

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
FIRST READING: Baruch 5:1-9 (6C)
SECOND READING: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

A WORD FROM FATHER KELLY

As Catholics we recognize the importance of the Blessed Virgin Mary and so we honor her as the first among all the Saints. The month of December offers us several opportunities to give special attention to Mary, the Mother of our Church. Yesterday, December 8th, we celebrated Mary in the Immaculate Conception; the Lord preserving her from original sin that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, would be born of a worthy mother.

This week, December 12th, we shall celebrate my favorite of the Marian Feasts: Our Lady of Guadalupe. In the apparitions at Tepeyac to Saint Juan Diego in 1531, Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared as a pregnant Mestizo woman (a mix of Mexican Indian and Spanish origins). In her pregnancy, La Señora de Guadalupe was preparing to give birth to her son, the Savior and Redeemer of the world: Jesus Christ. In a unique way and in a special way, La Señora was to give birth to the Christian faith among the people of México. Through the miracles of the Castilian roses and the imprinting of her beautiful image upon the tilma of Juan Diego, the message she proclaimed of a Savior to all peoples began to flourish. Today México is among the most Catholic of countries.

The Feast of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe is marked by the presentation of roses and other flowers at the early morning singing of Las Mañanitas (songs to awaken the young Virgin Mary). On this day there will be hundreds of thousands of people who will pilgrimage to the Basilica in Mexico City to the site of those apparitions and thanks will be given for Mary's intercession in the lives of ordinary people who appeared as one like themselves.

While most appropriately seen as the patroness of México, Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe has also been named as the patroness of all the Americas. Through her intercession may we be given the strength and courage to see in one another brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus whom she came to proclaim to us all!

I invite you to come and participate in the celebrations on the 12th of December as we begin with Las Mañanitas early in the morning at Sacred Heart Church and then the celebration of Mass at the Medford Armory at 7:00 in the evening.



BULLETIN, AND THEN NO BULLETIN

The bulletin for the weekend of December 22/23 will be the same bulletin at the doors of the church on Christmas (December 24/25). Please take a bulletin on December 23 or on Christmas - not both - they will be the same. On December 29/30 we will have no bulletin.

Articles for the January 5/6 bulletin **must** be in by Wednesday, December 26. Thank you, Eileen

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

December 24: Christmas Masses –
 4:30 p.m. Family, 6:00 p.m. Jacksonville,
 7:00 p.m. (English), 9:00 p.m. (Spanish),
 and Midnight Mass, (English)

December 25: Christmas Day Masses –
 8:30 a.m. and noon (English), 10:15 a.m. (Spanish)

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

December 31: Monday, 5:00 p.m. (NOT 5:30)

**January 1: Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. and noon (English),
 10:15 a.m. (Spanish)**



Financial Report

Year to date through	11/25/2012	11/27/2011
Offertory received	\$370,480.41	\$365,245.47
Needed for Budget	\$383,962.26	\$393,461.61
Over (Under) Budget	(\$13,481.85)	(\$28,216.14)

A parish thrives and grows on the financial contributions of all the parishioners. Thank you to all who contribute.



*First Annual Christmas Concert
Presented by the Sacred Heart Music Ministry
on Friday December 14th at 7:00 pm!!*

A variety of instruments, beautiful voices & a sing-a-long!

A reception will follow in the Parish Hall

Free will offering accepted

**FEAST OF OUR LADY
OF GUADALUPE**

Sacred Heart Church will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a special Mass at the Armory, Wednesday, December 12th. Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. with dancing, followed by the Rosary and then Mass at 7:00 p.m. All are invited.



SACRED HEART GIVING TREE

'Tis the season for giving! Please take a tag for St. Vincent de Paul or Magdalene Home from the Giving Tree in the Parish Hall. Then on a Sunday during Advent, please return the bagged gift to the Giving Tree by December 23, with the tag attached. Thank you for making someone's Christmas warmer and brighter!



