



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH

602 Everglade Drive, Madison WI 53717 • (608) 833-2600 • stamadison.org • parish@stamadison.org

LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES!

We are a Catholic parish where people experience Jesus Christ in a way that changes how they live.

Regular Mass Schedule

Saturday no live-stream 4:30 PM
 Misa en español/Mass in Spanish 6:30 PM
Sunday: Masses in English with live-stream..... 8:00 & 10:00 AM
Monday, Wednesday, Friday with live-stream 8:30 AM
Tuesday with live-stream 5:30 PM
Thursday with live-stream 7:30 AM

Confession

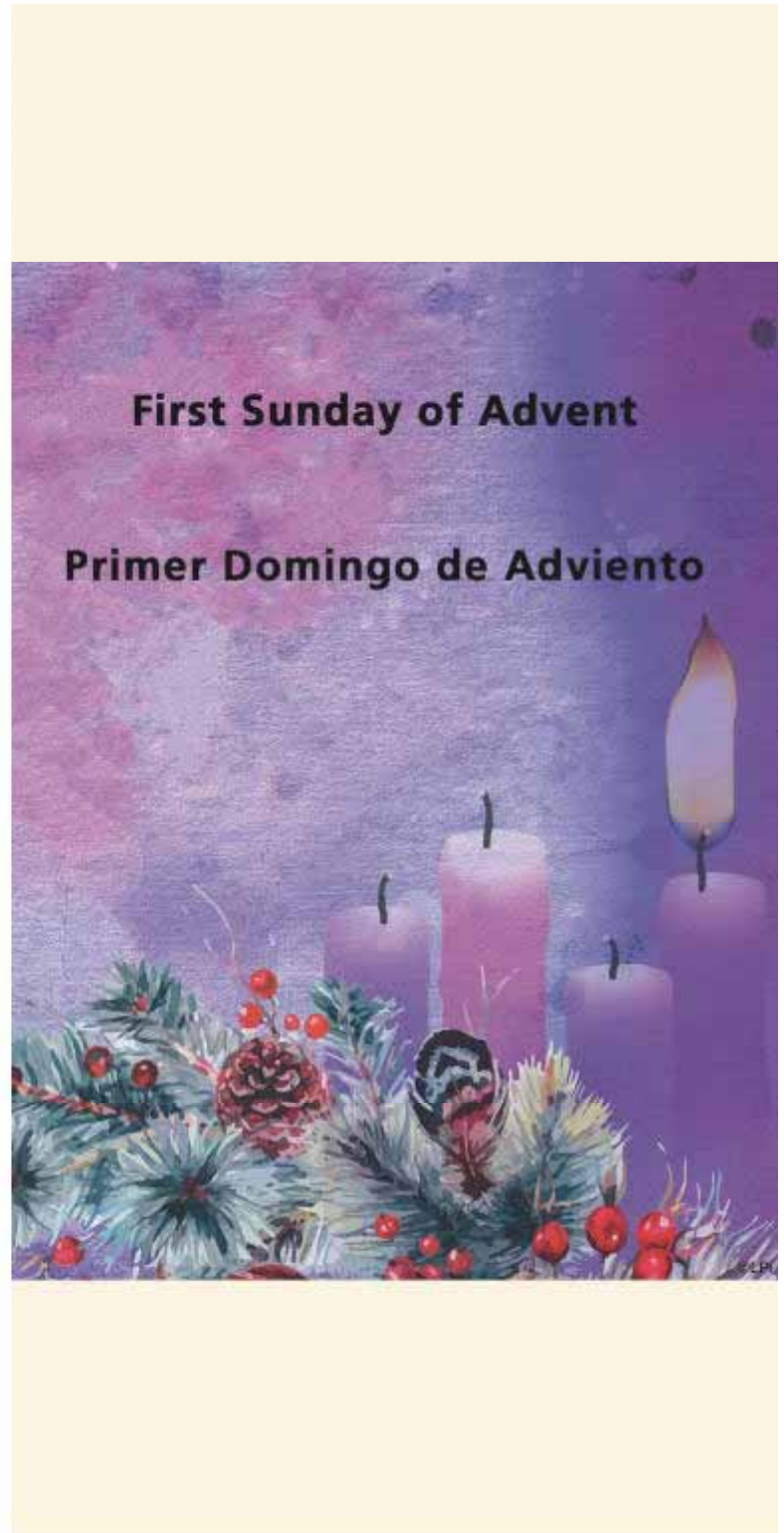
Saturdays, 3:15–4:10 PM
Sundays, 9:00–9:50 AM

Prayer, Devotion, and Adoration

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Monday after Mass
Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Wednesday after Mass
Morning Prayer: Thursday after Mass
Rosary in English: Friday, 8:05 AM
Adoration: Monday, 2:00–4:00 PM
 Tuesday, 4:15–5:15 PM
 Friday, 9:00–10:00 AM

Parish Staff, 608-833-2600

Pastor: Fr. Bart Timmerman,
Deacon: Dcn. Jerome Buhman, dcn.jerome@stamadison.org
Pastoral Associate: Erik Gyr, erik@stamadison.org
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Middle/High School: Dcn. Jerome Buhman,
dcn.jerome@stamadison.org



First Sunday of Advent | Primer Domingo de Adviento
November 29, 2020 | 29 de Noviembre de 2020



Fr. Bart Timmerman, Pastor

First Sunday of Advent- Make Sundays Special!

Last week we concluded the Liturgical Year and we reflected on the final judgement and our desire to choose allegiance to Christ, King of the Universe! With the season of Advent, the wheel of time turns again. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "When the Church celebrates Advent each year, she makes present the ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming (# 524)." Now it's all about beginnings and fresh starts. This season is pregnant with possibilities, expectant with hope. If you like, you can be born again with Christ! The world is getting another chance to make things right. Each of us is issued the same opportunity to be made new. This Advent our theme, "Make Sundays Special" is a way for us to make things right in our lives and in our families. Reclaiming Sunday and its profound meaning for us as disciples, will help us become more Christian and more Christ-like! Please see Dcn. Jerome's article for a reflection on this Sunday's readings from Sacred Scriptures.

Beginning of New Liturgical Year B

The readings we reflect on each Sunday in our Sunday Lectionary, are on a three-year cycle (Year A, Year B, and Year C). Each cycle uses one Gospel extensively throughout the year. Today we begin Year "B," the year of the Gospel of Mark. Most of our Sunday Gospels this year will be proclaimed according to Mark. Written in the late 60's, Mark's Gospel is the earliest written Gospel, nearly forty years after the Resurrection and Ascension. Suffering had thrown Mark's community into a spiritual crisis. Mark's primary themes are the Kingdom of God, the identity of Jesus, and the Call to Discipleship. For Mark, everything, even Jesus' glorious return, stands in the shadow of his Crucifixion. As we reflect each Sunday on the Gospel reading during this Liturgical Year B, we will benefit from the contributions Mark's Gospel makes to our faith.

Preparing for a Holy Christmas

Besides our regular Mass and Reconciliation schedule we have additional liturgies I would like to bring to your attention:

1. Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation
Tuesday, December 8: Masses at 6:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 6:30 PM.
2. Memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saturday, December 12: Spanish Mass at 6:30 PM.
3. Tuesday evenings of Advent Confessions from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, except Tuesday, December 8 from 5:30 PM to 6:20 PM.

Thanks for contacting Terri Kopplin with your Mass attendance plans so that we can safely accommodate everyone who comes. You are still welcome to come even if you do not contact Terri.

End of Year Giving and 2021 Offertory Pledging Update

Thanks to all our generous parishioners who are helping us financially at this time. Gratefully, so far we have kept pace with our income compared to last year. However, the great crowds of people for Christmas Masses are not expected and neither is the larger Christmas collection like years past. Please remember St. Thomas Aquinas in your Year End Giving.

