



SAINT POLYCARP CATHOLIC CHURCH

8100 Chapman Avenue, Stanton CA 90680 | (714) 893-2766 | www.stpolycarp.org

CLERGY

PASTOR

Rev. Viet Peter Ho

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Nicolaus Duy Thai

Rev. Luis Segura

DEACONS

Dcn. Ramiro Lopez

Dcn. Larry Leone

Dcn. Davis Tri Do

Dcn. Juan Ochoa

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday

5:00 PM English

7:00 PM Vietnamese

Sunday

7:30 AM English

9:00 AM Spanish

11:00 AM English

1:00 PM Spanish

4:00 PM Vietnamese

6:00 PM Spanish

WEEKDAY MASSES

6:30 AM English (Mon-Fri)

8:30 AM English (Mon-Sat)

6:30 PM Spanish (Mon)

6:30 PM Vietnamese (Fri)

SUPPORT STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER

Tom H. Ma

FAITH FORMATION (ENGLISH/SPANISH)

Sister Jessica Corral

FAITH FORMATION (VIETNAMESE)

Sister Mary Anne Thiên

Hương Nguyễn

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Sister Anna Anh Trâm Trần

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Kara Ford

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Joseph Do

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

9:00 AM - 10 AM (Fri)

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (Sat)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

7:15 PM (Monday)

9:00 AM (Friday)

3:30 PM (Saturday)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

1:30 PM - 5:30 PM

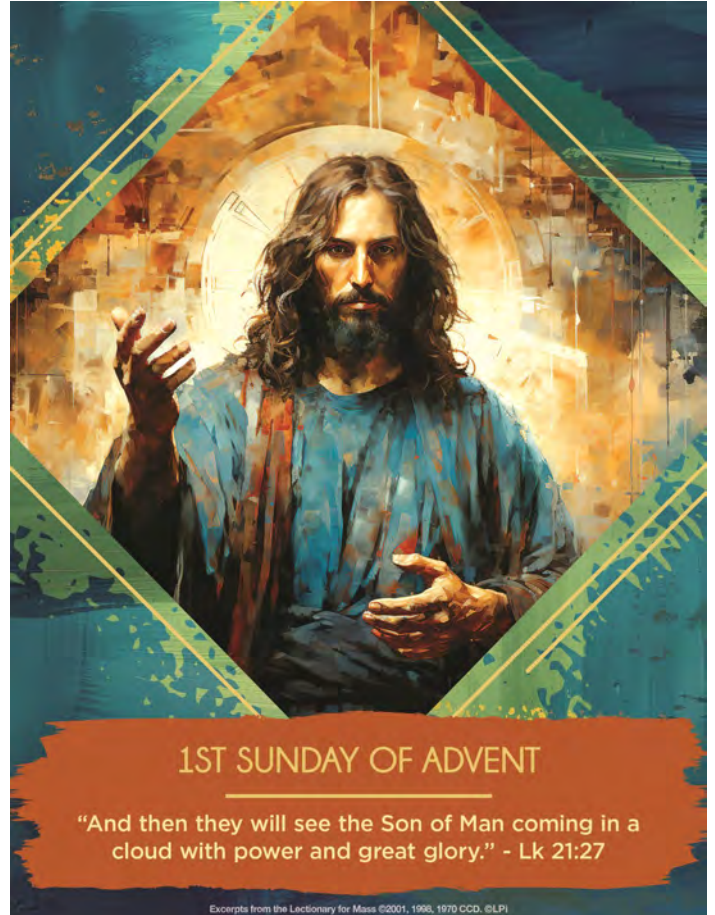
Sunday

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

info@stpolycarp.org

[BULLETIN: editor@stpolycarp.org](mailto:bulletin@stpolycarp.org)



FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

English/Spanish Religious Education

(714) 892-3158

Monday & Thursday 2 PM—6 PM

Saturday 9 AM—1 PM

Confirmation Programs

(714) 890-5200

Tuesday & Friday 9:30 AM—5:30 PM

Sunday 9 AM—2 PM

Vietnamese Religious Education

(714) 620-7895

Tuesday & Wednesday 1 PM—4 PM

Friday 1 PM—5 PM

DECEMBER 1, 2024

**MASS INTENTIONS/INTENCIONES DE MISA/
XIN Ý LỄ CẦU NGUYỆN**

Saturday, November 30, 2024

5:00 PM Da Minh Bon Than†;
Teresa Tiffany Trang Nguyen†
7:00 PM Peter† & Teresa†; Thanksgiving and All Souls†

Sunday, December 1, 2024

7:30 AM Peter Trap Mai†
9:00 AM Leonor Tovar Rodriguez†,
Ana Maria Castillo Tovar & Jose Luis Rios†
11:00 AM Eduardo Aravena†; All Souls†
1:00 PM Donato Villasenor Reyes†;
Maria Eugenia Portillo†
4:00 PM Michelle Tran & Peace to the Family
6:00 PM Celina Orozco† & Javier Vargas†; Luz Higer†

Monday, December 2, 2024

6:30 AM Rogelio Manansala† &
Corazon Manansala (birthday)
8:30 AM Catarina Nguyen† & Thi Toan†; All Priests
6:30 PM Purificacion†, Leonor† & Brigida†

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

6:30 AM Ancestors of a Family†; William Saligan†
8:30 AM Mary Spire† & Juan Madrigal Sy Jr.†;
Silvestre Tapia†

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

6:30 AM All Souls in Purgatory†
8:30 AM Anna Ngan Pham†; Clara-Gary† & Lisa†

Thursday, December 5, 2024

6:30 AM Luis Medina† & Natalia Salazar†
8:30 AM Thomas Lai Pham†, Joseph† & Anna†

Friday, December 6, 2024

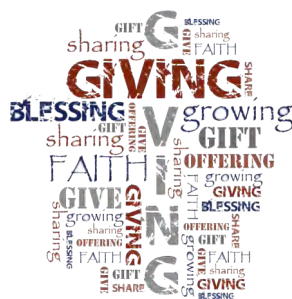
6:30 AM Ancestors of a Family† & Juan Madrigal Sy Jr.†
8:30 AM Thomas Thuyet Pham†, Peter† & Maria†
6:30 PM Vietnamese Sacred Heart Choir Members

Saturday, December 7, 2024

8:30 AM Maria Pham Thi Beo† & Peter Trap Mai†

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/
1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 8:5-11
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
Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

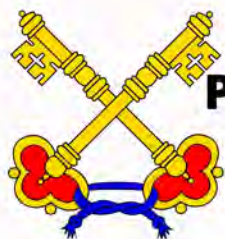


SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



Nov 23/24 Masses	\$ 19,005.50
Nov 23/24 Online Giving	\$ 2,168.50
Total collection:	\$ 21,174.00

*Thank you for your support! ¡Gracias por su apoyo!
Cảm ơn tấm lòng quảng đại của mọi người.*



**Pope's Intention -
December**

For Pilgrims of Hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

PSA 2024 REPORT

PASTORAL SERVICES APPEAL: 11/27/2024

TOTAL PLEDGES RECEIVED: 461 FAMILIES/INDIVIDUALS

TOTAL PLEDGES AMOUNT: **\$209,025.00**

TOTAL PAID TO DATE AMOUNT: **\$202,795.00**

OUR 2024 PSA GOAL: **\$98,000.00**

Thank You

WWW.STPOLYCARP.ORG

Las lecturas de la semana del 1 de diciembre de 2024

- Domingo:** Jr 33, 14-16/Sal 24, 4-5. 8-9. 10. 14 (1)/
1 Tes 3, 12—4, 2/Lc 21, 25-28. 34-36
- Lunes:** Is 2, 1-5/Sal 121, 1-2. 3-4. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/
Mt 8, 5-11
- Martes:** Is 11, 1-10/Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17/
Lc 10, 21-24
- Miércoles:** Is 25, 6-10/Sal 22, 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6/Mt 15, 29-37
- Jueves:** Is 26, 1-6/Sal 117, 1 y 8-9. 19-21. 25-27/
Mt 7, 21. 24-27
- Viernes:** Is 29, 17-24/Sal 26, 1. 4. 13-14/Mt 9, 27-31
- Sábado:** Is 30, 19-21. 23-26/Sal 146, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/
Mt 9, 35—10, 1. 5. 6-8
- Domingo:** Bar 5, 1-9/Sal 125, 1-2. 2-3. 4-5. 6 (3)/
Flp 1, 4-6. 8-11/Lc 3, 1-6

