

**Announcements**  
**For the week of December 4, 2016**

**Advent: There will be weekly confessions 30 minutes before each Mass.**

**Pastoral Council meeting will be held on December 7th. All are welcome to attend. Remember you must be on the agenda to address the council.**

**December 8th is a Holy day of obligation, Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mass at 6:30am and 6:00pm.**

**Advent Mission is December 10-14, 2016 at 6pm. Please make plans to attend.**

**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 4, 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 SECOND 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  
COLLECTIONS. THE SECOND COLLECTIONS ARE FOR PARISH  
MAINTENANCE AND SHARE IN MISSION.**

**TODAY'S THEME:**

On this Second Sunday of Advent our focus begins to shift from the end of time to the time immediately before the first coming of Christ into the world. Yet the message is still the same: God's reign is at hand. As we worship together today, let us heed John the Baptist, whose message of preparing those people of Israel so long ago echoes in our own hearts: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

**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:**

Our first reading today is from Isaiah, describing the peaceable kingdom of God, the day of the Messiah of the Lord. In this kingdom ancient enmities are ended, and enemies live as neighbors. If we have heeded the message of last week's Gospel, we understand that the best way to make ourselves ready is to live as if this kingdom is already here. What do you hear in today's sacred scriptures that will help you to live out the presence of God right now?

# INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT, YEAR A

**Priest:** Let us look for the coming of the Lord into the world, and pray for the needs of all..

**Response: Come, Lord Jesus!**

- ◆ For our Church, led by Pope Francis, as we work to ready ourselves and the world for the coming of the Lord through our works of mercy and mission of evangelization, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For peace throughout the world, for swords to be beaten into plowshares as we strive to put an end to the global arms race, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For those who were able to eat because of our Thanksgiving generosity, and for those who live in hunger and poverty every week of the year, that they be remembered all year long, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all those throughout the world who suffer from HIV / AIDS and its effects, and for eternal rest for all who have died from this terrible affliction, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For our community of faith as we strive to live aware of the coming of the Lord, through our deeds of justice and charity, 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:** Lord God, the hour of our salvation is near. Hear these our prayers and grant them according to your will, through the One whose coming is certain and whose day draws near, Christ our Lord....

# **TO ALL MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

December 4, 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 Collection  
PARISH MAINTENANCE  
AND  
SHARE IN MISSION**