Here is an update on our Pledge of Treasure for 2021:

Total number of Households: 1,460

Total number of Pledges: 306

Average Pledge: \$ 1,920

Total Amount Pledged: \$587,507

Total Amount Budgeted in Offertory Income: \$1,234,788

- Please note the above report is for the Annual Offertory Pledge. It is not a report on the Make Disciples Capital Campaign Pledging; this is a separate additional one-time campaign we began in 2019.

Prayer for Life

For all the faithful: May the Lord help us build a culture of life in vigilant expectation of His return; We pray to the Lord:



Prayer for Peace

For all the "watchful": May the Father guide our Advent reflections and practices and fill us with joyful expectation as we "watch" and wait with Mary for the coming of the Prince of Peace.

Mark Your Calendar!

Praise and Worship Night

Wednesday, December 2, 6:30-7:30 PM
live-stream only

Immaculate Conception

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Tuesday, December 8, 6:30 AM, 12:10 PM
and 6:30 PM (bilingual)

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday, December 12, 6:30 PM

Respect Life Collection Thank You

The St. Thomas Aquinas Respect Life Team thanks fellow parishioners for their prayer and action during October-Respect Life Month in the Catholic Church. The Team prepared for the month through prayer, education, and action. Each Thursday evening in October, STA community members gathered in prayer and witness outside of the Planned Parenthood abortion clinic on Madison's east side. The 40 Days for Life vigil maintains a peaceful, prayerful 24-hour presence in front of the abortion clinic. Over 40 St. Thomas Aquinas parishioners participated in this year's vigil. On the final Thursday, we were blessed to play a small role in one abortion-bound woman changing her mind and seeking help at the pro-life Women's Care Center across the street from the abortion clinic. Please keep this woman and her family in your prayers. The annual Respect Life collection also gathered \$1,811 to support local pro-life causes, especially local pregnancy resource centers. As we prepare to mark the 48th anniversary of the Supreme Court's deadly Roe vs. Wade decision in January, please prayerfully consider becoming part of STA's Respect Life Team. For more information, please contact Greg Chesmore at gchesmore@yahoo.com or Jennifer Ludtke at jennifer@stamadison.org.

MAKE DISCIPLES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Thank you for your generous support.

As of November 16:

Campaign Goal	\$3,500,000
Amount Pledged to Date.....	\$3,051,098
Received to Date	\$1,326,136
Number of Households Participating.....	461

Bishop Hying on “Go Make Disciples”



Missionary disciples do not keep the fire power of the Gospel to themselves. We take seriously the Great Commission when Jesus sends His followers forth to proclaim the Gospel to every creature and make disciples. Christian disciples make other disciples!

We are all called to be disciples – to be followers of Jesus, who love him and who can talk about the good news of that relationship with others. We are called to walk with others as they too grow to love and follow Jesus. Who can you walk with?

From Bishop Hying, in Go Make Disciples Newsletter, July 2020, No.3



Gospel Reflection By Dcn. Jerome Buhman

Our Gospel today from Mark is quite short: only five verses long. But in those five verses, Jesus urges us to “watch” four separate times. Actually, it is more of a command than an urging. So we must watch. But what does that

mean? Today, we tend to think of watching as a rather passive activity – we watch TV or a movie, sitting and doing nothing but staring straight ahead. But Jesus compares our watching to that of the gatekeeper. In ancient times, the job of a gatekeeper was to be in a constant state of readiness. The gatekeeper makes sure that all is in order and is prepared at the home or castle, and is constantly scanning the horizon, awaiting the return of the lord. So the watcher’s role is an active one, with an emphasis on preparedness and vigilance. Like our Gospel, the Advent season is actually quite short – just four weeks. But in those four weeks, we are called to be watchful – that is, while looking forward to Christ’s return at Christmas and at the end of time, we must prepare ourselves for his return. We must put ourselves in a state of readiness, being vigilant against whatever might draw our attention away from Jesus, and making sure we are set to welcome him into our lives.