Las conmemoraciones de la semana del 1 de diciembre de 2024

- Domingo:** 1^{er} Domingo de Adviento
- Martes:** San Francisco Javier, sacerdote
- Miércoles:** San Juan Damasceno, sacerdote y
doctor de la Iglesia
- Viernes:** San Nicolás, obispo
- Sábado:** San Ambrosio de Milán, obispo y
doctor de la Iglesia
- Domingo:** 2^o Domingo de Adviento

(PRACTICANDO) CATÓLICA: RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Recordando el Adviento

Siempre me hace reír un poco estas lecturas apocalípticas del Evangelio que vienen al comienzo del Adviento.

Qué yuxtaposición tan divertida: todos nosotros ensartando luces centelleantes y envolviendo regalos, con Jesús con estruendos hablando sobre el fin del mundo. ¡Es Navidad! No seas deprimente. Sírve me un poco más de rompopo y sube el Nat King Cole.

Bueno, excepto que no es Navidad. Es Adviento.

No hay nada de malo en los accesorios culturales que se han desarrollado junto con esta festividad religiosa. No hay nada de malo con las luces parpadeantes y el rompopo. Pero aquí está la cosa: cuando Satanás sabe que estamos mirando la puerta principal, se cuela por la puerta trasera. Y algo que he descubierto es que una puerta trasera que le gusta usar en mi vida es la Navidad Cultural.

Me encanta la Navidad Cultural. Tiendo a exagerar la Navidad Cultural. Programa demasiado, decoro

demasiado, regalo demasiado. Todo este "demasiado" conduce a... ¡lo has adivinado! — agobio. "Las angustias de la vida diaria", como Jesús describe en el Evangelio de hoy, adormecen mi corazón. Mi alegría espiritual de Navidad, una y otra vez, disminuye, todo porque abrazo la Navidad Cultural e ignoro el Adviento. Satanás se cuela con las luces centelleantes y los villancicos y arrebató El Regalo como el pequeño Grinch desagradable que es. Bombardea mi experiencia de las festividades religiosas con las ansiedades que abrazo de buena gana debido a la producción que es la Navidad Cultural.

Así que, recuerden descansar este Adviento chicos. Descansa tu corazón. Descansa tus manos. Observa la puerta trasera y la delantera. Recuerda que este es el momento perfecto para pensar en el estado de tu alma y no solo en el estado de tu casa.

(Aunque, sí, lo sé, los invitados vendrán en cualquier momento).

MEDITACIÓN EVANGÉLICO - ALENTAR ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

Damos comienzo en este Domingo al Tiempo de Adviento, que es un tiempo de espera alegre y activa de la fiesta del nacimiento del Señor. Hay mucha actividad litúrgica que nos prepara alegremente a algo que con certeza es muy bueno y que nos atrae a dar regalos y a recibirlos también. Este tiempo de espera nos mueve y lleva a ordenarlo todo, sobre todo en casa, hay movimiento de limpieza y organización. Ponemos el árbol de Navidad y preparamos un lugar para el nacimiento del Niño Jesús. Es un gran encuentro entre familia y amigos celebrando las posadas y otros eventos religiosos.

