily Mass)

6:30 & 10:00 pm (Christmas Eve Masses)

Tuesday, December 25, 8:00 & 10:30 am

#### New Year's - Solemnity of Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 31

8:00 am (Regular Daily Mass)

5:30 pm (Vigil Mass)

Tuesday, January 1, 8:00 am & 10:30 am

### Confession Schedule:

Thursday, December 20, 7-9 PM

Friday, December 21, 7-9 PM

Saturday, December 22, 7-9 PM

Monday, December 24, 2-5PM



## POOR CLARE NUNS

**SPECIAL COLLECTION -DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>**

**ITEMS/FOOD COLLECTION -DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>**

The Poor Clare Nuns, a cloistered order located in Alexandria, greatly relies on our generosity for their simple needs. Our monetary donations are particularly needed to help them with health-care costs. Please be generous on Dec 16<sup>th</sup> when the special collection will be collected.

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Every year, Poor Clare Nuns have a short list of items that they need. Please consider shopping for Poor Clare Nuns. The donation box is in the vestibule. **The deadline to drop off items is Thursday, December 20th** so the donated items can be delivered to them in time for Christmas.

Twin size flannel sheets (plain or pastel colors)

Dried apricots, plums, other dried fruits

Shelled almonds

Apple Sauce (Sweetened/Unsweetened)

Fruit Cocktail (LIGHT SYRUP or NO SUGAR)

Canned Fruits (LIGHT SYRUP or NO SUGAR)

12 oz Evaporated Milk (reg & fat free)

Condensed soup: cream of celery, mushroom or tomato

Water Packed Tuna

Canned tomatoes: diced, crushed, whole & paste

Corn meal

Pickles- any kind

Corn starch

Salt

12 oz paper cups for hot drinks only

Stamps (forever)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“In every prayer I utter, I rejoice as I plead on your behalf at the way you all have continually helped promote the gospel from the very first day. I am sure of this much, that he who has begun the good work in you will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus....My prayer is that your love may more and more abound...that you may learn to value the things that really matter up to the very day of Christ.”

How many are busy writing greeting cards to relatives, friends and acquaintances. The thoughts expressed, speak of a deep, deep concern for the joy of Christ's presence to touch their lives. At times we might not think twice about the reason for sending a card.

Consider the reasons St. Paul referred to as he wrote the Philippians. He wrote about his prayer for this new Christian community. He offered encouragement for them to grow in their lives as disciples of the Lord. That prayer motivates us as we begin this second week of Advent. Advent reminds of the past coming but directs us to today and tomorrow where the Lord is leading us. May we find a quiet moment to reflect upon Paul's wish for us today as we anticipate the coming of Christ with His grace and peace. May we seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our advent.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS