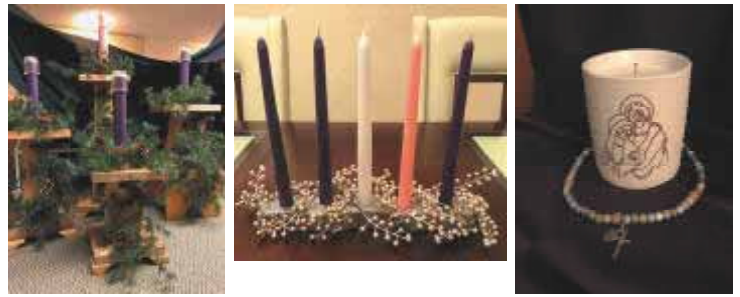
Baptism Prep. Sessions and Baptism Ritual

If you are looking to baptize your first child, please contact Dcn. Jerome at dcn.jerome@stamadison.org to learn how to attend an online Baptism Preparation session.



Regarding the Baptisms: although public celebrations of Masses are still very small, Father Bart can celebrate the ritual of Baptism without a Mass. There are specific guidelines to follow if you choose to baptize your child during these moments of the pandemic. Please contact Dcn. Jerome to start the conversation. Praying for all our young families!

Staff Sharing Advent Wreath From Home



Home Advent Wreath Blessing Prayer

Each Sunday of the season gather at your Advent wreath and take a moment of quiet to prepare yourselves for prayer. When ready, make the Sign of the Cross and then light the candle(s) for each week of the season. Week 1 - 11/29, Week 2 – 12/6, Week 3 (pink candle) – 12-13, Week 4 – 12/20.

Today we begin (or continue) the season of Advent. We open our hearts to God’s love as we prepare to welcome Christ into our lives and our home. The candles of this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom. and so, we pray...

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May this wreath and its light be a sign of Christ’s promise to bring salvation. May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. R./ Amen

You may want to continue with reading a Scripture passage for the day or a daily reflection you are using for the season. Conclude your prayer by praying the Lord’s Prayer or the Hail Mary or other favorite.

Christmas Baskets – New Ways to Help

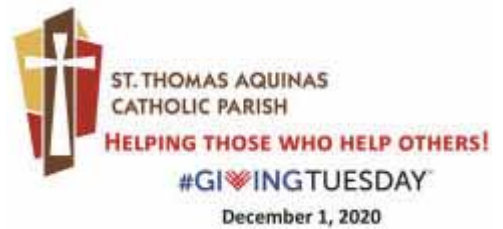
Our annual tradition of providing Christmas Baskets to our neighbors at Wexford Ridge and Tree Lane Apartments is even more important this year. Due to COVID-19, we have new ways you can participate this year:



- You can still bring **non-perishable** food and personal hygiene items to church between now and **December 17**. Items to donate include: canned goods, boxes of cereal and pasta, as well as laundry detergent, toothpaste and shampoo.
- We strongly encourage individuals and families that are willing and able to consider **putting together a complete food basket**. We have boxes available in the gathering space this weekend with a list of suggested items to include attached. The completed boxes should be brought back by Thursday, December 17.
- We will hold a **Donation Drive-Through** on **December 13 from 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM**. You can drive up to the main entrance of the church and volunteers will be present to empty your trunk.
- Christmas Basket Packing will be Thursday, December 17, and Friday, December 18, with one-hour shifts starting at 1:00, 3:00, and 5:00 PM, one family only per shift in order to comply with Public Health Order #10. We will consider adding more shifts if needed. You will be able to sign up in the Gathering Area or online at Signup Genius: signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BAFAD23A5F5C16-sorting. You can access the sign-up link from our parish website at stamadison.org/christmas-baskets-2020/, from the weekly parish email, or by emailing Olivia Stauffacher at wedigoliv@gmail.com. Please include your phone number or email. This is a great family activity, and children of all ages are welcome.
- Baskets will be delivered beginning at 9:00 AM on **Saturday, December 19**. Sign up sheets will be in the Gathering Area. We really need delivery volunteers.