El Adviento nos ayuda porque es un espacio de espera del Señor, nos reconciamos y preparamos para recibirlo en la Eucaristía, es también tiempo de reflexionar en su venida definitiva, que llamamos Parusía o manifestación. El Evangelio de San Lucas, con el que hoy iniciamos, nos recuerda que el Señor, en su mensaje principal, nos invita a permanecer en vela y oración. A estar atentos, a no estar dormidos. A llenarnos de amor, a llevar el gozo anunciado de descubrir un nuevo comienzo de justicia y de paz para todos. También, se invita a dejar los vicios, el egoísmo y las preocupaciones que nos alejan de lo importante que es la cercanía de Dios a cada uno de nosotros. Velar, estar atentos, orar y seguir luchando por una sociedad mejor. "Ven, Señor Jesús" (Apocalipsis 22:20), sea nuestra suplica constante en este Adviento. ©LPi

Thông Báo

1. **Phía cuối nhà thờ, trên kệ sách có các bài Suy Niệm Hằng Tuần.** Xin Cộng Đoàn Dân Chúa nhận về để đọc và suy niệm.

2. **Giải Tội Mùa Vọng: Thứ Tư ngày 4 tháng 12 năm 2024 từ 7PM đến 9PM sẽ có Giải Tội cho 3 Sắc Dân.**

3. **Làm Dưa Món. Chúa Nhật ngày 8 tháng 12 năm 2024 từ 8AM-2PM.** Cộng Đoàn sẽ có dự án làm dưa món Gây Quỹ. Xin các Hội Đoàn và Cộng Đoàn cùng đến phụ giúp.

4. **Lễ Đức Mẹ Vô Nhiễm Nguyên Tội (Lễ Trọng và Buộc): Thứ Hai ngày 9 tháng 12 năm 2024 lúc 4PM và 6PM.**

5. **Dựng Hang Đá: Thứ Bảy ngày 14 tháng 12 năm 2024 lúc 8AM.**

Xin các Hội Đoàn có mặt đúng giờ và đông đủ để có thể hoàn tất công việc trong ngày. Cộng Đoàn sẽ lo phần ăn trưa.

6. **Giải Tội Mùa Vọng: Thứ Ba ngày 17 tháng 12 năm 2024 từ 10AM đến 11:30AM sẽ có Giải Tội cho 3 Sắc Dân.**

7. **Lễ Giáng Sinh năm 2024:**

✘ **Lễ Vọng Giáng Sinh: Thứ Ba ngày 24 tháng 12 năm 2024 lúc 6PM.**

✘ **Lễ Giáng Sinh: Thứ Tư ngày 25 tháng 12 năm 2024 lúc 4PM.**

8. **Lễ Đức Maria Mẹ Thiên Chúa, Bổn Mạng Cộng Đoàn: Thứ Tư ngày 1 tháng 1 năm 2025 lúc 4PM.** Rước kiệu lúc 3:30PM. Xin các Hội Đoàn và Cộng Đoàn Dân Chúa có mặt trước 3:15PM. Xin mang đồng phục và cờ đoàn.

9. **Chương Trình Bánh Chung: Thứ Bảy ngày 4 tháng 1 năm 2025 lúc 9AM xin các Hội Đoàn có mặt đông đủ để giúp set up.**



Tri Ân



Cộng Đoàn xin tri ân cơ sở thương mại Bánh Mì Tân Hoàng Hương đã thương tặng 1,000 ổ bánh mì để trao đến các giáo dân trong Giáo Xứ nhân dịp Lễ Tạ Ơn. Xin Thiên Chúa, qua lời cầu bầu của Đức Mẹ La Vang và Thánh Polycarp, ban muôn ơn lành để cơ sở thương mại Bánh Mì Tân Hoàng Hương vẫn mãi thành công.

✝ Cáo Phó

Cộng Đoàn được tin **Ông GIOAN-BAOTIXITA VŨ DUY TY**

Sinh ngày 22 tháng 2 năm 1943 tại Nam Định - Việt Nam, đã được Chúa gọi về ngày Thứ Sáu, 8 tháng 11 năm 2024 tại Bệnh Viện West Anaheim Medical Center, California, hưởng thọ 81 tuổi. Ông là một thành viên của Cộng Đoàn và đã sinh hoạt trong Hội Đền Tạ Trái Tim Đức Mẹ của Cộng Đoàn (Ông là Hội Phó của Chi Hội Garden Grove).