BECOMING CATHOLIC: RCIA

On November 18 at Sunday Mass, twenty-four adults, teens, and children made a statement of intention to become fully initiated Catholics at the 2013 Easter Vigil or thereafter, through our parish's RCIA! As they continue their weekly studies in the Catholic faith, please keep them in your prayers. Our catechumens (not yet baptized) are: Lena Ton-Nu, Albert Lara, Kassandra Lara, Tatiana Barajas, Martika Barajas, Katelyn Padgett, Rita Hernandez, Whitney Yeamans, Makayla Madden, Bille Brown, and Alejandro Limon. Our candidates (already baptized Christian) are: Stacy Madden, Neal Governor, Lawrence Valdez, Julisa Hernandez, Tomas Hernandez, Ansoni Hernandez, Cynthia Stanley, Michael Morgan, Lori Roberts, Jennifer Limon, Grace Turner, Tanya Lara, and Sara Ashby. They look forward to entering into the full communion of the Catholic Church and becoming active members of our parish community! To learn more about becoming Catholic, please contact Ann Brophy at the parish office.

PATRICIAN MEETING

December 17th – Monday at 9:30 a.m. Topic: Vatican II - #1 Constitution of Sacred Liturgy. 50 years after Vatican II, the Holy Father has asked us to review the 16 parts of this document during the “Year of Faith”. Father Carmelo is our Spiritual Advisor. All are welcome to share in this discussion.

ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS!!

Ladies please join us Monday, December 10, at 10:45, (a new time). We will pray the Rosary, then have a short meeting. Our Christmas entertainment is Mr. Meeker and the Sacred Heart School choir. Ladies, please bring cookies to serve to the singers after their performance. We will then enjoy a Ham Dinner. Please bring salad, vegetables or dessert to compliment the Ham, and your own place setting.

Saturday, December 15th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Hall, all Evening and Day Time members will meet for a pot luck lunch and \$5.00 Gift Exchange. Come, let us become acquainted and share ideas.

Up Coming: Valentine Sweetheart Dance, Saturday, February 16th, at the Rogue Regency. Contact Louise at: 541-776-2441, for ticket information. A great Christmas Gift for that special someone.



WELCOME HOME CATHOLICS IS COMING!!

Once again the parish will be offering the Welcome Home Catholics program. Please spread the word to family and friends! This is a no obligation or commitment program of outreach and support for baptized and confirmed Catholics who have been away from the church and are considering their return. The first meeting will be Tuesday January 8th at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office. **For information call 541-779-4661.**

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Additional Confession Times

Saturday, December 15 & 22
3:00 - 5:15 p.m.

Area Reconciliation Services

Our Lady of the Mountain

Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Anne, Grants Pass

Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph's, Roseburg

Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Shepherd of the Valley

Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7:00 p.m.



SUPPORT ELDERLY RELIGIOUS

Give to those who have given a life-

time. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests worked for many years for little, if any, pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious.

Please be generous.



Could you not keep watch for one hour? Mk 14: 37

Many thanks and blessings to all who help to keep Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration available and who keep watch one hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Please call Dan and Sarah Rice at 541-582-3717 for information.

PLEASE PRAY for the ill of our parish especially: Arnold Paradis, Shizuka McCue, John Preston, Margarita La Hue, Bert and Trudy Oman, Charles Larkin, Lucina Guerrero, Betty Mercier, Thelma Roberts, Sharon Senske, Betty Shingle, Rose Coyle, Mabel Keenan, Marie Casilio, Mary Beveridge, Jeff Leroy, Helen Doody, Rita Morrell, Rob Sperling, Rose Casagrande, Mickey Ketchum, Marion & Bill Owens, Dick & Beverly Handley, Calvin & Maria Schwenk and Thomas Miller.

Please pray for the deceased of our parish especially: +Ludmiller Barnett, +Steven Parker, +Dorothy Krueger and +Joe Hohmann, and for their families.

7:00 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. Dec. 10:	Tom Fachet
T. Dec. 11:	+Allen Wardleigh
W. Dec. 12:	+Holy Souls
Th. Dec. 13:	+Melvin Thiel
Fr. Dec. 14:	+Rita Mazzarella

8:30 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. Dec. 10:	St. Anne's Altar Society
T. Dec. 11:	+Marion Cacho
W. Dec. 12:	+Celine Hermanovich
Th. Dec. 13:	+Holy Souls
Fr. Dec. 14:	+Genevieve Holcom
Sat. Dec. 15:	+Mildred Keyes

5:00 SUNDAY MASS, 12/23 IS CANCELLED.