The Christmas Basket Food Collection is a wonderful opportunity for families to experience giving at Christmas and for our parish to build community among its members and our neighbors. People of any age can contribute—children through seniors!

If you know of someone in the parish in need of a Christmas Basket, please call Mary or Clarice at 833-2600.



Giving Tuesday Lets Us Help Those Who Help Others

#GivingTuesday is this Tuesday! Prayerfully decide how you can support our St. Vincent de Paul Conference and the purchase of gift cards for the food baskets! Check out Facebook and our website stamadison.org to hear stories from our volunteers. Please “Like” and “Share” our page. With each like and share, you spread the news about #Giving Tuesday!

We have matching donations!

There are two ways to make Giving Tuesday donations:

1. By check payable to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. In the memo line write “Giving Tuesday.”
2. On our website **on Tuesday December 1**: Go to stamadison.org. and click on the Donate tab to the far right side of the page. On the next page, click the Donate button. On the next page enter the amount of your donation. Do NOT check the box to make a monthly donation. Then click **Write a note** and write “Giving Tuesday.”

Select how you want to donate: PayPal or Debit or Credit card. This takes you to a page where you can log into your PayPal account or enter your credit/debit card information. Follow the directions there to complete your donation.



STA Garden Update!

The STA garden supplied over 850 pounds of fresh produce to food pantries in Dane and Green counties in 2020. Gardeners Jerry Doll, Paul Scheffelman, Tom Hartberg, Tom Nelson and Neil Vassau helped fertilize, plant, weed, pick and distribute produce to many families in need in Dane and Green counties in 2020. They look forward to helping produce and distribute the STA garden produce to families again in 2021.

El artículo del Padre Bart empieza en la página 6.

B, nos beneficiaremos de las contribuciones que el Evangelio de Marcos hace a nuestra fe.

Preparándose para una santa Navidad

Además de nuestro horario regular de Misa y Confesiones, tenemos liturgias adicionales que me gustaría que conocieran:

1. **Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción** (Día de Obligación) el martes, 8 de diciembre: Misas a las 6:30 AM, 12:10 PM y 6:30 PM. (bilingüe)
2. **Memorial de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**, sábado, 12 de diciembre: Misa en español a las 6:30 PM.
3. **Confesiones de Adviento**: todos los **martes en los Advientos a partir de las 6:00 PM a las 7:00 PM, excepto** el martes, 8 de diciembre que las confesiones serán de 5:30 PM a 6:20 PM. También el sábado, 19 de diciembre tendremos confesiones de 6:00 a 7:30 PM, mientras tenemos la Misa de 6:30 PM.

Gracias por contactar a Terri Kopplin o Lorianne Aubut con respecto a su asistencia a la Misa para que podamos acomodar de manera segura a todos los que vienen. Aún pueden venir y acompañarnos, aunque no contacten a Terri o Lorianne.

Actualización de las donaciones de fin de año y los compromisos contributivos del ofertorio de 2021

Gracias a todos nuestros generosos feligreses que nos están ayudando económicamente durante este tiempo. Afortunadamente, hasta ahora estamos manteniendo el ritmo de nuestros ingresos en comparación con el año pasado. Sin embargo, no se espera la gran multitud de personas para las Misas navideñas ni tampoco la colección navideña más grande como años pasados. Por favor recuerde a Santo Tomás de Aquino en su Donación de Fin de Año.