Chương trình Tang Lễ của Cụ Ông như sau:

✝ Thứ Bảy ngày 16 tháng 11 năm 2024: Nghi Thức Phát Tang & Hòa Táng tại Destiny Crematory, địa chỉ: 5443 Long Beach Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90805.

✝ Thứ Bảy ngày 7 tháng 12 năm 2024, lúc 10AM, Nghi Lễ Làm Phép Tro và Thánh Lễ An Táng tại Holy Family Church, địa chỉ: 13900 Church Place, Seal Beach, CA 90740.

✝ Sau Thánh Lễ An Táng là Tiệc Tưởng Niệm tại Clubhouse 1 - Leisure World Seal Beach

✝ Sau đó, Tro Cốt của Ông được An Táng tại Nghĩa Trang Westminster Memorial Park vào lúc 3PM.

Xin Cộng Đoàn Dân Chúa thêm lời cầu nguyện cho linh hồn **GIOAN-BAOTIXITA** và bớt chút thời gian đến tham dự Thánh Lễ An Táng để tiễn đưa **Ông GIOAN-BAOTIXITA VŨ DUY TY** đến nơi an nghỉ cuối cùng.



Cộng Đoàn Đức Maria Mẹ Thiên Chúa

Giáo Xứ Saint Polycarp 8100 Chapman Ave., Stanton, CA. 90680

Chương Trình Tĩnh Tâm Mùa Vọng

Đề Tài: Đường Nào Cho Chúa Đến

Do Linh Mục Dôminicô Xavie Nguyễn Trọng Hiếu, SVD
Thuộc Dòng Ngôi Lời thuyết giảng.



Thứ Năm ngày 5 tháng 12 năm 2024

Thứ Sáu ngày 6 tháng 12 năm 2024

- ✘ Thánh Lễ: 6 PM - 6:45PM
- ✘ Breaktime - Có thức ăn nhẹ:
6:45PM - 7PM
- ✘ Giảng Thuyết: 7PM - 9PM



Tiểu Sử: Cha Nguyễn Trọng Hiếu được thụ phong linh mục vào ngày 27 tháng 5 năm 2006. Cha đã từng phục vụ trong các Giáo Xứ, cũng như Mục Vụ Tư Vấn và Mục Vụ Giới Trẻ. Cha cũng đã phục vụ trong Hội Đồng Tỉnh Dòng và hiện đang làm việc với tư cách là Thủ Quỹ Tỉnh Dòng và Giám Đốc Phát Triển.

Để giúp Cộng Đoàn Dân Chúa sửa soạn tâm hồn sống Mùa Vọng Giáng Sinh và đón mừng Chúa Hài Đồng sắp đến, xin Cộng Đoàn Dân Chúa cố gắng sắp xếp thời gian, cùng đến tham dự Thánh Lễ và hai ngày Tĩnh Tâm.

Trân Trọng Kính Mời.



Pray Without Ceasing

1 Thel 5:17

Sitting with Jesus during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on a Friday morning after the 8:30 AM Mass, or on a Saturday afternoon from 3:30-4:30 PM, at St. Polycarp is a privileged time to be with Our Lord in prayer. Tell Jesus what is on your mind, what concerns you have, your hopes and dreams. He wants to hear your thoughts, feelings and desires. Even though Jesus knows everything, He desires to draw close to us and by sharing our thoughts, feelings and desires we can cultivate a closer relationship with Him. Jesus waits for each one of us to spend time with Him – even if it is only for a few precious minutes. Why not incorporate spending some time in prayer with Jesus during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Advent Season?

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen was a great proponent of the Holy Hour- a sustained uninterrupted hour of prayer with Jesus in the tabernacle or exposed in the monstrance, on the altar. He would regularly recommend Holy Hours to his retreatants.

Besides sitting with Jesus, sharing our thoughts, feelings and desires, or in silence, we may wish to read scriptures or pray the rosary during this time.

St. John Vianney, in The Little Catechism of the Cure of Ars, wrote:

In heaven where we shall be glorious and triumphant, we shall see Him in all His glory. If He had presented Himself before us in that glory now, we should not have dared to approach Him, but He hides Himself, like a person in a prison, who might say to us, "You do not see me, but that is no matter, ask of me all you wish, and I will grant it." He is there in His Sacrament of love sighing and interceding incessantly with His Father for sinners.