The 5:00 Mass on Sunday, December 23rd has been cancelled so that our decorating crew can get a head start on decorating for Christmas - a very big undertaking - without having to work into the wee hours or right up until the start of the 4:30 Family Mass Christmas Eve. We appreciate your understanding and on Christmas day, hope you will be delighted by the fruits of their labor! Thanks so much!

A CONTINUING STUDY OF SACRED HEART'S STAIN GLASS WINDOWS

St. James the Apostle (or James the Greater) Three scallop shells
Stained glass window on left side, lower smaller windows as seen facing the altar.



This James, sometimes called James the Greater, is not to be confused with James the Lesser or with the author of the Letter of James and the leader of the Jerusalem community. This James is the brother of John the Evangelist. The two were called by Jesus as they worked with their father in a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had already called another pair of brothers from a similar occupation: Peter and Andrew. "He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then He called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed Him" (Mark 1: 19-20). James was one of the favored three who had the privilege of witnessing the Transfiguration, the raising to life of the daughter of Jairus and the agony in Gethsemane.

Two incidents in the Gospels describe the temperament of this man and his brother. St Matthew tells us that their mother came (Mark says it was the brothers themselves) to ask that they have the seats of honor (one on the right, one on the left of Jesus) in the kingdom. "Jesus said in reply 'You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?' They said to Him, 'We can' "(Mathew 20: 22). Jesus then told them they would indeed drink the cup and share His baptism of pain and death, but that sitting at his right hand or left hand was not His to give---it "is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father" (Mathew 20:23b). It remained to be seen how long it would take to realize the implications of their confident "We can!"

The other disciples became indignant at the ambition of James and John. It was then that Jesus taught them all the lesson of humble service: The purpose of authority is to serve. They are not to impose their will on others, or lord it over them. This is the position of Jesus himself. He was the servant of all; the service imposed on Him was the supreme sacrifice of His own life.

On another occasion, James and John gave evidence that the nickname Jesus gave them--- "sons of thunder"--- was an apt one. The Samaritans would not welcome Jesus because He was on His way to hated Jerusalem. "When the disciples James and John saw this they asked 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?' Jesus turned and rebuked them..." (Luke 9:54-55).

James was apparently the first of the apostles to be martyred. "About that time King Herod laid hands upon some members of the church to harm them. He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword, and when he saw this was pleasing to the Jews he proceeded to arrest Peter also" (Acts 12:1-3a).

The way the Gospels treat the apostles is a good reminder of what holiness is all about. There is very little about their virtues as static possessions, entitling them to heavenly reward. The great emphasis is on the kingdom, on God's giving them the power to proclaim the Good News. As far as their personal lives are concerned, there is much about Jesus' purifying them of narrow-mindedness, pettiness and fickleness.

St. James' feast day is July 25th.

Saint of the Day. Edited by Leonard Foley, O.F.M. Revised by Pat McCloskey, O.F.M.
St Anthony Messenger Press; Cincinnati, Ohio. 2009.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 2424 N. PACIFIC HWY, MEDFORD 541-772-3828



SALE OF CHRISTMAS TREES

Saturday, December 1 - Saturday, December 15

Hours: Saturday & Sunday - 10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Mondays - Fridays - 3:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Proceeds will benefit St. Vincent de Paul and Knights of Columbus Charities.

CALLING ALL ANGELS AND... Shepherds and Wise People!

It's time to dust off those wings, robes and turbans for the Christmas Eve Family Mass at 4:30 p.m., with our annual enactment of the Nativity. I have some children's angel wings (mostly large), halos and shepherd's tunics available, as well as very easy ideas for homemade costumes. Got a towel – instant shepherd headdress!