Aquí hay una actualización de nuestro compromiso de tesoro para 2021:

Número total de hogares: 1460

Cantidad total de compromisos: 306

Promedio de contribución: \$1,920

Cantidad total comprometida: \$587,507

Cantidad total presupuestada en ingresos del ofertorio: \$1,234,788

Tenga en cuenta que este informe es para el compromiso de ofertorio anual que hacemos anualmente. No es un informe sobre el compromiso de la campaña capital Haciendo Discípulos, ya que esa es una campaña adicional separada que comenzamos en el 2019.

Immaculate Conception

(Día de Obligación)

Martes, 8 de diciembre, 6:30 AM, 12:10 PM y 6:30 PM (bilingüe)

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

(en la Misa en español de Adviento)

Sábado, 12 de diciembre, 6:30 PM

Confesiones durante el Adviento Solo en inglés

Domingos: 9:00–9:50 AM

En inglés y español

Sábados: 3:15–4:10 PM

Martes, 1, 15, y 22 de diciembre 6:00–7:00 PM

Martes, 8 de diciembre 5:30–6:15 PM

Sólo en español

Domingo, 19 de diciembre 6:00–7:30 PM

Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, November 28

4:30 PM Jay Standiford ☩

6:30 PM Lesli Ann Jordán Vazquez ☩

Sunday, November 29: 1st Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

10:00 AM All Living and Deceased Members of the Buford and Mary Kilby family

Monday, November 30: St. Andrew, Apostle

8:30 AM Dave Erzen ☩

Tuesday, December 1

5:30 PM Daniel P Schyvinck ☩

Wednesday, December 2

8:30 AM Roberto Vergara ☩

Thursday, December 3: St. Francis Xavier, Priest

7:30 AM Rob Andringa ☩

Friday, December 4

8:30 AM Christopher Andrews ☩

Saturday, December 5

4:30 PM JoAnne Schumann ☩

6:30 PM Dulce María Herrera ☩

Sunday, December 6: 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Living and Deceased Members of Kreuser Family ☩

10:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

Readings for the Week of November 29

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/1 Cor 1:3-9/
Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35 - 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14/2 Pt 3:8-14/
Mk 1:1-8

Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

November 21/22

Will be listed in December due to bulletin printing deadline moved ahead.

Counters Schedule

Monday, November 30: Dick Ihlenfeld or Carol Sawyer

Monday, December 7: Dick or Mary Ann Ihlenfeld

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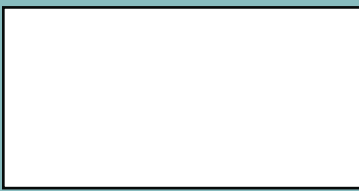
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Padre Bart Timmerman, Párroco
Primer domingo de Adviento: ¡Haz de los Domingos un Día Especial!



La semana pasada concluimos el Año Litúrgico y reflexionamos sobre el juicio final y nuestro deseo de elegir la lealtad a Cristo, ¡Rey del Universo! Con la época de Adviento, la rueda del tiempo litúrgico vuelve a girar. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica dice: “Cuando la Iglesia celebra el Adviento cada año, hace presente la antigua expectativa del Mesías, porque al participar en la larga preparación para la primera venida del Salvador, los fieles renuevan su ardiente deseo de su segunda venida.” (# 524) Ahora se trata de nuevos comienzos. Esta nueva época está llena de posibilidades. ¡Si quieres, puedes nacer de nuevo con Cristo! El mundo tiene otra oportunidad de hacer las cosas bien. Cada uno de nosotros tiene la misma oportunidad de ser renovados. Este Adviento, nuestro tema, “Haz de los Domingos un Día Especial,” es una forma de hacer las cosas bien en nuestras vidas y en nuestras familias. Reclamar el domingo y su profundo significado para nosotros como discípulos, ¡nos ayudará a ser más cristianos y parecidos a Cristo! Consulte el artículo del diácono Jerome para una reflexión sobre las lecturas de las Sagradas Escrituras de este domingo.