When we are before the Blessed Sacrament, instead of looking about, let us shut our eyes and our mouth; let us open our heart: our good God will open His; we shall go to Him, He will come to us, the one to ask, and the other to receive; it will be like a breath from one to the other. What sweetness do we not find in forgetting ourselves in order to see God! The saints lost sight of themselves that they might see nothing but God, and labor for Him alone; they forgot all created objects in order to find Him alone. This is the way to reach Heaven.

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith-based Catholic community whose members are enriched by the celebration of the Sacraments and opportunities to deepen our prayer lives. Guided by the Word of God and family values, we strive always to be a beacon of light for the lost, the lonely, the marginalized, and all those seeking the truth as we walk in the footsteps of those first disciples of Jesus and our patron St. Polycarp.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2024

SATURDAYS AT 3:30 PM: 7TH, 14TH, 21ST & 28TH

ADVENT CONFESSION SERVICE:
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024 AT 7 PM

NO CONFESSIONS:

MONDAY: 2ND, 16TH, 23RD & 30TH

FRIDAY: 6TH, 20TH & 27TH



THE SEASON OF GIVING IS HERE

Saint Polycarp's Youth Ministry Toy Drive

In our efforts to help provide and give back to our local community in Orange County, we will be hosting our annual Toy Drive.

WE WILL BE ACCEPTING
DONATIONS FROM NOVEMBER
30, 2024 - DECEMBER 18, 2024
IN EITHER THE FRONT PARISH
OFFICE, YOUTH OFFICE, OR THE
CONFIRMATION OFFICE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
OR CONCERNS, PLEASE
CONTACT JOSEPH DO @
JDO@STPOLYCARP.ORG

ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO THE
ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION,
HUNTINGTON BEACH WAYMAKERS, AND
OC SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY



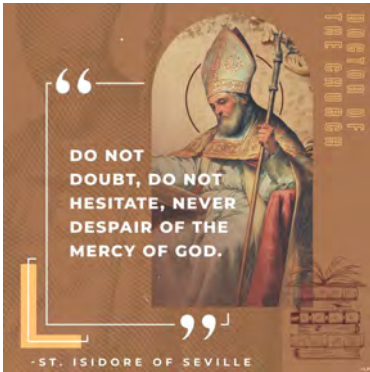
12/7-12/8/2024

**THE RETIREMENT FUND
FOR RELIGIOUS
2ND COLLECTION**

Thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in ministries— such as Catholic schools, parishes, and hospitals—often for little or no pay.

Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your donation helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously.

Your generous financial support is appreciated.



The Feast Day of Our Lady Guadalupe

Wednesday, Dec 11, 2024

6:30 PM Rosary

7 PM Vigil Mass (Spanish)

Thursday, Dec 12, 2024

5 AM Mañanitas

6 AM Spanish Mass

8:30 AM English Mass

6:30 PM Spanish Mass

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+ CATHOLIC CHURCH
www.stpolycarp.org



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**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
is a Holy Day of Obligation**

Monday, Dec 9, 2024

English Mass
6:30 AM, 8:30 AM, & 5:30 PM*
*5:30 PM in Parish Hall

Vietnamese Mass
4 PM & 6 PM

Spanish Mass
7:30 PM



*Advent
Evening of Prayer
for Young Adults*

**HEART OF JESUS,
INCARNATE WORD**

*Wednesday,
Dec 4, 6-8 pm*



*RSVP's
appreciated!*

www.joyfulapostolate.org/into-the-deep/



*Heart of Jesus
RETREAT CENTER*

2927 S Greenville St
Santa Ana, CA 92704



Pro Sanctity
Movement
Formation &
Fellowship
for all ages

*Advent
Morning of Reflection*

Sat., Dec. 7th

Pro Sanctity
Spirituality Center
205 S. Pine Dr.
Fullerton, CA 92833

9:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM Program for Adults & Children
11:30 AM Group Prayer
12:00 PM Lunch
Free, but please register: caprosanctity@gmail.com



