

Announcements
For the week of December 18, 2016

The Social Outreach office will be closed until January 2nd.

During Advent there will be weekly confessions 30 minutes before each Mass.

The Rectory will be closed the week of Christmas and New Year's holidays, December 26 thru January 2nd and will reopen on January 3rd, 2017. All announcements for the weekend of December 25th and January 1st Bulletin should be turned in by December 19th, 12 noon. Thank you for your co-operation.

Bulletin and Pulpit Announcements can be emailed. They must be approved by our Pastor, Fr. Lowell Case. Deadline for all announcements is 2:00pm on Monday. No impromptu announcements.

Please pray for all our Military, all the Sick and Shut-In and their families. Take home a copy of this week's bulletin for other announcements.

DECEMBER 18, 2016

**GOOD EVENING/MORNING PARISHIONERS, FAMILY, FRIENDS AND VISITORS!
(PAUSE)**

**WELCOME TO OUR MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH. WE ARE IN
THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.**

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT. KINDLY TURN TO
YOUR NEIGHBOR AND EXTEND A GREETING OF WELCOME. (PAUSE 20 SEC-
ONDS).**

**BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE PARISH, GIVE GENEROUSLY IN TODAY'S
COLLECTION.**

TODAY'S THEME:

Christmas is only one week away! On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, the readings turn to the immediate preparations for the birth of our Lord. We too are finalizing our preparations for his birth into our hearts once again. Let us pray today for the courage of Joseph to bear whatever burdens may be necessary so that our world too may be saved from its sinful ways.

OUR CELEBRANT FOR THIS MASS IS:

(Priest Name) Fr. Case

4:30 P.M.– Fr.

7:00 A.M.-Fr.

9:00 A.M.-Fr.

11:30 A.M.-Fr.

AFTER THE OPENING PRAYER:

Today's readings are about signs: God's sign to Ahaz, the angel's appearance to Joseph. As we hear God's holy word proclaimed today, what signs in your life point to God about to do wonderful new things? How can you respond like Joseph?

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Fourth Sunday of Advent, YEAR A

Priest: The Lord's are the earth and tis fullness, and so we pray for the needs of all upon the earth.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus!

- ◆ That Christians might proclaim that "God is with us" in their actions of generosity, righteousness, and justice, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ That world leaders might acknowledge God's reign and in turn care for and protect even the least of their people, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all who benefit from the commerce of the Christmas season, that they may recognize the source of their prosperity and work to end poverty and inequality, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all those traveling during the coming holidays, for the grace of good companionship and a safe return home, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For those who suffer depression at this time of year, and for those who are burdened by the holiday season, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken... [*pause for 10 seconds; the presider alone concludes...*], we pray to the Lord...

Priest: Almighty God, you gave us signs of hope and fulfilled your promises. Hear these prayers that we offer to you on behalf of all the world, and grant them through the One whose coming is certain and whose day draws near, Christ our Lord.....

TO ALL MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

December 18, 2016

PLEASE WELCOME THE VISITORS

**ALSO PASS OUT THE CHILDREN'S
BULLETINS TO THE LITTLE ONES!**

Make sure that you sign the sheet in the book.

Remember to use the white bags for the collections.
Please try and refrain anyone from walking during the
1st reading, 2nd Reading, the Gospel and the Homily.

**Remember to take the count of those present at each Mass and
turn the count sheet in after the 11:30AM Mass**

This is very important. Secure collection after Mass

Second Collections

NONE