Comienzo del nuevo año litúrgico B

Las lecturas que reflexionamos cada domingo en nuestro Lecionario dominical se encuentran en un ciclo de tres años (Año A, Año B y Año C). Cada ciclo usa un Evangelio extensamente durante todo el año. Nuestro nuevo año litúrgico comienza hoy. Es el año "B", el año del Evangelio de Marcos. La mayoría de nuestros evangelios dominicales de este año se proclamarán según Marcos. Escrito a finales de los 60, el Evangelio de Marcos es el primer Evangelio escrito, casi cuarenta años después de la Resurrección y la Ascensión. El sufrimiento había llevado a la comunidad a una crisis espiritual. Los temas principales de Marcos son: El Reino de Dios, La identidad de Jesús y el Llamado al Discipulado. Para Marcos, todo, incluso el glorioso regreso de Jesús está a la sombra de su crucifixión. Al reflexionar cada domingo sobre la lectura del Evangelio durante este Año Litúrgico

La carta del Padre Bart continúa en la página 5

Misa en español

La Misa en español se celebrará los sábados a las 6:30 PM

Confesiones

Sábados 3:15 - 4:10 PM y por cita con el párroco

Adoración al Santísimo

Lunes 2:00 - 4:00 PM en la capilla
 Martes 4:15 - 5:25 PM en la capilla
 Viernes 9:00 - 10:00 AM en la capilla

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Sacramentos y otros

Para Bautismos, Primera Comunión, Confirmación, Matrimonios y Quinceañeras contacte a Lorianne Aubut. Para la unción de los enfermos contacte a Mary Bailey.

Reflexión del Evangelio

Diácono Jerome Buhman



Nuestro Evangelio de hoy de Marcos es bastante corto: solo cinco versículos. Pero en esos cinco versículos, Jesús nos insta a “velar” cuatro veces por separado. En realidad, es más una orden que una urgencia. Por eso debemos vigilar. Pero ¿qué significa eso? Hoy en día, tendemos a pensar que “ver” o “mirar algo” es una actividad bastante pasiva: vemos la televisión o una película, sentados y sin hacer nada más que mirar hacia al frente. Pero Jesús compara nuestra vigilancia con la del portero. En la antigüedad, el trabajo de un guardián era estar en un estado constante de preparación. El guardián se asegura de que todo esté en orden y esté preparado en la casa o el castillo, y está constantemente explorando el horizonte, esperando el regreso del señor del hogar. De modo que el rol del observador es activo, con énfasis en la preparación y la vigilancia.

Como en nuestro Evangelio, la época de Adviento es bastante corta, solo cuatro semanas. Pero en esas cuatro semanas, estamos llamados a estar atentos, es decir, mientras esperamos el regreso de Cristo en Navidad y al final de los tiempos, debemos prepararnos para su regreso. Debemos ponernos en un estado de preparación, estar atentos a cualquier cosa que pueda desviar nuestra atención de Jesús, y asegurarnos de que estamos listos para recibirlo en nuestras vidas.

Las lecturas de la semana del 29 de noviembre

Domingo: Is 63, 16-17. 19; 64, 2-7/Sal 80, 2-3. 15-16. 18-19/1 Cor 1, 3-9/ Mc 13, 33-37

Lunes: Rom 10, 9-18/Sal 19, 8. 9. 10. 11/Mt 4, 18-22

Martes: Is 11, 1-10/ Sal 72, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17/Lc 10, 21-24

Miércoles: Is 25, 6-10/Sal 23, 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6/Mt 15, 29-37

Jueves: Is 26, 1-6/Sal 118, 1 y 8-9. 19-21. 25-27/Mt 7, 21. 24-27

Viernes: Is 29, 17-24/Sal 27, 1. 4. 13-14/Mt 9, 27-31

Sábado: Is 30, 19-21. 23-26/Sal 147, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/Mt 9, 35 - 10, 1. 6-8

Domingo siguiente: Is 40, 1-5. 9-11/Sal 85, 9-10. 11-12. 13-14/ 2 Pe 3, 8-14/Mc 1, 1-8

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