Practice for the Family Mass will be at 3:45 p.m. Monday, December 24th at the Church (meet in the Nursery at the Parish Hall first). I will explain the liturgy of the word for the children at this time also. Please sign up and let me know so I can plan for this important Mass. God Bless
All questions directed to Mary Stallard, Religious Education Coordinator phone# 541-779-4661 ext 107.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

A big thank you goes out to our **Food Bank Volunteers**. Melanie Breidenthal and Tracy Parent purchase necessary food items and keep the shelves in order. They are currently shelving the food brought in by the SHCS Cub Scout Troop! Tracy and Melanie also participate with the Medford Food Project. Every other month one or both of them spend their Saturday at Access participating at the green bag food pick up day, along with 10-14 other local food bank distributors. Our food bank usually ends up with 35-45 large boxes of food. This is a huge supplement to what the students bring in, and has allowed us to increase the amount and variety of what goes in the food bags. It is sad to say but in the last two years our food bank has doubled the amount of food we give out.

We are grateful to the many donors who make this food ministry possible. Thank you to

the parishioners who contribute through the gold envelopes, and who faithfully bring food each week to the bin in the church foyer. We have continual donations from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church food bank (they give us their fresh leftovers), which Melanie's dad, Dean, delivers. Northwest Seasonal Workers gives us peanut butter, almond butter, frozen pizzas, pears, and whatever else they have in surplus. Franz Bakery outlet regularly donates bread. Albertsons gives deli and bakery items. Our community is very generous.

Tracy Parent, Jenny Mastroni and Jennifer Sullivan are the mainstays for the distribution of the food. They are out there in the freezing cold, heat, snow, sleet, etc. Let's hear it for our Food Bank Volunteers! If you are interested in joining the food bank team now is a great time to come on board. Contact Melanie at 541-941-2826.

SCRIP will be on sale after the 7:00 and 8:30 Masses every Sunday until December 16. Help support the School while doing your Christmas Shopping! Thank you.

OVERFLOW SEATING AT CHRISTMAS MASSES

When the church is full at the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Mass, the ushers will direct the overflow to the parish hall, where Mass will be broadcast on the big screen. Communion will be brought to the hall.



CHARITABLE GIFTS YEAR END CUTOFF

Donors must deliver or mail gifts on or before December 31, 2012 in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2012. Checks that are placed in the church offering on January 1, 2013 will not qualify, even if predated in 2012 or actually written in 2012.

Youth Minister/Newman Center Coordinator: We are searching for a faithful and faith-filled Catholic to coordinate our Youth and Newman ministry programs. Working closely with the Pastor, the Youth Minister/Coordinator will provide leadership in the design and implementation of the youth ministry and Newman programs for youth and young adults within the church community of Our Lady of the Mountain. This is a part time position, with no more than 10 hours a week.

To apply, please send resume and references to the Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church (987 Hillview Drive, Ashland, 97520. olmop@mind.net) ASAP.

MASS SCHEDULE
 Monday to Friday: 7:00 a.m.
 Monday to Saturday: 8:30 a.m.
 Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday (English)
 7:00 a.m.
 8:30 a.m.
 10:15 a.m. St. Joseph, Jacksonville --
 -- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month
 12:00 noon
 5:00 p.m.

Sunday (Spanish)
 10:15 a.m.
 1:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS
 Saturday: 3:00 to 5:15 p.m.
 or by appointment.

ROSARY
 Monday through Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

SECOND COLLECTIONS
 The second collection for Christmas Flowers totaled \$2,960.29. The second collection for Hurricane Sandy totaled \$3,315.92. Thank you very much!



COFFEE AND DONUTS

December 9th
 Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
 December 16th
 St. Vincent De Paul
 after the 7:00 and the 8:30 Masses.
 Come over to have a donut and coffee and meet some fellow parishioners.



PARISH OFFICE HOURS
 Monday -- Friday
 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Closed 12:30 -- 1:30 for lunch

Thank you Advertiser of the Week
DOWNEY Business and Tax Service
Please thank our Advertisers with your patronage.
 To place an ad please call Jack Wallich at
 1-800-867-0660. Thank you.

PROVIDENCE GUILD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Guild members benefit patients and families in a variety of ways. We are looking for someone to assist in our hospital gift shop. Consider making a caring difference in someone's life.. Contact Jana Billeci, Volunteer Coordinator at 541-732-5179. Thank you.