Keep Your Faith Burning

MORNING WITH GOD - WOMEN'S RETREAT

- GUIDED MEDITATION
- PRESENTATIONS
- PERSONAL REFLECTION
- SPIRITUAL COMPANION
- GROUP SHARING
- FELLOWSHIP & LUNCH

RETREAT EVERY 2ND SATURDAY - 9:20AM-12N ·
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Lambertian Ministry Center - 12211 Magnolia St., Garden Grove, CA
To RSVP: (714) 204-5891 Event is FREE--Donations Accepted

ST. COLUMBAN'S WOMEN'S COUNCIL
NOEL FESTIVAL
DECEMBER 8TH, 2024
8 AM TO 3 PM
MURPHY HALL - 10801 STANFORD
GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840

BREAKFAST BURRITOS
8:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

WHITE ELEPHANT	HOLIDAY FOODS
BAKED GOODS	TAMALES
JEWELRY	OIL PAINTING
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE	

HAND-CRAFTED ITEMS
\$ 50.00 MONEY TREE \$
DRAWING ITEMS

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"In those days, in that time,
I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land." (Jer 33:15)

Psalm:

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love
for one another and for all,
just as we have for you,
so as to strengthen your hearts,
to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.
(1 Thes 3:12-13)

Gospel:

"But when these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand." (Lk 21:28)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus tells us to "be vigilant at all times." Advent is a time of watchfulness. Things are moving and shifting and changing — in our souls, in heaven, on earth. It's a time of great consequence. Great trial. Great hope. So, look to Jesus. He is coming.

Observances for the week of December 1, 2024

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Wednesday: St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Friday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
Saturday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent



Saint of the week

Blessed Chiara Luce Badano (1971-1990) an ordinary teenager who freely gave her life to Jesus in joy and suffering. She was beatified in 2010, the first member of Generation X to be Beatified. In 2018 she was one of the patrons of the Synod on Youth.

Prayer for Prayer Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival,
align our hearts and homes to
Your will.

Pour into us Your grace, as we
wait in joyful expectation.

Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

It always makes me laugh a little, these apocalyptic Gospel readings that come at the beginning of Advent.

What a funny juxtaposition — all of us stringing twinkie lights and wrapping presents, with Jesus thundering on about the end of the world. It's Christmas! Don't be a downer. Pour me some more eggnog and turn up the Nat King Cole.

Well, except it's not Christmas. It's Advent.

There's nothing wrong with the cultural accessories that have developed alongside this religious holiday. There's nothing wrong with the twinkie lights and the eggnog. But here's the thing: when Satan knows we're watching the front gate, he slips in the back door. And something I've found is that one back door he likes to use in my life is Cultural Christmas.

I love Cultural Christmas. I tend to overdo Cultural Christmas. I overschedule, I overdecorate, I over gift. All this "over" leads to — you guessed it! — overwhelm. "The anxieties of daily life," as Jesus describes in today's Gospel, make my heart drowsy. My spiritual Christmas joy, time and time again, is diminished — all because I embrace Cultural Christmas and ignore Advent. Satan sneaks in with the twinkie lights and the Christmas carols and he snatches The Present like the nasty little Grinch he is. He photobombs my experience of the religious holidays with the anxieties I so willingly embrace because of the production that is Cultural Christmas.

So, remember to rest this Advent, folks. Rest your heart. Rest your hands. Watch the back door and the front. Remember that this is the perfect time to be thinking about the state of your soul and not just the state of your house.

(Even though, yes, I know, the guests are coming any minute.)

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

Answer:

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.



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For anyone submitting items for inclusion in the weekly bulletin, please ensure that that you submit content prior to 12:00PM on Tuesday for inclusion in the next weekend's bulletin. All submittals should be made by email to editor@stpollycarp.org. Thank you!

While we do try to accommodate late submittals when possible, late submittals will be unable to be accepted for the 12/01/24 and 12/29/24 bulletins due to holiday schedules. Thanks for your understanding.

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